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### Our Mission

Our mission is to improve quality in all aspects of our specialty: from clinical and surgical management of patients to education, training and credentialing of thoracic surgeons in Europe and worldwide.
Dear Colleagues,

In the name of the Local Organizing Committee I invite you to come to Ljubljana, Slovenia, to the 26th European Conference on General Thoracic Surgery from 27th to 30th May 2018.

Ljubljana is the capital of the Republic of Slovenia which is a Central European country, geographically located in the heart of the old continent bordering on Austria, Italy, Hungary and Croatia. The three borders point between Slovenia, Austria and Italy is the unique ethnical point of the world because only at this point the three ethnical groups of nations meet. Italy representing the Romanic speaking nations spreading southwest to the southern borders of the South America. Austria representing the Germanic speaking nations spreading north to the northern borders of Europe. And Slovenia representing the Slavic speaking nation spreading East to the eastern border of Russia. Slovenia is a very small but at the same time a very diverse country, with the southeastern part of the Alps, a coast of the Adriatic Sea and the Pannonian region at the East. Ljubljana is localized centrally in the country, so it is very easy to travel to all parts of the country in one day. You can visit the Adriatic Sea, the Alps or the Pannonian region. Ljubljana is an ancient city with a very beautiful medieval center, but at the same time it is very young at heart. If Vienna and Prague got married and had a baby, then this child would certainly be Ljubljana. Ljubljana is definitely a historical city but also culturally vibrant with a blooming café society and immersed in the green surrounding. In 2016 it has been named the European Green Capital. Whether you see life in black or white you might not have known us yet, but when you come to us next year our hospitality will be warm and genuine.

The venue of the Conference is located in the very center of Ljubljana, so you will be able to walk from all the hotels to the Congress Center and from the Congress Center to the old medieval attractive parts of Ljubljana with nice restaurants and cafes.

It is my honor to invite you, all the colleagues from all the continents of the world, to come to Ljubljana. With the ESTS Council we will do our best to make your coming as agreeable and rewarding as possible and hoping that you will leave Slovenia at the end of May 2018 professionally and socially rewarded.

Looking forward to seeing you in Ljubljana,

Marko Bitenc
LOC President ESTS 2018
COMMITTEES

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chair
Marko Bitenc
Anton Crnjac
Tomaž Štupnik
Tomaž Jensterle
Mihael Sok
Jana Šubic
Symposium for Nurses

ESTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2018
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Konstantinos Papagiannopoulos
Leeds (UK)

Secretary General
Alessandro Brunelli
Leeds (UK)

Treasurer
Isabelle Opitz
Zürich (Switzerland)

Editor
Gaetano Rocco
Naples (Italy)

President Elect
Gilbert Massard
Strasbourg (France)

Past President
Jaroslaw Kuzdzal
Krakow (Poland)

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Salamanca (Spain)

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Nuria Novoa
Salamanca (Spain)

Rene Petersen
Copenhagen (Denmark)

Enrico Ruffini
Torino (Italy)

David Waller
London (UK)

Willem-Hans Steup
The Hague (Netherlands)

Douglas Wood
Seattle (USA)
VENUE

Cankarjev dom
Cultural and Congress Centre
Prešernova cesta 10,
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija
P+386 (0)1 24 17 122
http://www.cd-cc.si

WEBSITE
www.ests2018.com
www.ests.org

IMPORTANT DATES
Early Bird Registration
Wednesday 18 April 2018
Abstract Submission
- Opens: Friday 1 December 2017
- Closes: Tuesday 9 January 2018 (28 February 2018 for the Nurses)

MAIN CONTACT DETAILS

ESTS SECRETARIAT
ESTS Executive Director
Sue Hesford
1 The Quadrant
Wonford Road
Exeter EX2 4LE (UK)
Tel/Fax +44 1392 430671
Email: sue@ests.org.uk
www.ests.org

MEETING SECRETARIAT
VIAJES EL CORTE INGLES SA
C/ Alberto Bosch 13
28014 Madrid (Spain)
Tel. +34 91 3300565
Exhibition
Ms Asun Marzo
amarzo@viajeseci.es
Ms Laura Pascual
lpascual@viajeseci.es
T. +34 932463566
Registrations - General Information
Ms Tatiana Rodríguez
ests@viajeseci.es

LOCAL AGENCY
Accommodation and Local Services
Tina Kramberger
Prešernova 10,
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Phone: + 386 1 241 71 41
Fax: + 386 1 241 72 96
E-mail: tina.kramberger@cd-cc.si
REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY

All cancellations and changes to registrations must be sent to e-mail: ests@viajeseci.es

The following registration CANCELLATION POLICIES apply:
Written notice of registration cancellation by 30 April 2018: 50% refund of the paid registration fee (less EUR 25 administration fee).
No refund will be granted for registrations cancelled after this date. Reimbursements will be made after the conference. All costs and bank charges applied for payments and reimbursements of registration fees must be supported by the participant.

TERMS OF PAYMENT
The following payment options are available via the online registration form:
Bank transfer - all relevant bank details are made available on the registration form.
Credit card - payment via secure online e-commerce gateway (VISA and Mastercard accepted)
GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION & ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
www.est.org

CAR PARKING
Parking area available at the Congress venue.

WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS
WiFi Internet access area will be available at the Congress.

SOCIAL EVENTS
Welcome Cocktail
ESTS 2018 Welcome Cocktail will be held on Sunday, May 27th late afternoon after the Opening Ceremony.
(included in the registration fee)

Gala Dinner
ESTS 2018 Gala Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 29th evening.
(not included in the registration fee)

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS
Accommodation details are available at the website and further announcements.

ECO-FRIENDLY
ESTS 2018 is a sustainable and environmental friendly Congress encouraging the use of recyclable material.

SMOKING
ESTS 2018 is a non smoking congress.

REGISTRATION DESK
Participants can pick up their personal Congress material at the registration desk, which will be open as follows
Saturday, 26th May : 16.00 -19.30 h
Sunday, 27th May: 06.30 - 18.30 h
Monday, 28th May: 06.30 - 18.30 h
Tuesday, 29th May: 06.30 - 18.00 h
Wednesday, 30th May: 07.00 - 11.00 h
The Congress Secretariat will be available to assist you during the Congress.
Please do not hesitate to contact this office for help or advice.

ATTENDANCE
The Congress usually attracts between 1.500 and 1.800 delegates from all over Europe and from all over the World.
GENERAL INFORMATION

LANGUAGE
The official language of the Meeting is English.

NAME BADGES
Participants and accompanying persons are obliged to wear the official Congress name badges on all Congress occasions.

EXHIBITION
Access to the exhibition is free for registered participants. The exhibition will be open on 27 - 30 May 2018 during the congress hours.

LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS
Lunches are not included in the participants’ registration fee.
Coffee, tea will be available in the exhibition area during the breaks.

LIABILITY
By registering for the Congress and/or by participating in the exhibition joined to the Congress, participants and exhibitors agree that ESTS, the Organizing Committee or the Congress Secretariat do not assume any responsibility for damage or injuries to persons or property during the Congress. Participants and exhibitors are advised to organize their own health, travel and personal insurances.

LETTER OF INVITATION
Upon request, the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee will be pleased to send a personal letter of invitation so as to enable participants to obtain supporting funds or visas for attending the Congress. These invitation letters cannot be considered as an offer of financial support by the organizers.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE
Participants will receive a certificate of attendance which will be downloaded from the Conference App.

CONFERENCE APP

Ljubljana 2018 is a Paperless Meeting

A conference App will be made available for participants containing all necessary information, featuring and replacing, among other items the complete conference programme and abstract book.
The ESTS Conference App will be accessible for download on Android and iOS devices (smartphones, tablets, iPhones and iPads).
A limited number of iPod Touch will also be available for rental for the duration of the conference.
EXHIBITION - SPONSORSHIP

1. BOOTH

RATES FOR FLOOR SPACE

The price per sqm floor space is 625€
(minimum booking size: 9 sqm per company)
The above mentioned rate is charged for floor space only – no wall separations or additional services (e.g. cleaning or electricity, etc.) are included.
Shell scheme included: 700€

Shell scheme includes:
Stand system white wall
Signage - name of the company
Laid carpet
380 V power connection up to 9000 W

The rental booth includes:
9-12 sqm: 1 scientific registration
13-18 sqm: 2 scientific registrations
>18 sqm: 3 scientific registrations

BOOTH ALLOCATION

Ranking factors for booth allocation are: sponsoring level, booth size, date of booking and regular exhibitors at the ESTS; early booking is highly recommended!

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION CONDITIONS

Upon receipt of the “booking form for exhibition space” the exhibitor will receive the confirmation and the part payment invoice of 50% of the rental sum for floor space – payable immediately on receipt without discount.

The final invoice will be issued 2 months prior to the congress – payable immediately on receipt without discount. For bookings submitted within 2 months prior to the congress the exhibitor will receive the invoice of 100% (full amount) upon receipt of the booking form together with the confirmation – the invoice is payable immediately on receipt without discount.

Cancellation fee: 50% of total space, symposium or sponsorship costs if rental is cancelled or reduced up to three months before the congress starts, 100% thereafter.

Prices are net.
SPONSOR CATEGORIES

Please note that all mentioned prices are net.

GOLD – SILVER – BRONZE SPONSORS(*)

GOLD SPONSOR | 55,000€ including the following items:
- 18 sqm exhibition floor space with preferred space selection
- 1 page on the congress app
- 4 scientific registrations
- 2 tickets for the “Congress Dinner”
- Your company logo on the conference poster, the conference website and in the preliminary and final programme on the congress app – for sponsors only
- 1 complimentary bag insert: your information material on an USB stick
- 50% reduction for booking a Lunch Symposium

SILVER SPONSOR | 32,000€ including the following items:
- 12 sqm exhibition floor space with preferred space selection
- 3 scientific registrations
- 2 tickets for the “Congress Dinner”
- Your company logo on the conference poster, the conference website and in the preliminary and final programme on the congress app – for sponsors only
- 1 complimentary bag insert: your information material on an USB stick
- 30% reduction for booking a Lunch Symposium

BRONZE SPONSOR | 17,000€ including the following items:
- 9 sqm exhibition floor space with preferred space selection
- 2 scientific registrations
- 1 ticket for the “Congress Dinner”
- Your company logo on the conference poster, the conference website and in the preliminary and final programme on the congress app – for sponsors only
- 1 complimentary bag insert: your information material on an USB stick
- 20% reduction for booking a Lunch Symposium

* Please note that all mentioned prices are net. VAT will be added to your invoice if applicable.
**SPONSORING OPTIONS**

1. **HOSPITALITY SUITES**
   - A limited number of **HOSPITALITY SUITES** is available for exhibitors only – the price for the whole duration of the congress is **€4,500**/room.

2. **LUNCH SYMPOSIUM**
   - 60 minutes time slots from 12:30 to 13:30 on Monday 28 May and Tuesday 29 May for **€10,000** including:
     - 5 scientific registrations
     - 1 complimentary bag insert (USB stick)
   - The Lunch Symposium slot allocation is made on first-come-first-served basis;
   - The programme of the Symposium has to be approved by ESTS, costs for catering and speakers are not included.
   - Please submit your topic and speaker suggestion until 27 February 2018, the detailed schedule will be shown with your company’s logo on the congress app.

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*Please note that all mentioned prices are net. VAT will be added to your invoice if applicable.*
ADVERTISEMENT AND SPONSOR ITEMS

1. APP
   - 1 page | 2,700€
   - Logo with link | 900€

2. LANYARDS
   3,000€

3. CONGRESS BAGS
   8,000€

   Approx. 1,300 pieces incl. note pads & pens, provided by the sponsor

4. WIFI
   6,000€

   Sponsoring of the WIFI with an individual landing page and individual access codes

SPONSORSHIP ITEMS

Exclusive sponsoring of the Name Badges for participants with your company's lanyards
(approx. 1,500 pieces)

* Please note that all mentioned prices are net. VAT will be added to your invoice if applicable.
SPONSORSHIP ITEMS

5. PRE-PROGRAMMED NOTIFICATION MESSAGES
2,500€
for 2 messages.

Sponsors can advertise their company, product or a specific activity during the event with a time-
med, pre-programmed notification message.

Messages can go out to everyone or to filtered
groups only. The notification can also be used
as a session reminder for a sponsored plenary
sessions or symposia. If personal agenda
functionality is in place a link can allow par-
ticipants to add the session to their personal
agenda.

6. WATER DISPENSERS
3,000€
4 water dispensers at the exhibiton
area and lecture hall entrances.

7. COFFEE BREAK
3,500€
1,800€

- Exclusive Sponsor per day | 3,500€
- Sponsor of 1 Coffee break | 1,800€

The sponsor will be recognized by a sign with the
sponsor logo at every station in the coffee break
area – branded napkins or cups are welcome.

8. BAG INSERT
2,100€
(approx. 1,500 pieces)
Your information material on an USB stick.

* Please note that all mentioned prices are net.
VAT will be added to your invoice if applicable.
To coordinate your sponsor activities please contact as soon as possible:

**MEETING SECRETARIAT**
VIAJES EL CORTE INGLES SA
C/ Alberto Bosch 13
28014 Madrid (Spain)
Tel. +34 91 3300565

**Exhibition**
Ms Asun Marzo
amarzo@viajeseci.es

Ms Laura Pascual
lpascual@viajeseci.es
T. +34 93 2463566

**Registrations - General Information**
Ms Tatiana Rodríguez
ests@viajeseci.es
BOOKING FORM FOR EXHIBITION SPACE

PLEASE RETURN THE FORM TO: Ms Asun Marzo E. amarzo@viajeseci.es T. +34 932463566

Date: __________________________________________________________

Name of the Company: ___________________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________________

City / Country: _________________________________________________

Contact Person: _________________________________________________

E-Mail: _________________________________________________________

Tel.: ___________________________ Fax: _____________________________

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ESTS 2018 Exhibition request

a) Sponsor Package

Gold Sponsor (incl. 18 sqm) € 55,000.–

Silver Sponsor (incl. 12 sqm) € 32,000.–

Bronze Sponsor (incl. 9 sqm) € 17,000.–

b) Exhibition

Floor Space - requested sqm: ____________________________ per sqm € 625.– floor space only

Floor Space - requested sqm: ____________________________ per sqm € 695.– shell scheme included

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Preferences - please indicate your preferred booths options as per the floor map:

Booth numbers

Comments:
BOOKING FORM FOR THE SPONSORING OPTIONS

PLEASE RETURN THE FORM TO: Ms Asun Marzo E. amarzo@viajeseci.es T. +34 932463566

Date: ____________________________

Name of the Company: ________________________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

City / Country: ________________________________________________________________

Contact Person: _________________________________________________________________

E-Mail: ____________________________________________________________

Tel.: ____________________ Fax: ____________________

SPONSORING OPTIONS

1. HOSPITALITY SUITES € 4,500
2. LUNCH SYMPOSIUM € 10,000

SPONSORSHIP ITEMS

2. LANYARDS € 3,000
3. CONGRESS BAGS € 8,000
4. WIFI € 6,000
5. PRE-PROGRAMMED NOTIFICATION MESSAGES for 2 messages. € 2,500€

ADVERTISEMENT AND SPONSOR ITEMS

1. APP € 2,700€
  - 1 page
  - Logo with link € 900€

6. WATER DISPENSERS € 3,000€
7. COFFEE BREAK
  - Exclusive Sponsor per day € 3,500€
  - Sponsor of 1 Coffee break € 1,800€
8. BAG INSERT € 2,100€
9. E-POSTERS AREA € 7,000€

Net prices. VAT when applicable