

ESCRS

Annual Report 2022



ESCRS

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF
CATARACT & REFRACTIVE
SURGEONS

Contents

Welcome	03
Welcome from the President	04
Welcome from the Chairman of the Trustees	05
Who We Are	06
Our Aim	07
Membership	08
Membership Overview	09
Membership Statistics	10
Education	11
Education Overview	12
Education Highlights	13
Research	18
Research Overview	19
Research Awards	20
Registries	21
Publications	22
2022 Annual Congress & Winter Meeting	24
Charity	25
Charity Overview	26
Ukraine	27
Sustainability	32
Mission Zero	33
EyeSustain & YO Groups	34
2022 in Numbers	35



Welcome

Welcome from the President



Welcome from the Chairman of the Trustees

As the Chairman of the Trustees, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2022 ESCRS Annual Report. The COVID pandemic was so terrible in many ways, but it gave us the opportunity to review and refocus our activities as one of the largest ophthalmology societies in the world, so we continue to be at the forefront of innovation, research, education, training and most importantly to increase our charitable activities for the benefit of our patients.

As a result, the Society has made a very rapid and successful recovery from the pandemic and continues to go from strength to strength.

We have launched several new initiatives and revised and updated many other programmes, as detailed in this report; it has been a very busy year for the President, Executive, Council of Management, Managing Director, Finance Director and my fellow Trustees. However, a huge amount of the credit goes to the members and all those who contribute with great enthusiasm to our conferences and online activities to make this society so vibrant and at the forefront of Ophthalmology and in particular cataract and refractive surgery, to the benefit of all our patients, past, present and future.

We want to acknowledge and thank our commercial partners who make such a significant contribution to the success of our conferences.

On behalf of the Trustees, John Bateson, Roberto Bellucci, Till Staffeldt and Jose Guell, I would like to thank the Executive, Oliver Findl, Thomas Kohnen, Filomena Ribeiro and Burkhard Dick, Managing Director Tom Ogilvie-Graham, Finance Director Gilly Burgess, the Council of Management for the committees and the team at MCI. But most of all to thank our members for all their consistent and never-ending support.



Paul Rosen

ESCRS Chairman of the Trustees

Who We Are

Our Aim

Our Aim

Our Aim

To be the leading society and charity for anterior segment surgery worldwide. We are single minded in our determination to improve ophthalmic care for our patients both in Europe and globally. We work tirelessly on behalf of our members through funding ground-breaking research, innovation, education and providing first-class professional development.

It is our ambition to be the principal professional community and the most trusted and independent reference source for all ophthalmic surgeons and healthcare professionals in the field of cataract and refractive surgery. In order to optimise our current practice and advance clinical science for the benefit of all our patients, present and future. We are especially engaged with ensuring the best patient care and make significant charitable investments in research in Europe and clinical programs in the Middle East and Africa.

In 2023 and beyond we shall continue to pursue five main strategic objectives:



Enhancing Member Services



Supporting Research & Education



Developing Partnerships



Representation of Interests



Ensuring our governance and organisation are of the highest order

Thank you

ESCRS is very thankful for the hard and dedicated work of all its volunteers.

If you are interested to find out who they are, please [click here](#) for a list of the Council of Management and [here](#) for a list of all committees.

Membership

Overview & Statistics

Membership Overview

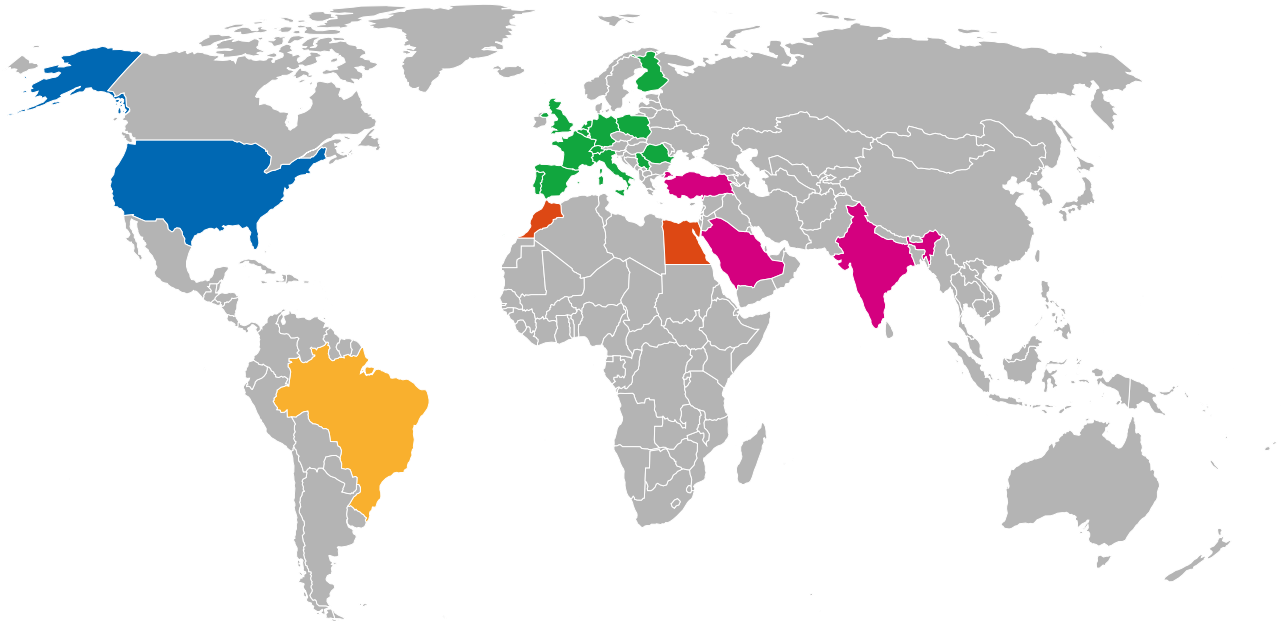


Representing over 6,300 members
from 130 countries worldwide

If you want to see more about joining
ESCRS as a member, [click here](#).

Membership Statistics 2022

Top 20 members per country in 2022



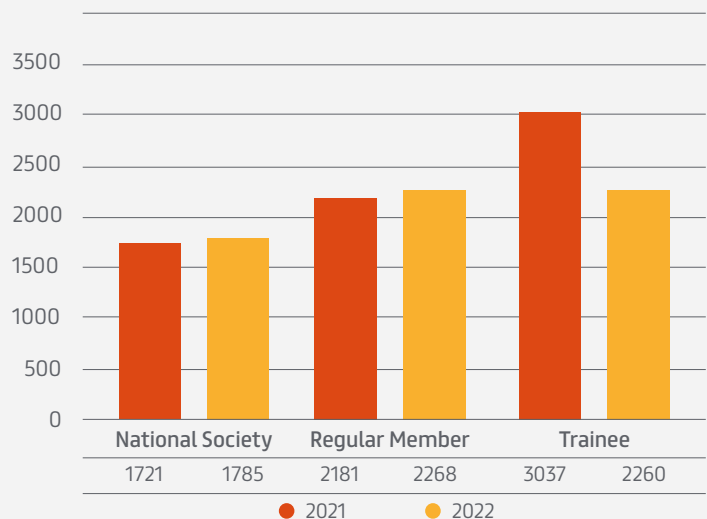
Germany	547	Belgium	255	India	161	Egypt	118
United Kingdom	452	Finland	246	Romania	159	Saudi Arabia	115
The Netherlands	414	Switzerland	194	France	143	Poland	112
Italy	311	Morocco	181	Portugal	139	United States	110
Spain	275	Turkey	180	Brazil	128	Serbia	91

Thank you

ESCRS is thankful for the close cooperation with its 21 European affiliated national societies.

[Click here](#) for a list of all ESCRS European Affiliated Societies.

Membership Comparison 2021 - 2022



Education

Overview & Highlights

Education Overview



Education Highlights

Some of our Education highlights in 2022

14 ESCRS sessions during related academies:

Ophthalmic Light Online 4 - 5 March 2022	Hellenic Society of Intraocular Implant and Refractive Surgery Annual Meeting Athens, Greece 10 - 13 March 2022	American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery Annual Meeting Washington DC, USA 22 - 26 April 2022
Czech Society of Refractive and Cataract Surgery Annual Meeting Prague, Czech Republic 20 - 21 May 2022	XXI Congress of Ophthalmologists of Serbia Belgrade, Serbia 22 - 26 May 2022	53rd Congress of Polish Ophthalmologists Warsaw, Poland 10 June 2022
Asia-Pacific Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons Annual Meeting Seoul, South Korea 11 - 12 June 2022	CAKE & PIE Expo 2022 Da Nang, Vietnam 20 - 21 August 2022	9th College of Ophthalmology of Eastern Central and Southern Africa Annual Conference Lilongwe, Malawi 21 - 23 September 2022
American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting Chicago, USA 30 September - 3 October 2022	Latin American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery Annual Meeting Buenos Aires, Argentina 19 - 21 October 2022	XVI Symposium of the Croatian Organisation for Cataract and Refractive Surgery Zagreb, Croatia 22 October 2022
National Congress of the Bulgarian Society of Ophthalmology Sofia, Bulgaria 28 - 29 October 2022	Netherlands Intraocular Society Annual Meeting Rotterdam, The Netherlands 5 November 2022	

EyeJC & eConnect

In 2022, four hour Eye JC and eConnect webinars were organised with hundreds of viewers. For more information, [click here.](#)

Education Highlights

FEBOS

Launch of FEBOS Cataract exam 2023; developed by the EBO and ESCRS to certify the expertise and advanced knowledge of experienced cataract and refractive surgeons.



[Click here](#) for more information.



iLearn Cornea Portal & Accreditation:

The iLearn Cornea portal was successfully re-accredited for another 2 years by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). Students can claim one CME point per successful module completion. The portal covers corneal physiology, biomechanics, imaging, diseases and surgeries as well as keratoplasties.

[Click here](#) for more information

Peter Barry Fellowship

The Peter Barry Fellowship Award 2022 of €60k was provided to **Dr Jascha Wendelstein** (Kepler University Hospital, Linz, Austria) and is to allow a trainee to work abroad at a centre of excellence for clinical experience or research in the field of cataract and refractive surgery, anywhere in the world, for one year.



Peter Barry

Education Highlights

Strategy

The ESCRS has devised a three year strategy to bring the wealth of existing and future educational content to its membership in a more personalised, accessible pathway driven method. Work has begun on designing this exciting new platform.

IOL Calculator

Launch of the IOL calculator which integrates seven online calculators. The ESCRS IOL calculator is a web application for IOL power calculations using multiple modern formulas simultaneously through a real-time integration with partner tools (by web scraping or API integration).

[More information via this link.](#)



ESCRS Masterclasses

The fundamentals for the ESCRS Masterclasses were set in 2022. The plan is to launch two 16-hour educational Masterclasses in the fields of MIGS and Complex Cataract at the 2023 Annual Congress. There will be 50 exclusive student positions available on each Masterclass to conduct mentor guided didactic workshops, interactive live webinars, in-person case grand rounds and in-person wetlabs/drylabs. The goal is to improve practice patterns, clinical outcomes and significantly grow the number of patients treated in each field.

Education Highlights

Moving Surgical Simulator initiative

Another new project that started this year was the ESCRS Moving Simulator Initiative. ESCRS will be providing an Eyesi Surgical Cataract Simulator on loan to those affiliated national societies who need better access to this highly useful training equipment. The simulator will be hosted by the National Society in that country to allow its membership time to complete a bespoke ESCRS curriculum.



Get in touch with your National Society to see if you can take part in this brand new ESCRS initiative.

LBI Committee

The ESCRS Committee for Leadership, Business and Innovation is bringing another in-depth programme on what it takes to establish and manage your own business in the world of ophthalmology to the 2023 Annual Congress. The programme will help to understand private equity and investment, and aim to give the skills to effectively set up and manage your own practice. The ESCRS will also offer its membership an exclusive opportunity to attend a Leadership Weekend in Frankfurt (October 2023), where attendees will get the chance to hear and interact with guest speakers, to learn and build upon their knowledge of leadership and innovation in ophthalmology.

Education Highlights

IME Programme

In 2022, IME programme grants on multiple therapeutic areas, including refractive IOLs, phaco technique for complex cases and corneal refractive surgery, were completed. A total of 33 educational tactics within these grant programmes were developed including in person / hybrid symposia, EuroTimes print / digital supplements, and on-demand learning through video interviews, podcasts and eLearning modules available on the ESCRS Education Forum. Outcomes assessed before, after and in follow-up surveys demonstrate statistically significant changes in clinical opinions and practice patterns with the majority of learners making meaningful changes to their practice as a result of these educational interventions.

These independent programmes were supported by unrestricted medical education grants from Alcon, J&J Vision, Zeiss, Schwind and Bausch & Lomb. Combining the learners from all tactics we estimate to have reached doctor over 10,000 times with these impactful programmes.

Clinical Guidelines Development

The ESCRS Guideline Development Group are progressing well with the Cataract and Refractive Guideline development and anticipate publication in late 2023/early 2024. A total investment of €240k has been allocated to this initiative.

Research

Overview, Awards & Registries

Research Overview



Research Awards

In 2022, the Research Committee has established two new awards, the Digital Research Award and the Systematic Review Award, and is developing a more transparent and modernised structure for future awards.

The aim of the new ESCRS Digital Research Award is to create high quality open access datasets for research in cataract, refractive and corneal surgery. The ESCRS Systematic Review Award ("SRA") is an initiative to produce a high quality body of research aimed to prepare, collate, analyse, synthesise and report medical research.

The mission of the Digital Health Working Group is to create high quality open access datasets for research in cataract, refractive and corneal surgery. We will do this through the new ESCRS Digital Review Award and digital health symposia at the ESCRS annual congress.

ESCRS 2022 Research Awards

Clinical Research Awards

Project: ETCF Trial

Full Title: European Prospective Multi-centre Trial comparing Triple-DMEK with Cataract Surgery in Patients with Cataract and Fuchs endothelial corneal dystrophy

PI: Prof. Björn Bachmann

Institution: Köln University, Germany

Grant: €728,160

Pioneer Research Awards

Project: CAMERA

Full Title: Innovative ocular surface grading camera

PI: Prof. Vito Romano

Institution: University of Brescia, Italy

Grant: €50,000

Pioneer Research Awards

Project: IOLExcg

Full Title: Clinical study on the functional and morphological course of patients with intraocular lens opacification

PI: Dr Timur Yildirim

Institution: Heidelberg University Hospital, Germany

Grant: €48,984

Pioneer Research Awards

Project: ANTISEPSIS

Full Title: Pre-Operative Antisepsis and treatment of Blepharitis with Povidone-Iodine 1%

PI: Dr Evgeny Gelman

Institution: Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Israel

Grant: €48,175

Systematic Research Awards

Project: Vit-Det

Full Title: Posterior vitreous detachment rates post-uncomplicated phacoemulsification - A Systematic Review & Meta-Analysis

PI: Dr Hurley

Institution: Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Ireland

Grant: €6,000

Research Registries

Registries

The ESCRS Registries consist of three databases: The oldest, EUREQUO, collects cataract and refractive surgery data. For more information, [click here](#). The ECCTR database is an EU registry for corneal transplantations. For more information, [click here](#)



The newest, EuReCCA, was established to collect data on pediatric cataract surgery. [Click here](#) for more information. Combined, the ESCRS Registries house a total of more than 4 million records and represent one of the few centralized data repositories for ophthalmic surgery in Europe. Quality registries are invaluable given that they are evidence-based with external validity and consist of large, geographically widespread data sets.

In 2023-2024, the ESCRS intends to expand data collection across Europe. As well as better harnessing the data that has been gathered thus far to create standardised outcome data sets, we also plan to facilitate automated transfer of data to the registries and register-based research.

ESCRS Publications

Proudly Presenting the ESCRS Publications

EuroTimes



EuroTimes is the official monthly magazine of the ESCRS. It is an important educational resource dedicated to advancing the mission of the ESCRS. It provides news and information on the latest developments in ophthalmology, particularly in the areas of cataract and refractive surgery.

Available to all members, EuroTimes covers a wide range of topics related to ophthalmology, including clinical practice, practice management, research, education, industry, and technology. It features articles written by leading experts in the field, as well as reports on the latest conferences, and ESCRS programs and initiatives.

EuroTimes is also available online through escrs.org/eurotimes, the eTimes weekly email blast, the EyeContact podcast, and posts on many social media platforms.



Thomas Kohnen
Chief Medical Editor



Paul Rosen
Medical Editor



Joseph Guell
Medical Editor

ESCRS Publications

JCRS



The Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery (JCRS) is the official journal of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) and the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS).

Published in a print journal monthly in its current form since 1996, the JCRS is a preeminent peer-reviewed monthly ophthalmology journal that publishes high-quality articles on all aspects of anterior segment surgery. The journal offers open-access publishing in addition to the print journal.

The JCRS publishes Full-length Articles that report on completed clinical research, Laboratory Science research, Review/Update articles, short report Correspondence articles, and Letters to the Editors. The journal receives approximately 1,200 submissions each year and has an impact factor of 3.528. JCRS ranks #25 out of 61 in Ophthalmology and #54 out of 211 in Surgery.

The journal has two Editors and two Associate Editors, with one in the US and one in Europe. The journal also has two Case Report Editors, and two Technique Editors. The Case Reports and Techniques are in an online-only format (JCRO).

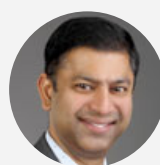
[Click here](#) for more information on the latest JCRS issue and [here](#) for more on JCRO.



William J. Dupps
Editor-in-Chief



Thomas Kohnen
Editor-in-Chief



Sathish Srinivasan
Associate Editor



Liliana Werner
Associate Editor

Both publications are free for ESCRS members. Should you not receive these, please sign up by [clicking here](#) or contact us via escrs@escrs.org

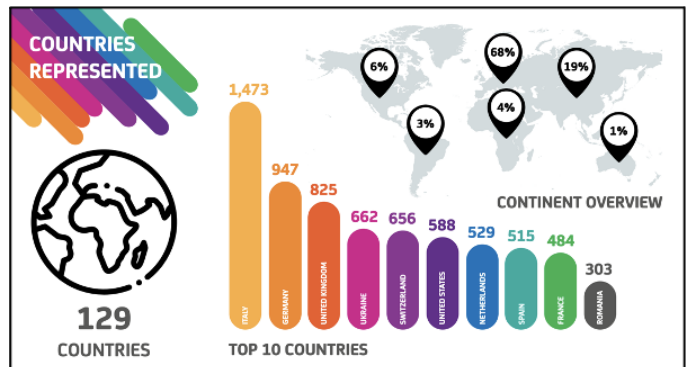
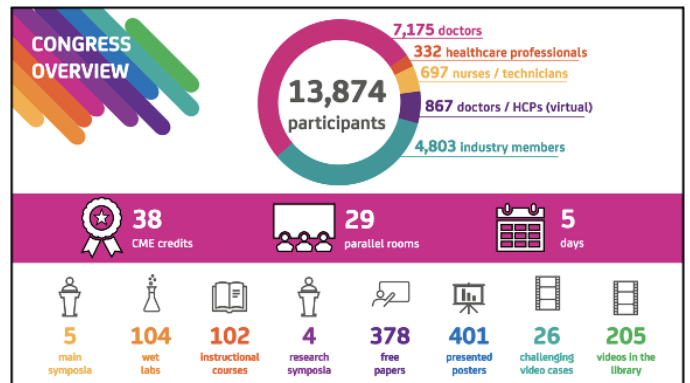
2022 Annual Congress & Winter Meeting

2022 Annual Congress & Winter Meeting

Our 2022 Annual Congress was held in September in Milan. It is now the biggest ophthalmic conference in the world concerning visiting doctors.

The total attendance included 7,175 doctors, 332 healthcare professionals, 697 nurses/technicians, and 4,803 industry representatives – from 129 countries in total - along with 867 doctors and healthcare professionals attending virtually.

Along with 5 main symposia, there were 104 wetlabs, 102 instructional courses, 4 research symposia, 378 free papers and 401 presented papers. Industry was very well represented with 219 exhibitors and 25 symposia. Also the first iNovation Day was held. The ESCRS iNovation® Day brought together clinical and business experts from across Europe and other parts of the world. Sessions focused on the most urgent clinical needs and barriers to success in anterior segment care and how the latest technology innovations may address those barriers and clinical needs within the next 5-10 years.



2022 Annual Congress & Winter Meeting

Overall Annual Congress Feedback

	Poor 0 - 25	Poor to Ok 25 - 50	Ok to Good 50 - 75	Good to Excellent 75 - 100
Programme Rating				89%
Industry Satellite				90%
Congress Organization			79%	
Congress			88%	
Importance and Use of Hybrid Format				87% Yes

Congress Awards

Congress Awards were provided to:



ESCRS Heritage Lecture 2022:
History and Evolution of Pseudophakic IOLS
Lucio Buratto



Ridley Medal Lecture 2022:
How the Digital World is Entering our Practice
Béatrice Cochener-Lamard

The **26th ESCRS Winter Meeting** was held from 19 to 21 February 2022, as a virtual edition, given the Covid situation in Europe at the time. 985 delegates attended the online programme. The programme started off with the EU Cornea Day, co-organised with EuCornea.

Thank you to all the ESCRS industry partners! Please [click here](#) for the full list.

Charity

Overview & Ukraine

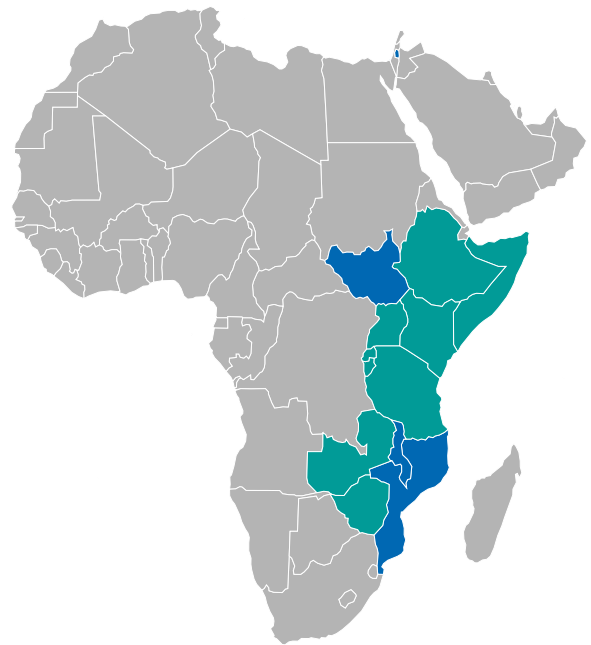
Charity Overview

Our Charitable Committee adopted a bold new strategy which will see ESCRS partnering and supporting several major projects, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa and related to cataract surgery, over the next three years.

In addition to the two smaller projects already on-going, ESCRS provides considerable support - financial and training - in Malawi, Mozambique and Palestine. It will also assist with cataract projects in Nepal and South Sudan. Of particular importance is that we intend to provide training support across much of Africa by partnering with the College of Ophthalmology in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (COECSA).

[Click here](#) for a list of all NGO's that ESCRS supports.

In 2022, €130k of charitable donations to eye health projects outside Europe have been provided. In addition, €900k of funding was approved for 3 major charitable projects running from 2023-2025.



- Current ESCRS supported projects
- Countries supported through COECSA

€130,000

in charitable donations to eye health projects outside Europe in 2022.

€900,000

approved funding for 3 major charitable projects running from 2023-2025.

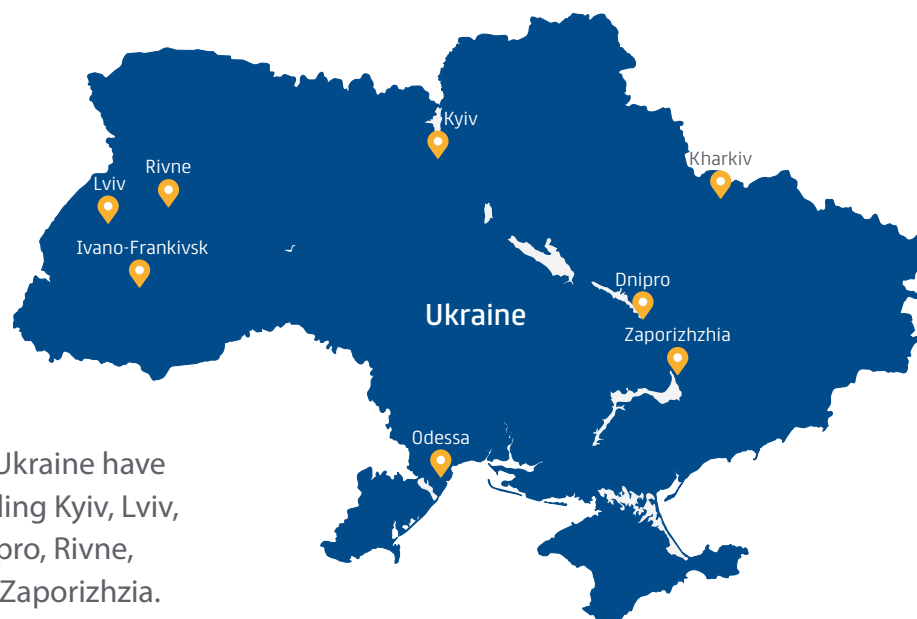
Ukraine

Back in early April 2022, we put out an appeal to sister societies, members and industry to add to the funds we had already allocated from our reserves.

These funds have then been used to support a variety of initiatives, including buying eye drops, arranging observerships outside of Europe for Ukrainian trainees, giving out 30 travel bursaries to attend congress, free membership of ESCRS for the next year and free registration to attend the Annual Congress.

The Annual Congress had a symposium devoted to trauma surgery in which numerous Ukrainian surgeons made valuable contributions. The free registration encouraged 662 Ukrainian colleagues to register for Milan and it is estimated that around 350 did so in person.

Of greatest importance is that ESCRS identified precisely where equipment and materials were most needed in Ukraine and elicited industry and some individual support to donate these. We then ensured all this was delivered into the right hands. A tremendous amount of in kind donations were received from various industry partners and have included ophthalmic sutures, instruments, drugs, disposables, endoscopes and combined Stellaris machines.



Over 20 sites across Ukraine have been reached, including Kyiv, Lviv, Odessa, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Rivne, Ivano-Frankivsk and Zaporizhzhia.

Ukraine

The following companies have supported ESCRS in this special project:



Alcon



Bausch



BVI



DORC



German Pharma



HOYA Surgical Optics



Lions Eye Institute



Oertli



The Fundingsland Group



Zeiss

In addition, we are also grateful for several private donations and support from the following related societies:



Austrian Ophthalmological Society



Belgian Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons



Dutch Ophthalmic Society



Finnish Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons



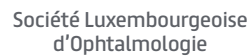
Hellenic Society of Intraocular Implant and Refractive Surgery



Japanese Ophthalmologists Associations



Japanese Ophthalmological Society



Société Luxembourgeoise d'Ophtalmologie



Portuguese Society of Ophthalmology



United Kingdom & Ireland Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons

Ukraine

In total over €100k of cash donations were raised for Ukraine and a further €100k were donated from the ESCRS reserves. Our support to our beleaguered and committed colleagues in Ukraine will continue for as long as they need it.

€107,000

in cash donations raised for Ukraine

€100,000

donated from ESCRS Reserves

Images from Ukraine



The background is a solid teal color. In the top right and bottom left corners, there are abstract, overlapping shapes in various shades of blue and teal, resembling stylized leaves or organic forms. A thin, dark blue line curves across the top right and bottom left areas, following the general shape of the abstract elements.

Sustainability

Mission Zero, Eye Sustain
& YO Sustainability Groups

Mission Zero

ESCRS Mission Zero strives to reduce the carbon footprint of the ESCRS congresses with the aim to be carbon neutral during the Annual Congress in Vienna 2023.



Here are some of the successes we achieved during the 2022 Annual Congress in Milan:



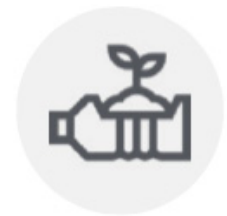
Only 3.4% of waste was sent to landfill; 30.9% of waste was incinerated, and 64% of waste was recycled or re-used.



The event created a fully integrated sustainability track in its programme, with panel sessions & courses focusing on waste management.



Leftover food was donated to Banco Alimentare-Siticibo, a charity working in Lombardy to encourage food security.



76% of unavoidable emissions were offset across three certified offsetting projects through Climate Impact Partners.

The congress' carbon emissions were measured using industry best practices and the TRACE tool.

ESCRS is committed to seeing change

ESCRS is committed to further improving its impacts through its engagement, inspiration, and catalysing collective action and we look forward to sharing more successes.

EyeSustain & YO Groups

EyeSustain



EyeSustain started in 2022, which is the global coalition of eye societies and ophthalmologists to make ophthalmic care and surgery more sustainable, initiated by ESCRS, ASCRS and AAO, more information can be found via the following [link](#).



CAT-Pack project & YO Sustainability group

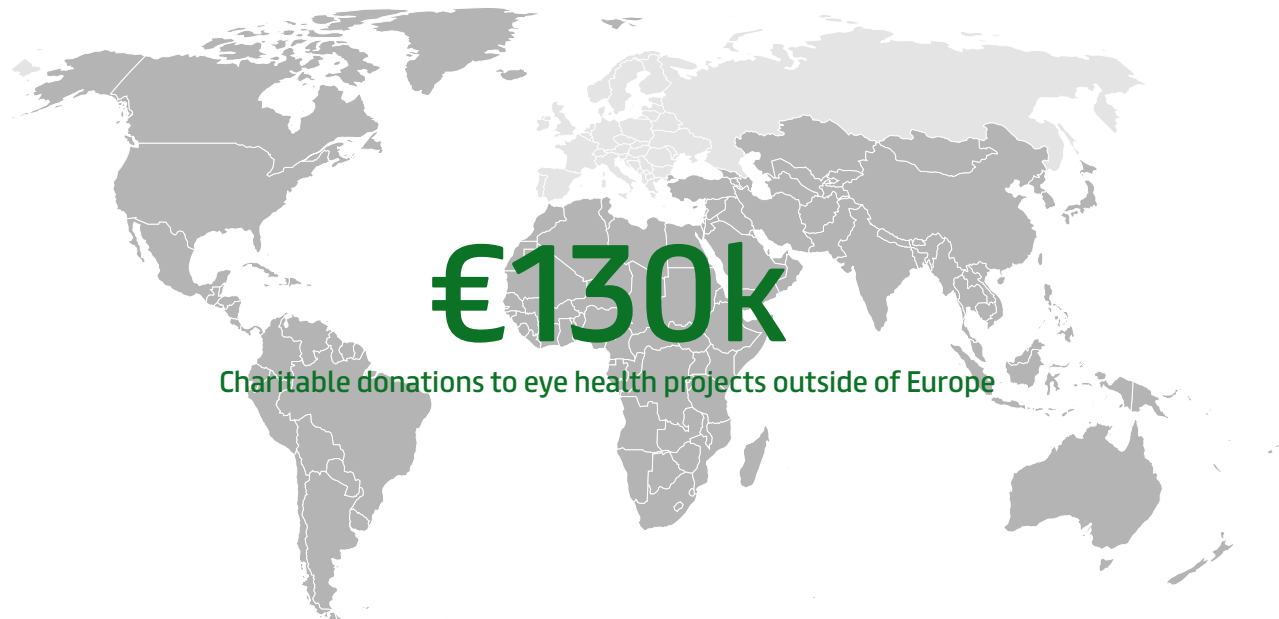
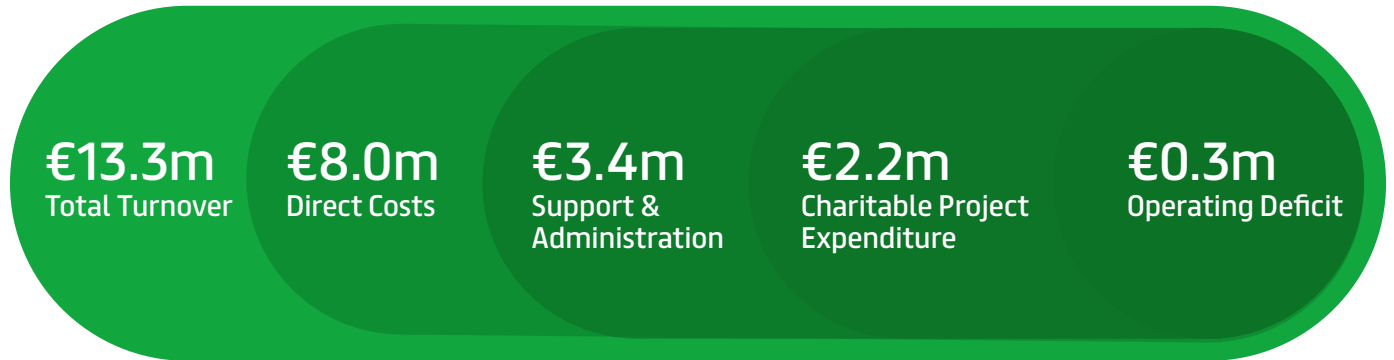
In the summer of 2022, the YOFS was established; a team of ESCRS Young Ophthalmologists, from 10 different countries, each with experience or motivation to make ophthalmology sustainable.

Since 2022, the YOFS have initiated several projects, including a European cataract pack inventory. They are looking (by analogy with an Austrian study by one of the YOFS) at the variability between custom packs between European countries.

The goal is to compile a cataract pack that is safe and as sustainable as possible, supported by the ESCRS for a total amount of €100k.

2022 in Numbers

2022 in Numbers



2022 in Numbers



600

Free congress registrations
to Ukrainian doctors

22

Congress travel bursaries
to Ukrainian doctors

42

Congress travel bursaries
to worldwide doctors

€60k

grant from the Peter Barry
Fellowship Award

€675k

Funding for research projects from
6 Clinical, 4 Pioneer and the 1st
Systematic Research Awards.

€900k

Funding approved for
3 major charitable projects
running from 2023 - 2025

€107,000

in cash donations raised for Ukraine

€100,000

donated from ESCRS Reserves

Thank you for reading the
ESCRS 2022 annual report.

We hope to see you at the 2023
Annual Congress in Vienna from
8 - 12 September.