

**THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE**

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**Letter to the members of the ESPMH**

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Dear Colleagues,

Last August at our 29<sup>th</sup> Annual ESPMH conference in Ghent we enjoyed many interesting presentations as well as the hospitality of our Belgian colleagues. Once again I would like to thank Professor Ignaas Devisch and his team for having been such a good host.

We are now looking forward to our next meeting in Istanbul, Turkey, 17 – 20 August 2016. You can find a call for abstracts for this forthcoming conference on the society's homepage ([www.espmh.org](http://www.espmh.org)). The deadline for submission of abstracts is 1 March 2016. Please send your abstract by email to the secretary of the ESPMH. After the selection of abstracts we will make a draft programme and post it on the society's homepage by the end of March 2016.

In order to register for the conference in Istanbul a registration form can be downloaded from the ESPMH website at [www.espmh.org](http://www.espmh.org) and emailed to our secretariat.

We have also initiated the preparations for the ESPMH conference in 2017, which will take place in Belgrade, Serbia. The call for abstracts for that meeting will be launched next year.

Finally, there will be elections for positions in the Board of the ESPMH at the Istanbul conference. As a result of the last elections in Ghent, in August 2015, the composition of the Board as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016 will be as follows:

Roberto Andorno (Switzerland)	President	until - 31/12/2016
Christoph Rehmann-Sutter	President-Elect	until - 31/12/2016
Bernice Elger (Switzerland)	Member	until - 31/12/2016
Ana Borovecki (Croatia)	Member	until - 31/12/2016
Lazare Benaroyo (Switzerland)	Member	until - 31/12/2016
Gerrit Kimsma (Netherlands)	Treasurer	until - 31/12/2017
Eugenijus Gefenas (Lithuania)	Member	until - 31/12/2017
Fuat Oduncu (Germany)	Member	until - 31/12/2018
Bert Gordijn (Netherlands)	Secretary	until - 31/12/2018

Thus the three-year term of office of five Board members will finish by the end of 2016 (Roberto Andorno, Christoph Rehmann-Sutter, Bernice Elger, Ana Borovecki and Lazare Benaroyo). According to the By-Laws, Christoph Rehmann-Sutter (now president-elect) will follow up Roberto

Andorno as president of the ESPMH. This means that four board positions will be up for election during the General Assembly in Istanbul: there are vacancies for the position of president-elect as well as for three positions of regular board member.

We will follow the procedure as outlined in the By-Laws concerning the election procedure of the Board, which is as follows:

1. We invite nominations from the membership.
2. The Board will make a proposal on the basis of the nominations received.
3. This proposal will be circulated prior to the General Assembly.

If members do not agree with the proposal of the Board, they are invited to prepare an alternative proposal (backed by 10% of the membership). This proposal must be sent to the Secretary or given to the Board prior to the beginning of the meeting at the latest. The proposal of the Board, as well as such proposals of the membership, will be open for voting during the General Assembly. At the same time, members who are not able to attend the General Assembly can request postal ballot sheets from the Secretariat.

With this first step, we would like to invite you to make nominations for the four above-mentioned vacancies in the Board (the position of President Elect as well as three regular members of the Board).

For a valid nomination please follow these rules:

- Specify the name of the person nominated as well as the position (President-Elect of the ESPMH or regular member of the Board). Only members of the ESPMH can be nominated;
- We need the written consent of the person nominated (in a letter or via email to the secretariat);
- We need 2 signatures of members who will be making this nomination (names and signatures, through fax, email, or letter);
- The nominations must be received by the secretariat before April 1, 2016.

In making its proposal, the Board will consider as criteria: geographical diversity, professional diversity, gender diversity and European residency. If you were to consider making nominations, it would be helpful if you could also take into account these criteria.

Best wishes,



Bert Gordijn, Secretary of the ESPMH

Please note: Below mentioned documents can be downloaded from the [ESPMH Documentation](#) page.

1. Call for abstracts Istanbul, 2016
2. Conference brochure Istanbul, 2016
3. Registration form Istanbul, 2016
4. Final report General Assembly at the Debrecen conference, 2014