INTRODUCTION

Heart Diseases still represent the most common cause of death and hospitalization in all the western countries and absorb a consistent portion of financial resources by the various Public Health Systems. Any possible effort looking at improving prevention and appropriate treatments in this all should be encouraged.

In the last ten years a significant improvement was achieved in the field of diagnosis and treatment of heart diseases. From one side new technologically advanced diagnostic and therapeutical tools and new discoveries in the pharmaceutical treatments changed significantly the therapeutical strategy in this area of medicine.

On the other side the distribution of this knowledge was not homogeneous trough out the various European Countries, creating strong differences in the treatment of similar patients and causing troubles to the achievement of equal access of all the patients to the most appropriate therapies.

This 4 days International Forum has the aim to share the modern cardiological knowledge with physicians coming from Countries of the Balkan Area in which, for various reasons including the war, were found, in the last 10 years, some difficulties in updating the largest part of their cardiologists.

The South East Europe Forum will see the participation of an outstanding International Faculty and of a larger audience including a significant amount of cardiologists working in South East Europe.

The target of this International Forum will be complete exchange of knowledge and the achievement of an equal level of treatment for all the European patients.
OVERVIEW - Congress Program

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td>Welcome by the Presidents of Albania, EHRA, WSA, ESC and ASC</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>Acute Myocardial Infarction diagnostic strategy</td>
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<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 – 18:30</td>
<td>Acute Myocardial Infarction therapeutical strategy</td>
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**DAY 2**

**Heart Failure**

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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 10:30</td>
<td>Diagnostic and Prognostic stratification - Session I</td>
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<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Diagnostic and Prognostic stratification - Session II</td>
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**DAY 3**

**Cardiac Arrhythmias**

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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 10:30</td>
<td>Atrial Fibrillation session I</td>
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<td>11:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Atrial Fibrillation session II</td>
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<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 16:00</td>
<td>Supraventricular Tachycardia’s: diagnosis and treatment</td>
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<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 – 18:30</td>
<td>Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia: diagnosis and treatment</td>
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**DAY 4**

**Cardiac Pacing**

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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 10:30</td>
<td>Implantable Pacemakers and Defibrillators – ESC Guidelines</td>
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<td>11:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Implantable Pacemakers and Defibrillators – Algorithms and Remote Control</td>
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CONGRESS PROGRAMM

13:00 – 14:00  Welcome Address  
President of Albania Sali Berisha

Welcome and Introduction  
Prof. Angelo Auricchio (President EHRA)  
Prof. Artan Goda (President Albanian Society of Cardiology)  
Prof. Massimo Santini (President WSA)  
Prof. Panos Vardas (President ESC)

Thursday 23 May  
Ischemic Heart Disease

14:00 – 16:00  Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI)  
Diagnostic Strategies

1. Acute coronary syndromes: definition and prognosis  
   F. Colivicchi (Italy)
2. Surface ECG variables in AMI  
   G. Giunjolovel (Croatia)
3. Markers of myocardial necrosis  
   A. Macic-Dzankovic (Bosnia)
4. Echocardiogram in AMI  
   M. Nedeljnikov (Serbia)
5. Arrhythmias during AMI  
   B. Beleslin (Serbia)
6. Prediction of outcome  
   M. Bergovec (Croatia)

16:00 – 16:30  Break

16:30 – 18:30  Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI)  
Therapeutical Strategies

1. AMI pharmacological treatment  
   I. Petrov (Bulgaria)
2. Conduction disturbances and pacemaker Implant in AMI  
   N. Fragakis (Greece)
3. Coronary angiography and angioplasty in AMI  
   Z. Perisic (Serbia)
4. Cardiogenic shock in AMI  
   S. Mihatov (Croatia)
5. Emergency surgical Revascularization in AMI  
   O. Oto (Turkey)
6. Challenging clinical cases  
   N. Gjorgov (Bulgaria)
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<th>Session I</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Heart Failure definition and classification</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Signs and symptoms of Cardiac Insufficiency</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>The role of Transthoracic echocardiography to identify systolic and diastolic HF</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Echo dobutamine to study the Ventricular reserve</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Quantification of Interventricular and intraventricular desynchronization</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>6 minutes walking test for evaluation of functional capacity</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The role of Holter Monitoring in the risk stratification of HF</td>
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<td>The role of Coronary angiography in HF</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Heart Failure and Atrial Fibrillation: Which comes first? The role of cardioversion</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Cardiac Tamponade: signs and therapy</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Pacemaker syndrome: how to minimize it?</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Tachymiopathy: diagnosis and treatment</td>
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### Heart Failure (HF)

**Pharmacological and non pharmacological therapy**

**Chair:** G. Ansalone (Italy)  
G. Nikcevic (Serbia)

#### 14:00 – 16:00  
**Session I**

1. **How to use diuretics**  
   E. Raljevic (Bosnia)
2. **Beta blockers in HF: selection and dosages**  
   A. Goudev (Bulgaria)
3. **Digitalis: an obsolete drug?**  
   M. Rabrenovic (Montenegro)
4. **Nitrates: when, how and why?**  
   D. Planinc (Croatia)
5. **Antiarrhythmic: only Amiodarone?**  
   C. Israel (Germany)
6. **Anticoagulants: when, which one?**  
   D. Raev (Bulgaria)

#### 16:00 – 16:30  
**Break**

### Heart Failure (HF)

**Pharmacological and non pharmacological therapy**

**Chair:** B. Benussi (Italy)  
A. Revishvili (Russia)

#### 16:30 – 18:30  
**Session II**

1. **Myocardial revascularization**  
   D. Milicic (Croatia)
2. **Mitral valve repair**  
   F. Musumeci (Italy)
3. **Aortic stenosis: surgery or TAVI?**  
   K. Bellos (Greece)
4. **Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy**  
   R. Vatasescu (Romania)
5. **VAD as destination therapy**  
   C. Autore (Italy)
6. **Heart Transplant**  
   E. Gronda (Italy)
Saturday 25 May

**Cardiac Arrhythmias**

08:30 – 13:00  
Atrial Fibrillation (AF)  
Chair: P. Vardas (Greece)  
G. Botto (Italy)

08:30 – 10:30  
**Session I**

1. AF Definitions, incidence and prevalence  
   L.P. Papavasileiou (Greece)

2. Electrophysiological mechanisms: what we know  
   R. Cappato (Italy)

3. Clinical implications of AF  
   S. Levy (France)

4. Drug therapy update  
   J. Camm (United Kingdom)

5. When and how to anticoagulate?  
   R. Bernat (Croatia)

6. Transthoracic cardioversion when and when to give up?  
   S. Iovev (Bulgaria)

10:30 – 11:00  
Break

Cardiac Arrhythmias

Atrial Fibrillation (AF)  
Chair: J. Camm (London)  
M. Gulizia (Italy)

11:00 – 13:00  
**Session II**

1. Catheter Ablation for PVI  
   C. Pandozi (Italy)

2. Ablate and Pace  
   R. Sutton (Montecarlo)

3. Concomitant and standalone Surgical treatments  
   B. Benussi (Italy)

4. Percutaneous closure of left atrial appendage  
   G. Speciale (Italy)

5. Challenging Clinical Cases  
   I. Tangodan (Turkey)

6. Challenging Clinical Cases  
   O. Sychon (Ukraine)

13:00 – 14:00  
Break
### Cardiac Arrhythmias

**14:00 – 16:00**

**Supraventricular Tachycardia:** diagnosis and treatment  
Chair: B. Lüderitz (Germany)  
B. Gorenek (Turkey)

1. ECG diagnostic criteria  
A. S. Fak (Turkey)

2. Role of Holter and telecardiology in SVT identification  
P. Rakovec (Slovenia)

3. Atrial Tachycardia: diagnosis and treatment  
Q. Parisi (Italy)

4. Atrial Flutter: diagnosis and treatment  
A. Manolis (Greece)

5. Paroxysmal infranodal tachycardia  
G. Forleo (Italy)

6. Wolf Parkinson White  
M. Scaglione (Italy)

**16:00 – 16:30**  
Break

### Cardiac Arrhythmias

**16:30 – 18:30**

**Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia:** diagnosis and treatment  
Chair: R. Cappato (Italy)  
A. Auricchio (Switzerland)

1. ECG diagnostic criteria  
M. Efraimids (Greece)

2. Genetic arrhythmogenic diseases  
R. Hatala (Slovak)

3. Non invasive techniques to stratify the risk of SD  
B. Goronja (Bosnia)

4. The role of EP study in SD risk stratification  
D. Pocaníc (Croatia)

5. VT pharmacological treatment  
A. Sagone (Italy)

6. VT non pharmacological treatment  
C. Lavalle (Italy)
Sunday 26 May

**Cardiac Pacing**

08:30 – 13:00

**Implantable Pacemakers and Defibrillators**

Chair: M. Santini (Italy)
G. Milasinovic (Serbia)

08:30 – 10:30

**ESC Guidelines**

1. Indications to single and dual chamber permanent pacing: The ESC Guidelines
   L. Padeletti (Italy)

2. Indications to Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy: The ESC Guidelines
   A. Auricchio (Switzerland)

3. Indications to ICD implantation according to the ESC Guidelines
   P. Vardas (Greece)

4. Diagnosis and treatment of syncope: The ESC Guidelines
   F. Ammirati (Italy)

5. Pacemakers: Troubles and Troubleshooting
   R. Matasic (Croatia)

6. ICD: Troubles and Troubleshooting
   C. Pignalberi (Italy)

10:30 – 11:00

**Break**

**Cardiac Pacing**

11:00 – 13:00

**Algorithms and Remote Control**

Chair: D. Petrac (Croatia)
L. Padeletti (Italy)

1. Anti-tachy atrial and ventricular pacing
   G. Botto (Italy)

2. Algorithms for automatic control of pacemaker functions
   A. Oto (Turkey)

3. Algorithms for patient management (chest fluid accumulation, ST segment ischemic changes)
   L. Santini (Italy)

4. Available systems for devices remote control
   L. Morichelli (Italy)

5. Clinical and economical benefits of devices remote control
   R.P. Ricci (Italy)

6. Case report on remote control benefits
   M. Santini (Italy)