

**SECTION AND BOARD OF VASCULAR SURGERY****Council Meeting**

24th September 2025, 11h00 to 12h30 CET
ICC Istanbul, Turkey | Meeting Room 1

Minutes

Participants			
<u>Executive Committee</u>			
President	Nabil Chakfé (NC)	Examination Chairman	SBVS Committees
Secretary General	Armando Mansilha (AM)	Examination Director	Mauro Gargiulo (MG)
Treasurer	Efthymios Avgerinos (EA)	CME Chairman	David McLain (DM)
		Office	Mike Wyatt (MW)
			Cristina Freitas

National Delegates

Austria	Josef Klocker	Lithuania	Linas Velicka
Belgium	Inge Fourneau	Luxembourg	Dirk Grotemeyer
Czech Republic	Miroslav Špaček	Netherlands	Brend Mees
Finland	Matti Laine	Norway	Beate Viddal
France	Fabien Thaveau	Poland	Waclaw Bernard Kuczmilk
France	Salma El Batti	Portugal	Frederico Gonçalves
Germany	Werner Lang	Portugal	Daniel Brandão
Greece	Athanasios Giannoukas	Spain	Elena Iborra
Greece	Efthymios Avgerinos	Sweden	Per Kjellin
Hungary	Gábor Menyhei	Sweden	David Lindstrom
Italy	Mauro Gargiulo	UK	Mike Wyatt

<u>Associate Countries</u>		<u>Observers</u>
Turkey	Tankut Akay	EJD
Turkey	Suat Doganci	Konstantinos Reditis
Ukraine	Yuriy Orel	

1. Welcome**Nabil Chakfé, Armando Mansilha**

- ✓ Professor Nabil Chakfé welcome to all Councillors.
Welcome to new delegates: Salma El Batti – France, Elena Iborra – Spain and Suat Doganci – Turkey.
- ✓ Apologies: Czech Republic - Robert Staffa, Denmark - Cecilie Markvad Møller, Finland - Velipekka Suominen, Italy - Gianluca Faggioli, Lithuania - Karolis Tijunaitis, Malta - Kevin Cassar and Norway - Øystein Rognerud

2. Minutes**Armando Mansilha**

- ✓ Minutes from last Council Meeting online, on the 19th May 2025, were approved.



3. Secretary General Report

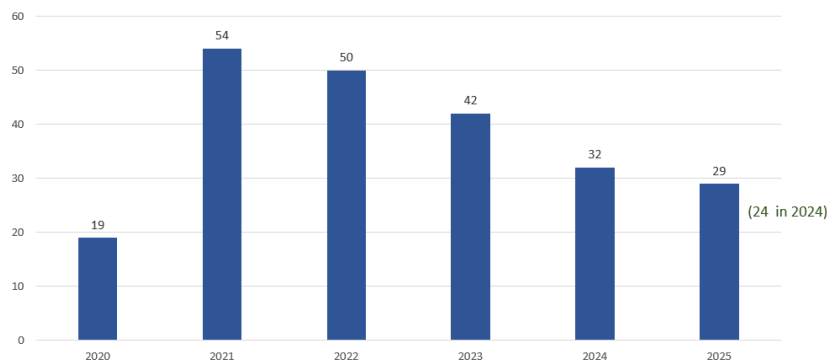
Armando Mansilha

✓ Finances

- Balance 31.12.2024 = 14.927,17€
- Balance 20.09.2025 = 29.451,91€
- Still pending payments from Brussels, we are aware that seems a never-ending story, but if our Section needs money to proceed with payments, Brussels releases it immediately.
- Membership Fee 2025:
 - 14 NS already paid (out of 32)
 - information is always sent to the Councillors
 - Councillors must ensure the forward to the NS treasurer
 - it's impossible to us to send directly to any other contact that not the Councillor
- Cristina will send a remind soon in order to finish the year with all payments regularized.

✓ CME

- Mike Wyatt will detail on his presentation, but Armando Mansilha remarked that Councillors should promote the applications for CME Credits on their National Societies.
- Just a short presentation on the number of applications in the last 6 years – more than last year but much less than previous years:



✓ FEBVS

- short resume about the FEBVS Examination 2025:
 - **Maastricht**
 - 08th March | in connection with European Vascular Course
 - Candidates = 27 | Failed = 3 | Failure rate = 89%
 - 7 Honours
 - Examiners = 40 and Observers = 1
 - **Porto**
 - 21st May | in connection with Porto Vascular Conference
 - Candidates = 15 | Failed = 5 | Pass Rate = 67%
 - 3 Honours
 - Examiners = 29 and Observers = 1



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- **Istanbul**
 - 23rd September | in connection with ESVS
 - Candidates = 27 | Failed = 7 | Pass Rate = 76%
 - 6 Honours
 - Examiners = 49 and Observers = 9
- Candidates per Country of the FEBVS 2025:
The Netherlands = 15, Germany = 12, Switzerland = 7, Portugal = 5, Egypt and Greece = 4 each, Belgium, France, Spain and Turkey = 3 each, Singapore and Ukraine = 2 each, and from Jordania, Lithuania and Slovenia = 1 each.
- FEBVS Awards 2025:
Maastricht:
 - Honours and Gold Medal - Harm Ebben (The Netherlands)
 - Honours: Carlos Veterano (Portugal), Chan Wen Shaun (Singapore), Ivan Sokolik (Switzerland), Jeroen Brouwers (The Netherlands), Oleksiy Gudz (Ukraine) and Roxane Varone (Switzerland)**Porto:**
 - Honours and Gold Medal - Julian Allerborn (Germany)
 - Honours - Gwendolyn Wilden (The Netherlands) and Sophie Ooms (The Netherlands)**Istanbul:**
 - Honours and Gold Medal - Henrique Rocha (Portugal)
 - Honours - Pietro Ricciardi (Switzerland), Klaas Ultee (The Netherlands), Tiago Ribeiro (Portugal), Adeline Schwein (France) and Dries Dorpmans (Belgium)
- Councillors were asked to invite Consultants to be FEBVS Examiners.
 - also reinforced the importance of the EDI and the need of having more women Examiners.
 - reminded the new criteria and application forms at our website:
 - New Examiner | FEBVS title and 4 years as Consultant
 - Invited Examiner | > 10 years as Consultant and well recognized CV
- Application for Extraordinary Examiners – reminded new award
 - FEBVS Gold Examiner – 20 Exams = Medal and Certificate
 - FEBVS Platinum Examiner – 30 Exams = Medal, Certificate and Special Gift
 - FEBVS Diamond Examiner – 40 Exams = Medal, Certificate and Special Gift
- New Observers 2025:
 - Greece - Andreas Lazaris and Georgios Sfyroeras; The Netherlands - Christine Vermeulen; Turkey - Emrah Uğuz and Suat Doganci; UK - Hassan Badri, Mahesh Pai and Orwa Falah.
- FEBVS Examination 2026:
 - Maastricht | 07th March | in connection with EVC
 - Porto | 06th May 2026 | in connection with PVC
 - Belgrade | 06th October 2026 | in connection with ESVS



- New Projects:
 - Presentations from National Societies – in May we had 3 and this time only 1. Next year:
 - May – Belgium, France and Czech Republic
 - October – Hungary, Poland and The Netherlands
 - Accreditation of Training Centres
 - Survey concerning the training in Europe
 - Hybrid exams + App score sheets
 - Ex. Co. will start to analyse other formats for the FEBVS. Maybe a hybrid format will all theoretical part online and hands onsite, could help to manage more Candidates per year using less resources. It was pointed out from 2 Examiners that this is not the same and that it's much better to have the personal contact. We agree on this but it's important to have other possibilities studied in case we need to implement immediately.
 - APP score sheets – sustainability is essential and a main goal in our days. It's being analysed the possibility to substitute paper score sheets for online APP, reducing the printing paper and improving the archives in digital.
 - Newsletter + Social Media + Pod Casts – actually we are sending 2 newsletter per year regarding the FEBVS Examination and the Council Meeting. We'll be happy to spread messages from the National Societies, as long as the Councillors send the proper content.

4. Finances

Efthymios Avgerinos

- Balance 20.09.2025 = 29.451,91€
- Pending Incomes (total 78.309.79€):
 - Membership Fee 2023 & 2024 (11 fee/7 NS) = 3.000,00€
 - Membership Fee 2025 (18 NS) = 7.200,00€
 - CME – with bonus = 37.104,31€
 - UEMS & YearBond (2022 & 2024) = 30.805,48 €
- Efthymios Avgerinos, as Treasurer, contacted the UEMS Finances in Brussels and asked to clarify all amounts they own us. They have sent a balance that it's being verified by us (takes time as it's result of many years and we need to search past archives).
- Efthymios Avgerinos was present in the UEMS Treasurers and our situation is the same as the other Sections.
- Again, we must understand that we are not an independent Section and all our activity is reflected in the main house, which accountancy is very strict and controlled.

5. CME Activities

Mike Wyatt

- Remind of the New Members 2025 of SBVS CME Committee:
 - Mike Wyatt (UK) – Chairman
 - Efthymios Avgerinos (Greece)
 - Patricija Ivanova (Latvia)
 - Remain also - Armando Mansilha (Portugal) and Gábor Menyhei (Hungary)



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- Delegates were encouraged to promote the Accreditation of Events. It would be good to have more events that mainly from ESVS.
- Applications in 2025
 - 29 applications received in total
 - 14 from ESVS
 - Total of 377 CME Credits
- Remind the times for Application:
 - 6 weeks for a complete and paid application
 - 5 weeks (with late fees) for a complete and paid application
 - 5 weeks for trusted providers
 - 4 weeks (with late fees) for trusted providers
 - This is a real challenge in the processes, but it is a necessary step to remain competitive and in line with needs of providers.

6. FEBVS Examinations

Mauro Gargiulo, David McLain, Armando Mansilha

- David McLain presented the results of the FEBVS Porto and Istanbul 2025:
 - Porto - continuing the link with Porto Vascular Conference
 - Portuguese Medical Association
 - 15 candidates
 - 2 groups
 - High scoring exam: Gold medal for 195,6 (max 208) and 3 Honours (90%+)
 - 5 Fails = 33%
 - Academic Viva - 1 fail
 - Open Technical - 0 fails
 - Endovascular – 4 fails
 - Istanbul - continuing the link with ESVS Annual Meeting
 - ICC – Istanbul Congress Centre
 - 27 candidates
 - 2 groups
 - High scoring exam: Gold medal for 175,1 (max 208) and 6 Honours (90%+)
 - 7 Fails = 24%
 - Academic Viva - 4 fails
 - Open Technical - 3 fails
 - Endovascular – 3 fails
- Conclusion:
 - Facilities are crucial, including catering
 - Exam is robust and reliable.



7. National Societies Presentations

National Delegates

- The new point for the Council Meetings.
- Was done one presentation from Lithuania

Lithuania

Linus Velicka

Vascular surgery residency in Lithuania

- Statistics
 - Population 2.888 million (2024)
 - Members of LITVASC vascular surgeons 94
- Medical education 6 years - Vilnius University (VU) and Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LUHS) Kaunas
- Open and endovascular: VU = 372 vs 48 and LUHS = 342 vs 54
- Final Exam – in VU and LUHS is the same = Practical skills and Theoretical exam
- Accreditation by The State Accreditation Service for Health care activities under the Ministry of Health
- In Lithuania is not so easy to promote the FEBVS Examination as it's considered as reputation but not needed professionally.
- As per the EACCME credits, events are accredited by the Universities that award the number of credits each professional need to accomplish with the minimum number of credits per year.

8. Executive Positions

Armando Mansilha

- ✓ Nabil Chakfé is stepping down from President.
- ✓ Our section is more than grateful for his commitment during the last 20 years. Serve as President, Examiner and CME Committee.
- ✓ Nabil thanked to the Council, mentioning that has been an honour to serve the SBVS Section and confirming that he will remain active as Examiner in the future.
- ✓ Mauro Gargiulo was the only candidacy received for this election and was elected by unanimity.

9. AOB

Armando Mansilha

- ✓ Next Council Meetings:
 - May 2026 – Online
 - October 2026 - Belgrade