

How Can You Represent the ERS?

The ERS is currently represented by National Delegates in 69 countries. The National Delegates represent the ERS within their own country as well the ERS members in those countries. Over the next few months, we will be introducing several National Delegates as their mandates come to an end to give you an insight into their experiences and the roles they have played in the ERS.

Walter Zin



National Delegate for Brazil

These last 3 years have been very interesting to me.

Besides the fundamental role of directly linking the ERS and my country peers, a pleasant task that was carried out unbiased by any political link, there was a “behind the scenes” responsibility of trying to improve the involvement of Brazilians in the diverse scientific activities of the ERS.

The annual National Delegates Meeting constitutes an important function held by the Society. The Delegates meet with the ERS Secretary General to debate the new resolutions and guidelines taken by the Society. The Delegates are free to express their countries’ particular needs and suggestions. Altogether we end up with a much better understanding of the way respiratory develops around the world, and the Society is kept up-to-date in relation to each country’s situation.

National Delegates also take part in ERS Committees. Our role is fundamental in the Society, allowing people from all over the world to decide on its future.

Throughout these activities we meet and work with very dedicated ERS personnel, who make our lives and tasks much easier and joyful.

In summary, it has been a great pleasure and an honour for me to act as the Brazilian National Delegate to the ERS, and I strongly recommend ERS members to participate in Society life as a National Delegate.

Florin Mihaltan



ERS National Delegate for Romania

During the last 3 years, I have gained experience of

how I could contribute to the Society and, at the same time, how to promote the image of the ERS in my country.

For example, I organised a Symposium at the Romanian national congress, which was sponsored by the ERS and the Romanian Pneumology Society. The ERS was involved in training courses in Romania, where experts within the field of respiratory medicine took part.

However, I think that during my mandate my greatest achievement was the establishment of the ERS Romanian Club; this allowed all the Romanian ERS members to experience the advantages of being a member of this organisation. These meetings provided an opportunity for the participants to evaluate their scientific abilities and discuss how this should be standardised. My advice to future Romanian National Delegates is to listen to colleagues and fellow members, and use their suggestions to ensure the rapid modernisation of Romanian pneumology in the coming years.

Andrey Belevskiy



National Delegate for the Russian Federation

For the past 3 years, I have had

the honour of representing the ERS in the Russian Federation. These past few years have been extremely important for me as I have gained experience and had the opportunity to meet and work with other respiratory leaders. But the main thing is that Russia has succeeded in considerably strengthening its relationship with the ERS. Having undertaken a number of projects together, we now look forward with optimism to future cooperation between the Russian Respiratory Society and the ERS.

Another notable result of our work has been the growing understanding that the inclusion of National Delegates is of paramount importance for defining ERS policies. Before our very eyes, the past 3 years have brought essential changes in the attitude of the ERS administration towards the corps of National Delegates. There has been greater consideration for delegates’ opinions when working plans are made with regard to various aspects of ERS activity. I would like to extend my best wishes to all newly elected National Delegates for success and active participation in the life of the ERS.

For more information on election procedures and roles of National Delegates and other Officers please visit: www.ersnet.org/election-procedure