

Bylaws of the Council of Fellows of the European Stroke Organisation

Article 1. Aims

The aims of the Council of Fellows of the European Stroke Organisation are to support the objectives of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) and to advise and report to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the ESO.

Article 2. Membership

2.1. The criteria for ESO Fellowship are:

For all applications, applicants should have two letters of support from FESO Fellows and have demonstrated:

- a) Attendance at three or more ESO conferences in the preceding six years.
- b) Presentation (poster or oral), or contribution to a teaching session at an ESO conference
- c) Contribution to an ESO committee / working group/ conference organisation – through membership or invited attendance at these groups.

For the award of Fellowship by research achievements:

Ten papers with an impact Factor > 2 and at least one paper as first, last or corresponding author in a journal from a list agreed and reviewed by the Fellowship selection committee each year.

For the award of Fellowship through clinical leadership achievements:

Five or more years contribution at senior clinical level to a stroke service with evidence of having achieved: regional or national impact through service development, audit or successfully starting a new stroke service.

or

Demonstration of a major contribution to improving stroke care within a country (or more widely in Europe) through chairing a national guideline committee, organising a national conference or equivalent activity.

2.2. In addition, Fellows need to show willingness to work for the ESO

2.3.1 in Committees
and/or

2.3.2 in ESOC teaching courses (provide topics and actively participate)
and/or

2.3.3 in ESO summer school and similar activities (provide topics and actively participate)
and

2.3.4. to recruit new ESO members,
and

2.3.5 Working as an ESO "ambassador" in the applicant's country of origin or where the applicant is working. This applies to applicants who are internationally recognised leaders for the improvement of stroke care in his/her country. A letter describing the applicant's planned commitments should be provided with the application.

2. 3. Individuals who are 70 years or older or have retired from a permanent clinical or academic position, will receive Emeritus Fellowship status. They will pay the standard membership fee.

Article 3. Selection Process

The Fellowship Selection Process is run on an annual basis. All applications received until 31 January will be collected and reviewed by the ESO Fellowship Selection Committee. The Chair of the Council Fellows also chairs the Selection Committee, in addition, two members of the membership committee as well as three ESO fellows will be part of the committee. The committee meets once per year to decide about all application received.

Article 4. Rights and Privileges

Fellows of the ESO may participate in the annual meeting of the ESO fellows and may vote. All fellows are eligible for election to the office of chair of the Council of Fellows and subsequent sub-committees, which may be established by the Council of Fellows. The Council of Fellows can propose honorary members to the Board of Directors.

Article 5. Cessation of Fellowship

Fellowship shall cease upon:

5.1. Death.

5.2. Written notice by the Fellow, in which case as of the following calendar year (1st January).

5.3. Non payment of ESO membership fee

5.4. Expulsion from the Council of Fellows of the ESO may be made by the Council of Fellows if an important reason exists, especially if the member brings the ESO in disrepute or violates the ESO constitution. This requires a majority decision by the Council of Fellows and approval by the Executive Committee of the ESO. Expulsion will be effective following this decision.

Article 6. Entities

6.1. Chair

The Council of Fellows of the ESO will have a chair who will be elected by majority vote at the annual meeting of the ESO fellows. The duration of office of the chair of the Council of Fellows will be for 2 years.. Re-election is possible one time. Upon default, the chair is member of the ESO Board of Directors.

The out-going chair is responsible for soliciting proposals for election to the chair in writing to all ESO fellows at least one month prior to the annual meeting of the ESO Fellows.

6.2. Sub-committees

The Council of fellows of the ESO may decide upon the establishment of sub- committees. These must be approved by a majority vote at an annual meeting of the Council of Fellows followed by the approval of the Executive Committee of the ESO.

6.3. Representation of Fellows in Committees

Every ESO Committee should be chaired by an ESO Fellow and should have at least one regular member of the Committee which is also a Fellow.

Article 7. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Council of Fellows of the ESO will be held each year during the ESOC. The invitation to the annual meeting will be made as a written request to the Fellows by the chair at least one month before the date of the meeting. This request should also specify the agenda for the meeting. ESO Fellows may propose topics for the agenda of the annual meeting at least two weeks prior to the meeting. Decisions made at the annual meeting of the council of Fellows of ESO are to be written down and signed by the chair and the secretary general.

Article 8. Amendments to the Statutes

Amendments to the Statutes of the Council of Fellows of the ESO may be proposed by ESO fellows in writing to the chair at least two months prior to the annual meeting of ESO fellows. An amendment shall require for its adoption an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes at the annual meeting of the Council of Fellows of the ESO. Fellows who cannot attend the annual meeting can submit their vote by proxy to another fellow. Each fellow can hold a maximum of one proxy vote.

7 May 2026