

The Specialist Nurse in European Healthcare Towards 2030",

► United in the Diversity of Nurses in all Specialisations

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ESNO press release

Milan, June 8, 2024 – **The VI International Congress of ESNO** (European Specialist Nurses Organisation) concluded with great success, held in Milan from June 5 to 7, 2024. The congress, titled "The Specialist Nurse in European Healthcare Towards 2030", brought together **over 350 experts**, nursing professionals, and institutional representatives from around the world to discuss the future of the nursing profession and its key role in ensuring quality healthcare for European citizens.

The mainly topic of the congress was the strengthening the 'united if the diversity of specialist advance nurses practitioners and their organisations, to serve the European and global healthcare health challenges with emphasis for people with chronic illnesses, disabilities, vulnerabilities, and frailties'. The speakers emphasized the importance of collaboration between health professionals and their organisations, regulatory bodies, and policymakers to address today's challenges in the healthcare sector. In this context, the specialist nurse plays a crucial role in providing high-quality care and identifying patients' needs but also at policy level.

The Congress was preceded by a **Hackathon**, an inclusive and welcoming pre-congress event where participants worked alongside eminent foreign colleagues who are leaders in nursing sciences. During the hackathon, participants discussed potential policy and organizational strategies to address the nursing staff crisis affecting healthcare systems worldwide. The hackathon proved to be extremely useful and effective in increasing the impact and success of the scientific congress. It allowed participants to create connections by offering the opportunity to meet and connect with colleagues from around the world, sharing common ideas and interests, and exchanging knowledge and information in an informal environment, fostering collaboration and innovative research.

The areas of nursing specialization discussed at the congress were numerous and diverse. Among the main ones: cardiovascular surgery, diabetology, nephrology, endoscopy, emergency, intensive care, leadership, anesthesia, pediatrics, public health, primary care, and many others. The congress saw the participation of eminent professors from European, British, Chinese, and American universities, who shared their cutting-edge knowledge and research in the field of specialist nursing. In addition to the European speakers, prestigious speakers from Europe, America, Canada, and China participated. These include Joyce Fitzpatrick (Case Western Reserve University, USA), Susan Gennaro (Boston College, USA), Mary T. Quinn Griffin (Case Western Reserve University, USA), Rebecca Owens (Columbia University, USA), Jasper Tolarba (Columbia University, USA), Wendy Budin (Rutgers University, USA), Judith Shamian (President Emerita International Council of Nurses, Canada), Sophia Sui Chee Chan (former Minister of Health and

University of Hong Kong, China) and Sylvia Fung (Tung Wah College, China), Moriah Ellen (Ben-Gurion University, Israel), Francisco R. Lozano (Cancer Patient Europe).

Institutions such as FNOPI, ICN, the OPI of Milan, Lodi, Monza, and Brianza, and national associations such as AIIAO and AISLeC were actively involved and present. Numerous private companies, such as Dale Medical Product, Medicines for Europe, Vaccines Europe, Viatrix, and Springer, supported the event unconditionally.

The event concluded with a solemn moment of awarding **Honorary Fellowships** (FESNO) to Joyce Fitzpatrick (Distinguished University Professor, Case Western Reserve University), Gennaro Rocco (Scientific Director of the Center of Excellence for Nursing Culture and Research (CECRI) of the OPI of Rome), Susan Gennaro (Professor, Boston College), Judith Shamian (President Emerita International Council of Nurses), and **ESNO Fellowships** to Elena Brioni (San Raffaele Hospital), Antonio Bonacaro (Associate Professor, University of Parma), Rosario Caruso (Researcher, University of Milan), Maddalena De Maria (Associate Professor, Link Campus University), Dhurata Ivziku (Researcher, Campus Bio-Medico University of Rome), Geoffrey Axiak (University of Malta), and Blerina Duka (President of the Albanian Nursing Council).

The VI ESNO international congress was a great success, **shedding light on the fundamental role of the specialist nurse in ensuring quality healthcare for European citizens**. The discussions and conclusions of the congress will provide an important foundation for the future development of the nursing profession in the full spectrum of oriented nursing organisations in all specialties and health domains, in Europe and around the world. More about the event at www.esno-congress.eu

The next step is the making an inclusive report on outcomes, to publish beginning November 2024 and to launch in [the European Parliament](#) and continue this success with the VII ESNO International Congress in late spring 2025 will be held in Zagreb, Croatia.

About ESNO: The European Specialist Nurses Organisation (ESNO) is a non-profit organisation and the goal is to facilitate and provide an effective framework for communication and co-operation between the European Specialist Nurses Organisations and its constituent members. ESNO represents the mutual interests and benefits of these organisations to the wider European community in the interest of the public health. Members of ESNO consist of individual European specialist nurses organizations. Contact: www.esno.org – secretariat@esno.org www.esno-congress.eu