

Conference Article

Report on the 25th meeting of the ECCR 30th Sep–2nd October 2022

Marisol Fernández-Alfonso

Instituto Pluridisciplinar and Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidad Complutense de Madrid - Spain

The 25th meeting of the European Council for Cardiovascular Research (ECCR) was onsite in Villa Fiorita, Treviso Italy. More than 70 participants, including trainees, early career researchers and established investigators from several European countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Lebanon, The Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK) and the USA met face-to-face to enjoy three days of outstanding research presentations. The meeting covered several topics of cardiovascular research: from vascular, cardiac, and metabolic aspects to Covid-19, and from basic to clinical research.

With the aim to provide insight into clinically relevant questions and widen the spectrum of views, the meeting included two joint sessions: one focussed on macro- and microcirculation together with [Artery](#) and a second focussed on cardiovascular health in women together with the [Women In Hypertension Research Group](#) of the International Society of hypertension.

ECCR dedicates great effort to promote education, mentorship, and consolidation of a robust Early Career Researcher (ECR) Network. The ECR Network is not only focused on research, but also on soft skills development, management, and organisation. Two sessions were organised and moderated by the ECRs: session 7 included the communications selected by them and session 8 had a clear formative and educational goal. In addition, session 11 was dedicated to mentoring with the presentation of ORPHEUS by Michael Mulvany that was followed by a dynamic round table discussion.

In relation to both training and mentoring, ECCR has a strong connection to the Innovative Training Network [MINDSHIFT](#) and organized a session where early-stage researchers presented different thesis projects and discussed their integration.

The session “Business meets Academia” was aimed at increasing applied research and supporting connexions to companies and industry.

In addition to the keynote lecture delivered by Tomas Guzik, other internationally renowned speakers participated in the sessions: “New insights into vascular pathophysiology”, “New targets in cardiovascular disease”, “Covid-19 and cardiovascular complications”, and the “Clinical session”.

The meeting offered young researchers the opportunity to present themselves and their research to an international audience by giving either an oral (15 min) or a poster (7 min) presentation. Overall, 11 oral communications and 21 poster presentations were delivered by trainees and young investigators. Best oral presentation was awarded to Igor Silva (Denmark). Best poster presentations were awarded to Sara Jiménez-González (Spain) and André Rodrigues (Germany).

The meeting also included a social event consisting in the traditional quiz organised by Augusto Montezano, which was fun and community building.

The President closed the meeting and her Presidency with a great thank you to the outstanding speakers and moderators, to the ECCR Executive Committee and ECRs for their work and commitment, to Michael Ryan and Clinical Science for publishing the meeting abstracts, and to the Aristeia and Villa Fiorita teams for their essential assistance in the meeting organization. She also expressed her sincere gratitude to Ana Briones for her dedication, support and unconditional help during these two years.

She handed over to the next President, Carmine Savoia wishing him all the best and great success in the next two years.

Overall, the 25th meeting was a great success, all enjoyed meeting face-to-face again, and look forward to meeting next year in the 26th meeting in October 2023.