

December 8, 2025

**Motivation Letter – Candidacy for ESC Nominating Committee 2026–2028 to Represent Associations, Councils, and Working Groups**

Dear Prof. Franz Weidinger, Chair of the ESC Nominating Committee,  
Dear Members of the Nominating Committee,

It is with a strong sense of purpose and commitment to the mission of the European Society of Cardiology that I submit my candidacy for the ESC Nominating Committee for the 2026–2028 term. My motivation arises from over two decades of engagement in cardiovascular diagnostics and research, combined with long-standing involvement in European professional societies and ESC-affiliated initiatives.

I currently serve as Secretary of the ESC Working Group on Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation, where I actively contribute to scientific activities aimed at integrating biomarker science, systems biology, and translational diagnostics into precision cardiology. As a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology, I have been committed to strengthening collaboration between clinical cardiologists, laboratory specialists, and translational researchers, groups whose integration is increasingly central to ESC strategy and innovation agenda.

My professional position as Professor and Director of the Center for Medical Biochemistry in the University Clinical Center of Serbia, the largest cardiovascular and tertiary care institution in the region, has allowed me to lead major diagnostic programmes that directly support cardiovascular care pathways. These include cardiac biomarkers, molecular diagnostics, pharmacogenomics, and laboratory automation. My scientific work spans acute coronary syndromes, heart failure, cardiometabolic disease, and the development of innovative biomarkers and digital diagnostic tools.

Throughout my career, I have been strongly engaged in the European scientific community. I serve as General Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member of the European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Therapy (ESPT), and have contributed for many years to the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM), International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), and several European working group/task forces/committees on cardiac biomarkers, sustainable laboratory practices, etc. These roles have strengthened my governance experience, international network, and commitment to supporting excellence, equity, and diversity in cardiovascular science.

My research achievements include more than 180 peer-reviewed publications, leadership in national and European research projects, including cardiovascular biomarker studies, COVID-19 initiatives, COST Actions, and HORIZON-related collaborations, and two international patents. I have also founded and directed major international conferences and symposia that have advanced the European dialogue on biomarkers, laboratory innovation, and precision medicine.

I am motivated to serve on the ESC Nominating Committee because I strongly believe in promoting inclusive, transparent, and forward-looking leadership within the ESC. The Committee plays a critical role in shaping the Society's future, and I hope to contribute by bringing multidisciplinary insight, experience in clinical and translational science, and a deep commitment to identifying and supporting emerging leaders across Europe.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. It would be an honour to serve the European Society of Cardiology in this important role.

With my best wishes,

Prof. Sanja Stanković, FESC