

Dr. Prof. Jelena Čelutkienė

Vilnius, Lithuania

2025-12-02

Dear Chair of the Nominating Committee of the European Society of Cardiology,
Dear ESC Past President Prof. Franz Weidinger,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving as a Member of the Nominating Committee of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). With a lifelong commitment to advancing cardiovascular medicine and fostering diversity and inclusivity within our profession, I am eager to contribute to the ESC's mission by ensuring transparent, fair, and strategic leadership selection.

Over the past three decades, my clinical and academic career has been deeply intertwined with the ESC. I have actively participated in numerous ESC Committees, including Credentials, Membership, Congress Programme, Declaration of Interests, Clinical Practice Guidelines, and currently serve on the Audit and Advocacy Committees. These roles have provided me with a comprehensive understanding of ESC governance and the importance of ethical, unbiased decision-making in shaping our community's future.

As a former Board member of the Heart Failure Association (2016–2020), I worked to strengthen scientific output through consensus statements on imaging in heart failure and cardio-oncology, and organized the HF Summit in Vilnius in 2018. I also contributed to the 2021 ESC Heart Failure Guidelines and the 2023 update. During my presidency of the Lithuanian Society of Cardiology (2020–2023), I promoted ESC principles nationally and fostered collaboration with international partners.

My recent experience as Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania has broadened my perspective on health policy and system-level challenges, which I believe is highly relevant for implementing initiatives such as the EU Cardiovascular Action Plan. I understand the complexities of guideline adoption, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, and can leverage my regional expertise and networks to support ESC's strategic objectives.

Aligned with the ESC Strategic Plan 2023–2028, I am passionate about advancing high-quality research, innovative education, and digital health solutions. My experience as a trainer of students and residents reinforces my commitment to modernizing ESC educational offerings and promoting patient-centered care. Serving on the Audit Committee has further deepened my appreciation for organizational culture and governance within a dynamic, global society.

As the ESC strives to enhance inclusivity, I am dedicated to increasing engagement among women and professionals of all ages. My background in health policy and society leadership underscores my commitment to ethical conduct, transparency, and fostering a positive organizational climate.

I would be honored to bring my expertise, integrity, and collaborative spirit to the Nominating Committee, ensuring that ESC leadership reflects excellence, diversity, and the values of our community. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to contributing to the continued success of the ESC.

Sincerely,

Dr. Prof. Jelena Čelutkienė, FESC