

## Motivation Letter – Candidacy for ESC Councillor (2026–2028)

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to announce my candidacy for the position of Councillor of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), for the mandate 2026–2028. I am deeply grateful to the Romanian Society of Cardiology (RSC) and to the other constituent bodies that have endorsed and supported my nomination. Their trust reinforces my commitment to serving the ESC with dedication and transparency.

My experience as President of the RSC has given me a deep understanding of the challenges that National Cardiology Societies face today. Leading the RSC, reinforced for me the essential value of unity, strong governance, and collaborative leadership. In recent years, I coordinated major reforms in governance, digital transformation, membership, education, and research strategies, efforts that significantly strengthened the society's national and international profile. Having served the RSC for more than two decades in various roles, Secretary, President of Working Group, Treasurer, President-Elect, and President, I have gained a comprehensive understanding of the responsibilities, complexities, and opportunities that leadership entails. These experiences have shaped my ability to make balanced, transparent, and team-driven decisions.

Since 2009, I have served the ESC and the Heart Failure Association (HFA) in multiple committees and study groups. My work on the HFA Board has given me firsthand insight into the strategic thinking, scientific rigor, and collaborative culture that define the ESC. These roles have prepared me to lead diverse teams and drive complex initiatives.

My involvement as Task Force member and ESC reviewer for several ESC Guidelines has reinforced my belief in the transformative impact of clinical practice guidelines in improving patient care across Europe, and of the crucial role that National Societies play in their dissemination and implementation. Coming from a region with persistently high cardiovascular risk, I am acutely aware of the urgent need to strengthen preventive cardiology at both population and institutional levels. Empowering national leaders in prevention, through education, collaboration, and structured guidance, will be essential to reducing Europe's cardiovascular disease burden, and this will be one of my priorities if elected.

For many years, I have also been deeply involved in ESC registries, currently serving as Chair of GRASP-HF and co-chair of the ICARE-HF programme. These collaborative initiatives demonstrate how shared data collection, benchmarking, and institutional accreditation can drive real improvements in heart failure care. My goal is to expand the impact of such initiatives, ensuring a broader participation and involving other disease-domains .

I am equally committed to increase the opportunities for young researchers and clinicians. Cross-country exchanges, joint training programmes, and robust mentorship networks are essential for shaping the next generation of cardiovascular specialists. I strongly believe that the ESC can play a leading role in creating these opportunities and fostering a truly interconnected European community of young professionals.

It is increasingly evident that we need to reinforce the position of the cardiology profession across Europe. Supporting our clinicians will be essential to maintaining excellence in cardiovascular care amid financial, and technological pressures. I am dedicated to support the ESC in leading this effort.

If elected Councillor, I am fully committed to strengthening engagement with National Cardiology Societies, enhancing the ESC's relevance for all member countries, and promoting inclusive representation across committees, working groups, educational initiatives, and congresses. I will work to strengthen the partnership between the ESC and its National Societies and to ensure that our collective strategies are aligned with the needs and diversity of our members. My motivation is driven by a deep desire to advance cardiovascular medicine through research, guidelines development, continuous and high-quality education, and the promotion of a truly European spirit of collaboration and scientific exchange.

It would be a true honour to serve as Councillor for the 2026–2028 term. I assure you of my full enthusiasm, commitment, and experience in supporting the mission and values of the European Society of Cardiology, and in reinforcing the vital partnership between the ESC and its National Societies.