



To whom it may concern.

It is my great honour to apply for the position of Counsellor of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) for the years 2026-28. The main reasons of my application are two-fold. First, my strong wish to contribute to improving the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease (CVD) at a multinational, European and worldwide, level. Second, the atmosphere of mutual help, productivity and deep collaboration that I could breathe in the last years when participating to the ESC activities.

I fulfil all the requested requirements for this position as Fellow of the ESC and HFA, respected clinician/scientist in the field of cardiovascular medicine and, namely, heart failure, with good communication skills, ability to reach consensus and manage conflicts, as also shown by my years of activity within the HFA and ESC. I am also deeply related with the Italian Federation of Cardiology, as testified by my CV and letters of support.

I have always participated at international initiatives, study groups and clinical trials, with the deep belief that any progress in the prevention and treatment of CVD can be accomplished only with the wider consensus at an international level. As such, I have also been aware of different organizations outside ESC and will do my best for having ESC to fulfil the needs for better prevention and management of CVD.

The role of ESC is going to be more and more important in the current landscape. First, it must continue to represent the common needs and aims of all European countries favouring any joint activities between them. Second, ESC will further its central role for all worldwide initiatives for the advancement of science and clinical practice in CVD. I fully agree that "ESC should be perceived as the most trustworthy and relevant international professional organization in cardiovascular medicine by health care professionals, patients and citizens, relevant industrial partners and bodies responsible for the provision and administration of health care services and/or research funding". Applying as Counselor, I am aware that I will have among my tasks that of promoting ESC as the leading European professional organization for CVD.

I am aware that, as ESC Counselor, my responsibilities and tasks for ESC may increase. However, next year I will step down from the position of President of HFA, leaving an association that is well organized and aligned with ESC. My tasks at work are also less demanding than before with the possibility of having in the San Raffaele Scientific Institute as an ideal partner for many initiatives. Applying to the position of Counsellor, I am fully aware of the responsibilities I will have and I am ready to take care of them. My experience is clear from my CV and I will be happy to take any responsibility that will be given to me based on the overall composition of the ESC board, working in close cooperation with the President and fulfilling any specific assignments assigned to me.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Marco Metra, MD, FESC, FHFA