

## Application of Prof. Marco Roffi, FESC, to the position of Vice President of the ESC for the term 2026-28

### Letter of Motivation

Dear Chair of the ESC Nominating Committee, dear Committee Members,

My work with the ESC started 20 years ago as nucleus member of the Working Group on Aorta and Peripheral Vascular Diseases (2005-2010). As interventional cardiologist, I got also involved with EAPCI as member (2008), co-chairman (2009-2011) and chairman (2012-2014) of the Scientific Program Committee. I've always been interested in education and I was fortunate enough to serve for a decade as Scientific Program Committee member of EuroPCR (2009-2019) as well as ESC Congress Programme Committee (CPC) member (2011-2020 and 2022-2024). In addition, I had the immense privilege to be appointed as CPC chair for the 2019 ESC congress in Paris, a record-breaking edition with 33'510 registered participants, and the 2020 "The Digital Experience" edition, during the COVID pandemic, a landmark event with 125'300 online registered participants.

The ESC gave me the opportunity to develop my interest in summarizing/spreading knowledge for better patient care, serving as member of Committee for Practice Guidelines (2014-2020) and as member of the Task Forces for the ESC guidelines on peripheral artery disease (2011 and 2017), non-cardiac surgery (2014), aortic diseases (2014), STEMI (2017), DAPT (2017), diabetes (2019) and COVID-19 (2020-2021). The opportunity to act as Task Force chairman of the 2015 ESC NSTEMI-ACS guidelines remains one of the highlights of my career.

Over the years, I tried my best to contribute to the excellent image that our society carries throughout the world, among other as member of the Committee for Global Scientific Activities (2014-2022) and as ESC Ambassador for the Middle East and India (2018-2022). On several occasions, I was amazed by the affection for the ESC of the affiliated cardiac societies throughout the world. In the perspective of further contributing to the activities of the society, I accepted with enthusiasm in 2022 the position as co-editor of the *European Heart Journal*.

Elected as ESC councillor and member of the board for the term 2024-2026, the ESC President Thomas Lüscher and the ESC leadership gave me the opportunity to lead the Declaration of Interest (DOI) and the Membership committees. Regarding the Membership committee, thanks to the hard work of the ESC staff, the number of new ESC members could be increased by 5.3% (from October 2024 to October 2025) and the retention rate increased by 4.9% during the same period of time. In the DOI committee, among other actions, we have undertaken an update of the DOI policy to align with the ESC bylaws and to adapt to evolving standards. Finally, I'm very grateful for the appointment as member Global Affairs Task Force, giving me the opportunity to represent the ESC in India, China and the Middle East. It is for me a great pleasure and honour to contribute to the ESC influence in those areas of the world through personal relationships built over the years.

Together with the ESC president Thomas Lüscher and the ESC CEO Jean-Francois Riffaud we have started, with the full support of Franz Weidinger Global Affairs chair, the ESC Action In Development (ESC-AID), a new initiative to serve the most healthcare-deprived countries in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease. With the initial focus on sub-Saharan Africa, we were during the ESC congress 2025 in Madrid to gather over 20 key opinion leaders of the continent as well cardiologists/scientists collaborating in African projects. Strong of very positive feedback, we are planning to launch soon a pilot project.

Looking back at the years spent with the ESC, the most enriching experience for me was the encounter with so many fantastic people from all over the world. At the Heart House, I had the opportunity to appreciate the professionalism and the efficiency of the ESC staff.

My current term as ESC Councillor has only strengthened my desire to serve the ESC, a society that has achieved so much and yet with an even greater potential. I believe that my track record in multiples ESC domains (board, association, working group), my network of colleagues and friends within and outside Europe, together with my fluency in four languages (Italian, German, French and English) and my non-conflictual as well as caring personality will be of benefit for the ESC.

Yours faithfully,

Marco Roffi