

Professor Franz Weidinger
Chair of the ESC Nominating Committee 2024-2026
European Society of Cardiology

December 3, 2025

Motivation Letter for the Candidacy for the position as Nominating Committee member: to represent National Cardiac Societies or Associations, Councils and Working Groups for the election 2026-2028

Dear Professor Weidinger

I am a physician- scientist with board certification and habilitation in cardiology and PhD in vascular biology. My main research expertise is in vascular biology and my clinical expertise is in cardiovascular prevention with special focus on obesity and incretin-based therapies. I have served in different roles in the Working group of atherosclerosis and vascular biology. Starting in 2018 as Nucleus Member, responsible for the communication, then I served as Secretary, Chair-elect and currently Chair. I have been contributing to several activities within the ESC, ranging from abstract review, session proposal preparation and selection for various ESC conferences, scientific statements and guidelines. I am Board reviewer of European Heart Journal and Associate Editor European Journal Preventive Cardiology.

For these reasons, I am a good asset for the nominating committee for a position to represent National Cardiac Societies or Associations, Councils and Working Groups. My professional experience and activities within the ESC give allow me to represent different goals and perspectives ranging from experimental to clinical cardiovascular medicine. The balanced representation of the different subspecialties in research and clinical practice will be crucial in the selection of the future ESC apical positions.

I am also a strong advocate for the ESC commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusive leadership and actively support the engagement of younger colleagues and women. All these will be other important aspects that will need voice in the future elections.

Thanks to the experience gathered in the past years in the direction of the Division of Physiology and pathophysiology at the medical University of Graz, and the active contribution in different selection committee for the recruitment of professors across Europe, I will act as highly professional, collegial and inclusive member of the nominating committee to assure the success of the election process and the further development of the mission of the European Society of Cardiology

With my best regards,

Prof. Elena Osto, MD, PhD, FESC
Chairperson, ESC Working Group on
Atherosclerosis and Vascular Biology