

Bylaws of European Surgical Society for the Alimentary Tract (ESSAT)

I. Introduction

Article 1

The bylaws of the ESSAT define the various matters affecting the objectives and operations of the ESSAT within the United European Gastroenterology (UEG).

The ESSAT is constituted in accordance with the statutes, declarations and rules of the UEG Week.

Each society participating in the ESSAT remains independent and follows its own status but coordinates scientific and educational activities organized under the umbrella of the UEG as described in the following articles

II. Objectives

Article 2

2.1

The main objective of the ESSAT is to provide a framework for cooperation and coordination of scientific and educational activities organized within the UEG by the participating surgical societies within the UEG.

2.2

The ESSAT should

- guarantee a cooperation in favor of European surgery by promoting educational activities within the UEG for the benefit of public health;
- promote and coordinate, throughout Europe and beyond, discussion and exchange of ideas and results relating to the diagnosis, treatment, research and prevention of gastrointestinal diseases and
- provide a suitable medium for the dissemination and discussion of the latest results in the field of surgical gastroenterology and related subjects.

2.3

The ESSAT will ensure and coordinate the surgical representation of the surgical societies within the UEG council according to the UEG regulations.

III. Members

Article 3

3.1

The Founding Members of the ESSAT are (by alphabetical order):

- a. EAES (European Association for Endoscopic Surgery)
- b. EDS (European Digestive Surgery)
- c. EFISDS (International Society of Digestive Surgery – European Federation)
- d. ESCP (European Society of Coloproctology)

3.2

New members will be accepted only if their application as an Associate member is approved by the General Assembly of the UEG.
AF: I think it is the council proposes first, then approved by the GA

IV. Committees

Article 4.0

4.1

The Executive Committee of the ESSAT consists of 13 members

- a. The **ESSAT President**, who is the representative of the ESSAT in the UEG Council (representative of the surgical block). His/her tenure lasts for two years with the possibility of re-election for another two years.
- b. Two delegates from each society who are responsible to engage their subsequent societies in terms of ESSAT activities and who are authorized in terms of decision making.
- c. The chairperson of the Scientific, Education and Research Committee of ESSAT. According to the constitution of UEG, each founding and associated society nominates one member of its respective society to serve in the UEG Scientific, Education and Research committee for a period of 4 years.
The surgical members of the aforementioned respective UEG Committees form the respective committees of ESSAT.
- d. The representative of the Public Affairs Committee. As per the constitution of the UEG, ESSAT appoints one member to serve in the UEG Public Affaires Committee representing the surgical block.

4.2

Appointment procedure

- a. Order of rotation:
 1. EFISDS
 2. EDS

3. ESCP
4. EAES

The office of President, chairpersons of the Scientific, Education and Futures Trends Committees and representative of the Public Affairs Committee shall rotate according to above schedule. Member associations will rotate up the list one level when the term of office for the respective position ends. The Association holding the immediate past office term of the respective position will rotate to the bottom of the list. This list will be synchronously updated upon acceptance of member Associations. In order to accommodate new Association membership, officer or member positions will be created at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

- b. Member associations shall be responsible for filling any vacancies that occur on the Executive Committee in the rotation slot they currently hold.

4.3

The role of the participating societies within the ESSAT is to coordinate all the activities and to promote the aims described in the articles 1 and 2 within the framework of UEG and in cooperation with the Scientific Committee of the ESSAT.

V. Meetings

Article 5

5.1

An Executive Committee meeting is held annually during the UEG Week before the UEG General Assembly and is called by the

president of the ESSAT who is responsible for the agenda that should be circulated at least four weeks in advance.

Additional meetings (or telephone conferences) may be convened by the president if necessary.

Decisions in bylaws require approval by the majority (>50%) of 2/3 of the members of the Executive Committee being present.

5.2

Prior to the UEG Scientific and Education Committee meetings the surgical representatives will meet in order to coordinate all surgical input regarding UEG Week. The respective committee Chair persons of the ESSAT Scientific and Education Committees will coordinate this meeting and its preparation. The task of the Scientific and Educations Committees is to strengthen the surgical representation and activity at the UEG Week.