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## FOREWORD BY THE ESR PRESIDENT

# MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO ALL RADIOGRAPHERS

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Much more than other disciplines and specialties in medicine, radiology is teamwork. The team consists of certified radiologists, residents/registrars in training, radiographers, nurses, physicists, technical support staff, managers, etc. The working relationships between these various professional groups are much closer than in almost all other hospital departments. And, at the end of the day, the quality of our performance depends on the strength of the entire team. This is why I am so happy that the ECR collaborates closely with radiographers, and the scientific programme for 2017 will reflect this growing symbiotic relationship. A big challenge here is to make sure that we reach our target audience, because there are huge differences across Europe in the definition of the profession. There are even huge differences in the name they have: radiographers, technologists, radiology technicians, imagers, etc.

Thanks to our enhanced collaboration with the European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS) I am very happy to offer a very rich and complete programme for radiographers at ECR 2017, with radiographer sessions throughout the entire congress.

The number of radiographer sessions has been increased to 18. In addition, for the first time, there will be a separate 'Rising Stars' session dedicated to radiography students. With pride, the ECR can therefore also be considered the annual meeting of radiographers in Europe. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Radiographers Subcommittee of the ECR Programme Planning Committee, which is working under the coordination of Dr. Paul Bezina (EFRS Board member) and Prof. Pia Sundgren.

The central theme of ECR 2017 is 'youth', and this focus on the young(er) age group shall be reflected throughout the programme of the entire meeting. The new generation of radiologists and radiographers expects and demands high-quality education, delivered in an efficient and understandable way ('customer-friendly'). We shall have more and improved interactive sessions, and I want to create a greater role for social media, giving more young people the opportunity to share their knowledge.

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In addition, as President, I hope that ECR 2017 will also be remembered for the grand opening ceremony, the honorary lectures, the social events, and most of all for the spirit of friendship and conviviality.

I cordially invite all radiographers in Europe and beyond to actively participate in the ECR 2017 and to share their scientific work with the international community of radiologists and radiographers.

Paul M. Parizel, MD, PhD  
ESR President  
Chair of the ECR 2017 Programme Planning Committee



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ESR President Prof. Paul M. Parizel is chairman of Antwerp University Hospital's department of radiology and full professor of radiology at the University of Antwerp's faculty of medicine.