



E F S

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF
SEXOLOGY

N° 11 • JULY 2015

EFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The current executive council was elected in Istanbul, 2014 joint congress of EFS and ESSM.

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NOTE FROM TREASURY

To: Member societies who did not pay their dues for 2015 yet.

Object: EFS kindly ask to pay your dues to the new bank account.

Name: European Federation of Sexology Iban: NL 15 INGB 0006 510681

news letter

EDITORIAL

Chiara Simonelli
EFS President



Dear colleagues and friends,

We have lived together the last EFS Congress on January 2014 in Istanbul; a splendid moment of synergy with the

European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM), reaching the goal of promoting an integrated approach between psychological and medical culture to improve sexual health.

Moreover it is important to keep in mind that a great innovation in training took place just before the Congress: the first course and the "Certified Examination for Psycho-sexologist" run by ESSM and EFS. This is a first step forward to the development of European training standards in Sexology and to create high quality multidisciplinary educational activities.

On the way of our last Congress, we are proud to invest energy and time to prepare our next meeting that will be held on May 25th-28th in the bewitching city of Dubrovnik, Croatia. In this regard, I would like to thank Goran Arbanas, the local President, for his efforts in organizing and promoting this event together with the EFS Officers and our PCO, AIM. I would also like to thank all the Scientific Committee Members that, under the wise and tireless guidance of professor Salvatore Caruso, created a very special and innovative program for Dubrovnik. Please take a look to the preliminary program on the website!

As time goes by, the European Federation is reaching more and more scientific and educational goals increasingly becoming a solid and recognized point of reference for sexual health professionals and the merit of this growth is the continuous work of the past and current Executive Committees supported by the new and fresh energies of our Youth group.

For these reasons, I strongly wish to share with all of you our next aims and achievements in the wonderful city of Dubrovnik next May!

Chiara Simonelli
EFS President

LETTER FROM THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EFS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Dear members,

Since the election act held at the Istanbul Congress in 2014, the European Federation of Sexology (EFS) has been experiencing an unprecedented situation given the fact that the previous president of EFS (Chiara Simonelli) is acting as interim president in the current mandate while the next president (Kevan Wylie) finishes his mandate at WAS.

Such situation was already subject to debate during the congress where different ideas and opinions were expressed by the present members, all of them, naturally, with the best interest of the EFS in view.

In spite of some tension and controversy, a new executive committee (EC) was elected which has to be seen as an expression of hope and need for change in the way the EFS operates and relates with its members.

As new group, members and officers, we are happy to say that in this last year the EC worked well and with collaborative atmosphere. We are trying to identify some of the major difficulties that may have been constraining our Federation development so that we can move on in a clear and strong position. One of them is the lack of direct communication between the EC and the representatives of the affiliated societies. It is our goal to change this so that our members are more informed, feel more supported and may more easily interact with the Federation.

Another difficulty is related with some breaches in our statutes that have been bringing some confusion and need to be addressed. In line with this, we have established a sub-committee that is working to amendments to the statutes, which will be presented in the next General Assembly in Dubrovnik, May 2016. The proposed document will be submitted in advance for open consultation for comments and feedback from the member societies.

In order to ensure continuity to the work we are doing and to navigate better in the transition, we have confirmed some of the proposals made in Istanbul and reasoned on the best alternative currently available. Therefore, the EC share a statement with all of our member societies and associations that is presented with unanimous agreement of the committee.

We have reaffirmed the decision endorsed by the General Assembly in Istanbul in January 2014 which was an emergency solution in a difficult situation. To clarify, Chiara Simonelli will remain in the role as President of the Federation for an extended period until the time of the General Assembly of the WAS in 2017 where Kevan Wylie completes his time as president of WAS. Thereafter, Kevan Wylie, current president-elect for EFS will take over as president of EFS for a reduced term of 3 years. A change will be suggested for the next statutes: there will be a limitation in time of service in the EC for officers.

In 2018, a member of the executive team will be appointed as president elect to take up the position of president from 2020.

We kindly ask to the representatives of each society and association to share this communication within his/her context of belonging, to ensure that in the next GA this issue will be clear and possibly supported. If not, it will be right to listen to other constructive proposals, brought in a structured way, namely with clear advantages with respect to the proposal presented here by this EC.

We hope to see you all in Dubrovnik,
Kind regards
The EFS Executive Committee

AUSTRIA: Austrian Society for Sexology **BELGIUM:** Flemish Society of Sexology, Institute of Family and Sexuality Studies, Society of Sexologists with University degree in Belgium (SSUB) **BULGARIA:** Sexuality and Health Foundation **CROAZIA:** Croatian Association for Sexual Therapy **CZECH REPUBLIC:** Sexological Institute **DENMARK:** Dansk Sexologforening; Danish Association for Clinical Sexology **ESTONIA:** Estonian Academic Society of Sexology **FINLAND:** The Finnish Association for Sexology (FIAS) **FRANCE:** Interdisciplinary post University Association of Sexology (AIUS); Centre International de Formation et de Recherche en Sexualité (CIFRES); Societe Francaise de Sexologie Clinique; Association des Sexologues Cliniciens Francophones (ASCLiF) **GEORGIA:** The Society of Georgian Sexologist: Education, Research, Treatment (SGS) **GERMANY:** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sozialwissenschaftliche Sexualforschung (DGSS); Deutsch Gesellschaft für Sexualforschung (DGfS) **GREECE:** Greek Society of Sexologie **HUNGARY:** Hungarian Association of Sexology **ISRAEL:** Israel Society for Sex Therapy (ISST) **ITALY:** Associazione Clinica e Terapia in Sessuologia (ACTS); Gruppo Ricerca in Sessuologia, School of Clinical Sexology; Istituto Di Sessuologia Clinica, Institute of Clinical Sexology – ICS; Centro di Ricerca in Neuroscienze (CERNE); Sexology Italian Center (CIS); Associazione Italiana Sessuologia Psicologica Applicata (AISPA); Societa Piemontese di Sessuologia Clinica (SSSC); Federazione Italiana Di Sessuologia Scientifica (FISS) **NETHERLANDS:** Nederlandse Vereniging voor Seksuologie (NVVS); Dutch & Flemish Society for Sexual Medicine (WVSD); Rutger Nisso Groep, Dutch Expert Centre on Sexuality (RNG) **NORWAY:** Norwegian Society for Clinical Sexology **POLAND:** Polish Sexological Society **PORTUGAL:** Sociedade Portuguesa de Sexologia Clinica **RUSSIA:** Russian Scientific Sexological Society (RSSS) **SPAIN:** Asociacion Española Sexologia Clinica (AESCL); Federacion Española de Sociedades de Sexologia (FESS); Societat Catalana de Sexologia **SWEDEN:** Swedish Association for Sexology; Swedish Institute for Sexual Research **SWITZERLAND:** Fonds Universitaire Maurice Chalmereau; Institut Sexocorporel International; Zürcher Institut für klinische Sexologie & Sexualtherapie (ZISS) **TURKEY:** Sexual Health Institute (SHI); CETAD; Turkish Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Psychotherapies (TACBP); Turkey Microbiological Society **UK:** College of Sexual & Relationship Therapists (previous BASRT); British Society of Psychosomatic Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Andrology (BSPOGA); Sheffield Society for The Study of Sexuality & Relationships (SSSSR).

First announcement of the “13th Congress of the European Federation of Sexology”

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

on behalf of the European Federation of Sexology (EFS) and the Croatian Association for Sex Therapy (CAST) it is a great honour to present to you the “13th Congress of the European Federation of Sexology” from 25th to 28th of May, 2016 in the beautiful scenery of **Dubrovnik (Croatia)**.

“**Sexology: body, mind and culture**” – The choice was not so hard: following the leading biopsychosocial model, sexology is a human experience that is truly influenced by our bodies, our mind and psychology, and also by our culture, values, religion, politics and attitudes. Therefore it is a truly multidisciplinary and multi-level area of research and clinical work.

Therefore, following the EFS tradition, we would like to invite all the professionals who work in the realm of sexology to give their scientific contribution: psychologists, psychiatrists, urologists, gynaecologists, general practitioners, endocrinologists, educators, teachers, social workers, basic researchers, nurses and many, many others to be part of this endeavour.

We will try hard to make the Congress the place where new and innovative approaches to both research and clinical work, and also sexual education and sexual rights, can be presented, heard and promoted. Therefore, we invite all of you who have something to say in regard to Sexology, to come and share your work with the scientific sexologists community; and all of you who want to hear and learn, to come and enjoy. Our Scientific Committee is working on a rich and outstanding program that soon will be available for you.



The Congress will be held in Dubrovnik, town rich in history and beauty, clear blue sea and clear blue sky. The City is situated in the southern part of Croatia, the country with more than a thousand islands (1.185 islands and 4058 km of coastline, to be precise). So, you can enjoy not just the scientific and professional work at the Congress, but also relax from your everyday work in a beautiful natural and cultural context.

We would like to invite you and welcome you to actively become a member of the great family of EFS, and share with us the beauty of dealing with sexuality and helping people being more happy and satisfied with their sexual lives.

Don't miss the opportunity!

Please follow us on:

Websites: <http://www.europeansexology.com/> <http://web.aimgroupinternational.com/2016/efs/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/European-Federation-of-Sexology-EFS/351278201637772>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/EFS_Sexology



Chiara Simonelli

Chiara Simonelli
President of European
Federation of Sexology



Goran Arbanas

Goran Arbanas
President of Croatian
Association for Sex Therapy

The Statute of EFS

The first statute of EFS were approved on April 27th 1991. Since then the statute have been revised in 2002 and 2006. A new revision work was started in 2010, but that proposal was never presented to the General Assembly.

A revision of the 2006 statute has been much needed in order to make the organisation more modern, more transparent and to ensure democratic processes and representation of all areas of Europe in the



Executive Committee (EC) and the officers. In 2014 a new Statute Committee was appointed by the EC, the members were Elsa Almås, Goran Arbanas, Miren Larrazabal, and Kevan Wylie. Due to different circumstances, all members have not been able to attend the meetings, and the Committee have an useful help by Antonio Palha, Trudy Griffioen and Moshe Mock.

The 2015 proposal is based primarily on the statutes from 2006 and the new proposal from 2010. The more important changes that have been suggested are:

Article 2: The General Secretary and the Treasurer should be separate functions.

Article 3: "gender" has been added among the possible areas of discrimination.

The most important changes are suggested in **Article 15**, where four instead of three officers are suggested: President, Vice president (President Elect), Secretary General and Treasurer. It is also suggested that there is a limitation to the time the members of the Executive Committee can serve:

The members of the Executive Committee can be re-elected once, and twice if they serve in a role of the officer; three times if they are elected as president, altogether four periods as a maximum.

In **Article 20** it is suggested that the Federation should have a logo, have a website, and be presented in social media. The statute must in general be modernised and adapt to the age of electronic media, both in the formulations and in practice. This can for example mean that the time limits for suggesting issues or candidates could be shorter.

The proposed statute must be sent to the members as soon as they are ready from the committee, and be presented at the next General Assembly in Dubrovnik for approval.

Elsa Almås

EFS at the "17th Congress of the European Society for Sexual Medicine": Improving together

From 5th to 7th February 2015 the "17th Congress of the European Society for Sexual Medicine" was held in Copenhagen, Denmark in the lovely scenery of Bella Center. Goals of congress were to both deliver optimal scientific and educational programs and to promote the field of Sexual Medicine. Contents covered topics regarding sexes and all sexual orientations; in addition to that state-of-the-art, educational opportunities and the latest innovative research had been highlighted. Over 1.250 delegates representing 65 countries all over the world had taken part and, among them, also an important delegation representing our Federation attended the event. As a result of the well-established collaboration between these societies, a joint interactive symposium took place alternating exponents of both scientific societies in very interesting speeches. Main topic was to discuss and underline novel approaches to psychotherapy in sexual medicine. Chairs were Salvatore Caruso (president of our Scientific Committee) and Paraskevi-Sofia Kirana (psychotherapist, member of ESSM educational committee and editor of "The EFS and ESSM Syllabus of Clinical Sexology"). The symposium was opened by Francesca Tripodi (EFS/ESSM) who discussed the role of biopsychosocial model in modern clinical sexology, briefly retracing its history and clarifying next goals such as implementation of collaboration between different professionals and scientific societies.



Novel approaches to psychotherapy – EFS and ESSM interactive symposium

Then was the as implementation of collaboration between different professionals and scientific societies. Then was the turn of Pedro J. Nobre, who discussed the role of "Cognitive Behavioral Theory (CBT)" in sexology practice. His speech was focalized on cognitive components influencing sexuality such as sexual beliefs, automatic thoughts and cognitive schemas. In line with this theory, Marieke Dewitte focused her debate on impact of mindfulness, treatment very widespread not only in sexual therapy but in overall health psychology. Specifically her intervention regarded treatment of disorders in arousal phase. The symposium was closed by the intervention of Kevan Wylie, who explored costs and benefits of technology applied to sexual health, the so-called e-health. This symposium is the proof of a partnership that is bearing fruits already: just think about "The EFS and ESSM Syllabus of Clinical Sexology", certifications such as "EFS & ESSM Certified Psycho-Sexologist (ECPS)" and the "School of Sexual Medicine". We hope that this fruits can be grown by the next generation of young clinicians of sexual health.

Filippo Maria Nimbi

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EFS Youth Committee research project

EFS Youth Initiative

The EFS Youth Initiative Committee aims to bring information and critical thinking about youth's sexual health both to senior scientific community and to young people themselves. Other specific objectives are: supporting the EFS and its initiatives and contributing to the further development of the Federation; monitoring and evaluating the youth sexual rights and education in Europe; arranging research studies, symposia and roundtables concerning European youth sexual health.



Currently the European Federation of Sexology's Youth Committee is working on a research project that is focused on exploring the health situation of sexual dysfunctions in European.

Elected members are psychologists, sexologists and medical professionals from different European countries such as Belgium, Italy, Malta, Romania and Turkey. The Youth committee strives to help young professionals enter the specialized field of sexology, and also motivates youth to work towards and evidence-based sexological practice. We'll keep you posted on the Committee's latest news and updates.

Nicholas Briffa

“University students and sexual dysfunctions: an European cross-cultural survey”

Cultural values influence attitudes to sex and the perceived role of sexual activity. Relationships between different-sex partners are influenced by culturally determined gender roles, and attitudes towards sexual variation are influenced by cultural values. Cultures define what is deviant/dysfunctional and the help seeking behaviour. Child-rearing through differing patterns in a culture, affects individuals' cognitive development, explanatory models of emotional distress and world views. Although epidemiological data on prevalence of sexual dysfunction across cultures are far too few, it is likely that prevalences vary, as will pathways into care and patterns of help-seeking.

Regarding sexual dysfunction in the West, the largest prevalence study in recent times is that of Shifren et al, 2008, which measured the prevalence of sexual problems in US women using the Female Sexual Distress Scale, a self-administered questionnaire on particular aspects of distress related to sex, including frustration, embarrassment and anger. The age-adjusted point prevalence of any female sexual problem was 43.1%, and 22.2% for sexually related personal distress. In a literature review of female sexual dysfunction Palacios et al, 2009, estimated that, on the basis of previously published literature in the West, 40% of women in any given country will have some sort of sexual problem, with 12–25% experiencing distress in relation to it.

More recent research in other cultures indicates higher rates. A study involving 315 Brazilian-born women in São Paulo, Brazil, Valadares et al, 2008, found a prevalence of female sexual dysfunction of 35.9%. Rates of various sexual dysfunctions in women in Turkey have also been found to be high. In one Turkish study Aslan et al, 2008, the prevalence of female sexual dysfunction, was 43% using (FSFI). The low score in the FSFI was associated with lower educational level, menopause, depression, presence of sexual dysfunction in their partner and contraceptive use. In another Turkish sample Dogan et al 2009, the most common female sexual dysfunction was vaginismus (75.9%), followed by hypoactive sexual desire (9.2%). Dyspareunia and orgasmic disorder were reported as common comorbid conditions.

In regards to men, in general the conclusions are apparent. Age is an important factor in the prevalence of ED, older men being at a larger risk of ED, than younger men. In the Massachusetts Male Aging Study (Fieldman, Goldstein, Hatzichristou, et Al, 1994, found that approximately 10% of men under 35 years of age experience ED, while the percentage grew to 50% for those over 60 years of age. Nicolosi et al, 2003, reported prevalences of erectile dysfunction of 34% in Japan, 22% in Malaysia, 17% in Italy and 15% in Brazil. In a large body of studies regarding sexual dysfunction, the aged male represents the focus and young males are often overlooked but in a recent study Christina Akre et al, 2014, on a cohort of 3,700 sexually active young males (18-25 years of age) found a prevalence of PE in 43.9% and a prevalence of ED of 51%. They did a follow-up 15.5 months later and in the meantime 9.7% developed a PE problem and 14.4% developed an ED problem.



We, the EFS Youth Committee have been tasked with a research project entitled: “University students and sexual dysfunctions: an European cross-cultural survey”. Our aim is to provide a fresh and clear picture on the health situation about sexual dysfunction across a sample of between 750 and 1000 subjects, aged between 18 and 25 years old, who are attending their university studies, in their country. There are 5 different countries from Europe involved in this study: Belgium, Italy, Malta, Romania and Turkey. In addition to a quantitative study of sexual dysfunction in young people, we would like to investigate the role played by some variables and their relation like reported distress, Quality of Life (QoL) and alexithymia in this age group.

EFS Youth Committee research project

EFS Youth Committee



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There are a total of 5 test and a questionnaire used in the survey. The chosen tests for the survey are known to be widespread for their usage and should be found in Europe in their translated version with comparable validity and reliability as the english version. The primary tests in the study are:

1. The International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) for Men,
2. The Female Sexual Functioning Index (FSFI) for Women,
3. The Toronto Alexithymia Scale (TAS20) and
4. The Medical Outcome Survey - Short Form 36 (MOS-SF36) for the measurement of Quality of Life.

There are two more instruments for the survey that will need to be handled by the local staff in each country. One is that the last, and fifth, test used in this survey is the Sexual Complaints Screener for Men and Women, test developed by ESSM group on the basis of the EFS-ESSM Syllabus. The aim of this test for this study is to highlight the qualitative aspects about sexual satisfaction.

The other important aspect is the socio-demographic questionnaire which contains the personal data form with fields for example regarding marital status, relational situation, sexual orientation, substance use and abuse etc. and a free field left for the subject to fill in additional information that he considers important to a better understanding of his situation. Both the test and the questionnaire will be carefully translated to ensure a good understanding and comprehension in the native language by the participants.

The other important aspect is the socio-demographic questionnaire which contains the personal data form with fields for example regarding marital status, relational situation, sexual orientation, substance use and abuse etc. and a free field left for the subject to fill in additional information that he considers important to a better understanding of his situation. Both the test and the questionnaire will be carefully translated to ensure a good understanding and comprehension in the native language by the participants.

The study will be conducted online using a mother-language web-survey for each country. A commercial website dedicated to online surveying will be used (<https://docs.google.com>). Access to the survey will be done through a recruitment process that will be based on an invitation to participate in a study regarding sexual health, through passive web advertisements (banners, social networks and university networks) from which the subjects will be redirected to the survey.

This study starts this year, in 2015 and hopefully by the time of the 13th congress of the European Federation of Sexology in Dubrovnik, between the May 25th-28th of May in 2016, we will be able to provide rough data on this European cross-cultural research project.

Adrian Costin Calomfirescu

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2. Palacios S, Castaño R, Graziotin A (2009) Epidemiology of female sexual dysfunction. *Maturitas* 63:119–23.
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4. Aslan E, Beji NK, Gungor I, et al. (2008) Prevalence and risk factors for low sexual function in women: a study of 1,009 women in an outpatient clinic of a university hospital in Istanbul. *Journal of Sexual Medicine* 5: 2044–52.
5. Dogan S (2009) Vaginismus and accompanying sexual dysfunctions in a Turkish clinical sample. *Journal of Sexual Medicine* 6: 184–92.
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7. Nicolosi A, Moreira ED Jr., Shirai M, et al. (2003) Epidemiology of erectile dysfunction in four countries: cross-national study of the prevalence and correlates of erectile dysfunction. *Urology* 61: 201–6.
8. Christina Akre, M.A.a, André Berchtold, Ph.D.a, Gerard Gmel, Ph.D.b, Joan-Carles Suris, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D. The Evolution of Sexual Dysfunction in Young Men Aged 18–25 Years Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (IUMSP), Lausanne University Hospital, Lausanne, Switzerland, Alcohol Treatment Centre, Lausanne University Hospital, Lausanne, Switzerland

Special Section: *article sent by lectors*

Don't miss the next event of the Italian Federation of Scientific Sexology

The next National Congress of the Italian Federation of Scientific Sexology (Federazione italiana di Sessuologia Scientifica - FISS), will take place in Rome, at the convention center Frentani, from 3 to 5 December 2015 in collaboration with the Italian Menopause Society (SIM). The Congress, which takes place under the chairmanship of Dr. Roberta Rossi, is an important event in the Italian Sexology. In fact, FISS, has created and provide to represent in Italy an organized framework of the leading Societies in Sexology. All this through its commitment in various areas: educational, professional and scientific.

Certainly a significant contribution to overcoming the difficulties arising from the lack of a specific regulatory framework for professionals in the field of sexology, is the establishment by the FISS of a register of internal professionals. In this National Register, available at <http://www.fissonline.it/albo/albo.php> are registered professionals from different fields (psychologists, gynaecologists, urologists, endocrinologists, psychiatrists, paediatricians) from all over the country, who work and have specialization in sexology. The element that enhances this Register is the fact that in order



to be part of it, you must have followed a training program at one of the training schools recognized by the Italian Federation, following programs that meet the educational

parameters developed by the Education Commission of the FISS. In this way the Federation not only brings together the professionals, but it offers the possibility of establishing a qualified standard.

Another important aspect of FISS is to the advancement of scientific knowledge. Just to exploit this potential in research, was created the "FISS young" with the specific objective in raising research in sexology.

The National Congress FISS is a moment of great discussion and update on the most important issues in clinical sexology and an opportunity to receive and share data on the issues of interest on sexology in Italy.

At the next conference will be dealt with numerous issues of interest and such as "sex education in the era of the web" (social and new technologies), "the sexual behavior of young people, straight and LGB" with the contribution of the Youth Initiative Committee of the World Health Association (WAS) but also the themes of "Hypersexuality" and "Asexuality", on which the debate is still open. But also important and central themes in clinical practice, which will be given in a specific session "sexual

health and sexual medicine" within which will address the issues of integration of sexual medicine and psychology in the field of male's and female's sexual health. A further session will be devoted to the theme "Society, Culture and Sexuality", dedicated to the memory of Professor Giorgio Rifelli, one of the pioneers of sexology in Italy, will address the cultural, social and religious implications that, in different areas and stages of life can affect health sexual people.

So, considering the Scientific and Professional quality of the next FISS Congress, see you in Rome 3, 4 and 5 December 2015.

Marco Silvaggi



EFS SOCIAL



www.facebook.com/pages/European-Federation-of-Sexology/35127820163772?fref=ts



www.twitter.com/EFS_Sexology

This new section has been created for all the EFS members that would like to share with their colleagues issues of common interest.

If you are interested in publishing a special section please send an e-mail to:

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EFS WEBSITE



The **EFS website** contains all useful information about the Federation, the member lists of Executive and Scientific Committees, an updated list of our member societies, past and upcoming congresses, our newsletters and some important documents. Everybody can freely download this interesting material.

www.europeansexology.com

CONGRESSES

JULY 25-28, 2015 SINGAPORE

22ND CONGRESS OF THE WORLD
ASSOCIATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH
www.worldsexology.org

FEBR 3 -6, 2016 MADRID, SPAIN

EXAM FOR 'EFS-ESSM CERTIFIED PSYCHO-
SEXOLOGISTS and 18TH CONGRESS OF THE
EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF SEXUAL MEDICINE
www.europeansexology.com/exam.htm
www.essm.org

MAY 25-28, 2016 DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

13TH CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN
FEDERATION OF SEXOLOGY
PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME:
www.web.aimgroupinternational.com/2016/efs/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/ESF2015_programme130715.pdf

EFS & ESSM Certified
Psycho-Sexologist
(ECPS)

The next exam for 'EFS-ESSM Certified Psycho-Sexologists' will take place in Madrid, 3 February 2016

Application deadline: 2 November 2015

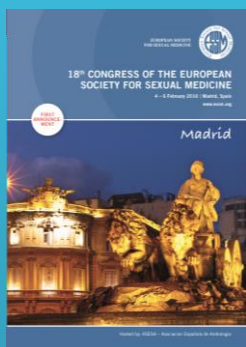
The ESSM and EFS collaborate to guarantee and promote the highest standards of healthcare in the field of Sexology and Sexual Medicine. For these propose educational program and qualification exam were set-up. For the first in history, in 2014 the ESSM congress was joint by the EFS congress and qualification examination for mark of excellence is set-up in collaboration between the ESSM and the EFS.

Eligibility criteria

The candidate eligible to take the exam must demonstrate expertise in psycho-sexology and obtain proof of

- Psychology degree or
- Psychiatry degree or
- MD degree with additional psychotherapy training
- Post graduate training in sexology (providing certificate) including relevant supervised experience of at least 2 years (providing 2 letters of recommendation according to preformat).

The EPSA committee has the responsibility to assess eligibility of applicants to take the exam, and the final decision for each applicant has to be approved by the majority of the committee members. All applicants will receive an answer concerning their eligibility to take the exam, approximately 30 days after the application deadline.

Examination format

Competency on the curriculum shall be assessed through a written exam consisting of 100 multiple choice questions.

For the application process visit www.essm.org

Preparation material and Preparation course

The ESSM and EFS Syllabus on Clinical Sexology (ed) Kirana P, Tripodi F, Reisman Y, Porst H :2013, Medix, Amsterdam is the preparation material endorsed by the EPSA. Candidates are advised to select additional preparation material, according to their own preferences and needs. It is the candidates' responsibility to choose the study materials that will best prepare them for the exam.

Also, an intensive 3 day **preparation course** will be held just before the exam. Candidates that would like more information on the preparation course may visit the ESSM website at www.essm.org

EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF SEXUAL HEALTH

REVUE EUROPEENNE DE SANTE SEXUELLE

Created in 1992, "Sexologies" is a bilingual Journal (English - French) and publishes quarterly original, synthetic articles on human sexuality, its dysfunctions and its management.

Sexologies is the official journal of the European Federation of Sexology (EFS), published with the scientific cooperation of the Interdisciplinary post-academic Association of Sexology (AIUS) and the French Federation of Sexual Health and Sexology.

Sexologies offers a large panel of information to all health-related professionals working in the field of sexuality: anato-physiological aspects and basic research; psychodynamic, cognitive, behavioural and relational evaluations of sexual difficulties; epidemiological, sociological, forensic data; information on new sexology-related molecules; research on sexual physiology, reports on specialized congresses; press and books reviews; ethical aspects; calendar of major events around the world.

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In memory of ...

Maj-Briht Bergström-Walan

A landmark in the history of sexology ended on August 25th 2014 when the news of May-Briht's demise came. For many years we had worked together in the Board of the Swedish Association for Sexology with arrangement of conferences, discussions of ethical and professional guidelines and on the importance of qualitative skills among those working as sexologists. We can all thank her for the sex education in Sweden, which became famous all around the world. Maj-Briht was a pioneer in the field, and authored several textbooks and was especially renowned for the outspoken films on *The Language of Love*. In addition, she participated in TV programs with another legend in the area, namely Elise Ottosen Jensen, founder of the Swedish National Association for sexuality education, RFSU.

Maj-Briht started the Swedish Sexual Research Institute and was engaged in sex therapy far longer than the usual age of retirement. "It is so important for people to have the possibility to talk to an outsider who is listening," she said about her work with people in crisis, even on Saturdays. In addition, it is certainly many of us Swedes who have read her responses of questions on sexuality in different kind of newspapers and magazines during several generations. Based on her skills as both a psychologist, midwife, sex advisor and sexologist, she became in 1996, to her great joy and pride appointed as Honorary Doctor of Sexology at Uppsala University. Internationally, she was also noted for her work and got awarded 1997 in Valencia with the WAS Gold Medal.

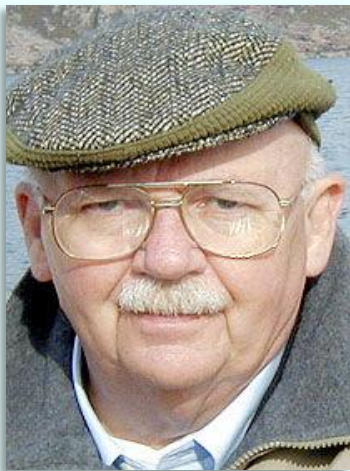
In 2004 she received the EFS Gold Medal to as a mark of excellence in this field. EFS who is also grateful to her which is a kind of mother as far as a founding member.

I think that is the way May-Briht would be remembered. She loved the medals and the awards, but most of all, she enjoyed to be with her loved ones. So much joy and knowledge a single person is able to spread over a lifetime. It is empty now.



Extract of the memory letter written by
Lotta Löfgren-Mårtenson, Professor and Director, Centre for Sexology and Sexuality Studies Malmö University, Sweden

James Henderson Geer, PhD, 1932-2015



James Henderson Geer died on February 12, 2015 at the age of 82 in Lancaster, PA. He was born in Johnstown, PA on September 27th, 1932. Surviving Jim is his wife of nearly 60 years, Jean Gray Geer, and his two sons, John and David.

Graduating from the University of Pittsburgh in 1954, he went on to serve in the U.S. Air Force eventually as a First Lieutenant. He left the military to pursue a graduate degree in psychology, earning his PhD at University of Pittsburgh in 1963. In that same year, he became an Assistant Professor of Psychology at SUNY-Buffalo. Two years later he was hired by the University of Pennsylvania. In 1967, he then left the Ivy League to become an Associate Professor at SUNY-Stony Brook. Over the next 17 years, he helped to make the Psychology Department a top ten program nationally, which included a 6 year stint as chair. In 1984, Jim moved to Louisiana State University to become chair of that department and remained at LSU until his retirement in 2000. Over the course of his career, he published 72 scholarly articles, 5 books, and 15 book chapters. He secured major grants from the National Science Foundation and National Institute of Mental Health, to name a few. In 1995, he was elected President of the International Academy of Sex Research, serving in that role in 1997. His scholarship has had wide influence. In the 1960s, for example, he developed a creative way to measure fear. The original article was published in 1965 and has become a citation classic and remains influential to this day. In the 1970s, he developed a path breaking way to

measure female sexual arousal—a method that continues to serve as a central underpinning for new discoveries in the field of human sexuality. His interest in human sexuality became the defining feature of the rest of his academic career and it is those contributions that are most responsible for his substantial scholarly visibility and influence.

Jim loved new ideas and learning. He was always interested in novel arguments that marshaled compelling data in support of them. He was not much into bravado; rather he favored civil, measured exchanges based on evidence about the important debates of the day. Teaching, as a result, came natural to him. Life was always a learning experience and he sought to share those lessons whenever possible.