

Ethics section meeting, October 28th, Munich, ESICM LIVES

13:00-14:30, Ostersee A

Present: Jos Latour, Andrea Ortiz, Emilio Rodriguez-Ruiz, Maria Cruz Martin Delgado, Spyros Mentzelopoulos, Diogo Oliveira, Paulo Maia, Carla Teixeira, Diederik van Dijk, Chris Danbury, Annette Robertsen, Josef Kesecioglu, Laszlo Zubek, Andrej Michalsen, Linda DeStefano, Annachiara Marra, Barbara Tamowicz, Adam Mikstacki, Piotr Szawarski, Joana Mapril, Hanne Irene Jensen, Fernando Berdaguer, Pål Klepstad, Heli Salmi, Aoife Abbey, Radhouane Toumi, Mohammed Boussarsar, Annette Robertsen, Giovanni Mistracchi, Marco Vergano, Lazlo Zube, Carmen Lopez Soto, Lucia Farabegoli, Anna-Henrikje Seidlin, Mervyn Mer, Natalie Pattison, Andreas Mujica, Julie Berbenishty, Nikos Efstathiou, Lionel Ursulet, Shelley Ashkenazy, Victoria Metaxa.

Apologies: Christiane Hartog, Laura Dona, Dominique Benoit, Shahla Siddiqui.

The action points are highlighted in each section in **bolt**.

- Welcome by chair Victoria Metaxa

Brief presentation round (name and country) of all present.

Presentation and welcome of new chair elect: Annette Robertsen

- Feedback from ETH Representatives in Committees
- Executive Committee (EC) – Victoria Metaxa:
 - Each ESICM member can now be affiliated to two sections. **All, to promote the ETH Section and increase membership**
 - Creation of Section Boards, which will include the Chair/ Chair Elect, the Section representatives to ESICM committees and an EC board member. For the ETH section is Peter (Vernon) van Heerden (petervanheerden54@gmail.com) and he will be the point of contact for any questions, ideas or support.
 - Creation of Section-related WhatsApp group. A member from the Section Board will be the WhatsApp Community admin, responsible for managing interactions within the group through admin settings. They will also be able to edit the general chat name, description, and photo, and oversee the members list as people join.
- Research Committee – Nikolaos Efstathiou

The ESICM awards will be renamed ESICM grants.

Among the 14 awards this year, none were linked to ethics – we discussed the opportunity to apply for the upcoming ESICM Family Partnership Grant or the Global ICU Grant – each of these grants is worth €20,000, and that needs to be considered in the applications.

- Social Media and Digital Content Committee – Andrea Ortiz

ESICM is active on social media on the platforms used: Instagram, LinkedIn, Bluesky

- Based on an initiative from NEXT ETH section members, two short videos have been filmed during 2025 LIVES, one on breaking bad news/ mnemonic SPIKES and one on the NURSE mnemonic (for expressing empathy). This will be developed and shared soon
- Dying May 2025 (the ETH section ‘month’), the section has produced a podcast on Children Visiting ICU. It can be found on the podcast ESICM website (<https://www.esicm.org/esicm-talk-kids-visitations-in-icu/>)
- Also, a quiz and a webinar (on Human Factors) were created and circulated.

Andrea is coming to the end of her term as ETH social media rep (with many thanks). The new ETH Social Media committee representative will be Anna Chiarra Marra (also acting as WhatsApp community admin).

- Academy Sub Committee - Diogo da Costa Oliveira

We discussed the new structure of Education and Training Committee (ETC) in ESICM (see figure).

- The CoBaTriCE competencies will be revised. This is an opportunity to promote inclusion of content related to ethics
- The ACE Academy has 6 courses/ e-modules (8% of total) on ethics, which we revise each year. They will have to be reviewed and maybe incorporated in the new structure.

Encourage ETH members to apply for the upcoming posts in the CoBaTriCE committee, with the view to promote the section’s educational content.

Identify members to review the ETH ACE Academy courses (Joana Mapril came forward, with thanks).

- The next Clinical Ethics and End-of-Life Care Masterclass will take place on 24-26th March 2026. We discussed the on-line vs the in-person format and the feedback we received from the previous versions.

All to promote as much as possible.

- Develop ethics related ESCAPE GAME for LIVES 2026

Discuss with the NEXT section when planning LIVES 2026.

- Updates of projects

- Ethics of Technology and Monitoring in the ICU – Shahla Siddiqui

VM presented the aim, methods, research question

The section gave feedback that the research question should be narrowed, refined before moving forward.

VM to provide feedback to SS

- Human-Centred Partnership Project – Jos Latour, Margo van Mol, Emilio Rodriguez-Ruiz, Jozef Kesecioglu

JL updated the group on the progress of the project, which hopefully be finished before LIVES 2026

- Residents and Fellows in Icu Ethics Survey (ReFlnES) - Emilio Rodriguez-Ruiz, Jos Latour

ER presented the project aiming to explore experiences and perceptions of ethical dilemmas from the perspective of residents and fellows and what is offered in terms of ethics education as part of their training. Explore the gaps in education. Identify what could be improved.

Contact ER for more details/ to express interest (r.ruizemilio@gmail.com)

- End-of-Life Practices in LMIC Intensive Care Units: The EoLMICs Multinational Study - Mohamed Boussarsar, Radhouane Toumi, Victoria Metaxa

RT presented the project that aims to explore global and cultural perspectives.

In the process of establishing an EoLMICs network.

The project is in its planning phase and open for collaborators

Contact RT (radhouane.toumi@gmail.com) and VM (Victoria.metaxa@nhs.net) for more details/ to express interest

- Assessing Communication Competence and Education in Critical Care Training (ACCENT) – Kate Williams, Victoria Metaxa

VM presented the project aiming to explore communication competence and training provision to critical care residents. Project still forming.

Contact VM (Victoria.metaxa@nhs.net) for more details/ to express interest

- Laszlo Zubek presented his application to the last ESICM awards and Natalie Pattison highlighted the PEACE-COS research project (developing patient centred outcomes in End-of-Life care)

- AOB

- VM updated on the ICM journal activity in relation to the ETH section: There is a good rate of ethics related submissions to ICM

- Close, with thanks to all as this was the best attended meeting in years!

New ETC structure

