The European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) is proud to award this citation for the 2018 Society Medal to Professor Didier Payen de la Garanderie for his major contributions to Intensive Care Medicine and for his outstanding contribution to research in critically-ill patients.

Professor Didier Payen de la Garanderie is Professor (exceptional class) of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care at the University Paris 7.

Didier graduated as a medical doctor in 1982 from the University of Medicine of Nantes in France. In 1986, Didier became a specialist in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care. He achieved his PhD in human biology in 1988 on “Circulatory consequences of positive pressure breathing”.

He became full Professor in Anesthesiology and Intensive Care in 1997 and acted as Chairman of the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care at the University Paris 7.

In 1999, Didier spent three years as Professor of Anaesthesiology and Critical Care at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

His research has always focused on the understanding of pathophysiology, with particular emphasis on the immune response in sepsis, ARDS, hemodynamic monitoring and cardiovascular physiology, Acute Kidney Injury and brain injury.

Didier is a creator. He has published more than 400 articles and has several patents for devices. He has actively contributed to the development of European academic excellence. His scientific approach enables him to establish new concepts.

Always able to revisit the dogma in a pragmatic manner and without pre-conditions, Didier is an outstanding teacher, who shares his passion, knowledge, expertise and sense of innovation with students of our discipline. His capacity to explain complex concepts and issues clearly presents an abundance of vocations. As a result, many of those young physicians and scientists are currently recognised as leaders in their research fields.

Didier has actively participated in many activities of the European Society of intensive Care Medicine and served the Society with all his energy. He is a driven man, always searching for innovative solutions to manage intensive care patients.

I am profoundly honoured and proud to present him with this prestigious award on behalf of the European Society of intensive Care Medicine, for all his achievements in the field of Intensive Care Medicine and the critically-ill.

JACQUES DURANTEAU
ESICM Chair of the Communication Committee