

39TH ECC EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF CYTOLOGY

MILAN SEPTEMBER 20TH-23RD, 2015
MiCo MILANO CONGRESS



Italy hosted the **39th European Congress of Cytology** in 2015 under the sponsorship of the European Federation of Cytology Societies.

SIAPEC-IAP (Italian Society of Pathology and Cytodiagnostics – Italian Division of International Academy of Pathology) organized the event, which took place from the 20th to the 23rd of September in Milan, simultaneously with the Universal Exposition.

After the success obtained in Venice in 2006, it was a great honour to me to receive for the second time the Congress Presidency. The organisation of such a big event is like climbing a high mountain. It can be very hard and toilsome, but once you have reached the top, the reward that comes is well worth of it.

We had **880 attendants** in the Congress, 496 regular participants, 208 faculty members and 176 expositors, coming from 63 countries, including 34 non-European countries.

1. Algeria
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Azerbaijan
5. Bangladesh
6. Belgium
7. Brazil
8. Canada
9. Cape Verde
10. China
11. Columbia
12. Croatia
13. Czech Republic
14. Denmark
15. Egypt
16. Estonia
17. Finland
18. France
19. Georgia
20. Germany
21. Greece

22. Hong Kong
23. Hungary
24. India
25. Iran
26. Ireland
27. Israel
28. Italy
29. Japan
30. Jordan
31. Kazakhstan
32. Korea
33. Kuwait
34. Latvia
35. Lithuania
36. Luxembourg
37. Netherlands
38. Norway
39. Palestine
40. Philippines
41. Poland
42. Portugal

43. Puerto Rico
44. Romania
45. Russian Federation
46. Saudi Arabia
47. Serbia
48. Singapore
49. Slovenia
50. South Africa
51. Spain
52. Sri Lanka
53. Sudan
54. Sweden
55. Switzerland
56. Taiwan
57. Thailand
58. Tunisia
59. Turkey
60. United Arab Emirates
61. United Kingdom
62. United States
63. Zimbabwe

The congress halls hosted satellite symposia given by some foreign and international cytology societies, which was in this way involved in the Congress. Some of these symposia started already on Sunday 20th afternoon.

1. Indian Society
2. Japanese Society
3. Papanicolaou Society
4. Russian Society
5. Turkish Society
6. Kazakhstan Society
7. American Society
8. European Society of Pathology
9. International Academy of Cytology

Then, the first congress day ended with a brief and informal opening ceremony and a welcome cocktail, which gave everyone the possibility to meet and spend some time together in a warm and friendship atmosphere.



The scientific programme of the next three days covered a large amount of topics with conferences taking place in 6 congress halls working contemporarily.

- 15 symposia
- 5 workshops
- 5 slide seminars
- 3 demonstrations

- 11 free paper sessions (59 presentations)
- 3 poster view sessions (178 poster presented)

- 1 cytotechnologist's day
- Special session Pathologists Beyond Borders

- QUATE exam (29 attendants)
- IAC exam (6 attendants)

- EFCS Council Meeting
- IAC Executive Meeting
- IAC Annual General Meeting
- Cytopathology Board Meeting
- Editorial Board of Acta Cytologica

In the middle of each congress day, before lunch, international experts gave three keynote lectures in red room 2, to the attention of all the participants.

- September 21st – ***Standardized terminology for cytopathology reporting from Bethesda to Paris at LAST***, by Ritu Nayar (USA)
- September 22nd – ***New avenues for cytology in clinical practice and research***, by Lukas Bubendorf (Switzerland)
- September 23rd – ***Intra-tumour heterogeneity: seeing population through its individuals. Implications of cytology and personalized medicine***, by Fernando Schmitt (Luxembourg)

On Tuesday 22nd, the colleagues had the opportunity to join in the Farewell Buffet that took place inside the Expo, with a view of the spectacular Tree of Life, and then to visit all the Universal Exposition to get a taste of the international atmosphere that reigns in the city of Milan in recent months.



The conference ended on Wednesday 23 with a brief closing ceremony, where I had the possibility to make my sincere thanks to:

- The European Federation of Cytology Societies, and its Secretary General Martin Tötsch, for giving to Italy the possibility to host again the European Congress of Cytology
- All the team of the Service Centre, and especially Valentina Borgese and Cristina Imola, who were truly immersed in hard work for more than a year to make all this possible

- All the sponsors, which gave a big contribution to the realisation of this Congress



But above all, to the participants, who came so many from all over the world, to join us and give their huge contribution to the Congress.

Luigi Di Bonito

President of the 39th EFCS Congress

Milan 2015



Milan – EXPO 2015