ESR Electronic Elections 2024

Candidacy for the position of ESR 2nd Vice-President

Name:
Mathias Prokop

Title:
Prof. Dr.

Current Affiliation:
- Department of Medical Imaging, Roudboudumc, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- Department of Radiology, UMC Groningen, The Netherlands

Primary fields of expertise:
Body imaging (chest, abdomen, cardiovascular), Screening, CT, AI

My motivation and vision for ESR

ESR has focused on leading radiologists into a future in which they become more visible, provide more value and are more engaged in multidisciplinary teams and patient interaction. I would like to use my experience to build on existing programs of the ESR, refining the common vision for European radiologists so that it can become a blueprint for national initiatives.

We all see substantial threats from increasing workloads, financial pressures, increasingly unsustainable healthcare costs and the rapidly evolving role of artificial intelligence. AI has the potential that we see radiologists moving away from mainly writing diagnostic reports towards more important tasks that will ensure that our role remains visible, sustainable and relevant. My focus therefore lies on expanding ESR programs in the field of education, particularly focusing on training radiologists in working synergistically with artificial intelligence. This vision should involve partnering with other diagnostic specialties to claim a more central role in multidisciplinary teams, and exploring a diagnostic gatekeeper role that ensures that unnecessary steps are eliminated from the healthcare pathway and that patient receive the most appropriate treatment. This requires direct interaction with patients but also adequate reimbursement for tasks that are new for us radiologists.

My motivation for applying for this position is to help strengthen our field and to make sure that working in radiology stays rewarding now and in the future.

Short Biography

Mathias Prokop is Professor of Radiology and Chairman of two departments in the Netherlands, Radboudumc in Nijmegen and the UMCG in Groningen. He had studied Medicine and Physics in Germany and trained at Hanover Medical School. His career took him to Vienna, Austria and Utrecht in the Netherlands, where he established himself as one of the pioneers of novel CT technologies and lung screening. His book on Spiral and Multislice CT has been an international bestseller. He has published more than 400 articles, is a prolific speaker and educator. He has been involved in ESOR from its beginnings and is awardee of the ESOR Excellence in Teaching award. He is member of the Fleischner Society and IS3R and honorary member of ESTI, EUSOMII, the Hungarian and Japanese Radiology Society. He has been involved in ESR activities for many years, and served as advisor to the WHO and IAEA.

Prof. Prokop's department in Nijmegen focusses on impactful innovations in care and now hosts one of the largest research groups in Europe. Together with Groningen he aims to implement AI-supported cross-hospital workflows and integrated care concepts. His goal is to build a blueprint for healthcare in which work is rewarding but care remains affordable. As president of Dutch Society of Radiology, he had initiated a strategic re-orientation of Radiology away from pure reporting to better positioning it within future multidisciplinary healthcare environments. Increasing the visibility of radiologists and ensuring reimbursement for new patient-centered task is a priority. He considers meaningful use of AI a necessary enabling factor in this process.