



**Assembly of the
Young Confederation of European
Otorhinolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery**

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 13:00 – 14:00

Location: Room E4, Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre (Svenska Mässan)

MINUTES

1. Executive Board Welcome

On behalf of the entire Executive Board of the Young Confederation, Vittorio Rampinelli welcomes all those present to the first Assembly of the Young Confederation of European ORL-HNS and opens the meeting.

2. Affirmation of Voters and Quorum

Vittorio Rampinelli announces that the quorum is achieved with 80 voters present. (See Annex 1: Young Confederation_Assembly_2026_Participants) in separate attachment.

3. Vote on opening the Assembly to guests

With a total quorum of present Voters, it is voted to open the Assembly to the guests present and thanks the members of the Presidential Council of the Confederation for their attendance:

- Jan Plzák, President
- Tomislav Baudoin, Upcoming President
- Miroslav Tedla, President-Elect

4. Report of the Executive Board

Vittorio Rampinelli reports on the activities of the Young Confederation during the 2024–2026 term.:

a) Status of the Young Confederation

He recalls that the Young Confederation was established in October 2022 during the Milan Congress. It is structured as a section within the Confederation, with the aim to:

- Create a network linking young ENT consultants across Europe to share experience, promote education, and provide opportunities;
- Represent the needs and expectations of colleagues under 45 years of age.

b) Executive Board 2024-2026

Vittorio Rampinelli presents the current Executive Board:

- Chair: Vittorio Rampinelli
- Vice-Chair: Sarah Atallah
- Strategic Chair: Pavol Surda
- Educational Chair: Daniele Borsetto
- Social Media Chair: Eishaan Bhargava
- Head & Neck and Laryngology Chair: Aina Brunet
- Otology and Lateral Skull Base Chair: Lukas Anschuetz
- Pediatrics Chair: François Simon
- Rhinology and Facial Plastics Chair: Anda Gata
- plus 6 to 8 additional members per subspecialty group

He explains that the structure of the Executive Board for the next term (2026–2028) will be slightly modified, with the creation of three new positions:

- Academy Chair, to strengthen collaboration with the CEORL-HNS Academy courses focused on young members;
- EBEORL-HNS Chair, to reinforce the relationship with the European Board Examination and support high-level certification pathways;
- Separation of the current Rhinology and Facial Plastics subgroup into two distinct subspecialty groups, in order to better reflect their individual scientific and educational activities.

c) Membership update

Vittorio Rampinelli presents the current status of membership in the Young Confederation.

The Young Confederation has received a total of 1,001 applications, of which 679 were accepted and 322 were not accepted. The rejected applications did not fulfil the current eligibility criteria, namely being a member of an ORL-HNS society and being under 45 years of age.

He notes that the requirement to be a member of an ORL-HNS society has been updated in the Confederation Constitution, which is expected to enable the Young Confederation to reach and potentially exceed 1,000 members in the near future.

Most members are based in Europe (591), with additional representation from Africa (35), America (7), and Asia–Middle East (46). He anticipates further growth outside Europe, supported by strengthened international relationships, including those with IFOS.

He emphasizes that there are no membership fees, and that the only requirements for membership are being under 45 years of age and in active good standing as a practicing ENT specialist.

He adds that the question of reducing the upper age limit to 40 was discussed; however, it was decided to retain the current limit of 45, as the heterogeneity across European training and career pathways means that a higher age threshold better reflects the diversity of professional development and allows for sustained impact within the Young Confederation.

d) Educational activities

He further explains that the Young Confederation's projects are structured around three main pillars: Education, Research, and Networking.

Daniele Borsetto presents the **European Cadaver Dissection Course**, organized for the first time in Cremona in November 2025. The course consisted of three modules—Head & Neck Surgery, Rhinology, and Otology—delivered over six days and attended by 62 participants across the three modules. The registration fee was €750 per module.

The course was highly successful, achieving a 95% satisfaction score (5/5 rating). A new edition is planned for 2027, and the initiative was supported by the Confederation with €30,000.

Sarah Atallah presents additional educational initiatives:

- **CEORL-HNS Academy:** led by Tomislav Baudoin, with active involvement of the Young Confederation in the organization and delivery of courses using a case-based subgroup learning format. The next course will take place in October in Venice.
- **Webinars:** several webinars have been organized in recent years with free registration, some in collaboration with subspecialty societies. Members are encouraged to propose future topics.

François Simon presents the **Video Atlas**, an online educational platform featuring peer-reviewed surgical and educational videos. The project is endorsed by several subspecialty societies and remains open for contributions. The platform is already online and fully accessible.

Networking activities at CEORL-HNS 2026

Vittorio Rampinelli highlights the networking activities planned for CEORL-HNS 2026:

- Young Confederation Assembly
- Social event on Sunday 26, expected to gather approximately 350 participants, financially supported by the Confederation
- First-time “hub” at the Society Village during coffee breaks, designed to welcome new participants and provide information about the Young Confederation.

Research Activities

The Young Confederation has initiated 12 scientific projects, of which three have already been completed:

Completed projects

- Management of Giant Paranasal Sinus Osteomas
- Review on HPV in Oral Cancer
- Survey on Research in Medicine

Ongoing projects

- Study on oncological outcomes in nasopharyngeal cancer
- Artificial intelligence and videomics for paranasal sinus cancer
- Survey on support for the Surgical Well-Being Research Project
- Survey on attitudes and risk tolerance regarding elective neck dissection in clinically node-negative head and neck cancer patients
- Survey on external carotid blowout management
- Multicentre study on complications of acute otitis media
- Facial nerve palsy detection using artificial intelligence

Social Media

To enhance engagement, the Young Confederation runs a monthly Social Quiz featuring clinical cases to stimulate interaction and increase visibility across platforms. Continued growth is planned in the coming years.

A new initiative is also being developed to facilitate access to **fellowship opportunities** across Europe, addressing the complexity arising from differing national systems.

The Executive Board thanks Vittorio Rampinelli for his leadership over the past two years.

With a total quorum of present voters, the Report of the Executive Board is **approved**.

5. Vote on the Young Confederation update of the internal rules

Vittorio Rampinelli presents the proposed amendments to the internal rules of the Young Confederation. The key change concerns the removal of the requirement to be a member of a national ORL-HNS society in order to join the Young Confederation, with the aim of broadening access and further increasing membership engagement.

2. Structure/ Acquisition and Termination of Membership

2.1. ENT doctors and other ENT-related professionals who are practicing and/or are in training in Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, ~~are member of a Confederation subspecialty society, and/or member of the corresponding national ORL-HNS society, and/or any individual member of the Confederation~~ and are younger than 45 years of age at the time of the application.

2.2. Applicants must be in good standing with the medical regulatory authorities in their country of residence or practice. This includes holding a valid license to practice medicine (where applicable), and not being subject to any disciplinary or ethical sanctions at the time of application.

With a total quorum of present voters, the updated internal rules of the Young Confederation are **approved**.

6. Election of the New Executive Board 2026-2028:

Vittorio Rampinelli explains that a call for applications was issued two months prior to renew the Executive Board of the Young Confederation. He reports that a total of 50 applications were received and subsequently reviewed by the outgoing Executive Board.

He further notes that, in addition to the Executive Board positions, roles for the subspecialty groups will be finalized in the coming months following the appointment of the new subspecialty chairs, and that applications for these positions remain open.

He emphasizes that the selection of the new Executive Board members was based not only on CVs, but also on demonstrated activity and contribution over the past two years:

- Chair: Lukas Anschuetz, Switzerland
- Vice-Chair: Hazan Basak, Türkiye
- Academic Chair: Sarah Atallah, France
- EBEORL-HNS Chair: Aina Brunet, Spain
- Strategic Chair: Vittorio Rampinelli, Italy
- Educational Chair: François Simon, France
- Social Media Chair: Marta Kwiatwska, Poland

Subspecialty Chairs:

- Facial Plastics: Ivan Oreski from Croatia
- Head & Neck and Laryngology: Luca Gazzini from Italy

- Otolology and Lateral Skull Base: Nick de Boer from Netherlands
- Pediatrics: Nicolien van der Poel from Belgium
- Rhinology: Vlad Plesca from Romania

With a total quorum of eligible voters present, the appointment of the new Executive Board is **approved**.

7. Next General Assembly of the Young Confederation

The next General Assembly of the Young Confederation will take place on the occasion of the 9th Congress of European ORL-HNS in Berlin, September 2028. The exact date will be communicated in due course.

It is also noted that the Young Confederation will be actively involved in the organization of the Educational Track for the Berlin Congress.

8. Varia

Carmen Ruiz García (Spain) expressed interest in the proposed fellowship initiative, noting that current information is limited. She suggested developing an observership database similar to that of ELS, including mentors and structured opportunities across Europe.

Daniele Borsetto commented that establishing a unified fellowship programme across Europe will be challenging due to significant differences between countries, many of which do not have standardized fellowship structures. He emphasized that the diversity of national systems makes harmonization complex

9. Any other Business

Vittorio Rampinelli invites Jan Plzák, President of the Confederation, to address the Assembly.

Jan Plzák expresses the Presidential Council's appreciation for the work presented by Sarah Atallah, Vice-Chair, during the Presidential Council meeting, and by Vittorio Rampinelli, Chair, during the Advisory Board meeting. He stated that the volume and quality of activities developed by the Young Confederation over the past two years had been remarkable, highlighting it as a highly active, productive, and efficient body with numerous ongoing initiatives.

He emphasizes that it is a privilege for the Confederation to support the Young Confederation, including financially, and extended his thanks to all members involved for their commitment and work.

His remarks are supported by the incoming President of the Confederation, Tomislav Baudoin, and the President-Elect, Miroslav Tedla.

10. Closing Remarks

Lukas Anschuetz, Chair-Elect of the Young Confederation, addressed the Young Assembly and thanked the members for their confidence in his election. He stated that he would work diligently to continue and further develop the initiatives established during the previous term, ensuring continuity and progress within the Young Confederation.

On behalf of the Executive Board, Vittorio Rampinelli thanked all participants for their attendance and contributions. He formally closes the Assembly at 13:45 h.



List of participants Young Confederation Assembly
April 28, 2026, Gothenburg, Sweden

First Name	Last Name	Country
Berta	Alegre Edo	Spain
Maitane	Alonso Saenz Del Burgo	Spain
Lukas	Anschuetz	Switzerland
Sarah	Atallah	France
Eva	Bagudà Molinas	Spain
Hazan	Basak	Turkey
Cristina Maria	Blebea	Romania
Daniele	Borsetto	United Kingdom
Sophie	Boucher	France
Hanneke	Bruijnzeel	Portugal
Aina	Brunet	Spain
Pietro	Canzi	Italy
Apaydin	Canzi	Turkey
Diego	Cazzador	Italy
Emilien	Chabrilac	France
Nikolaos	Davaris	Germany
Nick	De Boer	Netherlands
Puya	Dehgani-Mobaraki	Italy
Matteo	di Bari	Italy
Lukas	Dvorak	Czech Republic
Ervin	Dyrmishi	Albania
Dario	Ebode	France
Matteo	Fermi	Italy
Zdenek	Fik	Czech Republic
Katarzyna	Fulek	Poland
Octavio	Garaycochea	Spain
Miriam	García Lerma	Spain
Luca	Gazzini	Italy
Nona	Gevorgian	Germany
Carola	Gillone	Italy
Ali	Hasan M	Germany
Durdu Tuğçe	Ince	Turkey
Sara	Jubés Monforte	Spain
Marta	Kwiatkowska	Poland
Ayoze	Lemes Robayna	Spain
Vera	Lohnherr	Germany
Elke	Loos	Belgium
Riikka	Mäkitie	Finland

Kristyna	Maminak	Czech Republic
Mari Trini	Mesa Rubio	Spain
Giulia	Molinari	Italy
Kenneth	Muscat	Malta
Ismail	Nouh	Egypt
Ismail	Nouh	Egypt
Öykü	Onaran	Turkey
Ivan	Oreski	Croatia
Magdalena	Ostrowska	Poland
Elif	Özdemir	Turkey
Dimitrios	Paouris	Slovakia
Anna	Penella Prat	Spain
Vlad	Plesca	Romania
Laura	Pujol Vila	Spain
Mireia	Quer Castells	Spain
Rexhina	Rama (Koçi)	Albania
Vittorio	Rampinelli	Italy
Camilo	Rodriguez Van Strahlen	Spain
Aleix	Rovira	United Kingdom
Alessandra	Ruaro	Italy
Carmen	Ruiz García	Spain
Alberto Maria	Saibene	Italy
Claudio	Sampieri	Italy
Omer	Sancaktar	Turkey
Christina	Sauter	Germany
Juliet	Schuering	
François	Simon	France
Marlene	Speth	United Kingdom
Marlene	Speth	United Kingdom
Jetona	Sulaj	Albania
Pavol	Surda	United Kingdom
Dorota	Świątek	Poland
Tobias	Todsén	Denmark
Batuhan	Unlu	Turkey
Nicolient	Van der Poel	Belgium
Chrysoula	Vardaxi	Greece
Inge	Wegner	Netherlands
Josine	Widdershoven	Netherlands
Paweł	Witkowski	Poland
Miray-Su	Yilmaz Topcuoglu	Germany
Monika	Zaborek-Lyczba	Poland
Cristina	Zugun-Eloae	Romania