

**Application for a position on the Nominating Committee of the European Society of  
Cardiology, 2022-2024**

**JOÃO MORAIS, Letter of Motivation**

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Dear Professor Barbara Casadei  
Chair of the Nominating Committee  
European Society of Cardiology

My name is **João Morais**, I was born in Portugal in 1954, cardiologist, fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) since 2001.

I'm currently head of the Cardiology Division at Leiria Hospital Centre in Portugal, and I got a position of Coordinator of the Research Centre in the same hospital since 2014.

In the academic field I'm Affiliate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto, one of Portugal's most prestigious Medical Schools.

Regarding scientific activity I have been the author and co-author of over 400 papers, 160 published in peer reviewed journals, 18 of them awarded with national and international prizes.

Within the last twenty years I was involved in more than 40 international multicenter clinical trials, most of them in the position of principal investigator, as well as member of the Steering Committee or National Coordinator in 20 studies.

By invitation I gave 550 lectures in national and international scientific meetings, including the annual ESC congress as well as in several congresses of ESC Associations and Working Groups.

I am currently Honorary President of the Portuguese Society of Cardiology, after have been president (2017-2019), and member of the board for five terms.

Over the last two decades I hold other positions in the Portuguese Society, including chair of the Working Group on Thrombosis and Platelets; Coordinator of the National Center of Data Collection in Cardiology (NCDCC); member of the Financial Committee; and President of the Portuguese Congress of Cardiology in 2007.

In 2014 I was distinguished by the mayor of the city of Leiria with the Silver Medal, awarded for outstanding services to the community.

At the European level, I have been worked with the European Society of Cardiology in several tasks over the past almost twenty years, namely:

- Member of the Nucleus of the Working Group on Thrombosis since 2007 (Chair in 2015-2016);
- Member of the Committee for Practice Guidelines (2004-2006 and 2006-2008);
- Member of the ESC Scientific Programme Committee (2015/2016/2017/2018);
- Member of the Scientific Programme Committee of the Acute Cardiovascular Care Association (ACCA) (2015/2016);
- Local host, Acute Cardiovascular Care 2016, Lisbon;
- Chairman, EuroThrombosis Summit 2011;
- Appointed to be the chair of Eurothrombosis and Eurovessels 2022;
- Member of several Task Forces for the development of ESC guidelines, as well as co-author of several position papers and consensus documents;
- Member of various prize juries, notably for the ESC Grant for Medical Research Innovation sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim (2015).

Currently I'm member of the ACCA; member of the European Association of Percutaneous Cardiovascular Intervention; and member of the Heart Failure Association.

Between 2018 and 2020 I served the ESC as a member of the Nominating Committee, have been elected with the support of the Portuguese Society of Cardiology and the ESC Working Group on Thrombosis.

In 2020 I was invited by Professor Stephan Achenbach to be part of the Advocacy Committee of the ESC, led by Professor Hugo Katus.

For the second time I put myself forward for a position in the Nominating Committee, very glad with the support of the Portuguese Society of Cardiology. How can I justify this my decision?

As I mentioned before I'm involved with the activities of ESC for more than twenty years, serving the society at different levels. Beyond this relation with the ESC my long experience at national level gave me a great experience managing different activities inside the society, enabling me to serve the ESC in a position of such responsibility.

I understand very well the responsibility involved in this task and I do believe that I'm ready to take it, proud to go on serving the ESC.

Sincerely yours

João Morais

Leiria, Portugal, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021