

**LETTER OF MOTIVATION**  
**for the position in the ESC Nominating Committee 2022-2024**

**MJ Pekka Raatikainen, MD, PhD, FESC**

I am honoured that both the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) and the Finnish Cardiac Society (FCS) asked me to run for a position in the ESC Nominating Committee 2022-2024. The work in the ESC Nominating Committee would be a natural continuity to my previous work in the ESC and EHRA committees, in the FCS Board and in the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) Cardiology Section Board.

I am an active clinician and treat patients with various arrhythmias on daily basis at the Heart and Lung Center Helsinki University Hospital. I have been Fellow of the ESC since 2010, and in 2014 I was awarded the Gold Medal of the Finnish Cardiac Society. I enjoy working in teams and teaching medical student, physicians and cardiology and EP fellows. My prior work as a Professor of Cardiology and Professor of Internal Medicine and involvement in the activities of ESC, EHRA, FCS and UEMS Cardiology Section have given me excellent insight into the education and training of cardiologists. I have received several prizes for my education achievements and the Finnish Medical Association awarded me *Special Competence in Medical Education* in 2011.

I have strong passion for cardiovascular research. I have run multinational research projects and acted in several international and national trial steering committees. I have mentored many Finnish and foreign fellows for clinical electrophysiology, supervised several PhD theses and acted as reviewer for academic positions in Finland and abroad. I have published more than 100 original articles in high level peer-review scientific journals as well as numerous editorials, review articles and book chapters. I am editor in several medical textbooks and internet-based learning modules. I have the honour of serving as a regular reviewer for many high-quality scientific journals including European Heart Journal.

National cardiac societies are the backbone of the ESC, and it is important to maintain strong link between the ESC and national cardiac societies. As a past President of the Finnish Cardiac Society I am familiar with the issues and themes that the national societies are dealing and understand the importance of close collaboration between the national societies and the ESC and its associations.

I am highly motivated to work in the ESC Nominating Committee, and to invest my time and skills to meet the goals of the ESC in co-operation with national societies and other relevant parties. Due to my experience with work in professional associations I feel that I would a great asset for the ESC Nominating Committee. I am used to share my time between different tasks and my employer has encouraged me to contribute to the work of the ESC.

Sincerely,

Pekka Raatikainen, MD, PhD, FESC