

PERSONAL STATEMENT for the position of Councillor of the ESC Board 2022-2024

Antti Saraste, MD, PhD, FESC

I hereby express my wish to be nominated for candidacy to the position of Councillor of the European Society of Cardiology Board 2022-2024, endorsed by the Finnish Cardiac Society and Danish Society of Cardiology. I'm highly motivated to work in the ESC board to develop clinical practice, scientific research, training, and education in cardiology.

I have broad experience in clinical practice of cardiology working as a non-invasive cardiologist in Turku University Hospital, Turku, Finland since 2007. My main interest is in coronary artery disease, heart failure and valvular heart disease. I have had the privilege to contribute in several task forces developing both national and international evidence-based clinical practice guidelines, including the ESC clinical practice guidelines on non-cardiac surgery 2014 and chronic coronary syndromes 2019.

I have pursued a career in translational and clinical scientific research in cardiology. I currently work as a professor in University of Turku, Turku, Finland. My scientific work includes > 180 original scientific publications. My main research focus is non-invasive imaging and diagnosis of cardiac disease. Besides leading a research group, I have participated in several initiatives associated with the ESC, such as developing scientific documents, serving as an associate editor of the European Heart Journal Cardiovascular Imaging, and acting as a national coordinator for the EORP in valvular heart disease and coronary artery disease (EURECA).

I have constantly worked in the development of training and education in cardiology and scientific research on both national and international levels. I'm dedicated to continuously provide supervision for cardiologists in training. I have given a number of invited lectures in major national and international cardiac meetings, acted as an editor and writer of textbooks, and been involved in organization of a number of educational activities within the Finnish Cardiac Society, Nordic Cardiac Societies as well as committees of the European Association of Nuclear Medicine and the ESC.

I have gained significant experience on leadership, administration and teamwork in various professional organizations and committees. I currently act as director of the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research, University of Turku, Turku, Finland, hosting more than 500 PhD students. I have acted in different positions within the Finnish cardiac Society since 2009, including board, echocardiography nucleus and cardiovascular imaging nucleus. Within the ESC, I have been active member of the working group of nuclear cardiology and cardiac CT, EACVI Education committee, ESC grants committee, ESC e-communication committee, and task forces on non-cardiac surgery and chronic coronary syndromes. I'm familiar with the organization as well as broad activities and responsibilities of the ESC. I strongly support collaboration between European and the Nordic countries to achieve these goals.

I'm willing and highly motivated to work as a member of the ESC Board to meet goals of the ESC.

Yours,

Antti Saraste, MD, PhD, FESC

Professor and Chief Physician in Heart Center, Turku University Hospital, Turku, Finland