

## Fortunato Ciardiello ESMO President Election 2016-2017 Vision Statement



“The European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) is home for all doctors that study cancer, that conduct translational and clinical research in cancer and that take care of cancer patients. ESMO is the professional forum in which medical oncologists from all European countries meet and discuss their professional and human needs. ESMO mission is to help all medical oncologists in the development of their career by improving their professional skills through a high quality program of education that covers all scientific and clinical aspects of cancer patient management. Another important aspect of ESMO mission is to help medical oncologists in Europe to offer the highest standards of care in the prevention, diagnosis and treatments to all European patients with cancer, regardless of any boundaries such as nationality, regional difficulties and economic problems.”

### **Vision Statement:**

I have been deeply involved in the past few years in several activities of ESMO. This has been a unique opportunity and a human and professional privilege for me. In these years, I have witnessed the enormous growth of ESMO in several aspects, including the reorganization of the administrative and functional structures; the scientific „explosion“ of educational activities; the high quality and success of the scientific congresses; the novel communication technologies (made possible through an innovative concept of the website); the implementation of a new model of guidelines and consensus conferences on specific clinical topics; the increase in the relationships with professional societies in other continents; the process of a true multidisciplinary approach to cancer with the sister European societies of radiation therapists and surgical oncologists; the novel approach to the role of Annals of Oncology in the era of electronic publishing and open access scientific journals. I have been involved in the past few years in several of these activities and my vision, if I could become ESMO President for the period 2016-17, is to contribute to maintain these high level standards that ESMO has achieved and to bring further energy and efforts in these key aspects of ESMO activities.

My vision is that ESMO is a professional society which exists and is “owned” by the members. Our mission, as privileged ESMO members that have the opportunity of guiding the society, is to provide our members with the best professional services in medical oncology in terms of communication, education, clinical guidelines and career development. In this respect, ESMO has a growing number of younger members and of members from less rich European countries as well from extra-European less rich countries. In my opinion, we should offer these members all the opportunities for helping them in delivering the best and effective treatment to all patients in order to fill the gaps and the discrepancies between what can be offered in some privileged countries and the rest of the World. Our mission is to provide to our members the best quality scientific information to be applied in patient care. Therefore, it is very important that all our activities maintain the highest standard of professional integrity and transparency in order to offer a truly unbiased professional point of view that could be translated in effective actions for cancer patients.

If I could become ESMO President, I will involve more and more members in all key activities of the Society. It is important that fresh new energies should give their contribution towards building the future. In this respect, we have to involve more young oncologists and more women. For in doing so, we should be able to listen more to the needs of our members in order to understand their needs.

Finally, I think that having the opportunity of leading ESMO as President is one of the highest honours that a truly European medical oncologist could dream to achieve in his or her life.