

Annual REPORT

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2025



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Report of the President

2025 has been a landmark year for the European Resuscitation Council. Across Europe and beyond, we have seen increasing pressure on healthcare systems, workforce shortages, geopolitical instability, armed conflicts, humanitarian crises, and rapid technological change. In many parts of the world, healthcare professionals continue to work under extraordinarily difficult circumstances, reminding us that access to emergency care and resuscitation cannot be taken for granted. In this environment, the mission of the ERC remains clear and unchanged: improving survival and saving lives.

This year, the publication and launch of the ERC Guidelines 2025 marked a major milestone. Hundreds of experts, researchers, educators, healthcare professionals, survivors, and partner organisations contributed to this work. The Guidelines are more than a scientific document. They are a roadmap to better outcomes for patients and communities.

Education remains at the heart of everything we do. In 2025, more than 381,000 participants were trained through ERC programmes in 57 countries. This is an extraordinary achievement and confirms the ERC as one of the world's leading organisations in resuscitation education. Our scientific activities also continued to grow through EuReCa THREE, new research collaborations, Young Investigator Grants, and the development of future leaders through Young ERC.

Our advocacy work gained further momentum through initiatives such as Get Trained Save Lives, Learn To Drive Learn CPR, the AWARE Coalition, and our engagement with European policymakers. Together, we are helping to bring lifesaving skills closer to citizens, schools, workplaces, and communities.

None of these achievements would have been possible without collaboration. I would like to thank our National Resuscitation Councils, whose leaders and volunteers are the backbone of the ERC across Europe. I would also like to recognise our close collaboration with scientific societies, patient organisations, educational partners, industry partners, and companies that support our mission. Each of these partnerships plays an important role in strengthening the Chain of Survival and expanding our impact far beyond what any single organisation could achieve alone.



The events of recent years have reminded us that preparedness matters. Whether facing everyday emergencies, major incidents, natural disasters, or the consequences of conflict, strong systems, trained citizens, accessible AEDs, and effective teamwork remain essential if we are to improve outcomes and save more lives.

This year is also an important moment of transition for our organisation. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the CEO, Jan Van Dooren for his dedication, vision, and tireless commitment over many years. His contribution has helped shape the modern ERC.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the hundreds of volunteers who dedicate their time, expertise, and energy to the ERC. Our instructors, course directors, researchers, working group members, guideline authors, congress contributors, National Resuscitation Council leaders, and many others are the true driving force behind our organisation. Their commitment has helped build not only a successful organisation, but also a strong and vibrant community united by a common purpose. Everything we have achieved this year has been possible, thanks of their passion, generosity, and belief in our mission.

Looking ahead, I believe the next chapter of the ERC will be defined by three priorities: strengthening our global community of lifesavers, accelerating innovation through digital technologies and artificial intelligence, and expanding our focus from survival to survivorship and long-term recovery.

The ERC is not the Office, the Board, or the Guidelines alone. The ERC is a community of people united by a common purpose: giving every person the best possible chance of survival and recovery after cardiac arrest. Together, we continue to demonstrate that Systems Saving Lives is not simply a slogan. It is the foundation of everything we do and the vision that will guide us into the future.

From the Office of the CEO

As the European Resuscitation Council continues to evolve, our commitment remains unchanged: to improve survival following cardiac arrest through excellence in science, education, advocacy and collaboration.

The European Resuscitation Council's five-year vision builds on the strong foundations of our Strategic Plan, developed through collaboration with our Board, National Resuscitation Councils, committees, partners and stakeholders.

As we look ahead, our focus is on strengthening our core values, investing in our people, modernising our processes and ensuring long-term sustainability. We will deepen partnerships, advance high-quality research, enhance education through innovation and technology, foster a stronger network across the resuscitation community, and expand our communication efforts to raise public awareness of the lifesaving impact of bystander CPR.

Together, these priorities will enable the ERC to lead with excellence, adapt to a changing healthcare landscape, and ultimately help save more lives across Europe and beyond.

The ERC's 5 Years Strategic Plan



Governance & Committees



- In 2025, the ERC General Assembly convened twice, in June and December.
- In 2025, the ERC Board of Directors held 6 meetings.

The ERC Office

CEO

Network

- NRC(s)
- Business Partner(s)
- Membership

Congress & Events

- Congress
- Webinar(s)
- Event(s)

Training & Education

- Guidelines
- Course Development
- Courses | CoSy
- Translations
- Helpdesk

Outreach

- Advocacy
- GTSL Campaign
- Research Projects
- Taskforce|Donation
- Sister Associations

Supporting Services

- Accounting
- Secretariat and Travel

Outsourced

- HR & Payroll
- Legal
- ICT Support

Marketing and Communication

Technology & Projects

Governance Committee - Report of Activities 2025

The Governance Committee (GC) continued to play a vital role in supporting the European Resuscitation Council's mission to preserve human life by making high-quality resuscitation available to all.

Throughout 2025, the Committee focused on strengthening governance practices, ensuring transparency, accountability, and compliance across the organisation.

The Committee comprised seven members representing a broad range of expertise and experience. During the year, the GC held nine meetings, including seven virtual and two face-to-face sessions. All members actively participated in most of the major meetings, contributing to robust discussions and informed decision-making. The Chair also maintained regular engagement with the ERC Chair, Chair-Elect, and CEO, while participating in major ERC meetings and the Conclave.

Key areas of activity included governance oversight, legal compliance, conflict of interest, organisational structure review, policy development, and support for appointment and nomination processes. The Committee also provided guidance on stakeholder relationships, internal concerns, and conflict resolution matters.

Several strategic workstreams progressed during 2025, including the revision of the Articles of Association, review and enhancement of Conflict of Interest processes, evaluation of applications, appointment of Honorary Members and Fellows of the ERC (FERCs), participation in the Conclave, and contributions to Board, General Assembly, and Committee Coordination meetings. The development of the ERC Code of Conduct also remained a key priority.

The Committee identified several challenges and opportunities during the year. Strategic priorities included advancing approval of revised governance documents, while developmental objectives focused on reviewing Terms of Reference and strengthening the Governance Committee itself. Operationally, increasing workloads and the need for clear communication channels remained important considerations.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Governance Committee will continue its work on the ERC Internal Rules and Code of Conduct, support the organisational transition associated with the CEO succession process, enhance NRC and Conclave engagement, and maintain ongoing governance assurance through conflict of interest reviews and Terms of Reference updates.

The Governance Committee extends its sincere appreciation to the ERC Board, General Assembly, ERC Office staff, and all Committee members for their commitment and support throughout 2025.

Young ERC

The Young ERC is a supporting committee of the European Resuscitation Council (ERC) dedicated to fostering the next generation of resuscitation leaders and representing early career members within the ERC. It advocates for their interests and supports their professional development in the field of resuscitation. Young ERC activities include regular newsletter contributions, peer engagement across social media platforms, educational webinars, early career sessions at ERC congresses, and the Young ERC Resuscitation Science Masterclass. The committee also develops new initiatives for early career members and leads the creation of an international early career network within the global resuscitation community.

Key Activities/Achievements 2025

- Election of new Young ERC committee for the 2026-2027 term – 15 committee members elected from 43 candidates.
- Monthly committee meetings and supporting working group meetings, with a face to face meeting held in Rotterdam before the Resuscitation 2025 congress.
- Conclusion of the second edition, and launch of the third edition of the Resuscitation Science Masterclass, with 139 applicants from 43 countries.
- Early career representation on all ERC 2025 Guideline Writing Groups, and involvement in the joint ILCOR/ERC/AHA guideline launch event in Rotterdam.
- Development and launch of the Early Career Mentorship programme.
- Two Young ERC hosted open webinars:
 - Debriefing after attending your first resuscitation attempt.
 - In-flight Emergencies – Resuscitation and Beyond.
- Appointment of new Young ERC Editor for Resuscitation Plus.

Key Activities/Achievements 2025

- Strong representation and engagement at the Resuscitation 2025 congress in Rotterdam, including multiple Young ERC led sessions and moderation of poster sessions.
- Launch of the first ERC Young Investigator Grant to support early career resuscitation scientists.
- Engagement with several early career groups within the National Resuscitation Councils.

Goals for 2026

- On board new committee for 2026-2027.
- Launch 4th edition of the Resuscitation Science Masterclass.
- Conclude and review the pilot of the Early Career Mentorship programme.
- Continue to represent the interests of early career members of the resuscitation community across all areas of the ERC.



YOUNG
EUROPEAN
RESUSCITATION
COUNCIL

ERC COMMUNITY



National Resuscitation Councils

Within the ERC ecosystem, the National Resuscitation Councils (NRCs) play an important role: they are representing the interests of the ERC in their respective country, raise awareness about cardiac arrest, work on several national and international projects, including advocacy, safeguard the high quality of CPR courses in the national course centres and contribute on a daily basis to increasing the chances of survival after a cardiac arrest.

In 2025, the ERC welcomed 3 new National Resuscitation Councils in the NRC network: Spain, Armenia and Uganda. This increases the network to a total of 34 NRCs, 29 in Europe and 5 outside Europe (Egypt, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tunisia and Uganda).

Main activities & events in 2025:

- In early April, the first NRC Days were organised in Vienna. Şule Akin (Representative of the NRCs, ERC), welcomed 43 participants from 27 NRCs and 10 participants from ERC for 2 days of presentations and workshops, discussing topics selected by the NRCs, learning from each other, connecting and networking.
- To further improve communication between the ERC and the NRCs about ongoing and future projects, next to regular e-mail updates, as from May onwards, the ERC started with online quarterly update meetings for the NRCs, providing more details about presented topics and welcoming interaction and questions.
- By the end of 2024, the ERC had put in place a process for applications of organisations seeking to be recognised as NRC by the ERC. In 2025, a total of 9 organisations applied, resulting in 3 new NRCs joining the network, and the Sri Lanka Resuscitation Council evolved towards a Collaboration Agreement with the ERC, officially becoming a voting member in the ERC General Assembly.
- The NRC Meeting, held on the first evening of the ERC Congress in Rotterdam, was the perfect occasion to introduce the NRCs of Armenia, Spain, Sri Lanka and Uganda to the rest of the NRC network. The evening was a pleasant mix of info-sharing and informal discussions while enjoying some finger food and drinks.
- Finally, during the months of November and December, Aymeric Lejeune (Network Lead, ERC) had 1-1 meetings with most of the NRCs to exchange ideas and projects for the period 2026-2028, resulting in Roadmaps summarising the ambitions and agreed follow-up moments to make progress together.



About the NRCs

Your speaking time
57:32
Friday 01 November 2024 16:46



Sister Associations

The European Resuscitation Council (ERC) is a prominent organisation dedicated to the advancement of resuscitation science & education and to saving more lives by creating a community of life-savers.

By collaborating with its sister associations the ERC amplifies its impact in the realm of emergency care and life-saving practices.

The sister associations of the ERC are:

- the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)
- the European Society for Emergency Medicine (EUSEM)
- the European Society for Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM)
- the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC)
- the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC)

This powerful coalition shares a common mission: to foster a global community of life-savers equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to respond effectively in critical situations. Together, these organisations engage in continuous research, create comprehensive training programs, and launch initiatives aimed at disseminating life-saving techniques across various sectors.

Our collective efforts not only promote awareness but also empower individuals, healthcare professionals, first responders, and communities to take action in emergencies, ultimately leading to a significant increase in survival rates and a more prepared society.



European Society of
Anaesthesiology and
Intensive Care



Members

In 2025, the ERC counted 1,455 active ERC members, an increase of approximately 45% compared to 2024.

In the last quarter of 2025, the membership process was simplified, allowing interested individuals to become an ERC member in just a few clicks. Next to this, an automatic renewal option was added to make members' lives easier, hassle-free and avoid missing out on the membership status and benefits. To date, already 10% of new/renewing members have chosen this automatic renewal.

These improvements were launched just before the ERC RESUS25 Guidelines Congress, which might also explain the increased interest, after years of stagnation at around 1.000 members.

In December 2025, the new Articles of Association were adopted, opening the path for further changes in the membership programme to be initiated in 2026.

To every member of the European Resuscitation Council, thank you for being the heart of our community. Your passion, generosity and unwavering commitment to sharing knowledge, advancing resuscitation and empowering others continue to inspire us and make a lasting difference in saving lives across Europe and beyond.

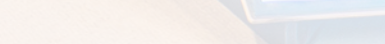
Top 10 countries from where the ERC members come

LET'S TALK DIVERSITY

**MORE THAN
65 COUNTRIES**

**1455 ACTIVE
MEMBERS**

TOP 10

	----- Netherlands 189
	----- Germany 185
	----- Belgium 150
	----- United Kingdom 110
	----- Austria 87
	----- Spain 75
	----- Romania 49
	----- Italy 44
	----- Greece 40
	----- Switzerland 40
	----- United States 34

Business Partners

The ERC Business Partners are organisations involved in medical equipment used for various purposes, including resuscitation and teaching CPR skills. This includes devices such as AEDs (automated external defibrillators), chest compressors, and manikins.

- In 2025, the ERC welcomed 2 new business partners, bringing the total to 11.
- The year started with 1-1 meetings with most of the Business Partners to gather their feedback about the 2024 Congress.
- During the month of February, with coordination support from the ERC, interested Stryker employees in Germany, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands and Romania enjoyed an in-house BLS training, provided by local ERC course centres.
- In March, a small ERC delegation, consisting of Prof. Therese Djärv, Dr Hans van Schuppen and Aymeric Lejeune (Network Lead, ERC), joined the first Emergency Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Conference, hosted by the Zhejiang Medical Doctors Association in Hangzhou, China. The support provided by Amoul enabled the ERC delegation to make the most out of the experience. This landmark event not only showcased innovative practices and technologies in CPR but also highlighted the importance of collaboration and knowledge exchange between European nations and China.
- In mid-April, Giuseppe Ristagno (Director of Congresses, ERC), and Tatyana Pinniger (Congress & Events Lead, ERC), presented the details of the 2025 Congress to the Business Partners including some of the improvements they suggested.
- During the ERC congress in Rotterdam, the Business Partners were invited for a Business Partner breakfast, a nice occasion for them to (re-)connect with Federico Semeraro, (President, ERC), Prof. Giuseppe Ristagno (Director of Congresses, ERC) and Jan Van Dooren (CEO, ERC), as well as to meet the Prof. Andrew Lockey (President-Elect, ERC).
- Jan Van Dooren (CEO, ERC) together with Aymeric Lejeune (Network Lead, ERC), explained the ERC strategy and concrete achievements of 2025 as well as the plans for 2026.

 Ambu Amoul
安保医疗 corpuls® Gaumard®
Simulators for Health Care Education Laerdal
helping save lives PHILIPS SCHILLER
The Art of Saving Lives stryker SunLife
Save More Lives vimo
life is movement ZOLL

Resuscitation 2025 ERC CONGRESS



RESUS25

The ERC Congress—Resuscitation 2025 was held as a fully in-person event in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, from October 23 to 25, 2025. This congress was the largest to date, coinciding with the release of the ERC Guidelines 2025.

Key Figures

- On the opening day, the congress welcomed approximately 3,000 participants, marking an impressive turnout. Representatives from 77 different countries attended, with 79 participants from lower-middle-income countries. The Netherlands had the highest representation, with 1,106 participants, coinciding with the Congress of the Dutch Resuscitation Council on the final day of the ERC Congress.
- A total of 423 abstracts were accepted and presented during the event, with 384 presented in poster format.
- Additionally, 17 teams competed in the Resuscitation Competition, the most highly anticipated event of the year during each ERC Congress.



Following the Congress, the ERC conducted a survey, where most participants recommended attending future ERC Congresses, citing various mind-boggling reasons.

- **High-quality scientific and educational content:** Attendees consistently valued the latest guideline updates, evidence-based lectures, expert speakers, practical workshops, and clear explanations of the science behind resuscitation. Many highlighted that the congress helps them stay up to date and improve both clinical practice and teaching.
- **Excellent networking and international collaboration:** The congress is seen as a unique opportunity to meet global experts, colleagues, instructors, researchers, and industry representatives. Participants appreciated exchanging ideas, discussing challenges, and connecting with like-minded professionals.
- **Exposure to innovation and new technologies:** The exhibition area and industry presence allowed attendees to explore new CPR devices, teaching tools, simulation equipment, and emerging technologies relevant to emergency care and resuscitation.
- **Inspiring environment and diverse program:** People valued the engaging atmosphere, variety of sessions across disciplines, interactive simulations, competitions, and the motivational experience of being part of a large international resuscitation community.

RESUSCITATION

23 — 25 OCTOBER
ROTTERDAM

RESUS25



The European Resuscitation Council was founded in 1988 as an international organisation with the aim of 'preserving human life through high-quality resuscitation'.



Other Events:

CPR Workshops at the ESC Preventive Cardiology and ESC Congress

The European Resuscitation Council successfully conducted CPR workshops during two major events: the Preventive Cardiology Congress, organised by the European Society of Cardiology from April 3 to April 5 in Milan, and the ESC Congress, held from August 29 to September 1 in Madrid.

Throughout these congresses, approximately 400 healthcare professionals participated in the ERC Refresher Courses, which included training in both Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS).

A particularly memorable moment occurred when His Majesty, King Felipe VI, the King of Spain, stopped by to observe a Basic Life Support (BLS) demonstration during the ERC Workshop at the ESC Congress in Madrid. This event highlighted the importance of resuscitation training not only for healthcare professionals but for society as a whole.

Behind the scenes, our team of dedicated ERC instructors worked with exceptional energy and precision. Their commitment ensured that every participant received high-quality, hands-on training. Their professionalism and passion were evident in each session, and their outstanding achievements contributed to the success of the courses. Each person who attends these courses strengthens our shared mission of improving patient outcomes and saving lives.



GTSL CAMPAIGN



Get Trained Save Lives

In 2025, the Get Trained Save Lives (GTSL) campaign continued to build on the strong momentum created during the UEFA EURO 2024 and further expanded its reach through several major UEFA events and training initiatives across Europe.

Throughout the year, GTSL was present at multiple UEFA Finals, offering football fans and visitors the opportunity to learn and practise essential CPR skills in an accessible and engaging way. The campaign was active during the UEFA Youth League Final, the UEFA Europa League Final in Bilbao, the UEFA Women's Champions League Final in Lisbon, and the UEFA Champions League Final in Munich. Across these events, the booths trained a total of 2,195 participants, with the Champions League Final in Munich alone reaching 1.061 people over four days.

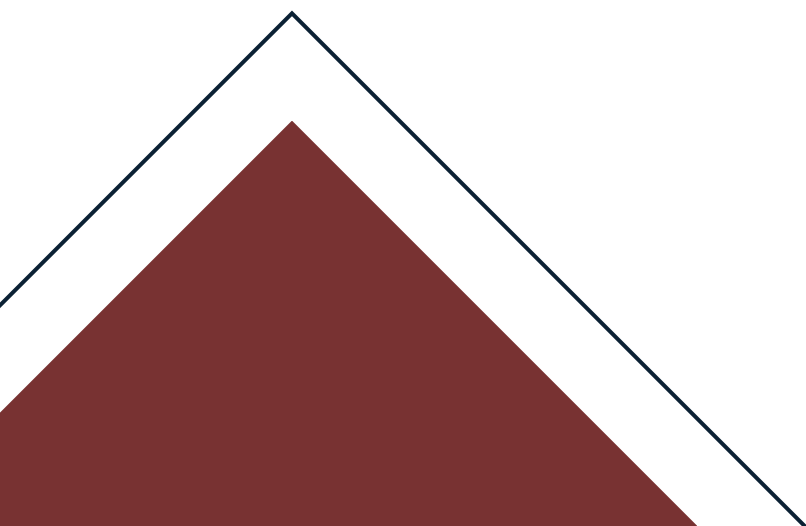
A major highlight of 2025 was the presence of Get Trained Save Lives at the UEFA Women's EURO in Switzerland. The campaign was active across the host cities, where thousands of visitors engaged with the CPR training activities. In total, 7,125 participants were trained across the Swiss host cities. To date, the GTSL game has contributed to CPR training for 67,587 people in total.

Beyond the fan zone activations, the campaign also continued to grow through dedicated training activities. In 2025, 425 players and staff from Participating National Associations were trained during the Women's EURO, as well as 350 club players, staff members and UEFA referees received training. In addition, 1,300 participants took part in general GOAL sessions across Europe, further strengthening the link between the GTSL campaign and national resuscitation initiatives.

Through the continued collaboration between the European Resuscitation Council, UEFA and the National Resuscitation Councils, Get Trained Save Lives keeps bringing life-saving skills closer to the public. By meeting people where they are — in fan zones, stadium environments, clubs and training sessions — the campaign continues to make CPR more visible, approachable and actionable. Every person trained represents another potential bystander who may one day have the confidence to act in a cardiac emergency.



ERC ADVOCACY



Advocacy

In 2025, the European Resuscitation Council continued to strengthen its advocacy role at the European level, promoting policies and initiatives that improve cardiac arrest preparedness, increase access to CPR training, and support strong emergency response systems across Europe.

A major milestone was the launch of the Alliance for Workplace Awareness and Response to Emergencies, known as the AWARE Coalition. Led by the ERC, this initiative brings together stakeholders committed to improving workplace preparedness for sudden cardiac arrest and other life-threatening emergencies. Its launch at the European Parliament underlined the importance of embedding CPR training, AED access, and emergency response planning into workplace safety standards.

The ERC also maintained its advocacy efforts around the revision of the European Driving Licence Directive. As part of this work, the ERC organised an expert roundtable bringing together policymakers, experts, and relevant stakeholders to discuss the importance of integrating CPR and first aid training into driver education. The initiative highlighted the driving licence process as an important opportunity to reach a large and diverse population with essential lifesaving skills.

Youth education remained a key priority. In 2025, the ERC optimised the Toolkit for Youth CPR Education Initiatives to support National Resuscitation Councils in promoting CPR education for children and young people. The toolkit provides practical guidance and advocacy resources to help embed lifesaving skills early in life and build a generation of confident first responders.

Through its involvement in the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health, the ERC continued to advocate for sudden cardiac arrest to remain a priority within the broader cardiovascular health agenda. This collaboration helps to reinforce the importance of bystander CPR, AED availability, and coordinated emergency response systems as essential components of cardiovascular health policy.

Together, these initiatives reflect the ERC's continued commitment to turning scientific evidence into practical action. In 2025, the ERC advanced its advocacy agenda by influencing policy, supporting national initiatives, building strategic partnerships, and bringing CPR training closer to communities across Europe.



Science & **RESEARCH**



Science & Research

Research is the first link in the formula of survival – that is why the ERC's vision for science is to make high-quality science available to all. The science strategy is delivered through four themes (i) epidemiology (ii) researcher development (iii) researcher networks (iv) sharing science.



Epidemiology

2025 saw the publication of EuReCa-THREE, a large international prospective cohort study across 28 European countries. Among 45,251 cases (32,033 EMS-treated), mean response time was 12.2 minutes, with ROSC achieved in 31.2%, survival to hospital transfer in 22.5%, and overall survival of 7.5%, with wide variation between countries. The study demonstrates substantial differences in OHCA incidence and outcomes across Europe and shows a clear association between faster EMS response times and improved survival. Findings have been incorporated in to the ERC Cardiac Arrest Dashboard.

We are pleased to see our collaboration with the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation Research and Registries Committee continue, providing updated global data on out-of-hospital cardiac arrest from 2018–2021 across 18 registries. Similar to EuReCa THREE, the findings highlight substantial international variation in bystander response and survival outcomes, with many regions experiencing declines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Epidemiology of cardiac arrest is summarised in Guidelines 2025.

Researcher Development

The second research masterclass was run in collaboration with the Young ERC bringing together nearly 30 early career scientists from around the world. Participants from the masterclass have published a series of methodology insights in Resuscitation Plus – providing both an opportunity for education and publication in a peer reviewed journal. 2025 also saw the inaugural Young ERC Editor Kasper Lauridsen be appointed as Associate Editor for Resuscitation Plus with Aurora Magliocca taking over as the Young ERC Editor.



Researcher Development ... Continuing

The ERC ran its first round of grant applications in 2025 targeted at Young Investigators. From a highly competitive field, four winners were selected and will receive pump priming funds to start research programmes in:

- EMS Response to Maternal Collapse and Cardiac Arrest: A Qualitative Study (submitted by Adam Boulton)
- Sphingosine-1 Phosphate Signalling in Post-Cardiac Arrest Brain Injury (submitted by Aurora Magliocca)
- EMLS: European Maternal Life Support – Recognition and Initial Management of Maternal Critical Illness (submitted by Katarzyna Maciejewska)
- From Smartwatch to Survival: Optimising Automated Cardiac Arrest Alerts and Identifying Victim Reachability Barriers (submitted by Roos Edgar)

Researcher Networks

ERC is pleased to be supporting the EU COST Action : Precision Medicine for Cardiac Arrest (PREMEDICARE) led by Enrico Baldi. The ultimate goal of the Action is to establish the tools and resources necessary to support the uptake and use of precision medicine approaches for the treatment and management of OHCA in the clinic.

In addition to the Young Investigator Awards, the ERC launched the ERC-NRC Collaboration awards in 2025. The competition winners each received €10.000 to kick start their collaborative efforts.

- Developing New Universal and International Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Signage(submitted by Nino Fijacko)
- The Quality of In-Hospital Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Post-Cardiac Arrest Therapy in the Central-Eastern European Region (CEREBRA Study) (submitted by Petra Szvath)

- Hot Ventilation Debrief (submitted by Simon Orlob)
- ReSPECT From Concept to Continent: A Multicentre Gap Analysis of Person-Centred Resuscitation Care and Treatment Planning (submitted by Therese Djarv)

Sharing Science

The ERC Scientific Congress saw once again over 400 high quality abstracts submissions – making the ERC conference the largest scientific meeting in the world focused on cardiac arrest.

The conference brought together leading international scientists presenting late-breaking research likely to shape future resuscitation guidelines, including new insights into brain physiology during circulatory arrest, the limited cost-effectiveness of home AEDs, and trials of hypothermia and novel defibrillation strategies. Notably, studies highlighted early cerebral ischaemia preceding systemic collapse, uncertainty around optimal cooling duration, and promising early results for double sequential defibrillation. Overall, the session underscored rapidly evolving evidence with important implications for improving outcomes after cardiac arrest.

The Young Investigator award sessions showcased the breadth of innovative resuscitation research and emerging talent, spanning novel prognostic insights, wearable detection technologies, team performance in resuscitation, patient perspectives in emergency trials, and strategies to improve CPR quality and outcomes.

A full summary of the ERC conference has been published in Resuscitation Plus.

**ERC
GUIDELINES**

GUIDELINES 2025

EUROPEAN RESUSCITATION COUNCIL

ILCOR

ILCOR Meeting 2025, Rotterdam, Netherlands

The 2025 ILCOR Meeting was convened in Rotterdam, immediately preceding the ERC conference. In addition to a series of educational lectures, the primary objective of the meeting was to facilitate Task Force reunions. These reunions were intended to define future review projects and topics that involved multiple Task Forces. They also served to finalise the ILCOR CoSTR 2026 publication.

A notable highlight was the hosted dinner with the ILCOR Giants Celebration 2025. The following individuals are listed as present: Dianne Atkins, Robert Neumar (both AHA), Judith Finn (ANZCOR), Tino Greif and Rudy Koster (both ERC).

In the aftermath of the ILCOR meeting, the American Heart Association (AHA) and the European Resuscitation Council (ERC) proceeded with the launch of their Guidelines 2025. This launch was conducted through plenary and topic-specific sessions, which were made available for global viewing via streaming. The ERC speakers presented the ERC Guidelines in a highly successful manner.

Concurrently, the CoSTR 2025 was published, thereby establishing the scientific foundation for the ERC Guidelines. The ERC would like to express its gratitude to all members of the ERC Task Force for their invaluable contributions.



The ERC Guidelines 2025

The twelve writing groups were tasked with drafting their Guidelines, which were then subjected to a rigorous review process by the steering committee members. The development of figures and algorithms was informed by the insights and guidance of professional graphic designers. The submission of the Guidelines 2025 package in its entirety to Resuscitation was timely, thus enabling the production of all PDFs for the launch event just prior to the ERC conference in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

The ERC Guidelines 2025 were comprehensively presented and discussed during the Rotterdam conference. Furthermore, in order to facilitate the implementation and dissemination of the new Guidelines 2025, the ERC presented the Guidelines APP, handouts, leaflets and a short version of the guidelines intended for lay people. These materials are available free of charge via the ERC webpage, which contains a download centre with all available Guidelines, posters and their translations.

The Guideline leads were seeking extended feedback from all authors to obtain advice for the subsequent guideline process. This initiative has yielded numerous recommendations for enhancing quality, along with substantial commendation for the guidance provided and the procedural framework established over the past year.

The ERC wishes to extend its gratitude to all those involved in the publication process of the Guidelines 2025 in Resuscitation, including the authors of the Guidelines 2025, the steering committee, the office staff, the graphic design team, and all other individuals who contributed to the successful dissemination of these ERC Guidelines 2025. The objective of this is to enhance the survival rate of patients experiencing cardiac arrest.

[Read more about the ERC Guidelines](#)

[ERC Guidelines Download Centre](#)

ERC COURSES



Course Directors' Day

On April 4, 2025, the Course Directors Day was successfully held at the NH Vienna Airport Hotel in Vienna, Austria. The event commenced at 10:00 with a warm welcome, followed by a brief plenary session to introduce the day's objectives and agenda.

The first set of breakout sessions quickly set the tone for dynamic discussions. Course-specific groups: BLS, PLS, ALS, NLS, and BIC/GIC, engaged in productive exchanges, addressing key challenges and opportunities within each program. Chairs and co-chairs reported particularly valuable input and dialogue during these sessions.

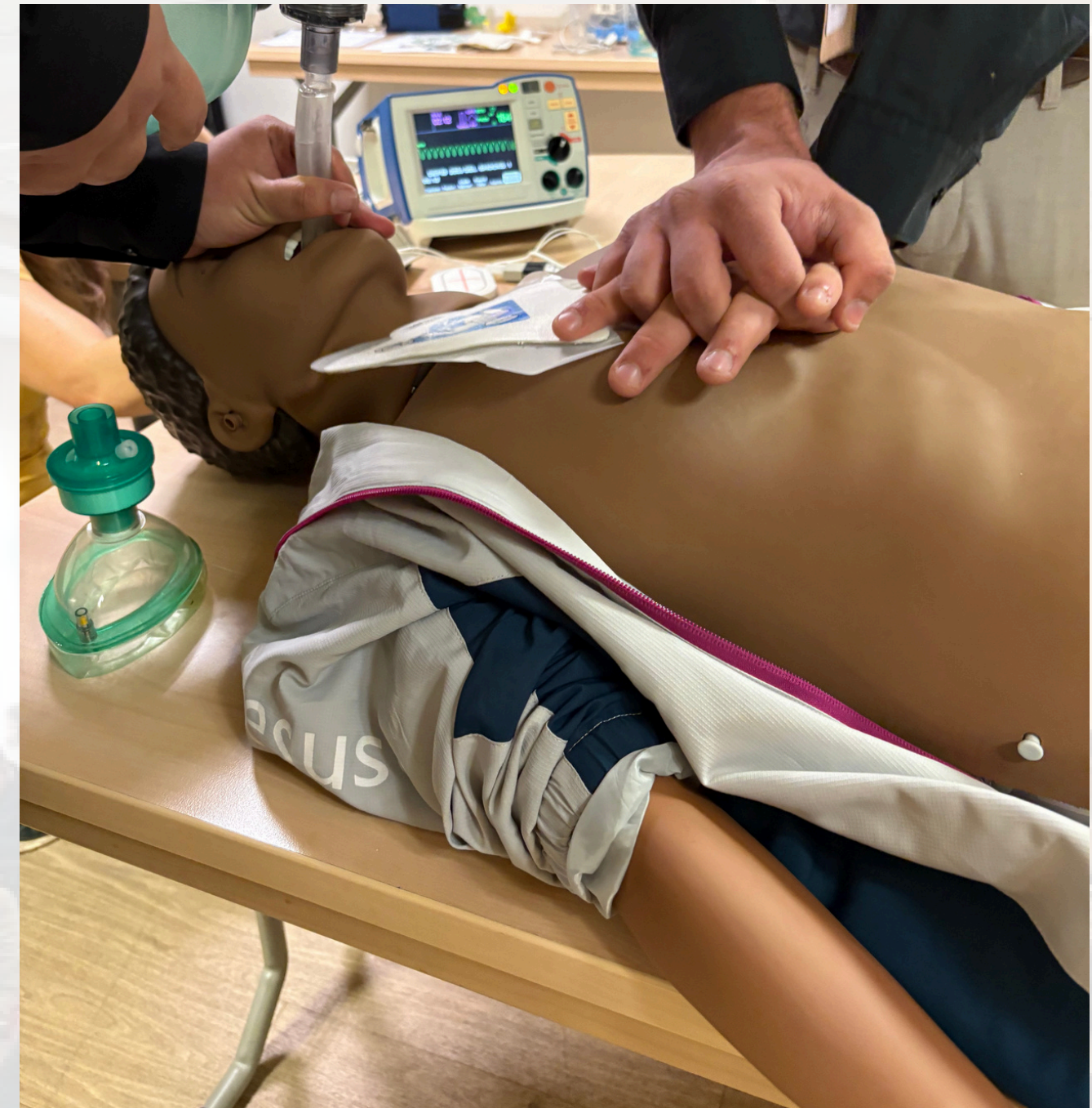
Following a networking lunch, two plenary sessions addressed strategic updates on translations and Course Strategy. Both sessions included time for open discussion and clarification, allowing participants to contribute their insights and raise pertinent questions.

In the afternoon, a second round of breakout sessions took place, further deepening the conversation on course-specific themes. The chair and co-chairs from the Science and Education Committees collected detailed feedback to translate into actionable steps and program enhancements.

Key discussion topics throughout the day included:

- Shorter BLS courses
- Reviewing and refining BIC and GIC course content (as input for Course Strategy)
- Improving assessment methods in PLS courses
- Renewing and updating the ALS curriculum and VLE's
- Exploring future directions for the NLS program

The day concluded with an open Q&A session, providing participants the opportunity to reflect, clarify, and ask remaining questions. Attendees left with a strong sense of progress and alignment, looking ahead to continued developments at Course Directors Day 2026.



ERC Courses 2025

Summary of Participants

(As per Courses Based on the ERC Guidelines Using the CoSy)

In 2025, the ERC trained a total of 381.347 participants through its various courses, showing continued growth and a strong impact on emergency response education across Europe and beyond. The breakdown below highlights the number of participants per course type, as well as the countries with the highest engagement.

Course Types vs Participants

- Advanced Life Support (ALS): 25,610
- Basic Instructor Course (BIC): 7,509
- Basic Instructor Course 2 (BIC2): 911
- Basic Life Support (BLS): 260,556
- BLS Introduction Course (BLS-intro-I): 26
- Educational Instructor Day (EID): 4,223
- European Paediatric Advanced Life Support (EPALS): 9,358
- European Paediatric Immediate Life Support (EPILS): 4,040
- European Trauma Course (ETC): 3,525
- Generic Instructor Course (GIC): 2,429
- Immediate Life Support (ILS): 30,275
- Neonatal Life Support (NLS): 6,335
- Paediatric Basic Life Support (PBLS): 26,217
- Refresher ALS (RS-ALS): 218
- Refresher BLS (RS-BLS): 115

ERC Courses 2025

ERC courses were conducted in 57 countries, reaching participants in diverse regions worldwide. The largest number of participants was recorded in the Netherlands, Spain, and Greece, showcasing the high demand and widespread impact of ERC's educational programs.

These figures illustrate the commitment of ERC to providing essential life-saving skills and training globally, contributing significantly to improving emergency response capabilities worldwide.

Top 10 Countries by the Numbers of Participants (As per CoSy)

Congratulations



ERC Courses 2025

Summary of Seats (As per CoSy)

In 2025, the ERC organised a wide array of courses across 57 countries, affirming its global role in emergency response education. A total of **211,884** seats were purchased.

The countries with the highest number of seats purchased include Spain, Greece and Qatar. ERC courses were conducted in over 50 countries, underscoring the broad reach and critical importance of its educational efforts. The sustained engagement reflects the organisation's success in promoting emergency preparedness and life-saving knowledge across the globe.

The Top Countries with the Highest Number of Seats Purchased



SPAIN



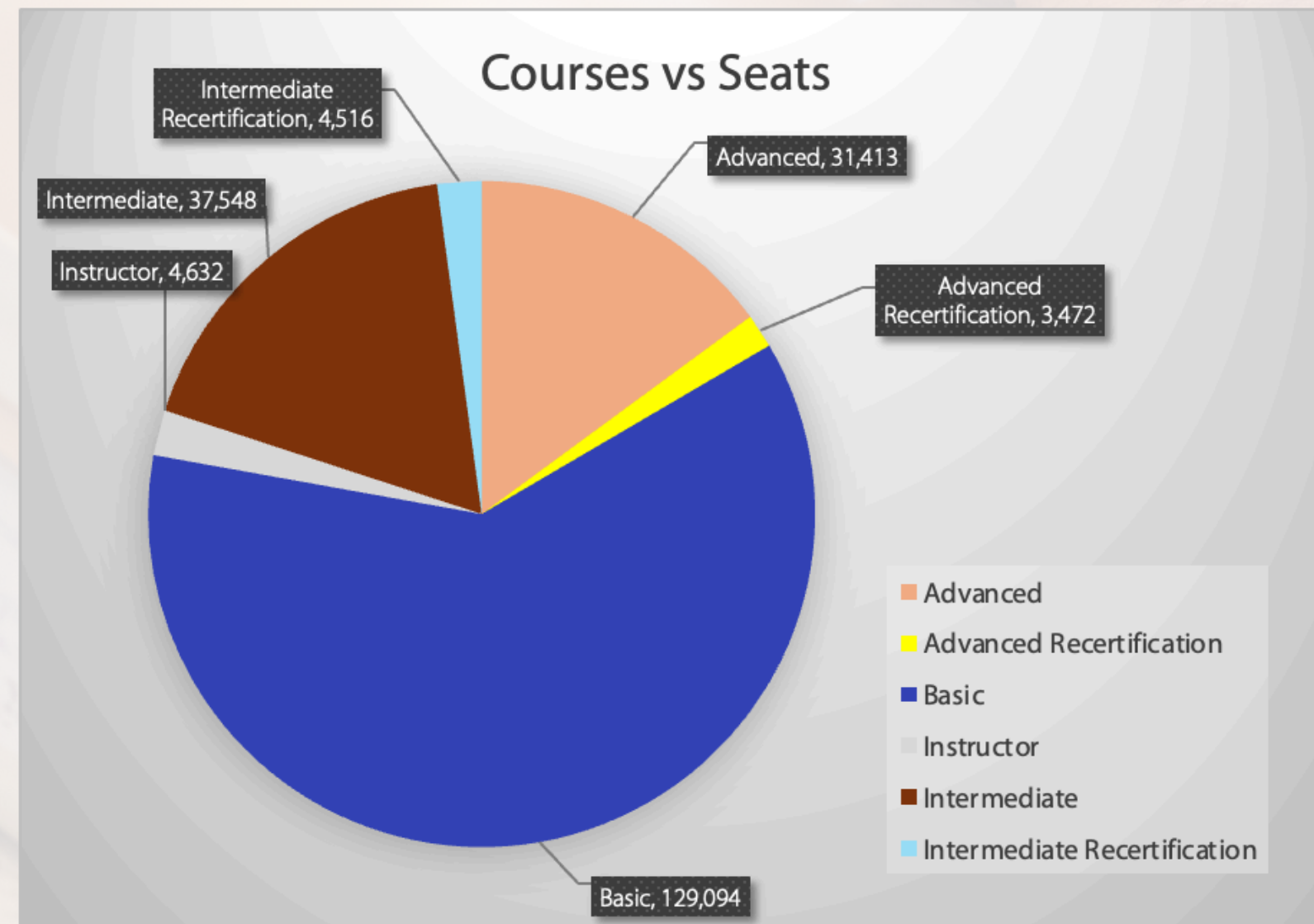
GREECE



QATAR

ERC Courses 2025 Breakdown by Seat Types (As per CoSy)

- Advanced: 31,413 seats sold
- Advanced Recertification: 3,472 seats sold
- Basic: 129,094 seats sold
- Instructor: 4,632 seats sold
- Intermediate: 37,548 seats sold
- Intermediate Recertification: 4,516 seats sold



ERC Courses 2025

Summary of Courses

(As per Courses Based on the ERC Guidelines Using the CoSy)

In 2025, the ERC delivered a total of 44,281 courses across 57 countries, reaffirming its role as a leading provider of emergency care education. The courses span a wide spectrum of specialties, ranging from basic life support to advanced and instructor-level training.

This diversity in training offerings ensures that ERC continues to meet the evolving needs of healthcare providers across all levels of expertise.

Breakdown by Number of Courses

- Advanced Life Support (ALS): 1,633
- Basic Instructor Course (BIC): 1,169
- Basic Instructor Course 2 (BIC2): 194
- Basic Life Support (BLS): 33,194
- BLS Introduction Course I (BLS-intro-I): 2
- Educational Instructor Day (EID): 112
- European Paediatric Advanced Life Support (EPALS): 568
- European Paediatric Immediate Life Support (EPILS): 331
- European Trauma Course (ETC): 176
- Generic Instructor Course (GIC): 126
- GO and Save a Life (GOAL): 117
- Immediate Life Support (ILS): 2,405
- Neonatal Life Support (NLS): 342
- Paediatric Basic Life Support (PBLIS): 3,894
- Refresher ALS (RS-ALS): 10
- Refresher BLS (RS-BLS): 8

ERC Courses 2025

The highest course activity was recorded in the Netherlands, with more than 30% of all ERC courses delivered there. Spain and Greece also showed strong engagement, reflecting continued investment in high-quality emergency training.

ERC's broad course portfolio and extensive international reach in 2025 showcase its dedication to saving lives through standardised and accessible education in resuscitation and emergency care.

Top 10 Countries by Courses Delivered (As per CoSy)

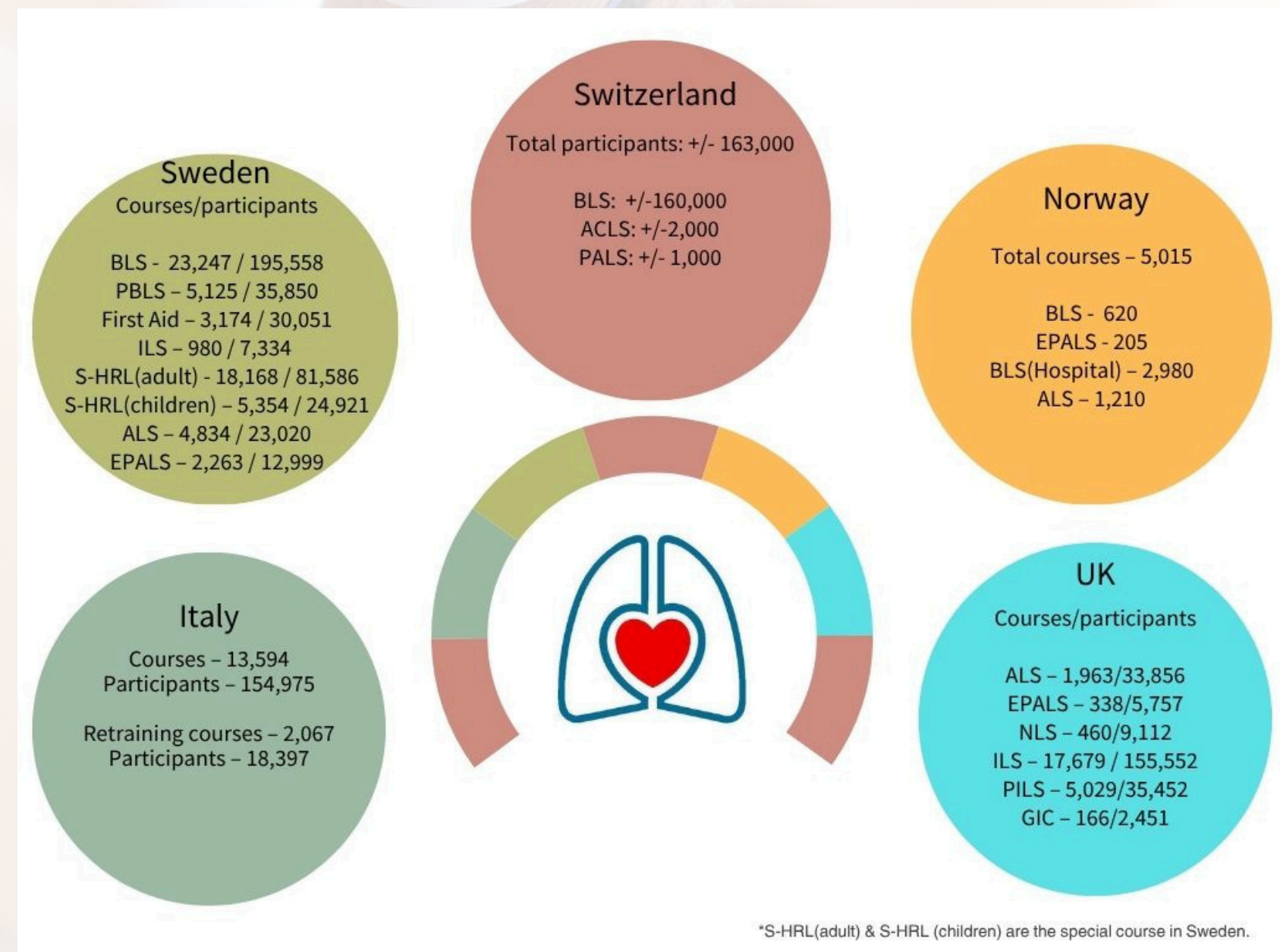
Congratulations

-  1. Netherlands: 27,351 courses
-  2. Spain: 6,660 courses
-  3. Greece: 2,371 courses
-  4. Belgium: 1,019 courses
-  5. Germany: 910 courses
-  6. Ukraine: 754 courses
-  7. Austria: 736 courses
-  8. Portugal: 579 courses
-  9. Qatar: 443 courses
-  10. Switzerland: 438 courses

ERC Courses 2025

Courses Based on the ERC Guidelines But Not Using the CoSy

Not that in all locations or countries, the CoSy system is used to administer courses. However, the courses are based on the ERC Guidelines and are to be considered within the ERC “impact” sphere. Italy, Norway, Sweden & Switzerland (partially in CoSy), and the UK are just a few examples.



ERC

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION

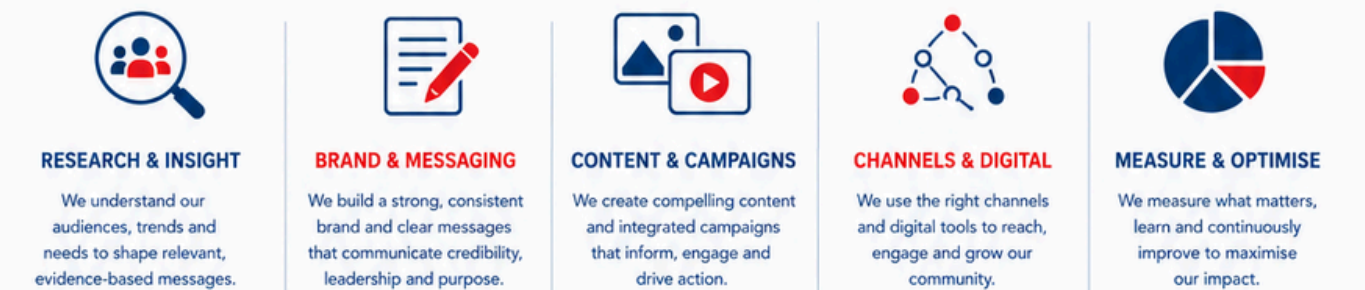
STRATEGIC MARCOM. MEANINGFUL IMPACT.

MARKETING + COMMUNICATIONS
WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE MORE LIVES.

At ERC, our MarCom team drives awareness, engagement and action by amplifying our mission and supporting the resuscitation community across Europe.



HOW WE CREATE IMPACT



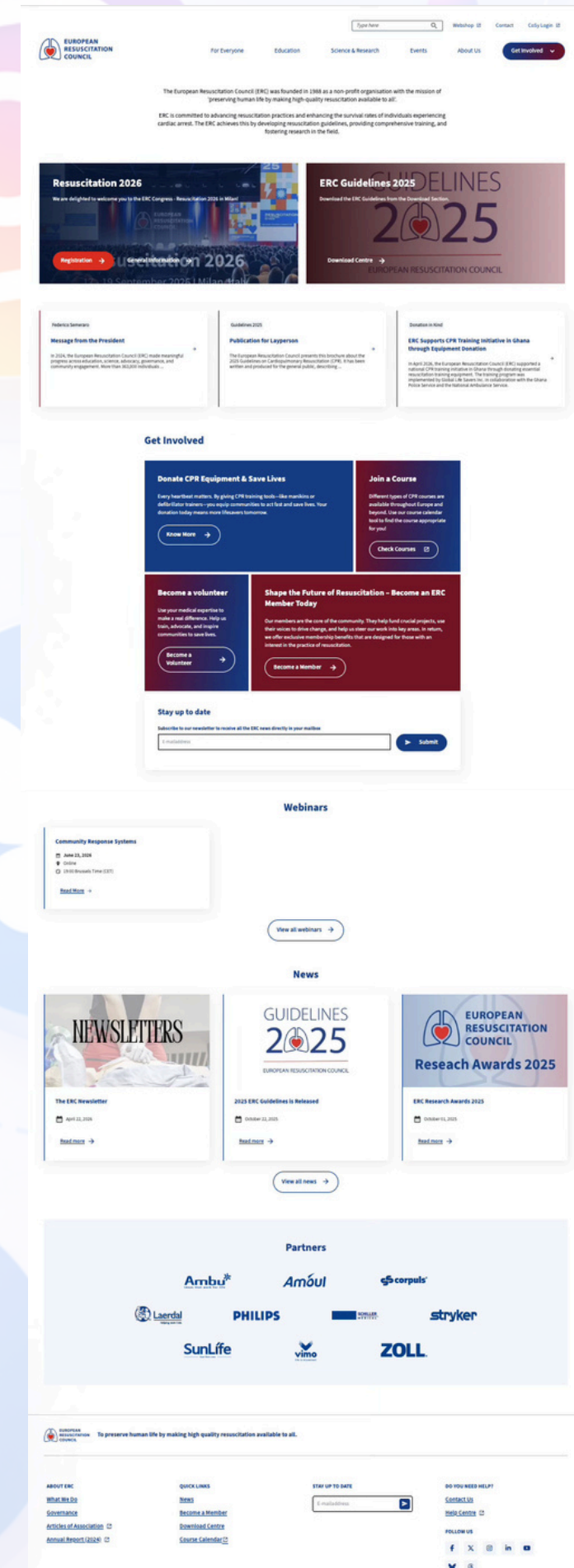
Website Relaunch

The ERC is proud of its website, which was relaunched in October, 2025, featuring a fresh new look, improved functionality, and an enhanced user experience. Designed with our community in mind, the new platform offers easier navigation, better access to educational resources, and streamlined pathways to courses, events, guidelines, and membership information.

At the heart of the relaunched European Resuscitation Council website is a striking new homepage designed to inspire, inform, and engage. With a modern visual identity, dynamic content, and intuitive navigation, visitors can quickly access the most important resources about how to get involved with the ERC, news, webinars, and other information.

With a modern design and optimised performance, the website aims to increase engagement, drive action, and make life-saving resuscitation knowledge more accessible than ever. The redesigned website creates a stronger first impression while making it easier than ever to explore the ERC's mission of saving lives through education, research, and collaboration. Rich colours, clear calls to action, and improved accessibility ensure a seamless experience that encourages users to stay informed, get involved, and take action.

Explore the new ERC website and discover a faster, smarter, and more connected digital experience here www.erc.edu.



Social Media

In 2025, the ERC has organically grown a substantial following across all platforms, with LinkedIn and Instagram performing exceptionally well, gaining nearly 13,000 and 8,500 followers this year.

The communication plans and social media strategies developed in the previous year show a positive impact and boosted its social media reach to approximately 10 million people across all social media platforms.

The launch of new guidelines during the ERC Congress had a huge positive impact, further amplifying engagement and awareness, helping to align with emerging trends and engage a new segment of social media users.



SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

FACEBOOK

Followers: 111.7 K
Views: 6.6 Million



LINKEDIN

Followers: 37.8 K
Impressions: 1.8 Million



X

Followers: 20.7 K
Views: 261.7 K



INSTAGRAM

Followers: 11.9 K
Views: 1.5 Million
Reach: 511.8 K



THREADS (NEW)

Followers: 850



BLUESKY (NEW)

Followers: 884



YOUTUBE

Followers: 35 K
Views: 276.1 K



www.erc.edu

Campaign

Also, in 2025, the European Resuscitation Council successfully executed and channelled numerous collaborative campaigns through its social media channels. The ERC Congress campaign in the new Guidelines 2025 launch content and Get Trained Save Lives were the two most talked-about campaigns during the Year.

Get Trained Save Lives Campaign

Get Trained, Save Lives is one of the most celebrated campaigns run by the ERC in partnership with UEFA to promote basic CPR knowledge among football fans.

The on-site training initiative, which included hands-on training, generated significant interest at major football tournaments such as the Women's EURO, the Europa League, and the Champions League. Additionally, the online campaign reached approximately 1 million people through ERC's social media channels, website, and other communication tools.



ERC Congress

The European Resuscitation Council's digital campaigns surrounding Resuscitation 2025 and the launch of the ERC Guidelines 2025 delivered exceptional visibility and engagement across the global resuscitation community and beyond.

Through coordinated content across ERC digital media channels, the campaign successfully increased awareness, encouraged discussion, and drove traffic to the ERC website and guideline resources.

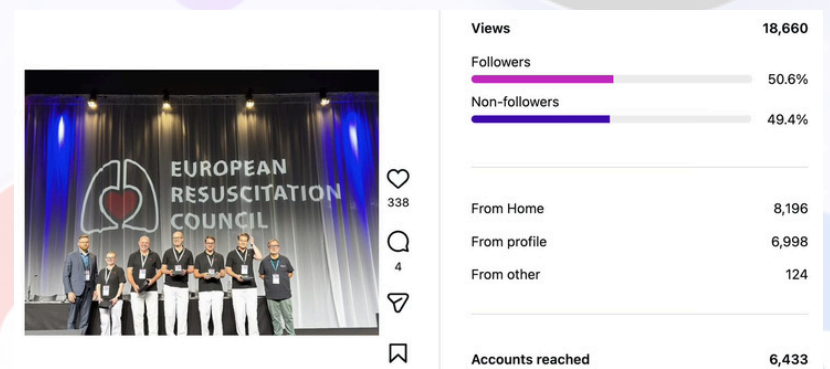
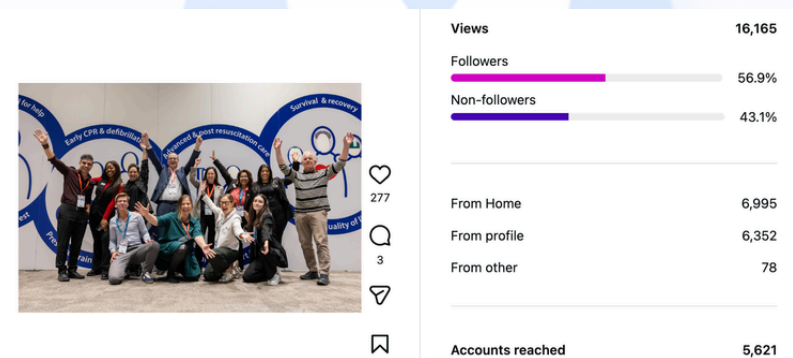
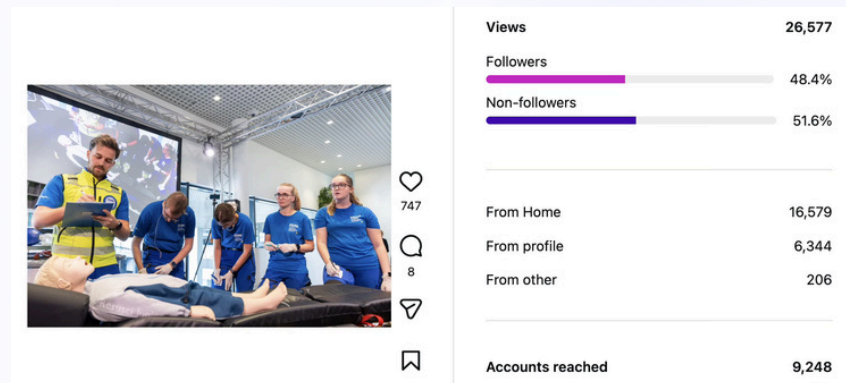
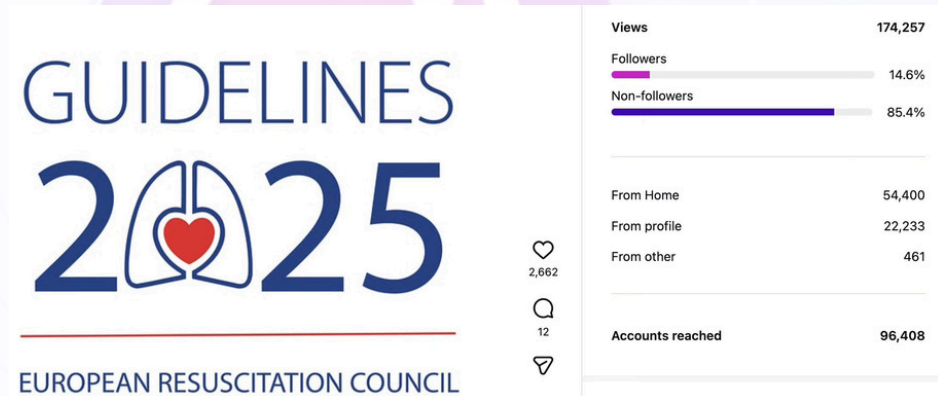
Together, the RESUS25 and ERC Guidelines 2025 campaigns achieved a combined reach of more than 10 million and substantial traffic to ERC digital platforms. The campaigns demonstrated the strength of the ERC's digital communications strategy and reinforced its position as a leading global voice in resuscitation education, science, and advocacy.

By combining world-class scientific content with a comprehensive digital outreach strategy, the ERC ensured that the impact of #RESUS25 and the #ERCGuidelines2025 extended far beyond the congress venue, reaching healthcare professionals and lifesavers worldwide.

ERC Newsletter

In 2025, six general ERC newsletters were published at regular intervals of every two months. The opening rates for these newsletters ranged from 26% to 41%, which is considered quite good by industry standards.

By the end of the year, the ERC General Newsletter had reached over 371,000 readers.



Financial **REPORT**



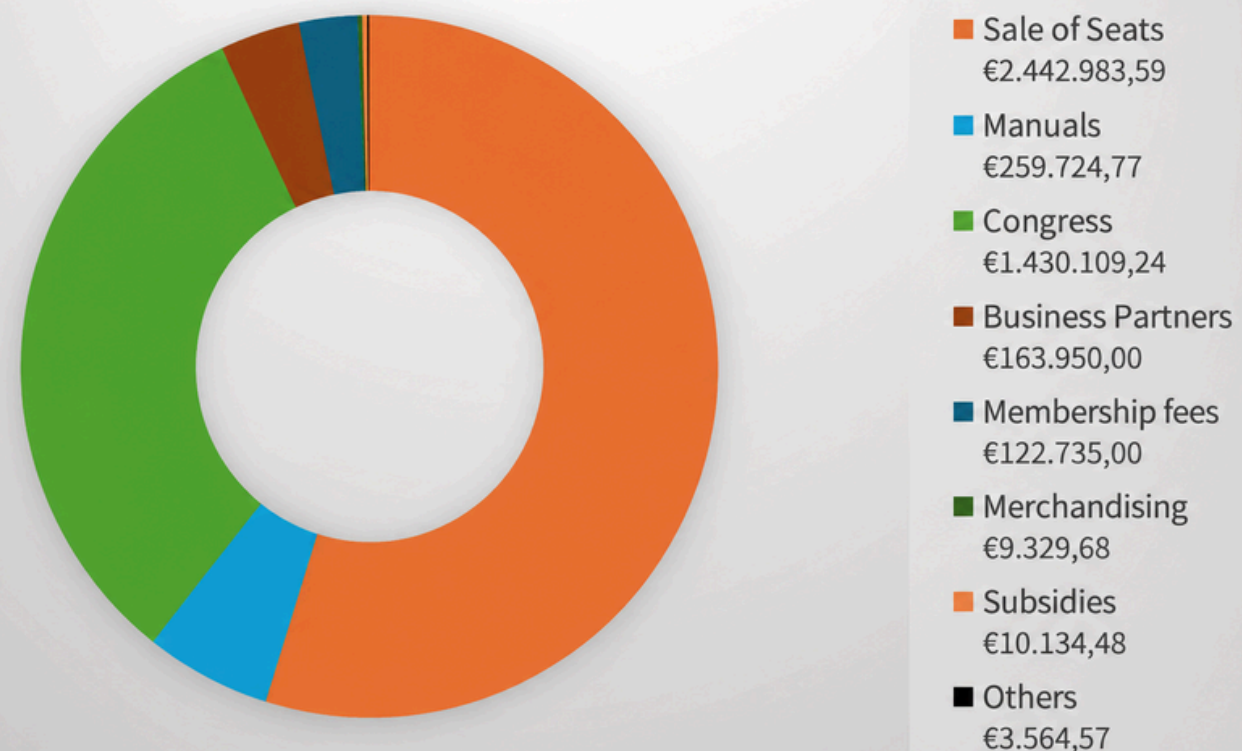
Treasurer's Report

The European Resuscitation Council is a registered entity in Belgium and prepares the accounts in accordance with Belgian GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). The annual accounts are certified by the Statutory Auditor and filed accordingly in the Belgian register.

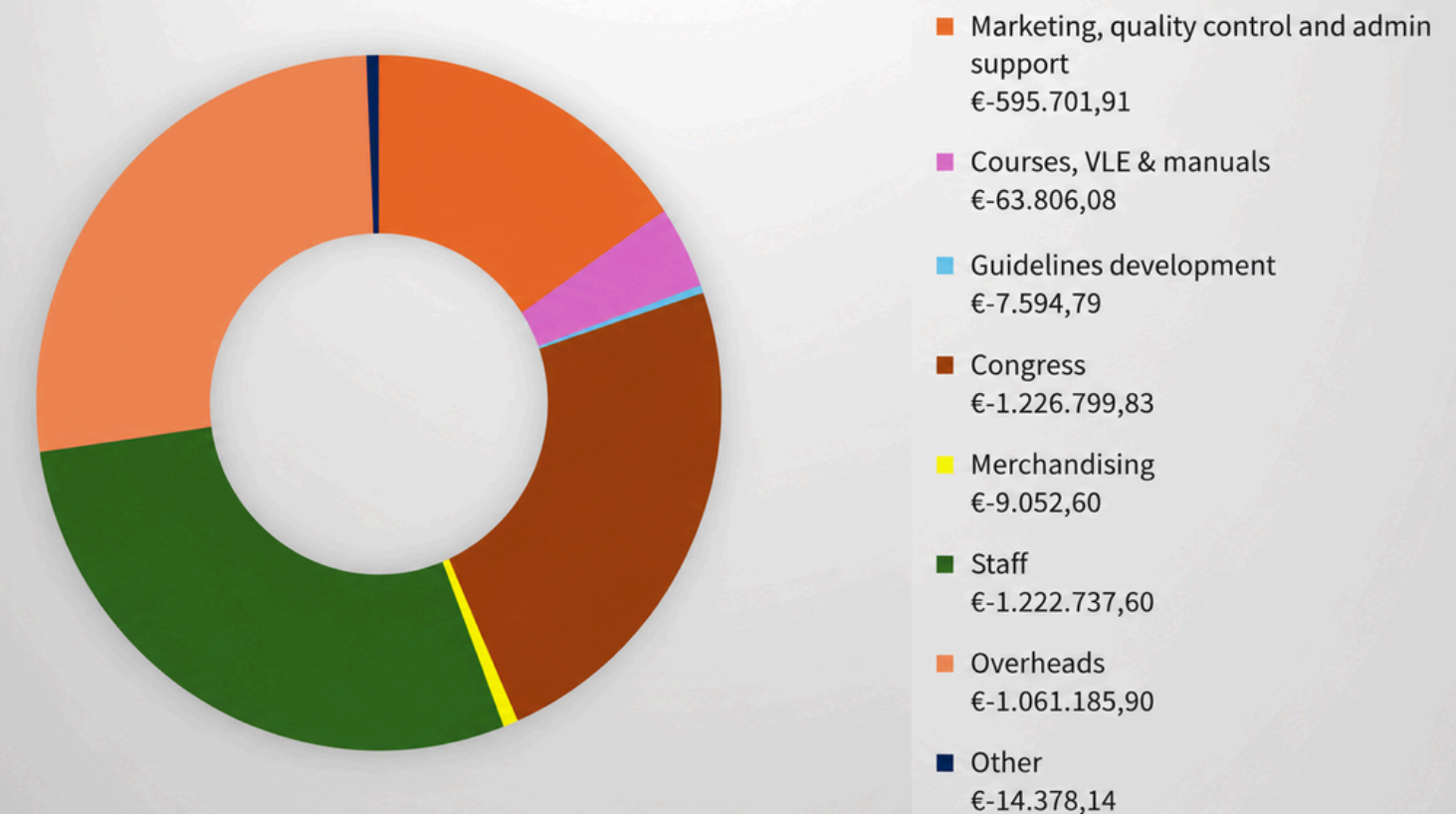
Revenue: Compared to 2024, the overall revenue increased due to stronger Congress income and higher sales of Seats performance.

Expense: On the cost side, we saw an increase in direct costs (Marketing, quality control and admin support, Courses, VLE & manuals, Guidelines development, Congress, Merchandising) but remained proportionate to activity growth. Overall costs were managed, along with strong revenue performance, remaining in line with the budget.

Revenue 2025



Expense 2025



Acknowledgement

As we close another remarkable year, we extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our shared mission.

To our Board members, all the Committee Members, Faculties, Volunteers, Partners, and the many professionals who generously dedicate their time, expertise, and passion—thank you. Your commitment, collaboration, and unwavering support continue to drive our organisation forward and strengthen our impact.

Every achievement highlighted in this report is the result of a collective effort. Together, we have advanced our mission, supported one another, and helped create lasting positive change.

We look forward to building on these successes in the year ahead, united by our shared purpose and commitment to making a difference.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community.



EUROPEAN RESUSCITATION COUNCIL

**European Resuscitation Council VZW
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Galileilaan 11 , 2845 Niel, Belgium**