Dear colleagues and friends,

Our great family met in the wonderful city of Dubrovnik (Croatia) on May 2016 to live together the 13th congress of our Federation.

More than 400 participants arrived from 51 different countries around the world (most from Italy, Turkey and Israel) and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again. A special thanks to my friend Goran Arbanas, local president of the congress, that together with the EFS Executive committee and our PCO AIM made this event not only possible, but really successful.

Four intense days, full of valuable contributions aimed to promote sexual education, sexual rights and sexual health through the “body, mind and culture”. This was the title of the meeting, chosen to represent the multidisciplinary scenery of sexology in both research field and clinical practice. My old friend Salvo Caruso and the Scientific Committee worked hard to offer a new and interesting program to our participants in a view that could integrate biological, psychological and sociological aspects of sexology. Presentations included also very modern topics such as new trends and technological tools in our field: behaviours and resources are changing day by day and our work requires a continuous and laborious update!

As always, EFS wanted to award with our Gold Medals some professionals who had been clearly distinct for their contributes. This year was the turn of Robert Porto, one of the founder of EFS, and Aleksandar Štulhofer for their excellent and valuable careers in the field.

Progress has always been our first aim as European federation of research, and this is the reason why we decided to involve harder our young people. At this regards, I would like to mention our Youth Committee for their precious efforts and commitment. They are the future of our federation and of our beloved sexology.
Furthermore, for the first year, EFS and FI1000 decided to offer some rewards (money and publications).

It was a pleasure to give our prizes to seven young researchers who were evaluated by our Scientific Committee:

**Best Oral Presentation**
- M. Silvaggi (Italy)
- H. Park (South Korea)
- D. Mauro (Italy)
- E. Viozzi (Italy),
- R. De Visser (United Kingdom)

**Best Poster Presentation**
- A. Martins (Portugal)
- K. Jaksik (Croatia)

Congratulation again and I hope that our awards will be a wish for a fruitful career in this field. Best regards to all our members!

The new statute of EFS was approved by the General Assembly in Dubrovnick. The document is available on the EFS website at [http://www.europeansexology.com/files/statutes%202006%20final.pdf](http://www.europeansexology.com/files/statutes%202006%20final.pdf)
The 13th Congress of the European Federation of Sexology that took place in Dubrovnik, Croatia was a success, according to the majority of participants and organizers. The Congress was held in Dubrovnik, a beautiful historical city in southern Croatia. Dubrovnik is the medieval town, sometimes called the pearl of the Adriatic. Some of the scenes of the viral „Games of the Thrones” were filmed here.

Congress Venue was the Valamar Lacroma Hotel, five km from the old city, but with its own beach, where the Gala Dinner (or the Beach Dinner) was organized, with the sun setting into the sea. The Presidential Dinner was organized inside the city walls, in the Sponza palace, a 16th century customs office, later redecorated into an armoury, treasury, bank and school. Today it is the city archive.

During the Dinner each of the invited speakers were given a special gift (a cock warmer), made by the local women from another (colder) Croatian region. The Croatian Association for Sexual Therapy, the local organizer, is proud of hosting a sexology congress, especially since the sexual medicine and sexology is almost non-existent in Croatia. The first course for professionals on sexual counselling and therapy was organized in 2004 (in Dubrovnik!) and the Society was founded in 2007. Today we have only nine licenced sexual therapists in the country. But, nevertheless, we have been very active. It is important to mention that the president of the Republic of Croatia, Ms Kolinda Grabar Kitarović gave auspices to this Congress.

During the congress a joint Croatian-Slovenian symposium was organized, with lecturers from these two countries. We are dealing in the area of sexual therapy with the same problems in both countries, and we have more similarities than differences, so we hope that this joint symposium will not be the last.

In the end I would like to thank all the participants and guests who came to Dubrovnik, who were part of this fantastic endeavour.

Goran Arbanas, Assistant Professor, PhD, MD
President of the Croatian Association for Sexual Therapy
This year in amazing Dubrovnik we had the second EFS Youth Committee Symposium. The first one was in Istanbul and the main topic was “.NET Generation: Sex education and clinical sexology”. This years’ symposium was about “Building best practice in Sexual Health for young people” which was chaired by B.Cuzin and F.M. Nimbi. The youth symposium started with the topic “Young people and Sexual Health: new trends and risk factors among European youth” which was full of interesting and entertaining information with Bronies by Fillippo M. Nimbi who is also the chair of the EFS Youth Committee.

Second topic was “Recreational use of PDE5 inhibitors in young males” which was informative, fun and also showed absorbing and different perspectives and giving detailed information about the misuse of these drugs in youth by Anıl Gündüz.

Third one was “Online sex and relationships: new fragilities of emotional bonds” which gives a beautiful details about tindering, sexting and other online sexual habits of the youth by Marilena Iasevoli with pink and fascinating dress.

Our Maltese knight Nicholas Briffa presented the detailed information regarding Malta and sexuality in Malta as his hot topic was “Youth sexuality: implications for social policy makers and clinical practice”.

Fifth presentation was “Sex and stereotypes: Cultural aspects among young people” by Rayka Kumru which was full of qualitative personally collected data and fluent English and detailed information regarding on youth, culture and contraception in Turkey.

At last but not the least, the sixth presentation was about “Sexual behaviour and education: a cross-sectional study in Romania” via Adrian Costin Calomfirescu which introduced different perspectives about how the education works and helps regarding sexual behaviors.
The European Federation of Sexology’s Gold Medals are awarded to individuals who have made major contribution to the field of sexology within Europe in areas including sexual health, sexual medicine, sexuality education, policy making and politics for more than a decade. This year, the Gold Medals were awarded to two prestigious professionals who presented on very contemporary issues faced in the field of sexology. The first of the recipients of the Gold Medal, Dr Robert Porto, is a Psychiatrist and Gynecologist, and the former President of the European Federation of Sexology. In April, 2007, Dr Porto was awarded the Gold Medal for his lifetime contributions to the field of sexual health by the World Association for Sexual Health.

Dr Aleksandar Stulhofer is a professor of sociology and has led the way of sexuality education in Croatia for over a decade. He has carried out extensive research on topics including sexuality and Internet, social exclusion in Croatia, crime and culture, Internet pornography and sexual socialization of young adults, and behavioural HIV surveillance. His presented on Sex Work as “Dirty Work” at the EFS Congress was admired greatly by the audience.

We congratulate Dr Porto and Dr Stulhofer for being awarded the Gold Medals and send our greatest appreciation and admiration for their tremendous contributions to the field of sexology. May their work set an example for the generations of sexologists to come.
The 13th congress for the European Federation of Sexology was a special moment where many Sexologists from all five continents met to share and discuss their passion for sexology. The city chosen was the mesmerizing Croatian city of Dubrovnik. The intriguing historical walls of the old city reflected the curious interest the participants fostered during the days of the congress.

The Federation is committed not just to promote the development of the sexological field but also to give merit and acknowledge the effort of particular individuals. In this 13th Congress of the European Federation of Sexology six individuals were given prices as a recognition for their work, specifically two posters and four oral presentations. Martins from Portugal won the EFS Grant for his poster titled "EXTRADYADIC INVOLVEMENT IN DATING RELATIONSHIPS: PREVALENCE AND FACTOR STRUCTURE OF THE EXTRADYADIC BEHAVIOR INVENTORY". Add to this, Jaksic from Croatia also won the EFS grant for his poster titled "DISGUST SENSITIVITY, SEXUAL BELIEFS AND ORIENTATION TO SOCIAL DOMINATION IN FEMALE BDSM AND NON-BDSM PRACTITIONERS".

Following this presentation, four other individuals were given prices for their effort in the oral presentations. Silvaggi from Italy was given the F1000 price for his contribution in the sexual dysfunctions field named "IS "UNCONSUMMATED MARRIAGE" STILL AN APPROPRIATE TERM? A SNAPSHOT OF REALITY". Park from South Korea was also given the F1000 price for his contribution that came with the title "DISCONTINUATION OF DAPOXETINE TREATMENT IN PATIENTS WITH PREMATURE EJACULATION: A 2-YEAR PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY". Mauro from Italy won the EFS grant for her oral presentation titled "SEXUAL ATTACHMENT OF ANORGASMIC WOMEN: ROLE OF OXYTOCIN". Finally Viozzi from Italy was also given the EFS grant for her research titled "SENSOLOGIST TRAINING COULD HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON ATTITUDES TOWARD LG MARRIAGE AND PARENTING?". Well done to all these sexology professionals for their effort.

Last but not least, we take this opportunity to thank all the participants for their participation. It was an opportunity to show the world that sexology is a growing and vibrant professional and scientific field contributing to the well-being of fellow humans.
MEMORIES FROM DUBROVNIK
The exam for ‘EFS-ESSM Certified Psycho-Sexologists’ took place in Madrid, 3 February 2016. 91 applicants successfully passed the exam and their name and country are publically available on: http://www.essm.org/filestore/Bilder/user_upload/pdf/certifications_lists/ECPS_2016.pdf
The ESSM and EFS collaborate to guarantee and promote the highest standards of healthcare in the field of Sexology and Sexual Medicine. For these propose educational program and qualification exam were set-up. For the first in history, in 2014 the ESSM congress was joint by the EFS congress and qualification examination for mark of excellence is set-up in collaboration between the ESSM and the EFS.

Eligibility criteria
The candidate eligible to take the exam must demonstrate expertise in psycho-sexology and obtain proof of:
- Psychology degree or
- Psychiatry degree or
- MD degree with additional psychotherapy training
- Post graduate training in sexology (providing certificate) including relevant supervised experience of at least 2 years (providing 2 letters of recommendation according to preformat).

The EPSA committee has the responsibility to assess eligibility of applicants to take the exam, and the final decision for each applicant has to be approved by the majority of the committee members. All applicants will receive an answer concerning their eligibility to take the exam, approximately 30 days after the application deadline.

Examination format
Competency on the curriculum shall be assessed through a written exam consisting of 100 multiple choice questions. For the application process visit www.essm.org

Preparation material and Preparation course
The ESSM and EFS Syllabus on Clinical Sexology (ed) Kirana P, Tripodi F, Reisman Y, Porst H -2013, Medix, Amsterdam is the preparation material endorsed by the EPSA. Candidates are advised to select additional preparation material, according to their own preferences and needs. It is the candidates’ responsibility to choose the study materials that will best prepare them for the exam.

Also, an intensive 3 day preparation course will be held just before the exam. Candidates that would like more information on the preparation course may visit the ESSM website at www.essm.org
Comments to the article: “Conceptualization of the Sexual Response Models in Men: Are there Differences Between Sexually Functional and Dysfunctional Men?”
Connaughton, McCabe, Karantzas.

The article focuses on how the representation of the human sexual response is significantly changed during the 20th century and particularly in the last decade. Masters and Johnson were the first to study this phenomenon, identifying the variations in human sexual tension in four linear phases: excitement, plateau, orgasm and resolution.

Afterwards, Kaplan and Lief modified Masters and Johnson’s model including “desire” as initial phase.

Instead, Basson et al. in 2005 introduced the concept of a "circular" response cycle in women, as opposed to the more 'linear' one that describes male sexuality, in which desire leads to arousal as a prelude to sexual activity. Many women report “multiple reasons for initiating or agreeing to sex”. She also made a distinction between “spontaneous desire” (innate drive) versus “responsive desire” (which is contextual and relational) with the aim of highlighting the importance of the multiple components that affect sexuality, that are certainly not limited only to physiological changes.

For many years these models, both linear and circular, have been used to describe human sexual response, and to identify in which phase of the cycle is collocated the patient's problem.

The recent literature considers that the linear model has some limitations, in particular, it does not seem fully suitable for describing the male sexual dysfunctions (MSDs).

The empirical data documenting a possible relationship of the circular pattern also in the male population are sketchy, which is why the authors of this article have decided to make assessments to check whether and how much of the Basson model can also represent the male sexual response, in the presence or absence of dysfunction.

There is a lack of empirical data about a possible relationship between the circular model and male sexual response, for this reason, the authors explored which between the two models best represents male sexual response for men with MSDs and sexually functional men.

To collect data, the authors used different standardized questionnaires, self-administered through an on-line website. A total of 573 men responded the survey which investigated demographic information, sexual functioning, and components of models of the linear and circular models of sexual functioning.

The interesting results showed that a modified version of the circular model better fit for the two groups demonstrating the complexity of human sexual response.

Indeed modern studies reported that sexual response is influenced by many factors including individual psychological and biological factors, stage of life cycle, mental health and relationship satisfaction; also data collected with brain imaging technics showed a complex network of cognitive, motivational, emotional, and autonomic components during sexual arousal. This kind of studies could be helpful as well to better define the MSDs in the scientific community considering a more comprehensive multifactorial analysis.

Marilena Iasevoli
John Gagnon

John Gagnon, a sociologist who shifted the ground in sex research by proposing that sexual behavior could better be understood by looking at social forces rather than biology or psychology, died on Feb. 11 at his home in Palm Springs, Calif. He was 84. Professor Gagnon (pronounced GAN-yun) established his career as a researcher at the Institute for Sex Research (now the Kinsey Institute) at Indiana University in the 1960s, and in the 1990s carried out a comprehensive survey of sexual behavior in the United States. He saw human sexuality as a social construct rather than a primal urge or fixed identity rooted in the psyche.

In “Sexual Conduct: The Social Sources of Human Sexuality,” written with his fellow Kinsey researcher William Simon and published in 1973, and in the essays collected in “An Interpretation of Desire” from 2004, he explored the notion of sexual “scripts” written, so to speak, by political, economic and social forces, and sexual behavior as a kind of performance.

He has written and edited some 15 books and over 100 articles.

John Gagnon was a recognize Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook where he taught and researched from 1968 to 1998. John Gagnon was an NIMH Post-Doctoral Fellow in 1972-3.

In 1981, he was made a fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex and subsequently received the SSSS lifetime achievement award for research into sexuality and was President of the International Academy of Sex Research 1987-8.

John Gagnon was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Mr. Gagnon was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters in 2006 from the Glasgow Caledonian University.

John Gagnon has been on the board of many professional and scientific committees connected with the study of human sexual conduct including the Presidents Commission on Pornography.

Rolf Gindorf

Rolf Gindorf died on March 26, 2016 at the age of 76. Dr. Gindorf first worked as a translator, then he started on his sexological career, studying sexual science, sociology, and psychology at the University of Düsseldorf, at the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, San Francisco (CA), and at Maimonides University, Miami (FL; Ph.D. in Clinical Sexology). He was a Clinical Assistant Professor at the American Academy of Clinical Sexologists, Orlando (FL, U.S.A.).

He worked as director at the Institut für Lebens- und Sexualberatung (Institute for Sexual/Gay/AIDS-HIV Counseling) of the German Society for Social-Scientific Sexuality Research (DGSS) in Düsseldorf. He was Founding President (1971), President, Vice President, and now is Honorary President of the DGSS.

His main fields of interest were: gay and bisexual research and counseling; sexual counseling and therapy; AIDS/HIV prevention and counseling; theoretical foundations of sexology; internet presentation of sexual science and counseling.

He was the author and (co-)editor of more than 60 sexological publications, including eight books and two book series.

International activities, memberships, functions, and honors include: Scientific Advisor, Shanghai Sexology Research Center; World Association for Sexual Health (WAS); European Federation of Sexology (EFS); Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS); Sexology Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS); Editorial Boards, Journal of Homosexuality and 'Sexuality and Culture'; International Scientific Committees, XIII. (1997, Valencia) and XIV. (1999, Hong Kong) World Congress of Sexology as well as 6. Congress of the European Federation of Sexology (2002, Limassol/Cyprus).

He was honored with German sexology's most prestigious award: “the Magnus Hirschfeld Medal”, the award document read: "The German Society for Social-Scientific Sexuality Research (DGSS) is proud to award its Magnus Hirschfeld Medal for Sexual Reform to Rolf Gindorf. Over the past four decades, Rolf Gindorf has been showing exemplary and highly successful commitment to the cause of sexual reform in Germany. With the GFSS and DGSS, he has founded two sexological research societies, and with the DGSS Institute he has created a scientifically based sexual counseling body recognized all over Germany. (...) For many years he has also been sitting on various political committees to improve the social integration of gays and lesbians. Altogether Rolf Gindorf has been contributing essentially towards institutionalizing social-scientific sexuality research and professional gay counseling in Germany. Today, on the occasion of the XVI. Conference of Social Scientific Sexuality Research at Lüneburg University, we honor Rolf Gindorf for 33 years of pioneering sexological work by awarding him the Magnus Hirschfeld Medal for Outstanding Service to Sexual Reform.

Lüneburg, June 27, 2004:

Prof. Dr. Gunter Runkel (President) --- Prof. Dr. Karla Etschenberg (Vice President)"