

**BELGRADE**

**APRIL 2-4, 2025**



# EBVS Congress 2025

**Shaping the future of veterinary specialization  
in Europe and beyond**

A platform for insightful dialogue, collaborative exchange  
and meaningful engagement

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## Final Programme

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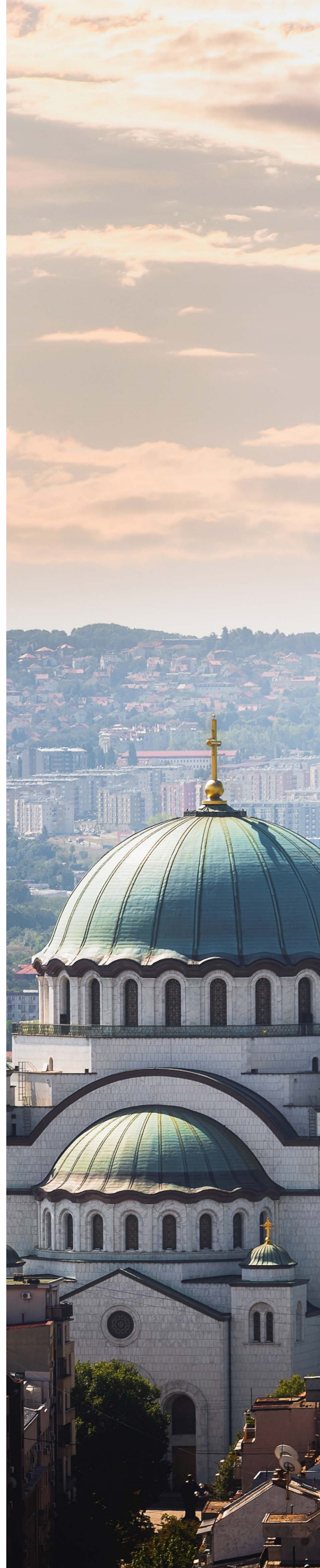
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GENERAL INFORMATION





# WELCOME LETTER

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that I extend my warmest welcome to each of you to the inaugural European Board of Veterinary Specialization (EBVS) Congress. Set to take place from the 2nd to the 4th of April, 2025, in the vibrant city of Belgrade, Serbia, this historic event marks a significant milestone in our collective journey toward advancing veterinary specialization in Europe.

As the President of EBVS, I am particularly thrilled to convene this congress, which promises to serve as a platform for insightful dialogue, collaborative exchange, and meaningful engagement among officers from all EBVS Colleges, esteemed members of the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe (FVE), representatives of the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE), and many other stakeholders from the private sector.

The congress program has been meticulously crafted to address a diverse range of pertinent topics, encompassing both the challenges and opportunities in veterinary specialization. Our esteemed keynote speakers will shed light on pivotal issues such as the evolving landscape of veterinary specialization from the perspective of colleges, the pivotal roles played by EAEVE and FVE in fostering excellence in our field, and the imperative engagement of our universities in Europe.

Furthermore, the congress will feature a series of enriching workshops designed to delve into crucial aspects of governance, financial management, communication, IT support, resident well-being, credentialing, education, and examination. These interactive sessions will provide invaluable insights and best practices that are essential for advancing the standards and efficacy of veterinary specialization across Europe.

I invite each of you to actively participate in this congress, lending your expertise, experiences, and perspectives to the collective dialogue. Together, we can forge stronger collaborations, foster innovation, and drive positive change within our profession.

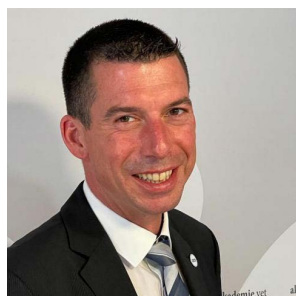
Belgrade, with its rich history, cultural diversity, and warm hospitality, provides an ideal backdrop for this momentous gathering. I am confident that the city's charm and allure will enhance our congress experience, leaving us with lasting memories and meaningful connections.

In closing, I extend my sincerest gratitude to all those who have contributed to the planning and organization of this congress, as well as to our sponsors and partners for their generous support. Together, let us embark on this journey of discovery, collaboration, and advancement as we strive to shape the future of veterinary specialization in Europe.

I eagerly anticipate welcoming you to Belgrade for what promises to be a truly memorable and impactful EBVS Congress. Warm regards,

*Heiko Nathues*

*President European Board of Veterinary Specialization*





## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

### EBVS Executive Committee



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Heiko Nathues  
(Switzerland), ECPHM



**Senior Vice President**  
Zoe Polizopoulou  
(Greece), ECVCP



**Vice President**  
Raphaël Guatteo  
(France), ECBHM



**Treasurer**  
Amanda Boag  
(UK), ECVECC



**Secretary**  
Gonçalo Da Graça  
Pereira  
(Portugal), ECAWBM

### EBVS Staff



**CEO**  
Julie Rosser  
(Austria), ECVS



**Secretariat:**  
Areti Kesisoglou  
(Greece)



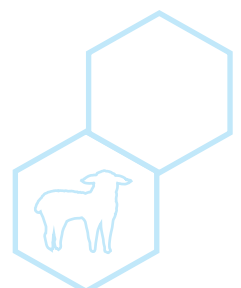
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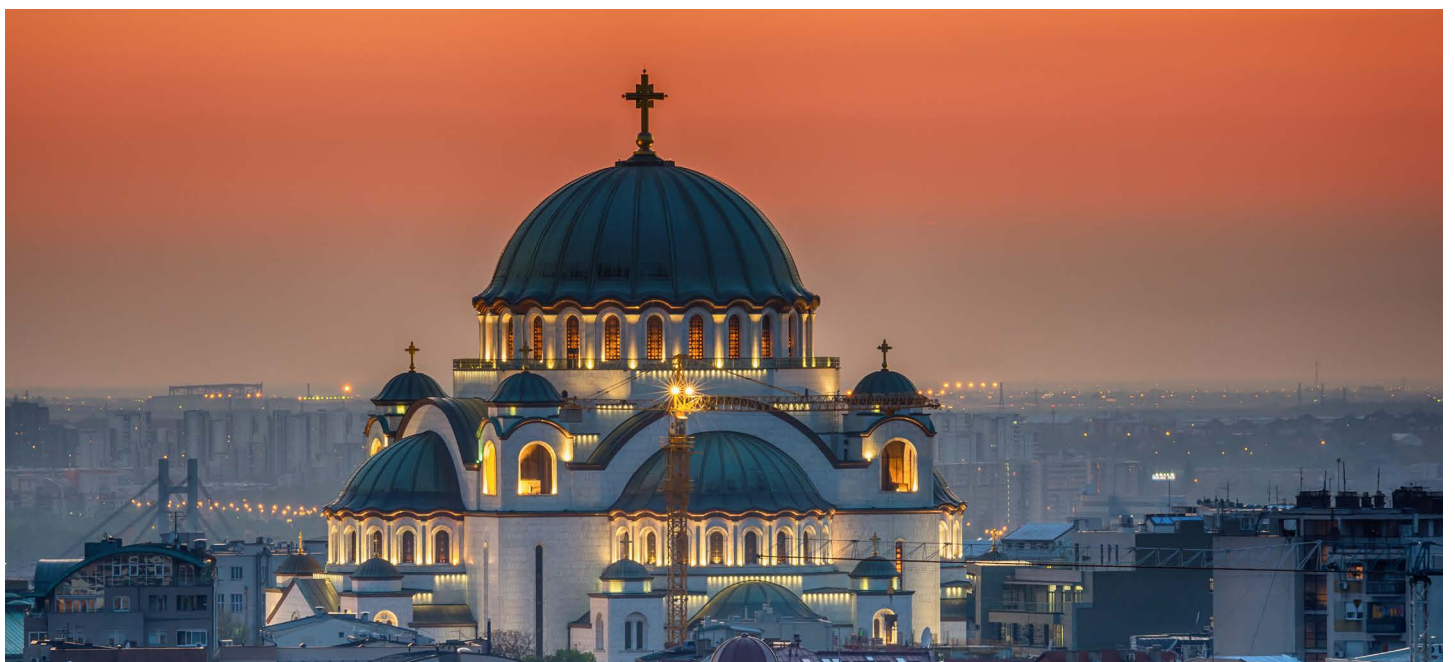
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# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### Dr. Javier Francisco Dominguez-Orive

Secretariat General of the European Commission

#### **"Knowledge, skills and competencies for veterinarians in politics and official public sector posts"**

*Keynote Session I: Challenges with Veterinary Medicine & Specialisation from stakeholders' perspective*



WEDNESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025  
13.30-15.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

Dr. Javier Francisco Dominguez-Orive has university degrees in Veterinary and Food Science and Technology from the University of León in Spain. He also holds a master's degree in Food Science and Technology from the University of Ghent (Belgium) and a Master in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom.

Until 2018, he was employed by the Food Standards Agency in the United Kingdom, where he was Veterinary Director and Head of the Science and Evidence division. Since 2018 he is working for the European Commission in Brussels, where he started in the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety working on animal health and animal welfare; later he moved to the unit dedicated to the multilateral relationships, involved in work related to Codex Alimentarius, WHO and WTO.

Nowadays, he works for the Secretariat General of the European Commission, on topics related to agriculture, One Health, food safety and animal welfare.

#### **ABSTRACT**

Veterinarians play a vital role in shaping policies and strategies that address animal health, public health, environmental and agri-food sustainability. With their unique expertise, veterinarians are increasingly called to contribute to politics and official public sector roles, such as positions within the European Commission, the Council or the European Parliament. To excel in these roles, a comprehensive set of knowledge, skills, and competencies is essential.

This abstract explores the multidisciplinary competencies required for veterinarians in political and public sector contexts. These include a robust understanding of veterinary science, public health, and One Health principles, complemented by skills in policymaking, strategic communication, and stakeholder engagement. Additionally, competencies in leadership, regulatory frameworks, crisis management, and cross-sector collaboration are critical for influencing policies that align with scientific evidence and societal needs.

As specialists, veterinarians must also be adept at navigating complex legislative landscapes, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and addressing global challenges such as antimicrobial resistance, food security, and climate change. The European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS) underscores the importance of developing these capabilities to prepare veterinarians for impactful careers in political and public sector roles. This focus aligns with the broader mission of enhancing the profession's contribution to societal health, safety, and welfare.

By integrating veterinary expertise with skills in governance and public administration, the veterinary profession can contribute to innovative solutions for global challenges, demonstrating its indispensability in the interconnected fields of health and policy.



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## Dr. Ulrich Herzog

Head of Section III Consumer Policy and Consumer Health  
Federal Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care, and Consumer Protection

### **“One Health: challenges & opportunities for veterinary specialists”**

*Keynote Session I: Challenges with Veterinary Medicine & Specialisation from stakeholders' perspective*



WEDNESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025  
13.30-15.00

## BIOSKETCH

Dr. Ulrich Herzog studied veterinary medicine at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Vienna. He completed his diploma in 2001 and his doctorate in 2011. From 1999 worked in the office of the Dean of Studies at the VMU Vienna.

In mid-2001 he became a consultant for veterinary issues in the market department of the Austrian Chamber of Agriculture.

In March 2003 he moved to the cabinet of the then Minister of Health. He remained a member of the Cabinet until the end of 2008.

From June 2004 he was appointed Head of Consumer Health and Veterinary Affairs at the Ministry of Health. This area covers the topics of food safety, animal health and animal welfare as well as genetic engineering issues.

Since December 2020, Dr. Herzog is the Head of Section III Consumer Policy and Consumer Health. He still holds this position today.

Since 2005 he has been a member of the CVO Council Working Groups of the EU as Head of the Austrian Veterinary Administration and the Austrian delegate to the World Animal Health Organization (WOAH). He has been Vice-President of the Regional Commission for Europe at the WOAH since 2014 and Vice Chair of the European Commission of the Global Forum of Transboundary animal diseases (GFTads).

He was a member or President of the European Foot-and-Mouth Commission at the FAO

He has been a member of the EFSA Management Board since 2020.

He is a member of the supervisory board of the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety and deputy Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna and also Member of the Supervisory Board of the Consumerinformation organisation (VKI).

Dr. Herzog is married and has two children, aged 16 and 14.

## ABSTRACT

One Health is an integrated approach that views the health of humans, animals, and the environment as inseparably linked. It has been promoted by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and is anchored in the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022-2026). Veterinarians play a key role in this system as they operate at the intersection of animal health, public health, and environmental protection. The key objectives of this concept and the tasks of veterinary specialist include:

**Combating Zoonotic Diseases:** Zoonotic diseases are infections that can be transmitted between animals and humans. Veterinarians monitor and control disease outbreaks in animals to prevent their transmission to humans.

**Food Safety and Veterinary Inspection:** Veterinarians ensure that food of animal origin is safe for consumption by monitoring hygiene in agricultural production, processing, and distribution.

**Combating Antimicrobial Resistance:** Veterinarians advocate for the responsible use of antibiotics in livestock farming and promote alternative disease prevention strategies.

**Environmental Protection and Sustainability:** Veterinarians contribute to the development of sustainable agricultural practices and advise farmers on reducing negative environmental impacts.

**One Health requires close cooperation between different disciplines.** Veterinarians often work with human health professionals, environmental scientists, epidemiologists, and policymakers to develop comprehensive health strategies.

One Health is a crucial approach to minimizing global health risks and creating sustainable solutions. Veterinarians play a key role in this movement, contributing to the protection of humans, animals, and the environment. To successfully implement the One Health approach, increased political and financial support is necessary.



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS




## Prof. Petra Winter

President of the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE)

### **“The role of EAEVE in fostering veterinary specialisation in Europe”**

*Keynote Session II: The role of EAEVE & FVE in fostering Veterinary Specialization in Europe*

 THURSDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025  
08.30-10.00

## BIOSKETCH

Rector of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna (Vetmeduni Vienna)

### Education

- 2005 Diplome of the European College for Bovine Health Management
- 2003 Habilitation for Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology in Cloven-hoofed Animals
- 1997 Veterinary Physics Examination
- 1992 Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine
- 1984–1991 Diploma Program Veterinary Medicine

### Professional experience

- Since 12/2016 - Rector of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
- 06–12/2016 - Interim Rector of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
- 09/2010–06/2017 - Vice-Rector for Study Affairs and Clinical Veterinary Medicine at the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
- 01/2015–03/2016 - Deputy Director of the Institute of Public Veterinary Affairs
- 2010 - Deputy Head of Veterinary Division the Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES)
- 2008–2010 - Director of the Institute of Veterinary Medicine; Studies by the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) in Mödling
- seit 2003 - Ao. Univ. Prof. at the Clinic for Ruminants of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna; twice voted “Teacher of the Year” during this time (2006, 2007), lecturer to date
- 1994–2008 - Head of the working group Udder Health/Milk Laboratory at the Clinic for Ruminants of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
- 1994–2003 - University assistant at the II Medical Clinic of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
- 1992–1994 - Freelance veterinarian at different large animal practices

### Memberships in Supervisory and Advisory Bodies

President at BIOS Science Austria

Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees at Bank Austria Foundation for Science and Research at the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna

President at EAEVE – European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education

Curator at Forster-Steinberg-Foundation

Member of the Board of Trustees at OeAWI (Austrian Agency for Research Integrity)

Shareholder representative at WSC (Wolf Science Center)

Member of the Board of Trustees at WWTF (Vienna Science and Technology Fund)

1st Vice President at “Gesellschaft der Freunde der Veterinärmedizinischen Universität Wien”

## ABSTRACT

The European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and its European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training (ESEVT) aim to promote quality and excellence in veterinary education across Europe. Through accreditation, ESEVT ensures that Veterinary Educational Establishments (VEEs) provide a training which allows the acquisition of all Day One Competences (D1C) by all students, as outlined in Annex 2 of the ESEVT SOP (<https://www.eaeve.org/esevt/sop>).

These Competences represent the minimum requirements for veterinary graduates to begin their professional careers safely and effectively. However, D1C are different from the advanced competences acquired through additional practice, postgraduate education, and specialised training.

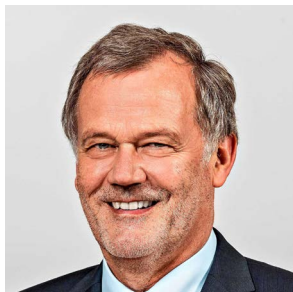
While ESEVT primarily evaluates how VEEs deliver D1C, the accreditation process also examines the presence of diplomates, the provision of advanced postgraduate programmes (PhDs, internships, residencies), and continuing education. These components, described in detail by the VEEs in Area 10 of the Self-Evaluation Report and the Indicators table, are critical to fostering veterinary specialisation and addressing societal needs.

EAEVE collaborates with the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE), the International Veterinary Students' Association (IVSA), and the European Board for Veterinary Specialization (EBVS) within the European Coordinating Committee on Veterinary Training (ECCVT) to harmonise approaches and define future competences, promoting alignment between academia, the profession, and veterinary specialists.

In addition, EAEVE works with Veterinary Continuing Education in Europe (VetCEE), which accredits national and international continuing education programmes to support the mutual recognition of Continuing Professional Development across Europe.

EAEVE also works in partnership with the IVSA, engaging with students to inform them about career opportunities and the evolving landscape of veterinary specialisation. Together, EAEVE and FVE promote lifelong learning and professional development for veterinarians across Europe.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS




### Dr. Siegfried Moder

President of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE)

#### **“Enhancing Communication between FVE, specialists & the veterinary profession”**

*Keynote Session II: The role of EAEVE & FVE in fostering Veterinary Specialization in Europe*

 THURSDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025  
08.30-10.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

Dr. Siegfried Moder, born in 1955 in Bavaria, Germany, is a renowned veterinarian with over 40 years of experience. After earning his degree and completing his dissertation at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, he established a mixed veterinary practice in Steingaden in 1985, specializing in herd health and dairy cattle quality management. He currently serves as President of the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) and the Bundesverband Praktizierender Tierärzte e.V. (Bpt) and holds various other leadership roles in German veterinary organizations. Dr. Moder is also a mentor at LMU Munich and an advocate for professional development in the veterinary field.

#### **ABSTRACT**

Effective communication between the whole veterinary community, including academia, specialists and veterinary students, and the different organisations involved is crucial for advancing cohesive, high-quality veterinary medicine across Europe. Drawing on insights from FVE's third survey of the veterinary profession in Europe, this presentation identifies current challenges in aligning communication channels and highlights opportunities to strengthen collaboration.

The European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training (ESEVT), which accredits veterinary teaching establishments and the European Coordination Committee on Veterinary Training (ECCVT) has laid a strong foundation for coordination on veterinary education across the veterinary community and for advancing educational standards. Building on ESEVT's and ECCVT's efforts, this presentation emphasizes the importance of developing mechanisms to ensure veterinary education keeps being aligned with market needs. It also works on clearly defining the different levels of veterinary education—from undergraduate and postgraduate to specialization and middle-tier education and training. Establishing distinct pathways for each level ensures that educational programs are better aligned with market demands and that veterinarians across Europe are equipped to meet the complex needs of modern veterinary medicine.

Key initiatives include creating structured channels for feedback, establishing forums for sharing specialist insights, and improving access to resources for general practitioners delivering specialized care. By enhancing communication between FVE, specialists, and educational bodies, we aim to support a veterinary workforce that is both versatile and well-prepared for current and future demands.

Ultimately, enhancing communication across the whole profession, refining educational pathways, and aligning training outcomes with professional needs will support a veterinary workforce that is both versatile and well-prepared for current and future demands, and which can address the evolving challenges of veterinary medicine in Europe.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS




### Prof. Klaus Osterrieder

President of the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover

#### **"The pros & cons of specialization in veterinary faculties"**

*Keynote Session III: Engagement of Universities in Veterinary Specialization*

 THURSDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025  
13.30-15.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

Professor Dr. Klaus Osterrieder grew up on a family-run dairy farm in Bavaria. He initially studied agricultural sciences for two semesters before studying veterinary medicine at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. He obtained his doctorate in 1993 and habilitated in virology in 1997.

He then worked as a group leader at the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute on the island of Riems until 2002 and as an Associate Professor of Virology at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University in the USA until 2007. In 2007, he was appointed Professor of Virology at Cornell. To date, he has been associated with Cornell University through an associate professorship.

At the end of 2007, he accepted an appointment at the Department of Veterinary Medicine at the Freie Universität Berlin. In Berlin, Osterrieder took over as head of the Institute of Virology in 2007 and successfully expanded it.

From 2011 to 2013, Osterrieder championed the interests of the Department of Veterinary Medicine in Berlin for two years as Vice Dean for Research and was Director of the Graduate School ZIBI - Center of Infection Biology and Immunity in Berlin for six years from 2014 to 2020. In 2020, he moved to Hong Kong for two and a half years and headed the Jockey Club of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences of the City University of Hong Kong as Dean.

Despite the adverse circumstances during the pandemic and the National Security Law in Hong Kong, he established an accredited veterinary education program during this time, among other things.

#### **ABSTRACT**

The European Board of Veterinary Specialization (EBVS) plays a crucial role in advancing specialist veterinary education and directly supports university programs across Europe. By setting rigorous standards for specialization, the EBVS ensures that veterinary professionals receive the highest level of training and expertise in their respective fields. Its certification process fosters excellence primarily in clinical practice, but also in research and teaching, thus significantly improving the standards of veterinary care and education.

Veterinary universities generally and TiHo specifically benefit from the EBVS through its support in curriculum development, professional training, and accreditation of residency programs. By integrating EBVS-certified specialists, currently 26 at TiHo, into research and teaching positions, we strengthen the academic and clinical capabilities at universities. Students directly benefit from access to cutting-edge knowledge and hands-on experience, resulting in a better learning environment that bridges the gap between theoretical education and practical application. EBVS also promotes research and innovation in veterinary medicine, encouraging collaboration among institutions and specialists. It contributes to continuous professional development, ensuring that veterinary graduates and educators stay current on the advancements in their fields.

By maintaining high educational and ethical standards, the EBVS elevates veterinary education across Europe, ultimately improving animal health and welfare. We view it as imperative that we support the European rather than the national or other regional qualification programs because the establishment of common standards will ensure high-quality specialization and recognition beyond boundaries. It also provides an important counterpart to the American and other colleges.



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS




### Prof. Ann Martens

Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Ghent University

#### **"What needs to be changed for a sustainable engagement of Universities in Veterinary specialization"**

*Keynote Session III: Engagement of Universities in Veterinary Specialization*

 THURSDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025  
13.30-15.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

Prof. Ann Martens obtained her degree in Veterinary Medicine at the Ghent University in 1993 and worked since then as an assistant at the department of Surgery and Anaesthesiology of the Ghent University, to qualify as an equine and bovine surgeon. Her PhD degree was obtained in 2000 with a thesis on the diagnosis and treatment of equine sarcoids. She became a Diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2002 and has occupied several functions within ECVS (program and examination committee, board of regents, president and chair of the board, presently ECVS treasurer)

Prof. Martens's present research interests are equine sarcoids, equine wound management and minimally invasive surgical techniques (arthroscopy and laparoscopy). She is author or co-author of more than 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has been the promotor of several PhD theses.

At University level she has been a member of the faculty council since 1996. From 2014 till 2022 she has represented the faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the Board of Governors of Ghent University. She has been head of Department from 2018 till 2022 and since October 2022 she is the Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

#### **ABSTRACT**

Historically Universities have played a critical role in the establishment of veterinary specialization worldwide and the vast majority of the first 'de facto' diplomates were university professors. Presently however, Universities face many challenges in continuing to play a prominent role in the education of the specialists of the future.

One of the main issues is to retain veterinary specialists in a University environment, certainly in some critical disciplines such as medical imaging and small animal surgery. The high wages offered by private clinics or corporates are often blamed for the drain to private practice, but most likely other factors also play a role.

Universities should be encouraged to improve both the 'work appreciation' and 'work circumstances' in order to retain their specialists and attract residents. If wages cannot be increased, work appreciation can be improved by a diversification of University profiles allowing clinical specialists to be promoted to the higher University degrees not only based on their research performances, but also by taking their teaching and clinical performance into account.

The creation of optimal working circumstances implies a combination of adequate infrastructure and specialized equipment, together with the presence of fellow specialists with whom consultation is possible, interesting teaching opportunities and a cut-down of needless administrative tasks.

To retain veterinary specialists Universities will be required to invest in the professionalization of their VTH and to embrace a policy aimed at attracting patients (investment in branding and client communication). Indeed, many specialists consider a large and varied case-load essential for their professional well-being, for the development of their skills and to perform interesting research.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### Dr. Valentina Busin

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

#### **"Advancing veterinary capacity worldwide"**

*Keynote Session IV: The collaboration with Corporates & Private CPD providers*



FRIDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
08.30-10.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

Dr. Valentina Busin graduated in veterinary medicine from the University of Turin, Italy, in 2007 and worked in mixed and farm animal practices for 3 years, before undertaking a farm animal residency and obtaining the Diploma for the European College of Small Ruminant Health Management (ECSRHM) in 2014.

She subsequently completed a mechanical engineering PhD program jointly between Moredun and Heriot-Watt University on point-of-care diagnostics. She is the current president of the ECSRHM and works as a veterinary consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, working with the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) and the Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs) as capacity development and learning specialist. She is also the senior clinical research editor of the Vet Record and an Adjunct Professor at the University College Dublin, School of Veterinary Medicine.

#### **ABSTRACT**

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a global, United Nations agency specialized in food and agriculture, established in 1945 to defeat hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, while preserving the planet's resources and reducing the environmental impact.

Capacity development and knowledge sharing are at the core of FAO's work. Within the organization, two teams exemplify these principles: the European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) and the Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs).

The EuFMD is a regional technical commission of the FAO, which delivers an extensive programme of activities, supporting emergency preparedness, response and control, for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and similar transboundary animal diseases (FAST diseases) in its 39 European Member Nations and additionally in 20 priority European neighbourhood countries. It is renowned for its technical excellence and the valuable, high-quality capacity building programmes that strengthen animal health services overall.

The Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs) are online hubs aimed at improving regional delivery of online training and to transfer competences to FAO regional and sub-regional offices. This approach aims to ensure courses offered are in line with the training needs of the countries in the target regions and are well tailored to the local languages and contexts. The VLCs mission is to provide trainees with access to inclusive, engaging and high-quality training using a variety of methodologies such as online tutored courses, blended learning, technical webinars and mobile learning.

FAO shares the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation's (EBVS) vision of advancing inclusive, modern and sustainable veterinary education. Through its dedication to One Health and its technical leadership, FAO remains a pivotal partner in shaping the future of veterinary capacity in Europe and beyond.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### Dr. Chiara Leo

AniCura's Residency Program Manager

#### **"A large employer's perspective on specialists in Europe"**

*Keynote Session IV: The collaboration with Employer Groups & Private CPD providers*



FRIDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025  
08.30-10.00

#### **BIOSKETCH**

From aspiring equine vet to oncology expert, my career took an unexpected yet thrilling turn, sparked by a fascination with cytology. My journey led me from an internship in Zurich to an ACVIM residency in Switzerland, then to London as a Lecturer in Oncology at the Royal Veterinary College. In 2016, I returned to Italy to lead the Oncology service at AniCura Istituto Veterinario Novara and drive innovation in veterinary education. Now, as AniCura's Residency Program Manager and Secretary of ESVONC, I'm dedicated to shaping the next generation of veterinary specialists while advancing oncology on a global scale.

#### **ABSTRACT**

This session will explore the dynamic role of veterinary specialists within the ecosystem of a large employer group, specifically through the lens of AniCura and Linnaeus, part of Mars Veterinary Health. The talk will highlight the relationship between corporates and specialists, emphasising shared goals and resources, economic sustainability, and opportunities for professional growth.

Firstly, I will look at the importance of maintaining specialist referral standards of care. Specialists play a pivotal role in shaping and influencing delivery of care, ensuring that veterinary excellence remains a core focus within the spectrum of care offered by some large employer groups. This commitment reflects a broader vision of advancing veterinary medicine for the benefit of patients, clients, and the profession.

Secondly, diplomates' economic sustainability within hospitals is achievable and can be mutually beneficial. The integration of specialists contributes to enhanced hospital performance, elevating the quality of services while providing stable, rewarding career pathways for diplomates. This synergy underscores the potential for win-win outcomes in corporate settings.

Lastly, I will discuss the unique advantages of being part of a corporate network, particularly for training and mentoring residents, access to resources and research. Employer Groups provide access to extensive specialist networks, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. Additionally, safety nets for residents, such as structured programs and professional support systems, ensure a positive and enriching training environment.

This presentation aims to highlight opportunities and illustrate how companies like AniCura and Linnaeus are reshaping the landscape of veterinary specialisation in Europe.



# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# WEDNESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2025

11.00 Registrations

13.00-13.30 **Welcome & Opening**  
Greetings from EBVS, **Prof. Heiko Nathues**  
Greetings from Veterinary Chamber of Serbia, **Dr. Vladimir Ćurčić**  
Greetings from Faculty of Veterinary Medicine University of Belgrade, **Prof. Danijela Kirovski**

IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

13.30-15.00 **Keynote Session I: Challenges with Veterinary Medicine & Specialisation from stakeholders' perspective**  
*Chaired by Dr. Julie Rosser and Dr. Siegfried Moder*

13.30-14.00 Knowledge, skills and competencies for veterinarians in politics and official public sector posts, **Dr. Javier Francisco Dominguez-Orive**  
14.00-14.30 One Health: challenges & opportunities for veterinary specialists, **Dr. Ulrich Herzog**  
14.30-15.00 Round table discussion

15.00-15.30 Coffee Break

15.30-18.00 **Parallel Sessions**

IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

**Session I: Best Practice Examples from Colleges to overcome challenges**  
*Chaired by Prof. Heiko Nathues and Dr. Gonçalo Da Graça Pereira*

15.30-15.40 Introduction  
15.40-16.00 Summary of Best Practices, **Prof. Heiko Nathues**  
16.00-16.20 How to Engage with European Commission Actions, **Dr. Siegfried Moder**  
16.20-16.40 National Recognition, **Dr. Antonio Cruz**

Bio -Break

17.00-17.20 ECVIM Congress to Foundation, **Dr. Christiane Stengel**  
17.20-17.40 Exam Pass Rates, **Dr. Iris Kolkman**  
17.40-18.00 Challenges and Solutions in harmonizing two subspecialties in a College,  
**Dr. Peter D. Thornton**

18.00-19.00 **Welcome reception**

PLATO ROOM

**Workshop I**  
**How to Talk to the Press & the Public**

*Chaired by*  
*Dr. Raphaël Guatteo and*  
*Ford Leland,*  
*CEO Leland International*

ARISTOTLE ROOM

**Workshop II**  
**Best Practice in Education**

*Chaired by*  
*Dr. Mark Bowen and*  
*Dr. Zoe Polizopoulou*

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# THURSDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2025

### IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### 08.30-10.00 Keynote Session II: The role of EAEVE & FVE in fostering Veterinary Specialization in Europe

Chaired by Dr. Raphaël Guatteo and Dr. Zoe Polizopoulou

- 08.30-09.00 The role of EAEVE in fostering veterinary specialisation in Europe, **Prof. Petra Winter**
- 09.00-09.30 Enhancing Communication between FVE, specialists & the veterinary profession, **Dr. Siegfried Moder**
- 09.30-10.00 Round table discussion

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

#### 10.30-12.00 Parallel Sessions

### IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### Session II: Recognition of national & supranational certificates of different tier levels

Chaired by Prof. Heiko Nathues and Dr. Ronald Corbee

- 10.30-10.40 Introduction
- 10.40-11.00 Recognition of Diplomates in Switzerland, **Dr. Roberto Mossi**
- 11.00-11.20 The German FTA System, **Dr. Martin Kramer**
- 11.20-11.40 The new FECAVA certificate, **Dr. Denis Novak**
- 11.40-12.00 Finnish specialisation system, **Dr. Katja Mustonen**

12.00-13.30 Lunch

### 13.30-15.00 IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### Keynote Session III: Engagement of Universities in Veterinary Specialization

Chaired by Dr. Amanda Boag and Felix Metzger, President IVSA

- 13.30-14.00 The pros & cons of specialization in veterinary faculties, **Prof. Klaus Osterrieder**
- 14.00-14.30 What needs to be changed for a sustainable engagement of Universities in Veterinary specialization, **Prof. Ann Martens**
- 14.30-15.00 Round table discussion

15.00-15.30 Coffee Break

#### 15.30-18.00 Parallel Sessions

### IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### Session III: Improving access to veterinary specialisation by increasing flexibility and supporting new pathways

Chaired by Dr. Raphaël Guatteo and Dr. Gonçalo Da Graça Pereira

- 15.30-15.40 Introduction
- 15.40-16.00 Update on specialisation in the UK, **Dr. Linda Prescott-Clements**
- 16.00-16.20 Delivering knowledge, skills and experiences at specialty level in a broad field: considerations supportive of modular residency approaches, **Prof. Dušan Palić**
- 16.20-16.40 Implementing a sustainable system for specialisation, **Dr. Evelina Rabadzhiyska**

Bio-Break

- 17.00-17.20 International Specialist Path, **Dr. Bryan Markey**
- 17.20-17.40 Internship Survey Results, **Dr. Charly Pignon**
- 17.40-18.00 Train the trainer for Flex Path, **Dr. Elena Canelli**

18.00-19.00 Farewell cocktail sponsored by VET International

### PLATO ROOM

#### Workshop III Governance

Chaired by  
Dr. Amanda Boag and  
Dr. Gonçalo Da Graça Pereira

### ARISTOTLE ROOM

#### Workshop IV The future of credentialing:

Reimagining Professional Standards for a Changing Landscape

Chaired by  
Dr. Mark Bowen

### PLATO ROOM

#### Workshop V IT & Support Services

Chaired by  
Tania Susmelj and  
Areti Kesisoglou

### ARISTOTLE ROOM

#### Workshop VI Best Practice in Examination: Redefining Excellence in the Age of AI

Chaired by  
Dr. Mark Bowen



## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

# FRIDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025

### IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### 08.30-10.00 **Keynote Session IV: The collaboration with Employer Groups & Private CPD providers**

*Chaired by Dr. Zoe Polizopoulou and Dr. Amanda Boag*

- 08.30-09.00 Advancing veterinary capacity worldwide, **Dr. Valentina Busin**  
09.00-09.30 A large employer's perspective on specialists in Europe, **Dr. Chiara Leo**  
09.30-10.00 Round table discussion

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

#### 10.30-12.00 **Parallel Sessions**

### IVO ANDRIC B ROOM

#### **Session IV: Standardisation and accreditation of CPD activities in veterinary medicine**

*Chaired by Prof. Heiko Nathues and Dr. Valentina Busin*

- 10.30-10.40 Introduction  
10.40-11.00 Accreditation, lifelong learning and the jungle of post-graduate qualifications, **Dr. Jimmy Saunders**  
11.00-11.20 Standardisation and Accreditation of CPD Activities in Veterinary Medicine, **Prof. Marc Vandeveld** and **Dr. Eva Eberspächer-Schweda**  
11.20-11.40 Master Courses, **Dr. Aidan McAlinden**  
11.40-12.00 Round table discussion

12.00-13.00 Concluding remarks & Closing of the Meeting, **Prof. Heiko Nathues**

### PLATO ROOM

#### **Workshop VII Resident & Diplomate wellbeing**

*Chaired by  
Dr. Raphaël Guatteo and  
Dr. Petra Agthe*

### ARISTOTLE ROOM

#### **Workshop VIII Business Skills**

*Chaired by  
Dr. Amanda Boag*

# GENERAL INFORMATION



## Congress Venue

### Metropole Palace Hotel Belgrade

Bulevar kralja Aleksandra 69, Belgrade (Serbia)

[www.metropolpalace.com](http://www.metropolpalace.com)

## Language

The official language  
of the Congress is English.

## Registration desk opening hours

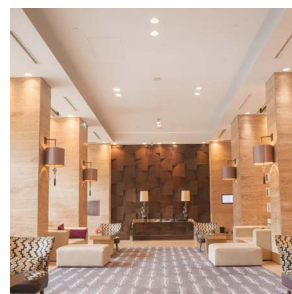
### IVO Andric B Foyer, Ground floor

Wednesday, April 2 11.00 - 18.00

Thursday, April 3 08.00 - 18.00

Friday, April 4 08.00 - 13.00

Please go to the registration desk upon arrival to collect your badge.  
A name badge will be required to access the Congress areas.  
Participants will receive it when they check in at the registration desk.  
It must be worn at all times.



## Exhibitors area

### IVO Andric B Foyer, Ground floor

Sponsor companies will  
be exhibiting in this area  
throughout the entire duration  
of the congress.

## Wifi

The WiFi access is free for all  
attendees and accessible in all  
the venue area

**Network: Metropol**  
**Password: metropol**

## Certificate of attendance

Certificates of attendance will be  
sent to the attendees via e-mail,  
after the Congress.

Post on our social networks,  
tag EBVS channels and use the following hashtags

#EBVSCONGRESS2025

#EUVETSPECIALISTS



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APRIL 2-4, 2025



**VET**  
INTERNATIONAL

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