

# Björn Busse

Department of Osteology and Biomechanics, University Medical Center,  
Hamburg, Germany



## Statement of Nominee

The European Calcified Tissue Society (ECTS) has been my scientific home for more than 18 years. My first ECTS annual meeting took place in 2007 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Since then, I have not only been an enthusiastic member of ECTS but also a frequent attendee of past annual meetings across Europe, contributing to major basic and clinical science sessions by presenting and discussing various new findings on the cellular, structural, and compositional characteristics of bone and calcified tissues.

Following my appointment to the ECTS Academy (2017–2022), I have been involved in organizing several educational events and conferences aimed at providing an exciting program for researchers in training, including 'New Investigator' and 'Mentoring' sessions. I am currently serving as Chair of the ECTS Education Committee (2022–present). This year, in 2025, we had the privilege of organizing an exciting ECTS Ph.D. Training Course in Dubrovnik, Croatia, for the training of the next generation of bone researchers, which took place for the first time in Central Europe. In addition, I have also been serving as a member of the Scientific Program Committee (SPC) for the 2022 ECTS Annual Meeting in Helsinki, Finland. Through these positions, I have been fortunate to gain comprehensive experience in ECTS organization and management, complementing my expertise in translational osteology, biomedical sciences, and functional imaging.

Beyond my volunteer work with ECTS, I serve as an Associate Editor for the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR) Journal of Bone and Mineral Research (JBMR). In the future, I would like to continue working on building scientific bridges between European and other international societies outside of Europe. I am interested in fostering scientific exchange and international collaborations.

Furthermore, with my strong commitment to teamwork and open communication, I hope to help bring our basic and clinical members together to contribute to our shared scientific mission and the growth of our society. I strive to offer both scientific and personal support while remaining open to new ideas. Given my interdisciplinary background and experience in clinical bone imaging, I am particularly enthusiastic to help strengthen translational medicine at the interface of clinical practice and basic research in the musculoskeletal field.

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## Short profile of nominee

Björn Busse is a Full Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Medical Technology at the Department of Osteology and Biomechanics, University Medical Center Hamburg, Germany. He is the director of the Interdisciplinary Competence Center for Interface Research (ICCIR) in Hamburg, Germany. Björn has a strong interest in skeletal imaging, biomechanics, and bone quality analysis.

He graduated in bioengineering and completed his Ph.D. with honors at the Free and Humboldt University Berlin / Charité, University Medicine Berlin, where he focused on bone imaging and bone mineralization. In particular, his research has emphasized scanning/backscattered electron microscopy, microanalysis, materials testing, and bone histomorphometry. His work contributes to our understanding of bone fracture mechanisms, specifically by examining bone interfaces in hierarchical tissue structures and bone quality. His research also addresses osseous changes related to skeletal aging, osteoporosis, osteoporosis treatment strategies, osteomalacia, osteogenesis imperfecta, and Paget's disease of bone, integrating both medical and bioengineering perspectives. Björn gained further academic teaching and research experience during his postdoctoral research fellowship at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and the University of California, Berkeley. He has published more than 140 manuscripts in highly regarded journals and has received several research awards, including the John Haddad Young Investigator Award from the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research and the von Recklinghausen Prize from the German Society of Endocrinology.

# Polyzois Makras

251 Hellenic Air Force & VA General Hospital,

Athens, Greece



## Statement of Nominee

I believe that my qualifications and experience make me a potential candidate for this role. As my main clinical interests focus on osteoporosis and rare bone diseases, I have spent a great part of my professional time advancing research and improving patient care in these two crucial fields. My active involvement in various scientific societies has equipped me with an adequate understanding of financial management, strategic planning, and effective stakeholder engagement. If elected treasurer, I would leverage my expertise to enhance the ECTS's financial health and ensure that funds are allocated strategically to support the Society's initiatives and programs. I am committed to furthering the ECTS's mission by promoting collaboration among members and improving our visibility within the broader scientific community.

## Short profile of Nominee

Polyzois Makras is consultant endocrinologist, Director of the Endocrinology Department, the Department of Medical Research, and of the National expert center for Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis (LCH) and Erdheim Chester Disease (ECD) of 251 Hellenic Air Force & VA General Hospital of Athens, Greece. He received his MD from the University of Thessaloniki, Greece in 1994, and he was trained in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology in Athens.

He received his PhD Degree from the University of Thrace, Greece, and he served as a clinical fellow at the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases of the Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands between 2006-2007.

During the last eighteen years he has been engaged in research in disorders of calcium and bone metabolism as well as in rare diseases (mainly LCH and other non-Langerhans histiocytoses). He co-founded the LCH adult clinic in 2005 which became the National expert center for LCH and ECD in 2019 and joined the ERN – EuroBloodNet in 2022. He is a founding member of the European Consortium for Histiocytosis (ECHO) and founder and head of the Adult ECHO working group.

He is former President of the Hellenic Society for the Study of Bone Metabolism, and member of the Committee of Scientific Advisors of the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) since 2020. He established the first fracture liaison service (FLS) in Greece, and he is the leading author of all diagnostic and therapeutic guidelines for osteoporosis and parathyroid disorders in the same country during the last 13 years.

# Martina Rauner

Technische Universität Dresden,  
Dresden, Germany



## Statement of Nominee

I have been working in the bone field since my time as an undergraduate. Since then, I have benefited a lot from scientific societies including ECTS, ASBMR, and the German/Austrian Bone Societies. From 2012-2018, I have been an ECTS Board Member and was a founding member of the ECTS Academy. Before that, I was mostly involved in the New Investigator Committee, which supported the needs of early career researchers and provided them space at the annual meeting to present their data and interact with peers. Beyond ECTS, I have gained experience in society management through my involvement at ASBMR and the German Osteology Society, of which I am currently president-elect. I wish to intensify the bonds between the national and international societies, foster a collaborative spirit between clinicians and basic scientists, promote early career researchers, and contribute to a strategy for musculoskeletal scientific societies to stay viable and sustainable.

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## Short profile of Nominee

Martina Rauner studied biotechnology at the University of Applied Sciences in Vienna, Austria from 2002-2006. After completing her doctorate at the Department of Pathophysiology at the Medical University of Vienna in 2008, she received the ECTS/AMGEN bone research fellowship and joined the group of Professor Lorenz Hofbauer in Dresden, Germany to study mechanisms of glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis. In 2011, Martina became Group leader for Osteoimmunology and expanded her research area to chronic inflammatory diseases and Wnt signaling. Due to her comprehensive knowledge on bone biology, its interactions with other organ systems, and her leadership skills, she was promoted to the Scientific Director of the Bone lab in 2015 and became Professor for Molecular Bone Biology in 2018. Currently, her group is particularly interested in the interactions of bone with hematopoiesis and hormones, and studies the role of Wnt and BMP signaling.

Martina has published over 150 publications in the field of bone biology and has received several awards for her work. Moreover, she was on the board of the ECTS from 2012-2018, has promoted the needs of New Investigators in that society, and is a founding member of the ECTS Academy, a group of outstanding young scientists in the musculoskeletal field. Moreover, she is an ASBMR Ambassador for Germany.



# Heide Siggelkow

Clinic of Gastroenterology, Gastrointestinal Oncology and Endocrinology,  
University Medical Center, Göttingen, Germany



## Statement of Nominee

For the last three years as the chair of the ECTS Communication Committee I had the great pleasure to work with enthusiastic young people dedicated to promote ECTS information within the Newsletter Team und promote ECTS in different Social media channels within the Social Media Team. It was a pleasure to serve ECTS as part of the ECTS board (2022-2025) and I am highly motivated to continue the work for the next three years. With my experience, a large network of expert clinicians and scientists from Germany and German speaking countries also dedicated to the treatment of patients and research in the field of bone and calcium metabolism in the background and personal strength in education, organization and networking I am convinced of my ability to promote the further development of the Society, in accordance with its ambitions and goals.

## Short profile of Nominee

Prof Heide Siggelkow works as the medical director and endocrinologist in an outpatient clinic for endocrine or metabolic bone diseases including osteoporosis, hypoparathyroidism, hyperparathyroidism and rare bone diseases. Between 2011 and 2015, she was head of the Association of German Language Societies in the special Field of Osteology (DVO). In this position, she initiated and supported the development of the Osteologic Research Centers DVO. She has been president of the German Society of Osteology (DGO) from 2017–2019. In 2017, the Intensive Course for Clinical Endocrinology of the German Society of Endocrinology (DGE) took place in Göttingen under her leadership, and in 2019 she hosted the yearly German Congress of Endocrinology in Göttingen. From 2018-2022 she has been cofounder and spokesperson of the German network of rare bone diseases, “Netzwerk für seltene Osteopathien NetsOs”. 2017-2020 she was member of the European Calcified Tissue Society (ECTS) Website and Social Media Action Group, since 2021 she joined the ECTS Action group of Rare Bone Diseases and is member of the ECTS Board since 2022. 2020-2024 she was member of the ESE Education committee and representative in the PARAT programme of the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE). She is now Expert Panel member of the ESE Educational Programme on Rare Calcium, Phosphate and Bone Disorders (RCPBD). Her basic scientific work at the University of Göttingen Medical Center focuses on molecular and metabolic mechanisms important for the interplay between fat and bone in primary and secondary forms of osteoporosis, with a special focus on cortisol and bone. Another main topic is the investigation of mechanisms of osteoporosis in mastocytosis. Her clinical research is now concentrated on secondary forms of osteoporosis and on hypoparathyroidism with a special focus on quality of life.