

Report

EANS Section of Peripheral Nerve Surgery (October 2017-October 2018)

Establishing of the EANS Section of PNS was officially confirmed at the EANS General Assembly in Venice in October 2017.

The first business meeting of the Section was held in Belgrade, on November 1st, 2017. Members of the Section, along with Chairman, Prof. Dr Lukas Rasulic had a fruitful discussion and defined primary and specific goals of the Section, as well as future activities. (report available at https://www.eans.org/media/uploads/report_from_the_1st_business_meeting_of_the_eans_section_of_peripheral_nerve_surgery.pdf)

The EANS Section for Peripheral Nerve Surgery was established with numerous goals presented in EANS PNS section presentation available at https://www.eans.org/media/uploads/eans_pns_section.pdf

So far 41 members from 14 countries have confirmed their interest to take active participation in the activities of the Section.

Officers of the Section are:

Prof. Dr Lukas Rasulic, Chairman

Prof. Dr Gregor Antoniadis, Vice-chairman

Prof. Dr Willem Pondaag, Prof. Dr Kåre Fugleholm and Prof. Dr Thomas Kretschmer, members of the Section board.

Since establishing EANS section undertook the following activities:

- At the beginning of 2018, Chairman of the Section conducted a survey among the EANS PNS Section members with the aim of determining the representation of peripheral nerve surgery in individual centers and countries of the Section members. The results obtained from Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Italy, Spain, Czech Republic, Serbia, and Albania show that, overall: (i) in terms of the number of neurosurgeons doing peripheral nerve surgery in relation to the total number of neurosurgeons across different centers in these countries, the average PNS representation amounts to approximately 25% of neurosurgeons doing peripheral nerve surgery, with significant variations across countries; (ii) in terms of the annual number of peripheral nerve surgeries across different centers in these countries, the most common surgeries are related to injuries and entrapments, while tumor, brachial plexus, and iatrogenic injuries are less represented (on average, approximately twice less than those in the former category); and (iii) there is a notable under-representation of endoscopic PNS repair, which is only done in rare centers in some countries (specifically, Germany, Denmark, Austria, Spain, and Czech Republic).
- Chairman of the Section and some members have been active in developing the program of the EANS 2018 Congress in Brussels and will support peripheral nerve sessions actively as speakers and chairs. It is with great pleasure to inform you that this section will be represented for the first time to a greater extent than in the previous congresses.
- In the last six months, Chairman and Section members took active participation in numerous significant European and events worldwide and gave presentations from the PNS field, which had great impact on increasing the interest for PNS in neurosurgical community.
- One of the primary goals of the section is enabling fellowship and internship for young neurosurgeons who want to be involved in the peripheral nerve surgery. In all centers from which are the members of the Section, international fellowship programs for 2018, with

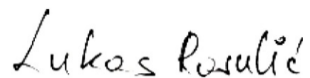
duration from 2 weeks to 6 months, have been provided for 1 up to 6 residents from all over the world. We will present a precise information regarding number of fellowship programs and rotations provided in our centers in the final report for 2018.

- One of the specific goals is establishing cooperation not only within neurosurgical community but also within all specialties related to peripheral nerve surgery, such as orthopedics, microsurgery, reconstructive surgery, etc. In this regard, the cooperation has been developed not only with the National Societies of the members of the Section, but also with NervClub Germany and European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery, so far.
- At the TC Committee meeting in Edinburgh on January 2018 the initiative to separate the Spine from the PNS within the EANS TC was raised. So far, Spine and Peripheral Nerves were parts of the same course with unequal contribution. At the next business meeting different options regarding possible modalities of the PNS Course will be considered within EANS TC.
- Chairman of the Section published Letter to the editor Acta Neurochirurgica <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00701-018-3569-x>
- Letter of intent was sent to the Editor in Chief of Acta Neurochirurgica, in order to promote Journal Acta Neurochirurgica as an affiliated journal of the Section of PNS.
- Carrying out publication activity: numerous papers are pending to be published and will be published in the future period and initiative for preparation of the book on PNS was raised, all mentioned under the name of the EANS Section of PNS.
- Chairman and members of the Section took participation in the 14th Congress of the European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery which was held on May 5-8, 2018 in Belgrade, Serbia. During the Congress, joint events were taking place to ensure an even richer scientific content. The possibility for future cooperation were considered.
- *Copenhagen Peripheral Nerve Surgery* Course 2018, which is announced to be the EANS Section of PNS training course was held in Copenhagen from September 12th-14th, 2018. This hands- on course was aimed at all surgeons with an interest in peripheral nerve surgery with the main objective - to improve skills for peripheral nerve surgery by means of lectures, demonstrations and anatomical dissections. This Course was a great success. Shots were made, and it was agreed that after the Course a full fledged video atlas of peripheral nerve surgery will be produced and available to all neurosurgeons that want to do peripheral nerve surgery.
- 3rd WFNS Theoretical & Practical International Course in *Peripheral Nerve & Brachial Plexus Surgery in Frankfurt in 2018*, was held in Frankfurt from September 24th-26th, 2018. Many Section members and officers of the EANS PNS section were lecturers at this course. Building on the great success of its predecessors held in Leon, Spain in 2016 and Belgrade, Serbia, in 2017, this important educational event has included a live surgery transmission, case discussions by international panel of experts and endoscopic cadaveric approaches by participants.
- Joint venture with the MICROVASCULAR HANDS-ON WORKSHOP in Athens in regards of Micro neurovascular hands - on education starting preparation from November 2018 was agreed.
- Chairman and members of the Section are invited to take a part in International Microsurgery Symposium, which will be held in Seville from November 7th-10th, 2018, along with XVI Congress of Spanish Association of Microsurgery. The aim of this participation is establishing

of collaboration that will enrich relationships and possibilities for different joint events in the future.

- We would like to draw your attention to the following academic and educational events aimed at enhancing the quality of peripheral nerve surgery in the twenty-first century: *Peripheral Nerve Surgery Session at EANS Congress in Brussels in 2018*; German Nerve Club; Peripheral Nerve Surgery Course, Gunzburg/Ulm, Germany; Leiden Nerve Courses, 4th WFNS Theoretical & Practical International Course in *Peripheral Nerve & Brachial Plexus Surgery* and many more which will be timely announced and distributed to the neurosurgical community.
- **EANS PNS Section 2nd annual business meeting is scheduled for October 22nd, 2018, Room Circle 210, from 10.00-11.30h, during the EANS 2018 Congress in Brussels.**

Chair of the Section for Peripheral Nerve Surgery

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lukas Rasulic". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'L' being particularly large and stylized.

Prof. Dr Lukas Rasulic