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BALKAN VENOUS FORUM

The Balkan Venous Forum (BVF) unites Physicians from all states in the region, specialized in Vascular Surgery and Angiology, as well as experts in other fields who focus on the venous disease investigation and treatment.

All of us share a common target: studying the results of all available researches and the trends to apply innovative approaches and methods, furthermore - to share experience and develop medical expertise in a framework that leads to the patients' recovery and their quality of life improvement.

Evidently, the basic beneficiaries of our organization activity are venous disease suffering individuals who often experience various complications. Like elsewhere in Europe and according to latest research, the rate of the venous disease patients on the Balkans is high – approximately 30% of the elderly population.

We are proud to point out that the BVF history is very successful. Starting from our establishment as a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization in Belgrade in 2009, we have provided 11 Annual Meetings attended by a constantly growing number of interested participants.

We presented views and experiences in Belgrade (2010 and 2013), Athens (2011), Istanbul (2012) and also Ljubljana, Sofia and Timisoara. In 2019 we celebrated our 10th Anniversary in Thessaloniki, where we were joined by new members, some of them representing new countries. Examining our meetings in a scientific discourse, throughout the years one can observe an increasing number of delegates as well as an expanding range and high-ranking quality of most presentations. In addition, our meetings grounded the emergence of reliable professional friendships.

I believe that we will continue our teamwork in future, aiming to improve our knowledge and capacities, something that will result in reducing the morbidity level and its consequences in all our countries.

Current members - **11 Countries** (in alphabetic order): Albania, Bosna, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey, Romania.

Current President - **Elena Goranova PhD** - goranovae@hotmail.com

Board Members:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1. Athanasios Giannoukas - past president | 5. Daniela Radu – vice president |
| 2. Mehmet Kurtoglu - past president | 6. Sorin Olario |
| 3. Sokol Xhepa | 7. Spiros Vasdekis – scientific secretary |
| 4. Tanja Rucigaj - vice president | 8. Dragan Milich - past president |

Current Society contacts (mail address and webpage link) <http://www.bvforum.org/>

Eleni Kletsou, Eleni Vergou - BVF Secretaries -e-mail: vascular.dpt@gmail.com,

Τηλ & Φαξ: 241 350 1739

Next executive committee meeting – online, scheduled for 19.11.2021