



Dear Colleagues,

Ever since the ECR was established as a major force in the education of European radiologists in 1991, it has built its reputation as a prime provider of exquisite teaching and innovative didactic concepts in Europe. The ECR's role in radiology education gained even more importance with the enlargement of the radiological "community" in Europe, resulting in new EAR member countries in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as with the initial amalgamation efforts in radiology education throughout Europe.

With ECR 2003, the ECR is aiming to enhance its commitment to better education in radiology. The ECR's newly established programme, *E³ - European Excellence in Education*, is a long-term project dedicated to the improvement, harmonisation and standardisation of radiology training in Europe. E³ represents a truly ambitious but necessary undertaking, comprising the creation of knowledge-based curricula, the production of dedicated educational material for residents, board-certified radiologists and researchers involved in teaching, the use of digital platforms and virtual classrooms to distribute knowledge, as well as the integration of the ECR into a systematic and strategic educational key process.

To fulfil all this, E³ is designed to encompass various modules of interactive programmes and teaching activities and the production and diffusion of educational material, taking advantage of cutting-edge digital technology for the first time, world-wide, available at ECR 2003. As these educational modules will be continuously integrated over the years, I am confident that the didactic mission of the ECR will become synchronous, more penetrating, and fulfilling. The project will require leadership, commitment and enthusiasm, qualities that have become highly visible in modern European radiology and that govern our professional skills. Let us all pool those "European qualities" within a programme designed to shape the future of European radiological education.

Prof. Dr. Nicholas Gourtsoyiannis
President ECR 2003