

SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF REGIONAL ANAESTHESIA
& PAIN THERAPY

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<https://esraeurope.org/>

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1 POLICY STATEMENT

The European Society of Regional Anaesthesia & Pain Therapy (ESRA) is dedicated to promoting sustainability and accountability in all aspects of its operations. We recognize our responsibility to minimize our environmental footprint, ensure responsible resource use, promote communities' equality and maintain transparency and accountability in all our activities.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to all ESRA members, employees, volunteers, advisors, and partners involved in ESRA's operations, programs, and events. It encompasses our internal practices, external partnerships, and the delivery of our services.

3 DEFINITIONS

Accountability: The obligation to explain, justify, and take responsibility for one's actions, ensuring transparency and integrity in organizational activities.

Energy Efficiency: Using less energy to provide the same service, thereby reducing energy waste and environmental impact.

Environmental Footprint: The impact of an organization or individual on the environment, including the consumption of natural resources and the generation of waste and emissions.

Sustainability: Practices that meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, encompassing environmental, economic, and social dimensions.

4 POLICY

The following clauses related to ESRA's **environmental impact** are applied:

- ESRA has adopted and applies an agile and remote environment as the main working module at its operations, chosen as an optimum, modern and efficient way of corporate interactions which serves at the same time its sustainability goals.
- ESRA commits to reducing waste by implementing recycling programs, minimizing paper use through digital solutions, and promoting the use of sustainable materials.
- We aim to conserve energy by utilizing energy-efficient appliances and lighting, and by encouraging energy-saving practices among staff and members.
- ESRA will strive to minimize travel-related emissions by encouraging virtual meetings and events when feasible and promoting the use of public transportation and carpooling for necessary travel.

- The following clauses related to ESRA's **Ethical Operations** are applied:
- ESRA will conduct all operations ethically, ensuring fairness, transparency, and integrity in all interactions.
- We will adhere to all applicable laws and regulations, including those related to environmental protection, labor practices, and corporate governance.
- The following clauses related to ESRA's **Sustainability** are applied:

ESRA will prioritize partnerships with organizations that demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and ethical practices.

We will engage with suppliers and contractors who adhere to sustainable practices and encourage them to improve their sustainability efforts.

ESRA will regularly review and update our sustainability practices to incorporate new insights, technologies, and feedback from stakeholders. We will set measurable sustainability goals and report on our progress annually.

5 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

President

- Provides leadership and strategic direction for sustainability and accountability initiatives.
- Approves major sustainability projects and policies.
- Implements, and monitors sustainability initiatives.
- Represents ESRA in external sustainability partnerships and initiatives.
- Provides regular reports on sustainability efforts to the Board and the General Assembly.

Board Members

- Ensure the integration of sustainability and accountability into ESRA's strategic planning.
- Support the development and implementation of sustainability and accountability initiatives.
- Review and approve sustainability assessments and reports.
- Monitor the progress of sustainability goals and provide feedback.

General Assembly

- Participate in discussions and vote on key sustainability initiatives.
- Review annual sustainability reports and provide recommendations.
- Engage in sustainability practices and encourage wider adoption within the society.

Quality Officer

- Track and evaluate the organization's sustainability practices.

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- Audit operations to ensure compliance with sustainability goals.
- Collaborate with departments to implement sustainable processes.
- Report sustainability metrics to leadership and stakeholders.

All Personnel

- Adhere to the sustainability and accountability policy.
- Participate in sustainability initiatives and report any concerns or suggestions for improvement.

6 DISTRIBUTION LIST

All personnel.

7 FILE KEEPING

QMS records are retained for at least 5 years.

This document shall enter into force, be revised and distributed in accordance with the applicable procedures for controlled documents of ESRA.

This document:

- ✓ It is the property of the ESRA and its unauthorized disclosure, reproduction and use in whole or in part, nor its use for work not related to the activities of ESRA is not permitted.
- ✓ It is an internal controlled document, distributed according to the distribution list and acknowledged under the responsibility of the recipient.
- ✓ It shall be subject to a review procedure at least once every three years since the last adoption or amendment.

		SIGNATURE	DATE
AUTHOR	Quality Officer	Aline Christen	10.07.2024
APPROVAL	ESRA President	Eleni Moka	05.08.2024

