

FESSH Relations Committee Member Recruitment (2026–2029 Term)

Context

The Relations Committee serves as FESSH's interface with external organisations, partner societies, and international initiatives. It supports collaboration across orthopaedic, plastic, and therapy communities, and contributes to strengthening the position of hand surgery within Europe and beyond.

Committee in Transition

Following adoption of the FESSH 2026–2029 strategic vision, the Relations Committee is undergoing a focused restructuring.

Special Interest Groups will transition to the Clinical Practice Committee. This reflects a strategic refocusing of the Relations Committee towards connectivity, exchange, and external engagement.

Key Projects and Deliverables (2026–2029)

1. FESSH Exchange Programme

Development of a structured European exchange network, enabling short-term visits between units.

This will include a curated registry of centres and specialists to facilitate direct connections between members.

2. FESSH CONNECT Platform

Development of a digital platform to support interaction across the FESSH community, including case discussion, research collaboration, and professional networking.

This will require engagement with an iterative development process and digital tools.

3. Humanitarian and Global Engagement

Creation of a framework to support and highlight international and humanitarian initiatives undertaken by FESSH members.

The committee will facilitate connections and partnerships without operational ownership of missions.

4. External and Internal Relationships

The committee will continue to act as FESSH's strategic interface for partnerships, exchange, and international engagement, working closely with other committees to support the Federation's broader objectives.

FESSH HEADQUARTERS / BILLING ADDRESS

FESSH c/o Ostschweizerische Revisionsgesellschaft AG
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FESSH SECRETARIAT

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Committee Member Role

All members will contribute to at least one of the core project areas.

Reporting

Members report to the Relations Committee Chair, who reports to the FESSH President and Council.

Time Commitment

- Approximately 3–5 hours per month, plus:
- Attendance at FESSH Congress (in person)
- 3–4 virtual meetings annually
- Additional time may be required during active project phases

Responsibilities

- Contribute actively to one or more core projects
- Represent the committee in interactions with partner organisations where appropriate
- Support collaboration with other FESSH committees (e.g. YEHS, Education, Communication, Research)
- Assist in developing and maintaining strategic relationships for FESSH
- Contribute to mapping opportunities for members across Europe
- Attend and contribute to meetings
- Provide updates on project progress to the Chair

Person Specification

Essential

- Active and paying member of a national hand surgery society affiliated with FESSH
- Demonstrated interest in collaboration and international engagement
- Ability to work effectively within a diverse, multidisciplinary committee
- Commitment to the 2026–2029 programme
- Availability for meetings (virtual and in person)

Desirable

- Experience with digital platforms or technology-enabled collaboration
- Experience in exchange programmes or fellowships
- Involvement in humanitarian or global surgery initiatives
- Prior committee or governance experience
- Interest in mentorship and professional development
- Experience working across different European healthcare systems

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Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be active, fully paid members of their national hand surgery society at the time of application and for the duration of their term
- Applicants must provide a letter of support or confirmation of no objection from their national society
- Applicants must be in good standing within their national society and within FESSH

Recruitment Process

All committee positions are subject to open recruitment at the start of each term, including current members.

Current members are welcome to apply- but should demonstrate alignment with the updated committee direction and priorities.

Selection

Applications will be reviewed by the Relations Committee Chair in conjunction with FESSH leadership.

Selection will be based on:

Alignment with strategic priorities

Relevant experience and skillset

Ability to contribute actively to defined projects

Overall balance of the committee (geography, career stage, expertise, and diversity)

How to Apply

Applicants should indicate preferred project area(s):

- FESSH Exchange
- FESSH CONNECT Platform
- Humanitarian & Global Engagement

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