Strategic Plan
2023 – 2026
Who we are

Founded in 1992 United European Gastroenterology (UEG) is the leading non-profit organisation for excellence in digestive health in Europe and beyond with its headquarters in Vienna.

We improve the prevention and care of digestive diseases in Europe through providing top tier education, supporting research and advancing clinical standards. As Europe’s home and umbrella for multidisciplinary gastroenterology, we unite over 50,000 engaged professionals from national and specialist societies, individual digestive health experts and related scientists from all fields and career stages.

The myUEG Community enables digestive health professionals from across the globe to become myUEG Associates and thereby connect, network and benefit from a wide range of free resources and educational activities.

Our offers include our annual congress UEG Week, online and face-to-face educational experiences, research support, a scientific journal and a range of opportunities in the form of fellowships and grants. We promote numerous guidelines, standards and quality improvement initiatives and campaign at the European level to ensure continued resources for research into digestive health while working closely with patient organisations.
Purpose

Together with our member societies we inspire and support collaboration by providing services for all healthcare professionals and researchers in the broad area of digestive health. The role of UEG is to take concerted efforts to advance the field of digestive diseases by focusing on prevention, research, diagnoses, cures, and increasing awareness. The scope of our member societies ranges from general gastroenterology to more disease- and organ-oriented special interest associations on a pan-European level.

The term “gastroenterology” refers to all digestive functions and diseases affecting the gastrointestinal tract, liver, pancreas and biliary system, both in adults and in children.
Together we are the myUEG Community!
We are fostering strategic collaborations with all stakeholders in the field.

myUEG Associates
individual professionals from our international and multidisciplinary community

Specialist Member Societies
ranging from general gastroenterology to more disease- and organ-oriented special interests

National Member Societies
within Europe and the Mediterranean area

International Healthcare Stakeholders & EU Institutions

Special Interest Groups

Biomedical and Technological Industry

European Patient Advocacy Groups

Research Consortia

International Medical and Scientific organisations

Multidisciplinarity is our strength

Basic scientists
Clinical scientists
Data scientists
Dieticians
Digestive Oncologists
Educationalists
Endoscopists
Epidemiologists
Gastroenterologists
Gastrointestinal surgeons
Geneticists
Hepatologists
Internists
Microbiologists
Neurogastroenterologists
Nurses
Nutritionists
Paediatricians
Pancreatologists
Pathologists
Pharmacists
Pharmacologists
Physiotherapists
Primary care practitioners
Psychologists
Psychotherapists
Radiologists
Researchers
Statisticians
Students

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Who we are
Purpose
Mission and Vision
Core values
Organisational vitality
Strategic drivers
Specialist Member Societies and National Member Societies
United for digestive health

EAES
European Association for Endoscopic Surgery and other interventional techniques
EAGEN
European Association for Gastroenterology, Endoscopy and Nutrition
EASL
European Association for the Study of the Liver
ECCO
European Crohn’s and Colitis Organisation
EDS
European Digestive Surgery
EFISDS
International Society of Digestive Surgery (European Federation)
EHMSG
European Helicobacter and Microbiota Study Group
EPC
European Pancreatic Club
ESCP
European Society of Coloproctology
ESDO
European Society of Digestive Oncology
ESGAR
European Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology
ESGE
European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
ESNM
European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility
ESP
European Society of Pathology
ESPCG
European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology
ESPEN
The European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism
ESPGHAN
European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Mission
To act as the united and trusted voice of European gastroenterology and to be recognised as the leading authority for digestive health. We promote science, research, education, quality of care and advocate to prevent and reduce health inequalities across Europe to achieve optimal patient care.

Vision
To reduce the burden of digestive diseases and improve digestive health.

Strategic trends
UEG works in a contextual environment taking into account a wide range of environmental, sociological, political, economic and regulatory factors that influence the nature of digestive health and healthcare delivery.
UEG's core values include integrity, quality, diversity, independence, respect, accountability, transparency, and sustainability as an inclusive concept for all strategic drivers.

We uphold them by:

- prioritising ethics in all operations
- emphasising multidisciplinary collaboration
- actively involving underrepresented groups
- ensuring inclusivity and equality of opportunities (age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, disability and nationality)
- working with and for the benefit of our member societies by concentrating on activities where cross-disciplinarity and European integration adds value
- recruiting top talent in all digestive healthcare disciplines
- intentionally striving to offset our ecological impact
Organisational vitality

We ensure organisational vitality by rotating volunteer leadership, employing dedicated and professional staff and maintaining a strong infrastructure and governance.

We uphold this by:

- supporting our current membership of specialist and national GI societies
- maintaining volunteer leadership centered around values and integrity
- ensuring balanced and efficient board and committee and group structures
- expanding our myUEG Community
- including special interest groups within our myUEG Community
- employing committed and qualified staff
- ensuring long-term financial sustainability to safeguard our vision
- implementing measures to encourage diversification of income sources to enhance our financial resilience
- collaborating with biomedical and technological industry with transparency and integrity to stimulate overall healthcare progression
- promoting strategic collaborations with international medical, scientific and patient organisations
Organising the world’s best multidisciplinary digestive health congress by bringing together the sharpest minds in the world and providing the highest quality research, best clinical practice, and most up-to-date educational offerings.

**Strategic objectives:**
- Increasing the quality and quantity of research and scientific submissions
- Guaranteeing the integration of basic and translational science with innovations in clinical practice
- Maintaining state-of-the-art clinical symposia and sharing best practice, guidelines, and standards
- Offering hands-on training to allow for international skill advancement
- Evolving excellence and educational value of our Postgraduate Course
- Increasing international attendance for maximum knowledge exchange
- Increasing the participation levels of allied health professionals to enhance both interdisciplinarity and diversification within our organisation
- Providing innovative and hybrid formats to maximise interactivity, inclusiveness, and accessibility
- Designing top-tier venues to enhance the delegate experience on a social and scientific level and inspire innovative exchange
- Awarding an array of prizes to attract excellent science
- Supplying a platform for companies in the field of digestive health to showcase the latest innovations in treatments, products and devices
- Striving for innovative sustainability from an ecological standpoint
Taking a central role in delivering and disseminating cutting-edge, unbiased continuing medical education and supporting professional development.

**Strategic objectives:**

- Developing effective training tools and accredited educational content to meet the current and future learning requirements
- Strengthening the digital learning experience through cutting-edge, easily accessible content for international target groups
- Organising specialised courses and hands-on training designed for European target groups
- Promoting multidisciplinarity across Europe by supporting activity-driven collaborative efforts amongst our members in Europe
- Fostering close links with the European Section and Board of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (ESBGH) and the UEMS. We harmonize educational and training opportunities in alignment with the Blue Book and with the European Specialty Examination in Gastroenterology and Hepatology.
Encouraging innovation and excellence in research by supporting research facilitation and cooperation in the field of digestive health.

Strategic objectives:

- Disseminating data on the burden of digestive diseases, the risk factors, and the research needs at the national, European and international level
- Increasing EU-funded digestive health research by providing evidence and advice to funding bodies on priority areas in close liaison with our member societies
- Positioning UEG as a partner in collaborative research
- Informing the community and fostering collaborations for improved access to research funding across Europe
- Establishing our myUEG Community’s “My Connect” feature as an essential networking tool for researchers
- Providing awards, prizes, and fellowships to support innovation and excellence in digestive health research
Positioning UEG Journal as a top authoritative, esteemed journal of choice within digestive health.

**Strategic objectives:**
- Publishing cutting-edge basic, translational and clinical research and excellent reviews and editorials
- Striving to grow our impact factor and be renowned as a top gastroenterological/hepatological journal
- Promoting our journal as a prestigious location for European and international consensus papers, guidelines, and standards
- Supporting young talent by giving them editorial experience and responsibility
- Strengthening the engagement with the community through modern and diversified channels of science communication
Improving and harmonising GI patient care practices and outcomes throughout Europe.

**Strategic objectives:**

- Promoting guideline availability, dissemination, adherence, and implementation to all involved in patient care, including patients and primary care
- Supporting the development of high-quality European guidelines, specifically in gap areas in partnership with our member societies
- Improving the development of standards of care and quality indicators
- Enhancing interaction and exchange between young clinicians and prestigious European training centres
Acting as the united voice of European gastroenterology for the public and in various national and European institutions to promote digestive health.

**Strategic objectives:**
- Coordinating efforts with our national and specialist member societies
- Increasing awareness of the importance of digestive health amongst policymakers and the public
- Contributing to creating a favourable policy environment for the improvement of digestive health
- Advocating for primary and secondary prevention and access to effective treatment of digestive diseases on a European and national level
- Collaborating with the EU institutions, as well as international and European organisations with a public health focus
- Increasing recognition of digestive diseases as a major non-communicable diseases group
- Partnering with patient organisations to improve digestive health
The UEG wishes to recognise and thank our board and committee members, our member societies and all volunteers for their contribution and commitment to this strategic plan.