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ABSTRACT

The Romanian Society of Neurosurgery (RSN) was founded in 1982 under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Constantin Arsene, with Dr. Ion Oprescu as the society's secretary. This established the first foundational elements for developing organized neurosurgery nationally. Subsequently, especially following the regime change in 1990, SRN experienced significant growth, leading to the 49th Congress. According to the society's statutes, the Congress is held in different locations to involve the entire neurosurgical community in advancing neurosurgery nationwide. The 49th Congress occurred in a remarkable location, Sinaia, known as the "Pearl of the Carpathians" and famed for the splendid Peleş Castle, built by Romania's Royal Family – Carol I of Hohenzollern. The entire Congress was held at the Hotel International, with significant participation from Romania and a notable presence of neurosurgeons worldwide, raising the scientific level of the event. Various neurosurgical topics were structured into substantial sections, including the Young Neurosurgical Corner, dedicated to young neurosurgeons. In conclusion, the 49th Congress, held in English, fully achieved its objective, marking another step forward in the development of this speciality in Romania.

Between September 11th and 14th, 2024, the 49th Congress of the Romanian Society of Neurosurgery (RSN) took place, a landmark event in the field of neurosurgery, held at the Hotel International in Sinaia, in the heart of the Bucegi Mountains (Photo 1).

Founded in 1982 under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Constantin Arsene, this society now includes 409 neurosurgeons, 84 of whom are residents. Sinaia, known as the "Pearl of the Carpathians," provided an ideal setting for this academic event, with its rich history and reputation as a preferred location for international conferences. The relaxing atmosphere and mountain scenery certainly contributed to a memorable experience for all attendees.

The Congress took place in two modern rooms, Magnum and Auditorium, and gathered 219 participants, including specialists from

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around the world, representing almost every continent. This diversity fostered a precious exchange of ideas and experiences (Photo 2).



Photo 1. Official Opening of the 49th RSN Congress.



Photo 2. Auditorium of the 49th RSN Congress.

The congress opening was marked by the 28th edition of the French Neurosurgery Course, organized with the support of the scientific committee chaired by Ph.D. Bogdan Costăchescu and Prof. Olivier Klein.

Throughout the congress, all significant neurosurgical topics were addressed, broken down into pathology categories. Essential aspects related to vascular pathology were discussed, including techniques in open microsurgery and endovascular procedures, which are crucial for treating arteriovenous malformations and cerebral aneurysms. A detailed review of tumor pathology was also presented, covering major lesions from low-grade gliomas to high-grade glioblastomas and highlighting the surgical and adjuvant strategies necessary to optimize therapeutic outcomes. Topics

related to spinal pathology were discussed, including modern techniques for spinal surgeries and innovations in treating degenerative conditions. The congress also featured sessions on pediatric and functional neurosurgery, addressing the specific challenges faced in treating young patients and intervention strategies for alleviating severe neurological symptoms.

The congress showcased outstanding research in Neuro-oncology, with exceptional contributions from renowned specialists. Prof. Fady Charbel (SUA), Thomas Santarius (United Kingdom), Henry Schroeder (Germany), Andre Grotenhuis (Olanda), Adrian Bălașa (România), Ioan Ștefan Florian (România) and Grigore Zapuhliș (Republica Moldova) presented innovative research that captivated the audience.

In the session dedicated to Cerebrovascular Neurosurgery, Waleed Abbas (Egypt), Eduardo Vieira de Carvalho Junior (Brazil), and Ștefan Florian (Romania) made significant contributions, discussing advanced techniques and essential therapeutic strategies for managing cerebrovascular diseases.

Unique aspects of Pituitary Tumor Pathology were presented by Thomas Santarius (United Kingdom), Ligia Gabriela Tătăranu (Romania), Rareș Chinezu (Romania) and Daniel Rotariu (Romania), who explored new perspectives on diagnosing and treating these complex conditions. In Spinal Pathology, presentations by Lukas Rasulic (Serbia), Marcel Ivanov (United Kingdom) Mohamed M. Ali (Saudi Arabia), Mihael Spyrou (Cyprus) and Cezar Popescu (Romania) were remarkable, highlighting innovative surgical techniques and promising results.

A separate section was dedicated to contributions in Stereotactic Radiosurgery, represented by Fery Stoica and Radu-Daniel Pelin (Romania), who discussed recent advances in the use of radiotherapy for neurosurgical treatments.

Olivier Klein and Carmine Mottolesse from France dominated the scene at the French Neurosurgery Course, contributing valuable insights through their extensive expertise.

The Euroacademia Multidisciplinary Neurotraumatic Session (EMN) opened with the presence of former president, Prof. Dr. Wolf-Ingo Steudel. This session delved deeply into various current aspects of European neurotraumatology (Photo 3).



Photo 3. Prof. Dr. Alexandru-Vlad Ciurea and Prof. Dr. Wolf-Ingo Steudel as chairmen.

Covering all critical aspects of neurosurgery, the congress succeeded in attracting the attention of numerous participants, highlighting the interest and commitment of the medical community to this essential field. At the Young Neurosurgical Corner, all Romanian centers contributed valuable papers, culminating in the awarding of three prizes for outstanding contributions.

The congress president and local coordinator, Prof. Dr. Daniel-Mihai Teleanu, skillfully combined neurosurgical and organizational activities, with the support of the advertising company ASPRO, which ensured a flawless execution of the event.

The 50th Congress of the Romanian Society of Neurosurgery, an exceptional jubilee event, will be



Photo 4. Prof. Dr. Ștefan Florian.

held in the splendid city of Cluj-Napoca in September 2025 (Photo 4).

This significant gathering will not only celebrate past achievements but also demonstrate the continued commitment of the neurosurgical community to excellence and innovation. In a festive atmosphere, all neurosurgery centres in the country will enthusiastically participate, contributing to a valuable exchange of knowledge and experience.

We look forward to gathering in Cluj-Napoca, a city with a rich academic tradition and a vibrant atmosphere, providing an ideal backdrop for this celebration of neurosurgical excellence.