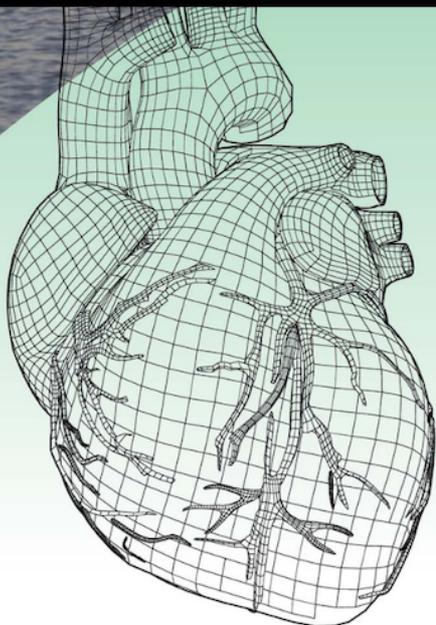
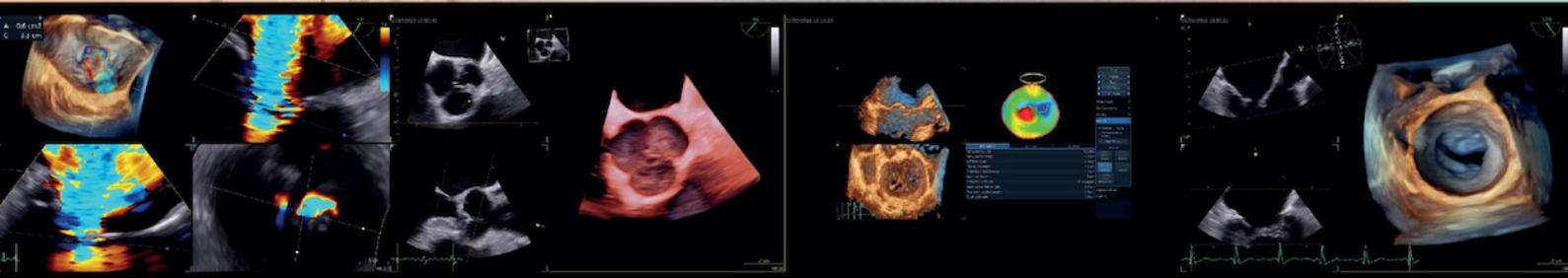


# BALKAN VALVES

**13th - 14th MARCH 2026**

EUROPEAN INTERBALKAN MEDICAL CENTER  
**THESSALONIKI / GREECE**



## CONGRESS DIRECTORS



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MD, PhD, FESC, FEACVI



**DR. K. PAPAPOULOS**  
MD, PhD, FESC, FEACVI

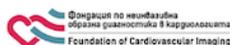


**PROF. LUIGI P. BADANO**  
MD, PhD, FESC, FACC,  
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**DR. MANI VANNAN**  
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# BALKAN VALVES

13th - 14th MARCH 2026

EUROPEAN INTERBALKAN MEDICAL CENTER

THESSALONIKI / GREECE



## BALKAN VALVES 2026

### Directors:

*Professor Luigi P. Badano, FESC, FACC, Honorary Fellow ASE, BSE, and EACVI*

*Dr Mani Vannan, MBBS, FACC, FAHA*

*Dr Stefanos Karagiannis, FESC, FEACVI*

*Dr Konstantinos Papadopoulos, FESC, FEACVI*

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Thessaloniki 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2026

Congress venue: Interbalkan Medical Center, Thessaloniki

PCO: Inventics

Hybrid form (physical presence and online participation) through online platform and live-streaming

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### Scientific committee:

1. **BOGDAN POPESCU**
2. **ATTILA KOVACS**
3. **JADRANKA SEPAROVIC**
4. **VLASSIOS NINIOS**
5. **KRASIMIRA HRISTOVA**
6. **IVAN STANKOVIC**
7. **ELIZABETA SRBINOVSKA KOSTOVSKA**
8. **BLAZEJ MICHALSKI**

## PROGRAM

### Friday 13 March 2026

09:00-10:30

**Session 1: Hands-on training workshop I (pg.14)**

Live scanning on echo machines and off-line analysis on workstations in 5 parallel rooms

10:30-10:45

*Coffee break*

10:45-12:45

**Session 2: Focus on aortic valve**

**Chairpersons:** V. Kamperidis, A. D. Mavrogianni

**Discussants:** A. Taleb, A. Roumpelakis, I. Karabinos, A. Tzikas

**Case**

A patient with a challenging aortic valve disease: case presentation  
**V. Reskovic Luksic**

**Theory**

Severe asymptomatic aortic stenosis: is watchful waiting still a wise option?  
**E. Srbinovska Kostovska**

**Theory**

Prognosis and management of moderate aortic stenosis. Is myocardial damage important?  
**G. Georgiou**

**Theory**

Risk stratification in patients with severe aortic regurgitation  
**K. Hristova**

**Theory**

Myocardial-hemodynamic coupling in aortic regurgitation grading  
**J. Separovic Hanzevacki**

**Theory**

TAVR or SAVR in high-risk patients with aortic regurgitation?  
**E. Agricola**

**Case**

A patient with a challenging aortic valve disease: heart team discussion

## PROGRAM

### Friday 13 March 2026

**12:45-13:15**

**Opening Ceremony**

**13:15-14:00**

**Lunch break**

**14:00-16:00**

**Session 4: Focus on tricuspid valve**

**Chairpersons:** L. Badano, P. Nihoyannopoulos

**Discussants:** M. Tomaselli, K. Katogiannis, N. Kadoglou, S. Mihaila-Baldea

**Case**

A patient with a challenging secondary tricuspid regurgitation: case presentation  
**I.Ninios**

**Theory**

Is it time to revise the guidelines about the echocardiographic assessment of tricuspid regurgitation?

**L. Badano**

**Theory**

Phenotyping vs Classification vs scores for tricuspid valve disease

**M. Vannan**

**Theory**

How artificial intelligence can help to standardize the assessment of right ventricular dysfunction and tricuspid regurgitation severity

**A. Kovacs**

**Theory**

How to assess RV function in patients with tricuspid regurgitation

**S. Mihaila- Baldea**

**Theory**

Tricuspid-TEER vs TTVR: 2026 update

**E. Donal**

**Case**

A patient with a challenging secondary tricuspid regurgitation: heart team discussion

Discussion

## PROGRAM

### Friday 13 March 2026

**16:00-17:00**

**Dissecting 2025 ESC Guidelines on Heart Valve Diseases**

Panelists: **A. Stefanidis, E. Donal**

2025 ESC / EACTS Recommendations on the Management of Aortic Valve Disease

**B. Cosyns**

2025 ESC / EACTS Recommendations on the Management of Mitral Valve Disease

**A. Papachristidis**

2025 ESC / EACTS Recommendations on the Management of Tricuspid Valve Disease

**L. Badano**

**17:00-17:30**

*Coffee break*

**17:30-18:00**

**Satellite Lecture**

**18:00-19:00**

**Session 5: Hands-on training workshop II (pg.15)**

**In 5 parallel rooms**

## PROGRAM

### Saturday 14 March 2026

**09:00-10:30**      **Session 6: Hands-on training workshop III (pg.16)**

In 5 parallel rooms

**10:30-10:45**      **Coffee break**

**10:45-12:45**      **Session 7: Focus on mitral valve**

**Chairpersons:** K. Papadopoulos, P. Lancellotti

**Discussants:** O.Ozden Kayhan, K. Kipourou, A. Theodosis – Georgilas, S. Mihaila-Baldea

**Case**                      A patient with a challenging mitral regurgitation: case presentation  
**I. Kotlar**

**Theory**                     Three-dimensional echocardiography for anatomy and severity assessment of mitral Regurgitation  
**C. Fiore**

**Theory**                     Risk stratification in patients with mitral regurgitation  
**K. Spargias**

**Theory**                     Selection criteria and echocardiographic guidance of mitral-TEER  
**K. Papadopoulos**

**Theory**                     Atrial and ventricular secondary mitral regurgitation treatment: Current evidence.  
**E. Sade**

**Theory**                     Mitral-TEER vs TMVR: 2026 update  
**F. Maisano**

**Case**                        A patient with a challenging mitral regurgitation: heart team discussion  
  
Discussion

**12:45-13:15**      **Lunch break**

## PROGRAM

### Saturday 14 March 2026

**13:15-14:15**

**Session 8: TBA**

**14:15-16:15**

**Session 9: Post-procedural assessment of valvular interventions**

**Chairpersons: S. Karagiannis, V. Ninios**

**Discussants: D. Ketikoglou, P. Papadimitriou, D. Tsiapras, K. Aggeli**

**Theory**

Complications of endoscopic mitral valve repair  
**A. Pitsis**

**Theory**

Evaluation and treatment of paravalvular leaks  
**H. Mahmoud - Elsayed**

**Theory**

TAVI bioprosthesis degeneration. Is TAVI-in-TAVI the next best option?  
**K. Toutouzas**

**Theory**

Diagnosis and management of prosthetic valve endocarditis  
**B. Popescu**

**Theory**

Mitral-TEER complications  
**M. Chrissoheris**

**Theory**

How to manage residual tricuspid and mitral regurgitation after TEER?  
**P. Lancellotti**

Discussion

**16:15-16:30**

**Coffee break**

**16:30-17:00**

**Satellite Lecture (pg.18)**

## PROGRAM

### Saturday 14 March 2026

**17:00-18:00**

**Session 10: Hands-on training workshop IV (pg.17)**  
In 5 parallel rooms

**18:00-19:00**

**Echo @ jeopardy**

**Moderators:** S. Karagiannis, K. Papadopoulos, L. Badano, M. Vannan

**The "Greek" Team**

V. Sachpekidis, T. Zaglavara, A. Stefanidis, C. Papadopoulos

**The "European" Team**

E. Agricola, P. Lancellotti, K. Kipourou, C. Fiore

**The "Balkan" Team**

V. Reskovic Luksic, I. Kotlar, S. Mihaila-Baldea, B. Popescu

## FACULTY LIST

- K. Aggeli** / Professor of Cardiology, 1st University Cardiology Department, "Hippokration" General Hospital, Athens
- E. Agricola** / Professor of Cardiology, San Raffaele Hospital, IRCCS, Milan, Italy Vita-Salute University, Milan, Italy
- D. Antonakaki** / MD, MSc, Consultant Cardiologist in Inherited Cardiac Conditions, Sports Cardiology and CMR, Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center, Senior Clinical Lecturer, St George's University of London
- L. Badano** / MD, PhD, FESC, FACC Honorary Fellow ASE, BSE and EACVI, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Milano-Bicocca, Director of the Integrated Cardiovascular Diagnosis Unit, Department of Cardiology, Istituto Auxologico Italiano, IRCCS, Milan, Italy
- A. Badescu** / Cardiologist, Faculty of Medicine, Ovidius University of Constanta, Constanta, Romania
- M. Chrissoheris** / Cardiologist, Associate Director, Transcatheter Heart Valves Department, HYGEIA Hospital, Athens, Greece
- B. Cosyns** / Head of Cardiology Dept, Co-director of in vivo and cellular imaging center (ICMI), Co-director of the CHVZ core lab in coronary artery physiology, Professor of Clinical Cardiology, University of Brussels, Belgium
- E. Donal** / Professor of Cardiology, Chu Rennes - Universite Rennes1-LTSl-Inserm 1099
- S. Evangelou** / Cardiologist, MD, FSCCT, European Interbalkan Medical Center, Thessaloniki, cardiac CT specialist (SCCT Level 3), member of the Education committee and of the International Task Force of SCCT
- C. Fiore** / Corrado Fiore MD, FASE, FEACVI, Cardiologist, Head of Cardiology Department and EchoLab Città di Lecce Hospital GVM, Lecce, Italy
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- P. Giannakopoulou** / Cardiologist, Consultant of Cardiology Dept, "G. Papanikolaou" GH, Thessaloniki, Greece
- T. Gossios** / Assistant Professor in Cardiology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, AHEPA University Hospital, Thessaloniki
- L. Herbots** / Cardiologist, Jessa Hospital Hasselt, Belgium

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**P. Lancellotti / Professor of Cardiology University of Liège CHU Sart Tilman, Liège, Belgium**

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**F. Maisano / Professor in Cardiovascular Surgery, Director of Valve Center, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan, Italy**

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- K. Spargias** / MD, PhD, FESC, Interventional Cardiologist, Director, Transcatheter Heart Valves Department, HYGIEIA Hospital, Athens
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- A. Stefanidis** / Consultant Cardiologist, Gen. Host. of Nikea, Athens, Greece, EACVI lab accreditation committee (Chair)

## FACULTY LIST

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**A. Theodosis - Georgilas** / Consultant Cardiologist, "Tzaneio" General Hospital of Piraeus

**M. Tomaselli** / Cardiologist, Department of Cardiology, Istituto Auxologico italiano, San Luca Hospital, Milan Italy

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**D. Vasile** / Cardiologist, Emergency University Hospital of Bucharest

**T. Zaglavara** / MD, PhD, Cardiologist, Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging Department and 1st Cardiothoracic Surgery Department, European Interbalkan Medical Center, Thessaloniki, Greece

## WORKSHOPS | Friday 13 March 2026

09:00-10:30

### Session 1: Hands-on training workshop I

**Room 1:** Chambers assessment part I > Advanced Evaluation of Left Ventricle with 4D, strain and Myocardial Work [GE Healthcare workshops]

(K. Papadopoulos/L. Badano/B. Popescu/ A. Badescu)

**Room 2:** Station #1: TOE scanning with Vivid Pioneer and 6VT-D probe | Station #2: Exercise echocardiography with eBike and Vivid E95 [GE Healthcare workshops]

(S. Karagiannis/ C. Papadopoulos)

**Room 3:** Scanning and hands-on training on MitraClip simulator for trans-septal puncture, manipulation of the guide-catheter and grasping of mitral valve [Abbott MitraClip workshops]

**Moderator:** B. Michalski

**Room 4:** Clinical case corner > Cardiac Amyloidosis

**Panelists:** K. Hristova, P. Giannakopoulou

Diagnostic algorithm for cardiac amyloidosis assessment (I. Ikonmidis)

Cardiac amyloidosis and valvulopathies (T. Gossios)

Cardiac amyloidosis case #1 (V. Sachpekidis)

Cardiac amyloidosis case #2 (A. Badescu)

Cardiac amyloidosis case #3 (E. Pagourelas)

**Room 5:** 4D Assessment of Mitral Valve [Philips-TomTec workshops]

**Speakers:** H. Mahmoud-Elsayed, V. Sachpekidis

## WORKSHOPS | Friday 13 March 2026

18:00-19:00

### Session 5: Hands-on training workshop II

**Room 1:** Chambers assessment part II > Advanced Evaluation of Right Ventricle with 4D and strain imaging [**GE Healthcare Workshops**]

(**L. Badano/ M. Tomaselli**)

**Room 2:** Station #1: TOE scanning with Vivid Pioneer and 6VT-D probe | Station #2: Exercise echocardiography with eBike and Vivid E95 [**GE Healthcare workshops**]

(**K. Papadopoulos/ S. Karagiannis/ A. Badescu**)

**Room 3:** Scanning and hands-on training on MitraClip simulator for trans-septal puncture, manipulation of the guide-catheter and grasping of mitral valve [**Abbott MitraClip workshops**]

**Moderator:** **K. Kipourou**

**Room 4:** Clinical case corner > Mastering TEER procedures

**Panelists:** **I. Ikonmidis, B. Michalski**

When should I use MitraClip and when PASCAL device? (**K. Spargias**)

TEER in secondary Ventricular MR (**M. Chrissoheris**)

Combined mitral and tricuspid TEER (**I. Ninios**)

TEER in complex degenerative MV disease (**A. Papachristidis**)

CPET echo for decision making for mitral TEER (**L. Herbots**)

**Room 5:** Chambers assessment part II > Advanced Evaluation of Right Ventricle with 4D and strain imaging [**Philips-TomTec workshops**]

**Speakers:** **H. Mahmoud-Elsayed, V. Sachpekidis**

## WORKSHOPS | Saturday 14 March 2026

09:00-10:30

### Session 6: Hands-on training workshop III

**Room 1:** 4D Valves Assessment > MV | TV Assessment [GE Healthcare workshops]  
MV Assesment (**K. Papadopoulos/C. Fiore**)  
TV Assesment (**L. Badano/ M. Tomaselli**)

**Room 2:** Station #1: TOE scanning with Vivid Pioneer and 6VT-D probe |  
Station #2: Exercise echocardiography with eBike and Vivid E95 [GE Healthcare workshops]  
(**C. Papadopoulos/ I. Ikonomidis**)

**Room 3:** Scanning and hands-on training on MitraClip simulator for trans-septal puncture, manipulation of the guide-catheter and grasping of mitral valve [Abbott MitraClip workshops]  
**Moderator: M. Chrissoheris**

**Room 4:** Clinical case corner > Mastering Aortic Valve  
**Panelists: E. Agricola, D. Kaipis, S. Evangelou, J. Separovic Hanzevacki**

2D/3D assessment of aortic stenosis (**A. Stefanidis**)  
When to use Calcium Score and when low dose dobutamine stress echo in aortic stenosis? (**T. Zaglavara**)  
How to use CT for TAVI assessment (**K. Mitrousi**)  
Cardiac MRI in aortic regurgitation (**S. Loizos**)  
A challenging TAVI case #1 (**A. D. Mavrogianni**)  
A challenging TAVI case #2 (**A. Siskos**)  
A challenging TAVI case #3 (**D.Vasile/S. Mihaila-Baldea**)

**Room 5:** 4D Assessment of Tricuspid and Aortic Valve [Philips-TomTec workshops]  
**Speakers: H. Mahmoud-Elsayed, V. Sachpekidis**

## WORKSHOPS | Saturday 14 March 2026

17:00-18:00

### Session 10: Hands-on training workshop IV

**Room 1:** Stress Echocardiography > In ischemia detection | In Valvulopathies [**GE Healthcare workshops**]

**(S. Karagiannis/ C. Papadopoulos)**

**Room 2:** Station #1: TOE scanning with Vivid Pioneer and 6VT-D probe |  
Station #2: Exercise echocardiography with eBike and Vivid E95 [**GE Healthcare workshops**]

**(B. Popescu/ I. Ikonomidis)**

**Room 3:** Scanning and hands-on training on MitraClip simulator for trans-septal puncture, manipulation of the guide-catheter and grasping of mitral valve [**Abbott MitraClip workshops**]

**Moderator: I. Ninios**

**Room 4:** Clinical case corner > Clinical examples of how to evaluate and treat HOCM patients

**Speakers: K. Papadopoulos, D. Antonakaki**

**Panelists: P. Giannakopoulou, I. Palios**

**Room 5:** Chambers assessment part I >Advanced Evaluation of Left Ventricle [**Philips-TomTec workshops**]

**Speakers: H. Mahmoud-Elsayed, V. Sachpekidis**

# BALKAN VALVES

13th - 14th MARCH 2026

EUROPEAN INTERBALKAN MEDICAL CENTER  
THESSALONIKI / GREECE



## SATELLITE LECTURES

**Saturday 14 March 2026**

**16.30 -17.00 Satellite Lecture Sponsored by Bristol Myers Squibb**  
**Panelists: P. Giannakopoulou, I. Palios**

Therapeutic Role of Selective Cardiac Myosin Inhibitors in Symptomatic Obstructive Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy  
**K. Papadopoulos**