



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS EMERITI

Athens, March 2026

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

This is my first letter as President of EAPE, having assumed the role immediately after the elections and the establishment of the Board of Directors.

I consider it a privilege and a great honor to have been appointed to the prestigious and certainly demanding role of President, which I hope to fulfill adequately with personal commitment and dedication, but above all thanks to the invaluable collaboration of all of you.

I joined with enthusiasm and interest when the news arrived that EAPE, the European Association of Professors Emeriti, had been established. I took part in the excellent first congress in Athens, very well organized by Dennis Cokkinos, which was followed by the equally well-organized congresses in Naples by Natale De Santo and in London by sir Les Ebdon.

I commend and applaud the work done over these years by Presidents Dennis, Natale, Les Ebdon, and George, who have made a significant contribution to the development and growth of the EAPE association, as have the various Boards of Directors, all valuable and interested in EAPE's activities.

A special mention for Georgia Drosatou, always attentive, punctual, and full of passion.

The problems that emerged during this long period are:

1. Increasing participation and making scientific and cultural meetings more numerous and widely interesting.
2. Securing funding to provide stability to the association for better economic and financial management;
3. Continuous review and comparison to define, determine and, if possible, make uniform the role of Emeriti in Europe;
4. Relations with other National or International Associations such as that of Joze Gricar for example.

While keeping the webinars proposed by the various sections, I propose the following solutions:

1. Choosing topics of broad interest with the participation not only of professionals but also of the general public, university students and high school students, by organizing conferences, seminars, debates, and presentations with the aid of movies and slides;
2. Organizing meetings together with other scientific societies.

The proposed topics, in order of preference, could be:

- A. The sea in the broadest sense of the word: first point the damage caused by marine pollution and in particular the consequences on the human organism caused by micro and nanoplastics; Second point, climatic and meteorological variations determined by changes in the sea;

- B. Health and Active Aging in a changing society;
- C. Improving quality of life through urban planning adjustments;
- D. New frontiers in oncology: prevention, sports activity, nutrition care, correction of risk factors, environmental care, psychological aspects, therapeutic innovations, and care models;
- E. Lights and shadows of AI: Driving force of modern life, a possible danger;
- F. Fighting youth crime;
- G. Always reserving a space for the role of Emeriti.

The format will be hybrid: both in-person and remote. Meeting venues: the hall of the Circolo Canottieri Napoli and a dedicated lecture hall at the Federico II Polyclinic of Naples.

The best solution for simultaneous translation is currently under consideration in order to permit the participation of many people who are not professionals or experts in the field but are interested in the various problems proposed.

As for the problem of economic and financial stability, the following options may be considered:

1. Systematically collecting annual membership fees and defining the related consequences;
2. Increasing the number of members by motivating them with active participation in scientific sessions;
3. Contributions from companies, institutes, foundations, banks, European funds and research projects.

Linking the choice of scientific meetings with institutions that have a strong interest in the topic.

I greet all of you dear friends and colleagues with sympathy and cordiality wishing a fruitful work with everyone's collaboration.

All my best wishes

Giancarlo Bracale