

THE 5TH COUNTRY LIAISON MEETING AT EULAR 2018

Once again, the team of EMEUNET Country Liaisons and the members of the Country Liaison subgroup met together during the EULAR annual congress.

The highlights from 2017 were presented during the meeting, with a special focus on the activities organized for young rheumatologists and researchers at the national level and some recent developments by the Country Liaison subgroup to keep on ensuring a good local promotion of EMEUNET. Afterwards, our colleagues Johanna Mucke (Germany), Christina Tsapalaki (Greece) and Diego Benavent (Spain) shared their experiences as Country Liaisons, with a special focus on their approaches to increase EMEUNET membership and awareness in their countries. Interesting clues on how to 'personalize' the promotion of EMEUNET to different target audiences were given. Finally, a special emphasis was made on two crucial aspects: the emerging role of Social Media to spread the word of EMEUNET among young rheumatologists and researchers, and the potential collaboration with national societies. An interesting feedback followed and ongoing approaches in some countries were discussed, but social media were seen as a complementary mean to vehicle EMEUNET-related information.

It was a pleasure to see the great enthusiasm and the willingness to contribute to the expansion of EMEUNET by our Country Liaisons, a fundamental pillar of the EMEUNET community. EMEUNET is continuously growing, both in terms of quantity and quality, so the role of our network of Country Liaisons is becoming a more and more key role.

Once again, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our Country Liaisons, and the subgroup members, for their enormous dedication and time!

*Francesca Ometto and Javier Rodríguez-Carrio
on behalf of the EMEUNET Country Liaison Subgroup*

