

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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▪ Accompanying persons

Due to changes in the pharmaceutical industry code of conduct, ERS is no longer able to grant access to the Congress for accompanying persons. The Congress is only accessible to certified healthcare professionals, associated press, industry representatives and other stakeholders in the science, management, and prevention of lung disease.

▪ Badge

Delegates will receive their congress badge by email before the event. It should be printed in colour on A4 plain paper. Badges are personal, individual and non-transferable. If printed duplicate and shared or used in breach of these rules, the badge will be deemed invalid, and entrance to the Congress will be denied. Entry may only be allowed with a valid ID Card or Passport.

▪ Cancellation or postponement of the Congress

In the event that the ERS Congress 2026 cannot be held or must be moved or changed due to the following reason(s), though not limited to:

- An event of “**Force Majeure**” meaning an event beyond the reasonable control of ERS, which prevents ERS from complying with any of its obligations, including but not limited to:
 - Special actions taken by government of local authorities;
 - Unforeseen political and economic events, such as national emergency or any comparable events;
 - Strike, lockout, lockdown, threats to public safety (including terrorism, health hazards) or other comparable events;
 - Act of God (such as, but not limited to, fires, explosions, earthquakes, drought, tidal waves and floods);
 - War, hostilities (whether war be declared or not), invasion, act of foreign enemies, mobilisation, requisition, embargo, national mourning, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, military or usurped power, or civil war;
 - Contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear fuel, or from any nuclear waste from the combustion of nuclear fuel, radio-active toxic explosive, or other hazardous properties of any explosive nuclear assembly or nuclear component of such assembly;
 - Riot, commotion, go slows or disorder closure of airports and train stations;
 - Acts or threats of terrorism;
 - Pandemic or epidemic situation and other major health risk (whether declared as such or not by potential or actual health risks (e.g. pandemic flu or other disease) for the participants to the event and their patients, to the extent that the risk of disease spread is considered as serious by a significant part of the scientific community or by a significant number of health authorities worldwide or specifically at the place of the event. However, the lack of a formal warning by the health authorities or other governmental bodies shall not be interpreted as meaning the absence of health risk for the purpose of the present provision. By assessing the existence of a potential or actual health risk, the parties agree to fully take into consideration the special position of ERS as a medical organisation and of its duty to avoid to the largest possible extent all and any risks of contamination for its patients.
 - Due to official orders, recommendations, or at least economically unfeasible official requirements for which none of the parties is responsible, or due to the unreasonableness of the event implementation.
 - When 40% or more of the event participants must adhere to mandatory quarantine in home country/country where the event will be held or not permitted to travel due to ban from their respective hospitals/ institutions/ countries or immigration restriction by country where the event will be held.

- Any other reason(s) beyond ERS control that prevent or substantially hinder the plan of holding the Congress.

ERS cannot be held liable by participants for any damages, costs, or losses incurred, such as transportation costs, accommodation costs, financial losses, etc. Under these circumstances, ERS reserves the right to retain the entire registration fees and to use those for the next edition of the Congress, which the participant can attend without paying further fees. Alternatively, the participant can receive a reimbursement of registration fees, minus any costs incurred by ERS for the organisation of the affected event, which could not be recovered from third parties.

■ Cancellation policy

Cancellation and refund:

- If a participant is unable to attend the Congress in Barcelona, ERS offers the possibility to cancel and refund their registration within 14 days of the registration date.
- The request to cancel must be made in writing to the ERS congress registration team.

Conversion or transfer:

- After the initial 14-day period and until 31 July 2026 at 23:59, participants can either:
 - Convert their registration to an online one with a refund of the price difference.
 - Transfer their registration to the next ERS Congress, with the obligation to pay any difference in price if applicable.

Written notification:

- Participants also have the option to cancel their registration by sending a written notification to the ERS Congress Registration team via email. Cancellations done until 31 July 2026 at 23:59 CEST will be refunded and subject to an administrative fee of 25% of the total amount paid. This will be deducted from the refunded amount. Cancellations done later than 31 July 2026 will not be refunded.

Non-refundable situations:

- No refunds will be issued for:
 - Cancellations received after 31 July 2026.
 - Unattended sessions and courses.
 - Early termination of attendance.
 - Incorrect fee selection during the registration process.

Impact of labour strikes/travel disruption:

- If onsite attendance is affected by labour strikes or travel disruptions, resulting in delegates missing some or all of the in-person event, ERS will not reimburse the registration cost. However, all sessions will be accessible online to registered delegates until the end of the year.

Non-refundable donations:

- Donations made to the European Lung Foundation (ELF) and contributions to MyClimate protection projects are non-refundable.

■ CME Credits

CME credits will be awarded for pre-congress content, live sessions and session replays, based on your hourly consumption. Only registered participants will receive CME credits. Further information will follow.

After completion of the congress evaluation survey, which is mandatory to receive CME credits, participants will be able to download CME certificates.

▪ Congress registration

The registration deadlines are as follows:

❖ Early-bird registration	until 01.07.26, 23:59 CEST
❖ Standard registration	until 04.09.26, 23:59 CEST
❖ Onsite registration	from 05.09.26, 00:00 CEST

Registration will only be confirmed upon receipt of payment in full as well as a proof of status if required (please refer to paragraph “Proof of Status”). If the registration form and/or the full payment have not been received before the deadline indicated, the registration will be cancelled OR the next category of registration fee will automatically be charged.

To be registered under the ERS Gold Member fee or ERS Member through national society agreements fee, the delegate must have an active membership at the time of registration. No refunds will be made for delegates who acquire or renew their membership after the registration has been confirmed. Please verify that your membership is active prior to registering for the congress. For further information, please visit <https://www.ersnet.org/the-society/membership>.

All registration fees include admission to the scientific sessions and exhibition in Barcelona, access to the virtual platform and access to the congress recordings until 30 December 2026. The Postgraduate Courses and Educational Skills Workshops are not included in the congress registration fees.

▪ Connectivity or technical issues

The participant acknowledges that it is their responsibility to ensure a secure and stable internet connection, compatible operating system requirements and that their web browser is up to date in order to avoid connectivity or other technical issues when participating online. ERS will use its reasonable best efforts in providing online access through third party channels. In the event that the participant encounters connectivity issues due to a weak internet connection, incompatible operating system requirements or inappropriate web browser settings, the participant acknowledges that ERS is not liable. ERS will also not be liable in the event of an interruption of connection or connectivity issues due to a case of “Force Majeure” or attributable to a third party’s network operators.

▪ Data protection and sharing of contact details

Data provided during the booking process (contact and payment details)

All data provided during the booking process may be used (saved, stored, processed, transmitted, shared and deleted, but not modified) to allow the processing and execution of the participant’s booking(s). The legal basis is the performance of a contract or the steps taken at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract (art. 6 § 1 lit. b GDPR).

These data may be shared with our partners and suppliers to the extent necessary to process and execute the participant’s booking. These data may also be shared with a sister society (medical society) to ensure the organisation of the Congress.

These data will be stored for the period of time necessary for the processing and the execution of the participant's booking. After the Congress, they will be archived for 10 years for legal storage purposes and/or to protect our interests in the event of a lawsuit.

ERS may also use these data to send to the participant information regarding activities at the congress or other communications related to the activities at the congress which may be of interest (newsletter). The participant can unsubscribe to such newsletter at any time by clicking the "unsubscribe" link at the bottom of each newsletter.

Data protection carbon footprint calculation

Data regarding travel and accommodation is collected as part of the congress registration form. This data is used exclusively by ERS to calculate a carbon footprint for our event and to guide sustainability donations from our delegates/ERS. This data will not be shared with a third party

Official ERS recording and photography

All ERS congress sessions are recorded. There is also an official ERS photographer/filming crew on site throughout the venue. Participants' images may be captured and included on official ERS channels including on promotional items. These images will not be shared with third parties or used in any other capacity.

Delegate recording/photography

- **In sessions:** Audio/visual recording and photography is strictly prohibited inside any ERS congress session.
- **Exhibition:** Audio/visual recording and photography is strictly prohibited in the Exhibition Hall – unless you are an exhibitor who has received official permission/guidelines from the ERS Corporate Relations Department.
- **General areas:** Delegates are free to take photographs in general areas for personal use and to share on social media. However, audio/visual recording is not permitted throughout the venue. Registered press can seek permission from the ERS press team for filming (see the Media and embargo policy).

Optional data sharing with industry

The personal data of participants is never automatically shared with industry partners. However, all participants can choose to share their own details as they interact with industry representatives and activities, if they wish. Data is shared through the scanning of a barcode or QR code on participant badges. The data shared would be: title, first name, last name, email, country, professional activity and workplace. Data sharing with industry is not obligatory and if you choose not to share your details (and do not give permission to scan your badge). Refusing to share details does not exclude you from any part of the congress programme. Data protection is warranted in accordance with the Swiss Data Protection Act and the Tele Service Data Protection Act.

Third party software/providers

The participant accepts that the use of third-party providers is required to facilitate elements of the ERS Congress. In registering for the ERS Congress, the participant accepts the terms and conditions of third-party providers and agrees to abide by their terms of use. Where necessary, ERS will inform participants where third-party providers are being used and where external terms of use may apply. ERS will use its reasonable best efforts in providing access to the online platform of the Congress through third-party channels, such as Zoom, however the participant accepts that ERS is not liable for technical or connectivity issues that are the responsibility of the third-party provider.

▪ Children

Children under 18 are not permitted to attend the ERS Congress 2026. Childcare services are available on a complimentary basis, parents must book the service in advance with K.I.T. Group.

▪ Code of conduct

ERS is committed to providing a professional, friendly, and safe environment for all participants regardless of gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, or other protected class. All participants (inclusive of delegates, staff, speakers, exhibitors and other guests) are expected to follow a code of conduct. Unacceptable behaviours may include but are not exclusive to: intimidation; harassment; abuse; discrimination; any speech or actions deemed demeaning or derogatory to participants; inappropriate use of images; real or implied threat of professional or financial harm; disruption to the event; unauthorised photography; unauthorised audio or visual recordings of slides and presentations; and unauthorised sharing of promotional/advertisement materials. ERS reserves the right to take action if this code is breached. This may result in immediate removal from the event or platform – without refund, and a ban from attending future events.

▪ Disclaimer

The participant acknowledges that they have no right to sue the organisers for damages should the ERS Congress not be held or if it is postponed for unexpected political or economic reasons because of "Force Majeure" or any event described in the above-mentioned sections "connectivity or technical issues" and "cancellation or postponement of the congress".

Programme changes which occur due to non-appearance of speakers or other occurrences outside of ERS's control, will not be compensated.

Additionally, ERS is not responsible for any bodily or material damage (including theft) sustained by participants out of, during, or in connection with the ERS Congress, which is not directly ERS's fault. Each participant is responsible for his or her own insurance in such events.

▪ Fraudulent usage

It is strictly **not** permitted to amend, copy or edit any document issued by ERS. To do so will result in legal action taken by ERS.

A single registration only permits the registered individual to access this event and its content. The participant badge must not be shared with anyone. ERS reserves the right to deny/revoke access if any suspicious activity is detected or reported.

▪ Fulfilment and jurisdiction

Any litigation stemming from the above general terms and conditions and contract will be brought before the competent courts in Lausanne, Switzerland. These general terms and conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of Switzerland.

▪ Language

The official congress language is English. No translation will be offered unless specified differently in the programme.

▪ Letter of invitation

Participants requiring an official letter of invitation should contact the ERS Congress Registration team. Contact email: ers2026registration@kit-group.org

To receive a letter of invitation, participants must be fully registered for the Congress and payment in full must be submitted. The attention of the participants is drawn to the fact that the letter of invitation must be requested sufficiently in advance and that the letters of invitation will not be sent after 15 August 2026 at 23:59 CEST. The letter of invitation does not financially obligate ERS in any way. All expenses incurred in relation to the ERS Congress are the sole responsibility of the participant. Any costs for express mailing of documents must be covered by the participant.

▪ Modification of the programme

ERS reserves the right to modify the congress programme, which is published as an indication only.

▪ Payment

Should participants require a specific billing address on the invoice, they are asked to add it during the registration process in the “invoicing” part. Once issued, and following legal regulations, it is no longer possible to modify the invoice. Therefore, participants are requested to ensure the correct billing address is entered when registering.

All payments for individual registrations must be settled by credit card (AMEX, Visa or MasterCard). Delegates are advised to pay in euros. Should they pay in their local currency, an extra fee on the exchange rate will apply.

▪ Proof of status and membership

To register for the Allied Health Professional or Scientist (PhD, non-MD) fee, the required proof must be forwarded by the published deadline (together with the registration fee).

A proof of status is an official letter written by the head of department – hospital, company or academic institution – which confirms the status of the applicant. The document must be issued in English on the organisation’s official letterhead and must contain the following information:

- *Participant’s full name and date of birth*
- *Confirmation of participant’s position within his/her institution*
- *Participant’s supervisor’s name, title and signature*
- *Participant’s institution’s stamp*

For the ones registering as “Scientist (PhD, non-MD)”, the letter should state that they have a PhD but are not working as medical doctor. The following can benefit from this fee:

- *Psychiatrist*
- *Psychologists*
- *Clinicians*
- *Researchers*
- *Pharmacists*

When letters, certifying status, are sent after the Early bird or Standard registration deadline, the next registration fee will be applied even if the online registration was completed within the deadline.

The ERS membership must be valid at the time of the congress. The ERS membership must remain active and valid at the time the congress takes place.

The **Under 40** category applies to participants born on or after 05.09.1986. A copy of a valid ID or passport must be provided for all registrations under this fee.

▪ **Registration confirmation**

The registration confirmation along with the payment receipt will be sent by email to delegates upon completion of their registration and once the related full payment has been received.

▪ **Registration ineligibility**

The [ERS Constitution and By-Laws](#) state that individuals who have had any relationship with the tobacco/alternative nicotine delivery products industry at any time after 1 January, 2000 are strictly prohibited from participating in ERS activities. Based on this, individuals who have worked with or represented the tobacco/alternative nicotine delivery products industry in any way since 1 January, 2000 are also not eligible for congress registration.

Registrations made in violation of the above will not be accepted.

▪ **Registration name change**

Name changes to an existing congress registration or transfer of an existing congress registration are possible. A handling fee of €50 will be charged per request. If the new registration results in a higher fee (e.g. changing from “Under 40” to “ERS Member”), the difference in fees will be charged accordingly. If the new registration is made under a category requiring proof of status (e.g. “Under 40”), the relevant documentation must be submitted by 15 August.

The individual must email the ERS Congress Registration team (ers2026registration@kit-group.org) and share the details of their replacement. Requests will only be accepted by email and until 15 August, 2026. After this date, any request must be carried out onsite.

▪ **Sustainability donations**

As part of ERS’s commitment to sustainability, the Society encourages all delegates to make a sustainability donation alongside their registration fee for this year’s event. This donation will go directly to climate protection projects, selected by ERS, which align with the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals. There are two options for delegates to choose from as part of the registration form:

- **Option 1:** By default, a €5 sustainability donation is included in the registration form. Delegates can opt out by unticking the box, or they can select Option 2 (see below). ERS will match each €5 donation, doubling the total amount contributed by delegates.
- **Option 2:** Make a payment according to a more precise calculation based on your travel. This option provides a recommended donation figure based on the carbon footprint of each delegate’s travel to the event.

ERS recognises that some individuals, institutions, organisations and industry partners already have sustainability measures in place which take such donations into account. Anyone who does not wish to contribute to the donations requested in the registration form have the option to opt out.

- **Transportation cards**

Transportation cards can be purchased at the time of registration and are non-refundable and non-transferable.

- **Travel and health insurance**

ERS strongly advises participants to take out insurance to cover the loss incurred in case of cancellation (registration fees, travel, accommodation, and other costs), medical expenses and damage to or loss of personal effects.

- **Visa requirements**

It is the sole responsibility of the participant to take care of his/her visa requirements. Should the visa application be rejected, the participant may cancel his/her registration as per the cancellation policy stated in the section "Cancellation policy". Please note that a notification sent to the ERS Congress Registration team after 31 July 2026 at 23:59 CEST will not be accepted.

Valid as of 10/04/2026