



## European Federation of Immunological Societies

### EFIS General Assembly

**Tuesday, September 8th, 2015, 14.00 -17:00**

**ECI 2015 Vienna, Austria, Austria Center Vienna  
Meeting Room 5**

#### *In attendance*

EFIS Board: Lorenzo Moretta, René van Lier, Catherine Sautès-Fridman, Anna Erdei, Hannes Stockinger

EFIS President's Office: Tom Wiley

Other participants - nominees: Pablo Engel, Stipan Jonjic, Attila Mócsai, Winfried Pickl, Andreas Radbruch, Federica Sallusto.  
43 (out of 46 invited) Delegates of the 31 EFIS member Societies (Attachment 1)

1. **Adoption of the Agenda and approval of the [Minutes of the last EFIS General Assembly](#)** held in Glasgow, September 6, 2012.

*The Agenda was adopted and the Minutes of the EFIS General Assembly held in Glasgow were approved.*

2. **Matters arising**  
*None.*

3. **President's report** - Lorenzo Moretta (Attachment 2)  
*All in favor of approval of report.*

4. **Secretary General's report** - Anna Erdei

Anna Erdei recalled that she had been elected Secretary General in 2000, and felt honored and privileged to be re-elected four times since then. She mentioned the tremendous development of EFIS, which had grown into a sort of "non-profit enterprise" by now. She recalled the fruitful and intense work over the past 15 years with former Presidents of EFIS: Sergio Romagnani, Eddy Liew, Stefan Kauffman, Catherine Sautès-Fridman and, currently, Lorenzo Moretta. She emphasized the important role of the Treasurers, Reinhold Schmidt and Hannes Stockinger, who kept strict guard of the Federation's finances. She listed the new initiatives introduced during this period, such as the Short-term Fellowships, followed recently by the Long-term World Fellowships, several hundreds of bursaries to attend meetings, and support to the organizers of immunology-related events and PhD courses throughout Europe. This expansion of various activities required the establishment

### EFIS Board 2012 - 2015

#### **PRESIDENT**

**Lorenzo Moretta**

Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù  
Viale Ferdinando Baldelli, 41  
00146 Rome, Italy  
[lorenzo.moretta@opbg.net](mailto:lorenzo.moretta@opbg.net)

#### **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

**René A. W. van Lier**

Sanquin Blood Supply Foundation  
Plesmanlaan 125  
1066 CX Amsterdam  
[r.vanlier@sanquin.nl](mailto:r.vanlier@sanquin.nl)

#### **PAST PRESIDENT**

**Catherine Sautès-Fridman**

Centre de recherche des Cordeliers, UMRS 872  
15, rue de l'école de médecine  
F-75006 Paris, France  
[catherine.fridman@crc.jussieu.fr](mailto:catherine.fridman@crc.jussieu.fr)

#### **SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Anna Erdei**

Department of Immunology  
Eötvös Loránd University  
Pazmany s. 1/C  
H-1117 Budapest, Hungary  
[anna.erdei@freemail.hu](mailto:anna.erdei@freemail.hu)

#### **TREASURER**

**Hannes Stockinger**

Institute for Hygiene and Applied Immunology  
Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology  
Medical University of Vienna  
Lazarettgasse 19  
A-1090, Vienna, Austria  
[hannes.stockinger@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:hannes.stockinger@meduniwien.ac.at)

#### **EFIS OFFICES**

**Thomas Wiley - Coordinator & President's Office**

Via Nicola Fabrizi 14  
16148 Genova, Italy  
[office@efis.org](mailto:office@efis.org)

**[www.efis.org](http://www.efis.org)**

of the “EFIS-Office” and hiring of assistance in 2007. From this time the Board’s work has been flanked first by assistants Astrid Hahner and Marie Beuzard, and since 2012, Tom Wiley, the EFIS Coordinator. She expressed her hope that the National Societies had benefited extensively from being a member of EFIS, and encouraged them to continue to work together with the Board. Finally, she thanked the EFIS Member Societies for the smooth and efficient cooperation over the past 15 years.

*All in favor of approval of report.*

5. **Treasurer's report** - Hannes Stockinger (Attachment 3)

*All in favor of approval of report.*

6. **Adoption of the updated EFIS Statutes**

Discussion then turned to the proposed modifications to the Statutes of EFIS. These, in short, regarded points 3.a and 4 of Article 7 concerning the nomination and election of Federation administrators (proposed modified text in italics):

- Point 3.a: The committee shall prepare a nomination containing the name of at least one candidate for each office with the exception of the office of President-elect, for which the names of at least two candidates must be included *based on nominations received from Member Societies*.
- Point 4: The administrators shall be appointed to their office by the General Assembly of members *for a period of three years, starting with January 1<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year following their election*.

Anna Fogdell-Hahn, acting President of the Scandinavian Society of Immunology, called into question the deletion of the first paragraph under point 4 a. in Article 7 of the Statutes. This misunderstanding was clarified by calling her attention to the preceding paragraph of the Statutes.

*The updated Statutes were unanimously approved and adopted.*

7. **Immunology Letters** Editor-in-Chief’s report

Vito Pistoia, Editor-in-Chief of *Immunology Letters* (IL), was unable to attend the GA. Hannes Stockinger, member of the IL Editorial Board, briefly summarized the journal’s activities and achievements over the past 3 years (Attachment 4).

8. **European Journal of Immunology** Ex-Co Chairman’s report - Andreas Radbruch

Andreas Radbruch presented an update on European Journal of Immunology (EJI), highlighting its representation of European immunology and noting that the impact factor of the ISI subject category was declining. EJI's decreased impact factor had led to a drop in submissions, but the journal was still receiving sufficient submissions for content. Nonetheless, it was important that the European immunology community actively supported EJI and spread the news that EJI offers the community a fair publishing experience with (i) fair and competent peer review, (ii) fast manuscript handling, (iii) full funder compliance. He encouraged



EFIS members to submit their "hot", competitive research articles to EJI for "fast track" publication because the articles are scoop protected. EFIS members were also encouraged to promote EJI's fair citation practice, i.e. to cite the original work rather than reviews, wherever published and not just cite Cell, Science or Nature publications and their reviews. He also highlighted that EJI and EFIS shared the common goals of supporting research, education, encouraging young scientists and promoting immunology. EJI was building a community of European immunology by (i) full European representation on EJI's editorial board, (ii) supporting immunology schools in Europe (including holding talks at such schools) and (iii) the financial support of EFIS and its activities. Member Societies were requested to post and distribute EJI's promotional slide (Attachment 5) as widely as possible.

## **9. Election of new EFIS Board Members**

2016-2018: President-elect, Secretary General, Treasurer

Presentations by the candidates and voting.

### *President-elect*

Out of the three candidates, Stepan Jonjic withdrew his nomination by the Croatian Immunological Society.

Attila Mócsai, nominated by the Hungarian Society for Immunology and Andreas Radbruch, nominated by the German Society for Immunology, were invited to introduce themselves. Each candidate reviewed their scientific merits as well as their managerial qualifications and expressed their views and means on how to further strengthen and publicize EFIS.

### *Secretary General*

Out of the two candidates, Federica Sallusto withdrew her nomination by the Swiss Society for Allergology and Immunology.

Pablo Engel nominated by the Spanish Society for Immunology was invited to introduce himself. He mentioned his previous international experience and his scientific contributions and expressed his wish to serve EFIS to the best of his capacities.

### *Treasurer*

The only candidate for the office was Winfried Pickl, nominated by the Austrian Society for Immunology, who accepted the nomination. He introduced himself by describing his scientific interests, and expressed his intention to follow the long-standing traditions of EFIS treasurers.

## **10. European Congress of Immunology - ECI 2021**

Presentation of bids and voting.

Each presentation of bids lasted approximately 5 minutes, followed by a short Q&A session. The bids were

- ECI 2021 Dublin, on behalf of the Irish Society
- ECI 2021 Amsterdam, on behalf of the Dutch Society

## **OUTCOME OF VOTING**

### **President elect**

Andreas Radbruch received 36 out of 48 votes

Attila Mócsai received 12 out of 48 votes.

**Andreas Radbruch** was elected as EFIS President-Elect 2016-2018.

### **Secretary General**

Pablo Engel received 44 out of 48 votes.

**Pablo Engel** was elected as EFIS Secretary General 2016-2018.

### **Treasurer**

Winfried Pickl received 47 out of 48 votes.

**Winfried Pickl** was elected EFIS Treasurer 2016-2018.

11. Farewell by the outgoing Past President, Catherine Sautès-Fridman
12. Address by the incoming EFIS President, René van Lier
13. Address by the elected President-elect, Andreas Radbruch
14. Announcement of the results of voting on bids to organize ECI 2021

Amsterdam received 25 out of 48 votes.

Dublin received 23 out of 48 votes.

**Amsterdam** was selected to host ECI 2021.

15. Closing by the outgoing EFIS President - Lorenzo Moretta



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**Attachment 1. Delegates– EFIS General Assembly, September 8, 2015, Vienna (AT)**

EFIS Member Society	Delegates
Austrian Society for Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI)	Rudolph Valenta, Barbara Bohle
Armenian Association of Molecular and Cellular Biology and Immunology (AAMCB)I	No delegate in attendance
Belgian Immunological Society (BIS)	Oberdan Leo
British Society for Immunology (BSI)	Lindsay Nicholson, Leonie Taams, Ms Jo Revill
Bulgarian Society for Immunology (BuSI)	Andrey Tchorbanov
Croatian Immunological Society (HID)	Danka Grcevic
Czech Immunological Society (CIS)	Miloslav Kverka
Dutch Society for Immunology (NVVI)	Rene Toes, Edward Knol, Janneke Samsom.
Estonian Society for Immunology and Allergology (EIAS)	Kai Kisand
French Society for Immunology (SFI)	Anne Hosmalin, Hans Yssel, Paul Guglielmi
Georgian Association of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (GAACI)	Revaz Sepiashvili
German Society for Immunology (DGfI)	Jürgen Wienands, Carsten Watzl, Hans-Martin Jack
Hellenic Society of Immunology (HSI)	Panagiota Boura
Hungarian Society for Immunology (MIT)	Imre Kacskovics
Immunological Society of Serbia (ISoS)	Nada Pejnovic
Immunology Society of Slovenia (ISS)	Vladka Curin Serbec
Irish Society for Immunology (ISI)	Ed Lavelle
Israel Immunological Society (IIS)	Ronen Alon
Italian Society for Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergy (SIICA)	Angelo Vacca, Francesco Annunziato,
Latvian Association of Immunologists (LAI)	Aigars Dzalbs
Lithuanian Society for Immunology (LSI)	Aurelija Zvirbliene
Polish Society for Fundamental and Clinical Immunology (PTDiK)	Włodzimierz Maslinski
Portuguese Society for Immunology (SPI)	Ana Espada de Sousa
Romanian Society for Immunology (SIR)	No delegate in attendance
Russian Society for Immunology (RSI)	Valery Chereshev, Irina Tuzankina
Scandinavian Society for Immunology (SSI)	Anna Fogdell-Hahn, Arno Hanninen, Vivianne Malmström
Slovak Immunological Society (SIS)	Milan Buc
Spanish Society for Immunology (SEI)	Luisa Maria, Africa González
Swiss Society for Allergology and Immunology (SGAI)	Federica Sallusto
Turkish Society of Immunology (TSI)	Gunnur Deniz, Barbaros Oral
Ukrainian Society of Specialists in Clinical Immunology and Allergy (UTIAI)	No delegate in attendance

## About

- Founded in 1975, EFIS is a non-profit umbrella organization representing 31 European immunological societies.
- Active members of affiliated societies are automatically considered EFIS members, meaning EFIS represents over 14,000 individuals.
- Two Official Journals:

European Journal of  
**Immunology**

**IMMUNOLOGY**  
LETTERS

## Mission

- Support immunological research and education;
- Strengthen scientific interaction amongst members;
- Stimulate public awareness of immunology

*Priority: support of young and /or less-privileged researchers, e.g., through fellowships and travel grants.*



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## EFIS Support

In close collaboration with its Official Journals, EFIS offers:

- **EFIS -IL Fellowships** for purposes of scientific collaboration, advanced training or of learning new techniques or methods
  - Short-term (max. 3 months) grants - €1,750/month - c/o European organizations. No set number of awards/year.
  - World Fellowships: 6-month max. grants - €1,750/month - c/o organizations anywhere in the world. 3 grants awarded each year.
- **EFIS-EJI Meeting support** to international workshops, conferences and schools hosted by affiliated societies, primarily in the form of travel bursaries to young scientists.

**EFIS Support 2013-2014 =**  
**> €173,000 for Fellowships - > €170,000 for events**



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## Travel Grants to European scientists for major international Immunology events (like ECI...)



ECI 2009, Berlin - 295

ICI 2010, Kobe - 93



ECI 2012, Glasgow - 203

ICI 2013, Milan - 164



ECI 2015, Vienna - 244

ICI 2015, Melbourne - tba



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## EFIS Awards

- **EFIS/EJI Ita Askonas Award** - €20,000 - to female group leaders running an independent laboratory for a min. of 4 and a max. of 8 years. Awarded every 3 years in conjunction with ECI.
- **EFIS-IL Lecture Award** - to affiliated societies in order to host outstanding European scientists invited to speak at national meetings.
- **EFIS-IL Best Cited Paper Awards** - €5,000 prizes for the best original and review papers published in Immunology Letters in the last 3 years. Prizes awarded every 3 years in conjunction with ECI.
- **ACTERIA Prizes awarded by EFIS** - 2 Doctoral thesis prizes (€15,000 each) and 2 Early Career Research prizes (€30,000 each) in immunology and allergology. €50,000/year for 3-year research projects to each prize winner. Candidates nominated exclusively by EFIS-affiliated societies.

European Journal of  
**Immunology**

**IMMUNOLOGY  
LETTERS**



&

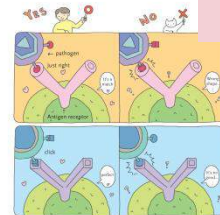
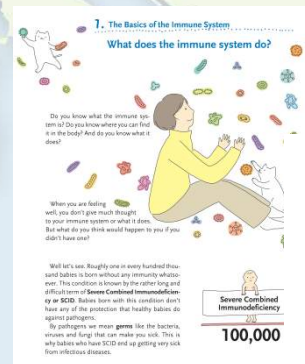
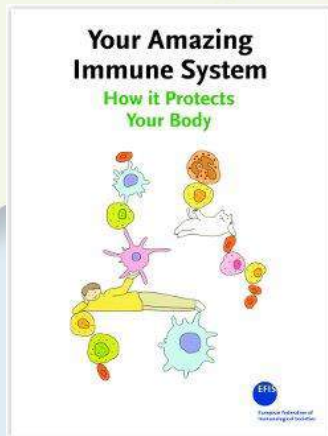


*Rewarding Europe's young talent in immunology and allergology...*

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## EFIS Public Outreach

- **2005:** EFIS launches the Day of Immunology in Europe to raise and strengthen public awareness about immunology as a basis for individual health and well-being.
- **2009:** EFIS-endorsed translation of “Your Amazing Immune System” into English, and start of translation support program resulting in 18 different language versions to date ([www.interactive-immunity.net](http://www.interactive-immunity.net)).



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**EFIS** European Federation of Immunological Societies  
Under the auspices of IUIS



The map shows the following societies labeled: SSI (Iceland), SSI (Finland), SSI (Sweden), SSI (Norway), SSI (Denmark), SSI (Poland), SSI (Czech Republic), SSI (Slovakia), SSI (Austria), SSI (Germany), SSI (France), SSI (UK), SSI (Ireland), SSI (Netherlands), SSI (Belgium), SSI (Luxembourg), SSI (Switzerland), SSI (Italy), SSI (Spain), SSI (Portugal), SSI (Greece), SSI (Turkey), SSI (Russia), SSI (Ukraine), SSI (Belarus), SSI (Moldova), SSI (Romania), SSI (Bulgaria), SSI (Serbia), SSI (Croatia), SSI (Slovenia), SSI (Hungary), SSI (CIS), SSI (SIS), SSI (PDTiK), SSI (UTIAI), SSI (SRAIC), SSI (GAACI), SSI (IAMS), SSI (IIS), SSI (TSI), SSI (BuSI), SSI (ISoS), SSI (HID), SSI (SIICA), SSI (SGAI), SSI (SFI), SSI (BIS), SSI (NVV), SSI (BSI).

# **EFIS Financial Report at the General Assembly 2015**

**September 08, 2015  
ECI, Austria Center Vienna,  
Vienna, Austria**

**Hannes Stockinger  
Hildegard Ginzel**



# Membership fee

- ☐ 0.00
- ☐ Prerequisite: being member of an European society that is active (paying) member of IUIS





# External Financial Audits

- ☐ The balance sheet of each calendar year was reviewed by an external auditor
- ☐ 2012, 2013, 2014 were approved without any objection
- ☐ The reviews are available on the desk



# The Treasurer's Highlights

◆ 3 (three)





# The Treasurer's Highlights

## Highlight #1

### **New contract closed with Wiley concerning European Journal of Immunology**

- ☐ Duration Jan. 01, 2014 – Dec. 31, 2018
- ☐ New calculation of revenues

**Increased income: ≈ € 25,000.00**  
**Total income/year: ≈ € 295,000.00**



# The Treasurer's Highlights

## Highlight #2

### Tax Clearance Certificate by the German Tax Authority

**BUNDESZENTRALAMT  
FÜR  
STEUERN**

Postadresse: 53221 Bonn  
Hausadresse: An der...  
E-Mail: ...

15.00 Uhr  
9.00 - 13.00 Uhr

**Exemption of tax until 2017  
Saved tax: 15.8% ≈ € 45,000.00/year**

Geschäftszeichen - bitte bei Rückfragen angeben -  
St II 9 - LI - 036/148032 - 13385/14  
15. Januar 2015

als Empfangsbevollmächtigter für den Gläubiger der Vergütungen

**FREISTELLUNGSBESCHEINIGUNG**  
gemäß § 50d Abs. 2 Satz 1 Einkommensteuergesetz (EStG)



# The Treasurer's Highlights

## Highlight #3

### ACTERIA Prize

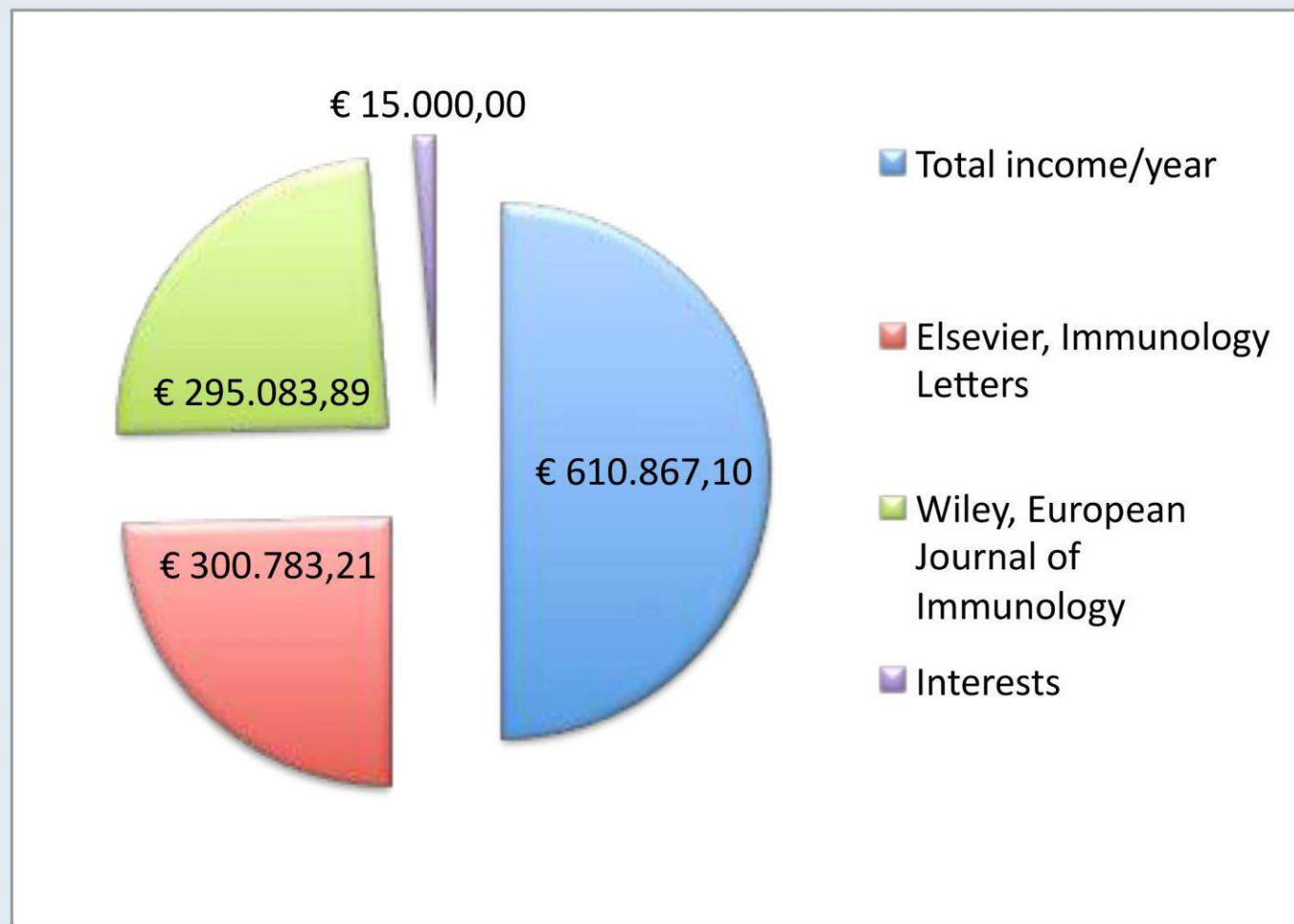
yesterday secured for 2018

Acteria Prizes	Cash	For Projects 3* € 50.000,00
ACTERIA Doctoral Thesis Prize in Allergology	€ 15.000,00	€ 150.000,00
ACTERIA Doctoral Thesis Prize in Immunology	€ 15.000,00	€ 150.000,00
ACTERIA Early Career Research Prize in Allergology	€ 30.000,00	€ 150.000,00
ACTERIA Early Career Research Prize in Immunology	€ 30.000,00	€ 150.000,00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>€ 90.000,00</b>	<b>€ 600.000,00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 690.000,00</b>	

- ☐ 1. Prizes awarded at ICI2013 Milan
- ☐ 2. Prizes awarded at ECI2015 Vienna



# Regular EFIS income/year



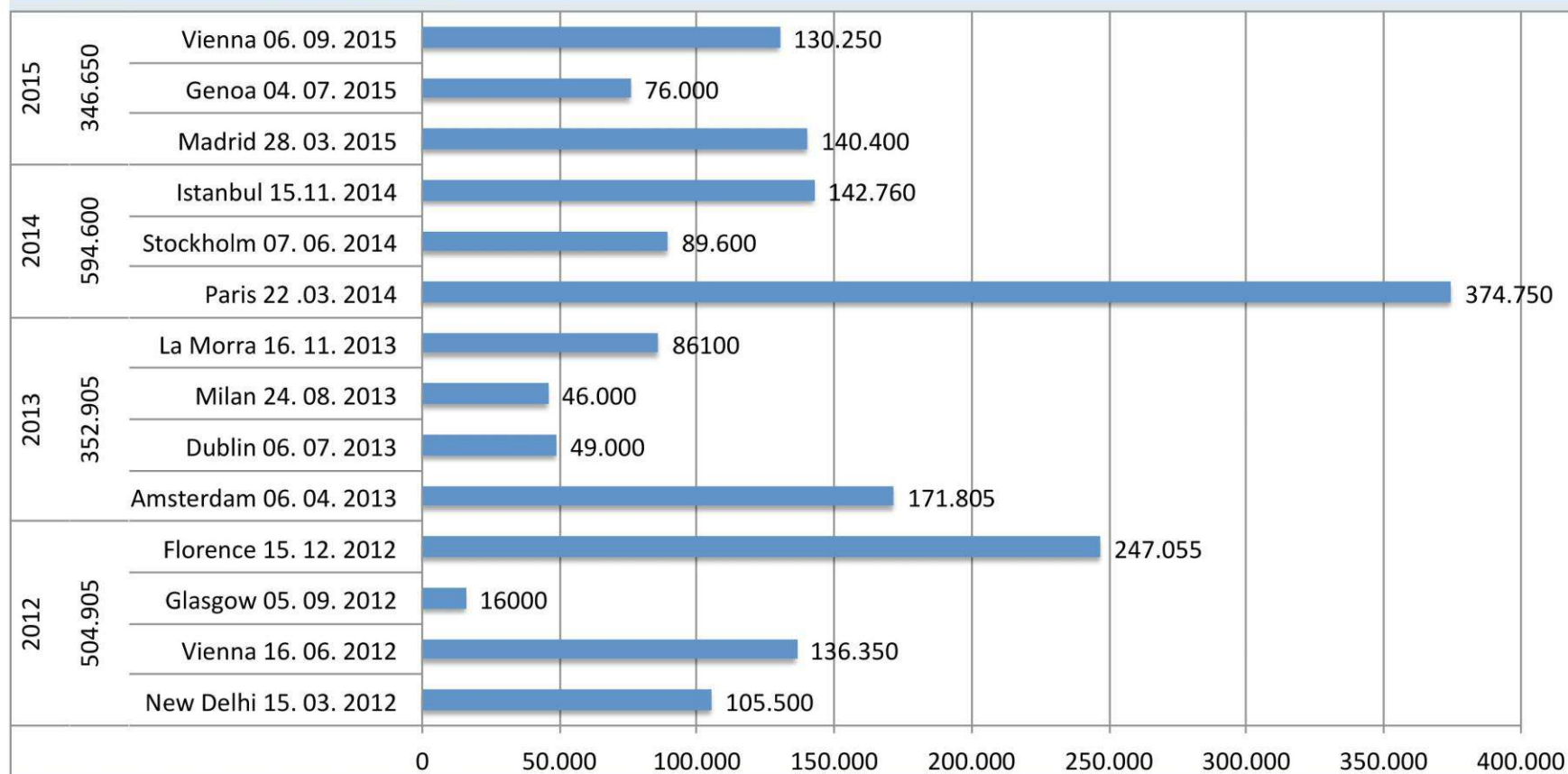


## Calculation of available grant money/board meeting

Projection for approvals/board meeting		
Income/year		
€	300.000,00	Elsevier ImmLett
€	295.000,00	Wiley EJI
€	15.000,00	Interests
€	<b>610.000,00</b>	<b>Total income</b>
Expenses/year		
-€	160.000,00	Running costs
€	450.000,00	Available money
Available money divided 4		
€	<b>112.500,00</b>	<b>Grant money/Board Meeting</b>



## Decisions: Board Meetings 2012 – 2015



♦ **total approvals 2012-2015 €1,799,060.00**



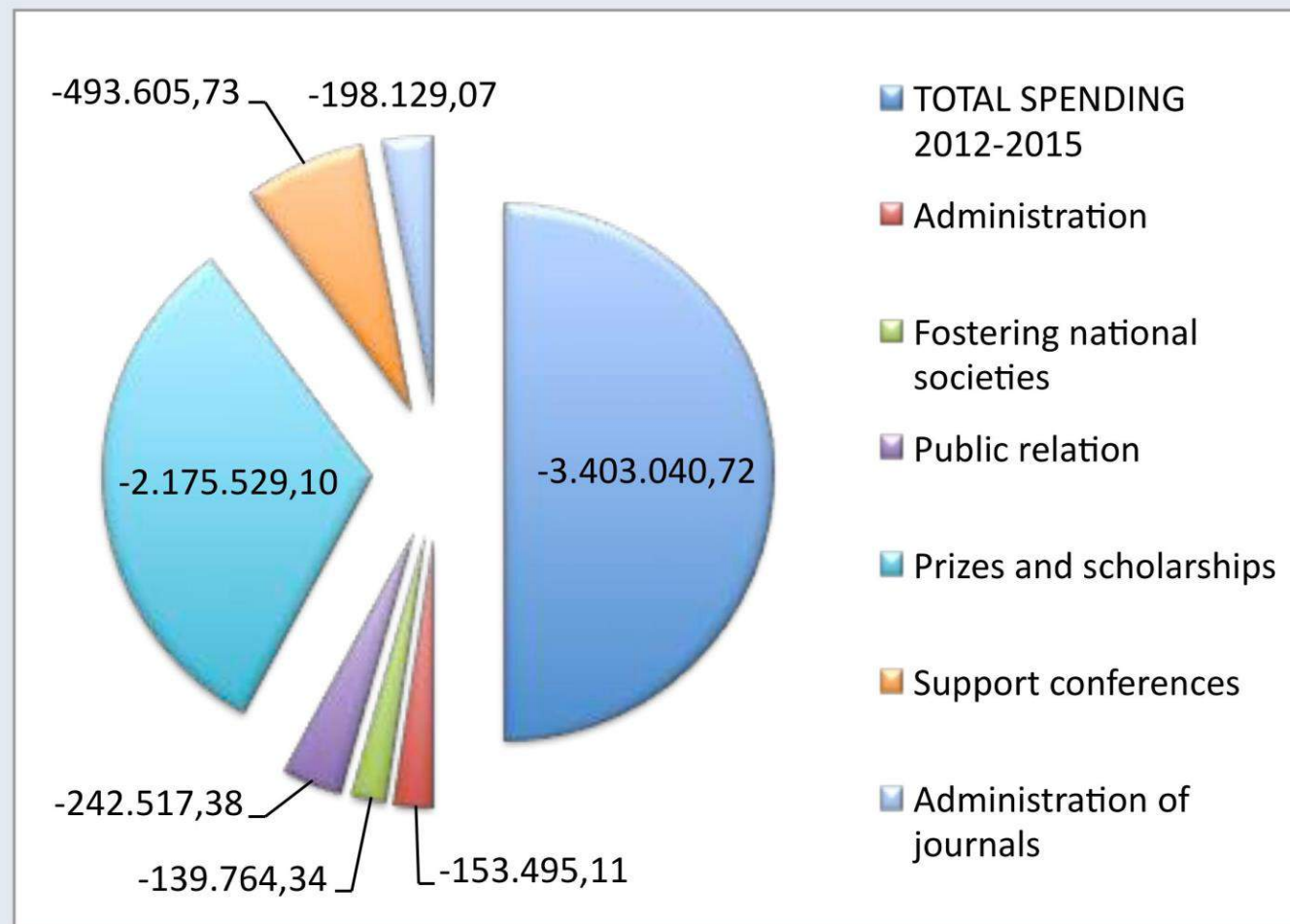


## EFIS-Support 4<sup>th</sup> ECI 2015 Vienna

SUPPORT ECI 2015		€ 265.500,00
1.	240 scholarships à 600 Euros + 3 à 200 Euros	€ 143.400,00
2.	Ita Askonas EFIS-EJI Woman Award plus accomodation, travel and registration	€ 22.000,00
3.	European Village and related items	€ 15.000,00
4.	Best cited original paper in IL plus accomodation, travel and registration	€ 7.000,00
5.	Best cited review paper in IL plus accomodation, travel and registration	€ 7.000,00
6.	EFIS General Assembly	€ 2.000,00
7.	EFIS Presidential Dinner	€ 15.000,00
8.	Administration supports	€ 6.000,00
9.	EFIS booth and merchandaries (books, T-shirts)	€ 20.000,00
10.	EULAR Symposium plus accomodation, travel and registration	€ 12.500,00
11.	Best abstract (bright sparks) prizes with Biolegend	€ 12.000,00
12.	Best poster prizes	€ 3.600,00

# EFIS Spending

## 2012 – 2015





# The Iron EFIS Reserve

WHY?  
EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF IMMUNOLOGY  
BUDGET  $\approx$  2 MILLION EUROS

RESERVE TOTAL September 6, 2015		758.488,60

# Financial status by balance sheet

(September 06, 2015)

- **MAIN (IL): € 74,598.00**

- **EFIS-EJI: € 285.975,37**

- **Reserve: € 758,488.60**

bonded 3 years/2 years, interest rate: 1.24%/1.0%, respectively

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- **TOTAL € 1,119,062.06**



## ***Editorial Team***

### **Editor-in-Chief:**

Dr. Vito Pistoia (Italy)

### **Section Editors:**

Dr. Hannes Stockinger (Austria)

Dr. Lorenzo Moretta (Italy)

Dr. René van Lier (Netherlands)

Dr. Stephen McSorley (USA)

Dr. Vaclav Horejsi (Czech Republic)



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# Fast Editorial and Publication Times!

On average 27 days to first decision

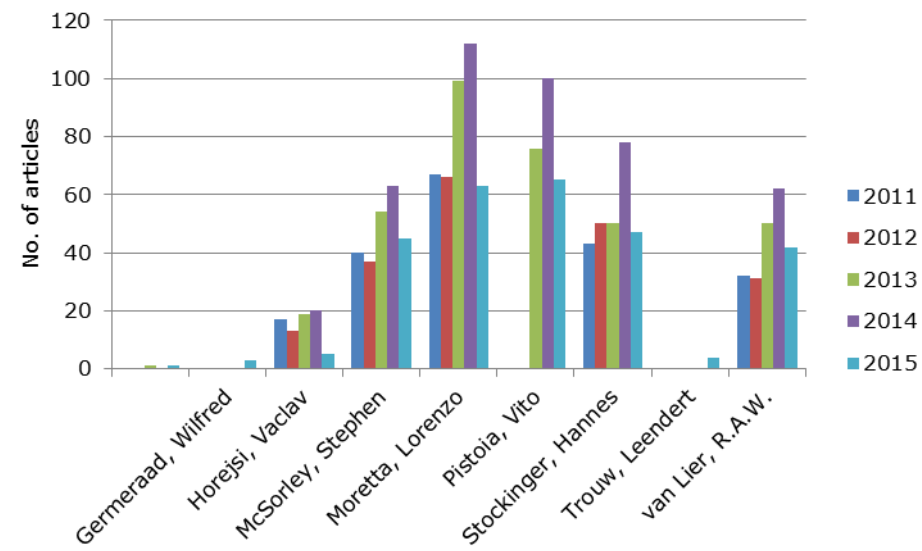
Online within 5 days after acceptance



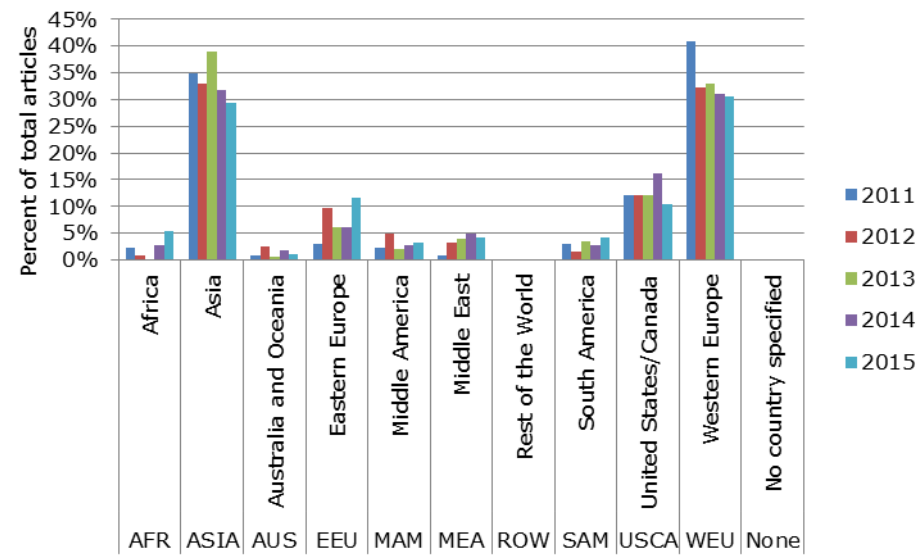
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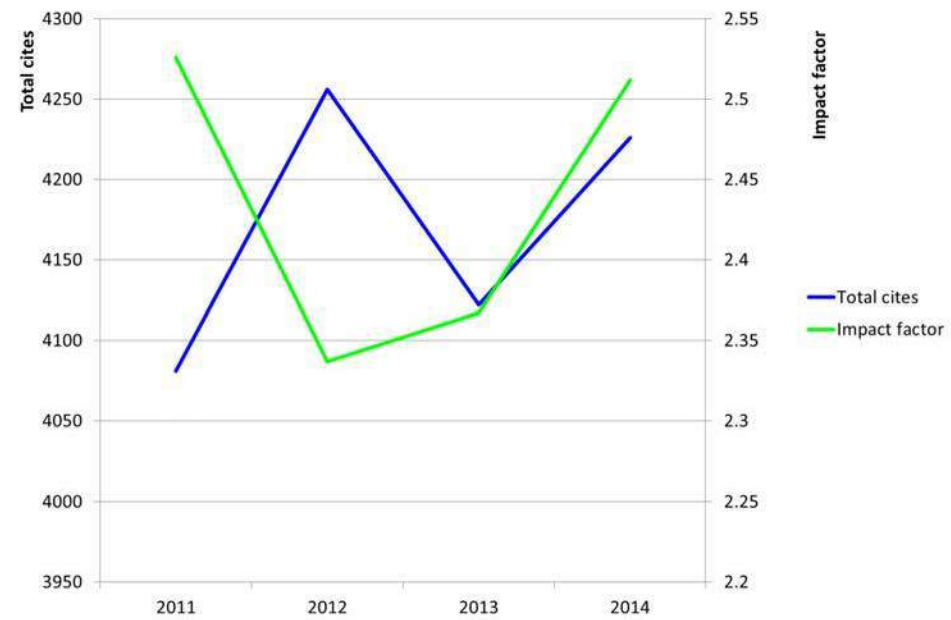
## Number of manuscripts submitted to each Editor (including two Guest Editors for comparison)



## Countries to which the first Author belongs



# Bibliometrics



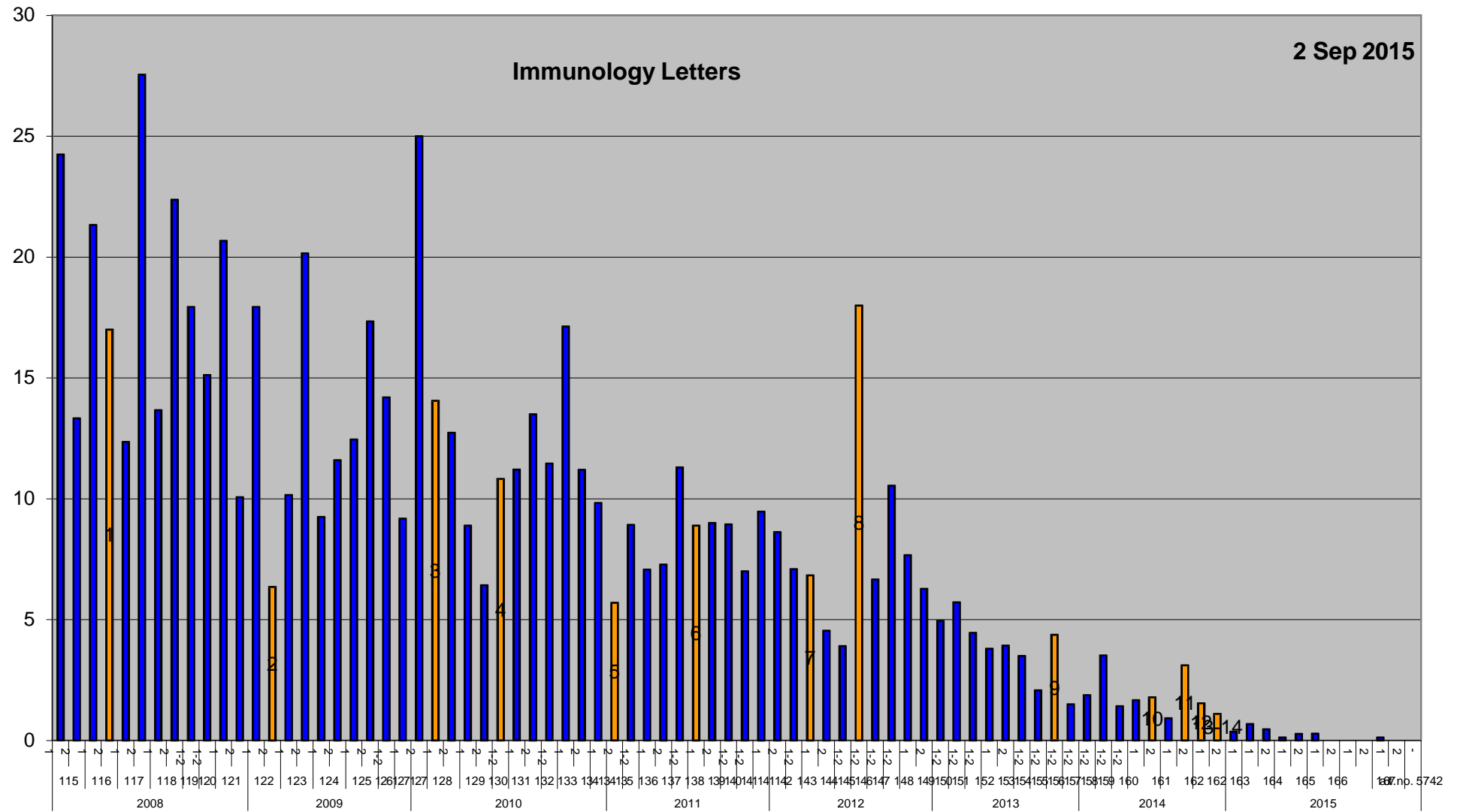
# Special Issues published 2013-2015:



- **Microbiome influences on host immunity**  
*Guest editors: Stephen McSorley, Alexander Khoruts*
- **Dutch Society for Immunology 1964 – 2014**  
*Guest editors: Wilfred TV Germeraad, Esther C. de Jong, Leendert A. Trouw*
- **Immunity during Aging and Longevity**  
*Guest editors: Andrea Cossarizza, Daniela Frasca*
- **ICI 2013**  
*Guest editor: Vito Pistoia*
- **Immune-related Pathologies: Understanding Leukocyte Signaling and Emerging therapies - IMPULSE 2013**  
*Guest Editors: Anna Erdei, Gabriella Sarmay, Janos Matko, Jozsef Prechl*
- **New Frontiers in Molecular and Cellular Therapy**  
*Guest Editor: Lorenzo Moretta*
- **MSCs and immunity (in press)**  
*Guest Editors: Antonio Uccelli, Lorenzo Moretta and Vito Pistoia*



## Performance of Special Issues in terms of citations shown as yellow bars



# Special Issues in the pipeline

- Innate lymphoid cells

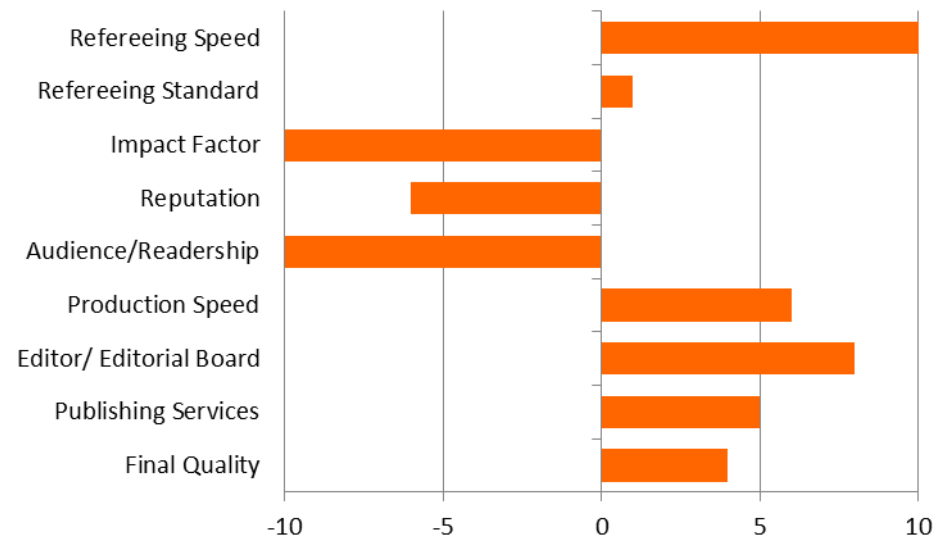
*Guest Editors: Lorenzo Moretta and Franco Locatelli*

- ECI 2015: innate and adaptive immunity

*Guest Editor: Vito Pistoia*



## Benchmarking performance according to Authors



Mean score is 0, scores higher than 0 indicate good performance, those below 0 indicate bad performance that requires actions for improvement

# New Editorial Board (2015)

- Pablo Engel
- Gabriella Pietra
- Anna Erdei
- Barbara Savoldo
- Paolo Dellabona
- Sergei Nedospasov
- Francesco Annunziato
- Cox Terhorst
- Steven Porcelli
- Sophie Ugolini
- Reinhold Schmidt
- Piergiuseppe Deberardinis
- Wilfred Germeraad

# SUMMARY

- In the last three years a remarkable number of Special Issues have been produced with positive reflection on citation number
- The 2014 IF has increased compared to the previous years
- The Editorial Board has been renewed and can be further implemented with additional members
- The times for review and publication are good
- The flow of manuscript is satisfactory but the low acceptance rate creates some problems
- Additional initiatives are needed to improve the visibility of Immunology Letters and its appreciation by Authors

# European Journal of Immunology



Official journal of  
the European  
Federation of  
Immunological Societies

## Why publish in the *European Journal of Immunology*?



### Fair, fast and competent peer review

- essential, not extensive revisions requested
- transparent review process: peer review correspondence published online
- 21 days from submission to first decision (average)
- manuscripts are published online within 5 days of acceptance

### High-quality content

- Cutting-edge research: Frontline articles
- Reviews: overviews of latest research topics

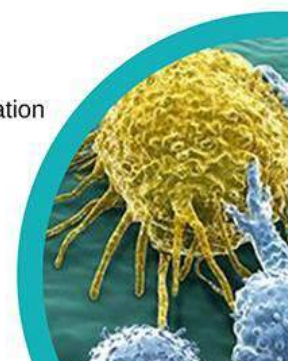
### Open Access - Maximize the impact of your research

- Gold Open Access: Articles freely available immediately upon publication
- Green Open Access: Automatic free access to all articles one year after publication

Submit your article today!

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