

2022

EfCCNa Annual Report for years ending 2021/ 2022



European federation of
Critical Care Nursing
associations –
EfCCNa



European Federation of Critical Care Nursing associations

Contents

INTRODUCTION

ACTIVITIES

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

IMPACT AND VALUE

FUTURE PLANS

FINANCES

Introduction

This is the annual report and accounts of the federation for the 2021/2022 calendar years. The major highlight was the SARS-CoV2 pandemic which started in 2020. As much as we had hoped to see each other face to face at the EfCCNa's council meetings, unfortunately this wasn't possible in 2021 and a part of 2022. We are grateful for the virtual council meetings and the EfCCNa webinars and newsletters to stay in contact with each other.

In 2021 EfCCNa was active in promoting frontline nurses politically, empowering nurses through provision of sharing educational opportunities and supporting patient-relevant research that improves lives. EfCCNa organized the first webinar "on 'Taking care of the ICU Nurse during the pandemic- what did we gain? In the online council meeting in April we endorsed the valuable work of the Critical Care Recovery COVID-19 website.

Furthermore there were elections Board member, President and treasurer posts were open for voting. Prof Bronagh Blackwood has reached the end of her second term as President and couldn't be re-elected. The Council elected Colette Ram from The Netherlands as the new President, Elin Steffenak was re-elected for her second term as board member. As there was no candidate for treasurer, Drago Satosek stayed treasurer.

In 2022 EfCCNa was very concerned about the safety of nurses and their families and stand in solidarity with the people and healthcare workers caught up in the conflict in Ukraine. We decided to stand with their colleagues from Ukraine and publish a statement of concern.

The 2nd EfCCNa webinar on 'Taking care of the ICU Nurse during the pandemic' took place with great success. We changed positions in the board, Julie Benbenishty, EfCCNa was elected as Vice-president Karin Klas was elected as secretary and Zaneta Bogoevska-Miteva was elected as Board Member.

The highlight of 2022 was the 9th EfCCNa congress in Utrecht. More than 300 delegates have attended the event and the overall response was very positive. Everyone enjoyed to finally meet again with European colleagues in person after two years.

Colette Ram, MSc
President

Activities

Administrative details

Board of Officers

- **Colette Ram** (President, since April 23rd 2021), Bronagh Blackwood (President till April 22nd 2021)
- **Julie Benbenishty** (Vice President, since April 23rd 2022), Anne Kokko (Vice President till April 22nd 2022)
- **Karin Klas** (Secretary, since April 23rd 2022), Colette Ram (Secretary till April 22nd 2021). Between April 2021 and April 2022 the position of Secretary was jointly filled by Anne Kokko and Karin Klas.
- **Drago Satosek** (Treasurer), **Alicia San Jose** (currently coopted as treasurer by the board and mentored by Drago Satosek)
- **Elin Steffenak** (Board member with responsibility for Congress)
- **Zaneta Bogoevska-Miteva** (Board member with responsibility for European Affairs, since April 23rd 2022), Karin Klas (Board member with responsibility for European Affairs, till April 22nd 2022)

Council of Representatives

Country, association members and representatives can be found at

<http://www.efccna.org/about/member-associations>

Meetings Update

2021: due to the Covid-19 pandemic face to face meetings weren't possible.

- **Council Meetings** were held online.
 - first EfCCNa council meeting on January 16th 2021. Focus was to facilitate the international exchange of experiences of our fellow nurses during the SARS-CoV2 challenge.
 - second EfCCNa Council meeting was also held online on June 19th 2021
- **Board meetings:** The **Board of Officers** conducted 12 Zoom Meetings. Face to Face meetings were not possible because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

2022: at the begin of 2022 face to face meetings still weren't possible.

- **Council meetings** were held either online or face to face.
 - first EfCCNa council meeting was held online on April 23rd.
 - second EfCCNa council meeting was held face to face on September 3rd, during the EfCCNa Congress in Utrecht.
- **Board meetings:** the **Board of Officers** conducted 11 Zoom Meetings and one face-to-face meeting during the EfCCNa Congress in Utrecht.

Representation/members

By the end of 2022, EfCCNa had 31 member associations from 28 different European countries representing individual nurse members.

New national representatives:

In 2021 and 2022, we sadly said goodbye to some of our excellent representatives and welcomed new representatives.

- Slovenia – Anton Justin replaced Dejan Dobersek
- Finland – Jarkko Koskiniemi replaced Nabil Abu-Saad (2022) replaced Maarit Lönn (2021)
- Belgium – Josephine Declaye replaced Arnaud Brunyeel
- Norway- Mathilde Elsa Christensen replaced Elin Steffenak (Elin remains in EfCCNa as a board member)
- Italy – Tiziana Marano replaced Silvia Selci
- Israel – Alex Furmanov took over from Julie Benbenishty
- Denmark – Anja Ziemer replaced Pernille Madsen

Activity dissemination

During 2021 and 2022 EfCCNa published six newsletters for member distribution highlighting its activities. These are available on the EfCCNa website <http://www.efccna.org/about/efccna-newsletters>.

Additionally, the EfCCNa provided regular information dissemination via its Face Book page <https://www.facebook.com/EfCCNa?ref=bookmarks>. Instagram and Twitter.

Projects

Congress:

The 9th EfCCNa congress in Utrecht had to be postponed twice due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Organizing Committee 2021 and 2022

- Chair: Elin Steffennak;
- Scientific Committee Chair: Frederique Paulus and Co-chair Paul Rood;
- Executive Committee: Sabrina Pelz, Drago Satosek, Colette Ram, Irene Harth, Wouter de Graaf, Babette Schmidt (new PCO – Your Conference Support - Amsterdam). In 2021 a new company, but with experience in running EfCCNa congresses was agreed, and the contract signed.

Finally, the congress was successfully held from August 31st to September 3rd, 2022, in Utrecht. More than 300 delegates have attended the event in person and the overall response was very positive. 247 abstracts from 22 Countries had been received which led to an interesting programme, consisting of 6 plenary sessions, 5 Keynote lectures, 20 oral presentations, 4 workshops and 49 poster presentations. The Key note lectures had been published online on the EfCCNa Website.

Research Grants: Due to the pandemic there were delays to finish the research. Therefore, the research grant for 2019 could finally be awarded in 2021. Dr. Matteo Danielis from Udine, Italy was awarded with the EfCCNa research grant 2019 for his project: **“Family Engagement in Intensive Care Environments”** (FENICE). The aim of this project was to assess the effects of a family engagement program on family members' satisfaction and on patient's well-being and quality of life.

Promotion: A closed Presidents' Facebook group was set up to facilitate interaction between the Presidents of EfCCNa member organizations. EfCCNa established itself on Instagram and the federation's flyer was updated and disseminated. Three new associations were recruited to EfCCNa. The Facebook page is achieving impact on widening our visibility with more than 5000 followers and more than 500 posts reached per week.

Exchange program (2022): For the last 2 years, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our exchange program has been in a resting phase. At the last EfCCNa council meeting in September 2022 it was unanimously agreed to reactivate the Exchange program. Colleagues who were already in the phase of agreement for the exchange program have been contacted and we are starting to set on dates and details. Coordinator of the programme is Jelena Slijepcevic

International Journal of Critical Care: International Journal of Critical Care is the official journal of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses. It builds on the legacy and successes of Connect, the former Journal, and endeavors to be a truly global vehicle for sharing the latest research, initiatives, policy advice, and achievements in critical care. Via the EfCCNa Website the journal can be accessed by all EfCCNa members.

Our achievements

The following are the EfCCNa's key achievements in 2021 and 2022, measured against the objectives we set focused on the Covid-19 pandemic and coming back to normal.

1st EfCCNa Webinar: September 16th, 2021

EfCCNa invited all interested critical care colleagues to a free of charge virtual conference on the question '**ICU nursing after the Covid-19 pandemic; what did we gain?**'. The ZOOM based webinar had a format of 2,5 hours, included 5 plenary key note sessions and a panel discussion with invited guests. The registration and confirmation was done by email and participation was not limited to federation members.

2nd EfCCNa Webinar: March 24th 2022. Topic was '**Taking care of the ICU Nurse during the pandemic**'.

It was again free of charge for all interested Critical Care Nursing Colleagues from Europe and abroad. Almost 250 delegates from four continents had registered for that virtual event and an average of 160 people had been continuously online. Great speakers and audience - obviously there is still big interest in this topic as the pandemic has had such a huge impact not only on the professional life of critical care nurses. For all colleagues who couldn't attend the record of the webinar is available on the EfCCNa website.

ICU Nurses for Peace: in March 2022 EfCCNa decided to stand with their colleagues from Ukraine and publish a statement of concern.


"EfCCNa is very concerned about the safety of nurses and their families and stand in solidarity with the people and healthcare workers caught up in the conflict in Ukraine.

The European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations (EfCCNa) represents approximately 25.000 European critical care nurses in 31 national member associations, is concerned about the health and well-being of the population of Ukraine and its nurses and health professionals and condemn the invasion of Ukraine.

Critical Care Nurses deliver specified care and treatment to all patients without fear or favour and they must be allowed to do their work in a safe environment, protected from violence and threats. Hospitals and health care facilities must be protected and shielded from harm as stated in international regulations and the Geneva Convention. The precious work they do can only be achieved through lasting peace!
Secure peace in Ukraine!"



ICUNURSESFORPEACE


European federation of Critical Care
Nursing associations

9th EfCCNa Congress Utrecht 2022

The congress attracted over 300 critical care Nurses and 8 industry partners. The keynote speakers were: Prof. Jos Latour ("From globalization to slowbalisation"), Prof. Pieterbas Lalleman ("When the chips are down"), Dr. Joseph Manning ("Insights and priorities on how to connect clinical practice with research"), Eva Barkestad ("Personal experience with COVID and what it is all about to be an ICU patient in life threatening condition"), Prof. Louise Rose ("Virtual visiting & family communication: lessons learnt from the pandemic to optimize family-centered care of the future").

Research.

As an international European nursing group, we are involved with a number of research projects. EfCCNa has contributed to the following projects.

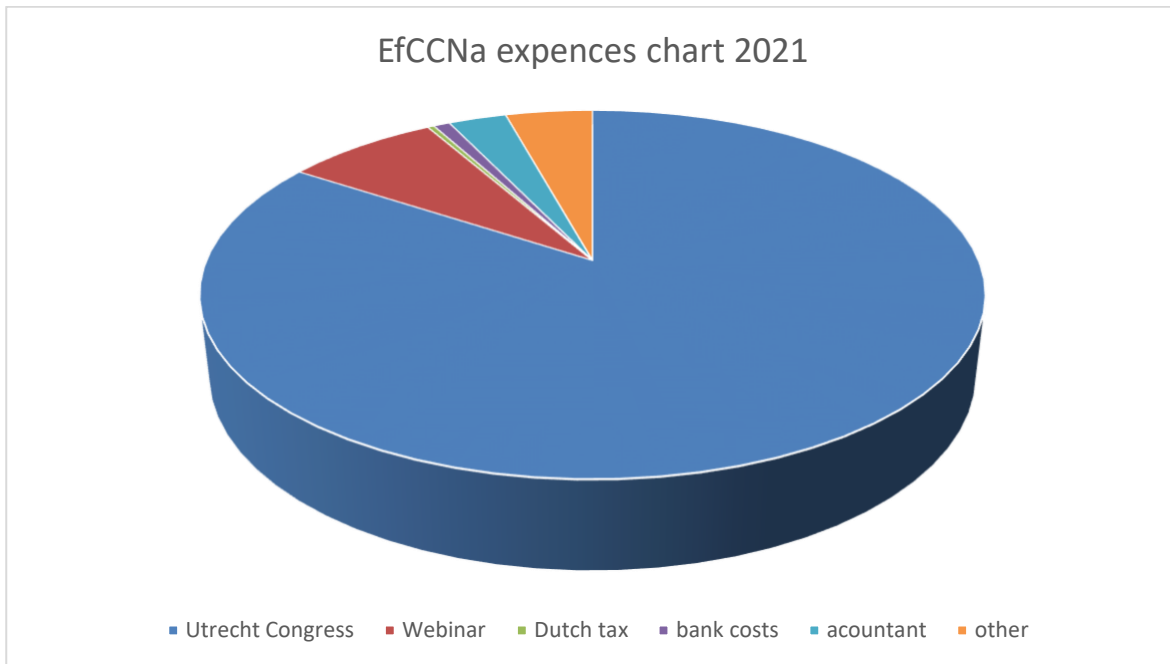
- Multi-country, cross-sectional and descriptive study was performed in 2017 as a part of the European project Multicultural Care in European Intensive Care Units (MICE-ICU), number: 2016-1-PL01-KA202-026615, under Erasmus plus program. A few publications have been published using the data from this program.
- Now formulating the research protocol and methodology for a Pan-European The RESILIENT project aims to address HCPs' turnover by creating these evidence-based tools and personalized support for improving mental health and reducing burnout for healthcare professionals study exploring why ICU nurses left the profession. This will be a qualitative study interviewing at least 5 nurses from each country investigating the reasons nurses left ICU in the past 5 years
- A joint ESICM and EfCCNa project- The RESILIENT project aims to address HCPs' turnover by creating evidence-based tools and personalized support for improving mental health and reducing burnout for healthcare professionals. We will develop and deliver the tools designed in the project to every HCPs. We will use cutting-edge machine-learning algorithms to stratify the risk of burnout, and will use innovative technologies such as Virtual Reality Experience (VRE) to deliver online immersive training and individual support. By using these techniques, we will overcome barriers to burnout recognition and management. We will offer HCPs this set of innovative tools in a way that is accessible, flexible, user-friendly, and through a new online digital access to effectively prevent and mitigate burnout. Our approach through both institutions (top-down) as well as via individual HCPs (bottom-up) will increase uptake of the program.

Future Plans

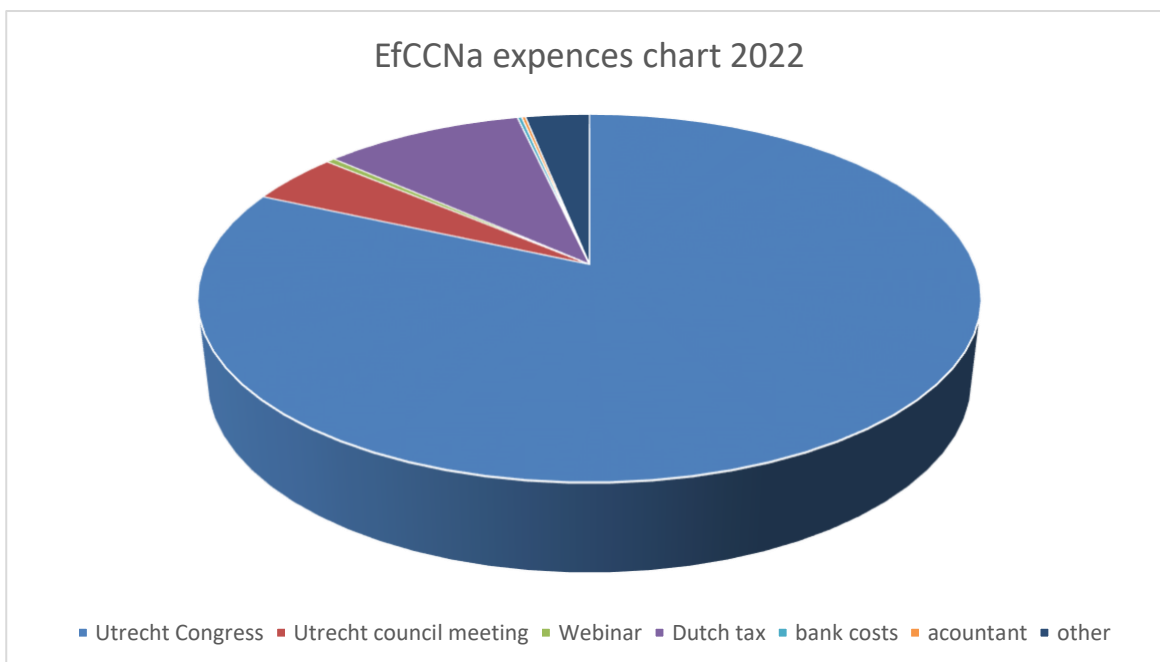
The 2021 and 2022 activities and successes provide an excellent platform to strengthen the EfCCNa's strategic plans. We had to learn lessons from a global pandemic and how even this can bring us forward. Moving forward we are looking towards another successful Congress in Spring 2025; strengthening collaborations with other societies such as ESNO, WFCCN, SCCM and ESICM; and lobbying for a critical care nurse specialist role across Europe. With our new President and Board we will establish an evolving strategic plan to continue strengthening the federation in the following years.

Finances

In **2021**, EfCCNa generated a total revenue of 28.336,96 EUR. The revenue was generated from membership fees (7.394,00 EUR), Utrecht congress prepayments (17.500,00 EUR), Dutch tax returns (3.319,00 EUR) and other (123,96 EUR). Total expenses amounted to 21.348,16 EUR.



In **2022**, EfCCNa generated a total revenue of 157.249,00 EUR. The revenue was generated from membership fees (2.924,00 EUR), Utrecht congress payments (150.692,00 EUR) and Dutch tax return (3.633,00 EUR). Total expenses amounted to 195.885,75 EUR.



The European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations

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