

Colourful History of MCRS From Marseille 1982 to Sarajevo 2016

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Abstract: First idea to organize a Mediterranean meeting on rheumatology came from Prof.H.Roux in 1981 and he realized it by holding a meeting in Marseille 1982 by naming it as “Premieres Journees Méditerranéennes De Rhumatologie”. Despite of a good number of presentations, only 6 Mediterranean countries were represented (Fr,It,Sp,Gr and Tr).Next meeting was in Napoli 1984 organized by Prof. M.Giordano again by an initial title of “II Giornate Mediternee di Reumatologia” which was named into MCRs. Our Turkish Rheumatism Soc. supported the Congress in Napoli and this was the first meeting for me.At the end of this meeting Roux,Giordano ,Hamza, Hadidi and I decided to continue these meetings every 2 years in another Mediterranean country under the name of Mediterranean Congress of Rheumatology, next one to take place in Tunis 1986.These have continued up to Sarajevo as the 16th meeting.

The list of MCRs are as follows: 1.Marseille 1982,2.Napoli 1984,3.Tunis 1986,4.Istanbul 1988,5.Madrid 1990,6.Cairo 1992,7.Athinai 1994,8.Istanbul 1996,(9. Dubrovnic 1998 not done), 9. Beirut 2000, (10.Limasol 2002 not done),10.Rabat 2002,11.Heraklion 2005,12.Alger 2007,13.Cavtat 2009,14.Sorrento 2011, (12.Valletta 2013 not done), 15.2014 Istanbul ,16. Sarajevo 2016.The reason of 3 skips of MRCs were most probably due to socio-economic-political reasons.To organize such congresses requires a good deal of positive factors and help .To compensate these gaps some countries had to offer more (Turkey 3 times,France and Greece twice). We should thank them!

Now there are 8 countries left to organize further MCRs: Monaco, Malta, Slovenia, Montenegro, Albania, Syria, Palestine, Israel, Cyprus and Libia. I wish them great energy and power for success!

I congratulate cordially Prof. Sekib Sokolovic and organizers to hold such a succesful meeting of 16 MCR in Sarajevo.

Key words: History, MCRs, 2016 Sarajevo