



# VIENNA

## Highlights of the ECLSO Congress in Vienna

*A pathway to the  
Future*



EUROPEAN CONTACT LENS SOCIETY  
OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS (ECLSO)



**On April 24th and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmologists held their 51<sup>st</sup> meeting in the beautiful city of Vienna, where about 150 participants enjoyed a special meeting.**

The program was designed to present a comprehensive overview of the central ECLSO areas of interest:

- How to treat Astigmatism? Rigid or Soft Contact Lenses, or Surgical solutions? During the following panel discussion, participants wondered if, in case of a surgical solution, the patient had received pre-surgical dry eye questioning and information.
- In this way the path was opened to the second ECLSO central topic, a comprehensive approach to keratoconus, proposing that keratoconus should no longer be considered as a non-inflammatory disease. Top experts presented an overview of both surgical and scleral lens options.
- In the session on "Current state-of-the-art in Myopia Management" an international panel referred to the importance of using both contact lenses and other approaches to manage myopia depending on the individual's needs and situation.



- A large delegation of contributors to TFOS DEWS III report shared the newest insights in management and therapy of Dry Eyes, carrying specific advice on diagnosis and classification as well as recommendations on life style and nutrition.



ECLSO also welcomed the **Austrian Association of Contact Lens fitting Ophthalmologists**, who organized a pro/contra debate on “Controversies in Contact Lens Practice”, covering antagonistic views about the use of atropin in myopia management, contact lens wear in young children, the prevalence of specialty contact lenses in progressive keratoconus versus immediate crosslinking approaches.

Very informative was the session about “New Insights in Soft Contact Lens Technology”. Even in soft contact lenses fitting of the lens with respect to sagittal height can be decisive for lens comfort. For presbyopia management through contact lenses, we have many options and examples were given of creative use of these lenses to fulfill the individual wearer’s needs. A research report of contact lens-tear interaction bridged the gap between fundamental investigations and the clinical world.





Dr Juliette KNOERI with  
Dr Andrena McELVANNEY

The importance of AI applications in contactology was demonstrated in the KERSLEY LECTURE, presented by Dr Juliette KNOERI (Paris, France), who illustrated how AI can assist fitters to more efficiently select custom-made corneal rigid lenses.


The ECLSO President, Dr Ömür UÇAKHAN-GUNDUZ, warmly welcomed Dr Deborah JACOBS, Cambridge USA, and presented her with the FICK-KALT-MÜLLER AWARD for her pioneering work and efforts to integrate the use of scleral contact lenses in ophthalmology both for optical and therapeutic applications.



Dr Deborah JACOBS  
Dr Ömür UÇAKHAN-GUNDUZ



ECLSO  
2026  
Praesidium



## A PATHWAY TO THE FUTURE

Opening a gateway to the future role of ECLSO in promoting medical use of contact lenses and spreading knowledge on ocular surface pathology, Dr Ömür UÇAKHAN-GUNDUZ, our newly elected ECLSO President, invited YOUNG OPHTHALMOLOGISTS from Türkiye, Belgium, Croatia, Japan and Serbia to present cases of interest. In this way, the mission of ECLSO will be carried on through their original approach and enthusiasm.



Dr Ömür UÇAKHAN-GUNDUZ specifically invited them to organize a group of young medical professionals to pass on the torch and keep it burning.

And last but not least: the awards for the best free paper and the best poster were awarded to Dr Tuna Celik-BUYUKTEPE (Türkiye) and Dr Mihaela CONSTANTIN (Romania).



Dr Mihaela CONSTANTIN with Dr Ömür UÇAKHAN-GUNDUZ and Dr Carina KOPPEN

We look forward to sharing news of the next congress and of the Young Ophthalmologists Forum.

*Best Wishes from ECLSO*

VIEW THE PRESENTATIONS AT THE ECLSO CONGRESS AGAIN

VISIT >>

***ECLSO - The European Society of Contact Lenses and Ocular Surface***

**[www.eclso-eu.com](http://www.eclso-eu.com)**