

SOE YO NEWSLETTER

BY SOE YO NEWSLETTER TEAM

April 2026



THE EMYO CONFERENCE PROGRAM IS OUT NOW!

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EMYO 2026
6th EUROPEAN MEETING OF
YOUNG OPHTHALMOLOGISTS
BERLIN | 4 - 5 July

**THE EUROPEAN MEETING OF
YOUNG OPHTHALMOLOGISTS
(EMYO)**
4-5 July 2026
Berlin, Germany

SOE YO DELEGATES PLAN TO VISIT YOSI CONFERENCE

Read more on Page 3



**INTERNATIONAL
YOSICON 2026**
3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
YOUNG OPHTHALMOLOGISTS
SOCIETY OF INDIA

July 10 - 12, 2026, Pullman, Aerocity, New Delhi

The YO Journal Club Schedule for 2026 from DOG and SOE

**Journal
Club**



Journal Club AG Young DOG X SOE – Schedule 2026

Month	Date	Topic	Expert	Country
January	08.01.2026	Ocular oncology and ophthalmic pathology	Prof. Tero Kivelä	Finland
February	05.02.2026	Macular hole	Dr. Angelina Meireles	Portugal
March	05.03.2026	Myopia	Prof. Trine Meldrup Jakobsen	Denmark
April	16.04.2026	Ocular immunology	Prof. Martine Jager	Netherlands
May	07.05.2026	Pediatric vitreoretinal surgery	Prof. Hüseyin Baran Özdemir	Turkey
June	11.06.2026	Tumors and the influence of microorganisms	Prof. Jarmila Heissigerová	Czech Republic
July	09.07.2026	Hereditary optic neuropathies	Prof. Raoul Kanav Khanna	France
August	06.08.2026	Diabetic retinopathy	Prof. Edoardo Midena	Italy
September	10.09.2026	Retinopathy of prematurity	Dr. Dýrleif Pétursdóttir	Iceland
October	08.10.2026	Keratoconus	PD Dr. Flockerzi	Germany

**IS OUT
NOW!**

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MESSAGE FROM SOE YO CHAIR

KIRSTINE BOYSEN (DENMARK)



Dear Readers,

In February, Lala (Social Media subcommittee chair) and I, Kirstine Boysen (SOE YO executive committee chair) had the pleasure of attending the APAO Congress in Hong Kong - one of the world's largest ophthalmology gatherings with more than 10,000 participants.

The fourday program offered a vibrant mix of learning and networking with a dedicated program for young ophthalmologists: a YO Best presentation competition, a surgical video "movie night", a late-night mentoring event, and a lively YO Pavilion filled with games creating opportunities to unwind and meet colleagues. The social highlight was a memorable night out full of laughter, dancing, and new friendships.



Lala and I were specially honored to be invited to a panel discussion on the future of YO societies alongside AAO representative Simon Fung and the late APAO YO Chair Marcus Ang. These conversations continued throughout the congress, including meetings with leaders of national YO societies across the AsiaPacific region. We were especially grateful for the invitation from Dr. Diva Kant Misra, President of the Indian YO Society (YOSI), to join their annual YOSICON meeting this July — an opportunity we are very excited about!

We hope to send an even larger delegation next time. Remember that SOE YO represents all young ophthalmologists in Europe, and your national representative is responsible for keeping you informed about opportunities like this.

At the APAO Congress we also presented SOE in the Showcase Theater, located at the heart of the exhibition hall. This dynamic setting allowed us to present the SOE, to share our recent and future goals, and talk about the development of the European Training Requirements by the EBO.

We rounded off with an engaging discussion with YO representatives from India, Singapore, and the Philippines on YO education across the globe.



MESSAGE FROM SOE YO CHAIR

KIRSTINE BOYSEN (DENMARK)



Another highlight was the launch of the global Young Women in Ophthalmology (YWIO) collaboration together with YO leaders from Singapore, Mongolia, Azerbaijan, and Japan.



We attended the Women in Ophthalmology luncheon and presented our initiative in the Showcase Theater, sparking inspiring conversations about career development, research opportunities, work-life-balance, and how women can thrive in our field. Our future efforts will focus on fellowships, mentorship, and career support.

The SOE work on mapping the landscape for women in ophthalmology across Europe.

To round off, if you are interested in becoming more involved in the SOE YO community, please reach out to us, your national representative, or the SOE Secretariat. We will soon launch a series of focus meetings on topics such as sustainability, women in ophthalmology, and fellowships.

Your national representative will keep you informed — and you are also welcome to join our Running YO Event Update WhatsApp group using the QR code.



Best wishes and happy easter
Kirstine Boysen
SOE YO executive committee chair

APAO, WOMEN IN OPTHALMOLOGY AND AYOOC

DR. LALA MAMMADOVA



One of the key highlights was our participation in the panel discussion “APAO YO and Global YO Updates” within the Young Ophthalmologists Program. Dr. Kirstine Boysen, Dr. Lala Mammadova, and Dr. Simon Fung led the discussion together with Dr. Seng Kheong Fang, Dr. Marcus Ang, and Dr. Joy See Leung, exploring the current global landscape of young ophthalmologists.



Prior to this, we attended the APAO Women in Ophthalmology Luncheon, an invited gathering focused on advancing the role of women in the field. This was followed by the Young Women in Ophthalmology panel at the Showcase Theatre, where Dr. Kirstine Boysen, Dr. Lala Mammadova, Dr. Claire Peterson, Dr. Kanae Fukutsu, and Dr. Ijill Ijilmurun (Mongolia) engaged in a meaningful dialogue between SOE and APAO young female ophthalmologists, addressing key challenges and opportunities.



The following day featured the SOE-YO session, during which we introduced the European Society of Ophthalmology and the European Training Requirements, highlighting ongoing initiatives aimed at supporting young ophthalmologists across Europe and beyond. Overall, the congress provided an excellent platform for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and strengthening international connections within the ophthalmology community.



Later, on February 21, the XVII Azerbaijan Young Ophthalmologists Conference and III Forum took place in Baku, bringing together more than 100 Azerbaijani young ophthalmologists and over 300 delegates. The conference featured distinguished international speakers, including Dr. Prasanna Venkatesh, Dr. Kirstine Boysen, and Dr. Jelena Potić, alongside more than 25 local speakers.

A significant highlight of the event was the establishment of Azerbaijan’s first young Retina specialists club, where six interesting clinical cases were discussed. The III Forum also included sessions dedicated to artificial intelligence in ophthalmology, showcasing its growing impact on the field.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

EMYO 2026



Dr. Leonie Menghesha

EMYO 2026
6th EUROPEAN MEETING OF
YOUNG OPHTHALMOLOGISTS
BERLIN | 4 - 5 July

There are less than 3 months to the 6th European Meeting of Young Ophthalmologists (EMYO 2026), held in Berlin. The scientific program is out, and everything in it is aimed towards young ophthalmologists.

The scientific sessions addressed major areas shaping modern ophthalmology, including **glaucoma, cornea, retina, and oculoplastics**. Highlights included "**Glaucoma Unlocked: New Frontiers in Disease Management**" which explored clinical decision-making, screening, and surgical strategies, as well as "**Cutting-Edge Oncology & Oculoplastics: Between Life- & Sight-Saving Therapies**" focusing on new therapies, surgical techniques, and innovative diagnostic approaches. The retina session emphasized real-world challenges such as retinal detachment and uveitis, while oculoplastics sessions bridged functional and aesthetic surgery with oncology.

A strong emphasis was placed on the **future of the field**, particularly through sessions on **artificial intelligence** and **innovation**. Topics ranged from AI-based diagnostics and prediction models to practical introductions for young clinicians entering the field. In addition, the **refractive surgery session** on Day 2 provided practical guidance on complication management, keratoconus treatment, and modern laser techniques.

Highlight: the EMYO program successfully combines high-quality scientific content with practical, career-relevant education, offering young ophthalmologists direct insights into relevant clinical practice questions and the future directions.

EXPLORE THE PROGRAM HERE



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THE YO JOURNAL CLUB 2026 FROM DOG AND SOE



The German Society of Ophthalmology (DOG)'s YO Division continues its commitment to the next generation of ophthalmologists through the Young DOG Journal Club, an international educational initiative designed to connect, educate, and inspire young clinicians and researchers.

Launched in 2025, the program has evolved into a structured, interactive platform where residents, young ophthalmologists, and medical students critically discuss publications alongside international experts.



Dr. med. Andrea Ross

The 2026 program is out now, and it showcases a significant step forward in international collaboration. Monthly sessions will cover a wide spectrum of subspecialties from ocular oncology, macular diseases to pediatric vitreoretinal surgery. Discussing complex topics in detail allows participants to systematically expand their knowledge while staying up to date with the latest research and clinical developments.

Here is a preview of the program in the next 3 months:

Month	Date	Topic	Expert	Country
April	16.04.2026	Ocular immunology	Prof. Martine Jager	Netherlands
May	07.05.2026	Pediatric vitreoretinal surgery	Prof. Hüseyin Baran Özdemir	Turkey
June	11.06.2026	Tumors and the influence of microorganisms	Prof. Jarmila Heissigerová	Czech Republic



Hanna Spielmann

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE ENTIRE 2026 PROGRAM](#)

THE TEAM:

At the heart of this initiative is a highly motivated and visionary team.

Dr. med. Andrea Ross (TU Munich), founder and head of the Journal Club, has been instrumental in shaping the concept and driving its growth, also serving as editor of the Journal Club section in the Clinical Monthly Journals for Ophthalmology.

She is supported by **Hanna Spielmann (Charité Berlin)**, co-editor of the same section, ensuring high-quality scientific content and dissemination.

Operational excellence is further ensured by **Carlos Knappe**, who leads program coordination, translating the vision into a seamless and engaging educational experience.



Carlos Knappe

[Register for the
Journal Club Here](#)

SOE-YO GRANT REPORTS



SOE Educational Grants continue to provide young ophthalmologists with unique access to top European centers, offering hands-on exposure, mentorship, and career-shaping experiences.

Marina Movsesian completed a four-week fellowship at Mainz University Hospital in Germany, focusing on cornea, keratoconus, refractive, and cataract surgery, with additional exposure to other subspecialties.

She observed a wide range of complex cases and benefited from close interaction with mentors who emphasized detailed clinical reasoning and practical skills.



Dr. Marina Movsesian

Highlight: Structured, flexible training with strong mentorship and many clinical insights.



Lana Datuashvili, MD, PHD

I'm Lana Datuashvili, MD, PHD, general ophthalmologist from Georgia, Kutaisi. It was great honor for me visiting my colleague and friend Alfredo Borgia MD, FEBO in the Hospital Monsignor R. Dimiccoli Barletta, Italy, where I spent a week and observed many interesting clinical and surgical cases, among which the most memorable surgical case was cataract surgery and then fornix reconstruction with fresh frozen amniotic membrane implant for pemphigoid; I assisted 2 DMEK corneal procedures, the outcome was perfect.

I am delighted with Alfredo's hospitality, met his wonderful family; We visited many historical and beautiful places in Barleta and around.

Highlight: Observerships deepen collaboration between colleagues and helps to exchange theoretical and practical knowledge.

LEARN MORE ABOUT SOE YO GRANTS

SOE YO SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



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MOST ENGAGING POSTS ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS:



Sustainability Snippets
Inspired by insights from Dr. Claire Peterson, Singapore National Eye Centre



Expert Interview Spotlight SOE Ukraine Board member Dr. Mykola Umanets shares valuable career insights and guidance for young ophthalmologists starting their journey.



Sustainability advice from PD Dr. Sabrina Reinehr (Bochum, Germany) & Dr. Karina Hadrian (Cologne, Germany)

Dr. Lala Mammadova and the SOE YO Social media team shared some interesting posts in the last couple of months, here are some of them. **Follow** the SOE social media community to be informed, connected, and involved in the latest news.

MOST ENGAGED INSTAGRAM TAKEOVER:



APAO2026 5-8 February Hong-Kong. - Kirstine Boysen and Lala Mammadova



International expert meeting on ocular Graft-versus-Host Disease Cologne, Germany 19.-20. Mar 2026 - Dr. med. Leonie Menghesha



Azerbaijan Ophthalmology Society Young Ophthalmologists Committee Conference & Forum 2026

SOE YO DELEGATES WILL VISIT YOSI CON 2026

10 - 12 July 2026



The European Society of Ophthalmology (SOE) Young Ophthalmologists Delegates from various National Societies in Europe plan to visit to YOSI Con 2026, one of the most dynamic and inspiring ophthalmology meetings in Asia.

YOSI Con has become a must-attend event not only for Asian trainees but also for international young ophthalmologists, thanks to its strong focus on practical skills, hands-on training, and real-world surgical insights.

YOSI Con Expected Stats



150+

Faculties

Bringing professionals together for impactful discussions.



1500+

Delegates

Connecting with a growing global community of ophthalmology enthusiasts.



12K

Years Experience

Bring together dynamic ophthalmologists to share ideas, foster collaborations



60+

Sci. Sessions

Join us to learn, innovate, and shape the future of ophthalmology.

What truly sets it apart is its unique peer-driven approach—young ophthalmologists teaching and learning from each other, guided by some of the most advanced and experienced surgeons in the field.

For early-career clinicians, it offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain actionable tips, refine surgical techniques, and build a global network in an energetic, highly collaborative environment.

**MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT YOSI CON**

**TAKEOVER COMING
SOON ON**



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UPCOMING OPHTHALMOLOGY MEETINGS



April to June 2026 continues a busy and exciting year in ophthalmology, with a wide range of international and local meetings covering multiple subspecialties.

Here are some important meetings you might want to visit:

ASCRS 2026

10–13 APRIL 2026 | WASHINGTON, DC, USA

WORLD KERATOCONUS CONGRESS 2026

16–18 APRIL 2026 | FLORENCE, ITALY

ARVO 2026

3–7 MAY 2026 | DENVER, CO, USA

RETINA WORLD CONGRESS 2026

14–17 MAY 2026 | FORT LAUDERDALE, FL, USA

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS 2026

18–21 MAY 2026 | MANCHESTER, UK

EUCORNEA CONGRESS 2026

22–24 MAY 2026 | PORTO, PORTUGAL

EUROPEAN GLAUCOMA SOCIETY CONGRESS 2026

30 MAY – 2 JUNE 2026 | BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

EMYO 2026

4–15 JULY 2026 | BERLIN, GERMANY

YOSI CONFERENCE 2026

10–12 JULY 2026 | NEW DELHI, INDIA

WORLD OPHTHALMOLOGY CONGRESS 2026

26–29 JUNE 2026 | PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC



For a full and regularly updated overview of ophthalmology meetings in 2026, visit the meeting calendar by SOE YO – OphthAgenda:

OPHTHAGENDA CALENDAR



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Jo and Hannah
SOE Secretariat

Thank You!