

## **Romanian Surgery between Tradition and Innovation: The Priorities of the 2024-2028 Mandate at the Romanian Society of Surgery**

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Assuming the leadership of the Romanian Society of Surgery for the next four years is for me a moment of deep significance and responsibility. With a tradition of almost 130 years, this organization is at the foundation of the Romanian surgeon community, and my role is to continue this legacy and open new paths for the future of Romanian surgery. I would like to share the priorities I have set for this mandate, given our shared commitment to promote excellence in surgical practice and to respond to contemporary challenges.



An essential aspect of my mandate is to respect the rich tradition and history of Romanian surgery. The Romanian Society of Surgery was founded at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Bucharest, with the surgeon Constantin Severeanu at its head. At the meeting on January 27, 1899, the society constituted its first board, with Thoma Ionescu as president, together with other founding members such as Dr. Leonte, Dr. Racoviceanu-Pitești, Dr. Duma and Dr. Staicovici. Over the years, numerous meetings were organized at the Institute of Topographic Anatomy in Bucharest, where clinical cases, new surgical methods and lectures by medical personalities from abroad were presented. Over the years, the society has continued to promote international

collaboration, organizing congresses and inviting renowned surgeons from abroad to lecture and perform innovative surgery in Romania.

This rich history and respect for traditional values are fundamental to preserving and enhancing the standards of excellence we have inherited. We will continue our efforts to honor our mentors and their achievements, ensuring that their legacy will continue to inspire and guide new generations of Romanian surgeons.

And this brings me to a major objective of my mandate: supporting the training and professional development of young surgeons. I consider it essential to ensure that the younger generation has access to the latest technologies and surgical methods. We will organize thematic events and courses on topics such as the impact of new technologies and artificial intelligence in surgery. These initiatives are very important to prepare young surgeons to meet the challenges of the future and to maintain a level of excellence in surgical practice.

Collaboration with the Romanian Surgical Student Society and other similar organizations will continue to be a priority. We will work together to ensure a solid and comprehensive training of future surgeons and to develop a united and well-informed surgical community.

Another equally important objective is to increase the international visibility of the Romanian Surgical Society. In an interconnected world, it is vital to make ourselves known and collaborate with colleagues abroad. We will attract international experts to our events and initiate collaborations with other surgical societies around the world. This approach will not only enrich our professional experience, but will also open up new research opportunities and joint projects.

We will continue to organize congresses and conferences with sessions dedicated to

various surgical specialties. An eloquent example of our commitment to continuing medical education and interdisciplinary collaboration is the National Congress of Surgery 2024 (CNC 2024). From June 12-15, 2024, this event brought together 1381 participants and over 20 international lecturers. CNC 2024 was organized by: the Romanian Society of Surgery, the Academy of Medical Sciences, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, the Romanian College of Physicians and other renowned medical societies. Over 300 lectures and symposia were held over four days, with 11 scientific societies as partners.

At CNC 2024, varied and topical surgical topics were discussed, including practical applications of artificial intelligence in medical research and scientific publishing.

The National Surgical Congress 2024 demonstrated the importance of continuing medical education and interdisciplinary collaboration in advancing modern surgical practices, providing an excellent setting for the exchange of knowledge and experience among medical professionals.

In conclusion, my mandate at the helm of the Romanian Society of Surgery will focus on promoting the training and development of young surgeons, increasing international visibility, organizing interdisciplinary events, respecting tradition and actively engaging in health policies. We will continue to collaborate with student societies and other surgical organizations, to adapt the university curriculum to the requirements of the labor market and to invest in Moldova's health infrastructure. I am convinced that, together, we will be able to make significant contributions to the development and modernization of surgery in Romania and to the increase of the international prestige of the Romanian Surgical Society.