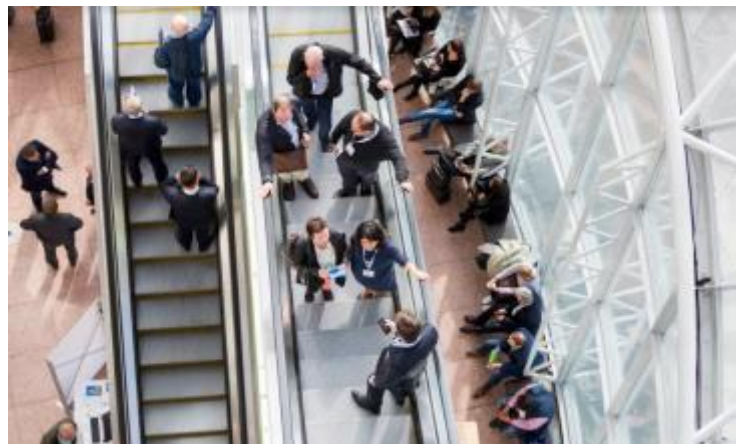


Words from EUROSPINE 2017 Local Hosts Ciaran Bolger and Frank Dowling



Both EUROSPINE 2017 Local Hosts, Ciaran Bolger and Frank Dowling, have been involved in EUROSPINE for many years, Dowling already in the European Spinal Deformity Society, which was one of the two societies which merged in 1998 to form EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of EUROPE. They have both visited many previous EUROSPINE Annual Meetings and were eager to invite spine specialists to their home town to give back what they have enjoyed in so many other host cities – a welcoming atmosphere to spine specialist from around the world, an excellent scientific meeting, ground for successful networking and of course the charm of buzzing city like Dublin!

In their eyes, and according to the positive feedback they have received from many participants, EUROSPINE 2017 was a great success. Guests positively commented the wonderful venue, the hospitable staff, the excellent organisation and of course on the high-quality scientific content of the meeting. The latter, which is obviously thanks to the many contributors like abstract submitters and reviewers, invited faculty, and the EUROSPINE Programme Committee.





For the first time a head of state officially opened the conference. The president of Ireland Michael D Higgins in a specially recorded [video address](#) emphasised the importance of this meeting coming to Ireland and the

significant contribution its members make towards the treatment of patients with spinal disorders.

Frank Dowling, EUROSPINE 2017 Local Host, was asked to organise a patient information day which was held as a preamble to the scientific meeting. As the founding president of the Irish Spine Society he was able to call on spinal experts in Ireland who freely gave of their time. All aspects of the spine was covered from the cervical to the lumbar levels. This included anatomy and sources of pain and causes of spinal deformity. The speakers included renowned experts in the area of neurosurgery, orthopaedics, spine surgery and physiotherapy rehabilitation. 105 participants, out of them approximately 15 children including newborns, attended the free public information day of EUROSPINE at the CCD. The expert faculty indicated moderate treatment for spinal disorders including conservative therapy and state-of-the-art surgical intervention in a patient-friendly language. The faculty gave expert advice and also answered the countless questions of a very engaged audience.



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It was a great honour to choose the medal lecturer Mark Pollock, who is a great inspiration and motivator to many, mentions Frank Dowling. With his lecture, he got to the core of what EUROSPINE is all about – to achieve things through effort, study and hard work. Pollock capsuled the idea of this association - to get people together and work collaboratively to succeed. He resumes



‘EUROSPINE is the absolute epitome of collaboration of spine specialist from all over Europe and indeed from all over the world.’



EUROSPINE offers a meeting where different sub-specialities meet, where one can interchange ideas with people from parallel speciality areas, says Ciaran Bolger. EUROSPINE gives a broad umbrella with physiotherapists, nurses, epidemiologists, and many more specialists besides the obvious, spine surgeons – we embrace the whole spine area and involve the various sub-specialities.

Ciaran Bolger and Frank Dowling
Local Hosts of EUROSPINE 2017