



INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION  
OF PLASTIC SURGERY SOCIETIES

# ICOPLAST NEWSLETTER 2026 VOL. 1

## PRESIDENTIAL NOTE

Dear Members,

ICOPLAST celebrates our 10th Anniversary in 2026 and to mark the occasion, the Egyptian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons graciously hosted a 1-day ICOPLAST Symposium on 3 February 2026 during their 56th Annual Congress. Thank you to Dr. Ahmed Khashaba, former ICOPLAST President, for generously facilitating the event!

Later in 2026, there are two further Symposiums during the European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery (EFMS) Congress in Prague 14 - 17 June 2026, and the joint meeting of ESPRAS and Swiss Plastic Surgery Bern 3 - 5 September 2026.

We were delighted to announce the ICOPLAST/JPRAS Collaboration for an ICOPLAST/JPRAS Special Edition Journal for publication in September/October 2026. The Publications Committee has been instrumental in this initiative and is currently peer reviewing the first group of submitted Manuscripts.

The ICOPLAST Committees have all been very hard at work and have also provided updates for you on new and existing initiatives.

We are very happy to welcome new ICOPLAST Membership Applications from The Norwegian Association of Plastic Surgeons, Medical Specialists in Reconstructive and Aesthetic Plastic Surgery of Costa Rica (AMECPRE), and the Sudanese Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons and with thanks to the ICOPLAST Membership and Communications Committee, we look forward to welcoming several others who have also expressed interest in joining our Confederation.

Generously hosted by the German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (DGPRÄC), arrangements are well already underway for 4th ICOPLAST World Congress in Berlin 24 – 26 June 2027, and more details are later in this Newsletter.



Dr. Eva-Maria Baur  
ICOPLAST President

# ICOPLAST 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



ICOPLAST celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a symposium during the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of Egyptian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons (ESPRS) 3 – 6 February 2026.

ICOPLAST is a non-profit organization formed in Uruguay in 2016 as a confederation of National Plastic Surgery Societies.

During the last ten years, ICOPLAST has implemented many initiatives in support of our mission to educate, communicate and advance the Plastic Surgery specialty throughout the world, including convening three ICOPLAST Congresses in Peru, Dubai and South Africa, holding many symposiums in collaboration with our National Societies, and implementing and operating a monthly webinar program, and recordings of all ICOPLAST webinars are available to **view on demand** on the ICOPLAST website.

The stellar work of the past and present members of ICOPLAST Board of Directors and the ICOPLAST Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs has greatly contributed to the continued growth and success of ICOPLAST.



Founding Members, Uruguay 2016

# ICOPLAST/JPRAS Collaboration

**ICOPLAST**  
INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION  
OF PLASTIC SURGERY SOCIETIES

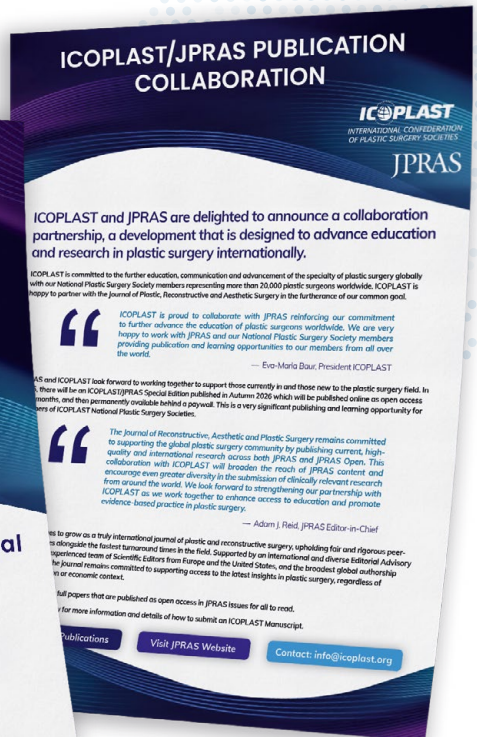
**JPRAS**  
An International Journal of Surgical Reconstruction

We are very happy to announce that ICOPLAST has recently signed a publication agreement with the Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (JPRAS) to publish an ICOPLAST/JPRAS Special Journal September/October 2026.

Published by Elsevier, the ICOPLAST/JPRAS Special edition will contain original research, educational material, and articles on all aspects of plastic and reconstructive surgery, including both reconstructive and aesthetic surgery. The ICOPLAST/JPRAS Special Edition will be freely available online for 6 months and thereafter, permanently available behind a paywall.

**CLOSING DATE**  
**30 APRIL**  
**2026**

**Submit your Manuscript today !**



# Committee Updates

Our committees continue to be instrumental in achieving the ICOPLAST mission



Education  
Committee



Membership and  
Communication  
Committee



Trainees  
Committee



Patient Safety  
Committee



Humanitarian  
Committee



Publications  
Committee



Young Plastic  
Surgeons  
Committee



Audit Committee

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Under the leadership of Dr. Horacio F. Mayer, Chair, and Dr. Edward Chang, Vice Chair, we are pleased to continue our monthly webinars covering the entire breadth of plastic surgery. Topics span the diverse types of cases we encounter from cosmetic surgery to complex reconstruction to trauma and burn reconstruction.

We are cognizant to include a diverse group of speakers and participants that represents the diversity and global nature of ICOPLAST and will continue to encourage and include participants from all the different nations that comprise this global society. While many societies and groups have also implemented routine webinars, the webinar idea was a concept ICOPLAST long fostered even before the pandemic which we hope will continue to grow into the future.



Dr. Horacio Mayer  
Chair  
Argentina




Dr. Edward Chang  
Vice-Chair  
USA

# EDUCATIONAL CHAPTER CHAIRS




Dr. Marzia Salgarello

October 2025  
**Breast Reconstruction Chapter**



Dr. Bernardo Hontanilla

November 2025  
**Facial Palsy Chapter**




Dr. Ghulam Fayyaz

December 2025  
**Craniofacial/Cleft Lip Palate Chapter**




Dr. Basel Sharaf

January 2026  
**Facial Aesthetics Chapter**




Dr. Giorgio de Santis

February 2026  
**Craniofacial Trauma Chapter**



Dr. Edward Chang

March 2026  
**Head and Neck Chapter**




Dr. Enrico Robotti

April 2026  
**Rhinoplasty Chapter**



Dr. Moustapha Hamdi

May 2026  
**Breast Aesthetics Chapter**



Dr. Hinne Rakhorst

June 2026  
**Hand & Upper Limb Chapter**




Dr. Hossam Tahseen

July 2026  
**Body Contouring Chapter**



Dr. Stefania de Fazio

August 2026  
**Genital and Gender Affirmation Chapter**



Dr. Horacio Costa

September 2026  
**Lower Limb Reconstruction Chapter**




Dr. JP Hong

October 2026  
**Lymphedema Chapter**




Dr. Riccardo Giunta

November 2026  
**Microsurgery Chapter**



Dr. Maniram Ragbir

December 2026  
**Sarcoma Chapter**




Dr. Kenneth Segwapa

January 2027  
**Burns and Wounds Healing Chapter**



Dr. Filip Stillaert

February 2027  
**Regenerative Medicine and Surgery Chapter**

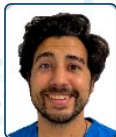


Dr. Greg Evans

March 2027  
**Global Plastic Surgery Chapter**

## EDUCATION WEBINAR SUBCOMMITTEE

We welcomed a new member to the Webinar Subcommittee. Dr. Ángel Parra Comino, the National Trainee Delegate from the Spanish Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, and joins Dr. Anja Imsirovic, Dr. Madelein Maliepaard and Dr. Maha Ejaz supporting the Education Chapter Chairs of the 2026/2027 ICOPLAST webinar program.



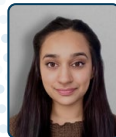
Dr. Ángel Parra Comino  
Spain



Dr. Anja Imsirovic  
Austria



Dr. Madelein Maliepaard  
South Africa



Dr. Maha Ejaz  
UK

## PATIENT SAFETY COMMITTEE

Dr. Pietro Berrino, Chair, continues to work with his committee members to advocate for Patient Safety as a primary focus for Plastic Surgeons.

The Committee has recently produced recommended guidelines documents which will shortly be distributed to our National Plastic Surgery Societies for their consideration and possible inclusion in their Patient Safety Protocols.

- Medical Practice Website Guidelines
- Minimum Requirements for Preoperative Informed Consent - Aesthetic Breast Augmentation with Implants
- Minimal Requirements for Outpatient Surgical Facilities

The Guidelines will also appear on the [ICOPLAST website](#)

The committee focus for 2026 will be conducting a survey on National Legislation regarding limiting Aesthetic Surgery to Specialists.

Dr. Berrino would welcome new committee members from National Plastic Surgery Societies in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Please contact [info@icoplast.org](mailto:info@icoplast.org) for more information.



Dr. Pietro Berrino  
Chair  
Italy

## TRAINEE COMMITTEE

With the guidance and leadership of Dr. Smilja Tudjorova and Dr. Thendo Netshiongolwe, the Trainee Committee has been working tirelessly to support Trainees and Residents in plastic surgery.

A Fellowship Database has been compiled and updated and will shortly appear in the members' area of the [ICOPLAST website](#).

This will serve as a valuable reference resource for trainees and early-career plastic surgeons exploring fellowship training opportunities across the different subspecialty areas of plastic surgery worldwide.

The Committee is also preparing a Global Curriculum Survey to gather information on current plastic surgery training pathways globally, as part of ongoing work towards the development of recommended international training frameworks for trainee plastic surgeons.



**Dr. Smilja Tudjorova**  
Gjorgova  
Chair  
Republic of Macedonia



**Dr. Thendo Netshiongolwe**  
Vice-Chair  
South Africa

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## YOUNG PLASTIC SURGEONS

The priority of the Young Plastic Surgeons Committee is to provide support to newly qualified plastic surgeons as they embark on their careers.

Dr. Susana Benitez, Chair, is also working with the Committee members compiling a **Young Plastic Surgeons Mentorship Program**, and this exciting new initiative is expected to go live in the Summer of 2026 – keep an eye out for the promotions of these very exciting opportunities!

Under the guidance of Dr. Andrea Battistini, Vice-Chair, new in 2026 are the **Young Plastic Surgeons Webinars**, initially starting with **Tips & Tricks for Success during Fellowship** and **Tips and Tricks for Success in your first job**. When scheduled in the late Spring, watch out for the promotions and don't miss out on registering!

Additional committee members from ICOPLAST National Plastic Surgery Societies in Africa, Oceania and the Middle East would be happily welcomed by Dr. Benitez and Dr. Battistini. Please contact [info@icoplast.org](mailto:info@icoplast.org) for more information.



**Dr. Susana Benitez**  
Chair  
Spain



**Dr. Andrea Battistini**  
Vice-Chair  
USA

# HUMANITARIAN COMMITTEE

The Humanitarian Committee is currently designing a Roadmap for ICOPLAST Humanitarian Missions, identifying areas of need, compiling a panel of volunteers and devising a plan to train local plastic surgeons in the provision of aftercare.



**Dr. Beatriz Berenguer**  
Chair  
Spain

Dr. Berenguer would happily welcome new committee members from ICOPLAST National Plastic Surgery Societies in Africa and Oceania. Please contact [info@icoplast.org](mailto:info@icoplast.org) for more information.

# PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Under the guidance of Dr. Alexandru Georgescu, Chair and Dr. Sally Ng, Vice Chair, the ICOPLAST Publications Committee continues to demonstrate unwavering dedication, tirelessly driving this new and very significant ICOPLAST Membership benefit.



**Dr. Alexandru Georgescu**  
Chair  
Romania

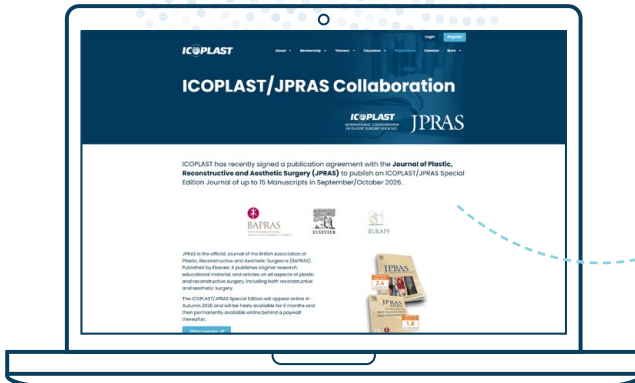


**Dr. Sally Ng**  
Vice-Chair  
Australia

The committee conducts ICOPLAST Peer Reviews of all manuscripts submitted for consideration for the ICOPLAST/JPRAS Special Edition which is due for publication in September/October 2026.

Check out the [ICOPLAST website](https://www.icoplast.org) and [Submit your Manuscript today!](#)

Also new in 2026 there will be an **ICOPLAST Journal Club** – watch out for more details later in the Spring!



# Symposiums 2026

## ICOPLAST 10TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM

ICOPLAST celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium on Modern Concepts on Aesthetic Facial, Breast and Body Contouring Surgery during the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Egyptian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons (ESPRS) on 3 – 6 February 2026.



The event, co-chaired by Drs. Eva-Maria Baur and Horacio F. Mayer, and hosted by ICOPLAST former president Dr. Ahmed Khashaba, included the participation of Egyptian professors and international ICOPLAST guest faculty such as Robert Murphy (USA), Julio Kirschbaum (Peru), Francisco Villegas (Colombia), Joan Font de Vila (Spain), Gregory Evans (USA), Marzia Salgarello (Italy), Earl Campbell (Canada), Dr. German Vargas (Guatemala), Dr. Hassan El Boukind (Morocco) and Hinne Rakhorst (The Netherlands).



ICOPLAST Guest Faculty



Dr. Julio Kirshbaum



Dr. Hassen El Boukind



Dr. Gregory Evans

# ICOPLAST Symposium at EFSM Prague 14 – 17 June 2026



With thanks to the European Federation of Societies for Microsurgery (EFSM), ICOPLAST will hold two 1-hour symposiums during their Congress in Prague 14 - 17 June 2026.

The EFSM congress scientific program will cover the full breadth of reconstructive microsurgery, ranging from foundational concepts to cutting-edge innovations, exploring both established clinical approaches and emerging trends that are redefining the future of the discipline — including advanced technologies, complex reconstructive solutions, and modern surgical approaches.

The first ICOPLAST symposium, Chaired by Dr. Hinne Rakhorst and Dr. Sanne Molenkamp will be **Complex Challenges in Facial Paralysis: Reconstruction, Reinnervation, Reanimation & Rebalancing**. Speakers will include Dr. Tarek Amer, Dr. Merel Koning Groningen and Dr. Stefan Eisenhardt.

Dr. Marzia Salgarello and Dr. Gregory Evans will chair the second ICOPLAST symposium: **Failed Breast Reconstruction: Flap or not to Flap**. ICOPLAST Speakers will include Dr. Moustapha Hamdi, Dr. Phillip Stillaert, Dr. Stefania Tuinder and Dr. Peter Cordeiro.



Dr. Marzia Salgarello  
Italy



Dr. Hinne Rakhorst  
Netherlands

[Visit Website](#)

# ICOPLAST Symposium at Joint meeting of ESPRAS and Swiss Plastic Surgery Bern 3 – 5 September 2026



SWISS  
PLASTIC  
SURGERY



The congress serves as a platform for sharing research, demonstrating surgical innovation, and fostering networking among plastic surgeons, researchers and trainees in Europe and the Congress is **United in the Heart of Europe**.

ICOPLAST will hold a symposium under the guidance of Dr. Horacio F. Mayer and Dr. Edward Chang with the theme **A Global Perspective of Plastic Surgery**. More details and promotional materials will be broadly shared in the coming weeks – stay tuned!

[Visit Website](#)

If your National Society would like ICOPLAST would hold further Symposiums during your National Congress this year, please let us know [info@icoplast.org](mailto:info@icoplast.org).

# ICOPLAST Website

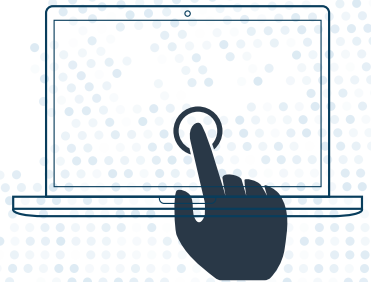
The ICOPLAST Website is a valuable resource for Plastic Surgeons and Residents worldwide providing details of all the latest ICOPLAST updates and developments [info@icoplast.org](mailto:info@icoplast.org).

In the Members area of the ICOPLAST website, you can also access the ICOPLAST Webinar Library of more than 20 webinars, the Sushruta Professorship Lecture delivered by Dr. Julian Pribaz at the ICOPLAST Congress in Cape Town, and the recording of the ICOPLAST Visiting Professor Lecture from Dr. Alan Matarasso. The ICOPLAST Fellowship database will also be added here shortly.

## Check out the Members' area in these 3 easy steps:



### 1 REGISTER

Visit <https://icoplast.org/register/> and complete your ICOPLAST registration form.



### 2 PASSWORD

Create a password for your account.

	<input type="text" value="Username"/>
	<input type="password" value="*****"/>
<input type="button" value="LOGIN"/>	

### 3 SOCIETY PASSCODE

Insert the passcode assigned to your **National Plastic Surgery Society**, which they can provide to you.



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# 4th ICOPLAST World Congress, Berlin 24 – 26 June 2027

We are really excited that the 4<sup>th</sup> ICOPLAST World Congress will take place in Berlin, Germany 24 – 26 June 2027 hosted by the German Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (DGPRÄC).

Mark your calendar and submit an Abstract online from July 2026!

Watch out for additional details and promotional materials rolling out on the ICOPLAST website [www.icoplast.org](http://www.icoplast.org) in the weeks ahead!

SAVE THE DATE



**ICOPLAST**  
WORLD CONGRESS



German Society for Plastic,  
Reconstructive and Aesthetic  
Surgery (DGPRÄC)

**ANNUAL MEETING**

GLOBALLY **UNITED** FOR THE **FUTURE**



Dr. Eva-Maria Baur  
Congress President  
ICOPLAST



Prof. Dr. Marcus Lehnhardt  
Congress President  
DGPRÄC

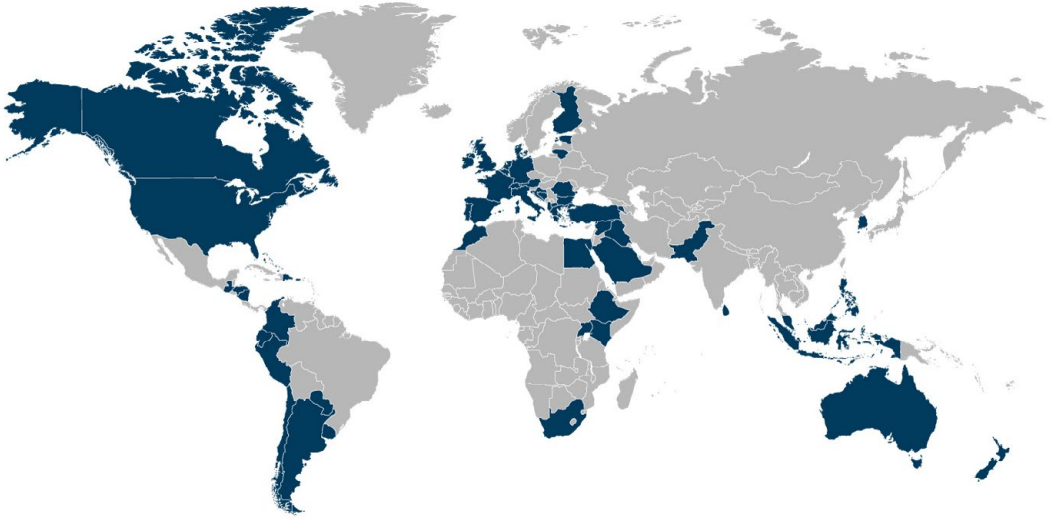
## IMPORTANT KEY DATES

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| July 2026     | Call for Abstracts opens                           |
| October 2026  | Call for Abstracts closes                          |
| December 2026 | Preliminary Program online &<br>Registration opens |
| April 2027    | Early Bird deadline for Registration               |

**JW MARRIOTT**  
BERLIN, GERMANY

# National Societies

ICOPLAST has almost 60 National Plastic Surgery Societies representing more than 20,000 plastic surgeons worldwide.



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## National Society Members

### **ALBANIA**

The Albanian Association of Reconstructive and Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons

### **ARGENTINA**

Sociedad Argentina de Cirugía Plástica, Estética y Reparadora

### **ARMENIA**

International Association of Armenian Plastic Surgeons

### **AUSTRALIA**

Australian Society of Plastic Surgery

### **AUSTRIA**

Austrian Society of Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery

### **BELGIUM**

Royal Belgian Society for Plastic Surgery

### **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons in Bosnia and Herzegovina

### **BULGARIA**

Bulgarian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

### **CANADA**

Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons

### **CHILE**

Chilean Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

### **COLOMBIA**

Sociedad Colombiana de Cirugía Plástica Estética y Reconstructiva

### **CROATIA**

Croatian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

### **DENMARK**

Danish Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

### **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Dominican Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

### **ECUADOR**

Ecuadorian Society of Plastic Surgery and Aesthetic

### **EGYPT**

Egyptian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons

### **ESTONIA**

Estonian Society for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

### **ETHIOPIA**

Ethiopian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons

**FINLAND**

Finnish Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**FRANCE**

French Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

**GERMANY**

German Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**GREECE**

Hellenic Society of Plastic, Reconstructive, and Aesthetic Surgery

**GUATEMALA**

The Association of Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgeons of Guatemala

**HONDURAS**

Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons of Honduras

**HONG KONG**

The Hong Kong Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**INDONESIA**

Indonesian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**IRAQ**

The Iraqi Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**IRELAND**

Irish Association of Plastic Surgeons

**ITALY**

Italian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive-Regenerative and Aesthetic Surgery

**KENYA**

Kenya Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**LITHUANIA**

Lithuanian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

**MALAYSIA**

Malaysian Association of Plastic, Aesthetic, and Craniomaxillofacial Surgeons

**MOROCCO**

Moroccan Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

**NETHERLANDS**

Dutch Society of Plastic Surgery

**NEW ZEALAND**

New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons

**NICARAGUA**

Nicaraguan Association of Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery

**PAKISTAN**

Pakistan Association of Plastic Surgeons

**PARAGUAY**

Sociedad Paraguaya de Cirugía Plástica, Reconstructiva y Estética

**PERU**

The Peruvian Society of Plastic and Aesthetic Surgery

**PHILIPPINES**

Philippine Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**PORTUGAL**

Portuguese Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

**PUERTO RICO**

Plastic Surgery Society of Puerto Rico

**REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

Macedonian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**ROMANIA**

Romanian Society of Plastic Surgeons

**SAUDI ARABIA**

Saudi Scientific Association of Plastic Surgery and Burn

**SOUTH AFRICA**

The Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons of South Africa

**SOUTH KOREA**

Korean Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons

**SPAIN**

Spanish Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

**SRI LANKA**

Sri Lanka Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**SWITZERLAND**

Swiss Society for Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery

**SYRIA**

Syrian Association for Aesthetic, Reconstructive and Burn Surgery

**TÜRKIYE**

Turkish Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**UGANDA**

The Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons Society Uganda

**UNITED KINGDOM**

British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons

**UNITED STATES**

American Society of Plastic Surgeons

**URUGUAY**

Society of Plastic Surgery Uruguay