



# 6<sup>th</sup> Europe Region Physiotherapy Congress

5-6 November 2026

Hosted by:



Asociación  
Española de  
Fisioterapeutas

## Call for Discussion Sessions

**Extended submission deadline: 12 June 2026**

### Submission guidelines

Please read this information carefully before proceeding to the online submission form

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#### Submission process

Apply through the congress registration page: [Link to apply for the call for discussion sessions](#)

#### Important dates

Submission opens: **5 May 2026**

Submission closes: **12 June 2026**

Notification of outcome: **June/July 2026**

#### Discussion Session format

The chair has the responsibility to invite and lead a group of speakers through a series of thought-provoking and critically reflective linked statements, drawing out potential challenges for the audience. **It is important to deliver a coherent session with speakers working together thoughtfully.** The aim of the session should be to create an insightful and engaging learning experience for clinicians, managers, educators, researchers, and/or policy makers (depending on the topic) that ultimately informs, inspires, involves, and empowers congress participants and allows time for discussion.

Each discussion session will last **60 minutes** and consist of:

- a brief introduction by the chair.
- a first round of maximum three thought-provoking statements (1 minute each).
- 20 minutes of round table discussions with the audience spread across tables.
- a second round of maximum three thought-provoking statements (1 minute each).
- 20 minutes of round table discussions with the audience spread across tables.
- a 1-minute summary from each table highlighting the implications, pros and cons, and relevant messages to take away.
- a take home message by the chair.

## Call open to any topic

The call for discussion sessions is open to any topic that is relevant to the physiotherapy profession.

## Requirements

**The chair must have secured the agreement of all speakers** before submitting on their behalf. The Europe Region of World Physiotherapy and the Scientific Committee advocate for diversity and multiple perspectives across all congress sessions. This can be achieved through a range of aspects: a balance of gender, nationalities, perspectives and/or experiences from service users, policy makers and under-represented groups. Submissions should aim to include speakers from different countries/territories.

A chair or a speaker may **only appear in one discussion session**.

The online submission form offers a fixed word count.

You will be asked to provide the following:

1. Title of suggested discussion session [max 135 characters including letters and spaces], which must be concise and informative.
2. Names of the chair and up to three speakers.
3. Email address and contact mobile phone number for all speakers.
4. Relevance to physiotherapy globally [max 75 words].
5. Target audience [max 25 words].
6. Description of the topic(s) that will be discussed [max 200 words].
7. The thought-provoking statements (max 6).
8. Short biography for the chair and each speaker. This should outline academic qualifications and accomplishments and/or professional practice background and/or management and policy development mandates. [max 200 words for each biography].
9. Details of how diversity has been considered in preparing the submission [max 75 words].
10. The number of countries your proposal represents perspectives from.

## Selection principles

Submissions will be reviewed against the following principles:

**Explore** the most recent ideas, evidence, methods and areas of controversy in the literature related to outcomes for people and populations.

**Inspire** with a clear purpose and applicable outcomes for participants.

**Connect** participants by reflecting the diversity of the global profession and draw in audiences from different fields.

**Include** speakers with international experience and standing in the topic area, representing a range of European perspectives and speakers from under-represented groups.

**Impact** practice, education, research and/or policy by making clear the implications arising from the presentations including considerations on the diversity of the profession.

## General information

1. The congress language is English and all proposals and presentations must be made in English. Translation is not provided.
2. A Discussion Session speaker may only appear in one Discussion Session proposal submission. This does not affect any other submissions.
3. Discussion Session speakers must register and present in-person.
4. A honorarium, fee, waiving of registration fees or payment of expenses will not be provided for speakers.
5. Proposals should address the current evidence, areas of controversy in the literature, clinical practice and/or policy development, implications for practice or the need for further research.
6. All proposals and presentations must adhere to the use of “people-first” language. A person must not be referred to by disability or condition, and terms that could be considered biased or discriminatory in any way should be removed (e.g. use “person with a stroke” instead of “stroke patients”).
7. The Scientific Committee may invite Discussion Session speakers to contribute to other congress programme sessions, such as chairing or moderating sessions.
8. An informal setting will be provided for all Discussion Sessions. No presentations are allowed.
9. Successful speakers are kindly requested to use their social media channels to promote their involvement in the 6<sup>th</sup> Europe Region Physiotherapy Congress and will be supported by the Europe Region of World Physiotherapy in these efforts.
10. Discussion Sessions are not to be used as marketing opportunities for new products, equipment or organisations, nor to refute or denigrate competitors’ products.
11. Descriptions for each Discussion Session will be published in the preliminary and final programmes, on Europe Region of World Physiotherapy’s website, and in other promotional material.
12. Given the nature of the discussion sessions, and that the submission of an abstract is not required, the selected discussion sessions will not be published in the selected journal.
13. Congress programme placement will be determined by the Scientific Committee to ensure best fit with the overall congress programme. Any requests for specific dates and times cannot be guaranteed but will be considered if submitted at the time of proposal submission.
14. Any changes to an accepted Discussion Session must be submitted to the Scientific Committee for review and approval.
15. Prior to the congress, on request, a teleconference to support the collaboration between the relevant Discussion Session speakers can be facilitated by the Europe Region’s secretariat and this is actively encouraged.
16. All decisions of the Scientific Committee are final.

## Consent and permissions

In submitting a Discussion Session, you must confirm that:

- all speakers have agreed to participate in-person in this session at congress, should the proposal be accepted for inclusion, and take responsibility for their own travel, accommodation and registration costs
- you accept responsibility as the contact person for all correspondence and to share information with speakers

## Copyright

On behalf of any and all co-authors, the submitter will confirm the:

- content belongs to the author(s). However, if the application is accepted, the submitter agrees, on behalf of all co-authors, to transfer and assign to 6<sup>th</sup> Europe Region Physiotherapy Congress 2026 free of charge, on a non- exclusive basis, the rights to edit, publish, reproduce, reformat, distribute in whole or in part the application and prepare all type of derivative works. These works may include press releases, recordings, and/or educational products, using all communication tools and means, now known or hereinafter developed, including any and all analogue and digital means and any and all supports or forms of media, now known or hereinafter developed. This includes use in indexes or search databases in print, electronic, or other media.
- author(s) retain the right, after presentation, to subsequently include the work in articles, books, or derivative works that they author or edit, provided said use does not imply the endorsement of The Europe Region of World Physiotherapy.

When completing the online submission process, the submitter will be asked to confirm that the presenting author has read and understood the general information and the requirements they are expected to fulfil.

*This call has been prepared in accordance with the template developed and provided by World Physiotherapy for the Call for Abstracts of World Physiotherapy Congress 2025.*