



**EBOT –  
European Board of  
Orthopaedics & Traumatology**

Richard Wallensten  
President



**Section for Orthopaedics and Traumatology**



- 20 EU countries
- Norway
- Switzerland
- PWG
- 4 observer countries
  - Croatia
  - Macedonia
  - Romania
  - Turkey

26 European countries



5 EU countries have not joined the section

- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Malta
- Poland
- Slovenia



We also miss

- Iceland      Bosnia-H
- Bulgaria      Albania
- Serbia
- Montenegro

37 European countries



**The section is led by**

**The President**

**Richard Wallensten, Sweden**

**The Secretary**

**Hanne Hedin, Sweden**

**The Treasurer**

**Henri Schlammes, Luxemburg**

**EBOT exam chairman**

**Jorge Mineiro, Portugal**



## In Europe

- a shortage of orthopaedic specialists
- too few orthopaedic trainees

**We need to set a common minimal standard and to harmonize working conditions**

**in order to facilitate the free movement of orthopaedic surgeons within Europe**

**and we must get more young doctors to go into orthopaedics**



## EBOT works with EFORT

- the president is a co-opted member of the EFORT executive committee
- EFORT sponsors the EBOT exam, € 15000 annually





# **UEMS MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ORTHOPAEDIC TRAINING**

**Approved in Bergen 2002**



**The EBOT exam was developed in 1999 – 2000**

**The main purpose was to ensure that orthopaedic surgeons were safe to practise in Europe**

**The first exam was realized in connection with the EFORT meeting in Rhodes 2001**

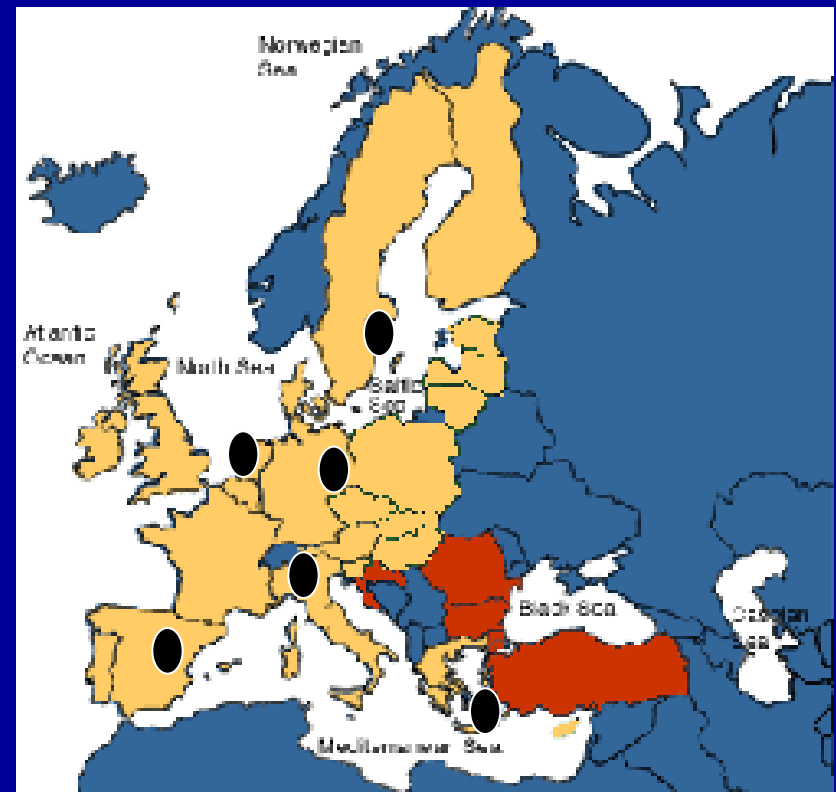


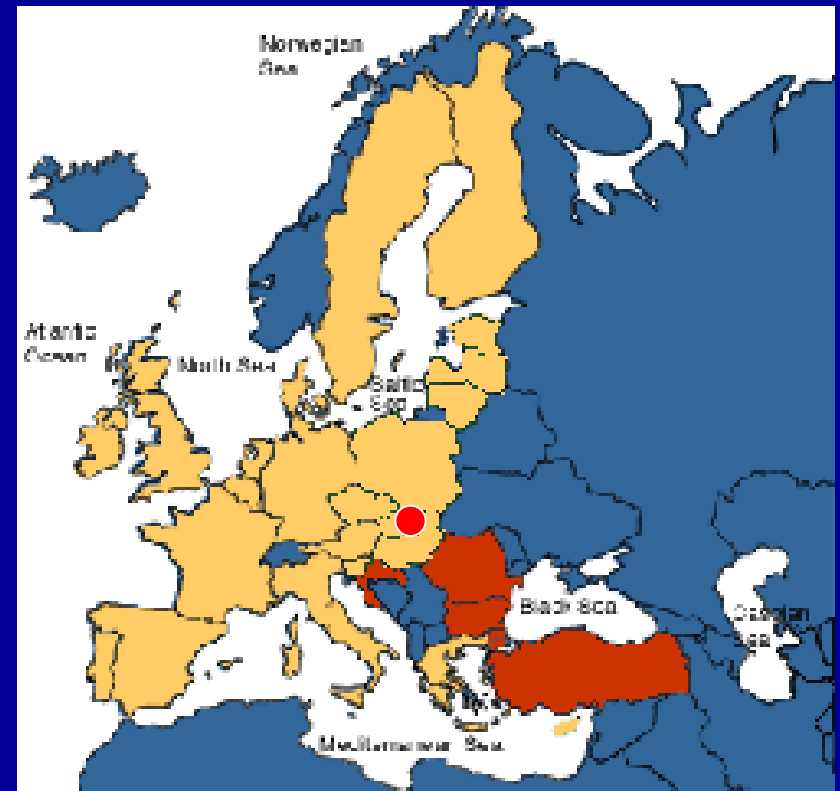
## The Fellowship Exam of the European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology



## EBOT exam

- Rhodes 2001
- Stockholm 2002
- Amsterdam 2003
- Berlin 2004
- Madrid 2005
- Torino 2006





## Next EBOT exam

- October 2007 Vienna
- October 2008 Geneva



## The EBOT exam

- written and oral in English
- examiners from all Europe
- chosen by the national associations
- examiner's course compulsory
- written: 20 MCQ
- oral viva: basic science, spine, upper limb, lower limb, children



# Examiners

- |           |   |               |   |
|-----------|---|---------------|---|
| • Austria | 3 | • Netherlands | 2 |
| • Belgium | 3 | • Portugal    | 5 |
| • France  | 4 | • Spain       | 5 |
| • Germany | 5 | • Sweden      | 2 |
| • Greece  | 4 | • Switzerland | 1 |
| • Italy   | 4 | • Turkey      | 1 |
| • Ireland | 2 | • UK          | 6 |



# Candidates have come from

- Austria 1
- Belgium 3
- France 3
- Germany 12
- Greece 13
- Hungary 1
- Ireland 3
- Italy 7
- Malta 1
- Poland 1
- Portugal 4
- Romania 2
- Spain 12
- Sweden 2
- Switzerland 2
- Turkey 7
- United Kingdom 8





## EBOT exam

- Rhodes 11 73 % passed
- Stockholm 16 63 %
- Amsterdam 14 75 %
- Berlin 18 57 %
- Madrid 10 50 %
- Torino 18 66 %



## **The most difficult parts of the exam**

- **Basic science**
- **Children's orthopaedics**



## Reasons?

- **different culture in medicine between countries**
- **Northern vs. Continental Europe**
- **emphasis on theoretical or practical issues**



**EBOT strives for education of a of general orthopaedic specialist who subspecializes after training is ended not during training.**



## EBOT works with European specialist societies

- Minimal requirements in paediatric orthopaedics, EPOS
- Minimal requirements in sports medicine, knee surgery and arthroscopy, ESSKA



**Contacts with EPOS, SSE and ESSKA have resulted in writing committees for the MCQs in the EBOT exam.**



## **Project with EFORT and the speciality societies**

- **Structured courses aiming at the EBOT exam in the five areas, basic science, upper and lower limb, spine and children's orthopaedics**
- **Instructional course in Stockholm, November 2007**



## **Problems with EBOT at present**

- **Too few candidates**
- **Supplying MCQs**
- **head hunting examiners**
- **financial support**





## **Solutions to problems**

- **Internet based exam**
- **Legal acceptance of EBOT**
- **Examiner's courses**
- **Financial support from National Associations**



## **EBOT in the future**

- **meet with other UEMS sections that have exams**
- **coordinate education over the UEMS and EFORT portals**
- **the written part simultaneously on the Internet all over Europe and then the oral part for those that pass**
- **coordinate EFORT courses within the EBOT format**
- **coordinate CME credit points**
- **have National Societies accept EBOT as their national exam**



## Trends in orthopaedics today

- **increased subspecialization**
- **less interest in handling trauma**
- **more interest in elective procedures**
- **more women doctors**
- **less attraction for orthopaedics**



**These trends in combination with the demographic situation points towards a serious problem.**



## Our vision for the EBOT exam

The natural end of specialist training in Europe through

- more participants
- higher passing rate
- a coordinated training programme
- training centres all over Europe



**VISIT THE ORTHOPAEDIC WEB SITE**

**[WWW.UEMS-ORTHO.ORG](http://WWW.UEMS-ORTHO.ORG)**