

Report on IFMSA's Participation at WFUMB 2023 - Ultrasound World Congress

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates of the meeting	04 November 2023 - 07 November 2023
Platform/Place(s)	Muscat, Oman
Organizer(s)	WFUMB and OSUM
Reporting Official	Lucía Pérez Gómez IFMSA LSR lsr@ifmsa.org
Reported on	06-12-2023

DELEGATION COMPOSITION

IFMSA Delegation to the Ultrasound World Congress 2023 - WFUMB 2023

4-7 Nov 2023 | Muscat, Oman

from left to right

Oleksandra Levchenko
LiMSA - Lithuania

Nameera Banu
GaMSA - Gambia

Lucía Pérez Gómez
Liaison Officer for Medical Sciences
and Research Issues

Mohamed Hoosen Suleman
IFMSA - SA

Gabrial Jalma
BeMSA Belgium



- **Lucía Pérez Gómez** - IFMSA - Spain - IFMSA Liaison Officer for Medical Sciences and Research Issues - **Head of Delegation**

- **Mohamed Hoosen Suleman** - IFMSA - SA

- **Nameera Banu** - GaMSA - Gambia - Capacity Building RA for Africa

- **Oleksandra Levchenko** - LiMSA Lithuania

- **Gabrial Jalma** - BeMSA Belgium



Delegation to



IFMSA International Secretariat, Nørre Allé 14, 2200 København N., Denmark

MEETING DESCRIPTION

The **World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology(WFUMB)** - Ultrasound World Congress occurs every 2 years, it is one of the most important events for the international community of medical ultrasound, designed for multi-disciplinary professionals. Leading international experts as well as young researchers will present and discuss the latest developments in medical ultrasound. Major topics include latest advances in elastography, portable ultrasound, innovations such as artificial intelligence, 3 D/4D interventions and contrast agents, among others.

The meeting offers workshops, keynote sessions , oral and poster presentations, and networking opportunities.

You can find more information on the [WFUMB 2023 Congress website](#) regarding the panelists, external partners, workshops and side events during the conference and [here](#) you can find the program.

The delegation aims to:

- Network with external partners relevant to the IFMSA work.
- Ensure IFMSA's visibility in social media during the event.
- Attend the session on Ultrasound education and present the perspective of their countries.
- Support the LSR in developing logistical aspects of the meeting (finding accommodation, planning social activities, etc)
- Represent the voice of 1.5 million medical students worldwide on global health.
- Attend relevant meetings organized by IFMSA LSR with relevant external partners.
- Other tasks of the delegation: participate in reflection sessions, attend sessions and events of other partners.



OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

As IFMSA Delegation, we had the opportunity to lead a session during the Ultrasound World Conference on Ultrasound Student Education together with Prof. Christoph F. Dietrich. This is a very interesting opportunity and approach to meaningfully include medical students and youth people within world federations and in the medical atmosphere at a global level.

Before the Meeting:

- 3 preparatory sessions with the delegation to discuss the advocacy strategy and the plan for the meeting.
- Preparations for the individual presentations

During the Meeting:

- Attend one of the workshops of the pre conference day on perinatal ultrasound techniques.
- Attend the 3 days conference session. The programme was divided in groups of sessions or workshops in different focus areas such as obstetrics and gynecology, critical care and emergency ultrasound, abdominal, MSK, pediatrics. Overall, the session was very insightful of the new techniques

and having the opportunity as medical students to learn from ultrasound world experts was a privilege from us. Here are some highlights of the delegation:

- "Overall, a very positive first day of the Congress with many exciting presentations and discussions centered around the latest advancements in ultrasound and related diagnostics. A highlight for me was being included with senior expert discussions regarding the evolving epidemic of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Furthermore, the Faculty Dinner which we were invited for provided a platform for networking with experts in the field of radiology."
- "The first-in-woman study on therapeutic ultrasound to treat Twin-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS) showcased groundbreaking advancements in prenatal care, offering new hope for improving outcomes in twin pregnancies and raising the potential for life-saving interventions, followed by a beautiful photo session"
- "Beyond our presentations earlier in the day, which were among the important events, the gala provided a fantastic chance to network. It was a delightful moment where we exchanged experiences and learned from field experts. I had the honor of engaging in a fascinating conversation in arabic with Dr. Saqar Altai, president of the Oman Society of Ultrasound in Medicine. Later on, I had the pleasure of ending the evening by chatting with Dr. Felipe Carneiro from Brazil. His valuable advice on research in radiology, especially in orthopedic and penile doppler ultrasound, was incredibly inspiring."
- One of the highlights of the conference was the session on **Student Ultrasound Education**. Giving the opportunity to medical students to share their experiences with ultrasound within medical school and their countries was an empowering opportunity for us and also for the attendees.
- [Here](#) you can find the different presentations of the delegates to have a look of their experience in Gambia, South Africa, Ukraine, Lithuania and Belgium and you can also find the IFMSA Presentation.
- We had the Opportunity to meet several members from WFUMB, including the treasurer, Lynne Rudd, to network with the regional offices, where we discussed the way forward of the collaboration between WFUMB and IFMSA.
- As IFMSA LSR, I met with several members of the education committee, to discuss and brainstorm about what new materials or ideas for the webinars for medical students, the collaboration for the next Conferences.
- A Student Working Group to work with WFUMB on Ultrasound Education will be carried out, so medical students that are interested in the field of ultrasound can develop their competencies and help WFUMB in the creation of resources, giving input, etc.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS - Delegates Reflections

- **Lucía Pérez Gómez - IFMSA LSR - Head of Delegation.**

Each experience in external affairs and in the IFMSA is different, but I can say that WFUMB 2023, Ultrasound world conference was one of my best experiences as LSR so far. The delegation bounded from moment one and that made everything really easy for me for the preparations and we had a very nice time together.

WFUMB and OSUM hosted us in the best way we could have ever asked for.

Even though Ultrasound is not a subject in most of the medical schools and that there are several controversies in the Students Ultrasound Education, WFUMB is working very hard to develop the competencies that medical students should have.

I am very thankful for this opportunity, I learned a lot during the conference for my professional career and I am also very thankful to enforce the relation with WFUMB and to put new projects on the table.

Thank you very much for this opportunity and let's continue working together!

- **Mohamed Hoosen Suleman - IFMSA - South Africa**

The World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB) provided a unique opportunity for the medical student delegation to share a perspective on the importance of advancing ultrasound and related diagnostics in the clinical setting.

Inviting and including medical students at the Congress is a testament to the confidence of the WFUMB Leadership in the ability of emerging young professionals to contribute to global health policies related to ultrasound.

The Congress afforded us, as aspiring medical doctors, the necessary platform to share ideas on the critical need to encourage research, promote international cooperation and collaboration, disseminate scientific information and improve and enhance communication strategies on the applicability and expansion of ultrasound usage.

A particular focus on resource-constraint settings in LMICs remains a priority in order to ensure the availability and accessibility of ultrasound infrastructure together with sufficient human resource capital in these areas.

The Congress also underscored the need to expand education on ultrasound across all healthcare disciplines. Evidence-based guidelines and clearly delineated

policies on the use of ultrasound must be implemented across all healthcare facilities in order to ensure standardization and uniformity.

WFUMB has outlined a five-year strategic plan that serves to encourage the global medical fraternity to invest efforts in education in ultrasound and develop sustainable ultrasound services to the underserved and disadvantaged populations, particularly from LMICs.

This five-year plan covers crucial areas of ultrasound advancement and includes:

- a) Education;
- b) Communication and Publication;
- c) Outreach;
- d) Collaboration; and
- e) Values and Philosophy.

These pillars also serve as benchmarks and established frameworks for medical students to develop core competencies and knowledge as they advocate for ultrasound advancement in their respective country.

- **Nameera Banu - GaMSA - Gambia - Capacity Building Regional Assistant for Africa**

I participated in the World Ultrasound Congress, hosted by The World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB) in Oman. It was a great experience that brought together professionals, researchers, and enthusiasts from around the world to discuss the latest advancements in ultrasound technology and its various applications in healthcare.

The congress provided an excellent platform for knowledge exchange, featuring informative presentations, interactive workshops, and engaging discussions led by experts in the field. One of the highlights was the opportunity to explore cutting-edge research and innovative practices that are shaping the future of ultrasound diagnostics and treatment.

The multicultural and collaborative atmosphere fostered networking opportunities, allowing delegates to connect with like-minded people, share experiences, and build valuable professional relationships. The diverse perspectives brought forth by participants from various backgrounds offered a holistic view of the challenges and opportunities in ultrasound technology across

different regions and healthcare systems.

The sessions on emerging trends, such as artificial intelligence integration in ultrasound imaging and the application of ultrasound in novel medical fields, were particularly captivating. These discussions not only broadened my understanding of current industry trends but also sparked contemplation on the potential impact of these advancements on patient care and healthcare delivery.

The venue in Oman added a unique cultural dimension to the congress, allowing attendees to experience the hospitality of the Omani people. The local organizing committee's meticulous planning and execution contributed to a seamless event, enhancing the overall congress experience.

In conclusion, the World Ultrasound Congress in Oman was an invaluable gathering, offering a wealth of knowledge, fostering collaboration, and inspiring a collective vision for the future of ultrasound technology in healthcare. As I return to my professional endeavors, I carry with me the insights gained, as well as a renewed sense of enthusiasm and dedication to advancing the field for the betterment of patient outcomes.

- **Oleksandra Levchenko - LiMSA Lithuania**

The World Ultrasound Congress 2023, hosted in Muscat, emerged as a transformative experience, leaving an indelible mark on the landscape of medical education. The event featured engaging sessions, top-notch presentations, and hands-on workshops led by global ultrasound experts. Its significance extended beyond a conventional conference, providing an immersive and enriching experience for all participants. More notably, the congress emerged as a crucial platform for addressing the current state of ultrasound education in universities, fostering meaningful discussions, and cultivating innovative solutions for the future.

The IFMSA delegation team contributed to the discourse on ultrasound education. Our involvement included preparing presentations for dedicated sessions at the Congress, adding valuable insights to discussions aimed at shaping the future of medical education. Experience shared by the delegation encompassed supporting the next generation of doctors, integrating ultrasound into undergraduate education, and extending eLearning methodologies in order to drive positive change in the field.

Participating as a student in such an esteemed event was an extraordinary opportunity. The chance to contribute to the discourse on ultrasound education and actively shape the trajectory for upcoming medical generations was both inspiring and gratifying. The enthusiasm and commitment displayed by fellow

participants created an environment conducive to collaboration, fostering a shared dedication to advancing medical education globally.

A special acknowledgment is owed to the WFUMB organization team for orchestrating an outstanding experience. Their meticulous planning and unwavering dedication ensured a seamless and impactful congress. Beyond the rich academic content, the event facilitated invaluable networking opportunities, enhancing the overall experience for participants. The success of the congress is a testament to the WFUMB organization team's commitment to advancing the field of ultrasound education on a global scale.

Looking ahead, the insights gained from the World Ultrasound Congress 2023 will undoubtedly serve as a catalyst, for medical education facilities actively participate in ongoing efforts to improve ultrasound education worldwide.

- **Gabrial Jalma - BeMSA Belgium**

- The World Ultrasound Congress 2023 proved to be an enriching and multifaceted experience, becoming a pivotal chapter in my journey and transforming my perspective on medical education. Far from a typical gathering, this congress immersed us in a convergence of expertise and served as a breeding ground for innovative ideas.

Representing IFMSA at this congress marked a significant milestone in my life. It was my first time being the face of an organization at such a significant event, and I'm immensely grateful for that opportunity. Stepping out of my comfort zone, connecting with my fellow peers, and engaging with experts in the field of ultrasound was incredible. It not only broadened my knowledge but also helped me forge connections that I know will last beyond this congress.

Attending the session on Ultrasound education was pivotal for our delegation. It provided an ideal platform to present and advocate for the perspectives of our respective countries. This allowed us to express our views on developing an ultrasound education program and integrating it into our curricula. The WFUMB organizers' generosity in giving us, as students and future doctors, a platform to voice our thoughts and suggestions was deeply appreciated.

The program's rich offerings, including workshops and keynote sessions, expanded our knowledge base. The exposure to the latest advancements in medical ultrasound, such as elastography, portable ultrasound, and emerging techniques like the use of contrast agents for evaluating liver pathologies, provided insights into the evolving impact of technology on healthcare, inspiring us greatly.

One of the most significant takeaways was the unparalleled networking

opportunities at the congress. Engaging with external partners relevant to IFMSA's work not only broadened our understanding of global health initiatives but also paved the way for potential collaborations and shared endeavors.

Moreover, as a Syrian, being to an Arab country like Oman, felt like a nostalgic embrace. The generosity and hospitality extended to us weren't mere gestures; they were heartfelt reminders of home, touching me in ways beyond words. For that, I want to express my gratitude to the Congress hosts and the WFUMB organization for granting us the opportunity to live such a rich experience.

Overall, my attendance at the WFUMB 2023 Congress was a multifaceted learning journey. It equipped us not only with knowledge and insights but also with invaluable connections and experiences that will undoubtedly influence our roles as future healthcare leaders advocating for global health equity and innovation