

The Presidents



2009_ José Ferro
Lisbon, Portugal

1. Reasons for joining the ENS

When I joined the ENS I was still a resident. My purpose was not only educational, but also to have an international forum to present my own research. The first ENS meeting that I attended was held in Lausanne in 1992. I was impressed by the high scientific standards, the excellent organization and the open and friendly atmosphere

2. On the values and missions of the ENS

Clearly the most important aspect was the high scientific standard, including the relevance of translational research. The importance given to the role of the individual neurologist and researcher and the independence from political power, national societies, and academic hierarchy were all values I found most valuable

3. Important achievements during my presidency

The most important achievements were a very successful and well attended ENS meeting in Milan and the start of the discussions of the ENS and the EFNS towards the creation of the new society EAN. I was invited to address the participants of the EFNS meeting in Florence during the opening ceremony. In a short speech I stressed the unique values of the ENS, the need and the willingness of the ENS to contribute to a new common European neurological society, which would include all European neurologists. At the end of the talk, Jacques de Reuck and I exchanged our EFSN and ENS ties, in a symbolic gesture to express our friendship and mutual trustiness.