



Illuminations

Highlights of ICR 2026

The International Society of Radiology (ISR) extends its sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the International Congress of Radiology (ICR) 2026, held May 14–16 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

As the culminating event of the ISR Centennial Celebration, ICR 2026 brought together radiologists, radiographers, medical physicists, imaging informatics specialists, researchers, trainees, and industry partners from around the world to share knowledge, strengthen collaborations, and advance the future of medical imaging.

The congress featured scientific sessions, educational programs, discussions on imaging access, quality and safety initiatives, artificial

intelligence applications, and global health challenges. The meeting also provided an opportunity to reflect on the ISR's 100-year legacy of advancing radiology through education, collaboration, and advocacy while looking ahead to the next century of innovation and service.

The ISR extends its gratitude to the Colombian Association of Radiology, congress organizers, faculty, sponsors, exhibitors, volunteers, and attendees whose dedication made ICR 2026 a memorable and impactful event.



ISR Honors Two Distinguished Leaders With the Béchère Medal

During ICR 2026, the ISR awarded its highest honor, the ISR Béchère Medal, to two exceptional leaders whose careers have profoundly influenced radiology worldwide: Lluís Donoso-Bach, MD, PhD, and Ricardo Daniel García Mónaco, MD, PhD.

Lluís Donoso-Bach, MD, PhD

Dr. Donoso-Bach was recognized for his outstanding contributions to academic radiology, medical imaging innovation, and international leadership. Throughout his distinguished career, he has held leadership positions at Hospital Clínic Barcelona, UDIAT Diagnostic Centre, the University of Barcelona, and numerous international organizations.

A former President of the ISR, European Society of Radiology (ESR), Spanish Society of Medical Radiology (SERAM), and the International Society for Strategic Studies in Radiology (IS3R), Dr. Donoso-Bach has played a pivotal role in shaping radiology practice and policy worldwide. His work has advanced digital imaging, information technology integration, innovation strategy, and global collaboration.

As part of this recognition, Dr. Donoso-Bach delivered the ISR Walter Fuchs Plenary Lecture, sharing insights from a career dedicated to advancing imaging innovation and improving healthcare worldwide.

Ricardo Daniel García Mónaco, MD, PhD

Dr. García Mónaco was honored for his remarkable contributions to interventional radiology, education, and international radiological collaboration. A Professor of Radiology at the University of Buenos Aires and former Chairman of Radiology and



Head of Interventional Radiology at Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, he has helped shape generations of radiologists and interventional specialists.

A former President of the ISR, the Interamerican College of Radiology (CIR), and the Argentine Society of Radiology (SAR), Dr. García Mónaco has been a tireless advocate for education and innovation. He founded Argentina's first formal fellowship program in vascular and interventional radiology and has authored more than 250 scientific publications and over 70 books.

His longstanding commitment to international education also helped establish many of the ISR's early digital learning initiatives and virtual educational programs.

As part of the Béchère Medal recognition, Dr. García Mónaco delivered the ISR Béchère Plenary Lecture, reflecting on the evolution of



interventional radiology and the importance of global cooperation in advancing patient care.

The ISR congratulates both recipients and thanks them for their extraordinary service to radiology and to the international imaging community.



Contact us to update your organization's contact information, share research, or submit your news to be included in this newsletter.

Supporting Future Imaging Leaders Through ISR-IAEA Scholarships

One of the highlights of ICR 2026 was welcoming 24 radiology trainees and early-career imaging professionals from across Latin America and the Caribbean through scholarships supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the ISR.

The scholarship program was designed to expand access to educational and networking opportunities for imaging professionals working in underserved and resource-limited settings. Applicants were asked to describe the challenges facing imaging services in their communities and explain how participation in the congress could help improve patient care, quality and safety, workforce development, imaging informatics, and access to advanced imaging technologies.

Throughout the congress, scholarship recipients participated in scientific and educational sessions, connected with international experts and peers, and explored practical strategies to address imaging access challenges in their home institutions and regions. The program reflects the shared commitment of the ISR and IAEA to strengthening imaging capacity worldwide by investing in the next generation of radiology leaders.

The ISR extends its congratulations to all scholarship recipients and its thanks to the IAEA, and looks forward to seeing the impact of the knowledge, partnerships, and experiences gained at ICR 2026 as they continue to advance imaging care in their communities.

ISR Advances Global Imaging Advocacy at the 79th World Health Assembly

The ISR played an active role at the 79th World Health Assembly (WHA79), held May 18–23, 2026, in Geneva,



Introducing the international fellows, beneficiaries of the ISR-IAEA Scholarships.

Switzerland, supporting major policy initiatives that further strengthen access to safe, high-quality diagnostic imaging worldwide.

A significant achievement of this year's assembly was the adoption of the Resolution on Strengthening Equitable Access to Diagnostic Imaging Through Teleradiology. The resolution recognizes diagnostic imaging as an essential health service and builds upon Resolution WHA78.13 on Strengthening Medical Imaging Capacity, which was adopted in 2025.

In support of the resolution, the ISR coordinated a constituency statement from Non-State Actors in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO). ISR Liaison for Global Imaging Access, Prof. Hedvig Hricak, delivered the statement before the Assembly and emphasized the importance of implementing teleradiology as a fully integrated clinical service supported by appropriate standards, governance, quality assurance, workforce training, and patient safety measures.

The ISR also partnered with the Ministry of Health and Population of Egypt and the Digital Imaging and Telemedicine Alliance (DITTA) to host an official WHA79 side event focused on translating the resolution into practical implementation strategies. Discussions highlighted the importance of governance frameworks, workforce development, artificial intelligence, digital health solutions, and health system resilience in expanding access to imaging services.

A second important milestone was the adoption of the Resolution on Radiation and Health: Strengthening Global Protection, Preparedness and Response. ISR welcomed the resolution as a critical complement to ongoing efforts to expand imaging capacity worldwide. As access to diagnostic imaging grows, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, ensuring quality, safety, and radiation protection remains essential.

At a WHA79 side event dedicated to radiation and health, Prof. Hricak delivered a statement on behalf of the ISR supporting the resolution and highlighting the need to integrate radiation protection into national healthcare strategies. Through the ISR Quality and Safety Alliance (ISRQSA), the Society continues to collaborate with partners worldwide to advance radiation safety, quality assurance, and patient-centered imaging practices.

Throughout the Assembly, ISR representatives met with policymakers, international organizations, and healthcare leaders to discuss implementation of the 2025 medical imaging resolution and explore opportunities to accelerate progress toward equitable access to diagnostic imaging worldwide. The adoption of both the teleradiology and radiation and health resolutions represents an important step forward in recognizing the central role of diagnostic imaging in healthcare systems and reinforces the growing global commitment to improving access, quality, safety, and patient outcomes through medical imaging.



Boris Brkljačić, MD, PhD, FACR, receives honorary membership in the Polish Ultrasound Society.



Celebrating 100 Years of the ISR

As part of the ISR Centennial Celebration, members are encouraged to read a recent feature published by the American College of Radiology highlighting the Society's first century of impact.

The article explores the ISR's history, its role in advancing radiology education and global health, the creation of the Béclère-Fuchs Foundation, innovative initiatives such as AfricaAI, and the Society's continuing efforts to improve access to imaging services worldwide.

The article also features perspectives from ISR President Bibb Allen Jr, MD, FACR; ISR Chair of Education Geraldine B. McGinty, MD, MBA, FACR; and incoming ISR President Boris Brkljačić, MD, PhD, FACR.

Read the article:

<https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Publications-and-Research/ACR-Bulletin/a-century-of-impact>



We want to improve health in low-income countries, and the best way to do that is primarily through education.

Bibb Allen Jr, MD, FACR, in "A Century of Impact" from the ACR Bulletin



Member Society Spotlight: FAARDIT

Federación Argentina de Asociaciones de Radiología, Diagnóstico por Imágenes y Terapia Radiante (FAARDIT) serves as a national federation representing radiology and imaging professionals throughout Argentina.

FAARDIT works to promote excellence in diagnostic imaging and radiation therapy through education, professional development, scientific exchange, quality standards, and advocacy. The federation collaborates closely with national and international organizations to support continuing medical education, advance patient care, and strengthen the role of radiology within Argentina's healthcare system.

The ISR is proud to recognize FAARDIT for its ongoing contributions to radiology education and professional leadership in Latin America.

ISR Executive Committee Member Receives Honorary Membership

The ISR congratulates Boris Brkljačić, MD, PhD, FACR, member of the ISR Executive Committee and incoming ISR President, on receiving honorary membership in the Polish Ultrasound Society on June 11, 2026.

This recognition reflects Dr. Brkljačić's longstanding contributions to ultrasound education, radiology leadership, and international collaboration.

The ISR is pleased to celebrate this well-deserved honor and thanks him for his continued service to the global radiology community.

Open Access Resources

The ISR remains committed to promoting accessible education and scientific knowledge worldwide.

We encourage members to explore recent open-access publications and educational resources developed by ISR leaders and collaborators.

[Imaging Findings of Smoking-related Pulmonary Parenchymal Disease | RadioGraphics](#)

[Practice Closure, Subspecialization, and Access to Imaging in Middle-Income Countries - Journal of the American College of Radiology](#)

ISR in Action



ISR President Bibb Allen Jr, MD, FACR, helps to set up the booth at ICR 2026.



Federico Lubinus, MD, a key member of the ICR planning team, receives an achievement award from the Colombian Association of Radiology at #ICR2026.



WHA79 side event on strengthening equitable access to diagnostic imaging through teleradiology, The event was organised by the Ministry of Health and Population of Egypt, the International Society of Radiology (ISR) and Digital Imaging and Telemedicine Alliance.



At the #WHA79 side event on “Radiation and Health: Shaping Tomorrow’s Framework for Protection, Preparedness, and Response,” Prof. Hedvig Hricak delivered a statement on why the ISR supports the adoption of the proposed resolution on Radiation and health: strengthening global protection, preparedness and response.