



**MUSCULOSKELETAL
ULTRASOUND IN
RHEUMATOLOGY -
BASIC COURSE
2026**



**Hotel DoubleTree by Hilton,
Plovdiv, Bulgaria
March 19 - 21, 2026**

MUSCULOSKELETAL ULTRASOUND IN RHEUMATOLOGY - BASIC COURSE

Congress Venue: Hotel DoubleTree by Hilton,
Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Date: March 19 – 21, 2026

Official language: English

Scientific Director of the Course:

Prof. Annamaria Iagnocco, Italy

Executive director of the Course:

Prof. Anastas Batalov, Bulgaria

Organizing Secretariat: Bulgaria Association for
Musculoskeletal Ultrasound (BAMSU)

Secretary of the Course:

Prof. Rositsa Karalilova, Bulgaria,

Assoc. Prof. Plamen Todorov, Bulgaria

Technical organizer: Brandea Ltd,

<https://brandea.bg/eular2026/>

Faculty:

The speakers will come from major European musculoskeletal ultrasound research centres and are rheumatologists mostly involved in previous EULAR courses.

Annamaria Iagnocco (Italy)

Nemanja Damjanov (Serbia)

Giasna Giokits (Greece)

Peter Mandl (Austria)

Daniela Fodor (Romania)

Peter Balint (Hungary)

Violeta Vlad (Romania)

Euginio De Miguel (Spain)

Adham Khalil (Egypt)

Francesco Porta (Italy)

Florin Vreju (Romania)

Rositsa Karalilova (Bulgaria)

Rodina Nestorova (Bulgaria)

Plamen Todorov (Bulgaria)

Anastas Batalov (Bulgaria)

Tutors: Nemanja Damjanov, Giasna. Giokis, Peter Mandl, Peter Balint, Violeta Vlad, Euginio De Miguel, Adham Khalil, Daniela Fodor, Francesco Porta, Florin Vreju, Rositsa Karalilova, Rodina Nestorova, Plamen Todorov, Zguro Batalov

REGISTRATION FOR THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO ALL EULAR MEMBER COUNTRIES.

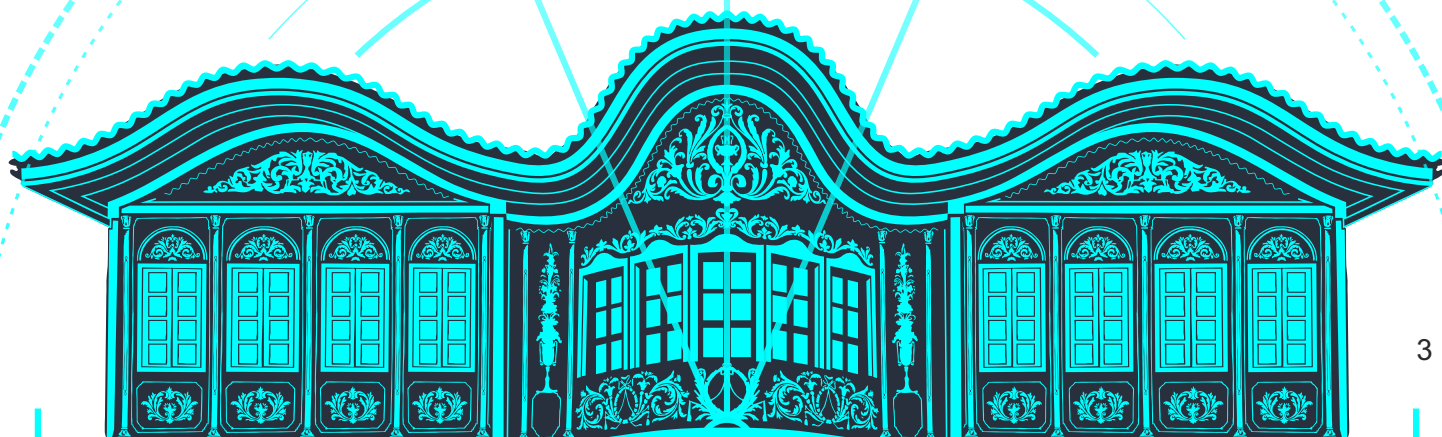
- The number of participants is limited to 42
- Some pharmaceutical companies will support the course logistically and with sponsorship
- Sponsors will not have influence on the programme, its content or speakers
- There will be an evaluation of the course by the attendees

REGISTRATION FEE **850** EUR

(Without accommodation)

Registration fees include **course, educational material, lunch, all coffee breaks and certificate.**

Contact and Technical Organization: **Polina Ilieva**, polina@brandea.bg
For registration: <https://brandea.bg/eular2026/>



CONGRESS OPENING HOURS

Thursday, March 19th, 2026, 11.00 - 19.30

Friday, March 20th, 2026, 08.30-20.00

Saturday, March 21st, 2026, 08.30-13.30

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

Participants can receive their certificate of attendance during the closing session on the 21st of March 2026. To receive the certificate of attendance it is mandatory to complete and submit the evaluation form, at the Course Secretariat, before the closing session.

OBJECTIVES:

- to learn the indications and limitations of musculoskeletal ultrasound (MSUS) in rheumatology
- to learn sonoanatomy and identify different musculoskeletal structures in healthy subjects by US
- to learn standard scans in different anatomic areas according to EULAR guidelines
- to learn ultrasound-detectable abnormalities in rheumatology

MAIN TOPICS:

- Applications, indications and limitations of MSUS in rheumatology; US physics and technology; US patterns of musculoskeletal structures; MSUS artifacts and pitfalls; appropriate use and positioning of the probe; US settings and B-mode/Doppler optimization; standard scans of the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle and foot; basic US pathology; interpretation of Ultrasound images; US report and documentation; US diagnosis; basic skills in US-guided procedures.

WORKSHOPS

- (small groups, with supervisors)
- US Setting
 - Sonoanatomy
 - Standard scans of the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, knee, ankle and foot in healthy subjects
 - Training in elementary US basic lesions in patients with Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs).

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

March 19th, 2026

11.00 - 12.45	Registration
12.45 - 13.00	Course Opening and Welcome A. Batalov, A. Iagnocco Chairpersons: A. Iagnocco, R. Karalilova
13.00 - 13.30	US in rheumatology: applications, indications and limitations. N. Damjanov
13.30 - 14.00	Basic physics of MSUS. Technical characteristics and setting of US equipment for RMDs. P. Mandl
14.00 - 14.30	Sonoanatomy and US pattern of the MS tissues. N. Damjanov
14.30 - 15.00	Artifacts and misinterpretation in MSUS. P. Balint
5.00 - 16.30	Workshop: Supervised practical handling of the US equipment and settings (healthy models). Faculty and Tutors
16.30 - 17.00	Coffee break
17.00 - 18.30	Workshop: Supervised practical handling of the normal MSUS tissues, how to perform a MSUS examination and obtain US images (healthy models). Faculty and Tutors
18.30 - 19.00	Basic US degenerative and structural lesions (articular cartilage, cortical bone, tendons and ligaments): definition, detection, and quantification. A. Khalil
19.00 - 19.30	Basic US inflammatory lesions (synovitis, effusion, tenosynovitis, bursitis, enthesitis and enthesopathy): definition, detection, and quantification. A. Iagnocco

March 20th, 2026

Chairpersons: P. Balint, R. Karalilova

08.30 - 09.00

Standardized scanning of the shoulder: normal and basic pathological findings. **G. Giokits**

09.00 - 10.30

Workshop: Supervised scanning technique of the shoulder: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

Chairpersons: E. De Miguel, G. Giokits

10.30 - 11.00

Standardized scanning of the elbow: normal and basic pathological findings. **F. Porta**

11.00 - 11.30

Coffee break

11.30 - 13.00

Workshop: Supervised scanning technique of the elbow: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

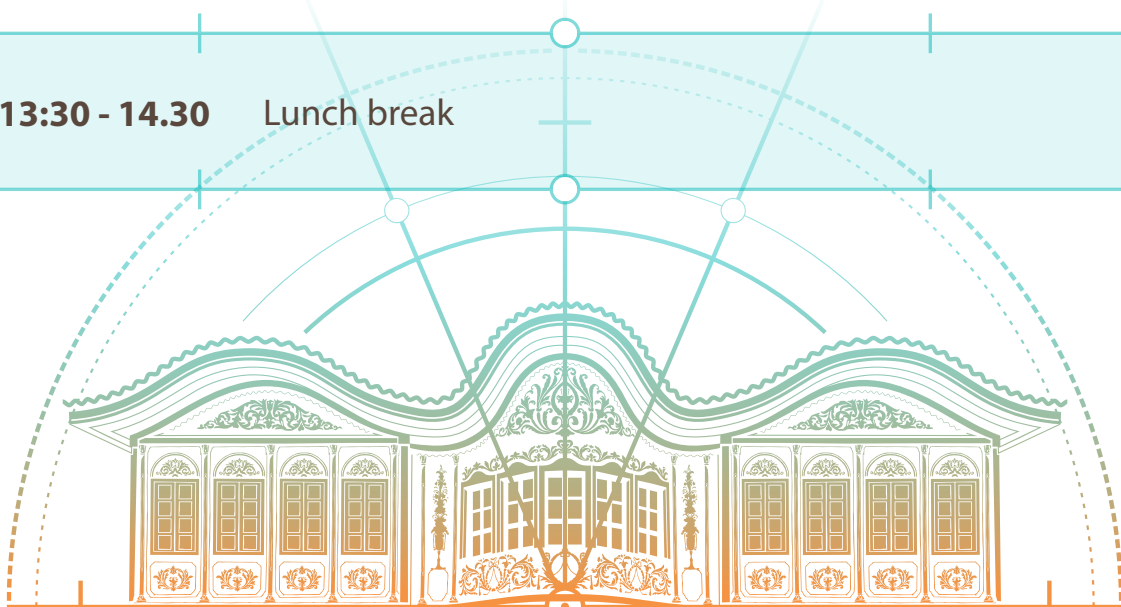
Chairpersons: N. Damjanov, P. Todorov


13.00 - 13.30

Standardized scanning of the hand and wrist: normal and basic pathological findings. **D. Fodor**

13:30 - 14.30

Lunch break





14.30 - 16.00 **Workshop:** Supervised scanning technique of the hand and wrist: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

Chairpersons: **A. Khalil, P. Mandl**

16.00 - 16.30 Standardized scanning of the hip: normal and basic pathological findings. **R. Karalilova**

16.30 - 17.00 Coffee break

17.00 - 18.30 **Workshop:** Supervised scanning technique of the hip: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

Chairpersons: **V. Vlad, F. Porta**

18.30 - 19.00 Standardized scanning of the knee: normal and basic pathological findings. **E. De Miguel**





March 21th, 2026

08.30 - 10.00 **Workshop:** Supervised scanning technique of the knee: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

Chairpersons: A. Khalil, P. Todorov

10.00 - 10.30 Standardized scanning of the ankle and foot: normal and basic pathological findings. **F. Vreju**

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 - 12.30 **Workshop:** Supervised scanning technique of the ankle and foot: normal and basic pathological findings (healthy models and patients with RMDs). **Faculty and Tutors**

Chairpersons: F. Porta, F. Vreju

12.30 - 13.00 Basic skills in US-guided procedures. **P. Todorov**

13.00 - 13.20 Image documentation and reporting of US findings. **V. Vlad**

13.20 - 13.30 Closing remarks. **A. Batalov, A. Iagnocco**

