

World Heart Failure Society

2026 | Congress

HOLIDAY HOTEL - SARAJEVO



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Sarajevo,
Bosnia Herzegovina
October 23-25, 2026

World Heart Failure Society 2026 Congress

23 OCTOBER 2026

09:30 – 10:30	Global Epidemiology and Clinical Trials Chairpersons: Willem J. Remme (NL), Zumreta Kusljagic (BIH) • Europe, America <i>Speaker: Azra Durak Nalbantić (BIH)</i> • Heart failure burden in Asia and Middle East countries <i>Speaker: Babak Sharif-Kashani (IR)</i> • Generating Important Insights into the Spectrum and Outcomes of Acute Heart Failure Across the African Continent: The Results of THESUS-HF II <i>Speaker: Albertino Damasceno (MZ)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Analyze global heart failure trends with a specific focus on the burden in Asia, Middle East, and African populations; interpret key results from the THESUS-HF II registry; and address regional disparities in clinical outcomes and research.</i>
10:30 – 11:30	Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy (GDMT) Chairpersons: Belma Pojskic (BIH), Azra Durak Nalbantić (BIH) • Optimizing the "Fantastic Four": ARNI, Beta-blockers, MRA, and SGLT2i <i>Speaker: Larisa Hudić Dizdarević (BIH)</i> • Beyond quadruple therapy: the potential roles for ivabradine, vericiguat, and omecamtiv mecarbil <i>Speaker: Milan Gluhović (BIH)</i> • Diuretic resistance and advanced decongestion strategies <i>Speaker: Janna Cazacu (MK)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Optimize the initiation and titration of the "Fantastic Four" (ARNI, Beta-blockers, MRA, SGLT2i); evaluate the secondary roles of ivabradine, vericiguat, and omecamtiv mecarbil; and implement advanced decongestion strategies for diuretic resistance.</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee Break
12:00 – 13:00	Comorbidities & Heart Failure-1 Chairpersons: Sekib Sokolovic (BIH), Mehdi Zoghi (TR) • The role of intravenous iron replacement: Latest trials and meta-analyses <i>Speaker: Meliha Avdagić (BA)</i> • The complex interrelationship between the heart and kidney (Type 1-4 CRS) <i>Speaker: Alen Dzubur (BIH)</i> • Latest guidelines for anticoagulation in patients with co-existing HF and Atrial Fibrillation <i>Speaker: Jasmin Caluk (HIB)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Evaluate the latest evidence for intravenous iron replacement therapy; understand the classification and management of Type 1-4 Cardiorenal Syndromes; and apply current guidelines for anticoagulation in patients with co-existing AF and HF.</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break

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14:00 – 15:00	The Current Status of "Old Friends" in Heart Failure Management Chairpersons: Oktay Ergene (TR), Omer Bedak (BIH) • Beta-Blockers in HFrEF: Is Chronotropic Incompetence More Crucial Than Rate Control? Or The Anchor of Stability: Are We Losing the Art of Beta-Blocker Titration? <i>Speaker: Jasmin Caluk (BIH)</i> • Statins in Heart Failure: Pleiotropic benefits versus the "Statin Paradox" in advanced stages. <i>Speaker: Dijana Trninic (BIH)</i> • Digoxin: A relic of the past or an essential tool for symptom and hospitalization management? <i>Speaker: Almin Handanagić (BIH)</i>
15:00 – 16:00	Biomarkers, Imaging, CRT and Pacing Modalities Chairpersons: Jelena Jovanić (BIH), Larisa Hudić Dizdarević (BIH) • Role of echocardiography and strain imaging in heart failure <i>Speaker: Lamija Ferhatbegović (BIH)</i> • The low-grade chronic inflammation in Heart Failure: Mechanisms, consequences, and therapeutic targets <i>Speaker: Sekib Sokolovic (BA)</i> • Speaker 3: Novel pacing modalities: His/Left Bundle Branch pacing and their effects on HF <i>Speaker: Nedim Memišević (BA)</i> <i>Learning Objective: Apply advanced echocardiography and myocardial strain imaging for the diagnosis and longitudinal assessment of heart failure; explain the role of chronic low-grade inflammation in heart failure progression and emerging therapeutic targets; evaluate the indications and clinical impact of conduction system pacing, including His-bundle and left bundle branch pacing; and integrate multimodality imaging and device-based strategies into personalized heart failure management.</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:30	Abstract Session-1 Chairpersons: Babak Sharif-Kashani (IR), Mehtap Sarihan (TR)

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08:30 – 09:30	Valvular Heart Disease and HF Chairpersons: Alen Dzubur (BIH), Hakkı Kaya (TR) • Tricuspid Valve Interventions (T-TEER): The "forgotten valve" is now in the spotlight. <i>Speaker: Sena Sert Şekerci (TR)</i> • Treatment of aortic regurgitation and stenosis in the setting of LV dysfunction <i>Speaker: Behija Berberović (BIH)</i> • RV failure and pulmonary HTN: Pathophysiology, Diagnostics, and Advanced Therapies <i>Speaker: Amra Macic Dzankovic (BIH)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Compare contemporary transcatheter and surgical treatment strategies for tricuspid and aortic valve disease in patients with heart failure; determine optimal management of aortic stenosis and regurgitation in the presence of left ventricular dysfunction; recognize the pathophysiology and diagnostic approach to right ventricular failure and pulmonary hypertension; and integrate multidisciplinary treatment strategies for complex valvular heart disease associated with heart failure.</i>
09:30 – 10:30	Decongestion and Cardio-Renal Metabolic Syndrome Chairpersons: Koji Hasegawa (JP), Diana Zelenika (BIH) • Management of Congestion in Cardio-Renal Patients: From Sodium/Fluid Restriction to Vasopressin Antagonists in Hyponatremia <i>Speaker: Katarina Kovačević (BIH)</i> • Non-steroidal MRAs in Heart Failure: The evolving role of Finerenone across the cardio-renal spectrum <i>Speaker: Jelena Jovanić (BIH)</i> • Approaches cardio-renal-metabolic benefits of SGLT2 inhibitors in HFrEF <i>Speaker: Cheuk Man Yu (HK)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Critically evaluate comprehensive management strategies for congestion and cardio-renal-metabolic syndrome by integrating optimal fluid and sodium restriction, the targeted use of vasopressin antagonists for hyponatremia, and the implementation of evidence-based therapies including SGLT2 inhibitors and non-steroidal MRAs (Finerenone) to improve clinical outcomes across the spectrum of heart failure and chronic kidney disease.</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00	Non-Pharmacological Advances in Chronic Heart Failure: 2026 Updates Chairpersons: Ertuğrul Okuyan (TR), Janna Cazacu (MK) • Metabolic optimization & micronutrient supplementation <i>Speaker: Musija Ehlimana (BIH)</i> • Cardiac rehabilitation & precision exercise prescriptions <i>Speaker: Rezzan Deniz Acar (TR)</i> • AI-integrated early warning systems: Catching decompensation before hospitalization. <i>Speaker: Anıl Şahin (TR)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Identify current (2026) non-pharmacological advances in chronic heart failure management, explain the clinical rationale and evidence for metabolic optimization and micronutrient supplementation, apply principles of cardiac rehabilitation and precision exercise prescription tailored to individual patient profiles, and assess the role of AI-integrated telemonitoring and remote patient management in improving early detection, personalized care, and long-term outcomes in chronic heart failure.</i>

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12:00 – 13:00	Challenging Cases and Difficult Decisions: Managing Complex Heart Failure Chairpersons: Jasmin Caluk (BIH), Berkay Ekici (TR) • Case 1: RAAS inhibition under hyperkalemia and renal dysfunction <i>Speaker: Omer Bedak (BIH)</i> • Case 2: Right heart failure and advanced mitral/tricuspid regurgitation <i>Speaker: Elnur Smajic (BIH)</i> • Case 3: Refractory congestion and diuretic resistance (Cardiorenal Syndrome) <i>Speaker: Malik Ejubovic (BIH)</i> • Case 4: Optimizing Quadruple Guideline-Directed Medical Therapy in Frail and Hypotensive Heart Failure Patients <i>Speaker: Sinem Çakal (TR)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: To enhance clinical decision-making skills in managing complex heart failure through evidence-based approaches to challenging real-world clinical scenarios. Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to optimize guideline-directed medical therapy (GDMT) in patients with frailty, hypotension, renal dysfunction, and hyperkalemia; apply practical strategies for maintaining RAAS inhibition while minimizing treatment-related complications; recognize and manage advanced right heart failure associated with severe mitral and tricuspid valve disease; implement effective decongestion strategies for patients with refractory congestion and cardio-renal syndrome; and integrate contemporary guideline recommendations into individualized treatment plans for patients with advanced and complex heart failure.</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:00	Comorbidities & Heart Failure-2 Chairpersons: Begench Annayev (TM), Milan Gluhovic (BIH) • Thyrotoxic heart failure <i>Speaker: Siddiq Khalil (SD)</i> • The role of anti-obesity (GLP-1 RA) medications in HFrEF and metabolic improvement parameters <i>Speaker: Mauro Gori (IT)</i> • HCM and Amyloidosis <i>Speaker: Belma Pojskic (BIH)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Recognize and manage thyrotoxic heart failure; evaluate the emerging role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in patients with HFrEF and obesity-related cardiometabolic disease; differentiate hypertrophic cardiomyopathy from cardiac amyloidosis using contemporary diagnostic approaches; and apply evidence-based strategies for managing complex comorbidities that influence heart failure outcomes.</i>
15:00 – 16:00	The Bermuda Triangle in Heart Failure: Evidence, Uncertainty, and Clinical Reality Chairpersons: Farah Naghshzadeh (IR), Ilaha Agayeva (AZ) • Heart Failure Guidelines in 2026: What is clear, what is controversial? <i>Speaker: Dilek Ural (TR)</i> • Advanced heart failure and vulnerable populations: The grey zones of care <i>Speaker: Nihan Kahya Eren (TR)</i> • More Than Rhythm Control: Catheter Ablation in Heart Failure <i>Speaker: Lazar Angelkov (BIH)</i> • The failing heart and its partners: Cardio–Renal, Cardio–Metabolic, and Multi–Organ Interactions <i>Speaker: Nasim Naderi (IR)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Assess the 2026 heart failure guideline recommendations and distinguish areas of clear evidence from ongoing controversy; recognize challenges of managing advanced heart failure and vulnerable populations; and understand how heart-organ interactions impact prognosis, treatment selection, and personalized care beyond standard guideline-based approaches.</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 – 17:30	Late Breaking Trials & What Will Change Practice in 2026? Chairpersons: Mauro Gori (IT), Yüksel Çavuşoğlu (TR) • What Will Change Cardiovascular Practice? <i>Speaker: Boris Goronja (BIH)</i> • Beyond Guidelines: What Will Change Our Practice Tomorrow? <i>Speaker: Milan Gluhovic (BIH)</i> • Cardiology 2026: From Evidence to Everyday Practice <i>Speaker: Lejla Divović Mustafić (BIH)</i>

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08:30 – 09:30	Multidisciplinary Management of Cardiogenic Shock: From Early Recognition to Mechanical Circulatory Support and Regional Systems of Care Chairpersons: Behija Berberovic (BIH), Ahmet Çelik (TR) • Early Recognition of Cardiogenic Shock: The SUSPECT CS Framework and Time-to-Support <i>Speaker: Kenana Aganovic (BIH)</i> • Hemodynamic Phenotyping and SCAI Staging: A Precision-Based Approach to Management <i>Speaker: Sasa Loncar (BIH)</i> • Optimizing Temporary Mechanical Circulatory Support and Regional Systems of Care: The Hub-and-Spoke Model <i>Speaker: Hakan Altay (TR)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Recognize cardiogenic shock early using the SUSPECT CS framework and reduce time-to-support, apply SCAI staging and invasive hemodynamic assessment for accurate phenotyping and precision-based management, and optimize the selection and timing of temporary mechanical circulatory support (tMCS) within coordinated regional systems of care, including the Hub-and-Spoke model, to improve patient outcomes</i>
09:30 – 10:30	HFpEF Treatment: Antihypertensives and Novel Agents Chairpersons: Dr. Ahmet Temizhan (TR), Jasmin Caluk (BIH) • Current status and evidence for SGLT2i in HFpEF <i>Speaker: Koji Hasegawa (JP)</i> • Anti-Obesity medications in HFpEF <i>Speaker: Anela Subo (BIH)</i> • Lipid-Lowering therapy and clinical outcomes in patients with HFpEF <i>Speaker: Ilaha Agayeva (AZ)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Evaluate the contemporary evidence supporting SGLT2 inhibitors in HFpEF; assess the role of anti-obesity therapies and lipid-lowering treatment in improving cardiovascular and metabolic outcomes; identify patient phenotypes most likely to benefit from emerging therapies; and develop individualized, evidence-based treatment strategies for patients with HFpEF.</i>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00	Advanced HF Specific Cardiomyopathies and Revascularization in Heart Failure Chairpersons: Siddiq Khalil (SD), Ahmet Karagöz (TR) • Management strategies for acute decompensated advanced HF <i>Speaker: Yüksel Çavuşoğlu (TR)</i> • Ischemic Cardiomyopathy: GDMT alone or in combination with revascularization? <i>Speaker: Rashad Mahmudov (AZ)</i> <i>Learning Objectives: Formulate management protocols for acute decompensated advanced heart failure; and compare the benefits of revascularization versus GDMT alone in ischemic cardiomyopathy.</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Abstract Sessions-2 Chairpersons: Gulnaz Dadaşova (AZ)

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