

Dear Dr Piantanida,

My apologies for the problems that you and your colleagues are having. You are probably aware from the Venice Meeting that, when we elected our new Secretary-Treasurer at the Marseille Meeting, our administrative base moved to Germany according to our constitution. Unfortunately the German tax authorities did not recognise the Tax-exempt status that we had previously in Italy. Apart from the large amount of time and work that negotiations with the tax authorities have required, a very low limit was placed on the amount of money that we were allowed to collect through our on-line account until our tax status was decided. This severely impeded our ability to collect subscriptions for a period and has caused a lot of problems. At the Venice meeting we passed the Constitutional amendments that were required by the German authorities. However, just when we thought our problems were solved, our Secretary-Treasurer was appointed to a new post in Geneva! This means that we now have to sort out our Tax status with the Swiss authorities. We hope that they will accept the amendments that we have already passed.

Since his move, Heimo has also had problems accessing e-mails sent to his old address, which has caused a lot of problems. His current e-mail address is [Heimo.Steffen@hcuge.ch](mailto:Heimo.Steffen@hcuge.ch). He is still trying to sort this out with his previous university.

The website for the Budapest Meeting is on-line at <http://esa2016.hu>. I am very unhappy that the Congress organisers, Tensi still have not got the registration and abstract submission and accommodation fully functional ready and I have been pressing them about this. I have been promised that it is all nearly ready, but I will be passing on your e-mail to them to apply further pressure. Unfortunately ESA is a very common set of initials and [esa2016.com](http://esa2016.com) was taken by the Economic Science Association and [esa2016.org](http://esa2016.org) by European Surgical Association. It also makes us difficult to find on Google.

We have also had difficulty in transferring control of our main web-site <http://www.esa-strabismology.org> from Italy, which makes updates difficult. We are also working on this and should have an update about Budapest with a link on it shortly.

Again, please convey my apologies to your members. You are welcome to forward this to them.

Kind regards,

John Sloper

Mr John Sloper,  
President  
European Strabismological Association