

European Paediatric Physiotherapy Congress – Application Guidelines

1. Introduction

The European Paediatric Physiotherapy (EUPPT) Congress was launched in 2019 from the initiative of a group of colleagues who wanted to create a space for paediatric physiotherapists across Europe to meet, learn, and share their experiences.

The first three editions – Utrecht 2019, Florence 2022, and Zurich 2024 – proved to be enriching events, reflecting the strong desire of participants to connect and actively engage.

A united community of physiotherapists working with children in Europe provides opportunities to exchange clinical practices, research findings, and specialized education, leading to continuous improvement in the standard of paediatric physiotherapy in Europe.

2. EUPPT Network and Board

During the EUPPT Congress 2024, the European Paediatric Physiotherapy Network was established by members of paediatric physiotherapy associations and institutions, aiming to promote opportunities for exchange and collaboration among professionals across European countries.

A decision was also made to establish a Board, composed of representatives from various European countries, to further develop this initiative and support the organization of future congresses.

The EUPPT Congress is held biennially, allowing it to rotate among different European locations to reach a broader audience and foster regional development in research, education, and clinical care.

3. Application to Host EUPPT Congress 2028

Applications are now open for institutions interested in hosting the **EUPPT Congress 2028**.

This call will be shared with paediatric physiotherapy associations and subgroups across Europe, as well as with past EUPPT Congress participants.

- **Opening of the call:** 15 July to 30 September 2025
- **Notification of selected host:** End of October 2025

4. Eligible Applicants

Applications can be submitted by:

- National paediatric physiotherapy associations
- Paediatric subgroups of national physiotherapy associations
- Other institutions (e.g. university departments, scientific committees of paediatric PT programs), with the endorsement of their national PT association

5. Application Requirements

Applications must include the following points (briefly presented):

- Rationale for applying
- Proposed host city
- Suggested date(s)
- Venue information
- Details about the applicant institution, local organising committee, and experience in hosting congresses
- Confirmation that one or more committee members attended a previous EUPPT Congress
- Statement confirming that the National Physiotherapy Association has been informed

Financial Responsibility

The local organising committee assumes full financial responsibility for the congress. Costs must be covered through participant registration and potential sponsors. Any profit or loss is to be managed solely by the host institution.

Language Requirements

The host institution must ensure that English will be the official congress language. All plenary sessions, workshops, and abstract presentations must be accessible in English, with consideration for international participants' inclusivity.

An application template will be provided by the EUPPT Network Board to ensure consistent and complete submissions across all applicants.

6. Selection Process

The EUPPT Network Board will evaluate the applications and hold online interviews with the 3 highest ranked applicants to further discuss their proposals. The final selection will be made after all interviews have taken place.

The selected host institution will keep the EUPPT Network Board informed throughout the planning, implementation, and evaluation phases of the Congress. This cooperation ensures support for the organising institution and alignment with the mission, standards, and shared values of the EUPPT community.

7. Evaluation Criteria

Key factors considered in selecting the host include:

- Active participation in previous EUPPT or international congresses
- Previous experience in organising national/international events
- Representation at previous EUPPT Congresses
- Ensuring a multinational scientific committee with experience in research and evidence-based best practice.
- Membership in World Physiotherapy of the National Physiotherapy Association
- Geographical rotation: preference for new locations compared to past hosts
- Absence of major conflicting events in the same country and year
- Capability to host (venue readiness, event management capacity)
- Geopolitical and socio-economic stability
- International accessibility
- Local supplier quality (venue, A/V, exhibition, catering, Wi-Fi, etc.)
- Venue infrastructure: accessibility, green practices, inclusivity
- Public transport quality and affordability
- Accommodation options near the venue
- Smoke-free and health-promoting environment
- Sustainability measures by the city, venue, and suppliers