

## **ISDE Presidential Biography: Enrique Moreno-González, ISDE President [1995–1998]**

It is a pleasure and a great honor for me to present this short biography of Professor Enrique Moreno-González highlighting his extraordinary surgical career and how relevant has been his contribution to ISDE since its foundation in the early 80s.

Dr Enrique Moreno-González was born in Madrid in 1939. He studied medicine at the Complutense University in Madrid. After years of training in general and digestive surgery, he became head of the Department of Surgery at the Hospital 12 de Octubre in Madrid where he remained until his retirement in 2009. He developed a wide experience in general and digestive surgery with particular expertise in complex upper gastrointestinal procedures. He was one of the pioneers of esophageal surgery in Spain, and his service promptly became a referral center for complex esophageal reconstructions. Also, he was one of the first leaders of liver and multivisceral transplantation in our country when the first programs started during the 80s. He also occupied different positions, as Secretary and President of the Spanish Board of Surgery, the national certifying board for general and digestive surgeons, and played a relevant role in the improvement and evolution of the general and digestive surgery training programme in Spain. In the academic field, it is noteworthy to mention that he was Full Professor of Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine of Complutense University in Madrid. Among several distinctions, I would like to highlight that he received the “Prince of Asturias” award for technical and scientific research 1999, which is undoubtedly the most prestigious prize awarded annually in our country, as well as the “Virgili Prize” from the Catalan Society of Surgery in 2009.

I would like to emphasize that the Annual Congress on Digestive Surgery organized by him in Madrid since the early 80s became well known internationally, and many leaders in upper gastrointestinal surgery were invited as faculty in this prestigious event.

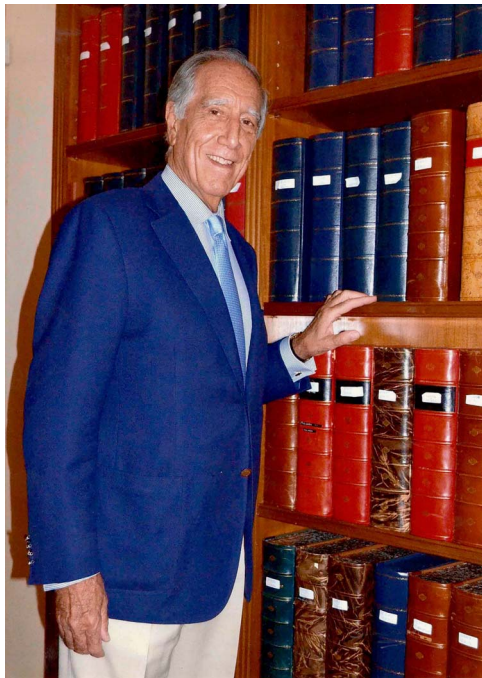
In the esophageal field, he was part of the core group of surgeons who were involved in the foundation of the first two societies devoted to esophageal diseases: International Society for Diseases of the Esophagus (ISDE) and the Group d’Etude Europeen des Maladies l’Oesophage (GEEMO), which were founded in 1979 and 1980, respectively.

Over the years, he served as member of several ISDE committees such as TNM, reclassification of esophageal cancer, gastroesophageal reflux disease, as well as member of the scholarship committee, which became an important tool in those years to favor international short and long stays of young ISDE members in large volume esophageal surgery units. He became member of the ISDE Executive Committee since 1989. During those years, ISDE promoted the creation of national chapters in order to better develop the study of esophageal diseases under a multidisciplinary perspective. In 1990, he founded the Spanish Chapter of ISDE with the support of a group of ISDE members. This chapter organized meetings every 2 years and has remained very active over the years, and more recently, it merged with the section of esophagogastric surgery of the Spanish Association of Surgeons. He was appointed ISDE president in 1995 to follow Professor David Skinner. During his presidency, the statutes of the national ISDE chapters were included within the ISDE bylaws and the ISDE Video Library started as a new project. The 9th World Congress of ISDE under the title “News in the pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment of esophageal diseases” was hosted by him in Madrid on May 27–29, 2004. It was a well-run meeting with a total of 756 delegates attending the congress, and 480 papers and posters from 34 countries were presented (Figs. 1,2).

As part of his involvement in ISDE, he was member of the Editorial Board of Diseases of the Esophagus.



**Fig. 1** The 12th Executive Committee Meeting was organized on April 22 and 23, 1994 at the New York Hospital, New York, USA under the presidency of Professor David Skinner. Professor Enrique Moreno-González appears the third from the left, in between Professor Peracchia and Professor Siewert.



**Fig. 2** A current picture of Enrique Moreno-González.

In summary, he has played an important role in the development and evolution of ISDE as an international multidisciplinary society devoted to esophageal diseases. As a Spanish surgeon, we acknowledge the outstanding tasks of him, for his continuous support in facilitating the links between Spanish surgeons who later on became leaders in the esophagogastric surgery field with prestigious esophageal surgery units abroad.

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