I have the great pleasure to introduce Professor Gerasimos Filippatos, heart failure specialist, Chairman of the Department of Cardiology and Director of the Heart Failure and Cardioncology Unit at the Attikon University Hospital, Athens, Greece; previous Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Cyprus.

Professor Filippatos studied Medicine at the University of Patras, Greece, and earned his doctorate Cum Laude from the University of Athens. He completed his clinical training in Chicago, USA; and Cambridge, UK.

Professor Filippatos has been working for the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) - an international scientific society representing the cardiology professionals of 56 countries with the main goal to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease - for decades. This is where his friendship and professional collaboration with Rector Merkely and the Hungarian colleagues comes from. His institution and the Heart and Vascular Center of Semmelweis University cooperated in numerous large, randomized clinical trials and 24 articles were born from this common work. Prof. Filippatos has also been Honorary Member of the Hungarian Society of Cardiology since 2015.

He is also past President of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC. He has served in the ESC Practice Guidelines Committee and the ACC/AHA Heart Failure Guidelines Writing Committee. He was Associate Editor of the European Heart Journal and he is Senior Consulting Editor of JACC-HF.

He has published over 500 articles in peer-reviewed journals and authored more than 30 book chapters including the "Acute Heart Failure" chapter in Braunwald. He has (co) edited 5 books including the ESC Textbook of Acute and Intensive Cardiac Care, Highly Commended in the British Medical Association Medical Book Awards, and the books "Heart Failure: The Expert's Approach" and "Treatment Algorithms in Heart Failure". Prof. Filippatos is in the Thomson Reuters list of Highly Cited Researchers.