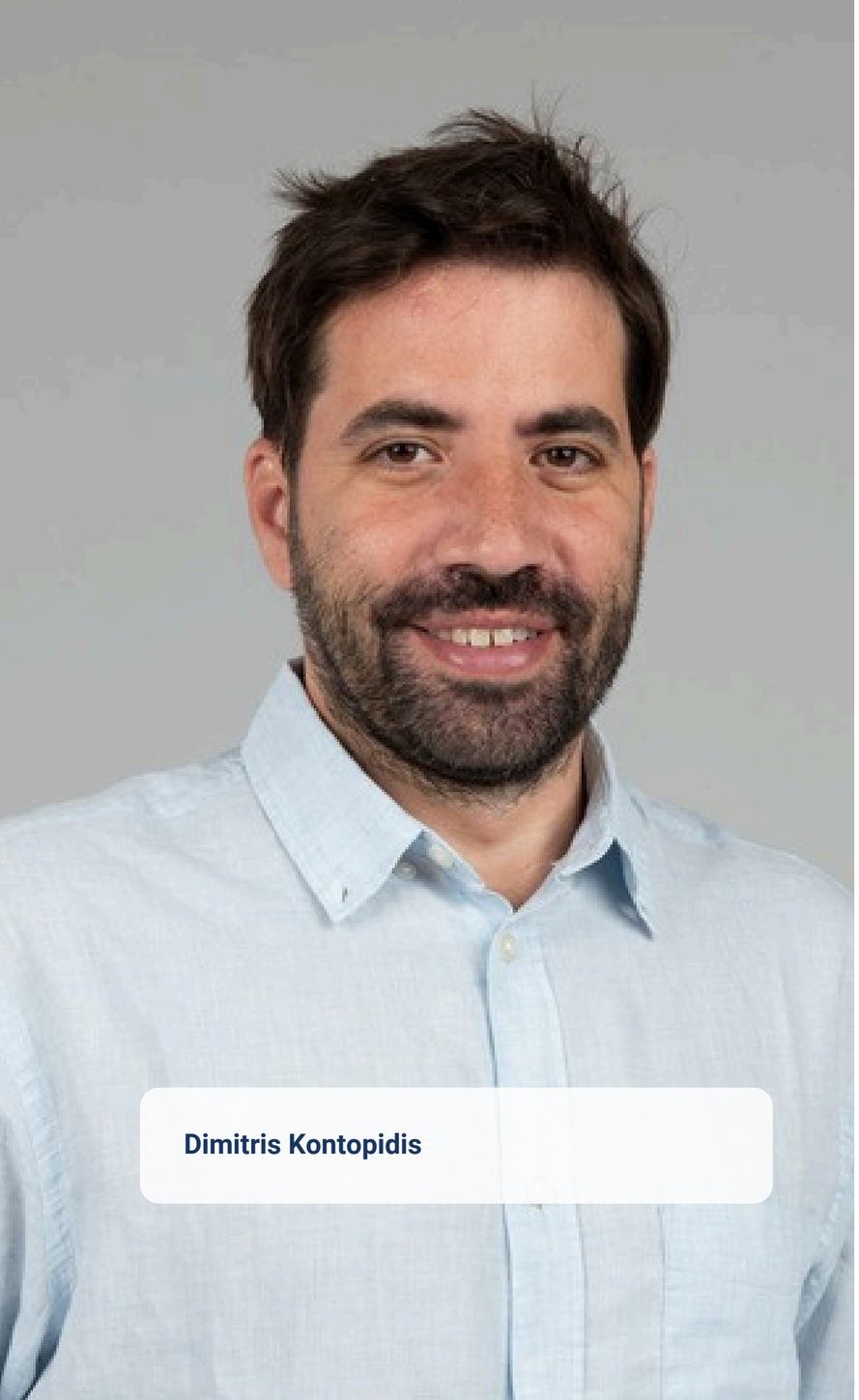
ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

EUROPEAN LUNG FOUNDATION



Dimitris Kontopidis

It is a privilege to reflect on another year of progress at the European Lung Foundation (ELF), as we continue working alongside patients, partner organisations, healthcare professionals and researchers to improve lung health across Europe and beyond.

This year has been one of consolidation and evolution. I have remained focused on delivering the ELF Strategy 2023-2026 as I enter my last few months as ELF Chair.

At the heart of everything we do remains a simple principle: people living with lung conditions should help shape the research, care and information that affects their lives. This belief continues to guide our work across all programmes and partnerships.

Some personal highlights this year include seeing past ELF Chair Kjeld Hanson represent us on the global stage at the World Health Assembly and UN meeting in New York, where he presented our Global Voices campaign as part of the call for more investment in lung health. I am also proud that we successfully launched a pilot of our new ELF Connect platform.

Across 2025/2026, ELF strengthened its role as a global hub for patient engagement, building on long-standing collaboration with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) and a growing network of patient organisations and advisory groups. The work of the Transplantation Working Group has also been central to my Chair's Campaign.

As always, this report celebrates the people behind the work. Patients, volunteers, professionals and partners continue to bring energy, expertise and lived experience that shape every part of ELF's impact.

Every breath matters. Together, we are making each one count. And as I come to the end of my mandate, I want to thank you for helping me to realise my Strategy, during a time when my health has not always been as good as I would have hoped. I have used each of my breaths to really drive ELF further to its vision and mission.

ELF STRATEGY 2023-2026

BE PATIENT DRIVEN

ELF will ensure that patients and patient organisations drive its activities and that they are at the heart of all that it does.

Page 4

IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

ELF will further develop its health and science communication and provide accurate and evidence-based information for patients and the public in new formats.

Page 10

ENGAGE AND EMPOWER

ELF will continue to lead in patient engagement and involvement to improve diagnostics, treatment and care in all lung conditions and promote self-management.

Page 12

HAVE A STRONG AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY AND VOICE

ELF will participate in and help build advocacy projects to advance the lung health agenda.

Page 14

ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE

To deliver on the ELF strategy, the governance of ELF must be effective and efficient for employees and collaborators.

Page 19

INCREASE RESOURCE AND REACH

ELF must continue to diversify its income to ensure it can deliver on its aim to reach more people.

Page 20

You can read a full overview of the ELF Strategy Report on our website.

1. BE PATIENT DRIVEN

At the European Lung Foundation, we believe that people living with lung conditions should help shape the research, care and information that affects them. In 2025/2026, we continued to strengthen patient involvement across all areas of our work.

"I have loved seeing our PAGs grow in number and strength over the last 3 years that I have been Chair of the UPAG. We have seen new groups such as Aspergillosis flourish, with active, inspiring members giving their all to raise the profile of their disease. We have seen patient conferences led by the PAGs in bronchiectasis, chronic cough, severe asthma and more. I want to thank more than 300 individual volunteers who give up their time and use their energy to improve the lives of others with their condition. I continue to be energised and inspired by each and every one."

Helen Parks, ELF Council and United Patient Advisory Group (UPAG) Chair

15
patient advisory groups

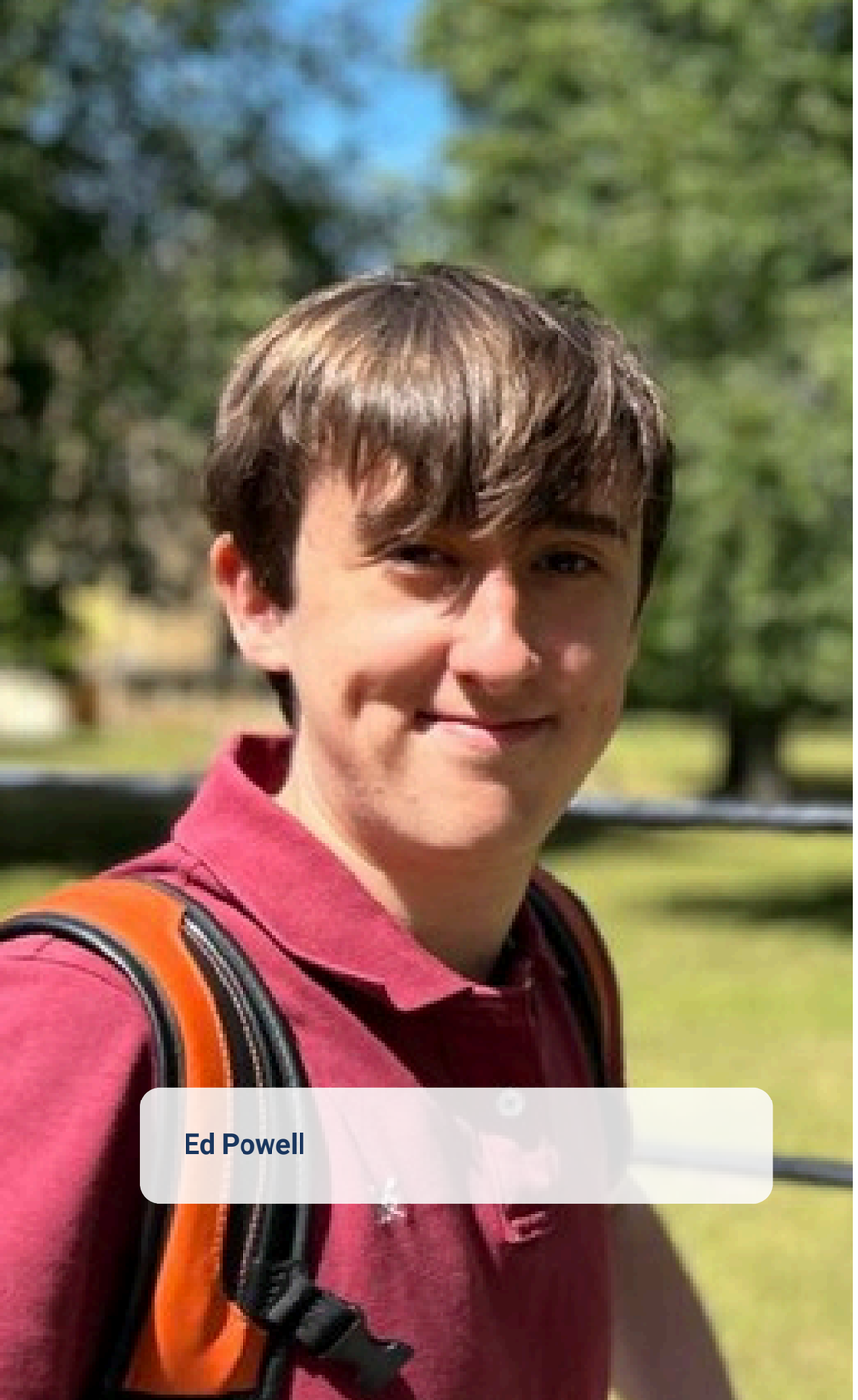
5
cross-disease working groups

3
EU project-specific patient groups

691
volunteer hours for attending meetings

ELF patient advisory groups and working groups bring together people with lived experience of specific lung conditions or topics related to respiratory health. Volunteers share their experiences and expertise, contributing to projects that improve care, treatment and information for patients. Their input helps shape ELF activities throughout the year, including patient conferences, educational resources, clinical guideline materials, and collaborations with respiratory partners.

Alongside these groups, the United Patient Advisory Group (UPAG), the Patient Advisory Committee (PAC) and the ELF Council provide strategic oversight and ensure patient perspectives are embedded across ELF's work and delivery.



Ed Powell

Sharing real stories

We published 19 new "Your Experience" videos and stories, where patients spoke about living with lung conditions. These are shared on our website and social media channels.

Popular topics included:

- **Joyce's story: living with bronchiectasis**
- **Justine: My experience with Non-tuberculous Mycobacteria and bronchiectasis**
- **Ed Powell: The many facets of transition care**
- **Global Voices: Respiratory Healthcare Around The Globe**
- **Ilaria Galetti: Lung transplantation in 2025**
- **Living with chronic respiratory disease: voices from around the world**
- **Mary: Youth advocacy against tobacco and vaping**

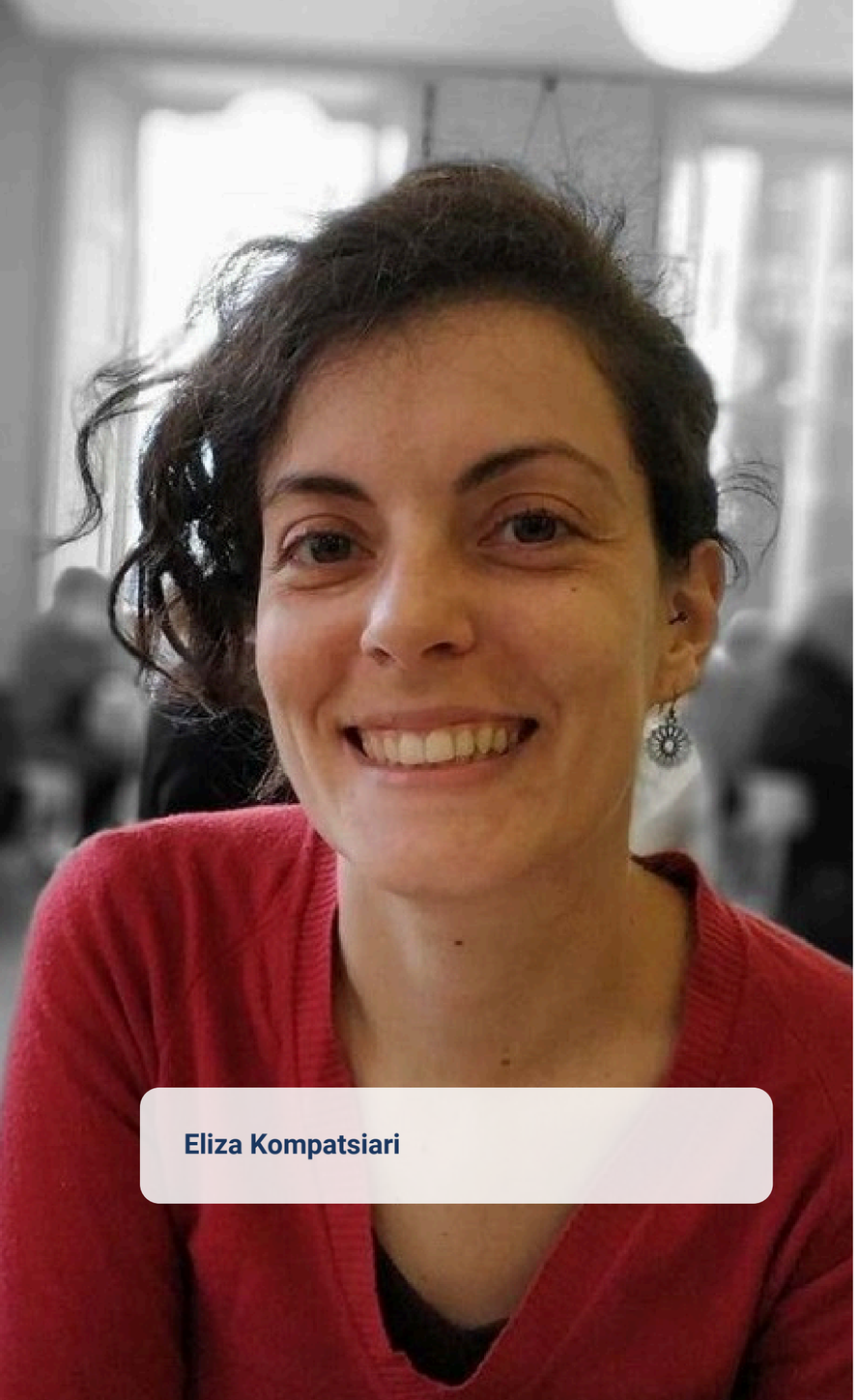
These highlights represent just a selection of this year's activities from our PAGs:

- The **Asthma PAG** contributed to defining "remission" for people living with moderate to severe asthma, explored the specific challenges faced by older adults and examined the role of comorbidities in managing severe asthma. Their insights were recognised in **the Lancet series on asthma prevention**.

- The **Chronic Cough PAG** held four 'cough and coffee' meetings during 2025. These online sessions give members an opportunity to connect with healthcare professionals, share knowledge and experiences and ask questions in an informal setting.

- The **Bronchiectasis PAG** continued to work alongside EMBARC and supported the development of several guidelines and resources, including the Sputum guide and the Nebuliser and Inhaler guide.

- The **Sarcoidosis PAG** supported the application and launch of the new SARCOIDOMICS CRC. Members of the PAG are on the steering group, leading efforts to ensure outcomes are patient-focused.



Eliza Kompatsiari

Eliza’s story

We love hearing from people working with ELF about how this work has impacted their health and their lives. We were delighted to read and be able to share a wonderful article in *The Lancet* by a member of the ELF Bronchiectasis Patient Advisory Group (PAG), Eliza Kompatsiari, about her journey with us. We have selected one small section to share with you below, but we encourage you to read the original article for yourselves.

In early 2021, [Eliza] was feeling slightly better and had regained weight, and a friend recommended she attend a conference on bronchiectasis, held by the European Lung Foundation (ELF) and the European Bronchiectasis Registry (EMBARC). This was a conference organised by patients themselves in collaboration with healthcare professionals. It became a turning point in Eliza's life.

“This opened a whole new world on bronchiectasis to me—including treatments and self-management, such as airway clearance, which I had never really heard of.”

That was the first year this conference was held, and since then it has been organised every year, attracting a spectacular number of participants. The next one is due to take place on March 21, 2026, and, as always, it is open to everyone: patients, healthcare professionals, and caregivers. After joining the Patient Advisory Group (PAG) at ELF, she also learned that bronchiectasis was much less prevalent in people aged younger than 60 years, for which significant underdiagnosis in younger people probably plays a role. Later on, she also underwent specialist testing that showed she definitely didn't have asthma.

We would also like to thank all of those who contributed to our Patient Spotlight, a regular feature of our monthly Patient Voice newsletter. Getting to know you all and hearing about your passions, drivers, challenges and experiences is key to making ELF better:

- Conversation with Tom Bermingham
- Conversation with Marcela Candeias
- Conversation with Phil Taverner
- Conversation with Stefan Radut
- Conversation with Lisa McNeil
- Conversation with Eleni Stamouli
- Conversation with Mascha van Oers
- Conversation with Sue Lang
- Conversation with Betty Frankemölle

Working group activity in 2025/2026

ELF working groups bring together patients, healthcare professionals, researchers and other stakeholders to focus on cross-disease topics or strategic priorities within ELF. Unlike patient advisory groups (PAGs), they are often formed to support key projects, research collaborations or advocacy areas and operate for a defined period of time.

Climate change and air pollution

The Climate Change and Air Pollution Working Group continue to develop the Breathe Clean Air Patient Conference, which held its 3rd annual event in 2026. Members also contributed to iniatives including the **NEXUS** project, which focuses on understanding the health impacts of non-exhaust vehicle emissions such as brake wear, tyre wear and road surface abrasion, and the European Respiratory Society's Clinical Research Collaboration, **EXPLAIN-IT**, which focuses on the impact of environmental exposures on lung health and the prevention of chronic lung conditions.

Digital health

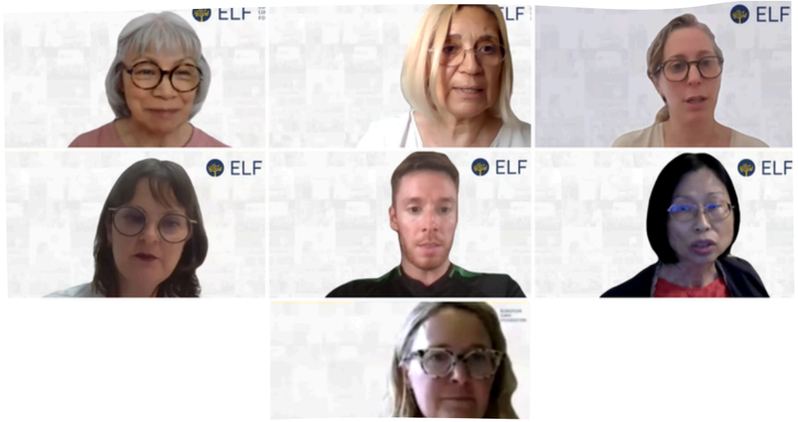
The Digital Health Working Group held an event in March 2026, which explored how digital and AI tools can improve respiratory and cancer care. Invited speakers discussed concerns people have about issues including trust, data protection, fairness and access.

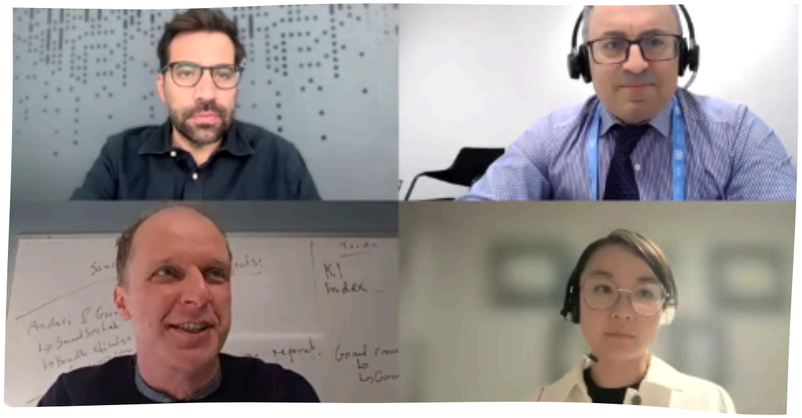
Mental health

The Mental Health Working Group continued to develop key resources, including a mental health advocacy pack for European Mental Health Week. The advocacy pack is designed to share key messages from the existing statement produced in 2025 calling to strengthen mental health support for people with lung conditions.

Transplantation

The Transplantation Working Group launched two surveys in 2025/2026. It also established links with a new ERS Clinical Research Collaboration focused on transplantation, creating a foundation for collaboration moving forwards.





Working together on patient conferences:

ELF patient conferences are free online events that connect people living with lung conditions, their families, healthcare professionals and researchers to share up-to-date information and research.

Living with Sleep and Breathing Disorders (April 2025)
436 people reached from 58 countries, discussing the impact of sleep and breathing disorders on daily life, alongside current and future treatment options.

Severe Asthma (November 2025)
593 people reached from 75 countries, combining expert insights, patient experiences and updates on current and emerging treatments.

Aspergillosis (November 2025)
172 people reached from 49 countries, with strong engagement from people affected by this rare lung condition.

Breathe Clean Air (February 2026)
275 people reached. Feedback highlighted the value of exploring how indoor air pollution affects lung health and the importance of accessible scientific information for patients.

Digital Health (March 2026)
193 people reached, focusing on the role of digital tools and innovation in respiratory care and patient support.

Bronchiectasis (March 2026)
The Bronchiectasis Patient Conference remains ELF's largest annual event, with 1,467 reached from 48 countries.

Other events and webinars:

- EPAP Live: preparing patient representatives for meaningful engagement at health conferences (June 2025)
- World Bronchiectasis Day Question Time (July 2025)
- Drop-in session for patient representatives attending the ERS Congress (September 2025)
- Understanding the new European bronchiectasis guidelines: what care should you expect? (November 2025)
- All PAG Meeting (February 2026)

"Suddenly I felt I was not alone with this disease and many of the things I had experienced were also lived by others who lived far away from me but had the disease. I also love to hear the new treatments that are coming down the pipeline. Thank you for gathering us together."
Severe Asthma Patient Conference attendee, 2025

"Every year I think it cannot get better (attended every one), but every year there is more excellence!"
Bronchiectasis Patient Conference attendee, 2026

ERS EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY
every breath counts

63 **projects in collaboration with ERS**

including 39 task forces and 24 Clinical Research Collaborations (CRCs).

Sarcoidosis / AIR-Sarcoidosis study:

- Patient questions collected for AI chatbot evaluation
- Collaboration with Humanitas University (Milan)

EXPLAIN-IT CRC (indoor air pollution):

- 2 focus groups held to find out what is important for patients

IMPACT CRC survey (pleural disease):

- Pleural disease research: a survey for patients and carers

IMPORTANCE CRC (home mechanical ventilation):

- Patient survey shared with over 12,000+ responses
- Preliminary results presented at Respiratory Failure and Mechanical Ventilation Conference

Participation in ERS events:

- COPD and ILD PAG representatives spoke at ERS course Living and Dying with Chronic Lung Disease (November 2025)
- COPD patient rep at ERS Research Seminar: Regenerating the lung - a multidisciplinary approach to combat COPD? (November 2025)

COPD Core Outcome Set (Task Force):

- COPD PAG representatives helped to refine a patient-facing survey to develop a shared set of outcomes important for future trials of maintenance treatment, including best methods to reach as many people living with COPD as possible

AMR-Lung

CHILD BEAR NET
Children's Bronchiectasis Education, Advocacy and Research Network

EMBARC
The European Bronchiectasis Registry

SHARP
Severe Heterogenous Asthma Research collaboration Patient-centered

2. IMPROVE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

ELF helps people understand their condition and improve their lung health by creating evidence-based, easy-to-read, trustworthy information. We work with experts and patients to ensure our content is accurate, up to date and available in many languages.

37
new and reviewed information pages

This year, maintaining and expanding the ELF information hub remained a priority. Five new pages were developed covering aspergillosis, nebulisers and inhalers, sputum, non-tuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) lung disease, and primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD). In addition, seven existing pages were substantially updated, while 25 pages underwent review and required either no changes or only minor edits.

4
lay guidelines and resources

- The use of telemedicine in home mechanical ventilation
- The benefits and risks of lung cancer treatments
- Managing bronchiectasis in adults 2025
- Managing the lung fibrosis aspect of connective tissue diseases and rheumatoid arthritis

37
lay research summaries

- Can menthol inhalation reduce the feeling of breathlessness? (573 views)
- Every step counts: understanding how COPD affects your mobility (324 views)
- Can digital tools help identify ongoing sleepiness in people with sleep apnoea? (298 views)
- Eating fruit may reduce the effects of air pollution on lung function (293 views)

19
ELF contributions to publications

Artificial intelligence-generated answers to patients' questions on asthma: the artificial intelligence responses on asthma study

Understanding bronchiectasis through patient voices

European Respiratory Society and American Thoracic Society guidelines for the diagnosis of primary ciliary dyskinesia

Read more publications here:
www.europeanlung.org/en/publications

EPAP
European Patient Ambassador Programme

Register: elearning.epaponline.eu

EN DE ES FR NL IT PT UA

European Patient Ambassador Programme (EPAP)

136
new learners, with 252 complete modules

EPAP is a free, online, self-directed, independent learning programme that introduces patients and carers to some of the basic skills and knowledge needed to represent themselves and others successfully. Training modules include:

- Being better informed
- Improving awareness
- Improving treatment and care
- Supporting research and development
- Influencing policy
- Working with the media
- Participating in healthcare conferences
- International health research projects.

This core programme is complemented by EPAP Live, a series of interactive webinars designed to provide practical, real-world preparation for engagement opportunities. This year, EPAP Live featured a focused session supporting patient representatives in preparing for meaningful participation in health conferences. The session covered:

- Preparing for participation in health conferences
- Understanding how to contribute in scientific and policy settings
- Building confidence to advocate for conditions and communities at European level

Through practical guidance and interactive discussion, participants strengthened their confidence and ability to engage in healthcare settings and represent patient perspectives effectively.

Together, EPAP and EPAP Live contribute to building a growing community of informed and empowered patient representatives across Europe.

3. ENGAGE AND EMPOWER

ELF continues to explore innovative ways to engage diverse audiences worldwide. Our digital platforms remain central to this mission, enabling us to deliver trusted information, support patient involvement, and strengthen connections across the respiratory community. Through our website and digital channels, we:

- Expand recruitment for patient communities and participation in EU projects
- Deliver accurate, evidence-based information on lung health, prevention, and advocacy
- Share news and updates from organisations across the ELF patient network
- Foster meaningful dialogue between patients, healthcare professionals, and the wider public

864 thousand website users

1 million webpage views

12.3 thousand newsletter subscribers

33.4 thousand social media followers

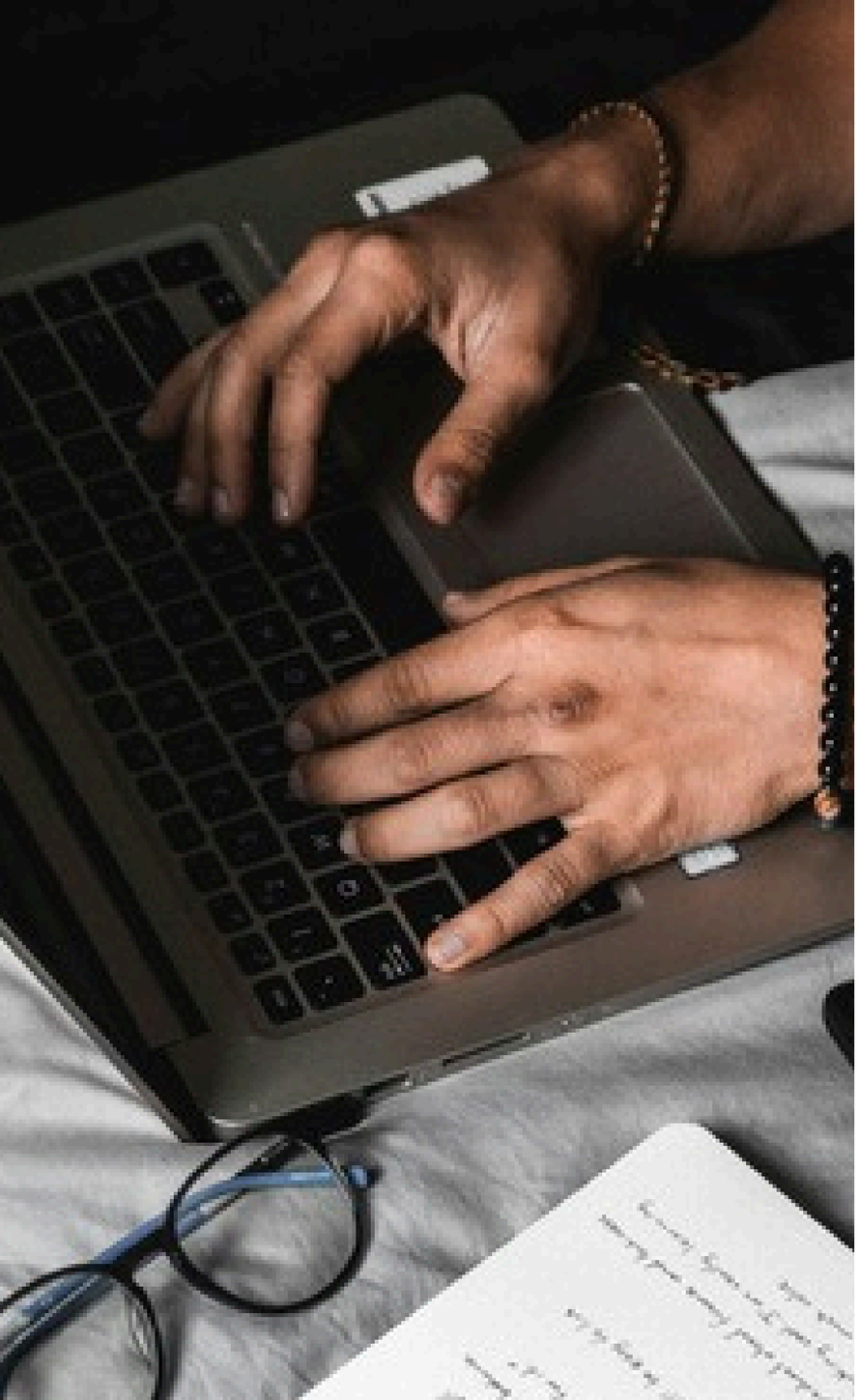
Supported by content from our patient network and partners, ELF continued to strengthen its social media presence across platforms. This year saw strong growth in audience reach, with significant increases in followers on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, alongside continued use of visual content to support engagement. LinkedIn recorded the highest percentage growth in audience size this year (+58%), with strong increases also seen on Instagram (+36%) and Facebook (+27%), while X remained broadly stable.

10,613 FOLLOWERS
15,440 post interactions

13,845 FOLLOWERS
Post engagement not available

4,053 FOLLOWERS
6,662 post interactions

4,839 FOLLOWERS
9,207 post interactions



This year, ELF's mailing strategy continued to operate through two monthly updates: the ELF Newsletter and the Patient Voice newsletter. The Patient Voice newsletter continues to highlight patient-centred content and opportunities, and includes the monthly Patient Organisation Round-up, supporting visibility of activities from our patient organisation network.

Audience numbers across mailing lists continued to grow and email remains a key channel for reaching established audiences and supporting participation in ELF activities and initiatives.

Audience summary:

	MARCH 2026	
ELF Newsletter	12,299	
Patient Voice newsletter	11,550	

Email performance:

	2025/2026	
Emails sent	311,722	
Average open rate	25.1%	
Average click rate	2.4%	

Subscribe to ELF mailings here:
www.europeanlung.org/en/news/newsletters

4. HAVE A STRONG AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY AND VOICE

ELF continues to participate in and support advocacy initiatives that advance lung health across Europe. Through these activities, we work closely with patients to amplify their voices and experiences—for example, through patient speakers at the ERS Congress, participation in EU projects, and engagement in events in Brussels.

In partnership with ERS, we bring patients and the public together with healthcare professionals to improve lung health and advance diagnosis, treatment, and care. Our work in advocacy is further strengthened through initiatives such as International Respiratory Coalition (IRC), Lungs Europe, the MEP Lung Health Group and the European Lung Health Group. A more detailed overview of these activities and their impact can be found in the Lungs Europe 2025/26 Annual Report.

lungseurope.org

LUNGS EUROPE

A partnership of the European Respiratory Society and European Lung Foundation

Feedback from patients and professionals at the ERS Congress:

“In my opinion, the involvement of patients in such scientific events is key to ensuring that the health “system” is designed to meet their—and our—needs.”

“What an opportunity. So grateful to have my voice heard on a topic I am so passionate about. We live and breathe this disease every day - ours is the voice that truly matters. Thank you so much.”

“I just wanted to extend my sincere thanks for the incredible opportunity to attend the recent ERS Congress in Amsterdam. It was a truly inspiring experience and one I will always treasure. As someone living with COPD and Chronic Pulmonary Aspergillosis, it was both humbling and empowering to be included in such a significant event. The Congress offered me valuable insight into the latest developments in respiratory care and reminded me how important patient involvement is in shaping future progress and giving us patients hope.”

ERS CONGRESS | 2025

27 September – 1 October | Amsterdam, Netherlands

Patients at the ERS Congress, Amsterdam 2025

The European Respiratory Society (ERS) Congress 2025 took place from 27 September–1 October as a hybrid event, with the option to attend online or in person in Amsterdam, Netherlands. ELF remains committed to ensuring that patients, patient representatives and patient organisations have meaningful opportunities to take part in the Congress and share their insights and experiences. The 2025 Congress theme, ‘**Respiratory health around the globe**’, highlighted global collaboration and shared solutions to improve lung health worldwide. The programme featured scientific and clinical advances across respiratory medicine, reflecting the international scope of the event.

34 patients took part in 15 videos

Participants were from UK (6), Netherlands (3), United States (3), India (3), Sweden (2), Uganda (2), and Italy (1), Greece (1), Slovenia (1), France (1), China (1), Germany (1), Australia (1), Brazil (1), Indonesia (1), Mexico (1), Jordan (1), Ireland (1), Costa Rica (1), Canada (1), and Kenya (1).

219

registrations
from organisations and patient representatives

ELF Patient Organisation Networking Day

The ELF Patient Organisation Networking Day is an annual event during the ERS Congress bringing together members of ELF Patient Organisation Network to connect and explore topics in lung health. The 2025 event focused on “Improving respiratory health – thinking globally, acting locally”, addressing challenges in health inequities, climate change, access to care, alongside opportunities for action and collaboration. The programme included expert patient perspectives, interactive discussions, breakout sessions and a presentation on the World Health Organization’s Lung Health Resolution. It was delivered in hybrid format, with attendance in Amsterdam and online.

106
attended in Amsterdam

24
countries represented

94%
rated the event as good or excellent

Patient Organisation Networking Day report

Patient-centred sessions

For the first time in Amsterdam, ELF designed and managed four patient-centred studio sessions on: Inequality in pulmonary rehabilitation, Burden for caregivers, Global access to mental health support and Bridging the communication gap.

ELF designed and ran a dedicated Wednesday Workshop on patient involvement, chaired by Mikaela Odemyr, with Deborah Montague speaking and Liam Galvin and Zena Powell as panellists.

Recordings and recap: patient-centred content from the ERS Congress 2025 (September 2025)

Global Voices campaign

The Global Voices 2025 campaign was also a huge success with more than 200 people submitting their faces and experiences of living with a lung condition to videos, slides and visuals during the Congress.

Global lung health campaign brings together voices from around the world (November 2025)

Looking ahead

Work also started early on planning for ERS Congress 2026, which is themed on the "United for better breathing: partnership between patients, clinicians and researchers."

The key focus areas will be

- Co-creating care: treating patients as equal partners in care decisions
- Listening first: finding and acting on unmet patient needs
- Discovering together: advancing science through collaborative research.

Participation in EU projects

Our active participation in EU projects and international committees is essential to placing patients' voices at the forefront of progress. As partners, leads, and contributors in these initiatives, we ensure that patients remain central to cutting-edge research and policy development. Examples of projects we support this year are:

3TR

The 3TR respiratory patient group continued to meet regularly throughout the year, providing feedback and guidance on the 3TR Asthma Biologic Cohort (ABC) study. Patient representatives also contributed to a bronchoscopy publication and participated in an ERS Task Force supporting the definition of remission in severe asthma. Members attended the 3TR Annual Meeting, where they presented on patient involvement to date. The cross-disease patient panel has now been formally integrated into 3TR governance, ensuring the patient voice is embedded within the consortium structure.

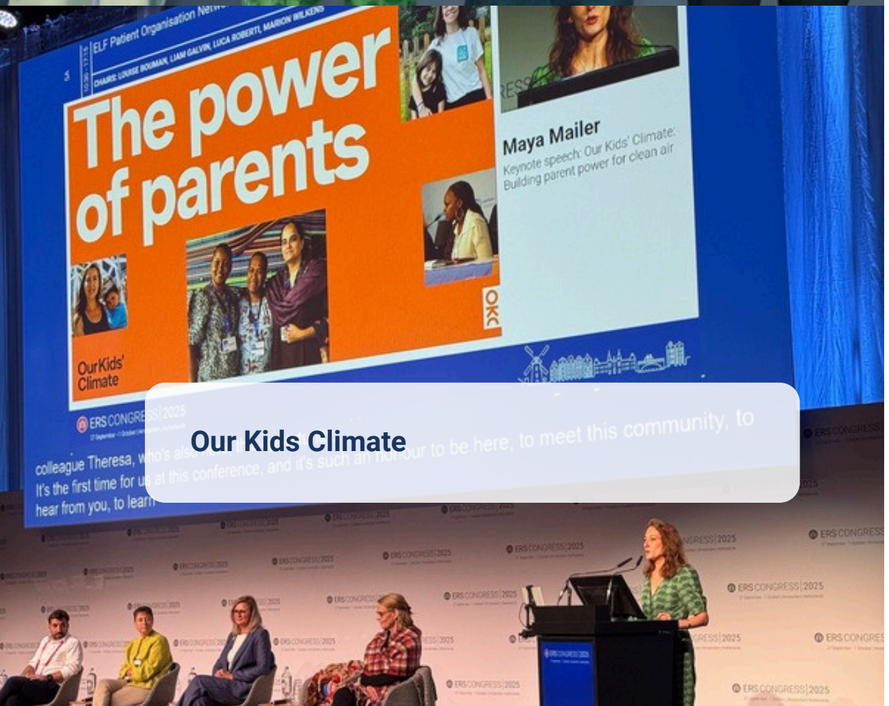
UNITE4TB

Community engagement in UNITE4TB continued through the Community Advisory Group (CAG), which met regularly with clinical trial and consortium representatives. CAG members attended the UNITE4TB Annual Meeting, presenting on achievements and challenges, and participating in consortium discussions and panel sessions on under-studied populations in drug development.

Members also contributed to tuberculosis (TB) content for the ELF website. Two CAG members presented at the Union World Conference, sharing insights on patient involvement in TB research.

OPTIMA

Patient involvement in OPTIMA continued through the Public and Patient Advisory Board (PPAB), with members attending the Annual General Meeting in Madrid and presenting on their contributions and project progress. Throughout the year, the PPAB contributed feedback on the Clinical Decision Support System, Data Protection Impact Assessment and informed consent processes. Members also took part in workshops exploring trust, transparency and communication in healthcare, and contributed as speakers at an ELF patient conference in March.



This year, we honoured the global parent-led campaign network Our Kids' Climate with the 2025 ELF Award. This recognises their outstanding contribution to safeguarding children's respiratory health worldwide through advocacy on air pollution and climate change.

Our Kids' Climate is a global network of parent-led climate organisations working to protect children's lungs from the impacts of air pollution and climate change. The network connects grassroots groups and national campaigns in more than 50 countries, amplifying the voices of parents and caregivers calling for cleaner air and healthier environments for children.

Their flagship campaign, Our Kids' Air, highlights the impact of air pollution on children and the need for urgent action. Through the Clean Air Circle, they support community-led responses across countries including Ecuador, Ghana, India, Mexico, Poland, South Africa and the USA.

By mobilising parent-led groups worldwide, the network has helped raise awareness of the links between children's health, air pollution and fossil fuels, including through engagement in major international climate discussions.

Receiving the award, co-director Maya Mailer said:

"Children's health is directly threatened by air pollution and the climate crisis. The burning of fossil fuels is poisoning the air our children breathe and endangering their future by overheating our planet. Our Kids' Climate unites parents and communities around the world to demand clean air and a fair and fast shift to clean energy. We are honoured to receive this award, which recognises the collective power of our global community, of intergenerational solidarity and love-led campaigning to protect the next generation's right to breathe clean air and grow up in a healthy environment."

ELF Chair, Dimitris Kontopidis, reflected on the importance of their work:

"Our Kids' Climate demonstrates the important link between grassroots activism and global health policy. Through their tireless advocacy, they have raised awareness of how climate change and air pollution affect children's lung health and inspired communities worldwide to take action. We are proud to present them with the ELF Award for 2025."

Our Kids' Climate exemplifies ELF's commitment to addressing the wider determinants of lung health, including air quality and climate change, and to supporting advocacy that improves the health and wellbeing of children worldwide.

Learn more: www.europeanlung.org/en/people-and-partners/elf-award/

5. ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE

During the mandate of Dimitris Kontopidis, ELF governance has been strengthened by allocating more roles and responsibilities amongst the ELF Council members. This has allowed ELF to be present in more places and to grow its capacity while remaining patient-driven.

2025 saw applications open for the next ELF Chair, and a large number of outstanding individuals applied for the role. As part of this process, the next ELF Chair – and in addition a Vice Chair – were appointed. A handover period has taken place to ensure continuity in leadership and to update the ELF Strategy. The new Vice Chair role will enable ELF to deliver on its 2023-2026 strategy.

ELF Connect

Key activities at the heart of ELF governance have included delivering a digital platform to ensure ELF can connect with a broader, more diverse audience. **ELF Connect** is a trusted digital space. It brings together reliable, evidence-based information, expert insights and ways to connect with healthcare professionals – all in one easy-to-use place.

The ELF **Chair's Campaign** on transplantation has also delivered a new webpage, including survey results on access to transplantation care.

6. INCREASE RESOURCE AND REACH

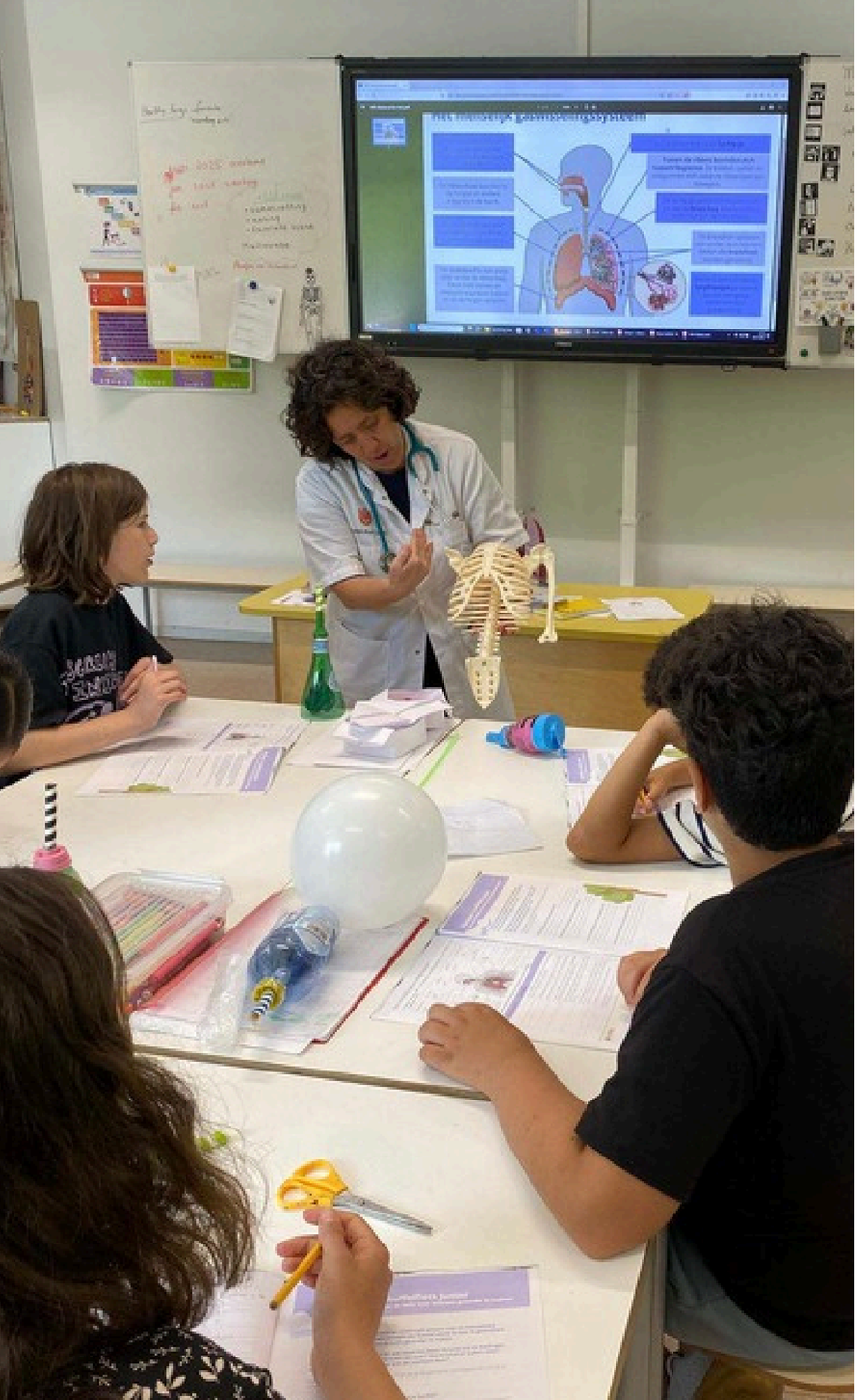
ELF recognises the critical importance of diversifying its income streams to strengthen long-term financial sustainability. This will enable us to deliver our strategic objectives with greater resilience, while expanding our reach and impact for more people and patients worldwide.

This year, ELF's fundraising reached €146,000, thanks to the generosity, trust and continued support of our donors and partners. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has supported our work and made this progress possible. We look forward to building on this momentum, strengthening our partnerships and working together to deliver even greater impact for people living with lung conditions.

By developing strong, strategic partnerships, ELF is able to maximise the impact of every contribution we receive, supporting initiatives such as Healthy Lungs for Life and our Global Grants Programme. These partnerships enable us to extend our reach, strengthen our work and make a meaningful difference to more people living with lung conditions around the world.

We held our **Annual Stakeholder Meeting in October 2025** to reflect on ELF's achievements and activities over the previous year and look ahead to our priorities for 2026. The meeting provided an important opportunity to hear directly from our stakeholders about the issues that matter most to patients and to gather their feedback on our proposed strategy and activities. Their questions, comments and suggestions will help inform ELF's future direction, including our budget and priorities, ensuring that the voices of patients and those who support our work remain at the heart of what we do.

We are deeply grateful to the organisations and individuals whose generous support has helped make Healthy Lungs for Life and ELF's activities possible this year. Their commitment and partnership enable us to reach more people, strengthen our impact and improve lung health around the world.



Healthy Lungs for Life, Amsterdam 2025

The Healthy Lungs for Life (HLfL) campaign took place during the 2025 ERS Congress in Amsterdam, where ELF organised a public outreach event in front of the RAI Congress Centre. The event opened with contributions from Dr Mariëlle Pijnenburg, Lieuwe Bos, Silke Ryan, Dimitris Kontopidis, and Panagiota-Maria Triantafyllopoulou, highlighting the importance of lung health awareness and prevention.

240+
people had their lungs tested during one-day public event

102
students participated in the school pilot programme

Media reach of over
115 MILLION
through 30+ articles

500+
people joined the “Take the Active Option” event

1,300+
visits to HLfL website pages over the campaign

HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE
ERS ELF

HLfL Schools and Snuffelfiets Junior

The Healthy Lungs for Life schools programme continued to grow through its collaboration with **Longfonds** and the Snuffelfiets Junior project. Ahead of the 2025 ERS Congress, a two-day pilot was delivered in Dutch primary schools, with over 100 pupils participating in lung health education, testing and creative learning activities.

At De Biënkorf school, 102 students took part in a two-day programme, including the creation of lung models. Pupils showed increased awareness of lung health, with knowledge scores improving from 6.1 to 7.5 for lung protection, and from 7.3 to 9.4 for air pollution. The project received an overall rating of 8.5 out of 10 from participants.

The Healthy Lungs for Life 4 Schools x Snuffelfiets Junior project was also launched at the Night at the Museum event at NEMO Science Museum, introducing innovative approaches to engaging young people in air quality and lung health.

Healthy Lungs for Life grants

Thanks to the support of the **Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS)** and **CADSET (Chronic Airway Diseases Early Stratification programme)**, ELF awarded a record 22 grants in 2025 to organisations supporting lung health awareness activities through the Healthy Lungs for Life (HLfL) campaign.

This represents the largest number of grants awarded in a single year since the initiative began, enabling a wider global reach and stronger community engagement in lung health education and awareness.

The 2025 grants supported public engagement activities aligned with HLfL priorities, with a focus on childhood lung health and community-based lung health awareness, including events linked to World Lung Day. Activities included lung function testing, educational workshops, school-based programmes and community outreach campaigns.

Projects were delivered across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East, reflecting the global reach of the HLfL campaign and the importance of locally driven approaches to improving lung health awareness.

HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE

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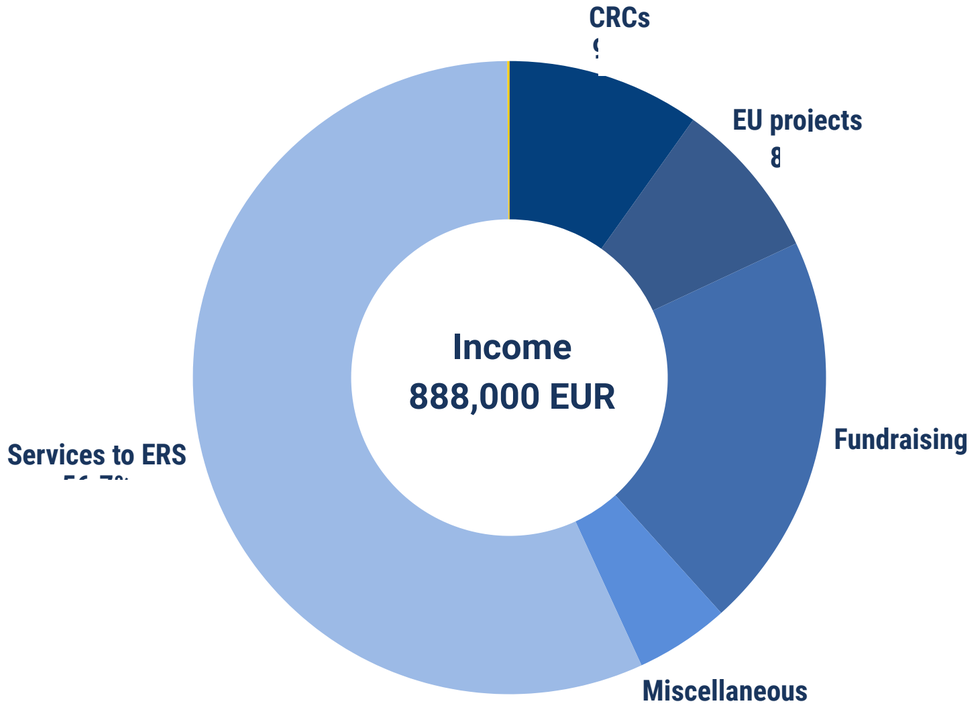
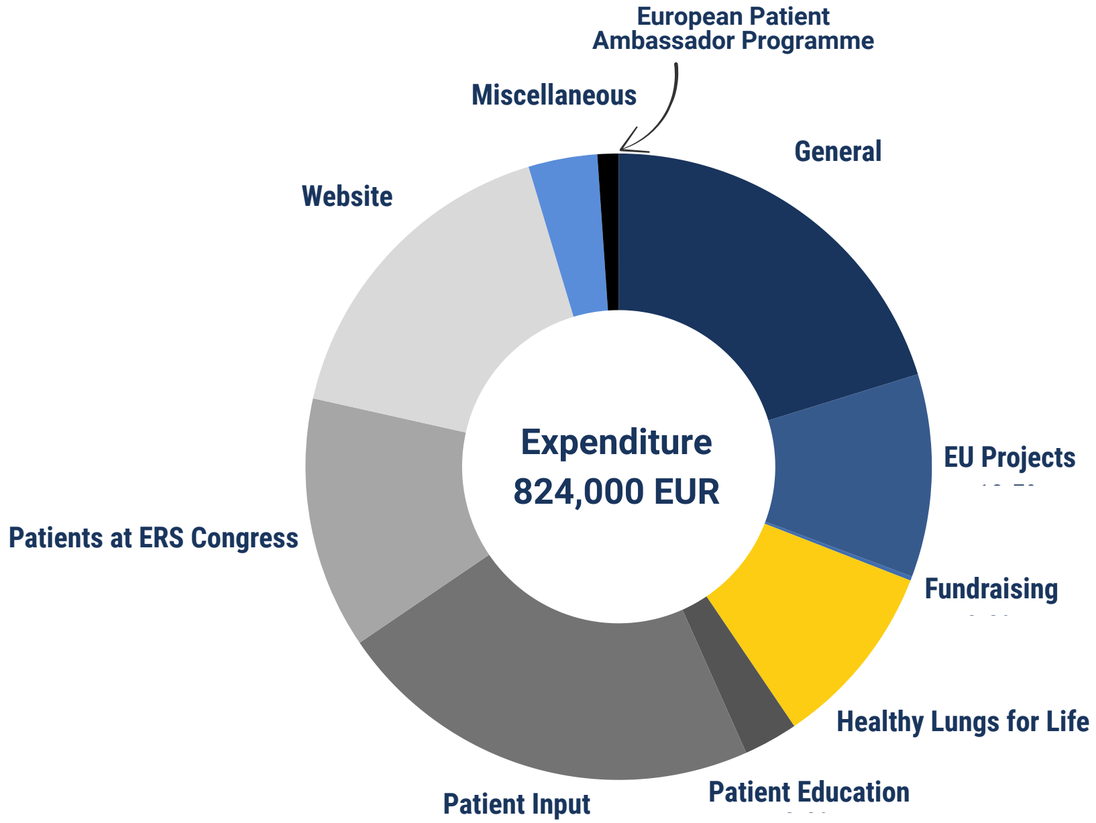
Selected initiatives include community education on air pollution and smoking, youth-led advocacy, school-based interventions, and public screening events designed to improve early awareness and prevention of lung disease.

The full list of 2025 grant recipients is available on the ELF website. ELF and ERS will continue to highlight the impact of these initiatives as reports are submitted throughout the year.

- HIGH5 for Healthy Lungs in Jakarta, Indonesia (September 2025)
- AVISOR inspires community action for healthy lungs in Mozambique (September 2025)
- Nearly 300 attend Healthy Lungs for Life event in Amsterdam as study highlights missed opportunity to protect children from air pollution (October 2025)
- Mangroves and school campaigns for healthier lungs in the Philippines (January 2026)

FINANCIAL REVIEW 2025/26





SUPPORT OUR WORK

USE YOUR VOICE AND EXPERIENCE

Patient voices matter. We are always introducing more opportunities for patients to contribute to our work. Get involved in our disease-specific patient advisory groups (PAGs) or new cross-disease working groups.

If you want to use your experiences to help others, to inform healthcare professionals and to shape policy decisions then please consider joining Team ELF!

GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME, SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

There are many ways to support our work, from helping to offer spirometry tests at ERS Congress and our Healthy Lungs for Life events, to translating our lay texts into multiple languages.

Volunteering your time and skills helps us to keep costs down and focus our resources on trying to engage new audiences, launch new campaigns and take part in more projects.

GET IN TOUCH

DONATE!

ELF continues to ensure patients are at the heart of our work.

Please help us to continue this work and become a regular donor today. Your donations help us to plan for our future and ensure that lung health patients continue to have their voices heard on a European and global level.

DONATE TODAY

EUROPEAN LUNG FOUNDATION

ELF is a patient-led organisation that works internationally to bring patients and the public together with healthcare professionals to improve lung health and advance diagnosis, treatment and care.

Founded in 2000, ELF works in partnership with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) to foster collaboration between lung health professionals and patients. Based in Sheffield (UK) and Brussels (Belgium), ELF has grown and developed a core team of specialists and a network of individual patients and patient organisations. Our ethos is openness, inclusiveness and collaboration. We believe in working together to improve lung health.

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