



European Speech and Language Therapy Association

WHAT IS ESLA?

ESLA is the umbrella organisation for Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) associations across Europe. There are currently **30 member associations** in **27 countries**, representing over **50,000 SLT professionals**.

WHAT DOES ESLA DO?



ESLA's strategic objectives are to:

- 1) Be the authoritative **voice of Speech and Language Therapy** in Europe;
- 2) Increase **recognition, promotion and protection** of the profession;
- 3) Ensure the **sustainability** of the organisation.

Each year ESLA celebrates the **European Day of SLT**, on **6th March**, to raise awareness of the impact of communication and swallowing difficulties on families, and to promote greater visibility of the SLT profession.

ESLA also organises **European congresses**. The next ESLA Congress will be in Salzburg, Austria, in May 2022, on the theme of 'New frontiers in speech and language therapy: advancing practice, research and education'.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ENGAGING WITH ESLA?



- Access to European networks of SLTs.
- Facilitation of collaborations in practice development, education and research.
- CPD opportunities.
- Access to ESLA data on European SLT education, training, practice, research evidence, terminology.
- Facilitation of information sharing about professional registration requirements between UK and European SLTs.
- Facilitated access to European grant information.
- Enablement of active involvement in European-wide projects.
- Lobbying work at European level to raise profile of our work and rights of people with communication and swallowing disorders.
- Raising RCSLT's international profile.

ESLA AND RCSLT

The RCSLT has an **ESLA Action Group**, which aims to raise the profile of ESLA and its activities within the RCSLT membership, and responds to enquiries relating to UK SLT practice from other ESLA member countries. The group use teleconferencing and meet face-to-face once a year. To find out more or get involved in developments with ESLA, please contact the RCSLT representative to ESLA, Dr Mark Jayes, at M.Jayes@mmu.ac.uk.



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