

### **33rd AGA Congress: New record of participants in Basel!**

More than 1,300 participants from all over the world met in Basel, at the border triangle of Switzerland, France and Germany to attend the 33rd AGA Congress.

The Congress Chairmen, Dr Michael Hirschmann und Dr Matthias Zumstein, had put together a high-quality programme for clinicians as well as researchers. Over 300 presenters supported the scientific programme with their contributions.

In addition to proven formats such as the instructional courses, the sessions of the guest societies, the research day, or the poster exhibition, the Congress Chairmen presented a new session format: "Oops! What's next?" Guided by the motto of the Congress „Crossing borders“, this new session format brought international experts in direct exchange with the audience, discussing how to honestly handle common intra-operative problems and complications.

The audience was actively involved in various sessions with a voting system.

This year's guest speaker Samuel Koch - quadriplegic since his accident in 2010 - is a big inspiration for many people with his positive attitude. With his presentation he showed to those present that "Crossing Borders" is not only a Congress slogan but can be a philosophy of life.

The workshops for physiotherapists, a special programme for the AGA-Students and the AGA-Residents, a course for OR staff and a course for musculoskeletal imaging diagnostics completed the programme.

50 companies showed their products and services in the technical exhibition. The 15 lunch break-symposia were well attended and during the coffee breaks a lively exchange between the exhibitors and the participants took place.

See some impressions from the meeting - visit the photo gallery: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskEQCTqS>

The Intercongress-team is already looking forward to the next Congress. The 34<sup>th</sup> AGA Congress will be held from 7-9 September 2017 in Munich/Germany. The Congress Chairmen Professor Michael Dienst, Professor Andreas Imhoff and Professor Hermann Mayr, kindly invite medical specialists and scientists to submit an abstract through <http://ic.abstracts-online.de/AGA2017/submission/de/home.html>. The deadline is 15 February 2017.