

Garðabær 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2023

Prof. Stephan Achenbach, Chair of the Nominating Committee of ESC

Dear Prof Achenbach,

I, Þórdís Jóna Hrafnkelsdóttir, hereby declare my interest in candidacy for the Nominating Committee of ESC for the period of 2024-2026.

I have been a member of the Icelandic Society of Cardiology since 2007, and before that a member of the Swedish Society of Cardiology 2004-2007. I have enjoyed attending the ESC congress for almost three decades, first as a junior scientist and resident, and for the last years as the president of the Icelandic Society of Cardiology (2018-2023), also representing the Nordic Baltic Alliance of Cardiology (2019-2023).

I have been working within the European Society of Cardiology since 2016, which I have found stimulating and rewarding. First, I attended meetings at the European Heart House as a National Director of Education and then also as the National Guideline Coordinator. As a president of the Icelandic Society of Cardiology, I have had the privilege to work with many former and current leaders of both the National Societies, as of the ESC. Especially has the cooperation within the Nordic Baltic Societies of Cardiology, which I had the honor to lead for four years, made me realize how important this community is, not only for personal and professional development, but also for our mission to lower the burden of cardiovascular disease. It is important for ESC's future that it continues to welcome and engage members of different nationalities, entities, and gender.

The Nominating Committee has a significant role in shaping the future of ESC. Even though I come from a small country, I have a large network and a strong belief in equal opportunities for people regardless of gender, ethnicity, or nationality. I am interested in continuing to serve our community and think that I am a suitable candidate for a position on the Nominating Committee. If elected, I will strive to find candidates that primarily will serve the mission of the ESC, keeping in mind that we need to ensure that people of all genders are represented, as well as different nationalities and ethnicities.

Sincerely,

Ass. Prof Þórdís Jóna Hrafnkelsdóttir, MD, PhD, FESC