“My ANMCO Congresses”

Domenico Gabrielli - ANMCO President

To speak of my feelings about my long-time attendance at “our” Congresses is not as simple as it may seem at first glance, because images and memories fill my mind and having to choose one or another amongst them seems almost disrespectful to who has made and who will continue to make this small and yet important associative history.

I will however try and divide my memories into specific and precise timeframes – as you will see I believe that the associative and scientific role covered cannot neglect the way you “live” the Congress.

The first years

I attended my first ANMCO Congress, which was held at the Fortezza da Basso in Florence, in 1996. I was already working at the Lancisi Hospital in Ancona but as a “youngster” it was somewhat difficult to find a way of attending the more important Congresses. I vividly remember my arrival at the Savoy Hotel and then going immediately to the Fortezza to attend the Scientific Sessions, my enthusiasm as a “beginner” for the few days of full immersion in the culture and world of National Cardiology and the sensation of quiet power and competence that the ANMCO Congress inspired in me.

Since then the ANMCO Congress became “The Congress”, the one never to miss at National level, making me a regular attendant, while slowly taking on different roles, from learner to Member of the Faculty, in accordance with my professional and associative growth.

My years of dedication to ANMCO at Regional level (2004-2006 - President Giuseppe Di Pasquale; 2006-2008 - President Francesco Chiarella)

My formal dedication in ANMCO started in 2004 as Regional Councilor which was then followed by my Presidency at Regional level; my attendance therefore acquired a greater associative and organizational awareness. On a scientific level each Congress is characterized by something special - it would be wrong to recollect only one person or only one aspect - all I can say is that after each Congress I felt that I had taken part in something special and unique at a National level.

My years of dedication to ANMCO at National level 2008-2010 - President Salvatore Pirelli; 2010-2012 - President Marino Scherillo)

My role on the National Executive Board meant taking on a different sort of commitment and a different way of living the Congress which as we know is the final moment of an associative obligation that needs months of preparation especially in regards to the scientific program.

Having been an active part of the preparation of these Congresses also on an organization level, I prefer not to express technical judgements, I believe however that the results have been positive.
In terms of “Social” activities at the Congress I recall the dinner organized at the Cavaniglia Pavilion, after long and enthusiastic days of scientific sessions, where we had the pleasure of enjoying the staging and culinary arts set up by Gianfranco Vissani, a renowned Italian Chef where we all enjoyed a wonderful evening characterized by the sharing of our associative values and appreciation of mutual friendship.

My years of re-dedication to ANMCO at Regional level (2012-2014 President Francesco Bovenzi; 2014-2016 President Michele Massimo Gulizia)

The following Congresses always maintained a high scientific level but if I must pin-point a sensation it regards the venue, the Fortezza da Basso, it started to show its years: the transfer to the floors below ground and the out of date settings were well noted.

From this Michele Massimo Gulizia and the Executive Board’s insight to transfer the Congress venue from Florence - a difficult decision but a necessary one, born to give a new boost of vitality to the Association - and so taking advantage of the EXPO, it was decided that the 2015 ANMCO Congress was to take place in Milan, making it consistent with the times and moreover a few of the scientific sessions were actually held at the EXPO venue.

The year after, the Congress was held at the Palacongressi in Rimini, the current Congress venue. The Palacongressi has impressive functional features and is a beautiful convention center with a large exhibition area, adequate congress halls and an appropriate technology system support. Of course Florence has a unique charm and appeal and is where our National Offices are located, but Rimini, has also much to offer in terms of functionality and reception and has such artistic and landscape beauty that it has become our second home.

My recollections of the 2016 ANMCO Congress where I accepted the honor and responsibility of being the President-Elect is deeply etched on my memory and on my heart - the thrill of presenting the Program in the “Anfiteatro” Hall and the conclusion of the Congress with the proclamation of the results of the Elections.

The presentation of my candidacy and my program at the 47th ANMCO Congress in 2016

The years 2017-2018 - ANMCO President Andrea Di Lenarda - President of the ANMCO Congress Michele Massimo Gulizia
The following editions of the ANMCO Congress, have been, if possible, an even greater scientific and associative success, the presence of eminent guests of International level have rendered them increasingly more “supra-national”. Seeing the renewed associative and participative fervor is greatly satisfying for us all.

Allow me a last reference to the 2018 Congress - once again of very high scientific level, testimony of the vitality of our Association; the indelible image engraved on my mind is the “transfer of power” from Andrea Di Lenarda to me, with the proclamation of the new-elected, the President-Elect Furio Colivicchi and the current Executive Board, a unique emotion made up of a great sense of responsibility to direct, with awareness and determination and with the spirit of continuity and sharing, our great Association with the customary sense of pride in tradition.

With this in mind, I conclude this brief “walk down memory lane” in my intimist congressional past - I wish a great 50th Congress to all of you - all I can add is that it is certain that the Executive Board and I have dedicated all our energies to ensuring a successful scientific and associative 50th Edition of the ANMCO Congress, and we hope we have not disappointed your just expectations.

The story goes on. ....
With Heart and Passion within ANMCO

My experience at the National Congresses

Pasquale Caldarola - ANMCO Vice-President

My active commitment in ANMCO started back in 2006 as the Puglia Regional President.

I still remember the first time I entered the elegant and distinguished ANMCO Headquarters in Florence, where I timidly started to learn the aims of the greatest Italian Cardiological Association, its cultural wealth, its attention and compliance to rules and procedures, its inclination to research and education and the great commitment towards the organization of the National Congress.

In June 2008, as elected Member of the National Executive Board, I was able to personally verify the great importance the National Congress represents for ANMCO. The President Salvatore Pirelli and the Vice-President Matteo Cassin were always saying “We’re late, we need the Members’ topic proposals, we need to elaborate the Board’s proposals, and split into areas of expertise to process them all”.

Everything acquired great value; first of all the scientific contents, and then the discussion on the organizational aspects of the Italian Cardiology, the animated discussions regarding the cardiological networks, the role of the modern ICCU and the necessary integration between Spoke and Hub Cardiological Units.

The friendly discussions on the choice of the Faculty, on the organization and contents of the Main Sessions and Minimasters, the Congress Logo. In 2009 I was actively involved in the realization of the Logo of the 40th ANMCO Congress, with the help of a graphic designer of my region: it needed to be expressive, meaningful, incisive and representative and I think we succeeded.

And then the search for change: the President Marino Scherillo decided to cover the cold walls of the halls of the Fortezza da Basso in Florence with colored panels. Michele Massimo Gulizia’s brave decision to transfer the Congress out of Florence. He organized the 46th ANMCO National Congress in Milan during the World Exposition 2015 “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”. Some of the cardiovascular prevention sessions were held at the EXPO Venue; and then the choice of the fantastic, efficient, and modern venue in Rimini.

THE ANMCO CONGRESS AS TRAINING GROUND FOR YOUNG CARDIOLOGISTS

I can still remember my first talk in the Symposium, chaired by Cristina Opasich, on the management models of discharged Heart Failure patients. I took a week off from work to analyze most of the literature regarding the USA and Scandinavian experience: nursing management, dedicated units, multidisciplinary experiences, tele-monitoring experiences and palliative care. I called the Chairperson several times and she suggested the topics to be discussed and the critical points that needed to be highlighted.

I remember many young cardiologists at the Joint Symposium with the Italian Institute of Health (ISS) where, with the “Veteran” Simona Giampaoli, the data of the many Italian Cardiology Units involved in the Cardiovascular Epidemiological Observatory were presented.

I also remember “The Congress News Daily” experience with Mario Chiatto, Director in charge of the ANMCO magazine “Cardiologia negli Ospedali”, and a very qualified group of young cardiologists, who reported the most significant Congress events and updates, useful for the Congress Highlights.

And then the prizes for the best abstract, the best case report and the Jeopardy game session, the young cardiologists’ clinical kermesse - three of these achieved great results in the context of the 2018 ESC Congress.

SOCIAL EVENTS

I can never forget the lovely convivial moments during the Social events. The dinner prepared by the renowned Chef Gianfranco Vissani, at the Fortezza da Basso in Florence,
thanks to Domenico “Mimmo” Gabrielli’s involvement. Another dinner in the splendid setting of Palazzo Pitti resulted in a harmonious and happy moment.

I still remember the social event at the “Mercato Centrale” in Florence where a group of Cardiologists turned into skilled musicians. All the way to the most recent social events at the fascinating and romantic Grand Hotel in Rimini.

NEW TECHNOLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

I also recall my personal experience as “Conductor” and “Interviewer” - Salvatore Pirelli suggested that a Member of the Executive Board should introduce the Main Session topics and draw the THM.

I interviewed some of the most Italian famous clinicians and electrophysiologists such as Guseppe “Beppe” Di Pasquale, Maurizio Lunati and Riccardo Cappati in an improvised television studio at the Fortezza da Basso.

And then with Michele Massimo Gulizia’s Congresses, the ECO and Clinical VIP Sessions, the interactive sessions and the big-screen ledwalls.

I firmly believe the ANMCO Congress has represented and continues to represent:

The most important Associative moment
rich of scientific Novelty
going to Modernity
involving the Community of Italian Cardiologists
while facing Organizational aspects of National Cardiology
My On-Going ANMCO Experience

Adriano Murrone - ANMCO Vice-President

Each and every one of us has a memory that is cherished above others.

ANMCO was established in 1963, I was only 3 years old at the time and obviously I had no idea what it was nor the importance it would have for me in the future.

Ever since I was a child I’ve wanted to be a doctor so much so that I used to “treat” my brothers for a fee (not that I’m suited for private practice!).

After University without so much as a doubt I knew that Cardiology was going to be my future.

Over the years I had had great examples - Prof. Pasquale Solinas, Chief of the Cardiology Division in Perugia my city of birth, was one of them. He had just been elected ANMCO President for the two-year period 1988-1990 (during my years of specialist medical training). He left us a great example of human and professional excellence both to all of the Cardiological Community and to the city where he worked for so many years.

A few years after my major in Cardiology - the Young Cardiologists ANMCO Working Group did not yet exist - I approached ANMCO thanks to a colleague, actually a friend - who was already collaborating with the ANMCO IN-CHF Study: Gianfranco Alunni, who is even now very active and still dedicates time and energy to ANMCO (I’m not implying he’s old - he was only born in 1953 after all).

I have worked for many years, as a hospital cardiologist in a University Cardiological Division (directed by Prof. Luigi Corea first, followed by Prof. Giuseppe Ambrosio) and I have to say that it hasn’t been at all difficult to work in a federative Cardiology “ANMCO-SIC”.

My first participation in an ANMCO Congress, many, many years ago, was faced with terror rather than joy.

I started working on my presentation on RAAS Block in Heart Failure months ahead; I went over and over the slides, again and again, producing more than 20 versions which I still keep as memento.

Since then terror gave way to the joy of having met a cardiological community which means not only science but friendship and common objectives as well. Over the years and with my major involvement I’ve become more and more passionate about ANMCO - as Member of the Regional Chapter, as Member of the Heart Failure Working Group, as President of the Umbria Regional Chapter, as elected Member of the National Executive Board - whose President was Michele Massimo Gulizia who has little to envy to his “crackling” neighbor the Vulcano Etna, and later on nominated Secretary General by the ANMCO President Andrea Di Lenarda, excellent physician and great human being (and I’m not referring to his height!).

The adventure is still on-going as I was elected once again in the National Executive Board and nominated Vice-President by the current ANMCO President Domenico Gabrielli, “Mimmo”, a “coagulant” friend who is following the same path of responsibility and rigor but also fortifying the Association by transforming it into a group of friends not only of colleagues.

All that is left for me to say about ANMCO, except for the regret that we are nearly the same age, is a huge thanks to all my friends/members, to all my friends/members of the Umbria Regional Chapter, to all my friends/members of the Executive and National Board, and to the staff ANMCO “girls” without whom nothing could be possible!
Thirty years of Cardiology, Friendship and Professional Identity: my personal recollections of The ANMCO Italian National Congress

Furio Colivicchi - ANMCO President-Elect

For almost 30 years, during wonderful Italian springs, I have been attending the National ANMCO Congress of Cardiology, held either in Florence or in Rimini.

In the early years, when I was still a cardiology fellow, I used to reach the congress venue by an old Citroen Dyane. In the busted car, initially belonging to my mother, sat as many friends as the vehicle could accommodate. The trip was far from comfortable and usually it took us several hours to cover even short distances, since frequent stops were necessary to cool the engine down. However, those were among the best days of my life. We were young and proud, with an extraordinary faith in Science, Medicine and Cardiology. Those were the years of the astonishing GISSI studies and Italian cardiologists felt, I should say with some reason, on top of the world.

The ANMCO Congress was a fantastic event for all of us. I can remember the assertive and fascinating speeches of Massimo Santini and Luigi Tavazzi, blowing the mind of young, unexperienced cardiologists. Besides, above all, the best of it was being part of a great community of clinicians and researchers, sharing ideas and knowledge on cardiovascular diseases. Such profound sense of belonging has lasted through the years and it is still part of my personal commitment in our Association.

More recently, I have been serving ANMCO - to us cardiologists known as “The Association” - in several offices, from the Chairmanship of the Cardiovascular Prevention Area, to the Vice-presidency. Over the years, the National ANMCO Congress has invariably remained for me the central, most important, scientific event of the year. It has, and will always have, a special place in my own heart. It allows me to meet old friends from all over Italy and share with them thoughts, ideas and hypothesis on future opportunities for clinical practice and research. Every single day during the ANMCO Congress is packed with outstanding moments. In particular, the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as the general Assembly of Associates, contribute to build up the strong identity of Italian Cardiology.

Italian Hospital Cardiologists are more than five thousand and are present in every single town all over the Italian peninsula. This is the outstanding strength of our Association, which always finds consistent representation in the National ANMCO Congress. Actually, the Congress merges clinical science, professional self-consciousness and identity, which is so important for Italian cardiologists in a troubled period for the public Italian National Health Service.

I was born in 1963, just like ANMCO. From the very beginning of my professional experience, this peculiar circumstance has always been relevant. Again after all these years, in 2019, I eagerly wait for the 50th ANMCO Congress. I will be, as it has always been, a fantastic scientific and social event, enriching all participants and pushing forward Italian Cardiology towards a bright future, once again.
We are celebrating a great achievement: over 50 years of ANMCO history and 50 Conventions!

Andrea Di Lenarda - Past-President ANMCO

The Italian Association of Hospital Cardiologists has reached half a century of history as a representative of Italian Cardiology. This means we have been successful in giving voice to the needs of Hospital Cardiologists. Also, ANMCO’s institutional bodies have been successful in overcoming difficulties so as to create a workplace environment of mutual respect, to inspire cooperation and mutual understanding for the two years ahead.

The relationship with our colleagues and friends from the academic world has also been greatly strengthened and we are all now experiencing a renewed spirit of collaboration. Also, the new course of the Italian Federation of Cardiology has gotten off to a great start. The new path will benefit our Italian Cardiology which is taking on a new leadership role, being represented in Europe through its most capable and willing representatives sitting in the organs of the European Society of Cardiology.

The 50th ANMCO Congress, due to be held in 2019, will hopefully set a record among Italian cardiology events by attracting over 2,500 cardiologists and nurses from all over Italy. “Being here is glorious” said Rainer Maria Rilke watching over the bay of Sistiana, with the beautiful town of Trieste lying in front of him. So, it will be wonderful, indeed, for all of us to participate in this historic event of our Association. Although Rimini is not Florence, surely enough the beautiful Palazzo dei Congressi in Rimini will be a better and more functional venue than the Fortezza da Basso in Florence.

I remember the first congress I attended in Salerno, in 1987. I was 26 at that time when I presented with great emotion my first oral communication concerning my thesis work on endomyocardial biopsy in patients with dilated cardiomyopathy. I would have never imagined I would have the honor of actively participating in all subsequent ANMCO Congresses, until today.

Prof. Fulvio Camerini, MD, was my thesis advisor. He just passed on February 25, 2019. He was a second father for all us cardiologists in Trieste; so strong was the affection which bounded us to him! Many of you, I am convinced, deem him as one of the fathers of National Cardiology and a scholar of international standing.

Professor Camerini directed our Cardiology of the Ospedali Riuniti of Trieste until 1996 with undisputed leadership and authority. From the second half of the 80s, his clinical and scientific interests focused on heart failure and cardiomyopathies. Immediately afterwards, he intuitively decided to extend his research to the genetics of cardiomyopathies and to regenerative medicine, going on to establish an important international collaborative network.

His commitment to ANMCO and to the European Society of Cardiology was important, since he believed in a united, modern and integrated Cardiology. Professor Camerini practiced as a physician and a researcher, exquisitely combining culture, intelligence, leadership, human respect for the patient and the ability to promote research and critical analysis as a natural state of mind.

Among the many interesting things that we will see at the next 50th ANMCO Congress, we will also remember him, bringing his message of rigor and tenacity, but also of humanity and civil commitment. It has been a great honor to have had him as a Mentor; we feel committed to follow his teachings and to pass them on to the next generations.

“Never stop learning”, he repeated to us all until the last days of his life. We will never forget it!
50 years and still going strong!

Stefano Urbinati - ANMCO Councilor, President of the Italian Federation of Cardiology

The ANMCO Congress is 50 years old and, looking back, I realize that I have been actively attending it since I obtained my PhD and I decided that my future professional life would be in a hospital. Giuseppe Pinelli and Giuseppe Di Pasquale’s mentoring at the Cardiology Department of the Bellaria Hospital in Bologna was essential: they were strong supporters of ANMCO and their attitude was contagious. Lots of memories: experiences and friendships, sharing the common passion for cardiology and the opportunity to live its extraordinary developments.

With the passing of the ANMCO Congresses, each one of us has contributed in some way to the ANMCO life. I have had the privilege of being part of the Prevention Working Group, of the Regional Board, of the National one and now I have been honored with the opportunity of leading the Italian Federation of Cardiology of which ANMCO is part of.

With my friends of the Prevention Working Group, I experienced the adventure of leaving the traditional pillars of secondary prevention, antiplatelets-cholesterol-hypertension, to develop a new interdisciplinary cardiovascular prevention sharing the research of common risk factors with nephrologists and diabetologists, the challenges of the preoperative evaluation with anesthetists and surgeons, the specific features of women heart disease with endocrinologists and gynecologists, the fight against atherosclerotic disease with neurologists and angiologists and the launching of cardioncology with the oncologists.

With the Emilia Romagna regional board, which was a great young and dynamic group, we reinterpreted and consolidated the clinical networks and we launched the Focus-on ANMCO for Young Cardiologists, which brought a strong renewal of ideas and experiences. In those years we had to defend the role of Cardiology, which was being challenged by the new organization for “intensity of care”.

Later, the experience of the National Board: the Congress and, at the same time, the passionate sharing of the mission and programs of the ANMCO Working Groups and Task Forces. The collaboration with the Heart Care Foundation through a new way of cultural practice and screening among the people. And the exciting discussions from e-health, which will change the world of medicine, to big-data, which will change the way of doing research, to artificial intelligence, which will challenge our diagnostic skills.

And now, in the beginning of 2019, ANMCO has granted me a further, great, unexpected opportunity: to represent the Italian cardiology on an International level as President of the Italian Federation of Cardiology. Another exciting challenge. To demonstrate that we speak the same language with our University Colleagues and, at the same time, compete with the most advanced Centers worldwide, sharing our excellences by networking with the 58 National Societies which are part of the ESC.

Happy birthday to our ANMCO Congress and our Association! 50 years old, and still strong, skilled enough to face the most difficult challenges, but still young in spirit, aspirations and enthusiasm!
I return with my memory and a touch of nostalgia to my first approach towards ANMCO, when I was still a fourth-year medical student, diligent and respectful. The diligence was natural to me due to the meticulousness that my high school teacher of Italian language and life instilled in me; the respect was the fruit of the teaching of my parents to which I will never cease to be grateful for the strength of will that they transmitted to me and for allowing me to study in the best Italian and foreign cardiological centers.

I signed up for ANMCO officially in January 1987 starting to attend many of the countless courses organized by the Association throughout Italy and, first of all, the National Congress.

I see myself sitting in the middle of the row, in the middle of the congress room, an attentive listener of the reports of the epic names of our Cardiology, historical fathers of the ANMCO that paraded on the stage of the plenary hall inside the historical Congress Palace in Florence, supporters of heated controversies on the number of centimeters of nitroglycerin to be applied and on the best skin site to maximize the pharmacological effect for the care of the coronary artery patient.

And then from there the scientific commitment and the constant professional growth, punctuated by the heartfelt beat during each presentation at the ANMCO Congress.

At first communications, then lectures, all of them always lived with fearful and referential respect for that scientific and organizational world that had already permeated my DNA, forming my mind and resetting it to the best cardiological teachings in the ANMCO Centers frequented over time.

And then the passion evolved into service, willingness to commit my time and resources to the growth of our Association.

Immediately after the intense four-year commitment of regional President of the ANMCO Sicily Chapter, from 2004 to 2008, in which I succeeded in reawakening the associative pride of the Sicilian cardiologists by tripling the number of active associates up to almost 700, I was able to verify my real loyalty to the Association, and the spirit of service I developed towards ANMCO, collecting the invitation to withdraw my candidacy for the maximum statutory position for two consecutive times due to my young age compared to other candidates closer to retirement age.

There is a Sicilian saying that claims that sometimes in life “… a door closes and an even larger door opens”.

And in my opinion, it was so because at the same time I was invited and elected with a plebiscite number of votes to the position of elected President and then President of the Italian Association of Pacing and Arrhythmology - AIAC, role that allowed me to enhance the necessary scientific and managerial experience to the conduction of the greater national cardiological scientific society: ANMCO. And in fact, the results were not delayed, so much so that immediately after AIAC I was called to compete for the role of national elected ANMCO President, sustaining two elections and resulting with pride, in the history of ANMCO, the only national ANMCO President elected in a democratic elective competition among multiple candidates.

When I was a boy I was very struck by the assassination of Robert Kennedy and I often found myself reading his biography, his writings and listening to his speeches to the nation, remaining fascinated by the image of renewal and sustainable future that I fully shared and still do.

This innovative spirit and the will to stop following the "usual patterns", exploring new territories, even daring where no one had thought to go before, have been and are the cornerstones of my way of thinking and that I have applied profitably in the renewal of the ANMCO Association which, thanks to the sharing with my ANMCO Executive and National Board 2014-2016 and subsequently with the enlightened Presidents Andrea Di Lenarda, Domenico Gabrielli and Furio Colivicchi, as well as with my beloved predecessor as President of the Heart Care Foundation - Prof. Attilio Maseri, has allowed ANMCO and the Heart Care Foundation - our non-profit organization and Research...
Centre – to grow scientifically and expand numerically as never before, also reaching the exceptional and unrepeatable Impact Factor of 1087.115.

And in the midst of all this there is the ANMCO National Congress, a scientific and educational cultural reference of our Association.

Crossroads of the synthesis of the best clinical hospital research and not only, showcase of the results of our innumerable ANMCO surveys and studies, inescapable gymnasium of the ever-increasing number of young levers of hospital cardiologists who with great competence, present the fruit of their own sacrifice in favor of cardiological science, but also a place of human and professional exchange for an always more growing family: the so named ANMCO world.

I have organized four national ANMCO Congresses, from 2015 to 2018 and for each of them I have always felt a great

The 46th ANMCO Congress in 2015 in Milan - My first as ANMCO President and the year of change
emotion, having always clear in mind the main objective: to reconcile the requests of the Executive and the National Board with the proposals of the Associates, to reach a shared and participatory synthesis, where the ANMCO Cardiologist feels to be an actor and never a spectator.

A congress, ours, which in the last 4 years has undergone a regenerative metamorphosis, careful to satisfy the multiple and increasingly demanding training needs of Italian cardiologists, rich in innovative multimedia contents and practical simulation (the Vi.P. ECHO and the Vi.P. Clinical Sessions), with a filled-in exhibition area of 5,000 square meters, with single-topic Villages and dedicated to CPR training courses and skilling, and with a frontal scientific-training project presented simultaneously in 11 rooms.

The constant participation of a Faculty of over 650 Speakers and Moderators and more than 2,700 registered delegates, makes me proud to have achieved the expectation of the ANMCO Members and of the Cardiology world that participates in them.

It was a hard work of preparation and coordination of the new way of conceiving the ANMCO National Congress which, in addition to the Members of the last two Executive
Boards, involved the whole ANMCO Secretariat and particularly the Department of General Secretariat and Scientific Education assigned to it, directed by Giulia Salone, who was able to seize the opportunity of renewal by enthusiastically collaborating in its implementation using a specific management elaborated point-to-point and built ad hoc with a great teamwork to manage its complexity.

My thanks go to all of them for the active and tireless collaboration of these years, conscious of having created, started and tested a well-established organizational process that will continue along the pathway already marked for the organization of all future events, first among all this of 2019 in which the 50th anniversary of the first ANMCO National Congress will be celebrated.

The torch has passed to the new President Gabrielli and I am sure that the fruit of our close collaboration of the last few years will bring ANMCO and its Congress to the achievement of increasingly ambitious goals and objectives.

I cannot, however, close this reflection of mine without mentioning the Young Cardiologists. Those of this new generation do not know how to look at the past (or rather they flee), spasmodically, frantically and hastily projected into the future, certain of their knowledge and unaware of the basic principle on which the construction of any project is based, mental or material: the foundations.

The foundations are the main support of the house, making it strong and stable even in the presence of strong natural events that would undermine its resistance.

In the same way, the "elderly of the ANMCO", those recognized as such, can be foundations to build more rapidly an evolving future, based on research methodology and supported by the pillars of scientific evidence.

Not laying the foundations increases the risk of leading the young cardiologist to follow pathways that often lead to inextricable labyrinths that exhaust him, often undermining his skills, will and enthusiasm.

But how much responsibility does our generation have in the lack of commitment to young people?

Young people, if stimulated and led, respond; I know from experience for having invented the ANMCO Youth Area and for having supported it in these years, with sacrifice and humility.

And the results have come.

It is not by chance that the ANMCO Youth Area in the last 4 years has finalized the highest number of scientific publications among all the ANMCO Areas, our team of ANMCO Young Cardiologists was ranked European Champion in the scientific competition of the European Society of Cardiology - ESC and today, before writing, it has reached another important scientific-cultural milestone, coming second in the famous, as well as enigmatic, cardiological Jeopardy Game of the American College of Cardiology beating in the final the flagship of three of the first 4 teams ranked at international level.

And it does not end here, because so many others are registering and as many are asking to be involved.

ANMCO is the natural home of Italian Cardiology.

We are ANMCO, you are ANMCO, ANMCO is the Cardiology that gives concrete answers to the health needs of Italian citizens.

Live ANMCO with us.