



11TH ESLA CONGRESS OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

26-28 MAY 2022 | SALZBURG-AUSTRIA

New frontiers in speech and language therapy: advancing practice, research and education

A European perspective on Practice, Research, Education and Management in speech and language therapy. Challenges for today and tomorrow

Professor Wilhelm Frank

The connection between science and practice, the past and the future, including education and legitimation of qualifications and competences, is changing very dynamically. Countries with their legislative instruments try to regulate these developments but are exposed to the natural resistance of economic and political pressure. Speech therapy as a regulated health profession is always in the role of reacting. Given the challenges of financial affordability, therapy requirements, payment models and the role of speech and language therapy, an international organization such as ESLA is perfectly suited to switch from the role of reacting to acting. This includes the preparation of proposals, recommendations for action, minimum standards and framework conditions for governments, administrations, and financiers. By means of such standards, countries can easily identify government deficiencies and initiate measures to improve conditions in speech and language therapy. Which professions should work in this field? How should a professional representation be active and how should this be organized? The contents will cover the principles of professional harmonization in Europe, differences in the organization of health professionals, the economic framework, and the necessities in the fields of practice and research efforts. What role will speech and language therapy in Europe play in 2050?