

Shortbio and Motivational letter

The study of inborn errors of immunity (IEI) has become one of the most rapidly evolving and exciting fields in pediatrics. More exciting even: I am privileged to be part of it. My name is Julia Körholz, I am a clinical scientist at the University Hospital Dresden and I work as a pediatrician focusing on caring for children and adolescents with inborn errors of immunity. At the same time, I pursue my own laboratory project exploring the influence of SOCS1-haploinsufficiency on different intracellular signaling pathways.

It all began in 2019, when I started as a trainee in clinical immunology. In 2021 I was granted a prestigious clinician scientist scholarship from the Else-Kröner-Fresenius Foundation. I tremendously enjoy the "bedside to bench" approach beyond my specific clinician scientist project. It makes perfect sense in everyday contact with patients suffering from inborn errors, who challenge us and require more than prescription of prophylaxis or counseling on possible stem cell transplantation.

In 2019, I attended my first ESID meeting in Brussels which was an eyeopener with its diverse topics, approachable senior clinicians and scientists, and its welcoming atmosphere. In 2020 I was invited to present the first findings of our research on SOCS1-deficiency at the first virtual ESID meeting. This year I was fortunate to be part of the ESID summer school in Greece. A unique adventure with plenty of immunological input but also the opportunity to get to know newcomers along with established experts working in the field of IEIs all over the world. The summerschool motivated me to pursue the translational and interdisciplinary approaches of my daily work.

One of the largest advantages of being an active member of the ESID juniors' society is the opportunity for direct professional exchange. I would wish to be in a position where I can actively shape this professional junior society, to initiate and participate local and international projects. I am convinced that this is a unique possibility for low-threshold networking on an international level.

Dresden is not only geographically in the 'centre of Europe', but also one of the evolving centres caring for patients with IEI from child- to adulthood. Our Children's department is closely collaborating with our adult hematology department and unit for stem cell transplantation to facilitate transition. Equally important is a lively cooperation with multiple research institutions on and off campus (e.g. Centre for Regenerative Therapies Dresden, Max-Planck Institute). We have set-up a SCID-Newborn-Screening-Centre in 2019 and are actively participating in the ESID-Registry steering committee. Also, we have well-equipped immunological research lab and diagnostic labs.

As for myself, I am a communicative and enthusiastic person and a team player. I appreciate getting to know and helping other juniors, facing new challenges, and engaging in new collaborative endeavours.

I would want to get more in touch and cooperate with like-minded junior immunologists internationally who have different perspectives than mine. Also, I would love to be challenged to think "out-of-the-box" and discuss our ideas with scientific leaders for guidance. This would certainly influence and excel my future as a clinician and researcher in pediatric immunology and infectious diseases.

Please consider my application for the german ESID junior country representative as I would be excited to be in a position where I can shape the future of and propel ESID junior activities.