ESID Junior Country Representatives SHORT BIO

Candidate – Jelena Ljubičić

Jelena Ljubičić is a 27-year-old physician and an enthusiast in immunology and genetics from Belgrade, Serbia. She graduated from Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade in 2022. During her studies, she has done research in the fields of signaling pathways in malignancies and immuno-oncology, where she worked as a student-researcher at the Department of Medical and Clinical Biochemistry for three years. Her experience in scientific and laboratory work opened the opportunity for her to participate in a summer internship program at the University of Lausanne (UNIL) for two months. During this time, she performed a research focused on tumor immunology and the tumor microenvironment at the Ludwig Cancer Research Center. After



graduating, she was employed at the Institute for Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering as a junior researcher in the Gene regulation in cancer group, Laboratory for Molecular Biology. Since the beginning of 2024, she has been working at the Clinic of Allergy and Immunology, University Clinical Center of Serbia as a physician. Additionally, Jelena is a second-year PhD student at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade.

During her studies, she was a member of the Center for Student and Scientific Research at the Faculty of Medicine, where she acted as a mediator between students and mentors and provided education to students on writing scientific research papers and eduaction in research ethics. Since 2017, Jelena has been a lecturer at the Petnica Research Center, where she works with high school students, educating them in the fields of medicine and molecular biology. In October 2023, she participated in the 12th EFIS-EJI South Eastern European Immunology School (SEEIS2023), where she had the opportunity to present her team's research in the field of primary immunodeficiencies.

Jelena is actively involved in working with individuals with primary immunodeficiencies, focusing on their diagnosis and treatment. Her current research interests include the genetic basis of PIDs studying immune dysregulation and the development of malignancies in individuals with PID, and improving treatment methods for this group of patients. She hopes to implement hematopoietic stem cell transplantation for adults with PID in Serbia and to enhance the early recognition of inborn errors of immunity.

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