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Interview with Jonas André Johansen, Coordinator of scientific & EU projects

What is your name and where are you from?

My name is Jonas André Johansen. I was born in Fredrikstad, Norway.

What is your job / what are your responsibilities at ESTRO and how long have you worked with ESTRO?

At ESTRO, I am the coordinator of scientific and European Union projects. This means I collaborate with the ESTRO scientific team on its activities. I support the work and functions of several ESTRO networks and groups, such as the European Particle Therapy Network and the ESTRO Cancer Foundation, and other collaborative projects that ESTRO participates in with the European Commission and other organisations. Also, I manage the sub-groups that produce and update guidelines and the publication of those guidelines.

What is your education/background?

My educational background is two-fold. First I obtained a bachelor's degree in history before I changed to achieve two political science-focused masters' degrees: one in international history, and the other in European studies. I studied in the UK and Denmark.

Where did you work before ESTRO?

Before joining ESTRO, I finished my MA degree in European studies. Prior to that, I worked for a Swiss think-tank called the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, which is engaged in global governance, diplomacy and disarmament. I have also worked for the private sector in event management, sales and administration.

How did you end up working for ESTRO?

I wasn't familiar with ESTRO initially. However, once I learned about the organisation, I felt it would be a fulfilling place to work. The importance and impact of the role that ESTRO plays in oncology, and the medicinal field more broadly, made ESTRO a desirable place of work for me. Having many opportunities to get to know the organisation deeply, to take on new responsibilities, and to work with professional and resourceful colleagues and partners, are all great examples of why I enjoy working at ESTRO.

What did you know about radiation oncology before starting at ESTRO?

Besides basic common knowledge, I did not know much about radiation oncology before I started at ESTRO. However, the atmosphere within the organisation is such that someone without any medicinal academic background can get significantly involved and learn about the field.

What are the exciting new developments/projects/... that you are looking forward to at ESTRO?

When I participated in my first ESTRO congress, I was very surprised by the scale and impact of this event. I am proud to continue to support its growth. I know how it has grown in the number of participants and importance, and how it is a great asset to members, experts, partners and colleagues alike.



Jonas André Johansen Coordinator of scientific & EU projects