

Dear IBUS Members,

I am writing to express my candidacy for the position of Secretary of IBUS.

I am a gastroenterologist and academic researcher with a long-standing commitment to inflammatory bowel diseases, integrating endoscopy and intestinal ultrasound in both clinical practice and research. Over the past 15 years, I have progressively focused my work on advancing intestinal ultrasound as a key tool in IBD management.

IBUS has played a pivotal role in my professional development, and I have been deeply involved in its activities over the years. Most recently, I have served as Chair of the Educational Committee for three years. In this role, I worked closely with an international team to expand and standardize IBUS educational programs, developing new formats such as the XP workshops and contributing to improving the consistency and quality of teaching across centers worldwide.

I have contributed to the organization and delivery of Module 1 courses internationally, as well as to the training of trainers within Module 2. In addition, we successfully introduced the first online Module 3, significantly increasing accessibility and global reach. I have also been involved in collaborative research initiatives and in the ECCO-ESGAR-IBUS guidelines. My institution has contributed to the development of ultrasound scores, including MUC and BUSS, and to early studies on postoperative intestinal ultrasound.

Through my experience in national and international leadership roles, I have developed strong organizational and communication skills, which I believe are essential for the Secretary position.

If elected, my vision for this role will focus on three main priorities:

- **Strengthening communication and governance:** ensuring efficient, transparent, and structured interaction between the Governing Board, committees, and the IBUS office.
- **Consolidating and scaling education:** further standardizing IBUS training while expanding access globally, including through digital and hybrid formats.
- **Increasing global visibility and impact:** promoting IBUS as a leading reference in intestinal ultrasound, fostering collaborations, and supporting research initiatives.

I am deeply committed to IBUS and to our shared mission of promoting intestinal ultrasound worldwide. I would be honored to contribute to this mission with dedication, structure, and enthusiasm.

Thank you very much for your consideration and for your support.

Kind regards,
Federica Furfaro

