

The European Federation of Internal Medicine

During the 13th Congress of the European Association of Internal Medicine, that took place in Athens from the 4th to the 7th of October 1995, it was held on the 6th the General Assembly of the European Association of Internal Medicine, where it was approved definitely its transformation into the European Federation of Internal Medicine.

Such Assembly, whilst approving the new Articles of Association of the European Federation of Internal Medicine (E.F.I.M.), had its peak with a long and hard process of discussion and negotiation where took part the former Chairman of our Society, Dr. Barros Veloso, and the current Chairman, Prof. Levi Guerra, which aimed to transform an European Association of around 6000 internists enrolled in individual name in one European Federation of several National

Societies, gathering in such way the around 25.000 European internists.

It does not seem too much to emphasize how important such event was, which will enable Europe to have a supranational frame advocating the interests of Internal Medicine and Internists near the various European bodies and in simultaneous will make easier the communication and the relationships among European internists.

The Federation is supported by a wide number of national societies, namely from Italy, Belgium, Finland, Slovakia, Spain, The Netherlands, France, Ireland, Switzerland, Germany, Austria and Greece as well as from the United Kingdom where Internists do not have a National Society. ■



Picture taken in Athens by Faustino Ferreira, after being approved the creating of the European Federation of Internal Medicine. On the 1st row, it can be recognized (left to right): Levi Guerra (Porto), Yves Le Tallec (Toulouse), Jaime Merino (Alicante), J. B. Biklé (Strasbourg), and a bit further down, Mr Sangiorgi (Rome) and Carlos Dias (Porto). On the 2nd row, Chris Davidson (Brighton) and Phillipe Jaeger (Berna) 3rd and 4th from the left are in the highlight. On the 3rd row, it can be recognized Barros Veloso (Lisbon) and H W Elte (Rotterdam) 3rd and 4th from the left.