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## Preface

This is the 9th volume of the *European Instructional Lectures*, which contains more new material, which will be presented during the 10th EFORT Congress in Vienna by distinguished authors from across Europe.

As in former volumes the chapters cover a range of topics, concentrating on both the essentials of the subjects and the latest thinking and technology. Additionally, the authors are from different countries and centres, which reflect the variety of modern European orthopaedic and traumatology practice and their special experience and philosophy.

Special thanks are due to these authors who have been called upon to do other tasks, such as paper reviewing and chairing Specialist Symposia and Free Paper sessions, and all of them have responded generously. Without this spirit of collaboration by our colleagues in the National and Specialty Societies, EFORT would not flourish.

The preparation and printing of this volume was by the Internationally-recognised Springer team, enthusiastically led by Gabriele Schroeder, to whom we are very grateful. I wish also to thank Larissa Welti, Régine Brühweiler, Sabrina Wolf and the EFORT Central Office for their unfailing support.

EFORT has now exceeded 220 essays in the 9 volumes of *Instructional Lectures* since the series first began at the opening Congress in Paris in 1993. With this in mind we wish to dedicate this volume to the memory of the life and work of our dear colleague Professor Frantz Langlais, tragically and prematurely taken from us in 2007.

Stanmore, UK

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