Fellow of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Professor Željko Reiner was born in 1953 in Zagreb, where he finished primary school, continued his education at *Collegium Zagrabiense*, secondary school with classics curriculum, and graduated from the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb (MD) in 1976. In 1978 he obtained his Master's degree (MSc), and in 1982 his doctoral degree (PhD), both from the University of Zagreb. From 1979 until 1983 he was a resident physician at the Department of Internal medicine at University Hospital Centre Sisters of Mercy in Zagreb and at the University Hospital Eppendorf in Hamburg, Germany. He received his postdoctoral training in Oklahoma City, USA, from 1984 till 1985. He became associate professor at the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, in 1986 and full professor in 1988. He has been a tenured professor of internal medicine since 1997. Since 2009 he has also served as a full professor at the University of Rijeka. He was awarded the titles of "Fellow of the Royal Society of Physicians" – FRCP (London), "Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology" – FESC and "Fellow of the American College of Cardiology" – FACC. From 1986 to 1995 he was the Head of the Department of Clinical Research Institute of Pathophysiology of the University Hospital Centre Zagreb. He was Head of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University Hospital Centre Zagreb from 1995 to 2003 and again from 2011 to 2015. Since 2003 he has been Head of the Division for Metabolic Diseases of the University Hospital Centre Zagreb. From 2004 to 2012 he was the Director of the University Hospital Centre Zagreb. His tenure of office will be remembered as this largest Croatian hospital was then expanded to nearly double in size and equipped with most modern equipment.

He has been fellow of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences since 1990, and was its president from 2004 to 2012. From 1992 to 2006 he was associate member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and became full fellow in 2006. He is chairman of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Atherosclerosis Committee. He has been an honorary fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2011. From 2000 to 2006 he was chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine of the School of Medicine in Zagreb. He has published 563 scientific and professional papers and articles, and according to the Google Scholar web research engine, he has more than 65,000 citation counts. He has been a visiting professor at several universities in the U.S. and Europe, guest speaker at a number of European and international conferences. For the past twenty years he has been member of the scientific committees of almost all European and international conferences in the field of atherosclerosis and of European and international cardiology conferences. He has also organized and chaired many conferences in Croatia. Since 1983 he has managed several research projects. He is member of the editorial boards of the most respected international journals ("Journal of the American College of Cardiology – JACC", "Nature – Reviews Cardiology", "Atherosclerosis", "Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases", etc.) and Croatian ones ("Liječnički vjesnik", etc.) and the reviewer for the most prestigious scientific journals ("The Lancet", "European Heart Journal", "Circulation Research", "Annals of Medicine", "Fundamental and Clinical Pharmacology", "European Journal of Preventive Cardiology", "Cardiovascular Drugs and Therapy", etc.).

As member of the Executive Committee of the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS), he coordinated the work of national atherosclerosis societies. He was member of the Executive Committee of the European Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (EACPR) and chairman of the EACPR Science and Guidelines Committee; member of the two most important committees of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) – the Committee for Practice Guidelines and the Congress Programme Committee. He is the founder and long-time president of the Croatian Atherosclerosis Society, founder of the

Croatian Hypertension Society, founder and former vice-president of the Croatian Obesity Society. He was also secretary general of the Croatian Medical Association. He was member of the board for the election of new ESC fellows. He is one of the founders of the Croatian Catholic Medical Society in 1991.

He is the first Croatian main author of any of the major European guidelines –European Guidelines for the Management of Dyslipidaemia published in 2011, the second edition of which he co-authored in 2016. He is the co-author of the Joint European Guidelines on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention in Clinical Practice published in 2007 and those published in 2012. He was chairman of the National Drug Registration Committee from 1992 to 2000 (and committee member from 2004 to 2008), and president for the national committee for awarding the title of "Chief Physician" (*primarius*) (1998-2000). He was also chairman of the WHO Tobacco-Free Europe Committee (2000 to 2002). He was one of the three members of the committee for awarding one of the most prestigious WHO prizes in medicine – the Léon Bernard Foundation Prize. Croatian citizens voted for him to be awarded a star on the Walk of Fame along the Slatina Beach in Opatija, as one of the most prominent Croatian scientists.

From 1995 to 1998 he was member of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) – as the second Croat in history who had ever made part of this highest governing body of the WHO. He was one of the three members of the commission for the revision of the WHO Constitution. Until 2012 he was one of the six members of the Executive Board of the International Atherosclerosis Society (IAS), in which he was Europe's exclusive representative. He was an expert reviewer engaged by the European Commission for the evaluation of research projects proposed to be funded within the FP6 and FP7.

He is the author of several chapters in about 30 books and textbooks published in Croatia and abroad; he was the head of several courses at undergraduate and seven at postgraduate studies. He is the editor of 26 books and manuals ("Pharmacotherapy Handbook", "Internal Medicine", etc.). From 2010 to 2016 he was member of the University of Zagreb Council.

He participated as a volunteer in the Croatian War of Independence from the very beginning as a member of the Croatian Medical Corps, in which he was second in command in charge of training and education, and later of medical staff. He was awarded a number of civil and military decorations: Order of Duke Trpimir with Ribbon and Star, Order of Ban Jelačić, Order of the Croatian Star with the effigy of Katarina Zrinska, Order of the Croatian Trefoil, Order of the Croatian Wattle, Homeland War Memorial Medal, Medal for participation in Operation Flash, Medal for participation in Operation Storm, Medal for participation in Operation Summer 95, Vukovar Memorial Medal. He is reserve colonel of the Croatian Armed Forces. He was given the *Ladislav Rakovac* Award of the Croatian Medical Association, the City of Zagreb Award, and in 2012 the *Laureat*, the highest ranking award of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences. He was named honorary citizen of the town of Korčula in 2007. As for foreign decorations, he was awarded the Spanish Order of Isabella the Catholic, the Italy Star, and the papal award of knighthood in the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. From 1993 to 1998 he was Deputy Minister of Health, and from 1998 to 2000 Minister of Health of the Republic of Croatia. From 2010 to 2015 he was President of the National Health Council of the Republic of Croatia.

In 2008 he was elected member of the Health and Social Policy Committee of the Croatian Parliament. From 2011 to 2012 he was vice-chairman of the Science, Education and Culture Committee of the Croatian Parliament (he is still member). He was member of the Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Committee, substitute member of the Croatian Parliament's Delegation to the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative. From 2012 to 2016 he was Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, and Speaker of Parliament from 2016 to 2017. He has been Deputy Speaker of Parliament since 2017 but he still works at the School of Medicine and at the University Hospital Centre Zagreb.