

ASEAN Movement in Radiology

Radiology in Central Asia (Kazakhstan) after independency

Rakhimzhanova Raushan Ibzhanovna, M.D.^{(1),(3)}

Dautov Tairkhan Bekpolatovich, M.D.^{(2),(4),(5)}

From ⁽¹⁾ President, ⁽²⁾ Vice-President, Radiological Society of Kazakhstan,

⁽³⁾ Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine, JSC "Astana Medical University",
Astana, Kazakhstan,

⁽⁴⁾ Director, Clinical and Academic Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine,
"University Medical Center" Corporate Fund, Astana, Kazakhstan,

⁽⁵⁾ President of the 10th Eurasian Radiological Forum, Astana, Kazakhstan.

Address correspondence to D.T.B.(e-mail: tairkhan.dautov@mail.ru)

Received 12 September 2023; accepted 13 September 2023
doi:10.46475/asean-jr.v24i3.867

Keywords: Central asia, Kazakhstan, Radiology.

The Radiological Society of Thailand (RST) and the Royal College of Radiologists of Thailand (RCRT) invited the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan (RSK) to introduce to their members the Radiology in Central Asia in their annual meeting during 8-10 February 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was an honor and a privilege to the author (DTK) to be the representative of RSK to give a speech on the issue in Binbakya Bidyabhed Lecture, the honorary lecture named after the first radiologist of Thailand and first president of RST (Figure 1).



Figure 1. The author (DTK) gives a speech in Binbakya Bidyabhed Lecture at the RCRT-RST annual meeting, 8th-10th February 2005, Bangkok, Thailand.

On 18th of February in 1977 at the First Republican Congress of Radiologists of Kazakhstan the statute of the Kazakh Republican Scientific Society of Radiologists was adopted (Figure 2).

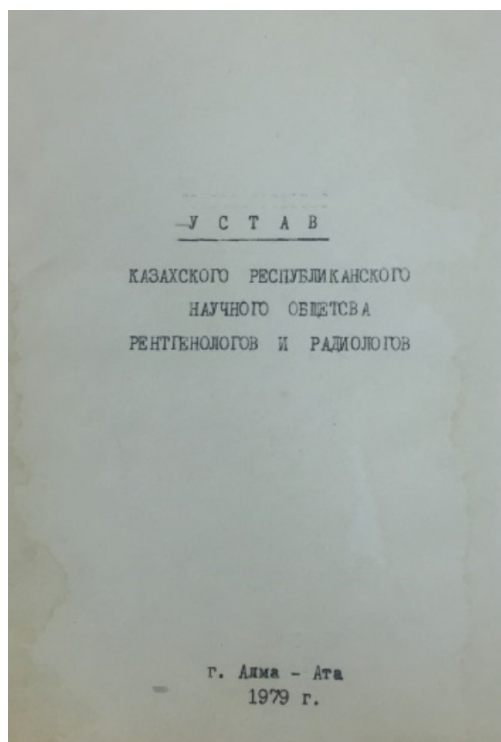


Figure 2. *Statute of the Kazakh Republican Scientific Society of Radiologists.*

The Kazakh Republican Scientific Society of Radiologists and Radiologists was part of the All-Union Scientific Society of Radiologists until 1991 (before the collapse of the USSR). The primary goals and objectives of the Kazakh Republican Scientific Society of Radiologists were the development and improvement of radiology in Kazakhstan, the education and training of their members and young radiologists in close relationship with other radiological societies. The first symposium on vascular and X-ray endovascular surgery was held in 1992 with the participation of foreign experts.

After the independency, the Kazakh Republican Scientific Society of Radiologists was reorganized into the Association of X-ray Radiological Diagnostics Specialists of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the year 1999 (Figure 3).

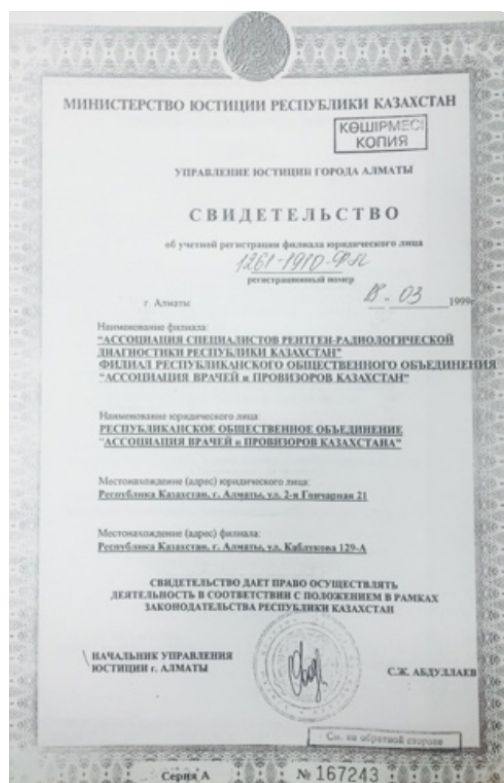


Figure 3. *X-ray Radiological Diagnostics of the Republic of Kazakhstan Association's Registration Certificate.*

In 1997 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, a meeting between the President of the Association of X-ray Radiological Diagnostics of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Zhangali Khamzabayevich, and the President of the European Association of Radiologists, Professor Hans Ringerz happened during the International Congress of Radiologists (Figure 4). The issue of incorporating the Association of Radiologists of Kazakhstan into the European Association of Radiologists was discussed, and in the 1999, it was accepted as an associate member of the European Association of Radiologists (EAR).



Figure 4. *Round table during the International Congress of Radiology (1997 year, Almaty).*

In 1998, under the leadership of Zhangali Khamzabaevich, the Association of Radiologists of Kazakhstan together with the IAEA conducted a two-week course on nuclear medicine for specialists from Central and West Asia, which was one of the first international collaborations of Kazakh radiologists with foreign radiological societies. This event gave impetus to the development and brought radiation protection measures in Kazakhstan to be in line with international standards.

During the period of the cooperation from 1998 to 2010 between the the Association of Radiologists of Kazakhstan and the European Association of Radiologists (EAR), 74 young radiologists from Kazakhstan were trained at the European School of Radiologists Graz Tutorial led by Professor Rainer Rienmueller on the basis of the radiology department of the Medical University Graz.

In 2005, the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan established a biannual Eurasian Radiological Forum for educational purposes in close collaboration with radiological societies from Europe and Asia (Figure 5).



Figure 5. *Emblem of the Second EARF.*

In 2006, under the initiative of Rozhkova N.I. and Rakhimzhanova R.I. the Eurasian Association of Mammologists was established jointly among Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and Japan.

In August 2012, the Association of Radiologists of Kazakhstan was transformed into the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan. In 2012, the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan became a national full member of the European Society of Radiology (ESR).

Since 2014 every year in Astana a two-week European School of Radiology (ESOR) Astana Tutorial has been held by the initiative of the European Society of Radiologists (Figure 6). During this period, 105 young radiologists from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan have the opportunity to refresh their knowledge from leading professors from Europe and Russia (Figure 7).



Figure 6. *Professor Nicholas Gourtsoyanis - Scientific and Educational Director of ESOR in Astana/ Kazakhstan (2016 year).*



Figure 7. *Third ESOR Astana Tutorial (2016 year, Astana).*

In 2016, the first Eurasian school of breast imaging was organized by the initiative of the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan by inviting lecturers from Canada, Russia, Uzbekistan and Dagestan (Figure 8).



Figure 8. *Eurasian Radiomammological School (2016 year, Astana).*

During June 29 - July 1, 2023, the 10th Eurasian Radiological Forum (10th EARF) was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, by the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan (RSK) in an in-person format (Figure 9). The program consisted of the Friendship Symposium on cardiovascular radiology between the Korean Society of Radiology and the Radiological Society of Kazakhstan, a sectional session of the World Federation of Emergency Radiology, a sectional session of the Asian-Oceanian School of Radiology on pediatric radiology, a meeting between RSK and Russian Society of Roentgen Radiologists, and a joint meeting with the IAEA “Quality and safety in diagnostic and interventional radiology. About 400 attendees from 34 countries around the world with 86 overseas participants and 314 local participants participated in the 10th EARF. The countries with the highest number of participants included Kazakhstan, Russia, Uzbekistan, and Belarus, respectively (Table 1).



Figure 9. Participants of the first plenary session.

Table 1. *Participants of the 10th EARF.*

NO.	Country	TOTAL	NO.	Country	TOTAL
1	Austria	5	18	Latvia	1
2	Azerbaijan	3	19	Lithuania	4
3	Armenia	1	20	Malaysia	1
4	Belarus	4	21	Mongolia	1
5	Bulgaria	2	22	Republic of Moldova	2
6	China	1	23	Russia	23
7	Dagestan	1	24	Serbia	1
8	England	1	25	Singapore	2
9	Estonia	3	26	South Korea	3
10	Finland	1	27	Tajikistan	1
11	France	1	28	Taiwan	2
12	Georgia	2	29	Thailand	2
13	Germany	1	30	Turkey	2
14	Hong Kong	1	31	Turkmenistan	1
15	India	2	32	Uzbekistan	7
16	Kazakhstan	314	33	Ukraine	1
17	Kyrgyzstan	2	34	USA	1

Fifty-seven eminent speakers who are experts in the concrete field of diagnostic and interventional radiology, medical physics and theranostic performed their reports during various sessions (Table 2).

Table 2. *The program of the 10th EARF.*

Forum program	
2 Plenary Sessions	1 Friendship Symposium
12 Sectional Sessions	1 Satellite Symposium
1 Conjoint Session	1 Master Class

Every month Astana branch of RSK carries out a one-hour meeting on actual issues of diagnostic and interventional radiology, management in radiology. During the meeting, topical issues, rare clinical cases, plans of future conferences and congresses are discussed (Figure 10). Furthermore, leaders and members of our society conduct educational seminars and thematic master classes in different regions of Kazakhstan.



Figure 10. *Regular meeting of the main specialists in radiology of the Health Ministry of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Astana/Kazakhstan (2023 year).*

In summary, it is necessary to note that our society has a tight collaboration with the European Society of Radiology, the Asian Oceanian Society of Radiology, the Korean Society of Radiology, the Russian Society of Roentgen Radiologists and the International Society of Radiology. Year after year, we are getting closer to international standards in radiology.