

# EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER - October 2019

braincouncil.eu



### EBC Activities

**Open Letter on the  
Future of Research in  
Europe**

#### **EBC calls for the inclusion of 'research' in the title of Mariya Gabriel**

EBC has signed an open letter calling on the Commission to change the new job title of Commissioner Mariya Gabriel to 'Commissioner for Education, Research, Innovation and Youth'. Research is vital to European wellbeing and prosperity and its importance should be recognised by continuing including the word research in the job title of the Commissioner that is responsible for this policy area. The letter has been signed by thousands of academics, European organisations and Nobel-prize winners.

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#### **EBC at MEP Alliance for Mental Health meeting**

The MEP Alliance for Mental Health held a meeting in the European Parliament in Brussels on 16 October 2019. This meeting enabled a wide range of health-related organisations and policy institutions to voice their support for concrete EU-level action in the field of mental health. It also provided the opportunity for an exchange and sharing of mental health priorities and ideas and concrete proposals of how the EU-level can address these. EBC Executive Director Frédéric Destrebecq highlighted the importance of prevention and robust strategies for addressing the impact of mental illness on this occasion.

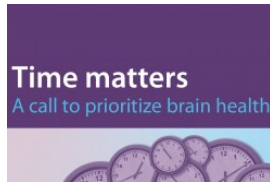
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#### **MULTI-ACT project event - Does your research impact society responsibly?**

The MULTI-ACT project-dedicated event "Does your research impact society responsibly? Design your sustainable multi-stakeholder initiative using MULTI-ACT" will be held on 12 November 2019 in Brussels, Belgium. The meeting will present the project's latest findings and will revolve around the work completed by a number of work packages. What is more, the event will also mark the debut of the official project video. The full agenda can be accessed [here](#).

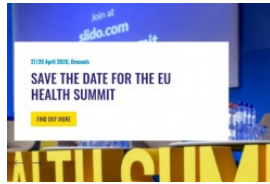
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## “Time matters: A call to prioritize brain health” report launches

In a report published by the Oxford Health Policy Forum on 3 October 2019, experts call for a public health campaign aimed at promoting a 'brain-healthy lifestyle' to reduce the risk of developing neurodegenerative brain diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. This campaign should support existing health promotion work by emphasising that “what is good for the heart is generally good for the brain”. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

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## Save the Date – EU Health Summit, 27-28 April 2020

The 2020 EU Health Summit will be held on 27-28 April 2020 in Brussels, Belgium. This conference will be organized by the EU Health Coalition which constitutes a multi-stakeholder initiative looking at mapping the future of healthcare in Europe in order to make the most of the innovation at our fingertips, at the role of the European Union in addressing the challenges we face and critically at how different sectors can converge to deliver the best outcomes for patients in Europe. Read more about the summit on the coalition's [new website](#).

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## EBC Members



## Calling all young psychiatrists: the EPA Scholarships and Gaining Experience Programme are open for applications

**EPA Scholarships** will provide 5 early career psychiatrists (ECPs) working in the [WHO Europe region](#) with an [EPA 2020 Madrid Congress](#) registration, travel and accommodation, event invitations and other exclusive advantages. Learn about the [eligibility criteria](#). **The deadline for application is 21 November 2019.**

Young psychiatrists are also welcome to apply for the **EPA Gaining Experience Programme**, a unique opportunity to discover renowned institutions all across Europe through short observerships (2-8 weeks), allowing them to broaden their clinical, research and teaching knowledge, and become familiar with different mental health systems in Europe. For more information about the participating institutions, eligibility and how to apply, please visit the [EPA website](#).

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## EFNA increase international focus

While maintaining our focus on Europe, EFNA has begun the strategic process of aligning our agenda with international priorities, having discovered that various international initiatives have so far not prioritised neurology adequately. The level of attention is not proportionate to the rich evidence we have that demonstrates the huge burden of brain disorders.

This year we have been undertaking a number of actions to engage with WHO, its member states and EU leaders.

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## IBRO at Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting

IBRO attended SfN's annual meeting and had a booth to promote its activities. We also participated in the SfN Advocacy Forum and Reception. Our poster featured IBRO's EBC membership and we informed people about the council's work. We also reported to our Global Engagement Committee about the World Congress engagement and outreach event that EBC's Executive Director participated in as a speaker. This was well received and the committee expressed their support for similar activities in the future. Finally, we attended an International Brain Initiative briefing and confirm that EBC is now considered part of its stakeholder collective.

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## National Brain Councils



### Brain in the 21st Century Conference

The Portuguese Brain Council organized, in cooperation with the University of Coimbra and other Portuguese partners, the conference "Brain in the 21st Century" on 26 October 2019 in Coimbra, Portugal. This event enabled a wide range of Portuguese stakeholders to share their perspectives on some of the current challenges connected to brain-related issues associated with cognition and aging as well as the latest developments in the domains of neurosurgery, neuroradiology and brain imaging.

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## For your Agenda

5 November 2019 - [5th International Systems Biomedicine Symposium - Systems Neuroscience: bridging the scales of the brain](#), Campus Belval, Luxembourg

6 November 2019 - [Meeting of the MEP Interest Group on Brain, Mind and Pain](#), Brussels

7 November 2019 - [Societal Impact of Pain 2019 Symposium](#), Brussels

12 November 2019 - [MULTI-ACT project event - Does your research impact society responsibly?](#), Brussels

12 - 14 November 2019 - [2019 EPF Congress](#), Brussels

25 November 2019 - [EBrains - New Enabling Infrastructure for Neuroscience](#), Heidelberg

27 - 28 November 2019 - [EBC Board Meeting and General Assembly](#), Brussels

30 November 2019 - [18th BSC scientific symposium](#), Leuven

2 December 2019 - [Encephalitis Conference 2019](#), London

5 December 2019 - [EBRA: Year 1 - Project Event](#), Brussels

28 - 31 March 2020 - [28th European Congress of Psychiatry](#), Madrid

27 - 28 April 2020 - [EU Health Summit](#), Brussels

11 - 15 July 2020 - [12th FENS Forum of Neuroscience](#), Glasgow



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