

EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER - February 2020

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EBC Activities

Brain & Cancer:
*exploring the mysteries of their
connection*

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Registration open for EBC Brain Awareness Week (BAW) event on Brain and Cancer - 18 March, Brussels

The upcoming EBC BAW event "**Brain and Cancer: exploring the mysteries of their connection**", to be held in the European Parliament in Brussels on 18 March 2020, aims to address the close relationships between brain and cancer. The general idea behind the topic is that brain research not only has the fundamentals to understand brain cancer but, even more generally, the burdens of cancer, which have immense implications in mental health and neurological aspects.

The meeting will be jointly organized by EBC, the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) and the European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB).

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"Brain Health as a Global Priority" - 18 February, Brussels

The meeting "Brain Health as a Global Priority - Time for the EU to Act Now", jointly organized by the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA), the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) and EBC was held at the European Parliament in Brussels on 18 February 2020. This event brought together key decision-makers and stakeholders to exchange views on how brain-related priorities set at the global level can be translated into policy action at the EU and national levels of governance.

The meeting in the Parliament was followed by an afternoon workshop that enabled a discussion on next steps and further opportunities for putting brain health on the political agenda.

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Making cancer-related complications and comorbidities an EU health priority

Joint statement

Cancer-related complications and comorbidities are a highly significant, and for many cases fatal, burden on patients across Europe but are all too often neglected in policy and research.

Cancer has to become a top health priority for the next five years in the EU, with both the European Commission President, Charles Michel, and the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella Kyriakides, having made clear that cancer will play a central role in their policy agendas and that the impact will be in the leading Cancer Plan.

It is time to increase the attention given to cancer patients' long-term well-being and quality of life, addressing the often debilitating comorbidities and complications of cancer. Both in terms of the disease itself for treatments, or increasing quality of life in order to enable long-term follow-up and care.

EBC supports statement on “Making cancer-related complications and comorbidities an EU health priority”

EBC has recently signed a joint statement calling for making cancer-related complications and comorbidities an EU health priority. Such complications – many neurological or psychiatric – are a highly significant, and in many cases fatal, burden on patients across Europe but are all too often neglected in policy and research. It is therefore crucial to increase the attention given to cancer patients' long-term well-being and quality of life, addressing the often debilitating comorbidities and complications of cancer, both in terms of the disease itself and its treatments.

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EBC Members

12th FENS Forum of Neuroscience



FENS Forum 2020: new sessions to expand your scope!

The FENS Forum 2020 will open with two new session types: a series of Mini Conferences and a Brain Debate to allow delegates to broaden their scope and reflect on their vision of neuroscientific research.

The Brain Debate 2020 will focus on the value and merits of studying a broad range of organisms to investigate brain function and behaviour, while the Mini Conferences, organised by invited member societies and partner organisations, will address a wide variety of topics, ranging from neuroeconomics to human brain imaging to behavioural neuroscience.

Registration for the FENS Forum is open - for further information, please visit: www.fens.org/2020

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Prof. Til Wykes wins the EPA Constance Pascal – Helen Boyle Prize!

The **European Psychiatric Association (EPA)** wishes to congratulate **Prof. Til Wykes**, the winner of the **EPA Constance Pascal – Helen Boyle Prize of €10,000 for Outstanding Achievement by a Woman in Working to Improve Mental Health Care in Europe for 2020!**

Prof. Wykes is Professor of Clinical Psychology and Rehabilitation and Vice Dean of Psychology and Systems Sciences at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King's College London.

The prize will be awarded to Prof. Wykes during the **Opening Ceremony of the 28th European Congress of Psychiatry, on 28 March 2020 in Madrid, Spain.**

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#BrainLifeGoals photo competition winners announced!

The #BrainLifeGoals campaign is raising awareness of the impact of neurological diseases by exploring the dreams and aspirations of those affected by them. As part of the campaign EFNA ran a photo competition, with participants invited to submit photographs that reflected their own goal for the future, as a person affected by a neurological disorder.

Congratulations to first-place winner, Josef Hinterleitner (Austria), and to runners-up: Susan Bagust (Australia), Zoe Olivia Bradley (UK), Paul Stevenson (UK), Liliana Vezetiu (Romania) and Filipa Monteiro (Portugal).

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34th ECNP Congress: send your session proposal!

The [34th ECNP Congress](#) will be taking place in **Lisbon, on 2-5 October 2021**.

Help us make this another outstanding event, with an exciting scientific programme on a broad range of topics, by [sending us your session proposal!](#)

You can contribute by **submitting a proposal for a full session in applied and translational neuroscience**. Our Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) welcomes session proposals from across the spectrum of relevant disciplines, including psychiatry, neurology psychology and basic neuroscience.

If you have a great idea for a session, please share your innovative topic(s) with us (Deadline: 2 March 2020).

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National Brain Councils



News from the German Brain Council (GBC) - February 2020

On 18 February 2020, the GBC held a joint telephone conference covering topics such as the 6th Academy Meeting of National Brain Councils, the EBC-observer membership as well as communication structures and other issues.

Since February 2020, preparations are under way to continue our advocacy efforts on European research policy and initiate another fireside chat (Parlamentarischer Abend) in Berlin on the topic "Brain Health for Europe". We plan to debate questions such as how the German Federal Republic can make use of its EU council presidency and how "Brain Health" can be better connected to the "Horizon Europe" programme. We believe that through a common strategy of "Brain Health for Europe", the best preconditions to develop Germany's research and innovation potential can be achieved. It is therefore essential for the German Federal Parliament to define its position in this respect.

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Transnational Meeting ADHD-Care - 6-7 February, Belgrade

The first Transnational Meeting organized within the framework of the ERASMUS+ project on “**Exchanging Good Practices for people with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and their caregivers (ADHD-CARE)**” was held at the Institute for Mental Health in Belgrade on 6-7 February 2020. The ADHD-CARE project is coordinated by the Serbian Brain Council and brings together partners from Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Serbia, and Turkey. During the meeting, a lecture on ADHD was given by Prof. Milica Pejovic Milovancevic. What is more, an interactive Focus Group with caregivers of children living with ADHD was organized by Prof. Nadja Maric Bojovic.

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For your Agenda

- 3 March 2020 - [Webinar: Ultrasound diagnostics for cervical dystonia](#)
- 16 - 22 March 2020 - [Brain Awareness Week](#)
- 17 March 2020 - [Digital Transformation of Health in the EU: What impact for those living with brain, mind and pain disorders?](#) Brussels
- 17 March 2020 - [Webinar: X-linked adrenoleukodystrophy](#)
- 18 March 2020 - [Brain & Cancer: exploring the mysteries of their connection](#), Brussels
- 26 - 28 March 2020 - [EANS Annual Meeting & Research Course of Young Neurosurgeons](#), Zurich
- 28 - 31 March 2020 - [28th European Congress of Psychiatry](#), Madrid
- 6 - 7 April 2020 - [Better Future of Healthy Ageing 2020 \(BFHA 2020\)](#), Zagreb
- 14 April 2020 - [Webinar: Recognizing atypical Parkinsonism](#)
- 21 April 2020 - [Webinar: Hypomyelination](#)
- 4 - 5 May 2020 - [EU Health Summit](#), Brussels
- 12 May 2020 - [Webinar: Paroxysmal dyskinesias: an update on clinical and genetic aspects](#)
- 23 - 26 May 2020 - [6th Congress of the European Academy of Neurology](#), Paris
- 24 May 2020 - [Special Session at the EAN Congress: Severe patients in neurological and psychiatric disorders](#), Paris
- 24 May 2020 - [EBRA and RethinkingMS - Scientific Theatre](#), Paris
- 25 May 2020 - 6th Academy Meeting of National Brain Councils, Paris
- 26 - 28 May 2020 - [HIMSS & Health 2.0 European Conference](#), Helsinki
- 13 - 18 June 2020 - [8th Mediterranean Neuroscience Society Conference](#), Dubrovnik
- 11 - 15 July 2020 - [12th FENS Forum of Neuroscience](#), Glasgow
- 14 July 2020 - [EBC Special Interest Event: Global Research Collaboration at FENS Forum 2020](#), Glasgow
- 12 - 15 September 2020 - [33rd ECNP Congress](#), Vienna
- 21 - 24 September 2020 - [NEURO 2020 Summit](#), Salamanca
- 22 - 24 September 2020 - European Research and Innovation Days 2020, Brussels
- 18 - 22 October 2020 - [EANS2020](#), Belgrade