

EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER - March 2020

braincouncil.eu



EBC Activities

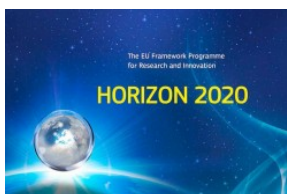


EBC and member societies ask for extended deadline of all Horizon 2020 calls due to COVID-19

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, EBC and its member societies addressed an open letter to the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation **asking for a deadline extension of all Horizon 2020 calls.**

Such action will enable research communities to better mitigate the unforeseen impact of the ongoing pandemic on their work and, ultimately, support the launch of robust projects that will further reinforce the impact of EU research funding on European society.

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European Commission responds to Horizon 2020 deadline extension request from research community: delayed until June 2020

Due to the COVID-19 crisis and overwhelming requests from the community calling for deadline lenience, the European Commission announced that the deadline for the Horizon 2020 health-related calls has been postponed. SC1-2020 is postponed to 4 June 2020 and, in addition, the deadlines of H2020-SC1-DTH-2020 and H2020-SC1-FA-DTS-2020 will be also extended to 18 June 2020. EBC welcomes the decision by the Commission as this postponement will support researchers in their efforts aimed at addressing the impact of the crisis on their work.

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EBC project *Rethinking MS in Europe* launched on the occasion of Brain Awareness Week

EBC and the Health Policy Partnership (HPP) launched the **RETHINKING MS project** on the occasion of Brain Awareness Week 2020.

EBC and HPP collaborated with experts from across Europe to build an interdisciplinary consensus around practical and sustainable policy responses to MS at the European level. This formed the basis of the core report, ***RETHINKING MS in Europe: prioritising integrated services for people with multiple sclerosis***. Building on the findings from the 2017 Value of Treatment report, this pan-European policy narrative identifies key challenges in MS care and makes recommendations for how they can be addressed.

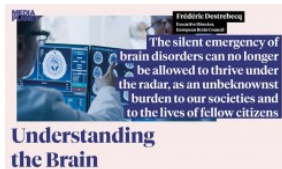
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EBC and MEPs call for prioritizing brain research featured in Parliament Magazine's Brain Awareness Week edition

This March 2020, EBC was featured in the Parliament Magazine with a Thought Leader piece by EBC President, Prof. Monica Di Luca. This time the publication focused on **encouraging further leadership from Europe and the European Union in the fight against brain conditions** and in the continued quest to understand them. This entails stronger and bolder leadership at both the national and EU levels, to work towards creating an impact in the brain community and to address the urgency of the ever-growing societal and financial burden of brain disorders left uncured and not always well-treated or cared for.

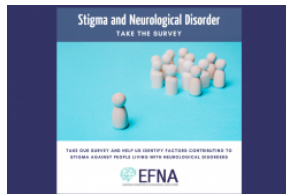
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'The silent emergency of brain disorders' – EBC included in MediaPlanet UK's 'Understanding the Brain' campaign

EBC was pleased to be included in **MediaPlanet UK's Understanding the Brain campaign** on the occasion of Brain Awareness Week (March 16 – 22). EBC was featured with an article on **'the silent emergency of brain disorders'**, calling attention to disorders of the brain and the fact that investment into brain research lacks the awareness and recognition they are due. EBC member, the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA), was also included, with an article on their #BrainLifeGoals campaign.

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New survey on Stigma & Neurological Disorder

In 2018, EFNA conducted a survey of young people affected by neurological disorder, to assess the impact of these conditions on their lives. Stigma was identified as one of the biggest issues affecting respondents.

As a result, EFNA has decided to develop **a new survey**, delving deeper into this issue, exploring the areas where stigma is felt and the situations which give rise to it. By identifying these areas EFNA can focus attention where it is most required and move to develop strategies that will combat stigma.

This survey is open to anyone who is living with a neurological disorder, living in Europe.

The survey is available in 8 languages and will remain open until June 15th 2020.

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6th EAN Congress 2020 Goes Virtual

In the interest of the health, safety and well-being of all registered attendees, our patients and families, as well as the general public, the **European Academy of Neurology (EAN)** has decided to cancel all in-person attendance and face-to-face activities at the **Annual Congress, of May 23rd-26th, 2020 in Paris**. This decision has been taken due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic and in full support of public authorities in Europe and the World in their effort to slow the spread of the disease.

The **6th EAN Congress will be a Virtual Congress for May 23rd-26th, 2020** and offers the neurology community education, scientific news and best practice exchange without leaving home.

EAN has decided, with its industry partners, to offer the on-line participation to the EAN Virtual Congress **free-of-charge**.

All sessions will be available on-demand for EAN members from 27th May onwards.

Details will be announced in due course. Please do also visit our **FAQ** area.

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The EPA e-Learning Platform is here for you!

Distance learning has never been more relevant and the EPA is committed to providing engaging and high-quality educational content to all through its online platform.

Stay connected to fellow colleagues and enhance your psychiatric knowledge and skills with our online course, **Introduction to Motivational Interviewing (MI)**, now fully available on our **e-Learning platform**. It will give you insights on the spirit of MI, the crucial relational foundation, the key techniques and how to use the techniques to steer consultations in the direction of positive change. Follow the course and videos at your own pace, whenever and wherever you want.

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EANS advice: Triaging non-emergent neurosurgical procedures during the COVID-19 outbreak

European neurosurgeons face “uncharted waters” because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. On the one hand, there is a broad call to cut down “elective” neurosurgical operations, on the other hand, we have to minimize harm to patients with other diseases than COVID-19. In reply to this call, the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies (EANS) provides some directions on how to triage non-emergent neurosurgical procedures.

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Partners



BioMed Alliance calls for support for Medical Societies during COVID-19 pandemic

The Biomedical Alliance in Europe released a new statement and a letter to Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, calling for support for medical and research societies to ensure continued guidance for healthcare professionals during the COVID-19 Pandemic. European medical and research societies and associations are severely hit by the COVID-19 crisis and require the support from decision-makers in order to address the impact of the pandemic on their work and ability to provide clinical guidance to health professionals.

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National Brain Councils



**Consejo
Español
del Cerebro**

Global Summit NEURO 2020 - 21-24 September, Salamanca

The “Global Summit NEURO 2020”, which will gather brain researchers, clinicians and scientists, is to be held in Salamanca, Spain, on 21st-24th September 2020. This conference aims to, amongst other issues, promote research on neurodegenerative diseases and raise public awareness about the societal consequences of these pathologies for Spain.

The NEURO 2020 Summit is supported by the Reina Sofía Foundation, the CIEN - Neurological Diseases Research Center- Foundation, the Carlos III Health Institute and officials representing several Spanish ministries. The CIEN Research Centre is one of the founding members of the Spanish Brain Council.

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Kick-off meeting Share4Brain project

The virtual kick-off meeting of the Erasmus+ project “Sharing Good practices for Brain Education in Europe” (Share4Brain) was held on 16th and 17th March 2020. On this occasion, all involved partners gathered to discuss the various workpackages, next steps and wider ambitions of the project.

The Share4Brain project aims to raise awareness of the importance of basic and clinical research in neuroscience amongst scientists, academics, state officials and the general public. As such, the project aims to ultimately improve diagnosis, prevention and treatment of neurological and psychiatric disorders. The involved partners are the Belgian Brain Council, the Greek Carers Network EPIONI, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, CVBF, the Serbian Brain Council and the Spanish Brain Council.

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For your Agenda

- 14 April 2020 - [Webinar: Recognizing atypical Parkinsonism](#)
- 21 April 2020 - [Webinar: Hypomyelination](#)
- 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](#), Virtual Meeting
- 24 May 2020 - [Special Session at the EAN Congress: Severe patients in neurological and psychiatric disorders](#), Virtual Meeting
- 24 May 2020 - [EBRA and RethinkingMS - Scientific Theatre](#), Virtual Meeting
- 4 - 7 July 2020 - [28th European Congress of Psychiatry](#), Madrid
- 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
- 7 - 9 September 2020 - [HIMSS & Health 2.0 European Conference](#), Helsinki
- 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
- 13 - 14 October 2020 - [EBC Brain Innovation Days](#), Brussels
- 18 - 22 October 2020 - [EANS2020](#), Belgrade
- 19 November 2020 - [European Life After Stroke Forum](#), Barcelona
- 8 December 2020 - [Encephalitis Conference](#), London



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