























EBC ANNUAL REPORT 2019

IMPROVING BRAIN KNOWLEDGE AND ADVOCACY

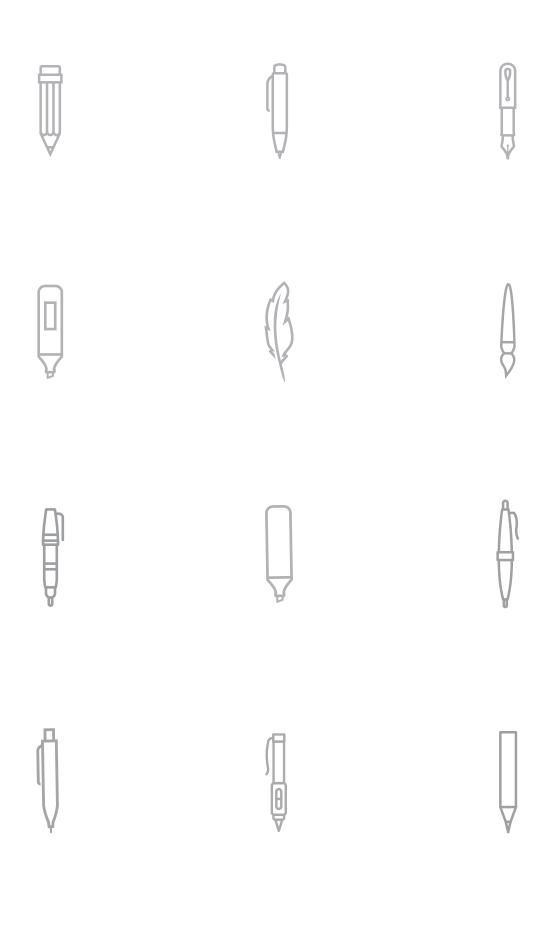
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Letter from EBC President & Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to present to you our Annual Report of 2019.

This year's report is a particularly important one, as it covers EBC's activities in the context of major developments for the future of brain research in Europe. These encompass the adoption and preparation of the new Horizon Europe framework programme and – related to this – the first activities in the framework of the European Brain Research Area (EBRA).

On a political level, it has been key for EBC to ensure that Horizon Europe will give way to a strong focus on brain research. We take this opportunity to thank all the member organisations of EBC, as well as all likeminded partners, for their contribution and ongoing support in fostering our impact as a community.

As a way to make our influence even stronger, we have continued to establish our agenda and priorities around issues that re-emphasise the importance of the brain, brain research and brain disorders: our Value of Treatment study was re-invigorated; we initiated our Value of Innovation agenda; we started the preparations for the Brain Innovation Days to come in 2020.

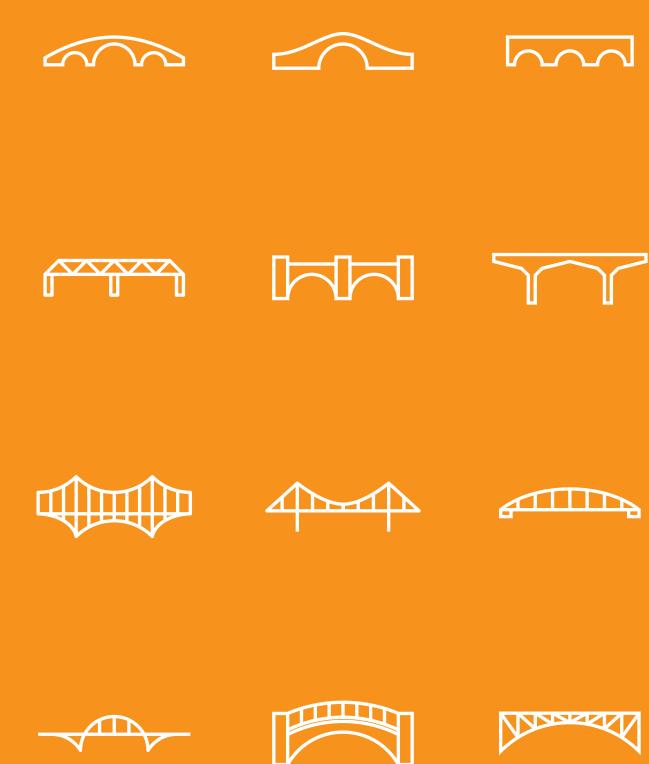
All these are developed in line with the vision of our strategic agenda, which ensures EBC's relevance in terms of political, public and private outreach. We look forward to seeing our efforts continued in a collaborative fashion with all tiers of our constituency.



Prof. Monica Di Luca President

Maester

Frédéric Destrebecq Executive Director



EBC Mission & Vision

The European Brain Council (EBC) is a network of key players in the "Brain Area", with a membership encompassing scientific societies, patient organisations, professional societies and industry partners.

EBC strives for a world where:

- The brain is recognized as our most valuable asset
- No stigma is associated with brain diseases
- Prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of brain diseases and research of the brain is prioritized by society

EBC realizes this through:

- Policy and advocacy work alongside awareness raising
- Encouraging prevention & treatment
- Stimulating innovation

A non-profit organisation based in Brussels, our main mission – by bringing together science & society – is to promote brain research with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of the estimated 179 million Europeans living with brain conditions, mental and neurological alike.

Research & Innovation agenda

EBC Mission & Vison

The Value of Innovation

A key role of EBC is to create a link between stakeholders engaged in brain research and key decision-makers at the EU and national level, to find collaborative solutions to the challenges facing brain health today.

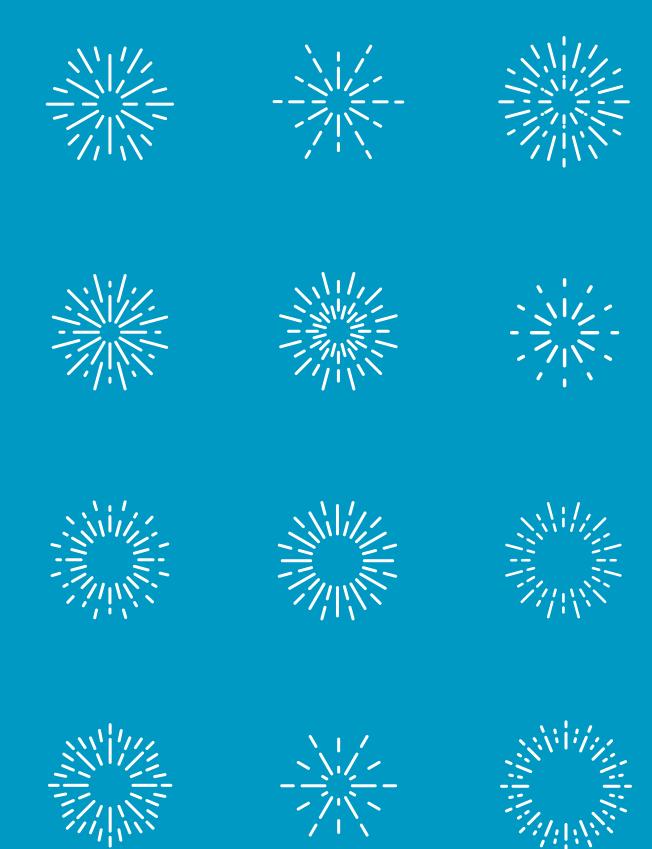
The importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration to foster greater innovation in brain research and brain health was a key theme during EBC's Enhanced engagement through public-private partnerships event ("Industry Day"), held in November 2018, where stakeholders from across industry, patient advocacy and research showcased examples of innovative approaches to research and clinical practice in brain research, covering a broad spectrum of conditions and areas of application.

EBC intends to build on the success of Industry Day in 2020, focusing, in particular, on expanding its outreach to policymakers to ensure actions that emerge from discussions are anchored in ongoing policy developments at the EU, international and national level. One of the concrete recommendations that emerged from the Industry Day was to develop a consensus-based policy paper outlining how to create an enabling environment to foster investment in innovation in brain disorders in Europe and propose concrete avenues to remove existing barriers.

EBC firmly believes that multi-stakeholder engagement is needed to create an enabling environment for investment in brain innovation in Europe and propose concrete avenues to remove existing barriers and aims to strengthen this message in its 2020 agenda and beyond.

With the preparation of the Value of Innovation white paper underway, EBC is also working on the Brain Innovation Days, which will take over from Industry Day and provide a platform not only for the launch of this Value of Innovation White Paper, but also to create a platform for the exchange of knowledge between clinicians, neuroscientists, entrepreneurs, start-ups, brain industry and policy makers, with the intent and ability to foster dialogue and create opportunities for investments in research and innovation.

This key event will work to catalyse ecosystems on brain innovation, engage with off fragmented brain communities, create a platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing and strengthen collaboration, facilitate business opportunities and value creation and showcase innovation in the brain area.



EBC Highlights

Horizon Europe

In March and April 2019, following several trialogue negotiations, the EU institutions reached a common agreement on Horizon Europe, the 9th EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. With a proposed budget of €94.1 billion, Horizon Europe constitutes a major EU scheme for funding research and innovation across Europe, including in the brain research space. The Horizon Europe programme is scheduled to run from 2021-2027 and will succeed Horizon 2020, which is set to expire at the end of 2020.

A robust Horizon Europe programme is an important prerequisite for accelerating brain research in Europe and reducing the disease burden of both mental and neurological diseases, to the benefit of patients and society at large. As such, Horizon Europe, which constitutes a key policy priority for EBC, has been the basis of a wide range of advocacy initiatives launched in the course of 2019.

As regards to the scope and focus of Horizon Europe, EBC has, amongst other issues, frequently made strong calls in support of:

- Further prioritizing brain research within the Horizon Europe legislative acts, Strategic Plans and Work Programmes;
- · Launching a "Brain Health" partnership;
- Increasing the overall Horizon Europe budget to at least €120 billion;
- Further increasing and ring-fencing the funding allocated to the "Health" cluster within Pillar II of the programme.



As the Horizon Europe programme is set to start in 2021, the European Commission started preparing the implementation of the programme during the summer of 2019. An extensive 'co-design' process was launched, involving a wide range of stakeholders from across disciplines, that included frequent consultations with the European Parliament, the EU Member States, representatives of end-users and scientific societies.

A first consultation on the "Orientations" document (designed to inform the work on the first Strategic Plan of Horizon Europe set for 2021-2024) was launched in June 2019 as an initial step in the 'co-design' process. The Strategic Plan will guide the work programmes and calls for proposals and will, amongst other issues, define and further clarify the missions, European partnerships and strategic orientations for the support of research and innovation.

EBC HIGHLIGHTS

Horizon Europe

EBC responded to this consultation and made a strong call for introducing specific targets aimed at accelerating brain research, reducing the burden of brain disorders, enhancing early diagnosis and advancing knowledge on the human brain in the first Strategic Plan. Moreover, EBC circulated a guiding draft response, written in close collaboration with the EBC Advocacy and Communications Committee, amongst all its members and partners and invited them to also submit input to the consultation. Further to these efforts, 17 responses highlighting the need to support brain research were submitted by stakeholders within EBC's constituency.

Against the backdrop of the consultation on the "Orientations" document, the European Commission held the first edition of the "Research and Innovation Days" on 24th-26th September 2019 in Brussels in order to gather further input from interested stakeholders. EBC was present on that occasion and highlighted the importance of supporting brain research, reducing the disease burden of mental and neurological disorders, improving the coordination of brain research and accelerating the translation of research results.

As part of the 'co-design' process, the Commission also began preparation for the launch of the European partnerships that are to receive funding through Horizon Europe. In this context, a consultation was held amongst EU governments in September and October 2019 on the priority topics for the selection of co-funded partnerships.

The consultation with the Member States was central to the meeting of the EBC Advocacy and Communications Committee at the Strategic Workshop on 19th September 2019. On this occasion, the Committee extensively discussed the preparations for the partnerships and decided to take further steps to support the proposal for the "Brain Health" partnership, which could become a key enabling tool for improving alignment and synergies across brain research initiatives in the EU. In light of this, EBC worked with its members as well as their national societies to call on EU governments to prioritize the "Brain Health" proposal. These efforts enabled the brain research community to speak with a single voice and make a strong call for launching a partnership.

Further to the first consultation that was held over the summer of 2019, the European Commission launched a second consultation in October in order to gather additional input on the targeted impacts and priorities of the updated version of the "Orientations" document. EBC again submitted feedback to the Commission, highlighting the need for putting in place robust policy measures to support brain research and invited all its members and partners to also respond to the consultation. This resulted in many more submissions from researchers and scientific societies, calling for further action in addressing the disease burden of brain disorders, being sent to the European Commission.

The second half of 2019 also saw continued preparation for the launch of the institutionalized partnership on "Innovative Health", which is to succeed the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI). The new "Innovative Health" partnership is likely to expand its scope and partners to further include medical devices, biotechnology and digital technologies. In view of these preparations - and further to the outcomes of the Strategic Workshop - EBC responded to two consultations that were launched by the Commission in order to gather feedback on the priorities of this specific partnership. Amongst other issues, and as per its Value of Innovation policy agenda, EBC underlined the need for increased focus on boosting therapeutic innovation in the brain research area and addressing factors that hinder the development of novel treatments in this field.

Brain disorders continue to impose a huge burden on European society and it is therefore paramount that Horizon Europe becomes a robust tool for supporting brain research in Europe. As such, EBC will continue to monitor the preparations for the launch of the Horizon Europe programme and advocate for further prioritizing research into mental and neurological conditions, particularly in view of the adoption of the Strategic Plans and Work Programmes as well as the ongoing negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027.

EBC HIGHLIGHTS

Horizon Europe

Brain Awareness Week

Brain Awareness Week (BAW), an initiative by the Dana Foundation, is the global campaign to increase public awareness of the progress and benefits of brain research. Every March, BAW unites the efforts of partner organizations worldwide in a celebration of the brain for people of all ages.

To mark this year's Brain Awareness Week, EBC held its annual awareness event, "Mood and Food: Exploring the gut-brain connection", for policymakers and the general public within the European Parliament in Brussels, in partnership with the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) and the European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB). The event focused on examining the connection between mood and food, exploring the relationship between what you eat and how it can affect your mood and daily function.

Our host, MEP Marian Harkin (ALDE, IE) opened the event with a warm welcome and supportive words for the work of EBC and like-minded organisations, having hosted a few brain-related events in the European Parliament that day and throughout the week in light of Brain Awareness Week next week, as well as support for the work being done to raise awareness on the subject of brain disorders and brain research.

Dr Alejandro Arias Vasquez, Coordinator of the H2020 Eat2beNICE consortium, spoke on the role gut bacteria can play in the risk of psychiatric diseases and described the results of some of the studies he is carrying out to investigate this. He is on the effects of nutrition and lifestyle on impulsive, compulsive and externalizing behaviours. He leads a research group that aims to identify the biological mechanisms underlying the way the brain functions in health and disease, with strong emphasis on neurodevelopmental disorders at Radboud University Medical Centre in the Netherlands.

Kimberley Wilson, a nutrition-trained Chartered Psychologist, specialising in Whole Body Mental Health. Kimberley spoke on the need for increased public engagement in the field of nutrition, wellbeing and how they affect our brain and minds, as well as how we translate research to clinical practice. Her clinical work looks at the role nutrition and lifestyle play in our mental health, including disordered eating, functional disorders of the gut-brain axis (IBS) and our emotional relationships with food.

The event was also the opportunity to announce the launch of the EBC 2019 European Elections Manifesto ahead of the elections in May 2019.









EBC HIGHLIGHTS

Election Manifesto

On 23-26 May 2019, EU citizens took to the polls to elect their 751 members of the European Parliament (EP) for next 5-year mandate.

In light of the elections, EBC joined many like-minded organizations across Brussels and the EU in producing its own Election Manifesto, a call and reminder to MEPs - old and new - for increased recognition of brain research, improved quality of care as well as quality of life for patients across the EU, sustained funding to expand and boost brain research and increased awareness, early preventative measures and early intervention to address the growing burden of brain conditions.

The Manifesto was released in the lead up to the elections and later manually distributed in the Parliament mailboxes of over 500 MEPs, many of whom expressed interest in related topics of health, science/research, disease awareness and more.



Value of Treatment II

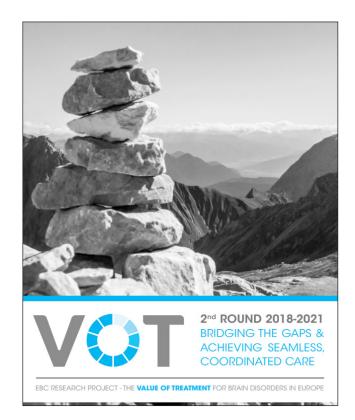
The European Brain Council initiated a Pan-European study called the Value of Treatment (VoT) for Brain Disorders. The project (2015-2017) included case studies on disorders ranging from schizophrenia to Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, headache, normal pressure hydrocephalus, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, restless legs syndrome and stroke. The Value of Treatment (VoT) for Brain Disorders policy white paper, published in June 2017, provided important new insight into recent progress in the areas of pharmacology, the biopsychosocial approach and health-care service delivery. Conclusions of this first phase of the VoT project highlighted the need for more seamless management of brain diseases and led to a second phase of the project, "VoT2" (2018-2021), focusing on rare neurological diseases (Ataxia, Dystonia, Phenylketonuria) and on mental disorders (Autism Spectrum Disorder, Anorexia Nervosa, Major Depressive Disorder). Case studies were launched respectively in 2018 and 2019, with the aim to examine health gains and socioeconomic impacts resulting from best practice healthcare interventions in comparison with current care or no treatment, and to converge evidence to policy. Case studies will look at the value of coordination of care (RNDs)/continuity of care (MDs) in delivering early interventions in diagnosis and in disease management.

Mapping and meetings

The study includes academic partners, clinicians, health economists, epidemiologists with the participation of patient associations. Research collaboration has been established with academic institutions for RNDs (University College London Hospitals, University of Cambridge, University of Zagreb Medical School, University College Dublin) and for MDs (King's College London, London School of Economics, Fundacion de Investigacion Biomédica del Hospital Gregorio Marañon).

The VoT health services and outcomes research proposed approach is to:

- 1. Mapping out care pathway/patient journey
- Obtaining patient narrative/perspective to identify burden of disease and barriers (treatment gaps) to achieving optimal outcome
- 3. Mapping cost-consequences: for both healthcare system and patient
- Identify best intervention/best care scenario and investigate targeted intervention that can be implemented to achieve optimal outcome with the greatest value to both patient and healthcare system (economic modelling)



EBC HIGHLIGHTS

Value of Treatment II

Two EBC VoT2 joint meetings took place on 15 May 2019 and on 27 November 2019 with more than 50 participants from the working groups but also from the European Commission DG Santé. Both meetings enabled the working groups to provide a research project update and discuss research methodology (care pathways, outcome variables measurement including economic analysis), preliminary findings and next steps. The health policy perspective was also examined while looking at early intervention and seamless care. Both meetings reiterated the need to continue building synergies with current EU initiatives such as the European Reference Networks for Rare Diseases (ERNs). Results of the research are to be released by end 2020 (RNDs) and mid-2021 (MDs). During 2021, findings will be disseminated via newsletters, scientific publications and an overarching EBC policy paper.



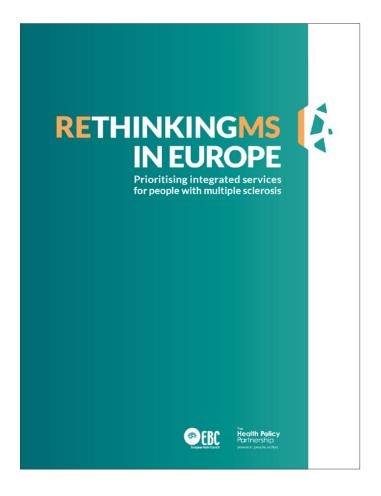


Joint working group meetings, 15 May 2019

Rethinking MS

EBC has developed in 2018 a project on multiple sclerosis (MS), Rethinking MS, in collaboration with The Health Policy Partnership (HPP). The project aimed to address the unmet needs experienced by people with MS, with a particular focus on timely diagnosis and personalised treatment; interdisciplinary and coordinated care; and adaptable support in daily life, including rehabilitation and social protection. Stemmingfromthe2017ValueofTreatmentreport, Rethinking MS featured a sequence of research which led to a suite of reports that were released at the end of 2019. The Rethinking MS in Europe: prioritising integrated services for people with multiple sclerosis report provides a pan-European policy analysis of unmet needs in MS and how best to improve integrated services. Four country profiles-Rethinkinwa MS in Denmark, Italy, Romania and Spain - take an in-depth look at the different MS-related policy and regulations, health and social care landscapes across Europe. Rethinking MS: a policy assessment tool is the final resource of the project, intended as a starting point for the development or strengthening of national MS policies.





EBC HIGHLIGHTS

Rethinking MS

Research data mapping and meetings

A comprehensive literature review was conducted and supported by stakeholder recommendations and web searches for local data. The interdisciplinary EAG featured 16 experts including neurologists, nurses, clinical psychologists, rehabilitation specialists, academic researchers and patient advocacy representatives from around Europe. They were consulted at key milestones of the development of Rethinking MS in Europe and country situation assessments for the country profiles of Denmark, Italy, Romania and Spain, and were instrumental in the development of the policy priorities for the policy assessment tool. The research EBC-HPP team invited the EAG and other interdisciplinary experts from across Europe to participate in semi-structured interviews. Insights came from 13 European countries - Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Spain and the UK. National round tables were organised in Bucharest (17 October 2018), Rome (5 June 2019) and Madrid (17 September 2019) to discuss the findings of the developing country profiles and identify priorities for policy and legislation change in each country. For each meeting, EBC and HPP worked closely with the experts to gather 15-20 regional and national health decision-makers, and representatives from patient advocacy groups, neurology, nursing, rehabilitation, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social care, general practice and other specialties. Meeting reports were developed after each round table, and the findings were integrated into that country's specific output.

The country situation assessment results were preliminarily presented and released ahead of the full report at the European Parliament MEP Interest Group Meeting on Brain, Mind and Pain, on 6 November 2019 led by EFNA and during Brain Awareness Week 2020.











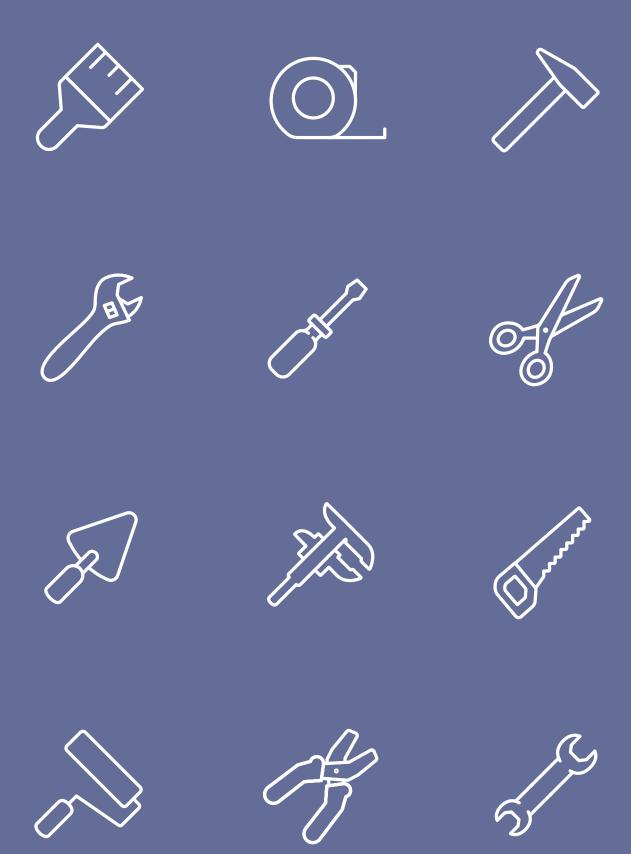












Projects & Initiatives



EU-Funded Projects:

European Brain Research Area

1 November 2018 marked the launch of the European Brain Council (EBC) coordinated EU project The European Brain Research Area (EBRA). EBRA was designed to respond to the Horizon 2020 call, SC1-HCO-10-2018, entitled "Coordinating European brain research and developing global initiatives", which called for the reduction of fragmentation and duplication of research efforts, fostering synergies through enhanced coordination of brain research efforts at EU and at global level.

The European Brain Research Area project — EBRA — was created as a catalyzing platform for brain research stakeholders (researchers, clinicians, patients, governments, funders and public institutions) to streamline and better coordinate brain research across Europe while fostering global initiatives.

The Consortium consists of the EBC membership, the Network of European funding for Neuroscience research (NEURON), Joint Program – Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) and the Human Brain Project (HBP).

In 2019, a mapping of the European brain research landscape has been initiated and will be finalized by spring 2020, a first call for clusters has been launched and 2 clusters have been selected and a call for experts who will validate the Shared European Brain Research Agenda (SEBRA) has been launched.

Projects & Initiatives

EBRA

Mapping

An overview of the current landscape of the European brain research will be provided. More than 7000 projects funded between 1st January 2007 and 1st of April 2019 in the EU framework programs (FP7/H2020) and the funding initiatives of JPND, NEURON, and HBP, have been made available. EBC and DLR-PT selected and validated the brain research related projects. Eventually, each project was classified into relevant fields of brain research. The number of project as well as the budget will be analyzed for each brain research field, funding scheme and EU member state, and trends throughout the years will be detected. The results of the mapping exercise are expected in 2020 and will help to identify gaps and opportunities and to clarify research objectives and priorities. These results will underpin the development of a Shared European Brain Research Agenda (SEBRA).

Brain Research Cluster Selection

In order to promote co-operation and exchange between brain research projects and networks, and thus enable or enhance international collaboration and the emergence or development of clusters in all areas of brain research, an open call for clusters has been launched on 14th of March 2019 on the EBRA website, social media, and newsletter and other partner organizations (beneficiaries and third parties). A cluster is understood as an association of research projects or research community that can be directed towards basic research, clinical research and/or methodological approaches under a common topic and disease area.

Brain Research Cluster Selection

EBRA supports clusters to:

- consolidate or expand further the research community
- engage with policy makers and other relevant stakeholders
- build consensus on various issues (research priorities, research roadmap, data sharing, etc.)
- promote links with existing research infrastructures
- develop the agenda for events
- increase the visibility of the research community in a given field

Link: www.ebra.eu/call4clusters/

Seven proposals have been received on 1st of June 2019, and 2 were retained for support: the EPICLUSTER and PSMD cluster. The EPI-cluster focuses on epilepsy and through policy activities aims to optimize anti-epileptic drugs, to reduce co-morbidities, SUDEP, stigma and to increase access to drugs. Trans-disciplinary, coordinated actions need to be urgently put in place. Further research and innovation efforts by the community of researchers, clinicians and industry are essential to reach tangible goals and ensure that these achievements reach persons with epilepsy. The PSMD cluster focuses on the Prevention of Severe Mental Disorders and aims to cross-fertilize leading European institutions; harmonize assessment, outcome measures and interventions; implement digital health, big data and precision medicine into healthcare; promote clinical research partnerships; produce clinical guidelines; apply for European grant funding; disseminate preventive culture in psychiatry; engage policy makers, healthcare systems, patients and their families.

SEBRA

In order to foster alignment and better coordination of research strategies across the European brain initiatives, a Shared European Brain Research Agenda (SEBRA) will be developed. The SEBRA will focus on research opportunities and research and innovation gaps to be addressed in the field, priorities for action in the short and long term and research areas that would benefit most from cross - initiatives cooperation. The SEBRA will also integrate preexisting documents, such as the Strategic Research Agenda of the different initiatives participating in EBRA (as for instance the JPND SRIA), and the EBC Consensus Statement. EBRA will launch a consultation process that will entail an expert workshop and survey with brain research experts and stakeholders. An internal call for brain research experts and stakeholders has been launched in December 2019.

Projects & Initiatives

EBRA

Public event

The 1-year EBRA public event took place on the 5th of December 2019 from 11 am to 2 pm in the Félicien Cattier Room at the University Foundation in Brussels, 55 stakeholders from different fields (i.e., research, clinic, patient organisations, industry, associations) were present. Dr. Tim Raemaekers, Policy and Programme Officer in Neuroscience at the DG Research & Innovation at European Commission (EC), opened the event, welcomed the attendees and introduced the EBRA project from an EC perspective. Prof. Dr. Monica Di Luca, EBC president, then introduced EBC and clarified why EBC decided to endorse the EBRA project. This was followed by a presentation of the 2 selected EBRA clusters: the EPICLUSTER (by Prof. Dr. Michele Simonato, University of Ferrara) and the Prevention of Severe Mental Disorders (PSMD) cluster (by Prof. Dr. Paolo Fusar-Poli, King's College). Dr. Giovanni Esposito (EBC) presented the methodology and preliminary results of the brain research landscape analysis. Finally, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Dirnagl (Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin) spoke about quality assurance in pre-clinical research. The event was closed with a networking lunch.



- **WEBRA_EU** #EBRA
- in www.linkedin.com/in/ebra-eu
- www.EBRA.eu

MULTI-ACT

The EU-funded MULTI-ACT project, in full 'A Collective Research Impact Framework and multi-variate model to foster the true engagement of actors and stakeholders in Health Research and Innovation', aims to increase the impact of Multi-stakeholder Research Initiatives. It wants to create and implement a new framework allowing for the effective cooperation of all relevant stakeholders by aligning results to the mission and agenda of the initiatives. This will be applicable in defining the scope of health research as well as new impact indicators for the evaluation of its results. Innovative indicators developed in MULTI-ACT will be instrumental in enabling the finalization of common objectives (common research agenda), together with the Return On Investment (ROI) by each involved stakeholder and integrated sustainability.

The project started on the 1st of May 2018 and will continue for three years. It has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under the Grant Agreement No. 787570.

EBC is one of the 11 partners in the consortium led by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Society Foundation (FISM).

The MULTI-ACT framework includes tools and guidelines for governance, stakeholder engagement and impact assessment of multistakeholder research initiatives. In particular, guidelines are provided on how to maximize and evaluate the impact of Research & Innovation (R&I) on the outcomes that matter to patients in order to enable transformational missions that any health R&I process should aspire to.





EBC is responsible for Work Package (WP) 4 (Implementation of the Multi-Act framework), WP7 (Transferability and test of the framework beyond MS) and WP8 (Dissemination, communication & exploitation).

The overall objective of WP4 is to implement the MULTI-ACT framework in a real case study involving an existing multi-stakeholder research initiative in the field of Multiple Sclerosis (MS). In 2019, a case study (the MS Care Unit initiative) was selected and a baseline analysis questionnaire was developed to assess the extent to which the MS Care Unit initiative complies with the principles of the MULTI-ACT framework. We identified insights which require further exploration and room for improvement. In particular, we have analyzed the model of governance (including priority-setting and impact evaluation) of the MS Care Unit initiative against the governance criteria of the MULTI-ACT framework.

WP8 entails the communication and dissemination of the project. In 2019, EBC, as WP8 leaders, continued communication and dissemination activities on a wider scale, representing the project at all major congresses of the EBC membership, at additional MS-related conferences such as the EMSP conference and at conferences of MULTI-ACT consortium members, such as EHMA. The project was also highlighted at the EU Open Info Days of the European Commission DG Research & Innovation. In November 2019, the project also held its first public event, presenting completed deliverables such as the MULTI-ACT Master Scorecard, the Patient Engagement Guidelines and Patient Reported Outcome Measures as well as the Governance Criterion. The official project video was also debuted.

WP7 will start in 2020.

- **MULTIACTProj** #MULTIACT
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- www.multiact.eu

Projects & Initiatives

Alzheimer's Disease Detect and Prevent

The "AD Detect and Prevent" (ADDP) project is pursuing the ambitious aim of developing a digital tool to improve the detection of Alzheimer's disease (AD) prior to the possible onset of AD dementia. This novel digital tool will subsequently provide personalized intervention programmes aimed at addressing lifestyle-related risk factors connected to AD dementia. The consortium consists of Brain+, University of Oxford, Aarhus University, University of Nottingham, Alzheimer Europe and EBC.

The AD Detect and Prevent tool is designed to be user-friendly and easily accessible and will be delivered on various types of devices such as tablets and smartphones. This digital solution will be initially launched in Denmark and the United Kingdom but the consortium hopes to expand the tool to other European countries.

EBC is closely involved in Work Package 5, "Market launch in DK & UK, secure Key Opinion Leader (KOL) endorsement and disseminate results", supporting the outreach and dissemination activities launched within the framework of the project.



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ASCTN-Training

ASCTN-Training is a four-year project, funded by the European Union Horizon 2020 Programme (H2020-MSCA-ITN-2018) under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Initial Training Network and Grant Agreement No. 813851. ASCTN-Training is addressing existing gaps within Human Stem Cell-based Neuronal disorders (NDs) Modelling (NDM) for research to develop new medicines for the treatment of neurological disorders (e.g. Parkinson's (PD), Huntington's (HD) and Demyelination's (DM) diseases), which occur as a result of acute or progressive loss of cells, glial or neuronal, and structures and function in the brain.

EBC's role in this project is the delivery of a training programme for early stage researchers on public policy advocacy in brain research. This training will be organized in April 2020 over the course of 2 days and will entail theoretical lectures and practical sessions to learn about science communication and advocacy techniques.

The objectives of this training are the following:

- to build the strategic capacity of participants to be effectively involved in advocacy activities supported by research evidence and focused on influencing policy decisions in the brain research area
- to empower participants with ways to become a voice for neuroscience research throughout their careers

www.asctn-training.net

























Advocacy & Outreach

Visibility

EBC meets with Commissioner Mariya Gabriel

Soon after the current European Commission took office in December 2019, EBC was pleased to be invited to meet with Mariya Gabriel, the Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth.

Within education, research and innovation, Commissioner's mission under the Commission Presidency of Ursula von der Leyen is to ensure that education, research and innovation help Europe deliver on its ambitions and wider objectives. These include ensuring swift agreement and implementation of the Horizon Europe programme, ensuring sufficient investment flows to disruptive research and breakthrough innovations, building both European Research and Education Areas and more.



Advocacy & Outreach

Visibility

Brain-Mind Evening

EBC was honoured to have been invited to San Francisco, California, USA, to take part and share our work at a meeting of the Brain Mind Ecosystem, a network of scientists and entrepreneurs investigating the human mind, alongside the likes of Stanford University, the University of California - San Francisco (UCSF) and the University of Southern California (USC). This Brain Mind meeting focused on the latest developments in research into what is often referred to as "the cruellest of diseases" - neurodegeneration.



European Commission Open Info Day on Horizon 2020: "Health, demographic change and wellbeing"

EBC Treasurer and EFNA President, Joke Jaarsma, was invited by the European Commission to take part in their Open Info Day on Horizon 2020 «Health, demographic change and wellbeing», held in July 2019. She spoke in the parallel session on the importance of ensuring successful patient and public involvement ("PPI") in EUfunded research.



EFNA-EBC-EAN open letter to incoming commissioners

The European Brain Council joined members European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) and European Academy of Neurology (EAN) in sending an open letter to EU leaders, making a strong case for increased prioritisation of neurological/brain health in EU policies and calling for concrete measures to be undertaken to counteract the increasing burden of brain disorders.

We know from studies that at least 1 in 3 people will experience a brain disorder in their lifetime, with a total cost of brain ill-health in Europe alone estimated to be €800 billion each year more than the cost of all major disease areas combined. The Global Burden of Disease Study Group found that neurological disorders formed the world's largest cause of disability adjusted life years in 2015 and the second largest cause of global death, i.e. 16.8%. Brain disorders constitute the most prevalent disabling and burdensome diseases among NCDs in the European population. Evidence also shows that brain research has the highest potential in terms of return on investment, far exceeding the return in any other area. Therefore, it is important that brain health receives far greater attention by the new European Commission and Parliament.

This letter was sent to Dr Ursula von der Leyen, European Commission President-elect, Ms. Stella Kyriakides, Health Commissioner-designate, Ms. Mariya Gabriel, Commissioner-Designate for Innovation and Youth, Mr David Sassoli, European Parliament President and other policymakers.

Advocacy & Outreach

Visibility

#Move4YrBrain

#Move4YrBrain is the European Brain Council's social media campaign used to encourage everyone to incorporate some form of exercise into their lives and keep a healthy lifestyle. A number of studies show that exercise not only makes you physically fitter, it also contributes to an improved mental and neurological condition by fostering the growth of new brain cells. In order to encourage all to follow the #Move4YrBrain campaign and to raise awareness on the benefits of physical exercise for brain health, the EBC team tries to get involved in exercise activities, both personally and as a team.



The 20 km of Brussels

This year, 2 members of the EBC team took part in the annual Brussels 20km run together with friends and colleagues, all donning #Move4YrBrain T-shirts.

Marche pour l'essentiel 20 km - Brussels

On 30 April 2019, EBC colleagues took part in the "Marche pour l'essentiel" (roughly, "March for a Cause"), which is a sponsored walk of 20km, at night, in the Soignes forest at the southeast edge of Brussels, Belgium. Participants walk into the sunset – from 6 pm and onward – to raise awareness and raise funds for those living with disabilities.

Half Ironman – Deauville, France

President of the EBC members, the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), Prof. Philip Gorwood, wore a #Move4YrBrain with colleagues whilst completing the Half Ironman of Deauville, France on June 2019.







Advocacy & Outreach

Networking

EBC Networking Receptions

In 2018, EBC began its now tradition of holding its Board Dinners in the form of a networking reception, with food, drinks and plenty of discussion. The aim of this informal reception setting is to allow for shorter more informal presentations that inspire audience conversation, continued brainstorming and fostering collaboration in a more relaxed atmosphere.

In February 2019, the reception focused on **Women in Science & Society**, with guest speakers Peggy Maguire of the European Institute of Women's Health (EIWH) – addressing guests on the subject of gender inequities with a focus on dementia – and Dr Antonella Santuccione of the Women's Brain Project – who highlighted the lack of women included in research, even of diseases more commonly affecting women.

The second networking reception of the year took place in September and focused on the topic of **Shaping FP9 & brain research in Europe**, exploring brain research in the developing EU context and the big next steps of shaping Horizon Europe and where the brain could potentially fit in.

Speakers Stéphane Hogan (Head of Sector Stakeholder Engagement, DG Research & Innovation) and Tim Raemaekers (Policy and Programme Officer – Neuroscience, DG Research & Innovation) gave insight into the upcoming steps towards Horizon Europe, including impending consultation results, the Research & Innovation days and what could be expected in the coming months. It was shared that the brain had a heavy mention in the Horizon Europe public consultation, which was a strong signal of public interest on the subject.









Collaboration

EAN Congress

EBC was present again this year at the **Congress** of the European Academy of Neurology, marking their 5th year of annual congresses. This year, the congress was held in Oslo, Norway, and EBC was pleased to be able to participate in the Exhibition Hall as well as in the Scientific Theatre and EFNA-EAN Special Session.

The EBC Exhibition Stand displayed a new EBC and EBRA brochure, as well as the Value of Treatment, MULTI-ACT, MS Policy Narrative, Brain Mission and Election Manifesto documents.

The Scientific Theatre provided a more relaxed area of presentation, and EBC was able to coordinate the presentation of both its current major projects, MULTI-ACT and EBRA.

As Project Coordinators, EBC presented EBRA, providing a general introduction of the project and the next steps to come to an audience of clinicians, industry and patients. MULTI-ACT was presented by consortium member, Dr. Marcin Kautsch.

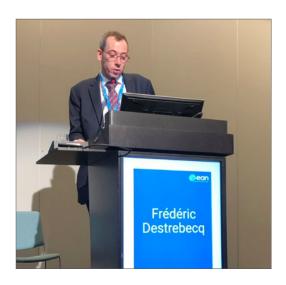
Lastly, EBC was also invited to speak at the EFNA-EAN Joint Symposium, "Norwegian Brain Strategy: a plan to strengthen brain health in Europe". The event saw EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, provide insight into the development of national brain plans as a growing necessity as tools for pushing the brain to the top of the EU agenda, and how the network of National Brain Councils can play a role in this.











EPA Congress

The **27**th European Congress of Psychiatry, organized by the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), took place on 6-9 April 2019 in Warsaw, Poland.

The 2019 Congress was guided by the Congress motto, "Psychiatry in Transition – Towards New Models, Goals and Challenges". EPA 2019 will facilitate discussion and educational forums on a range of topics in the field of psychiatry, psychology, social work and clinical trials.

EBC was present in Warsaw with an exhibition stand and a joint EBC-EPA Symposium, cochaired by EBC President Prof. Monica Di Luca and EPA President, Prof. Philip Gorwood. The session covered "Parkinson's Disease and Psychiatry", featuring presentations by Prof. Fanni Geibl (Neuropsychiatric Symptoms in Prodromal and Early Parkinson's Disease) and Prof. A. Leentjes (Depression: Risk Factor or Early Symptom in Parkinson Disease?).





Collaboration

IBRO World Congress of Neuroscience

This year, EBC was at the 10th World Congress of Neuroscience on 21-25 September 2019.

IBRO holds international congresses once every four years to promote the field of neuroscience, increase awareness about neuroscience research and facilitate collaboration between students, teachers, researchers and other stakeholders.

This year's congress was held in Daegu, South Korea and was organized in collaboration with Federation of Asian-Oceanian Neuroscience Societies (FAONS) and brought together over 3500 participants from around the world to attend.

The congress was an excellent opportunity for EBC to showcase the European Brain Research Area (EBRA) project at the international level, with information available at an exhibition stand throughout the 5-day congress and presented at the International Brain Initiative meetings.

EBC's broader advocacy and outreach work was also showcased together with EBRA, both at the exhibition stand and during the IBRO and IBSP-UNESCO Global Engagement & Outreach Event in support of basic research in the brain sciences. The session focused on the urgent and continuing importance of supporting research in the basic sciences, with a special focus on current coordination, engagement and outreach efforts in the brain sciences. It featured speakers from the policymaking and scientific communities who are directly involved in addressing awareness and funding challenges, as well as creating opportunities that aim to better coordinate diverse stakeholder groups and resources towards more effective, equitable and sustainable research expectations and outcomes. EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebeca presented the European perspective of EBC amongst speakers from Latin America, North America, Central Asia, Oceania and Africa. Furthermore, EBC was happy to be invited to participate at the two-day International Brain Initiative (IBI) Coordinating Body Meeting and to present both EBC as a new organisation to the IBI and EBRA, as an initiative fully in alignment with the missions of IBI. The IBI brings together seven large-scale nationally-sponsored neuroscience projects: the Japan Brain/MINDS, the Korea Brain Initiative, the Australian Brain Alliance, the Canadian Brain Research Strategy, the China Brain Project, the E.U. Human Brain Project (HBP), and the U.S. BRAIN Initiative have committed to leveraging and aligning efforts to maximize efficiency and combined impact.







Collaboration

ECNP Congress

The annual Congress of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) was held on 7-10 September 2019 in Copenhagen, Denmark. It is Europe's premier scientific meeting for disease-oriented brain research, annually attracting between 4,000 and 6,000 neuroscientists, psychiatrists, neurologists and psychologists from around the world.

EBC was present with an Exhibition Stand, where it shared materials on ongoing projects such as EBRA, advocacy documents as well as mental health-related materials from previous and ongoing work.



Brain Twitter Conference: Neuroscience Making an Impact



The **third Brain Twitter Conference #brainTC** took place on the 14th March 2019, with 67 virtual presentations encapsulated in 1771 tweets from 380 presenters.

A Twitter conference is a virtual conference that takes place on Twitter, in this case under the hashtag #brainTC. Just like a regular conference, #brainTC will feature both keynotes and research presentations, but the talks will be delivered via a series of tweets under the conference hashtag. The conference removes the hassle of travel by allowing scientists to meet and interact using Twitter. Twitter conferences also promote open science: everyone can follow the presentations, ask questions, and take part in the discussions.

EBC took part for the first time this year, showcasing its current work in advocacy as well as its projects EBRA and the Value of Treatment, entitled "The European Brain Council: towards sustained and better coordinated brain research in Europe".





Collaboration

EBC joins the BioMed Alliance

EBC became a member of the Biomedical Alliance in Europe in January 2019. The Biomed Alliance brings together a wide range of European medical societies in order to improve public understanding of medical science and speak as a common voice regarding biomedical research in Europe.

Amongst other issues, the BioMed Alliance intends to:

- promote excellence in European biomedical research;
- strengthen the representation of biomedical researchers, disciplines and associations;
- advocate for increased funding in favour of biomedical research;
- thereby improve the health and well-being of all citizens of Europe



EBC endorsements

Throughout the year, EBC is often contacted by partners and like-minded organisations to have some degree of involvement in relevant, ongoing work and projects happening around Brussels and across Europe. These range from policy white papers, to events and to longer-term projects. Some require deeper EBC involvement and participation while others ask for endorsement and dissemination of their work.

In 2019, EBC endorsed a number of policy papers in 2019, on topics ranging from Alzheimer's to non-CNS-related diseases with potential brain-related comorbities.

www.braincouncil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/MSD-Policy-Toolkit-April-2019-WEB.pdf



Dementia imposes a major burden on patients, carers and society. Timely diagnosis and early intervention can help change the patient experience, potentially improving outcomes for patients and carers while reducing costs. We hope this toolkit can inspire action and lead the way to lessening the burdens placed on those living with Alzheimer's and all neurology patients across Europe.

Prof Monica Di Luca President European Brain Council (EBC)

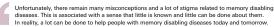
Alzheimer's Policy toolkit for Members of the European Parliament

This toolkit was designed to help promote change by driving the policy debate to benefit people with Alzheimer's Disease (AD), their families, caregivers and society as a whole. In particular, you will find suggested steps that you can take to refresh the debate on EU level and, crucially, shape policy on national level – where change has so far been less forthcoming – to improve AD/dementia services and empower people with AD/dementia to live better lives.

ALZHEIMER'S POLICY TOOLKIT FOR MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (MEP)



FOREWORD BY SIRPA PIETIKÄINEN MEP A PERSON IS MUCH MORE THAN A DIAGNOSIS



The approach has to be holistic, as with all health issues. Prevention is the first step. We know of many environmental issues that impact health; we know that physical and mental exercise for example can delay and curve the onset of memory disabling diseases. In this context, knowledge of genes and other factors is also important.

Addressing the often silent biases against people with memory disabling diseases, that we may not even be aware

the onset of memory disabling diseases. In this context, knowledge of genes and other factors is also important. Addressing the often silent biases against people with memory disabling diseases, that we may not even be aware of, is also essential. This is key to increasing the willingness of people with memory disabling diseases to be diagnosed early, and to building accessible and inclusive societies, that do not stigmatise and discriminate against those with memory disabling diseases. The burden of memory disabling diseases as neurological disorders should not be further enhanced by attitudes and restrictions to work and life unfairly imposed by others.

Recognising the rights of those with memory disabling diseases and creating accessible societies can great improve quality of life. It means finding innovative solutions and thinking about things from the perspective of people with neurological conditions – investing in human environments which are 'neurological disorder friendly'. Could public transportation be designed so that it reminds an individual when they need to get off and where they are going, for example?

I fully support the efforts to find ways to move forward on these recommendations and I commit to continue to engage on these issues.



ABOUT THIS POLICY TOOLKIT

Alzheimer's disease (AD) – the most common cause of dementia – is one of the most significant medical and societal challenges of our time. It does not discriminate and affects everyone, across all generations – from the people who develop the condition, to the families that care for them and the taxpayers who fund health services.

for them and the taxpayers who fund health services. By providing facts and figures, polling findings and by highlighting what you can do on EU and national level to aid people with AD today across the EU, this tooliki is designed to help you promote change by driving the policy debate to benefit people with AD, their families, caregivers and society as a whole. In particular, you will find suggested steps that you can take to refresh the debate on EU level and, crucially, shape policy on national level – where change has so far been less forthcoming – to improve AD/dementia services and empower people with AD/dementia to live better lives.

Find out what you can do on EU and national level to help people with AD today across the EU

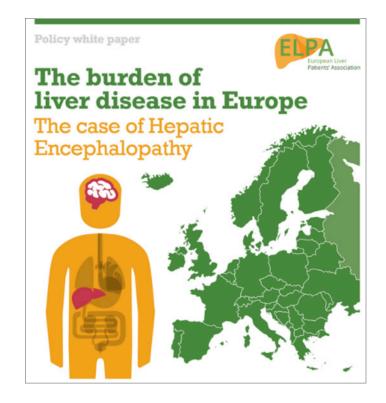
NEUR-1256450-0000 Date of last revision: 03/2019

Collaboration

The burden of liver disease The case of Hepatic Encephalopathy - Policy White Paper

Hepatic encephalopathy (HE) has emerged as an area where a number of acute challenges face patients, carers and health systems. HE is characterised by a loss of brain function, resulting in mild to severe incapacity, and is sometimes subtle and difficult to notice. HE occurs when the liver doesn't remove sufficient toxins from the blood and is estimated to affect up to 200,000 people in Europe.

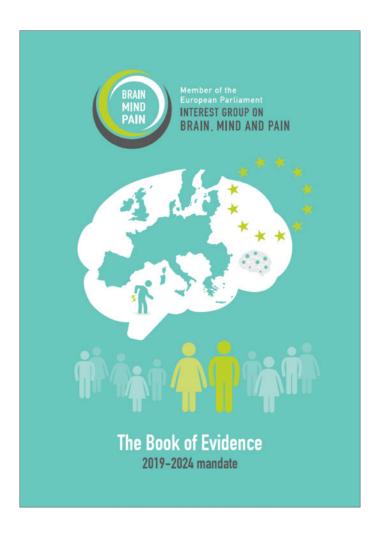
This policy white paper, endorsed by EBC, covers key HE issues with a focus on underdiagnosis, undertreatment, data gaps and access to diagnosis and treatment. For each key challenge identified, the collaborative parties of this white paper have endorsed clear, actionable policy solutions for implementation at EU and national level.



Brain, Mind and Pain Book of Evidence

Released for the 2019-2024 EU mandate, the **Book of Evidence** sets a strategic vision on policy action to deliver better care for people with neurological and chronic pain disorders in the EU. It will be used as the core policy document of the MEP Interest Group on Brain, Mind & Pain (coordinated by European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) and Pain Alliance Europe) – which will continue for the current 5-year mandate.

The Book of Evidence, endorsed by EBC, outlines clear focus areas and proposes recommendations for policy actions, which, if implemented, would significantly improve quality of life for people with neurological and chronic pain disorders, as well as their families and carers.



European Health Parliament

EBC was glad to be invited to the 4th Edition of the European Health Parliament, this time not as a participant but as a guest speaker at the closing plenary. EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, took part in the presentation of the mental health committee's recommendations for a healthy state of mind in Europe, providing his feedback alongside a number of panellists and the committee chair.



EUROPE'S NEXT GENERATION OF HEALTH



Collaboration

#BrainLifeGoals World Brain Day events

To celebrate World Brain Day on July 22, the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) hosted events in four European capitals - Brussels, Bucharest, Dublin and Warsaw.

The aim of these events was to hear what matters most to neurology patients in terms of their health outcomes and to discuss how these could be better integrated in the policy and decision-making at both the national and EU level.

EBC assisted the Neurological Patients Alliance Belgium in hosting the event in Brussels, focused on Aligning Patient and Policy Priorities.

EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, opened the meeting, welcoming the 40 attendees. These included patients or representatives of patient advocacy groups, medical professionals, policy makers, students and academic personnel.

Representatives of the Neurological Patient Alliance Belgium (NPAB) shared their personal patient testimonies, calling for increased efforts and collaboration across disciplines to improve the lives of all patients and ensure equitable access to treatment, services and support in the FU.

Chantel Fouche shared her experience of stigma, isolation and discrimination due to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Kathérine Malcolm discussed equitable access to treatment, services and support for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). Veerle Aertsen shared her personal experience of Young Onset Parkinson's (YOP) and promoted patient empowerment through increased involvement and engagement.

Pieter Philipsen, President of Belgian Brain Council and Beverley Sinton, Neurological Patients Alliance Belgium shared their visions of linking EU and national advocacy and policy for neurology patients in Europe. A clear message was delivered that action can be taken now, with support, to reduce the burden of these disorders on patients and wider society.

In her Keynote Address MEP Mrs. Petra De Sutter said: "As a medical doctor, I believe that health should be priority in Europe. Priorities should be increased patient-centred research, sufficient Horizon Europe funding, access to treatment and innovative care, and public awareness."



EU Health Coalition

EBC is part of the EU Health Coalition which constitutes a robust alliance bringing together patient organisations, medical societies, industry representatives and health-stakeholders that share a common vision for health. The Coalition was launched after the 1st EU Health Summit, held in November 2018, in order to ensure continued cooperation between stakeholders in the field of health and research. What is more, the stakeholders that are part of the Coalition produced a set of recommendations that outline a joint vision for the future of health in Europe.

- @Vision4Health
- www.euhealthcoalition.eu





Collaboration

British Neuroscience Festival satellite session

EBC was invited to present at the Irish Brain Council's 2019 British Neuroscience Festival satellite event on "Lessons and Perspectives on Advocacy in Neuroscience".

The Irish Brain Council was formally established in 2012 with the aim of promoting all aspects of neuroscience in Ireland via advocacy activities including public outreach, strategic partnership, legislative/policy involvement and individual member engagement. Such advocacy is essential in ensuring a sustained funding stream for the future of brain research in this country. Given recent developments in funding structures, the need for such advocacy has never been stronger.

EBC's Communications and Advocacy Coordinator, Stephanie Kramer, presented on EBC's various advocacy activities for increased support of brain research in Brussels and the success story of the EBRA project, working to streamline and better co-ordinate brain research across Europe while fostering global initiatives. Chaired by Professor David Henshall (RCSI), she was joined by fellow speakers Dr Haung (Ho) Yu, Assistant Professor at the Taub Institute and in the Department of Pathology and Cell Biology at Columbia University and Member of the Government and Public Affairs Committee of the Society for Neuroscience, and Founder of braiNY, and the Greater NYC SfN Chapter; Dr Aine Kelly, Senior Lecturer in Physiology and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Science Education, TCD and Neuroscience Ireland Education/Outreach Officer; and Dr Duncan Banks, Director of Work-Based Learning (Health Sciences), The Open University, former Treasurer, Trustee, Member of Council and National Committee of the BNA, and Press Officer for the 2017 Festival of Neuroscience.



Women's Brain & Mental Health Forum

EBC Treasurer, Joke Jaarsma, was invited to attend and take part in the panel discussion on migraine at the 2019 Forum on Women's Brain and Mental Health, held in Zurich, Switzerland. She centred her talk on the findings of the EBC project, the Value of Treatment of Brain Disorders – highlighting the treatment gaps and unmet needs of a number of brain disorders across Europe, particularly in focused on migraine, an illness more prevalent in women.

This flagship event is organised by the Women's Brain Project (WBP) and the Forum is designed to be more than just a conventional scientific meeting. The main goal is to bring together experts and representatives from a wide range of scientific disciplines and various fields of practice contributing to the study and improvement of mental and brain health. By actively involving medical professionals, technology experts, life and social scientists, industry, policy makers, researchers, caregivers, and patients, the Women's Brain Project facilitates an open and transdisciplinary collaboration and all stakeholders have an equal voice in the constructive and actionable discussions on considering the influence of sex and gender in brain and mental health research.



Collaboration

EBC-EFNA-EAN Meetings with WHO Representatives

In July 2019, EBC Executive Director Frédéric Destrebecq was part of the delegation of representatives from EBC, EFNA and EAN who met with World Health Organisation (WHO) representatives at the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark to discuss and explore how we can ensure neurology is included in work on non-communicable disease (NCD), universal health coverage (UHC) and more.

The group presented the latest data on disease prevalence, burden, cost and the value of early detection and treatment, in our efforts to step up our activities at the global policy level.

Furthermore, in November 2019, the same group went to WHO global headquarters in Geneva to meet with the Director of the Mental Health and Substance Use Department, Dr. Dévora Kestel. She was joined by her colleague, and neurologist, Dr. Tarun Dua. The MSD Department also covers neurology though it is not mentioned in its official name. Together, EFNA, EBC and EAN were able to appear before the WHO as a united voice from three key European organizations representing neurology patients, neurologists and the whole brain health space, including basic research.

We reiterated our concerns around the terminology used by the WHO and we made it clear we will continue to demand that there be more visibility for neurology in initiatives such as the Mental Health Forum or the Special initiative for mental health (2019-2023) Universal Health Coverage for Mental Health where neurology is covered implicitly, but has a very little practical presence both in initiative names as well as in listed disease areas.

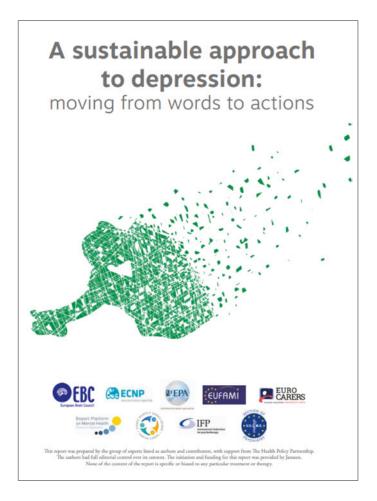


From Words to Action - addressing effective action on major depressive disorders

Since the launch of the joint report entitled 'A sustainable approach to depression: moving from words to actions' in December 2018, the involved organisations – GAMIAN-Europe, the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), the European Brain Council, EUFAMI, the Expert Platform on Depression, Eurocarers, the European College of Neuropsycho-pharmacology, UEMS -Section of Psychiatry and the International Federation for Psychotherapy — continued their work to highlight what was reported in the white paper and the urgent need for concrete and effective action to major depressive disorders.

The report draws from the practical experiences of a variety of innovative projects addressing different aspects of depression across the EU. It lists key factors and findings which can help policymakers develop and put in place concrete, relevant and sustainable policies and initiatives, summarised in 10 practical recommendations. These include the need for integrated services, a focus on young people, a whole family approach, a positive work environment and joined up policies on suicide.

The dissemination of the initiative carried out across 2019 with active social media engagement, blogs and dissemination of the report at congresses and other public events.



Collaboration

EBC supports calls for title change of Commissioner Gabriel

In October 2019, EBC signed an open letter calling on the European Commission to revise the official title of Commissioner Mariya Gabriel to include a reference to research. The letter was supported by a wide range of scientists and academics, including Nobel-prize winners, and eventually gathered more than 13.000 supporters.

Further to the extensive outreach by the scientific community, the European Commission announced in November 2019 that it would change the job title of Mariya Gabriel to "Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth".



MEP Alliance for Mental Health Meeting: The EU and Mental Health - priorities and possibilities for action

EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, was invited to take part in a hearing of stakeholders during the November meeting of the MEP Alliance for Mental Health on "The EU and Mental Health — priorities and possibilities for action". During his speech, he highlighted EBC's priorities as reflected in the 2019 Election Manifesto and EBC's continued advocacy for a European partnership on brain health as well as for increased recognition, awareness and promotion for mental health.



Lifting the burden on neurological disorders

On 23 January 2019, the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) and European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) held a meeting in the European Parliament, "Lifting the Burden of Neurological Diseases", hosted by MEP Karin Kadenbach.

The meeting aimed to present the latest data showing the growing burden of neurological ill-health both at the European and global level. This was illustrated by new data from a project run by EAN: Neurocare. EAN President Prof. F. Fazekas and Past President Prof. G. Deuschl explained that Neurocare aims at understanding the burden of neurology and neurological care, as well as its disparities in Europe and is based on data from the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study.

European Brain Council's Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, was invited to introduce the work of EBC – including the Value of Treatment and EBRA projects—emphasizing that studies such as Neurocare are crucial to have a better picture at the national level which could potentially feed into development of initiatives such as national brain plans. He also remarked on the windows of opportunity to advocate for an ambitious next EU Framework Programme for research, to have an appropriate health research cluster and make sure that neurological and mental health is a formal part of the programme.



Collaboration

Value Added Medicine Conference 2019

EBC was invited to speak at the 2019 Value Added Medicines Conference hosted by Medicines for Europe in Brussels, Belgium. EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, took part in the panel discussion on "Improving patient access to value added medicines: a multi-stakeholder approach", where he was able to provide the patient perspective - deputizing on behalf of Donna Walsh, EFNA Executive Director - on the importance of dialogue with patients and for regulators and payers to better integrate what matters most to patients in their decision-making.



'What if?' Series: Tackling Insomnia in Alzheimer's Disease policy roundtable

EBC Treasurer, Joke Jaarsma, opened and moderated the 4th 'What If' Policy Roundtable on "Tackling Insomnia in Alzheimer's Disease: A Wake-up Call", which convened representatives from across the health policy spectrum, from Members of the European Parliament, patient, carers and healthcare professionals' groups, to scientists, research and industry representatives and scientific leaders to raise awareness about insomnia as a common and burdensome problem for people suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

The panel speakers Tomislav Sokol MEP, Joke Jaarmsa (EFNA, EBC), Dr Jina Swartz (MSD), Tineke Mollema (GAMIAN-Europe), Prof Chantal Van Audenhove (LUCAS KU Leuven) and Prof Markku Partinen (Helsinki Sleep Clinic) presented their perspective on this important issue. Overall, it was made clear that sleep disturbances in people living with Alzheimer's disease represent a significant disease burden on patients, families, carers, healthcare professionals and healthcare systems as a whole.

It was also demonstrated that insomnia is not only a burdensome consequence for people living with dementia but also considered a major risk factor for cognitive decline which in turn can lead to Alzheimer's disease.



Training Initiatives for Neurology Advocates (TINA) Workshop on Neuroscience Research & Development

EBC colleagues took part in the December 2019 in the EFNA-led Training Initiatives for Neurology Advocates (TINA) Workshop on Neuroscience Research & Development: Influencing, Engaging and Optimizing Opportunities for Patient Involvement.



The two day workshop focused on examine the challenges and gaps in patient involvement in neuroscience research, showcasing initiatives currently ongoing to support patient involvement and engagement in medicines development, sharing examples and best practice in involving patients in medicines development in neurology, discussing patient involvement and engagement across the medicines development continuum, including early, pre-clinical and clinical research and development (R&D) and regulatory and reimbursement processes and deciding how EFNA can build on what is already happening to ensure that patients, patient organisations and pharmaceutical companies can work together in developing medicines for neurological conditions across Europe.

EBC was able to present EBRA, particularly the patient engagement aspects of the project and colleagues from MULTI-ACT – a project EBC is heavily involved in – were also present to speak on the work the consortium is doing to increase the impact of health research on people with brain diseases by creating and implementing a new model allowing for the effective cooperation of all relevant stakeholders.

Under TINA, EFNA plans to run at least three workshops annually for neurology patient advocates at both a pan-European and National level.























EBC Members & Partners

Full Members

The European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) brings together European umbrella organizations neurological patient advocacy groups, to work with other associations in the field of neurology and advocate for better quality of life for people in Europe living with a neurological disorder.



GAMIAN-Europe represents a coalition of patient organizations, placing the patient at the centre of all issues of the EU healthcare debate. The organization aims to bring together and support the development and policy influencing capacity of local, regional and national organisations active in the field of mental health.



The Pan European Regional Committee (PERC) of the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) is a global organization resulting from the union of neuroscience organizations with the aim to promote and support neuroscience training and collaborative research around the world. The IBRO-PERC is a Pan European Regional Committee supporting the IBRO mission and helping to plan and implement IBRO activities in Europe. In the last few years, IBRO-PERC has established collaborations with European organizations to promote neuroscience in Europe at all levels, including the training of the next generation of European neuroscientists as well as stimulation of using scientific knowledge to develop and improve treatments of disease.



www.ibro.org @ibroSecretariat

Full Members

FENS, the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies, is the main voice of European neuroscience, representing close to 23,000 European neuroscientists from over 30 European countries. FENS promotes excellence in neuroscience research and neuroscience research to policy-makers, funding bodies and the general public, both regionally and internationally, and facilitates the exchange between neuroscientists within the European Research Area and beyond.



www.fens.org
@FENSorg

EPA, the European Psychiatric Association, deals with psychiatry and its related disciplines with a focus on the improvement of care for the mentally ill as well as on the development of professional excellence. Representing over 78,000 European psychiatrists, EPA is the main association representing psychiatry in Europe.



www.europsy.net @Euro_Psychiatry

The European College of Neuropharmacology was established at the instigation of European scientists to encourage research and facilitate exchange in the convergent disciplines of neuropsychopharmacology. ECNP is committed to ensuring that advances in the understanding of brain function and human behaviour are translated into better treatments and enhanced public health.



The European Academy of Neurology (EAN) is a non-profit organization that unites and supports neurologists across the whole of Europe. EAN is a society of national neurological societies and at the same time a society of individual members. The purpose of EAN is to promote "Excellence in Neurology in Europe". Currently, 45 European national neurological societies as well as 800 individuals are registered members of the EAN. Thus, the EAN represents more than 20,000 European neurologists.



www.ean.org
@EANeurology

Associate Members

The European Chapter is one out of five chapters of the International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology. It encompasses at present 35 European and African member societies. The Chapter is represented by an Executive Board and the delegates of each Member Society.



The European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI) has an ongoing commitment to improve care and welfare for people affected by mental illness. EUFAMI has a number of programmes supporting people affected by severe mental illness and the organisations representing them across Europe.



www.eufami.org
@EUFAMI

The European Stroke Organisation (ESO) is a pan-European society of stroke researchers and physicians, national and regional stroke societies and lay organisations that was founded in December 2007. Their aim is to reduce the incidence and impact of stroke by changing the ways that stroke is viewed and treated.



The European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) is a society for physicians with a research or clinical interest in Paediatric Neurology. With more than 1,500 members, the EPNS is a thriving and growing society which continues to play an important role in and beyond Europe by promoting training, clinical care and scientific research in the field of Paediatric Neurology.



The European Sleep Research Society (ESRS)* is an international scientific non-profit organization that promotes research on sleep and related areas, to improve the care for patients with sleep disorders and to facilitate the dissemination of information regarding sleep research and sleep medicine.



National Brain Councils









Croatia

Czech Republic









The Netherlands

Finland

France

Germany









Hungary

Ireland

Luxembourg

Norway









Poland

Portugal

Serbia

Slovenia



Spain

Industry Partners



BIOMARIN



















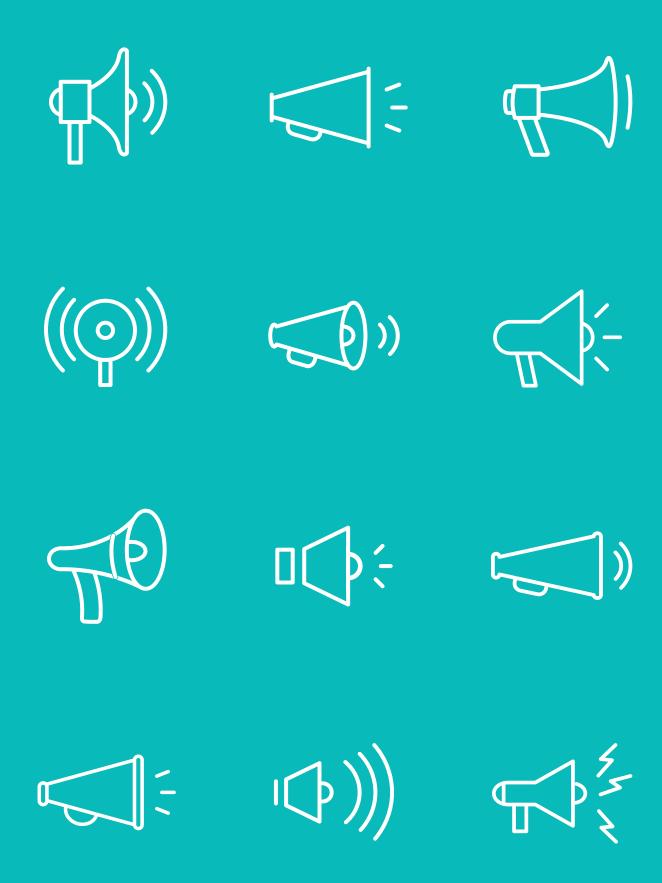












Members' Highlights

EFNA European Federation of Neurological Associations

The #BRAINLIFEGOALS campaign

The #BrainLifeGoals campaign is an initiative of EFNA that aims to raise awareness of the impact of neurological disorders. Sharing #LifeGoals has become a popular trend in social media. #LifeGoals are the often frivolous wishes people have – for example to own a designer handbag or meet a film star. In this campaign EFNA has put a new spin on the trend by encouraging those affect by neurological disorder to instead share their #BrainLifeGoals.

In support of the campaign, EFNA offered grants of €2,500 each to eight projects which best reflect the theme of the campaign, raise awareness and improve understanding of neurological disorder. A panel of six judges was formed to assess applications, comprising of representatives of EFNA and project sponsors. 28 applications were received from 13 different countries and a wide range of disease areas. You can read about the eight winning projects here.

To celebrate World Brain Day (July 22nd), EFNA co-hosted events in four European capitals – Brussels, Bucharest, Dublin and Warsaw! The aim of these events was to hear what matters most to neurology patients in terms of their health outcomes – #BrainLifeGoals – and to discuss how this can be better integrated in policy and decision-making at both the national and EU level. Read reports from all four events here.

In November 2019 EFNA launched a photo competition on the #BrainLifeGoals theme, with participants invited to submit photographs that reflected their own goal for the future.

77 photographs were received from 16 different countries. These insightful pictures represent each photographer's goals for the future, as a person affected by neurological disorder. You can view the winning entries here.



Beth Freeman and Jane Whelan taking part in the #BrainLifeGoals campaign in Dublin on World Brain Day.

Members' Highlights

EFNA



Participants at EFNA's Training Initiatives for Neurology Advocates workshop held in Brussels in March.

Training Initiatives For Neurology Advocates (TINA)

EFNA held two workshops in 2019, as part of the Training Initiatives for Neurology Advocates.

The first, 'Advocating for Access to Neurology Treatment, Services and Supports', took place in Warsaw on October 28th and 29th. The workshop took an in-depth look at HTA – bringing together over 50 patient advocates and other key stakeholders.

A session on Day 1, led by the Global Alliance for Patient Access, gave participants an opportunity to discuss specific access challenges in their countries/disease areas, but also successes. They were tasked with reaching a consensus on the main barriers to access, and to think about where the European neurology patient advocacy community could mobilise and act, with an opportunity to see tangible outcomes. These suggestions were then put to a panel of experts representing patient advocates, industry and health care professionals for comment and refinement.

Presentations can be found here.

The second workshop, entitled 'Neuroscience Research & Development: Influencing, Engaging and Optimizing Opportunities for Patient Involvement' took place on December 3rd and 4th in Brussels.

Over 40 patient advocates and other stakeholders – including researchers, health professionals and industry representatives – came together to examine the challenges and gaps in patient involvement in neuroscience research. We learned more about what initiatives are currently ongoing to support patient involvement and engagement in medicines development; sharing examples of best practice and considering how we could build on these to ensure more meaningful involvement in neuroscience research.

The presentations can be found <u>here</u>.

MEP interest group on Brain, Mind and Pain

Since 2015 EFNA has provided a policy platform for our members and partners to highlight their concerns, work and examples of best practice via the Member of the European Parliament Interest Group on Brain, Mind and Pain (MEP IG) which we coordinate with our colleagues at Pain Alliance Europe.

Two meetings of the MEP IG were held in 2019 at the European Parliament:

- Fighting Discrimination at Work for those affected by neurological disorders and chronic pain conditions on March 6th 2019.
- Ensuring equitable access to treatment, services and support on November 22 2019, which also served as the re-launch of the MEP IG in the new Parliament.

These meetings brought together EU policy makers, EFNA members, industry partners as well as many, mostly Brussels based, relevant NGOs. The detailed meeting reports are available by following the hyperlinks above.

In between these meetings EU elections have taken place. EFNA has been proactively engaging with selected MEPs ahead of the elections. Once the new Parliament was confirmed, EFNA representatives travelled to Strasbourg and twice to Brussels to meet with newly elected MEPs in order to build a support base for the MEP IG in the new term. Nearly twenty MEPs were met during that period. We also reached out to more MEPs via email. As a result, we now have five MEPs that are co-chairing the Group: Jeroen Lenaers, Tilly Metz, Jarosław Duda, Kateřina Konečná and Sirpa Pietikäinen. Forty three MEPs have signed the MEP IG register of supporters.

In parallel to this, EFNA spent much of early 2019 working on the new policy documents for the MEP IG. Our updated Book of Evidence, key messages and advocacy toolkits can now be found on www.brainmindpain.eu, having been presented and fine-tuned at our two-day Advocacy Workshop in March. They were also distributed at meetings with MEPs and they were translated to a number of European languages to tailor the approach.

The new strategy outlined in the Book of Evidence allowed for a fresh approach to the key priorities of EFNA and its partners. They have been co-designed with EFNA members and key stakeholders, including our sponsors, who were actively involved throughout the whole process and especially with a hands-on involvement during the Brussels advocacy workshop that fed into the final shape of the Book of Evidence and accompanying documents. We hope that we now also have advocates across Europe who will work with us to disseminate our EU-level activities in the coming years, and push for real change in their countries.

Members' Highlights

European Academy of Neurology

EAN

The EAN actively contributed in the 2019 activities of the European Brain Council.

EAN contributed to the "Value of Treatment - VOT/cost of non-treatment II" project that aims at bridging the gaps and achieving seamless coordinated care. Three of the six diseases studied and analyzed are neurology related disorders - Ataxia, Dystonia and Phenylketonuria (2018 - 2020).

The study will look at value and early intervention and will explore the potential benefits and consequences of coordinated care through the examination of health services, patient outcomes and patterns of multidisciplinary care. Case studies are conducted in collaboration with experts and with the support of Academic Partners (University College London and University of Zagreb Medical School), applying empirical evidence from different European countries.

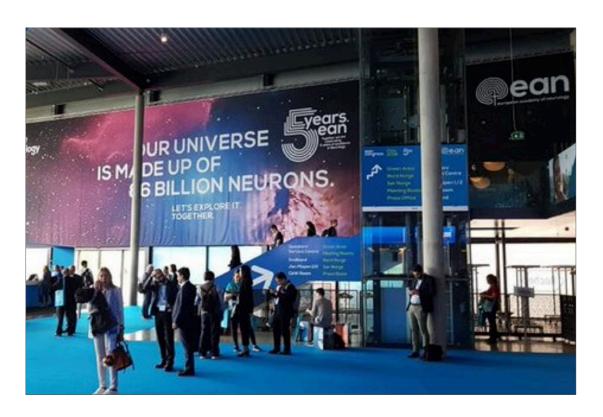
EAN is third party in the EBRA project that wants to be a catalyzing initiative for brain research stakeholders (researchers, clinicians, patients, governments, funders and public institutions) to streamline and better co-ordinate brain research across Europe while fostering global initiatives.

EAN organized a very successful 5th congress in Oslo, Norway. The overarching theme of the congress was "Neuro-inflammation—Science, Synergies, Solutions". The role of neuro-inflammatory process is currently a hot topic in both understanding neurological diseases and in developing new therapies for nervous system diseases. Different aspects of neuro-inflammation but also other diseases were highlighted during the congress across a broad spectrum of sessions. More than 6.000 neurologists attended the Congress.

EAN has recently restructured its activity with regard to European issues by increasing the number of members in the European Affairs sub-Committee. In addition, one of the vice-presidents (prof. W.H. Oertel) in the executive board of the EBC represents Neurology. Prof. G. Deuschl (DE) and Prof. D.B. Vodušek are EAN delegates to EBC.

A prominent EAN member (prof. G. Waldemar) has a seat on the board of the Biomedical Alliance, a lobby group for basic and clinical biomedical science of an important number of medical societies in Europe. Prof. D.B. Vodušek chairs the CME Experts Permanent Committee while Prof. P. Van den Bergh is member of the TF Regulatory Affairs and Medical Devices. Prof. Van den Bergh also sits on the Task Force that looks into Academic Clinical Trials.

Neurology is well represented at the Scientific Panel for Health – Jose Ferro and Wolfgang Oertel. One of the major goals of the Scientific Panel for Health is to create a European Health Research Council, similar to the very successful structure of the European Research Council. All in all, neurology is moving strong in Europe and EAN's impact on health policy in Europe steadily increases.



Members' Highlights

FENS

Federation of European Neuroscience Societies

The 12th edition of the <u>FENS Forum of Neuroscience</u> will take place on 11-15 July 2020 in Glasgow, UK. The programme will be centred around 11 main themes, covering the breadth of modern neuroscience.

The 2020 Forum will include several new session types, including a Brain Debate, eight Mini Conferences and four Technical Workshops.

The Forum will once again be a great opportunity for all participants to learn, grow and network. Early registration and abstract submission are open until 18 February and late registration will end on 23 June 2020.

More information can be found on the <u>FENS Forum</u> website.



Federation of European Neuroscience Societies

Training and Meeting Activities

- FENS organised a wide range of meetings and training activities in 2019, which covered the spectrum of neuroscience, from basic to translational neuroscience. Highlights included the Brain Conference on Alzheimer's disease and the FENS-Hertie Winter School on genetic and epigenetic mechanisms underlying brain disorders.
- The FENS Regional Meeting (FRM) 2019 took place in Belgrade, Serbia, in July 2019, jointly organised by the Serbian Neuroscience Society, the National Neuroscience Society of Romania and Neuroscience Society of Turkey. This meeting brought together over 800 neuroscientists, demonstrating the dynamism of these local-level meetings.
- The CAJAL Advanced Neuroscience Training Programme, developed thanks to the commitment of five partner institutions (FENS, IBRO, the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, University of Bordeaux and the Champalimaud Foundation), has now been established as an independent International Non-Profit Organisation. FENS remains a key partner in the new entity.
- The NENS (Network of European Neuroscience Schools) Network expanded to include virtual courses and now counts 186 programmes. A call for clusters will be issued for the first time in 2020.

Advocacy & Outreach at FENS

- 36 projects held in 20 countries were funded by FENS for the 2019 edition of the Brain Awareness Week, thanks to the support of the Dana Foundation.
- The ALBA Network, of which FENS, IBRO and SfN are founding partners, was officially launched at the FRM 2019. This initiative aims to foster equality and diversity in brain sciences. In collaboration with the FENS-Kavli Network of Excellence, ALBA will be jointly awarding the very first Diversity Prize at the FENS Forum 2020. More information on the ALBA Network can be found here.
- CARE, the Committee on the responsible use of Animals in Research supported a series of transparency workshops across Europe and launched its first travel grants for support staff in 2019. The call for travel grants will be launched again in 2020.

Membership

 In 2019, FENS welcomed the International Neuroinformatics Coordinating Facility (INCF) as a 44th member society. The INCF is a network composed of researchers, infrastructure providers, industry and publishers from 18 countries spanning four continents.

Members' Highlights

IBRO / EPA



International Brain Research Organization

IBRO continued to make impressive progress in 2019 by reinforcing long-term activities and establishing new ones to fill gaps in awareness, capacity building and training. We enjoyed our most successful World Congress in Daegu, South Korea, thanks to the efforts of the local organizing committee and our host societies, the Korea Brain Research Institute (KBRI) and the Korean Society for Brain and Neuroscience. Tracy L. Bale from the University of Maryland School of Medicine was elected the first ever female President of IBRO. She succeeded Pierre Magistretti from EPFL and KAUST who ended his 11-year service with IBRO, first as Secretary General and then President. In addition, Jerome Sanes from Brown University was elected our new Treasurer and Sung-Jin Jeong from KBRI was elected Secretary General Elect.

The first permanent advanced training schools in Asia took place at the Institute of Neuroscience in Shanghai, China, and the RIKEN Center for Brain Science in Wako, Japan, complementing the advanced training centers we support in Africa and in Europe with the now independent Cajal Programme. A neuroethics component was implemented into all IBRO schools by our neuroethics task force, and Young IBRO had its first full year of funding activities.

We have revitalized our relationship with UNESCO through Science of Learning fellowships with its International Bureau of Education and the promotion of basic scientific research with its International Basic Sciences Programme. We have partnered with FENS to develop the Global Brain Museum online resource to preserve brain archives, history and heritage worldwide, and continued our support for the International Brain Initiative, the European Brain Council, the International Brain Bee, the ALBA Network, the Global Engagement Initiative and established new grants for Brain Awareness Week with the Dana Foundation.

Finally, our Governing Council voted for the venue of the next IBRO World Congress which will take place in 2023 in Granada, Spain, to be hosted by the Spanish Neuroscience Society. We are looking forward to further advancing the global neuroscience community in the future.

European Psychiatric Association

The year 2019 was highlighted by a record-breaking 27th European Congress of Psychiatry held in Warsaw, Poland, with the congress achieving the highest number of participants in the history of EPA with over 4,300 delegates from 102 countries. In addition to launching a new and improved website and introducing its second online course via the newly developed EPA e-Learning Platform, the EPA also dedicated the year to planning the move of European Psychiatry to Open Access through a new partnership with Cambridge University Press.

But the year 2019 also marked a deep change in the EU landscape. The newly elected European Parliament and Commission, as well as the discussions around the new budget for the EU, have yielded new challenges for mental health care and for the advocacy initiatives of the EPA.

The EPA provided its contribution to the new research and innovation programme "Horizon Europe", also in collaboration with the EBC. On the occasion of EU elections held in May, in addition to contributing to the EBC Manifesto, the EPA joined forces with EUFAMI and GAMIAN-Europe to call on the EU Parliament to take on and support EU-level action to better address and improve mental health across the EU. Moreover, the EPA continued committing to the work of the MEP Alliance for Mental Health, in particular by putting major efforts to advocate for a dedicated EU-level Mental Health Strategy.

Throughout the year, the EPA has also built new alliances with key stakeholder organisations and witnessed a growing involvement of its Council of NPAs. In particular, the EPA and its Council of NPAs developed targeted lobbying actions toward national governments and delivered joint policy statements on mental health care issues, such as suicide.

"My commitment is to make EPA the single voice of psychiatry in Europe, representing and advocating for European psychiatrists, joining forces and drawing the future and landscape of mental health in Europe."

- Prof. Philip Gorwood, EPA President The EPA initiated strategic alliances with key European organisations, contributing to the launch of the European Pain Forum and developing strategic partnerships with the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) and the European Federation of National Psychologists Associations (EFPA). A progress was made on the projects carried out in partnership with other EU-level organisations: Recover-E Project (led by Trimbos Institute), Developing Trust and Effective Care Project (EPA-GAMIAN leadership), Value of Treatment project - phase II (EPA case studies on "Eating disorders" and "Major depressive disorders"), and the European Brain Research Area (EBRA) project (led by EBC).

The EPA hopes that all of these activities will strengthen the association's role as a leader in supporting and promoting psychiatric clinicians and researchers worldwide. In 2019 and beyond the EPA will continue to offer to all mental health actors a world-class European scientific congress; promote excellence in psychiatric clinical practice and research; provide services with high added value for the EPA's members; support the development of far-reaching European public mental health policies; and fulfil its leadership role in bringing together patients, caregivers and mental health care providers.



EANS

European Association of Neurosurgical Societies

In 2019 the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies as an independent, supranational association of national European neurosurgical societies and individual members continued to focus on its target to enable its members to enhance the care they deliver to their patients by facilitating the exchange of scientific information at the highest level. In pursuit of this goal, we arranged also this year a wide range of meetings, symposia and educational courses, including the European Congress of Neurosurgery, hands-on courses and the highly regarded European Training Courses in Neurosurgery. Every year we try to ensure that the association not only maintains its high standards in all terms, but it further evolves and develops its practices and ideas.

New President

Karl Schaller took over the EANS presidency from Jesus Lafuente during EANS2019 in Dublin. He has announced five axes of action, where he would like to focus on with EANS team: Research, Publication, Transparency, Legacy.

"As individual neurosurgeons we have to strive to provide the best care for our patients. As an organization we have to create opportunities for our individual members and for our membership societies to express themselves and to assist each other in attaining that goal. That works through clinical education and training, through our various committees and sections, through our meetings, and through the manifold opportunities, which we have created throughout the years."



New Executive Director

In 2019 EANS appointed Valentini Amarantidou as its new Executive Director.

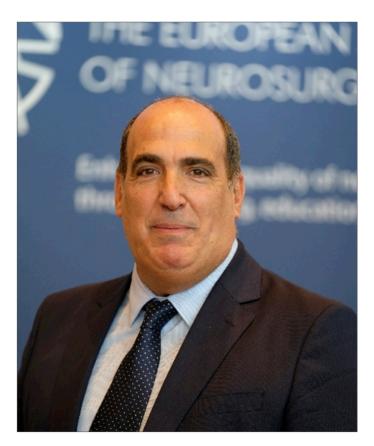
"I have been working for EANS for the past year, and already I have understood the great value and contribution of this association to the neurosurgical society in Europe and the rest of the world. EANS has been and will always remain the cornerstone of the European neurosurgical community, promoting better healthcare for a better world and ensuring that the European standards of neuroscience practices will always reach the highest possible level".



EANS

EANS President 2017-2019

Jesus Lafuente served as EANS President from 2017 to 2019. He communicates EANS achievements over the last year. "Having considered the benefits of our full EBC membership, EANS has now joined forces with psychiatry, basic neuroscience, neurology and neuropharmacology, in advocacy efforts in the European Community".



EBC Full Member

In 2019 the EANS officially became a member of the European Brain Council in June when the Presidents of the EANS and EBC met in Brussels agreeing on a mutual collaboration between the two parties. The EBC President Prof. Monica Di Luca, the Executive Director Mr Frédéric Destrebecq and other Executive Members of the EBC welcomed the EANS delegation consisting of the EANS President Dr Jesus Lafuente, the EANS Executive Director Ms Valentini Amarantidou, Dr Manfred Westphal, Dr Peter Vajkoczy and Ms Martina De Gregorio. At the same time we established our EANS office in Brussels on the premises of EBC.



Academic Development

During the last couple of Congresses, we established the two new sections of Peripheral Nerve and Skull Base, which are now functioning very well. This was in addition to the recently inaugurated Paediatric Neurosurgery section. In 2019 we created a task force called "Frontiers of Neurosurgery" which is intended to preserve and protect areas of our surgical practice that are under threat of falling into other specialties.

Awards and Recognition

We have created a Medal award for Exceptional Service to European Neurosurgery to honour some of our greatest neurosurgeons such as Paolo Cappabianca (2018), Bernard George (2018) and Alexander Konovalov (2019). We have collaborated with ESPN (European Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery) and are happy to see that they are fully integrated with the EANS.



EANS

Education

We have consolidated the three cycles of our flagship training courses, with around 600 participants benefiting from it annually. We have completed a whole year of fully booked hands-on courses. In specific, the three training courses attended 636 participants from 44 countries from all over the world while 8 hands-on courses and 3 CME Courses/ Meetings were organised in various locations around Europe with participants from Europe, Asia, Africa and America.







Annual EANS Congress in Dublin

Taking place from 24th to 29th September in the very heart of Dublin, EANS2019 Congress hosted more than 1700 participants from 25 countries from all over the world who enjoyed a rich scientific programme. In specific, 80% came from Europe, 10% from Asia, 9% from America, 1% from Oceania and Africa. During the congress 1093 abstracts were presented, while 600 copies of the EANSToday Newspaper were distributed.

Karl Schaller took over the EANS presidency from Jesus Lafuente. Karl Schaller stated: "The EANS has become a home to many of us. We are spending some of the most rewarding time of our professional lives during EANS events with some of the finest people we will ever come across in our lives. That is a privilege, and I wish to build on that privilege". Next year EANS2020 will be held in Belgrade. During the Congress Sofia was named the winning bidder for EANS 2022 Congress.







EANS

Societal Collaboration and Global Health

We have signed a contract of collaboration with AANS, whereby AANS will send six trainees per annum to our training courses in exchange for eight trainees from the EANS to courses in the USA. Similarly, we initiated our Intercontinental Collaboration for Training and for the first time in August 2019 we run an EANS Training Course in Argentina. Members of faculty from the EANS were present in order to demonstrate how our courses run and work and to help FLANC run such courses following the EANS Training Course model.



Research Fund

One of our great initiatives has been the creation of the EANS Research Fund. We have nominated as director of this fund a most relevant academic in European neurosurgery. We have established how we will finance the research fund and already we have granted €10K grants to the best European project applications following a selection process.

Barter Agreements

This year we tried to create the base for crosspromotion opportunities and to barter agreements with partner societies. In this context, we connected with partner associations to make the proper arrangements to form long-lasting marketing partnerships. The relationships with our individual members and the member countries form the very groundwork of our association. The same could be said for our relationships with our partners. Together with the partner societies we can work towards promoting better healthcare for a better world and enhancing the quality of neuroscientific care to patients. That is precisely why we aimed this year to build strong, long and fruitful alliances.

Website

The last year our new website was launched. We presented in Dublin our new website, which offers everything you need to know about EANS in a user-friendly environment, with easy access and navigation, fast browsing and above all, a brand-new membership platform. Within this platform, EANS individual members and section members are able to communicate with each other in various forms. Text and photo posts, group posts, participation in section groups, various updates on upcoming opportunities and events - these are just some of the elements our new platform has to offer. EANS new website is considered to be a fountain of endless networking opportunities for EANS members. We urge you to visit www.eans.org and discover how EANS is being reintroduced to the public.



ECNP

European College of Neuropsychopharmacology

2019 saw another full programme of initiatives to advance the science of the brain, promote better treatment and enhance brain health, as well as the election of a new Executive Committee, with Gitte Moos Knudsen (Denmark) succeeding Celso Arango (Spain) as president.

In science:

- The 32nd ECNP Congress was held on 7-10 September in Copenhagen, Denmark, attracting 5,589 participants from 94 countries, spanning the spectrum of applied brain science and CNS treatment research from basic science to clinical care.
- European Neuropsychopharmacology lifted its impact factor to 4.468, ranking 33 out of the world's 494 journals in psychiatry and mental health.
- The ECNP Networks programme expanded with the addition of the Prevention of Mental Disorders and Mental Health Promotion Network, as well as five new thematic working groups on immunoneuropsychiatry, induced pluripotent stem cells for neuropsychiatry, neuromodulation, resilience, and pharmacogenomics and transcriptomics.
- The Neuroscience-based Nomenclature (NbN)
 project began work on a French translation, as
 well as all-new version designed especially for
 patients and members of the wider public.
- The ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award was conferred upon Inga Neumann, Germany (pre-clinical), for her exceptional research contributions to the understanding of neuropeptides.
- The all-new ECNP Negative Results Prize in Clinical Neuroscience for published 'negative' scientific results was awarded to David Brown and his co-authors for 'Evaluation of the Efficacy, Safety, and Tolerability of BI 409306' (Schizophr Bull. 2019 Mar 7;45(2):350-359).
- The all-new ECNP Citation Award for the mostcited research paper in European Neuropsychopharmacology in the last two years was awarded to Christian Bachmann, for 'Trends in ADHD medication use in children and adolescents in five western countries, 2005-2012' (Eur Neuropsychopharmacol. 2017 May;27(5): 484-493).

In education:

- The ECNP Workshop for Junior Scientists in Europe was held on 7-10 March in Nice, France, with 97 participants from 25 countries and 11 speakers. Fifteen participants were funded to speak at the 32nd ECNP Congress, with four poster presenters receiving a € 500 Travel Award to attend the ECNP Congress.
- The ECNP Workshop on Clinical Research Methods was held in 6-8 November in Barcelona, Spain, with 49 participants from 27 countries and 10 faculty.
- 15 junior scientists participated in the ECNP Internship Programme, experiencing shortterm research internship opportunities in institutes across Europe.
- The Workshop Preclinical Data Forum was held on 26 February-3 March in Athens, Greece, with 21 participants, 13 of whom, from Europe, were funded by ECNP, and three faculty.
- The ECNP School of Neuropsychopharmacology was held on 30 June-5 July in Oxford, United Kingdom, with 50 participants from 28 countries and 11 faculty.
- The ECNP School of Child and Adolescent Neuropsychopharmacology was held on 31 March-5 April in Venice, Italy, with 49 participants from 28 countries and 18 faculty.
- Three ECNP Seminars in Neuropsychopharmacology were held on 29-31 March in Palanga, Lithuania (34 Participants); 8-10 November in Zrenjanin, Serbia (18 participants); and 22-24 November in Budapest, Hungary (33 participants).

In outreach:

- The ECNP New Frontiers Meeting in Digital Health was held on 10-11 March in Nice, France; 83 participants from 23 countries and 12 speakers from Europe and North America.
- The ECNP Brain Day was held on 7 September in Copenhagen, Denmark, with seven speakers and 200 members of the general public attending.
- Memberships and supporting grants were continued for the Biomedical Alliance in Europe, European Brain Council (EBC), European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT), Federation of European Neuro science Societies (FENS), Expert Platform on Mental Health – Depression (EPD), and Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks (GAMIAN-Europe).

More than 50 scientific meetings held every year

- Spanning all aspects of scientific, educational, and regulatory dialogue
- Bringing together researchers and clinicians from over 100 countries for fruitful scientific exchange

300 young scientists trained every year

Paid for by ECNP

GAMIAN- Europe

GAMIAN-Europe

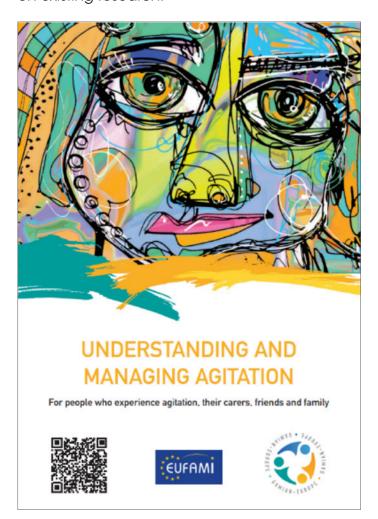
The MEP Alliance for Mental Health October Event

In a meeting held in the European Parliament on October 16th, some 120 representatives of health-related organisations and policy institutions voiced their support for concrete EU-level action in the field of mental health. The meeting, organised by the MEP Alliance for Mental Health and the Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks (GAMIAN-Europe), 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.



Launch of the Understanding and Managing Agitation Report

Agitation is a common experience for people diagnosed with bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and dementia. Agitation is also experienced by people with depression and anxiety disorders. GAMIAN-Europe, in collaboration with the European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI) has produced a guide which aims to provide information for people who experience agitation and those close to them. It includes a description of what agitation is, how it can be managed and what available treatments can help. It is written from the perspective of people with lived experience of agitation and carers, and also draws on existing research.



GAMIAN- Europe

Suicide Prevention in young adults: World Mental Health day 2019 social media campaign

World Mental Health Day 2019 focused on suicide prevention. Suicide is a major public health concern affecting people of all ages and one of the leading causes of death among young people. This is why we chose to address this issue to mark the World Mental Health Day 2019.

In our infographic, you will find useful information on suicide in young people and how it can be prevented. The video will provide you with an insight into the experience of people who survived suicide and how they managed it.

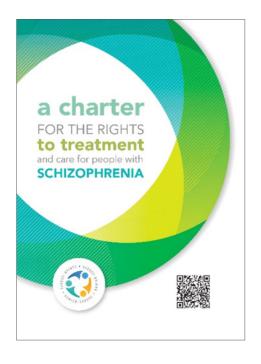
The launch of 'A Charter for the Rights to Treatment and Care for People with Schizophrenia'

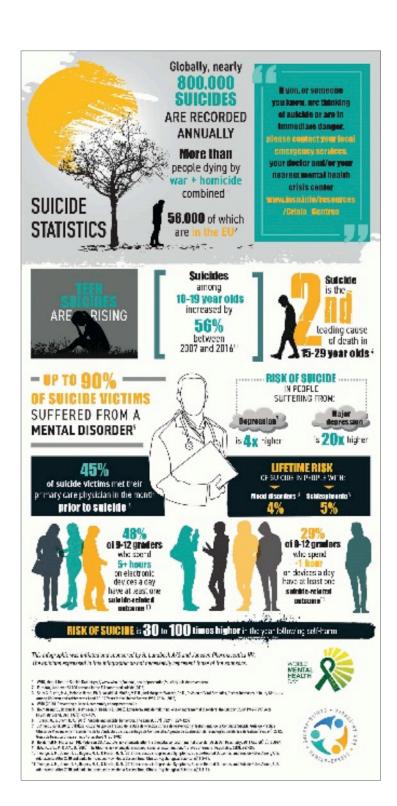
The impact of a diagnosis of schizophrenia is often devastating; affecting relationships, the ability to work and much more.

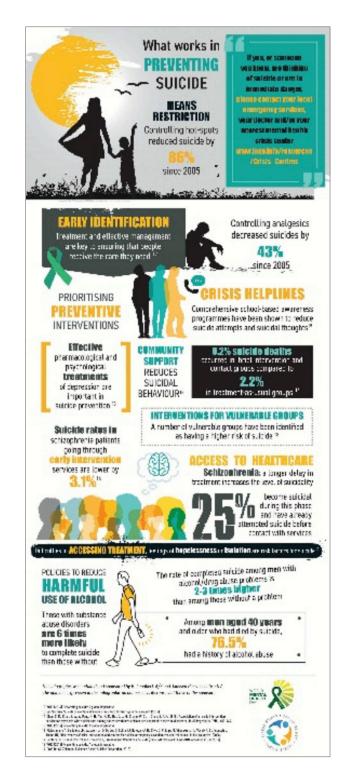
It is important to ensure that the rights and expectations of people living with schizophrenia are maintained and upheld; now an urgent priority.

The purpose of this Charter is to define the rights, expectations and responsibilities for mental health care and treatment from the persons' perspective.

We, members of organisations representing people diagnosed with schizophrenia, believe that it is essential that people with a diagnosis of schizophrenia are empowered to make informed choices about their care and treatment, and to be aware of their rights and what they can expect when they receive mental health services.





























National Brain Councils

5th Academy Meeting of National Brain Councils

EBC organized the 5th Academy Meeting of National Brain Councils (NBCs) in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 9th-10th May 2019. The meeting was hosted by the Croatian Brain Council and brought together delegates from 15 European countries for 2 days of progress reports, discussion and brainstorming on joint initiatives.

The meeting included presentations from all NBCs on their activities and events of 2018 as well as their planned initiatives scheduled for 2020. What is more, various stakeholders from Austria, Greece and Malta attended the meeting and presented updates on their recent efforts to launch Brain Councils in these countries.

Prof. Zeljka Krsnik (Croatian Institute for Brain Research), Prof. Maja Relja (University of Zagreb) and Prof. Ninoslav Mimica (Alzheimer Croatia) shared their perspectives on the policy priorities that could be part of the agenda of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the EU (Jan-Jun 2020) as part of the session on "Driving Health & Research in the EU during the Croatian Presidency".



National Brain Councils



The Academy Meeting also provided an opportunity to present EBC's Horizon Europe advocacy and align strategies as to the ongoing negotiations on this programme.

The Academy Meeting closed with the award ceremony of the "NBC Awards", launched by EBC in order to recognize the work of the NBCs at the national level. The awards were awarded to the following NBCs:

- Belgian Brain Council (Prof. Roland Pochet)
 Value as a transversal platform (shared first place)
- Portuguese Brain Council (Prof. António Freire)
 Value as a transversal platform (shared first place)
- Serbian Brain Council (Prof. Pavle Andjus)
 Local development
- Spanish Brain Council (Prof. Jose Luis Trejo)
 Inclusiveness and impact

1st Regional Meeting of National Brain Councils

EBC organized the 1st Regional Meeting of National Brain Councils (NBCs), bringing together a wide range of health stakeholders from South-East Europe, in collaboration with the Serbian Brain Council in Belgrade on 10th July 2019. On this occasion, delegates from 9 different European countries, representing NBCs, patient groups, psychiatric associations and neuroscience societies, met in order to exchange views on regional challenges, joint initiatives and outreach activities. The meeting also provided an opportunity to share best practices and explore areas for further cooperation.

The programme included an introduction to the network of NBCs as well as the main advocacy initiatives of EBC. Dr. Srećko Gajović (Croatian Brain Council), Dr. Harry Alexopoulos (Hellenic Society for Neuroscience) and Dr. Ana-Maria Zagrean (National Neuroscience Society of Romania) subsequently presented some of the recent activities of their organizations aimed at fostering science and addressing the impact of brain disorders.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the FENS Regional Meeting (10th-13th July 2019).





















Stakeholders' Highlights

European Advocates for Epilepsy MEP group meeting held on International Epilepsy Day

In February 2019, EBC was invited to take part in a meeting of the European Advocates for Epilepsy MEP group, organised by Epilepsy Alliance Europe joint task force of IBE and ILAE in Europe, aimed to report on the unmet needs in the field of epilepsy and the status of epilepsy research priorities at a global level.

At the lunch, 12 MEPs, from Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Finland, Luxembourg, Romania and Slovenia, voiced their support for the 6 million people living with epilepsy in Europe. In turn, the MEPs heard from speakers about the continued unmet needs of people living with epilepsy and the need for improved services, novel new treatments and actions designed to educate the public about epilepsy and, thereby, reduce discrimination.

EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, was able to present and outline the purpose and expectations of EBRA – to address the problems of duplication and fragmentation of research efforts and that would encourage more collaboration and better coordination of brain research at EU and global levels – and other ongoing EBC work.



Stakeholders' Highlights

Societal Impact of Pain Symposium 2019

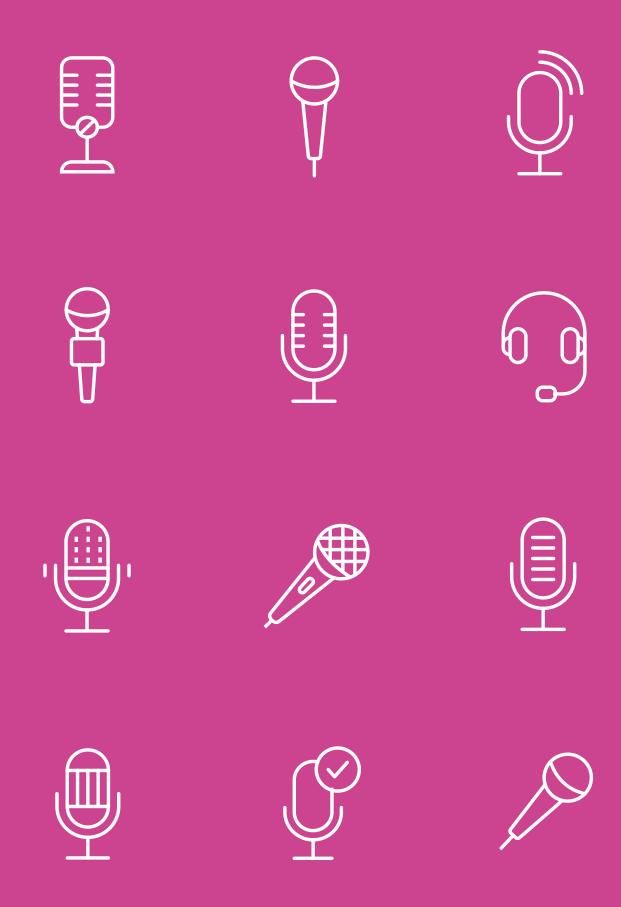
The international Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) 2019 Symposium on "Bringing Pain Policy to the next Decade" took place in Brussels, Belgium in December 2019.

EBC was invited to take part in a number of ways, with an exhibition booth showcasing our work and numerous projects, an EBRA poster displayed and presented during the conference poster session and a moderating role for EBC Exective Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, in the session on Pain Research – SIP Joint Statement Implementation. Since the publication of the Joint Statement in 2019, SIP and its national Platforms have been actively seeking to raise awareness of and implement the Recommendations. In this session, Speakers presented activities which have been launched in 2019 to address the Recommendations on pain research.









Media Report Publications

VOT featured in «SumEMos» publication in Spain

The publication "SumEMos: Análisis y propuestas para contribuir a normalizar la vida con EM" integrates all voices from the Multiple Sclerosis community in Spain. The Value of Treatment project & EBC were featured in this Spanish publication dedicated to health and social care for MS in Spain.

More details

Full publication





Media Report

of brain disorders in Europe

Publications

EBC was featured in the Open Access Government October 2019, where EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, explained the importance of tackling the growing burden of brain disorders in Europe.

Tackling the growing burden

Full publication

NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

Tackling the growing burden of brain disorders in Europe

Frédéric Destrebecq, Executive Director of the European Brain Council explains the importance of tackling the growing burden of brain disorders in Europe

ver the last decades, neurological and mental conditions have steadily progressed to adjusted life years (DALN) and the second leading causes of disability-adjusted life years (DALN) and the second leading cause of death worldwide. In Europe alone, an estimated 179 million European live he second leading cause of death worldwide. In Europe alone, an estimated 179 million European live with brain disorders and it in a are set to live with one within their lifespan. Every year, treating brain conditions accurate for 39% of Europe's total disease burden with a yearly cost of CPB billion, or which 50% are related to direct costs (both medical and non-medical) PLATA, which, in spike of the magnitude of these numbers, are still considered to be underestimated and ouddated. New epidemiological and economic studies are currently underways to analyse the extent of this burden on European and exholts contine.

The Global Burden of Disease study (WHA, GBB 2016 estimated that neurological disorders were the cause of 276 million DALYs (11.5% of global DALYs for all diseases) and 9 million odaths (16.5% of total global ceatrs in 2016). Neurological disorders were the leading cause group of deaths in 2016, while mental disorders accounted for 13 bits O DALYs. "It his high burden *Pamp be surprising as there is a general lack of awareness not the neurosciences of than disorders."

rowever, the growing number of currents can diagnosed with brain conditions makes clear that the burden of these diseases place on society will no change its course. This burden is continuous due to the epidemiological transition from acute to chronic diseases and the increase in life expectancy, but also because of sevent socio-economic, environmental an behavioural health determinants.

National brain plans

It is been that prioring excelor is research at a nevers. With health being a member state competency, this lack of awareness, prioritisation and disjunction in addressing the burden grows only stronger. Robust consistency and addressing the burden grows only stronger and strong containing the stronger and strong containing the stronger and strong containing the stronger and stronger and stronger containing concerning levels of burdens, such as brain disporters—neurological and mental alike. In 2015, the European Brain Council called on the European Union (EU) Member States to work scoley with patient representatives, scientific societies and clinicians towards desping and establishing National Paria Plans, which aim to provide a holistic strategy to accelerate brain research and reduce the impact of brain disorders. Norway and Poland have spearheaded the burch of National Brain Plans, which constitute a key roof for supporting brain research and improving the quality of treatment. By countries (either EU or non-EU) recognising the brain as a priority, the urgency of addressing the burden is demonstrated and camp lay a major root the top of the EU research and personnel and pay a major root the top of the EU research and head to grand and the polan to the top of the EU research and head that genda.

Calls for increased funding Counting down to zero

Horizon Europe is key in playing a positive role in addressing the burden of brain disorders, though the mention of health research, or brain research, specific cally— is suzare and the recognition that funding in this field has continuously dropped over the last three Framework Programmes is neglected. In fact, this budget confirms a relative decrease of funding over time and across Framework Programmes, a health was previously allocated 12% under the 7th Framework Programmes. Programme, 10% under Horizon 2020 and now 8% in the Horizon Europe proposal ^{EQ}

Despite the progress in medical science during recent decades: and recent breakthrought, which have provided a powerful dual opportunity to relieve the societal burden of neurological and mental disorders and innovate at the frontiers of etchnicog, the inherent complexity of the nervous system has hampered our translational capacity and the vast majority of brain disorders remain without efficient cures. In order to ensure that Horizon Europe becomes a robust instrument for supporting brain research, budgets need to march the challenge. The 427-billion provisionally allocated to the 'health' cluster under Pillar I is not commensurate with the total budget increase and will clearly be insufficient to effectively address the societal challenges associated with health research.

Brain, Mind & Pain

The reessablishment of the Brain, Mind & Fain MEP interest Group is a positive sign find the newly elected European Parliament sees the importance of the group. The Group's Fist course of action was to release its Book of Evidence for the 2019-2024 mandate, which coullines clear flows areas and proposes recommendations for policy actions, which, if implemented, would significantly improve the quality of life for people with neurological and chronic pain disorders, as well as their families and carers. This Book of Vidence and the work of the BMP Interest Group as a whole contributes to the vision of the brain community on the reorganisation of care systems and services to respond to the growing unemer needs of patients.

The value of treatment

Discussions on healthcare focus too otten on the increase in per-gross healthcare cost rather than on the benefits of better health through early detection and early intervention. It is, therefore, important to emphasize on the need for more value-based and papiencient care as well as strategies of early diagnosis and intervention, which proves to be cost-efficient and cost efficient and cost on m.N. B.

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Frédéric Destrebecq Executive Director

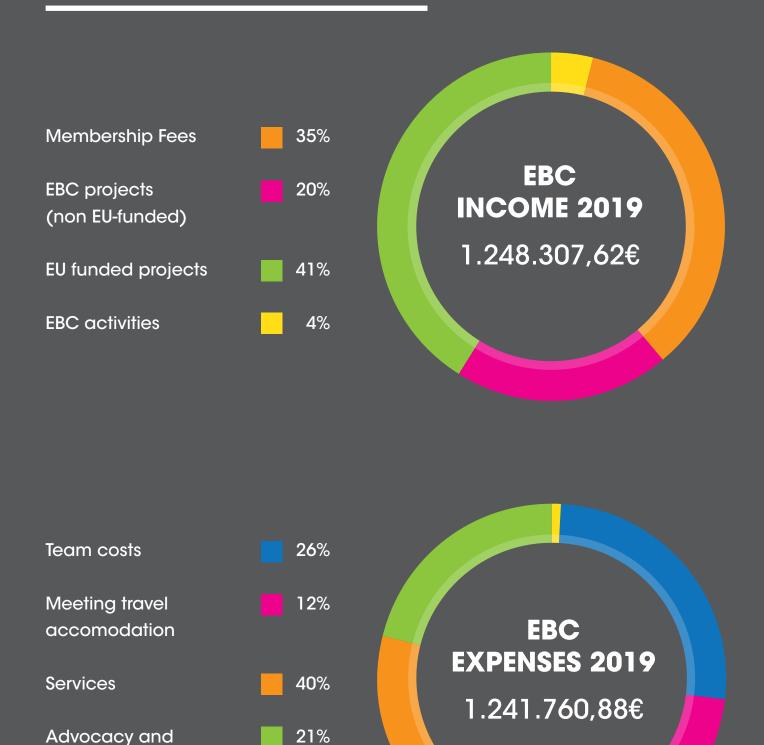
European Brain Council (EBC) let: ~32 2 513 27 57 info@braincouncil.eu www.braincouncil.eu



Financial Report

communication

Other



1%

EBC Executive



Prof. Monica Di Luca President



Prof. Wolfgang Oertel Vice-President



Prof. Patrice Boyer Vice-President



Joke Jaarsma Treasurer

The progress achieved in 2019 was made possible by the great efforts of EBC's Executive as well as the growing team at our Brussels Office.



Giovanni Esposito Research Project Manager

Giovanni Esposito moved on from EBC at the end of 2019. We thank him for his successful years within the team!

EBC Brussels Office

Executive Director



Frédéric Destrebecq Executive Director



Cécile GrebetHead of Finance
& Administration

Finance & Administration Team



Latifah Irakiza Office Manager



Rik Bollaert Partnership Project Manager

Joined in March 2020

Communications, Advocacy & Policy Team



Stephanie Kramer Head of Communications, Advocacy & Policy



Marijn Scholte Policy Officer



Domenico Iannone Communications & Events Intern

Joined in March 2020



Dominika Suchonova Communications Intern

Joined in March 2020

Projects Team



Elke De Witte Head of Project Development



Kristien AartsProject Manager



Françoise van Hemelryck Senior Project Manager



Vinciane Quoidbach Public Health& Policy, Research Project Manager



Clara Finocchiaro Senior Project Manager

Annex - Meetings

- 18th January Anorexia Nervosa case study and Major Depressive Disorder case study Kick-Off meeting, Brussels
- 22nd January 2019 Women and Dementia in Europe, Brussels
- 23rd January 2019 MEP Brain Mind Pain Interest Group Meeting: "Lifting the burden on neurological disorders", European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 21st February 2019 Patient Value Summit 2019, Brussels, Belgium
- 6th March 2019 Brain, Mind, Pain Interest Group Meeting, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 13th March 2019 Not Myself Today (Spain) Toolkit Introduction Session, Barcelona, Spain
- 15th March 2019 Advocacy & Campaigning Workshop 'Advocating for Systemic Change', Brussels, Belgium
- 18th March 2019 Not Myself Today introduction meeting at Merck Belgium, Overijse, Belgium
- 6-9th April 2019 EPA Congress, Warsaw, Poland
- 17th April 2019 Irish Brain Council Satellite Events at British Neuroscience Festival, Dublin, Ireland
- 6th May 2019 European Commission's Scientific Panel for Health Forum: 'Enabling health equality in Europe the role of health research', Brussels, Belgium
- 9th May 2019 5th Academy of National Brain Council's, Dubrovnik, Croatia
- 13th May 2019 BioMed Alliance Policy Officers Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 14th May 2019 "Ensuring a better today and tomorrow for people with Alzheimer's Disease" Workshop, Brussels, Belgium
- 14th May 2019 Biomed Alliance Spring Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 15th May 2019 Autism Spectrum Disorder Kick Off Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 15th May 2019 VoT2 Joint Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 16th May 2019 Belgian Brain Council Reception, Brussels, Belgium
- 27-28th May 2019 MULTI-ACT 3rd Consortium Meeting, Rome, Italy
- 3rd June 2019 Mental health expert group (Words to Action) teleconference
- 5th June 2019 Rethinking MS Roundtable, Rome, Italy
- 6-8th June 2019 ENMESH Conference, Lisbon, Portugal
- 12th June 2019 IMI Stakeholder Forum, Brussels, Belgium
- 13th June 2019 FIPRA Conference, "Can we regulate for innovation and can we innovate in regulation?", Brussels, Belgium

- 17-19th June 2019 EHMA Conference, Espoo, Finland
- 21st June 2019 Annual RIMS Conference, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 27th June 2019 Connecting Healthcare | EFPIA 2019 Annual Conference, Brussels, Belgium
- 29th June-1st July 2019 EAN Congress, Oslo, Norway
- 9th July 2019 Knowledge4Innovation Welcome Reception for the new MEPs, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 11-12th July 2019 «The future of health Advancing the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Europe» - PACT Event, Brussels, Belgium
- 1st August 2019 Politico Pro Intelligence Introduction Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 7-10th September 2019 ECNP Congress, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 17th September 2019 Rethinking MS Roundtable, Madrid, Spain
- 21st-25th September 2019 IBRO World Congress, Daegu, South Korea
- 7th October 2019 Mental Health Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 16th October 2019 MEP Alliance for Mental Health Parliament Event, Brussels, Belgium
- 21st October 2019 MULTI-ACT Review Preparatory Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 22nd October 2019 MULTI-ACT Official Review Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 28th October 2019 TINA Event, Warsaw, Poland
- 6th November 2019 Brain Mind Pain Interest Group Meeting: Ensuring equitable access to treatment, services and support, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 12th November 2019 MULTI-ACT mid-term public event, Brussels, Belgium
- 18th November 2019 EAN, EFNA and EBC meeting at WHO HQ, Geneva, Switzerland
- 27th November 2019 VoT2 Researchers Meeting
- 3rd December 2019 4th What If Policy Roundtable: Tackling Insomnia in Alzheimer's Disease: Wake Up Call, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
- 4th December 2019 TINA Workshop on Neuroscience Research & Development: Influencing, Engaging and Optimizing Opportunities for Patient Involvement, Brussels, Belgium
- 5th December 2019 EBRA Public Event, Brussels, Belgium
- 5th December 2019 EBRA Consortium Meeting, Brussels, Belgium
- 10th December 2019 "The digital transformation of healthcare" roundtable, Brussels, Belgium

Annex of Speakers at EBC Board Meetings

Dr. Antonella Santuccione

Women's Brain Project

Ms. Peggy Maguire

European Institute of Women's Health

Mr. Stéphane Hogan

Head of Sector Stakeholder Engagement, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission

Mr. Tim Raemaekers

Neuroscience Team, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission

Credits

This report was compiled by the team of EBC's Brussels Office.

Graphic design by Cookdesign scrl

This report has been designed in line with best practice guidelines of visual accessibility.

We welcome feedback and suggestions for maximising the readability of our publications.

Please email your comments to: info@braincouncil.eu





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