

EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER - July 2020

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EBC Activities



Brain Innovation Days likely impacted by latest COVID-19 measures in Belgium

Following the [latest announcement of the Belgian COVID-19 National Security Council on 27 July](#) – strengthening the measures designed to contain the coronavirus in Belgium — the Brain Innovation Days team is currently evaluating the new measures put in place by the government and how they will impact the way the event is to be organised this coming October 2020. More information will follow soon via the Brain Innovation Days newsletter, website and social media channels.

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Annual Report 2019 released

2019 was another big year for EBC. Read about all our various activities, projects, events and more that took place throughout the year.

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EPA 2020 Virtual Congress-Workshop: The Value of Treatment for Eating Disorders: A Joint EPA & EBC Project

During the EPA (European Psychiatric Association) Virtual Congress, EBC together with EPA and Gamian-Europe hold a workshop on **"The Value of Treatment for Eating Disorders: A Joint EPA & EBC Project"** chaired by Professors Janet Treasure and Palmiero Monteleone. We were pleased to welcome Eva Bonin (London School of Economics), Umberto Volpe (Marche Polytechnic University), Fernando Fernandez-Aranda (University Hospital Bellvitge-IDIBELL and CIBERObn), Philip A. Gorwood (Sainte-Anne Hospital), Miia Männikkö (EUFAMI) as speakers of this workshop.

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Event report: FENS Forum 2020 – Special Interest Event: Global Research Collaboration

The bi-annual Federation of European Neuroscience Society (FENS) Forum, the largest international neuroscience meeting in Europe, was held on 11-15 July 2020. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the **FENS Forum** was held entirely virtually, making it accessible from all over the world and giving access to all sessions, lectures, events and the exhibition hall up to three months afterwards.

In this context, EBC organized a series of activities within the Forum, particularly on the topic of **Global Brain Research Collaboration** on 13 July, highlighting the importance of creating partnerships within research, with a focus on brain research.

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World Brain Day 2020 dedicated to Parkinson's disease

The 6th annual **World Brain Day**, celebrated on July 22, was dedicated to raising awareness for Parkinson's disease and promoting patient advocacy. EBC joined the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) and the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society (MDS) in spreading the word about the importance of this most complex human organ. The first video of the EBC "Science & Society" series, focused on Parkinson's, was highlighted.

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Brain diseases at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic

EBC President, Prof. Monica Di Luca, contributed to the July 2020 edition of Open Access Government with a piece on "Brain diseases at the time of the COVID-19 pandemic" where she highlighted the importance of continuous prioritisation and attention to brain research during the pandemic.

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EBRA releases project video

EBRA has released its project video, introducing the project as a whole – at both the operational and strategic levels – as well as the main activities ongoing and still to come. The video is an additional tool to disseminate the project at a much wider level, breaking down the project in a clear and understandable manner, providing insight on the Shared European Brain Research Agenda (SEBRA), the clusters and the key aims and mission of the project.

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EBC Members



EAN launches international patient registry to gather data on neurological implications of COVID-19

The European Academy of Neurology (EAN) has launched an international patient registry to gather data on neurological implications of COVID-19 disease. EAN is collaborating with the Neurocritical Care Society (NCS) to share data from the Ean NEuro-covid ReGistry (ENERGY) and the NCS registry, ensuring a truly global data collection. Neurological implications of COVID-19 are not yet fully understood and there is a need for systematic collection of reliable data and their further evaluation. Healthcare facilities interested in joining the registry and providing the data can apply through the following link:

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EANS2020 goes virtual

The 20th European Congress of Neurosurgery will mark an important anniversary of EANS congresses, providing an excellent opportunity to look back and to look forward, and to explore the path for the future.

The Congress theme – Trends, Insights, Innovations: Neurosurgery beyond Technology – addresses the complex relation between technological advances and human ingenuity in the field of neurosurgery.

Join the neurosurgery community and be part of #EANS2020 Congress, to be held virtually this year due to COVID-19.

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Register now to attend the ECNP Congress this September

Discover the latest advancements in the science and treatments of brain disorders at the 33rd #ECNP Congress Virtual, 12-15 September.

Over 150 world-class speakers will present the world's best brain science and treatment research, with live Q&A and on-demand sessions for three months after the congress.

We will also host over 800 interactive e-poster presentations, which will be available 24/7.

Register today via the link below. We look forward to meeting you online!

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Results of EFNA's Survey on Stigma and Neurological Disorder

To mark World Brain Day 2020, EFNA published the results of its recent survey on stigma and neurological disorder.

1373 responses to the survey were received from 37 countries, with responses from a diverse range of neurological conditions.

This survey stemmed from a previously conducted survey of 18 – 35 year olds living with neurological disorders. The survey explored problems faced by this age group, as well as their feelings around levels of understanding of their disorder and their engagement in advocacy work or patient groups. Following closely behind 'access to medication and treatment', two of the biggest issues reported were 'stigma' and 'isolation'. Given these results, EFNA has chosen to delve further into the stigma suffered by those with neurological disorders, by commissioning this survey into its causes and effects.

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EPA holds its first fully virtual congress

For the EPA's first fully virtual congress, we were delighted to welcome around 3000 participants from more than 100 different countries! With a number of live sessions, thematic chats, and a specific track of symposia and courses on COVID-19, we hope you found the experience as stimulating and enriching as we did.

Registered participants still have access to the full scientific programme of on-demand session webcasts, but registration is still open for those who missed the virtual congress dates. Don't miss this opportunity to view sessions about scientific updates, COVID-19 perspectives, and clinical workshops, all through the congress platform.

In addition, the 2020 EPA Forum preceding the virtual congress was opened by an address by EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella Kyriakides, who highlighted the importance of collaboration when facing the mental health consequences of COVID-19. During the Forum, patients, carers, policy makers and mental health experts shared their view on the impact of COVID-19 and outlined the common challenges encountered over the past months. A recording of the EPA Forum is accessible to all on the congress website.

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FENS 2020 Virtual Forum: enjoy extended access!

The FENS 2020 Virtual Forum brought together more than 5,000 attendees from 88 countries for a new virtual community experience.

Registered delegates can now take advantage of the extended access until 15 October 2020 to catch up on any of the Forum sessions, posters and visit the exhibition. Prolong the experience by listening to the Forum podcasts or by joining #FENSFriday on social media every week.

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GAMIAN-Europe and EFN release statement on supporting frontline nurses' mental health and wellbeing

Frontline nurses face a critical situation and this is where the focus should be now. Together with The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN), GAMIAN-Europe calls on the EU institutions, all EU Member States, the health industry, and all other health stakeholders to act on the mental health and wellbeing of nurses. Read the full statement:

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Joint ERN-RND, EURO-NMD & EAN educational webinars

The European Reference Networks for Rare Neurological Diseases (ERN-RND) and for Rare Neuromuscular Diseases (ERN EURO-NMD) organise joint educational webinars throughout the year in collaboration with the European Academy of Neurology (EAN).

Webinars have been scheduled until the end of the year, you can find the full schedule [here](#):

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For your Agenda

- 7 - 9 September 2020 - [HIMSS & Health 2.0 European Conference](#), Helsinki
- 12 - 15 September 2020 - [33rd ECNP Congress](#), Virtual Meeting
- 21 - 24 September 2020 - [NEURO 2020 Summit](#), Salamanca
- 22 - 24 September 2020 - [European Research and Innovation Days 2020](#), Brussels
- 13 - 14 October 2020 - [Brain Innovation Days](#), Brussels
- 18 - 22 October 2020 - [EANS2020](#), Belgrade
- 26 October 2020 - [EU Health Summit: Time for Action](#), Brussels
- 10 November 2020 - [IMI Stakeholder Forum 2020 "Broader horizons: growing Europe's health partnership"](#), Virtual Meeting
- 19 November 2020 - [European Life After Stroke Forum](#), Barcelona
- 8 December 2020 - [Encephalitis Conference](#), London



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