

# EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER - October 2020

braincouncil.eu



## EBC Activities



### Brain Innovation Days Digital Launch: a 1-year journey to explore the future of brain research and innovation

The European Brain Council and [beLean.net](https://belean.net) launched the first ever Brain Innovation Days on 13 October 2020, kicking off one full year of a packed brain innovation agenda.

This lunchtime interactive session fell under the overarching theme, “**Disrupt and rewire: How brain innovation is changing Europe**” and brought together representatives from the European Commission, the European Medicines Agency, the Innovative Medicines Initiative and the European Parliament alongside key opinion leaders, researchers, start-ups, clinicians and more to explore and answer the question: why is brain innovation important and how is it changing Europe and the world?

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### Brain Innovation Days Pitch Competition: call for applications open

The **Brain Innovation Days Pitch Competition** call for applications is currently open!

This competition is open to everyone – student, entrepreneur, startup – as long as the project is feasible and in the brain innovation area. This is a unique opportunity to win new financial & strategic opportunities and to provide outstanding visibility to your project.

A jury consisting of representatives from EBC, [beLean.net](https://belean.net) and external experts will select the most innovative project. The deadline to apply is 30 November.

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## Prof. Monica Di Luca, EBC President, featured in Open Access Government

Prof. Monica Di Luca, EBC President, was featured in the **October 2020 edition of Open Access Government** where she shed light on the greater impact of Brexit in terms of health and brain research. She highlighted the importance of collaboration and the need to continue partnership with the UK for the sake of cross-border science, education and for the future of brain research and those it impacts.

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## EBC celebrate World Mental Health Day

EBC celebrated **World Mental Health Day** on social media channels on **10 October**.

World Mental Health Day is observed every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. The goal of this year's campaign was to encourage **increased investment in mental health**.

The day provided an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work and further needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

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## EU Health Summit: Time for action

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us the importance of cooperation between all sectors and actors to ensure our healthcare systems can function to their best ability in saving human lives.

In 2018, 33 organisations - including EBC - came together under the umbrella of the EU Health Coalition. They jointly developed 20 recommendations for a healthier Europe to promote a shared vision of health in Europe.

This year, it is time for action. For **the second edition of the EU Health Summit**, that took place on 26 October 2020, all participants developed implementing actions for policymakers and stakeholders to translate the 2018 recommendations into concrete policy change and improve Europeans' health and health systems' sustainability.

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## MULTI-ACT Public Consultation on Patient Engagement - Results & key findings

MULTI-ACT was pleased to share **the results and key findings** on the **Consultation on the MULTI-ACT Patient Engagement Strategy**.

The aim of the web survey, launched in October 2019, was to engage stakeholders of Health Research & Innovation (R&I) to share their views on specific aspects of the patient engagement in research and innovation in order to consolidate the MULTI-ACT Patient Engagement Strategy with relevant insights.

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# EBC Members



## eEANS 2020 Beyond Borders Virtual Congress

eEANS 2020 Beyond Borders Virtual Congress took place from 19 to 21 October 2020. EANS held their very first virtual congress and it was a success!

Under the theme "**Highlights of European Neurosurgery**" and a free of charge registration, eEANS 2020 truly took European Neurosurgery Beyond Borders! 2500 delegates from 115 countries, more than 50 outstanding lectures and a virtual exhibition with many features and interesting content, made the eEANS 2020 Virtual Congress a true highlight event in global neurosurgery.

Let's hope to meet in person for the EANS Annual Congress, Hamburg 2021!

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## History of neuroscience: call for online projects

The **FENS call for history of neuroscience online projects** aims to create a virtual public platform to document the history and development of neuroscience.

The grants offered by FENS prioritise projects in which historic material such as films, photos, images or histological slides are presented online.

The best projects will be awarded a support of up to EUR 1,500.

Submission deadline: 15 December 2020

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## Last chance to submit your abstract for EPA 2021

The **abstract submission deadline** for the 2021 EPA Congress has been **extended to 3 November 2020!** If you have not submitted a research abstract yet, don't miss out the chance to do so on the congress website. Check the list of abstract topics and guidelines for submission for a chance to get excellent exposure among thousands of international experts in the field of psychiatry.

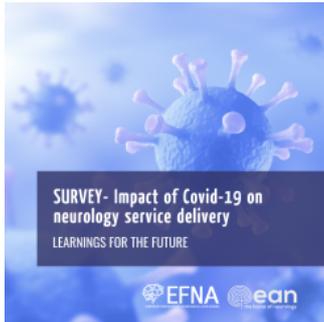
Authors of accepted abstracts will be given the opportunity to present their research at the 29th European Congress of Psychiatry.

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## EAN consensus statement for management of patients with neurological diseases during the COVID-19 pandemic

As the pandemic escalates, there is clearly a vacuum in expert advice in many areas. The **statement from the European Academy of Neurology (EAN)** aims to help in filling in this void. The paper provides a structured consensus statement on good clinical practice in patients with neurological disease during COVID-19 pandemic which guides neurologists using refined Delphi methodology.

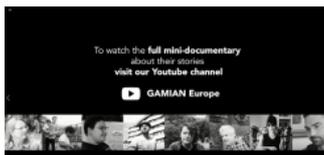
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### Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on neurology service delivery

The European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA), together with the European Academy of Neurology, have launched **a survey to determine the impact of COVID-19 on neurology service delivery**. The survey will allow neurologists across Europe to understand the views of their patients to the approaches adopted during the pandemic, learnings which can be applied in the future delivery of care. Sharing your experience will allow us to better understand what worked well, but also where improvements need to be made. The survey is open to anyone who is living with a neurological disorder and resides in Europe. It is available in 10 languages.

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### Beyond a Mental Health Diagnosis: What is Quality of Life?

For people diagnosed with a mental health condition, quality of life is key to leading a fulfilling life. Quality of life is a personal and subjective experience and factors that can influence a person's quality of life include a wide range of areas, such as economic and social circumstances, relationships, hobbies and self-worth. Quality of life for people with mental health conditions has been the subject of research for some time, but there is still a lack of available information for patients.

For this reason, **GAMIAN-Europe** recently produced **a mini-documentary on quality of life**, which features the touching stories of patients from across Europe. With this video, we aim to explore what quality of life means to patients and raise awareness about the fact that there is no one-fits-all approach to defining wellbeing and quality of life.

[Watch the documentary](#)

## The International Brain Research Organization seeks Executive Director

Over the past several months, IBRO has taken advantage of an **executive leadership transition** to conduct a top-to-bottom review of its strategy, governance, operations and staffing. IBRO is now ready to use those findings in conjunction with insights from its internal operational review by PricewaterhouseCoopers to build upon its strengths and create a strong future for the organization. This envisioned future includes a collaborative and productive business model, greater accountability, enhanced customer service, and passionate, and evidence-based communications to advance IBRO's mission.

The position closes on **31 October 2020**.

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## National Brain Councils



### 6th National Brain Council Academy-Launch of the Hellenic Brain Council

The **6th Meeting of the Academy of National Brain Councils** was held on 29 September 2020 in Athens, Greece and virtually.

Delegates from several European countries met virtually in the framework of the Share4Brain project in order to present their current activities, to exchange views on the development of National Brain Plans and on EBC's advocacy of Horizon Europe as well as to announce the launch of the Hellenic Brain Council.

[Watch the recording](#)

## For your Agenda

4 November 2020 - [Mind reading via EEG – legal, ethical and practical matters](#), Webinar

4 November 2020 - [Heart and Stroke Management: A Discussion on the Rapidly Changing Healthcare Landscape & the Need for Policy Support](#), Webcast

7-9 November 2020 - [The ESO-WSO Virtual Conference](#)

10 November 2020 - [The Future of Brain, Mind and Pain Advocacy](#), Virtual Meeting

10 November 2020 - [IMI Stakeholder Forum 2020 "Broader horizons: growing Europe's health partnership"](#), Virtual Meeting

19-20 November, 2020 - [EMSP Virtual Conference "Understanding Progressive MS"](#)

8 December 2020 - [Encephalitis Conference](#), London

26 January 2021 - [Brain Innovation Days: From Innovative Ideas to Creative Brain Interventions](#), Digital Event

12 March 2021 - [European Life After Stroke Forum](#), Barcelona

12-13 October 2021 - [Brain Innovation Days: United for Brain Innovation](#), Brussels



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