

# EUROPEAN BRAIN COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER - March 2021

braincouncil.eu



## EBC Activities

**BRAIN HEALTH IN EUROPE**  
Fostering Innovation,  
Improving Outcomes



### EBC launches Brain Innovation Policy Roadmap on the occasion of Brain Awareness Week

The European Brain Council released its **Policy Roadmap 'Brain Health in Europe: Fostering Innovation, Improving Outcomes'** on the occasion of Brain Awareness Week 2021. EBC invites you to join us in calling for the establishment of an EU-wide and public health combined **Brain Plan**. Stay tuned for continued dissemination activities of the roadmap.

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### Patient Engagement in EU-Funded Brain Research Projects (Brain Awareness Week event)

EBC, EFNA and GAMIAN-Europe held an event on 16 March in the context of the **Brain Awareness Week** on **Patient Engagement in EU-Funded Brain Research Projects**.

The event aimed to shed light on the current state of patient engagement in EU-funded brain research projects, exploring how patients have been involved to date, their experiences in this involvement, the challenges continued to be faced, examples of **patient-involved projects** and initiatives and looking at what can be done to improve engagement. The full event report is now available.

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## Save the Date | Brain Innovation Days: Fast-tracking brain innovation in times of COVID-19

The 3rd Brain Innovation Days digital event on “Fast-tracking brain innovation in times of COVID-19” will take place on 27 March 2021 (12:30 – 14:30 CET)

The purpose of this Brain Innovation Days digital session, the 3rd in the series, is to explore the positive direct and indirect results of COVID-19 pandemic response and research on the brain innovation ecosystem. The session will feature key opinions leaders, patient testimonials, clinicians, representatives from the EU and WHO level and the industries that were forced to adapt to this rapid change of pace in innovation

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## A look back at Brain Awareness Week 2021

Brain Awareness Week 2021 came to an end and despite the ongoing pandemic hindering the organisation of another annual EBC European Parliament event, the week has been a busy one for EBC.

EBC worked to raise awareness of brain diseases, but at the same time was involved in a number of initiatives run by other organisations working in the brain field.

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## MULTI-ACT Project's Final Conference

The MULTI-ACT project was presented at the Final Conference, “**The MULTI-ACT model: the path forward for participatory governance in health research and innovation**”, held virtually on 23 March 2021 at 14:00-17:00.

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## EBC supports European Stakeholder Group statement on maintaining the exchange of critical health data

EBC is happy to support the statement released by CPME, on behalf of the **European Stakeholder Group**, on the draft adequacy decision on the UK **data protection regime** issued by the European Commission on 19th February 2021. Protecting the benefits of the free flow of personal data must be a top priority. The absence of an adequacy decision would negatively impact the **UK and EU health sectors and their patients**. We urge the European Data Protection Board and the European Parliament to support the ruling and National Governments to approve the draft decision.

[Read more](#)



## New full member: EPNS

EBC was pleased to welcome the **European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS)** as a full member earlier this year. EPNS is a society for physicians with a research or clinical interest in **Paediatric Neurology**.

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## New industry partner: Iconeus

EBC is excited to announce **ICONEUS** as new Industry Partner!

Iconeus is committed to delivering unparalleled **neuro functional imaging tools** to the scientific community, helping researchers to shed light on the #brain and central nervous system

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## The EU Health Coalition calls on the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union to work towards the establishment of a forum for better access to health innovation

As part of the EU Health Coalition, EBC co-signed with other organisations the statement on recommendations to establish a **Forum for Better Access to Health Innovation**.

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## The importance of prioritising brain health

Why is it so important to **prioritise brain health**? EBC colleague Stephanie Kramer discussed with **Health Europa**, addressing the need for collaboration, research and increased support for brain health.

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## Rethinking MS publication in Journal of Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery

EBC's **RETHINKING MS** project results have been published in the **Journal of Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery**.

The study's research included data mapping, expert interviews and national roundtable discussions utilising the care pathway concept and the result of the literature search. The care pathway implies an integrated care framework. A series of clinical and **patient-oriented benchmarks** along the care process were developed, focusing on multidisciplinary, timely, integrated care as a key area which has been identified amongst the priorities for policy action to meet the needs of people living with MS.

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## One Voice for Neurology

Monica Di Luca, EBC President, and Frédéric Destrebecq, EBC Executive Director, were invited as guests in the One Voice for Neurology podcast series, launched during Brain Awareness Week. The podcast series shared daily episodes with 50+ guests discussing why neurology must be addressed as one.

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## Future of the aging brain: Bridging the gap between research and policy

EBC was pleased to be invited to contribute to the inaugural issue of *Aging Brain* with a publication on "Future of the aging brain: Bridging the gap between research and policy", examining the current state of brain research and looking ahead at our vision for research and policy on the ageing brain in the next decades.

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## Save the Date for the Value of Treatment 2 Synthesis Meeting on 8 June 2021

The European Brain Council (EBC) is pleased to launch the Save the Date for the **Value of Treatment 2 (VOT 2) Synthesis Meeting**, to be held virtually on 8 June 2021 (13:00-17:00 CET). Experts participating in the research will present a synthesis of the results so far and examine the most critical issues in brain diseases in Europe from different perspectives including policymakers, innovators, academia and industry, medical professionals and patient organisations.

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## New Brain Talks episode with PIPRA

During the digital event on 26 January 2021, the Brain Innovation Days organised a pitch competition. **PIPRA** won the 1st **Brain Innovation Jury Award** for Best Pitch and in their one-on-one podcast they tell us more about their work and their goals.

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## EBC Members



## Call for lay reviewers (neurodevelopmental disorders)

ERA-NET NEURON wishes to increase the involvement of people affected by neurological disorders in its activities. They are now seeking lay reviewers to help assess funding applications in the area of neurodevelopmental disorders.

We need your help to review scientists' applications for new research projects that involve people with neurological disorders. We must make sure that they take into account the needs and experiences of those affected.

EFNA and ERA-NET NEURON will hold a two-day virtual workshop to prepare anyone interested in becoming a lay reviewer on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st April 2021.

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## Ean NEuro-covid ReGistrY (ENERGY)

The EAN NEuro-covid ReGistrY Consortium (ENERGY) intends to provide epidemiological data on neurological manifestations in patients with COVID-19 infection reported by neurologists in outpatient services, emergency rooms, and hospital departments. It is an initiative from EANcore group.

So far, data from 933 patients have been entered into the registry. These come from a total of 26 different centres across Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Italy has contributed with the highest number of patients followed by Turkey and Moldova. 257 patients have already participated in the 6-moths follow-up.

This Registry presents unique features such as the fact that patients are being seen by neurologist and will be followed for a 12-months period.

The complete list of participating countries is: Turkey, Moldova, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Portugal, Norway, Switzerland, Ukraine, Poland, France, Tunisia, Israel, Egypt, Russia, Brazil, Honduras, Mexico and United Kingdom.

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## Register for the 34th ECNP Congress Hybrid, 2-5 October, Lisbon, Portugal 2021!

ECNP is happy to announce that the registration for the [34th ECNP Congress Hybrid](#), 2-5 October 2021, Lisbon, Portugal is open!

View all information on [registration fees](#) for in-person and online participants, [special incentives](#) and what is included in the price.

Register via [this link](#) and take advantage of a lower in-person fee by registering on or before 4 May 2021.

Visit the [FAQ](#) page for more info.

We look forward to meet you in-person in Lisbon or online!

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## FENS Forum 2022: call for symposia and technical workshops now open!

The call for symposia and technical workshops for the FENS Forum 2022 is now open! Take this opportunity to share your research and shape the scientific programme of the Forum: with 56 symposia across the four days of the meeting, there is enormous scope to showcase your field!

Full list of themes and submission [here](#). (Submission deadline: 20 May 2021)

The FENS Forum 2022 will take place on 9-13 July in Paris, France.

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## National Brain Councils



### 7th National Brain Councils Academy

The next Academia meeting will take place on 15 April 2021. This year this 7th NBCs Academia, under EBC guidance, will express its support to the creation of the European Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA), a central element for strengthening the European Health Union.

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### Portuguese Brain Council celebrates Brain Awareness Week with series of activities

Throughout Brain Awareness Week, the Portuguese Brain Council held a series of events and activities, including: online seminars and conferences to raise awareness on brain health and the importance of neuroscience led by the Portuguese Society for Neuroscience and Portuguese Brain Council members; a letter to the Health Commission of the Portuguese Parliament stressing the burden of brain disorders in Portugal, neurological and mental, and the need to prioritize the investment in the prevention and treatment of these disorders; as well as a Parliament hearing to share and discuss [this document](#) on Brain Health and to emphasise the need to promote brain research in collaboration with others centers in Europe.

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## For your Agenda

10-13 April 2021 - [EPA Congress](#), Virtual

19-29 April 2021 - [Neuroinformatics Assembly](#), Virtual Conference

15 April 2021 - [7th National Brain Councils Academy](#), Virtual

24 April 2021 - [Global Webinar Series 2020-2021: Part 6 – Outcome](#) (Hydrocephalus Society), Virtual

27 April 2021 - 3rd [Brain Innovation Days](#) Digital Session, "Fast-tracking brain innovation in times of COVID-19", Virtual

20 May 2021 - EBC Board & General Assembly Meetings

8 June 2021 - [VoT2 Synthesis Meeting](#), Virtual

19-22 June 2021 - [EAN 7th Congress](#), Virtual

23-24 June 2021 - [European Research and Innovation Days](#), Virtual

25-27 August 2021 - [FENS Regional Meeting](#), Virtual

1-3 September 2021 - [7th European Stroke Conference](#), Helsinki (Finland)

2-5 October 2021 - [ECNP Congress](#), Lisbon (Portugal) & Virtual

3-7 October 2021 - [EANS Congress](#), Hamburg (Germany)

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

7 December 2021 - [Encephalitis Conference 2021](#), Royal College of Physicians, London (and virtual)

28 April-2 May 2022 - [14th European Paediatric Neurology Society Congress](#), Glasgow (UK)



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