

European Brain Council

Newsletter - September 2023



EBC Activities



Call to Action: Putting Brain Health on the Global Agenda

On the occasion of the 78th United Nations General Assembly, the European Brain Council and partner organizations hosted a Brain Health & Research Day as part of the Science Summit, bringing together over 150 key stakeholder organisations all committed to the same goal: fostering and enhancing global collaboration in the brain area, with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of people living with brain conditions, neurological and mental alike.

This call to action reflects the urgent calls from the community.

[Read the Call to Action](#)



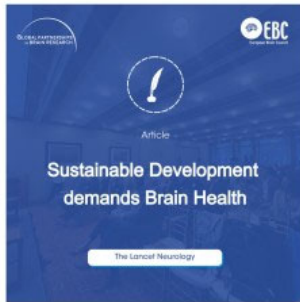
Brain Health & Research Day Highlights

On the occasion of the 78th United Nations General Assembly, the European Brain Council in collaboration with the Baker Institute for Public Policy, the Brain Capital Alliance, the Brain Health Nexus and supporting partners hosted a **Brain Health & Research Day on 18 September 2023** at the **Harvard Club of New York City** as part of the Science Summit, bringing together over 150 key stakeholder organisations all committed to the same goal: fostering and enhancing global collaboration in the brain area, with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of people living with brain conditions, neurological and mental alike.

The above-mentioned **Call to Action**, launched at the end of the event, reflects the urgent calls from the brain community – highlighting the priorities to address the burden of brain disease and improve brain health in the future and outlines a set of calls to the United Nations and Member States.

Video recordings of the day will be released soon.

[Read the event highlights](#)



Brain Health & Research Day Highlighted in the Lancet Neurology

The 78th Session of the UN General Assembly ([UNGA 78](#)) was gathering in New York City as this issue of *The Lancet Neurology* was sent to press. The aim of UNGA 78 is to “rebuild trust and reignite global solidarity” by “accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]”. UN Secretary-General António Guterres’ has appealed for “a renewed impetus and accelerated actions”, which will be the focus of the [2023 SDG Summit](#) that takes place alongside UNGA 78. During the countdown to 2030, for countries to achieve the SDG to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”, more emphasis on brain health will be crucial.

The Lancet highlights the Science Summit taking place, particularly EBC’s event, alongside the General Assembly, stating that “without solidarity with, and consideration for, the billions of people affected by brain diseases worldwide, it will be difficult to “rebuild trust” and accelerate action to achieve the SDGs”.

[Read the article](#)



Two brain events held at UNGA78 - Brain Capital Building: Brain Deals to Harness AI and Drive SDG Implementation

On 19 September 2023, a second brain-focused event was held, [Brain Capital Building @ UNGA: Brain Deals to Harness AI and Drive SDG Implementation by 2030](#), which EBC was happy to be part of. As *The Lancet Neurology* put it when they highlighted EBC’s event in an article marking the kick-off of the 78th United Nations General Assembly: “during the countdown to 2030, for countries to achieve the SDG to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”, more emphasis on brain health will be crucial,” and holding two brain-related events at the start of UNGA78 couldn’t have been more timely to argue this very important point. “Without solidarity with, and consideration for, the billions of people affected by brain diseases worldwide, it will be difficult to “rebuild trust” and accelerate action to achieve the SDGs.”

[Read more](#)



EBC took part in the EU ALS Coalition event in the European Parliament

EBC's Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, presented EBC's policy & research work to improve diagnosis, care and treatment of rare diseases - raising the EU-funded BRAINTEASER Project (of which EBC is a partner) as an example of just one exciting initiative underway to bring AI home for a better care of ALS and MS as well as the upcoming Brain Innovation Days, which aims to foster dialogue, exchange knowledge, accelerate investment in research and innovation, facilitate business development and showcase on-going work in the brain ecosystem.

[Read the livetweets](#)



EBC joins member IBRO at their World Congress 2023 in Granada

EBC leadership and colleagues were in Granada, Spain for the 2023 World Congress of the International Brain Research Organization on 9-13 September 2023. Present with a prominent [Exhibition space](#), it was an excellent opportunity to meet neuroscientists from all over the world and introduce them to the work of EBC.

Prof. Suzanne Dickson, EBC President, was [invited to speak](#) at a workshop led by the European Animal Research Association (EARA) on "How Should the Neuroscience Community Deal with Pressure to Reduce the Use of Animals in Research?" on EBC's recent work in the space, particularly in response to the European Citizens' Initiative to Phase Out Animal Experimentation in the EU. Lastly, a dedicated Special Event was held by EBC focused on Fostering Global Dialogue and Partnerships in Brain Research – more details in the following section below.

[Read the programme](#)

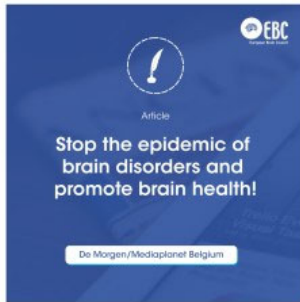


'Fostering Global Dialogue & Partnerships in Brain Research' session at IBRO World Congress

EBC was present at the 2023 International Brain Research Organization World Congress to hold a session on Fostering Global Dialogue & Partnerships in Brain Research!

EBC Executive Director, Frédéric Destrebecq, was joined by Bradley Roberts (Wellcome Trust), George Barreto (International Brain Research Organization Latin America Regional Committee), Sandra Jurado (Instituto de Neurociencias CSIC-UMH) & Antonella Autino (PRIMA Foundation) to discuss ongoing global funding opportunities and the challenges and opportunities of international collaboration.

[Read the livetweets](#)



Stop the epidemic of brain diseases and promote brain health!

"Belgium faces a significant burden from neurological and mental disorders, exacerbated by the toll on Mental Health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, one cannot help but wonder how the country, who is next in line to take the presidency of the Council of the EU, will make Brain Health rise in the European agenda."

Read the freshly published article in the Flemish newspaper De Morgen & Mediaplanet on how we can stop the epidemic of brain disorders and promote brain health!

[Read the article \(in Dutch\)](#)



Rethinking Alzheimer's Disease Webinar

The virtual event *Rethinking Alzheimer's disease: Moving towards a new Alzheimer's disease detection and diagnosis pathway in Sweden*, took place virtually on 26 September 2023.



The webinar followed [the launch of the *Rethinking Alzheimer's Disease White Paper: Detection & Diagnosis*](#), looking at how to detect and diagnose the disease at an earlier stage (at mild cognitive impairment – MCI – stage) and what new care pathways would need to be implemented to reach out to patients at that stage.

The event report will be available soon.

[Read the livetweets](#)

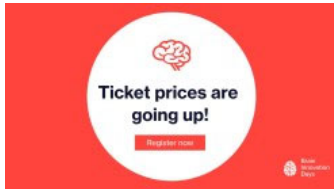


EBC Session on European Advocacy at the 2023 EANS Congress

EBC held a session titled 'The Need for Advocacy for Brain Research and Brain Health in Europe' during the 2023 EANS Congress in Barcelona.

Professor Juan Lerma (Vice-President of EBC), Dr. Aki Laakso (EANS), Esther Berrocoso (Spanish Brain Council), and Eleonora Varntoumian (EBC) discussed ways to better prioritize brain health and research in the European Union.

[Read the livetweets](#)



Brain Innovation Days Ticket Prices are Increasing Soon – don't miss out!

With less than one month to go and final numbers to report to our beautiful venue, regular ticket sale will end on October 6, 2023. Tickets switch to 'Last Minute' category and prices will increase. If you haven't secured your spot yet, don't miss this unique gathering of thought leaders, innovators, and experts in the field of brain research and innovation - get your ticket now! Discover the [early programme](#) and [benefit from the regular rate!](#)

[Get your ticket](#)



EBC joined the AGORA project workshop in Maastricht

EBC colleagues were in Maastricht this weekend for a workshop of the NEURON-funded AGORA project (in which EBC is a partner) to share expertise & define inclusion criteria for systematic reviews, addressing issues around science, innovation, patient involvement & policy development in the context of neuropathic pain.

[Read the livetweets](#)



EBC will take part in the "All in one brain: a discussion on mental health" event in the European Parliament next week

On the occasion of World Mental Health Day, it is our great pleasure to invite you to the conference hosted by MEP Stelios Kypouropoulos (Greece, EPP) entitled "***All in one brain: a discussion on mental health***", with the participation of the **Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Ms Stella Kyriakides** and the **Deputy Minister of Health and psychiatrist Dr. Dimitris Vartzopoulos**. The conference will take place at the European Parliament in Brussels, and will be accessible [online](#).

The discussion will be moderated by **Frédéric Destrebecq**, Executive Director of the **European Brain Council (EBC)**. The second panel will be joined by the President of the **Hellenic Brain Council, Dr. Christina Dalla**, member of the Board of Directors at the **European Brain Foundation (EBF)**, and will focus on the value of early diagnosis, treatment, and innovative research methods.

Find out more about the programme and how to attend:

[Read more](#)

EBC Members



Abstracts are online and register today — 36th ECNP Congress 2023

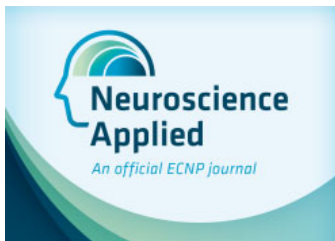
The abstracts of the (e)poster presenters at the 36th ECNP Congress, 7-10 October 2023, Barcelona, Spain, are available in the online programme. This year no less than 1,491 outstanding abstracts from 65 countries worldwide will be presented.

You can find them [here](#).

Haven't registered yet? Don't worry, you can still do it! Take advantage of a **lower fee** by registering on or before **6 October 2023** at 23.59 CEST.

See you in Barcelona or virtually!

[Read more](#)



Neuroscience Applied — New open access articles

Check out the latest articles in *Neuroscience Applied*. All are open access and free to download.

- [Conducting CNS trials during a public health emergency – Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic: A joint ISCTM/ECNP working group consensus paper](#), Kemi Olugemo et al.

- [Trazodone once-a-day: A formula for addressing challenges in antidepressant safety and tolerability](#), Joseph F. Goldberg et al.

Neuroscience Applied is ECNP's fully open-access scientific journal, targeting the intersection between neuroscience, applications and new treatment horizons.

It is still possible to have your papers published **free of charge**, if you submit it before the end of 2023.

[Read more](#)



EPNS Training Courses

Taking place in Ferrara, Italy, a city of art, the magnificent Renaissance capital, and a UNESCO World Heritage location.

Local Organiser: Professor Agnese Suppiej

Acute Neurology: 26-27 February 2024

Neurophysiological Investigations: 28-29 February 2024

The courses will have a highly interactive character and the number of participants is limited.

[Read more](#)



EPNS Webinars

Taking place on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 5pm CET for 60-90 minutes, EPNS webinars are free, and all are welcome to attend the livestream.

Join our expert panellists to refresh your knowledge in child neurology, participate in case discussions and discuss selected journal articles of key interest.

[Access the Webinars](#)



Call for Satellite and Networking Events

Application deadline: **6 December 2023**

The call for the FENS Forum 2024 Networking and Satellite Events is officially open! This is your opportunity to actively shape the scientific programme of Europe's premier neuroscience congress and increase your event's visibility by reaching out to over 7,000 delegates.

- [Networking Events](#) are evening events that provide an excellent opportunity for attendees to connect with their peers and network with institutions and organisations in a personal and lively atmosphere.
- [Satellite Events](#) offer you the chance to host independent events that align with the Forum's scope. Satellite events will be advertised on the Forum website.

[Read more](#)



FENS/IBRO-PERC Exchange Fellowships

Application deadline: **15 October 2023**

Are you an MSc or PhD student or in the early stages of your postdoctoral research in Europe? Elevate your neuroscience career with the FENS/IBRO-PERC Exchange Fellowships programme. Don't miss the opportunity to receive up to EUR 4,000 to support your travel and accommodation expenses. Review the eligibility criteria and submit your application by 15 October.

[Find out more information](#)

National Brain Councils



10th Academy of National Brain Councils

The 10th National Brain Councils Academy will take place in Pula (Croatia) on **May 8-9, 2024**.

National Brain Councils (NBCs) are independent and multidisciplinary councils that unite scientific organisations of neuroscientists, psychiatrists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, patients' associations, as well as the pharmaceutical and medical device industry, in order to speak with one strong voice — at the national level — on behalf of the “brain space”.

[Read more](#)



Launch of the Belgian Brain Data Hub

On the occasion of the General Assembly of the Belgian Brain Council (BBC) on 23 May 2023, BBC launched the concept of a Belgian Brain Data Hub, a secured data platform to share your data for research and policy in accordance with European Law.

[Visit the BBC website](#)

EBC Members & Industry Partners

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

Find out the latest from our [Members](#) and [Industry Partners](#)!

For your Agenda

EBC Events

10 October 2023 - "All in One Brain: A Discussion on Mental Health", European Parliament, Brussels (Belgium)

26-27 October 2023 - Brain Innovation Days: The Brain in the 21st Century, Brussels (Belgium)

8-9 May 2024 - 10th Academy of National Brain Councils, Pula (Croatia)

Events of Interest

4-6 October 2023 - eSleep Europe 2023, Virtual

7-10 October 2023 - 36th European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) Congress, Barcelona (Spain)

10-11 October 2023 - Conference on Rare Diseases and the European Reference Network, Bilbao (Spain)

18-21 October 2023 - The Brain Conference: Structuring Knowledge for Flexible Behaviour, Rungsted Kyst (Denmark)

2 November 2023 - WHO Pan European Coalition on Mental Health Meeting, Athens (Greece)

11-15 November 2023 - Society for Neuroscience Meeting, Washington, D.C. (USA)

3-9 December 2023 - FENS-Hertie Winter School: "Neuroscience of Mental Health", Obergurgl (Austria)

4-5 December 2023 - Encephalitis Conference, London (UK) & Virtual

6-9 April 2024 - 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry, Budapest (Hungary)

8-9 May 2024 - 10th Academy of National Brain Councils, Pula (Croatia)

25-29 June 2024 - FENS Forum 2024, Vienna (Austria)

29 June-2 July 2024 - 10th Congress of the European Academy of Neurology, Helsinki (Finland)

21-24 September 2024 - 37th European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) Congress, Milan (Italy)

17-18 October 2024 - EPNS Research Meeting, Ljubljana (Slovenia)



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