

JANUARY 2024

Dear EBC Members, Partners, and Community,

I wanted to take the opportunity of the January newsletter to wish you a belated Happy New Year and I hope you have had a wonderful start to 2024.

2024 is set to be a momentous year across the globe, with major elections taking place across 64 countries worldwide, including European and US elections, and we are witnessing times of political, economic, and overall societal shifts and instability. These developments will certainly impact us all, but also provide opportunity to build on the work we have already achieved together, and we look forward, as EBC and as a community, to continue working to make an impact for the recognition and prioritisation of brain health at the highest levels, both in Europe and beyond.

As you will see in this edition of the EBC newsletter, 2024 has kicked off at full speed, with a number of activities and events already underway, and plenty more to come in the months ahead. I am certain it will be another big year for EBC and the brain community.

With the Coordination and Support Action (CSA) BrainHealth fully underway, we enter a crucial time for brain health and research in Europe, as we lay down the foundations and key priorities for a European Brain Health Partnership as from 2025. With EBC leading the Communication and Dissemination, Global Outreach and contributing actively to the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda, our well-established European and budding global presence is firmly set to expand this year. With EBC's debut in Davos within three side events of the World Economic Forum and the 25 January EBC-led event on "Brain Health in Society: Insights from Brain Capital" in Basel, these two Switzerland-based activities demonstrated our growing presence at a more global scale, putting EBC on the agenda with organisations and contacts from across the Atlantic and beyond.

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This provides perfect traction for the year, with the upcoming launch of the Rare Brain Disease Ecosystem later in February; our annual Brain Awareness Week event on 7 March in the European Parliament and Academy of National Brain Councils on 9 May in Pula, Croatia, both focused on the dissemination of EBC's 2024 European Elections Manifesto as well as active involvement in the fostering and establishment of National Brain Health Plans and/or Strategies; continued collaboration with our members with key events at their upcoming congresses; and planning kicking off for the 79th United Nations General Assembly side event, in a pivotal year for global policy as the post-Sustainable Development Goals era planning begins. These are just to name a few of the exciting initiatives coming up in

Looking forward to another year of close collaboration with you all and wishing you all the best in your endeavours for 2024. Please keep in touch and let's keep up our work together for the brain.

Sincerely,



**Suzanne L. Dickson,
President**