

Brain Awareness Week 2026

A European Vision for the Brain: Coordinating Research, Care & Innovation

European Parliament | Presidential Salon | 18 March 2026, 16:00 – 18:00

16.00 – 16.05 **Welcome & Opening**

MEP Angelika Winzig, European People's Party

Suzanne Dickson, President, European Brain Council (EBC)

The Role of Discovery Neuroscience in Driving EU's Competitiveness and Leadership

16.05 – 17.00 Moderator: Lisa Burke

John O'Keefe, Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine 2014 and Sainsbury Wellcome Centre

Jan Schadrack, Head Neuroscience & Rare Diseases; Product Development Medical, Roche

Maria Leptin, President, European Research Council (ERC)

Leszek Kaczmarek, Neuroscientist and Board Member for Neuroscience, ERC

Kurt Deketelaere, Secretary General, League of European Research Universities (LERU)

Panayiota Poirazi, Secretary General, Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS)

Why the European Union Urgently Needs a Coordination Plan for the Brain

17.00 – 17.15 Scott Vuocolo, Executive Director, Worldwide Medical, Neuroscience, Bristol Myers Squibb

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Deputy Director, FutureNeuro Research Ireland Centre; Director, Human Genetic Variation Research Group

Shaping an Actionable European Coordination Plan for the Brain

17.15 – 17.45 Moderator: Lisa Burke

Agnese Cattaneo, Chief Medical Officer, Angelini Pharma

Geert Dom, Past President, European Psychiatric Association; Scientific Advisory Board Member, European Brain Foundation

Elena Moro, President, European Academy of Neurology

MEP Nikos Papandreou, Socialists & Democrats

Statements from MEPs: Towards a Brain-Healthy Union: National Strategies & Multistakeholder Engagement

17.45 – 17.55 MEP Aurelijus Veryga, European Conservatives and Reformists Group

17.55 – 18.00 **Conclusion**

Suzanne Dickson, President, European Brain Council (EBC)