

# INTERIM Annual Report 6 months to June 2025



EUROPEAN  
PAEDIATRIC  
NEUROLOGY  
SOCIETY

An international and independent non-profit making Society for  
physicians, health professionals, scientists, and students with  
research and/or clinical interest in Paediatric Neurology.

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## EPNS President's Welcome

Hello and welcome to the interim EPNS Annual Report 2025!

We're excited to share a quick look at what's been happening across the EPNS in the early months of 2025 — plus a sneak peek at what's coming up. It's been a busy and productive time, and there's a lot to be proud of.

If you're heading to the EPNS Congress in the vibrant city of Munich (8–12 July 2025), make sure to join us for the EPNS General Meeting. It's happening on Saturday 12 July, from 8:30 to 9:15 am in Saal 13 and our EPNS Chairs will be sharing some key highlights and updates.

As you flip through this report, we hope you'll feel the same sense of momentum and growth that we do. The EPNS community continues to go from strength to strength.

A warm welcome to all our new members, and heartfelt thanks to everyone for your continued support and trust in the Society.

**Best wishes**

**Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President**



Photo: Kevin Rostasy  
EPNS President

## EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report

Our finances remain in good health, with careful monitoring to ensure the EPNS stays on track to support its mission. We're well-positioned to continue investing in training opportunities, supporting research in the field of Paediatric Neurology and financing advocating opportunities — a commitment we're proud to uphold.

I'm very much looking forward to connecting with many of you in person at the EPNS Congress in Munich — see you there!

**Best wishes**

**Michel Willemsen, EPNS Treasurer**



Photo: Michel Willemsen  
EPNS Treasurer



## EPNS Scientific & Research Committee

### 16th EPNS Congress 2025

The 16th EPNS Congress will take place at the ICM – International Congress Center Munich, Germany on 8-12 July 2025, hosted by the Gesellschaft für Neuropädiatrie (GNP). Professor Florian Heinen is our Congress Chair and EPNS Board member, Dr Lucia Gerstl is the Congress Secretary

The Congress will classify our field into 'A for acute, B for Brain, Health & Science and C for Chronic', building our own alphabet of caring and research dedicated to children.



Photo: Barbara Plecko  
Chair EPNS Scientific &  
Research Committee

The programme has been developed with innovative platform sessions and approx. 80 distinguished invited speakers. With 922 abstracts submitted, 140 of which have been accepted as oral abstracts, 105 moderated posters with short presentations and 662 eposters to be shown at Terminals through the event, the congress is already promising to be an excellent meeting.

With pleasure together the GNP and the EPNS has awarded 40 bursaries.

I thank the Local Organising Committee (LOC), all my colleagues on the EPNS Board and the YEPNS for their hard work in planning the event and developing a stimulating scientific programme.

**5th Aicardi Award Lecture** I will be honoured to be presented with this award during the opening ceremony on 8 July 2025. My lecture will be entitled 'Biomarker Research in Neurometabolic Disorders'.

**EPNS Best Paper** this prestigious prize will also be presented at the Opening Ceremony.

**EPNS Congress Awards** In addition to the above, there will be a further 3 prizes awarded during the event: Outstanding Abstract, Best Oral Presentation and Best Poster Presentation.

**EPNS Academy and EPNS Highlights** are two sessions which take place on the last day of the EPNS congress which complement the main programme, and we are delighted to have the honour of many distinguished speakers.

**Pre-Congress Symposium** will take place on 8 July 2025 'The Child and the Brain. Where it's all started. One day of interactive future' and hosted by the GNP offering an exclusive deep dive into paediatric neurology's past, present, and future. Held at the state-of-the-art BrainLab in Munich, this interactive event combines clinical examination, neuroimaging, neuromodulation, AI, gene therapy, and philosophy in an engaging format.

## 17th EPNS Congress 2027



It seems far away, however plans are already taking shape for the EPNS Congress which I am pleased to announce will be a HYBRID event, taking place in-person in Barcelona, Spain, AND on a virtual platform.

## 18th EPNS Congress 2029

The bidding process will be finalised soon, and it is hoped that the successful host will be announced during the EPNS Congress 2025.

## EPNS Research Meeting 2026



EUROPEAN  
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SOCIETY

# 9th EPNS

## Research Meeting

16-17 OCTOBER 2026, Thessaloniki, Greece



**SAVE THE DATE**



The programme features **parallel Working Group sessions** across up to ten key areas in paediatric neurology, complemented by high-profile **plenary lectures** on hot research topics in the field. Attendees will have valuable opportunities to **network** with peers and experts. **Abstract submissions** to present research projects in up to ten Working Groups are welcome, and a limited number of **bursaries** will be available to support participation. **Plus, two prestigious EPNS Research Awards!**

**Local organisers on behalf of EPNS:**  
Dimitrios Zafeiriou & Pinelopi Dragoumi

Venue: The Met, Thessaloniki

Visit the EPNS website: [www.epns.info/epns-research-meeting-2026/](http://www.epns.info/epns-research-meeting-2026/) or email [info@epns.info](mailto:info@epns.info)

A forum for researchers in Paediatric Neurology, where experienced professionals and young researchers get together for interactive discussions around the presented topics.

Professor Dimitrios Zafeiriou will host the 9th EPNS Research Meeting which will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece on 16-17 October 2026.

The EPNS has been organising Research Meetings since 2008. With an aim to enhance research in Paediatric Neurology, the meeting brings together leaders in the field, active researchers and young fellows who are interested in joining and/or setting up research projects. During the 2 days young investigators present their work, ideas, results, creating the possibility for good interaction between researchers and premises for networking, future collaborative research in Europe and beyond. Experienced professionals and young researchers get together, in an environment where interactive, vivid discussions can take place around the presented topics.

The EPNS looks forward to welcoming to Thessaloniki Child Neurologist researchers at all stages of their career: leaders/senior colleagues, junior scientists and PhD students are all welcome and encouraged to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE** and look out for more announcements on upcoming EPNS newsletters and the EPNS website <https://www.epns.info/epns-research-meeting-2026/>

### **EPNS Journal Club**

The EPNS Journal Club takes place on the 4th Wednesday in alternate months to the EPNS Case Discussion Webinars. Successfully organised by the YEPNS, these webinars have become a respected event in the EPNS calendar.

For more information <https://www.epns.info/epns-journal-club/>

I am very much looking forward to meeting delegates in Munich.

**Best wishes**

**Barbara Plecko, Chair EPNS Research & Scientific Committee**





## EPNS Education & Training Committee

### The Moodle

Fully paid up EPNS members benefit from access to our EPNS learning platform the EPNS Moodle, with a 'one stop shop' learning environment where they can find all EPNS educational and scientific resources. There are many resources such as all previous webinar recordings, EPNS Training presentations, etc. There are many resources such as previous EPNS Training presentation and all webinar recordings with test yourself questions and learning objectives.



Photo: Dana Craiu  
Chair EPNS Education and Training  
Committee

### EPNS Exam

After a successful first summative EPNS Exam in Prague in 2023 plans are now well underway for the next EPNS Exam taking place on 8 July 2025 at the EPNS Congress in Munich, with all 48 places taken and final preparations taking place. The CNA have contributed to the exam question development. The EPNS Exam assesses the basic knowledge needed to underpin Paediatric Neurology training. Achieving a pass in the EPNS Exam is an excellent personal goal in this area of specialised medicine. Candidates wanting to test their knowledge, including those in countries without a nationally recognised exit exam, will find it very helpful.

### Young EPNS (YEPNS)



This committee is aligned with the YEPNS Education & Clinical Working Group, and more details are shared in the YEPNS update in this annual report. YEPNS members have continued to successfully co-organise, with this committee, a series of Case Discussion webinars, which covered the following topics so far in 2025:

22 Jan 25	Early diagnosis of a floppy infant: a chain is no stronger than its weakest link
26 Mar 25	Not To Be Missed: Focal Cerebral Arteriopathy in Childhood as a Cause of Stroke
28 May 25	Beyond the Usual Nerve: Unmasking a Rare GBS Variant

## EPNS Training Course: Ferrara, Italy 2025

The EPNS has a 3-year rolling EPNS training programme with an aim to cover most main topics in the EPNS Training Guide over the cycle, promote contact between paediatric neurology trainees and for qualified paediatric neurologists to refresh their knowledge. Ferrara, Italy was the venue for the training courses in 2025 organized locally by Agnese Suppiej.

### Movement disorders - 19-20 February 2025



Moderators: Professor Michel Willemsen and Dr Jean-Pierre Lin

This course was accredited with 12 European CME credits (ECMEC®s)

### Neuroimaging - 21-22 February 2025



Moderators: Professor Kevin Rostasy and Professor Dana Craiu

This course was accredited with 11.5 European CME credits (ECMEC®s).

The feedback received was excellent and thanks are extended to all involved. For more information visit- <https://www.epns.info/training-courses-already-held/epns-training-course-italy-2025/>





## EPNS Training Course: Ferrara, Italy 2026

As part of the EPNS 3-year rolling EPNS training programme, Ferrara, Italy will again be the venue for the training courses in 2026. The topics will be Neonatal Neurology and Genetics for Paediatric Neurology, with further details to be confirmed.

For more information visit - <https://www.epns.info/epns-training-course-ferrara-italy-2026/>

## EPNS Central Eurasia workshop 2025

The Central Eurasia workshop took place in Almaty City, Kazakhstan on 26-29 March 2025 with the topic 'Epilepsy'. Organised locally by Dr Altynshash Jaxybayeva, and moderated by Professor Dana Craiu, Professor Maria Roberta Cilio, and Professor Ilona Kopyta. The opening of the event coincided with International Purple Day; a global observance dedicated to raising awareness about epilepsy. The workshop was an important event in the field of paediatric neurology and epileptology. Over the course of three days, participants discussed current issues in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological diseases in children and exchanged experiences with leading specialists from various countries. The event brought together leading specialists in epileptology, neurology, and pediatrics, sharing their expertise and knowledge, thank you to all our faculty, organisers and attendees.



For more information visit - <https://www.epns.info/epns-central-eurasia-workshop-2025/>

## EPNS/ERN-RND Winter School 2025

The Joint EPNS/ERN-RND Winter School takes place every 3 years, with the most recent one taking place 12-14 March 2025 covering the topic 'Challenges of Treating Rare Neurological Diseases'. The training course looked at opportunities and challenges of treating rare neurological diseases and the programme included disease-modifying therapies, treatment of movement disorders and non-neurological disease aspects, with an extra session on case discussion for which participants were invited to submit cases on the final day. The event was a great success with over 300 attendees from 64 countries around the world. Fully paid up EPNS members can view the full course on the EPNS Moodle learning platform.

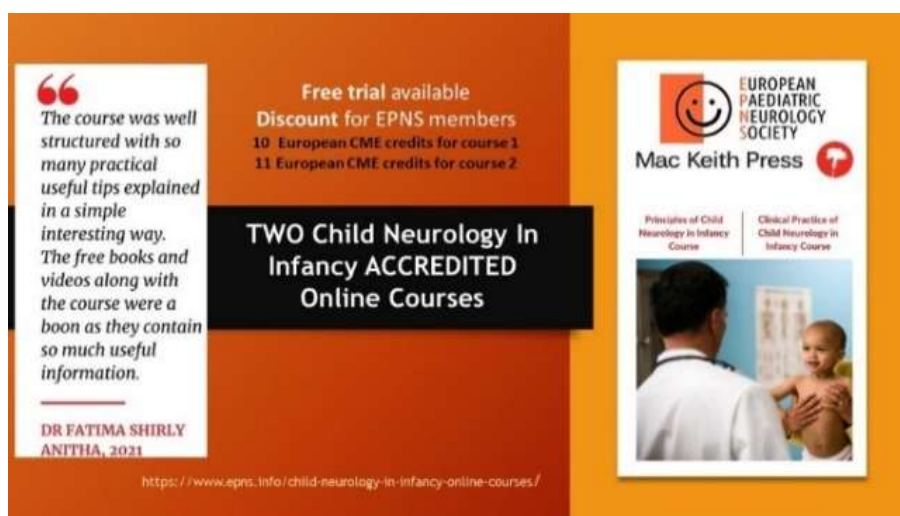
## Child Neurology in Infancy Online Courses

As a result of a collaboration project, the EPNS and Mac Keith Press are offering interactive online learning courses based on the 2nd edition of the Professor Colin Kennedy book *Principles and Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy*.

There are 2 courses:

**Course 1:** Principles of Child Neurology in Infancy.

**Course 2:** Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy



**Free trial available**  
**Discount for EPNS members**  
10 European CME credits for course 1  
11 European CME credits for course 2

**TWO Child Neurology In Infancy ACCREDITED Online Courses**

**Mac Keith Press**

**Principles of Child Neurology in Infancy Course**  
**Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy Course**

**DR FATIMA SHIRLY ANTHA, 2021**

<https://www.epns.info/child-neurology-in-infancy-online-courses/>

For more information <https://www.epns.info/child-neurology-in-infancy-online-courses/>

## EPNS Monthly Webinars

The EPNS FREE 60–90-minute educational webinars on topics of key interest to Child Neurologists on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 17:00h CET has become a well-established event in the diaries of both EPNS members and non EPNS members. Feedback continues to confirm that they are a useful and appreciated teaching tool. Each webinar is broadcast live on Zoom and available for FREE to anyone who would like to register, and those who attend for the full broadcast receive a certificate of attendance. Fully paid up EPNS members can access a recording of the full session via the EPNS Moodle after the event, together with learning objectives, test yourself questions and a list of recommended references from the guest speaker.

Below is the webinar schedule for 2025:

Date	Topic	SPEAKER	Chair
8 Jan 25	Narcolepsy and other hypersomnolences at paediatric age: clinical presentation, workup, treatment	Alexandre Datta	Federico Vigevano
12 Mar 25	Spinal dysraphism	Dewi Bakker	Agnese Suppiej
9 Apr 25	Neonatal neurocritical care: protecting brains and saving futures	Maria Roberta Cilio	Altynshash Jaxybayeva
14 May 25	Joint EPNS/EAN- Paediatric arterial ischemic stroke: risk factors, acute management, and prognosis	Thomas Truelsen (EAN) Ilona Kopyta (EPNS)	Maria Roberta Cilio
11 Jun 25	PANDA debate	Kevin Rostasy & Ming Lim	Dana Craiu
17 Sept 25	Joint ERN-EYE/EPNS - papilledema vs. pseudopapilledema	Steffen Ellitsgaard Hamann	Agnese Suppiej
8 Oct 25	Neurological Complication of treatment of malignancies	Janneke van den Bergen	Dewi Bakker
12 Nov 25	Neuroborreliosis and other transmitted diseases with neurological impact	Kevin Rostasy	Altynshash Jaxybayeva
10 Dec 25	Approach of an acute motor disorders	Jean-Pierre Lin	Kathleen Gorman

For more information <https://www.epns.info/epns-free-monthly-webinars/>

## EPNS EEG Club

The EPNS FREE twice monthly interactive 60-minute EEG club takes place on Monday's at 18:00h CET and is presented by Professor Dana Craiu and guests. The EEG club is interactive in nature, attendees are invited to join as panellists and be part of the discussion. As the EEG Club has become more established guest speakers are being invited and feedback for this new initiative has been excellent. For more information visit <https://www.epns.info/epns-eeeg-club/> EEG clubs that have taken place so far in 2025

Date	Topic	SPEAKER
13 Jan 25	EEG in lesional etiologies	Anca Arbune
3 Feb 25	Epileptic spasms	Monika Eisermann
3 Mar 25	EEG and seizure semiology of neonatal seizures	Ronit Pressler
17 Mar 25	EEG aspects in dysplastic lesions	Andrei Daneasa
31 Mar 25	Intermittent photic stimulation – the basics. Examples from EpiCARE Center Obregia.	Alexandru Niculae
19 May 25	Typical EEG patterns in some genetic epilepsies – postponed to 2 <sup>nd</sup> of June due to medical emergency	Marietta Papadopoulou
2 June 25	Typical EEG patterns in some genetic epilepsies	Marietta Papadopoulou
16 June 25	EEG aspects in normal neonates	Ronit Pressler



## EPNS Visiting Teacher 2025

The application period for EPNS Visiting Teacher 2025 opened in summer 2024. Thank you to all our applicants and we are delighted that the EPNS are supporting the following visits in 2025:

**EPNS Visiting Teacher Pasquale Striano visited Georgia 27 April – 1 May 2025**

**EPNS Visiting Teacher Tally Lerman-Sagie will visit Slovenia 9 – 11 October 2025**

**EPNS Visiting Teacher Manoëlle Kossorotoff will visit Romania 9 – 11 October 2025**

## EPNS Fellowships 2025

The EPNS is thrilled to have awarded a total of 68 EPNS Fellowships (3 in 2014, 5 in 2015, 6 in 2016, 6 in 2017, 5 in 2018, 3 in 2019, 6 in 2020, 6 in 2021, 6 in 2022, 8 in 2023 and 8 in 2024, 6 in 2025). Congratulations to the following who have been awarded an EPNS Fellowship to take place in 2025:



### EPNS Fellowship Award 2025 -Successful candidates



Giuseppe Tiralongo -From Italy to Canada - AICARDI



Hadi Helali  
From UAE to UK



Antonio Spagarino  
From Italy to UK



Sibel Öz Yıldız  
From Turkey to UK



Marie Rohlenová  
From Czech Rep to France



Maria Angeli  
From Greece to UK

The application period for **EPNS Fellowship 2026** will open in summer 2025.

## Save the date!

**EPNS Masterclass 2026:** 16-19 September 2026

**EPNS Caucasus Teaching Course 2026:** 31 October – 1 November 2026

I wish you all the best and hope to welcome you to an EPNS educational event in the future!

**Best wishes**

**Dana Craiu, Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee**



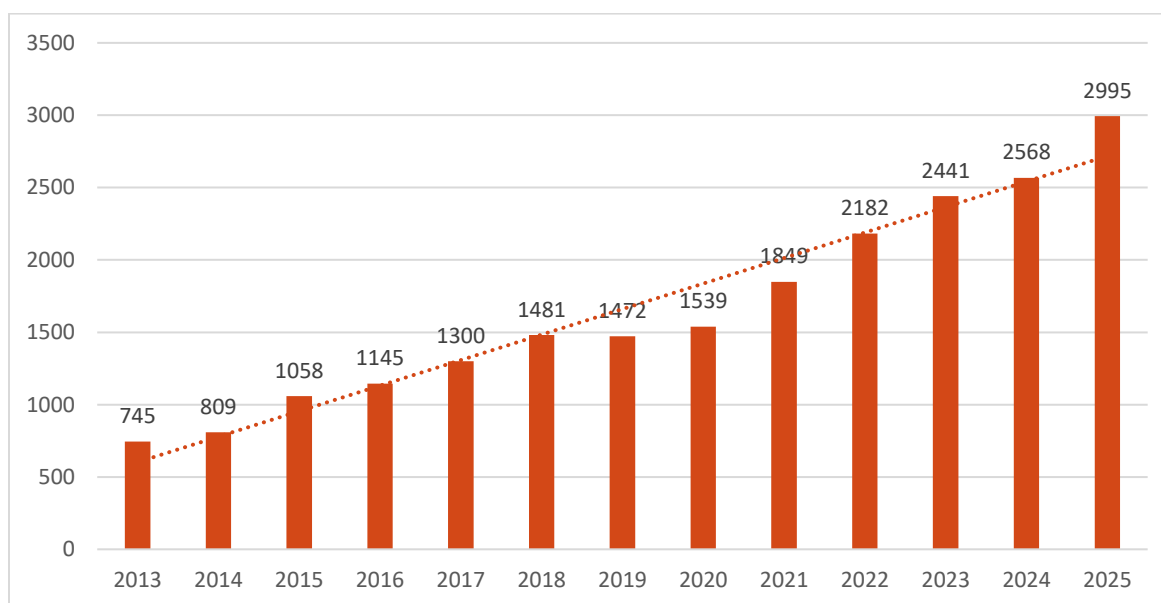
## EPNS Membership, PR, and Website Report

On behalf of the EPNS Membership, PR and Website committee, I am delighted to report that the EPNS continues to have the privilege of serving many members from across the world and in the first half of 2025 we have continued to grow and welcome new members to the Society. EPNS members benefit from a range of EPNS education, research and networking opportunities and these activities strengthen the Society's voice in advocating for paediatric neurology.



Photo: Jean-Pierre Lin  
Chair EPNS Membership,  
PR & Website Committee

The number of EPNS members continues to increase, and we now have a significant total of 2995 EPNS members. It has been a pleasure to welcome 439 new members so far in 2025 (figures on 2 June 25)



Figures at 2<sup>nd</sup> June

The EPNS maintains an up-to-date database and EPNS members who do not pay their EPNS membership fee over a 2-year period are removed but continue to receive EPNS newsletters.



### **EPNS membership fees 2025 and 2026**

EPNS membership fees are payable each year and cover the period 1 January until 31 December. In alternate years, for convenience, EPNS members have the option to pay for 2 years at the same time. EPNS membership fees offer great value, with appropriate discounts available to the range of EPNS membership categories. All registered EPNS Congress 2025 delegates are eligible for a significant registration fee discount if they are a fully paid EPNS member.

### **EPNS Website**

The EPNS website <https://www.epns.info/> continues to evolve and we continuously keep up to date with the latest security and technology. The EPNS website is very much a shared resource between all the EPNS Committees and their respective activities but can also support National and International needs for communication and project-sharing.

Wishing all our EPNS members all the very best for the rest of 2025.

### **Best wishes**

**Jean-Pierre, Chair EPNS Membership & Public Relations Committee**

## EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Report

This committee continues with its goal to advocate at the highest level for the life-course approach to brain health from antenatal influences on brain development, through to childhood, adolescence and transition to later life.

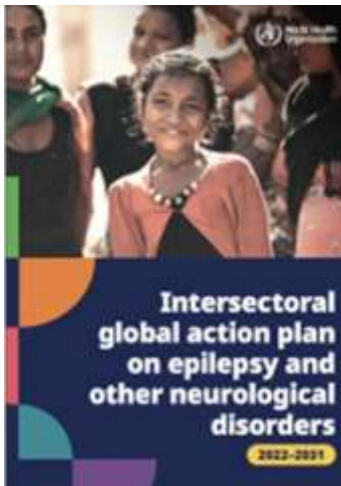


Photo: Anna Jansen  
Chair EPNS Advocacy &  
Collaboration Committee

### EPNS Representatives

The EPNS has appointed EPNS Representatives in key organisations who play a vital role in raising the voice of child neurology and ensuring the EPNS is kept informed in activities of interest.

Here are some highlights from 2025 so far:



### Intersectoral Global Action Plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders (IGAP)

**The World Health Organisation's (WHO) IGAP is our focus.**

In May 2022, all Member States adopted the IGAP 2022-2031, which aims to improve access to treatment and care and quality of life of people with neurological disorders, their carers and families as well as promote brain health across the life-course. It includes actions to be undertaken by all stakeholders to attain the global targets.

The 5 strategic objectives of the global action plan by 2031 are:



Our EPNS IGAP representatives in Europe continue to play a crucial in advocating for the implementation of IGAP at a national level and I express my thanks for their contributions:

Country	first name	last name
Albania	Artan	Haruni
Armenia	no rep	
Austria	Rainer	Seldi
Azerbaijan	Ayten	Mammadbayli
Belgium	Roberta	Cillo
Bosnia Herzegovina	Feriha	Catibusic
Bulgaria	Ivan	Ivanov
Croatia	Nina	Barisic
Cyprus	Paola	Nicolalides
Czech republic	Pavel	Krsek
Denmark	Maria	Miranda
Estonia	Inga	Talvik
Finland	Johanna	Uusimaa
France	Nadia	Bahi-Buisson
Georgia	Sophia	Bakhtadze
Germany	Lucia	Gerstl
Greece	Stella	Mouskou
Hungary	Katalin	Hollody
Iceland	Margret	Oskarsdottir
Ireland	Mary	O'Regan
Israel	Adi	Aran
Italy	Raffaele	Falsaperla

Country	first name	last name
Kazakhstan	Altynshash	Jaxybayeva
Kyrgyzstan	no rep	
Latvia	Mikus	Diriks
Lithuania	no rep	
Macedonia	Olga	Jotovska
Moldova	Svetlana	Hadju
Netherlands	Deborah	Sival
Norway	Espen	Lien
Poland	Maria	Mazurkiewicz- Beldzińska
Portugal	Monica	Vasconcelos
Romania	Cristina	Pomoran
Russia	Valery	Zykov
Serbia	Jasna	Jancic
Slovakia	Miriam	Kolnikova
Slovenia	Natalija	Krajnc
Spain	Rocio	Sánchez-Carpintero Abad
Sweden	Ronny	Wickstrom
Switzerland	Annette	Hackenberg
Turkey	Dilek	Yalnizoglu
Ukraine	Alla	Nechay
United Kingdom	Anne-Marie	Childs
Uzbekistan	Shaanvar	Shamansukov

As a result of 2 surveys completed by the EPNS IGAP representatives, we identified the desire for training in advocacy.

As a result, I am proud to report that a series of 3 webinars have been hosted by the EPNS as follows:

Date	Panellists	Topic
19 March 2025	Donna Walsh, Chief Executive Officer, International Bureau for Epilepsy. EPNS Board Member: Anna Jansen	An introduction to IGAP. What is advocacy? Why is advocacy important? Advice, tips, and tricks on advocacy: a recent success story from Spain
2 April 2025	Ulrike Schara-Schmidt, Professor in Paediatric Neurology, Essen University Hospital. EPNS Board Members: Anna Jansen, Kevin Rostasy, Sameer Zuberi	Delved into how to advocate and how to communicate with different stakeholders. Plus, a practical look at the key elements of advocacy at a national level with reference to the lessons learned from the German Brain Plan
4 June 2025	Helen Cross, The Prince of Wales's Chair of Childhood Epilepsy President, International League Against Epilepsy. EPNS Board Members: Anna Jansen, Kevin Rostasy, Sameer Zuberi	Reviewed the resources available to help with advocacy, including the WHO IGAP toolkit, with a practical look at the lessons learned from advocacy in the paediatric neurology community at a national level.



# EPNS 2025 munich



8-12 July 2025  
Germany

A - Acute  
B - Brain, Science & Health  
C - Chronic

Building our alphabet

To conclude this series, at EPNS Congress 2025 in Munich, there will be an in-person Early Morning Teaching session entitled 'Advocacy Training for Child Neurology and Brain Health' on 9 July 2025 where we are thrilled to welcome Frédéric Destrebecq Executive Director [European Brain Council \(EBC\)](#) as our guest speaker who will provide practical guidance on approaching advocacy, plus there will be a summary of the highlights from the 3 webinars mentioned above.



Fully paid EPNS members can view recordings of all the EPNS Advocacy Training webinars series via EPNS Moodle. <https://courses.epns.info/login/index.php>

## Young EPNS (YEPNS)

This committee is aligned with the YEPNS Climate change & Sustainability Working Group, and amongst other areas together we are working towards creating an annual EPNS Sustainability report.

## World Brain Day: 22 July 2025



This year's theme is 'Brain Health for All Ages' and **we invite you to join us** in this important campaign. Your active participation is crucial as we work together toward a healthier, more equitable future—ensuring that every individual benefits from improved brain health and well-being.

## OneNeurology



The EPNS is a partner of OneNeurology which is an initiative aiming to unite and strengthen neurology-related groups to stimulate collaborative

advocacy, action and accountability for the prevention, treatment, and management of neurological disorders worldwide. OneNeurology is focusing on implementation IGAP through the member states. Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets, EPNS Honorary Member, is vice Chair of OneNeurology and represents the EPNS at meetings, such as the World Health Assembly in Geneva May 2025 and contributing an EPNS statement to the WHA Item 13.1: 'Follow-up to the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases'.



## European Brain Council (EBC)



The EPNS has been a full member of the EBC since 2021.

Congratulations to Sameer Zuberi, EPNS Board member and past EPNS President, who has been elected as Vice-President of the EBC. This is a great opportunity to ensure the voice of

child neurology is heard in this European network of key players in the 'brain area'.

The EBC is a powerful supporter for prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of brain diseases and research of the brain as a priority for Society. Through this network, the EPNS is advocating at an EU level for the life-course approach to brain health from antenatal influences on brain development, through to childhood, adolescence and onto later life.



Sameer Zuberi represented the EPNS at the EBC "[Rare Disease Day 2025: Towards a Rare Brain Disease Ecosystem](#)" event on 20 February 2025



The EBC invited the EPNS to participate on 5 March 2025 at an event entitled "Health & Social Benefits from Reduced Alcohol Consumption: When Less is More" which was hosted by MEP Jonas Sjöstedt to discuss policies to reduce alcohol harms. After the presentation of key findings, there was a panel discussion with the EPNS kindly represented by panellist Mirjam Landgraf. There was a fruitful discussion about the impact of alcohol on brain health.

Kevin Rostasy represented the EPNS at an EBC organised Stakeholder Event 'International Workshop National Brain Plans' in Bern, 13 June 2025.

Recently the EPNS endorsed the European Charter for the Responsible Development of Neurotechnologies which Sameer Zuberi contributed to.

Many more projects are developing for the EPNS in collaboration with the EPNS including the Brain Innovation Days in Brussels on 14-16 October 2025, and a further update will be provided in the full annual report for 2025.

## European Academy of Neurology (EAN)



The EAN is a Society focusing on Adult Neurology in Europe, working closely with the EPNS. The two societies have a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate in guidelines, education & research. The EPNS is pleased to have

representatives on nineteen EAN scientific panels, which have a significance for child





neurology. The Presidents of the 2 societies meet regularly with other board representatives to work together in the field of brain health, guidelines and the process of transition. At EPNS Congress 2025, there will be a joint EPNS/EAN parallel session entitled 'Dyskinetic cerebral palsy: Update in management opportunities' with invited speaker Anne Koy. The 2025 EAN Congress will take place in Helsinki in June and the EPNS is pleased to have the session 'Acute demyelinating syndromes across the ages' labelled as a joint session, with speakers Kevin Rostasy, Barbara Kornek and Rinze Neuteboom.

The EPNS hosted an EPNS/EAN Joint educational webinar on 14 May 2025 discussing



'Paediatric arterial ischemic stroke: risk factors, acute management, and prognosis'. The webinar was chaired by Roberta Cilio with speakers Ilona Kopyta, Thomas Clement Truelsen and Julie Brix Bindslev. The webinar was well attended with excellent feedback received.

## Brain Health Mission

On 19 March 2025, the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), together with the [Brain Health Mission \(BHM\)](#) initiative hosted the European Brain Health Summit 2025.

Roberta Cilio, EPNS Board member, and Evelina Carapancea, YEPNS member, attended and represented the EPNS. Here they are pictured with Elena Moro, EAN President. The event built on the successes of previous years, uniting leading voices from across the globe to broaden the dialogue on brain health. Learn more

here: <https://www.ean.org/eane/advocacy/brain-health/brain-health-summit-2025>



In addition, as Chair of the EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration committee, I was personally honoured to be invited to give a presentation during the virtual Brain Health Mission Forum on 31 March 2025. This meeting brought together strategic and supporting partners, neurological association representatives, and EAN board members for a comprehensive

update on various activities relating to the [Brain Health Mission](#) from the Brain Health Mission Steering Committee. Representing the EPNS was a great opportunity to raise the importance of including paediatric neurology

## European Reference Networks: ERNs



ERNs are virtual networks involving healthcare providers across Europe. They aim to facilitate discussion on complex or rare diseases and conditions that require highly specialised treatment, and concentrated knowledge and resources. The ERN initiative receives support from several EU funding programmes. The EPNS has been working closely with several related ERNs

and as a result has the following Memoranda of Understanding (MoU):

- EpiCARE European Reference Network on epilepsy
- ERN-ITHACA: European Reference Network for Rare Malformation Syndromes, Intellectual and Other Neurodevelopmental Disorders
- ERN-NMD European Reference Network on neuromuscular diseases
- ERN-rita care of patients with Rare Immunological Disorders
- ERN-RND European Reference Network on neurological diseases MetabERN: European Reference Network for hereditary metabolic disorders

In addition, I am pleased to report that an MoU is in process with the ERN-EYE: European Reference Network on eye diseases

An example of the EPNS working with the ERNs is the EPNS & ERN-RND Winter School which was a virtual event held in March 2025 which was a successful, well attended collaborative event entitled 'Challenges of Treating Rare Neurological Diseases'. A recording of the full event is available on EPNS Moodle.

<https://courses.epns.info/login/index.php>

## European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD)

The EPNS is delighted to have a signed Memorandum of Understanding in place with the EACD which cements our longstanding fruitful collaboration. At EPNS Congress 2025 there will be a joint EPNS/EACD plenary session covering the topics Movement Disorders/ Rehabilitation with speakers Mark Hallet, Andreas Meyer-Heim and Elegast Monbaliu. The EACD/IAACD Congress 2025 will take place in Heidelberg in June and the EPNS will participate in the session joint symposium with EACD, GNP and ICNA labelled 'EACD/IAACD meets International Child Neurology' with speakers including Kevin Rostasy, Florian Heinen and Sebastian Schroeder.

## International Paediatric Stroke Organisation (IPSO)

The EPNS was delighted to formalise a signed Memorandum of Understanding with IPSO this spring and I look forward to a collaborating in educational, guidelines and congress activities.



## International Presidents



The group continues to meet virtually every 6 months with the aim to collaborate and avoid duplicating activities. In line with the aims of this EPNS committee, a main focus for these meetings is the implementation of IGAP. Celebrating World Brain Day was discussed at the most recent meeting which took place in June 2025. Both EPNS, represented by Kevin Rostasy, and ICNA are currently contributing to a World Health Organisation (WHO) paper on neurorehabilitation

## 17th Asian Oceanian Congress of Child Neurology (AOCCN) Congress

Kevin Rostasy has been invited to represent the EPNS and present at this meeting on 16-20 September 2025, in New Delhi.

## Committee of National Advisors: CNA

With one representative from almost all European national paediatric neurology associations, this committee report continues to be a valuable network in spreading the word about the activities of the EPNS and will be meeting during the EPNS Congress in Munich.

## Best wishes

**Anna Jansen, Chair EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee**

## EPNS Guidelines Committee (GC)

### Aim

The EPNS Guidelines committee has been created to promote high-quality and homogenous patient care in the field of paediatric neurology (diagnosis, treatment) based on existent evidence in Europe.



Photo: Dana Craiu  
Chair EPNS Guidelines Committee

### Committee

The EPNS Guidelines Committee comprises of members of the EPNS Board, invited specialists, [C N A members](#) and [YEPNS members](#)

### Website/ Guidelines Hub

EPNS Guidelines now has a dedicated section of the EPNS website which continues to be developed. There is a new Guidelines Hub where EPNS endorsed guidelines and protocols can be found, together with 2 other sections for those in development and those which have been developed by other organisations. Please visit this link to find out more <https://www.epns.info/guidelines-hub/>

### Endorsement process

The EPNS uses AGREE II, an instrument used by other esteemed organisations, to consistently endorse existing guidelines. Details will be uploaded here as the EPNS begins to take this forward <https://www.epns.info/epns-guideline-development-rules/> There are already several papers which are in the pipeline to undergo the EPNS endorsement process, and more details will be provided in the full year EPNS annual report for 2025.

### Project on Transition in Europe

The EPNS is collaborating with the EAN which has an active Taskforce looking at transition from childhood to adulthood in Europe. Thank you to everyone who completed the recent fact-finding survey; analysis has started so the Taskforce can address the areas highlighted. A position paper is being created for all adult neurologists and child neurologists to increase awareness across all neurological conditions. This will be a common general framework on the principles of transition.

### ILAE neonatal seizures treatment protocol

This guideline has been awarded EPNS endorsement using AGREEII and can be found on the EPNS Guidelines HUB.

## Dystonia in Paediatric Palliative care

A collaborative project has been completed by the Paediatric Dystonia and Palliative Care Group and EPNS, represented by Jean-Pierre Lin. The guideline is now available on the EPNS Guidelines HUB.

## European Reference Networks: ERNs



European  
Reference  
Networks

ERNs are virtual networks involving healthcare providers across Europe. They aim to facilitate discussion on complex or rare diseases and conditions that require highly specialised treatment, and concentrated knowledge and resources. The ERN initiative receives

support from several EU funding programmes.

The EPNS has 10 ERN representatives within related ERNs to the paediatric neurology field. The representatives keep the EPNS Guidelines committee informed about the planned production of any best practice guidelines/recommendation papers on common topics.

## Ongoing collaborative guidelines projects

There are a number of projects currently running, and a more detailed update will be provided in the full year 2025 annual report.

For information, here are some of the areas which EPNS is working on in close collaboration with other organisations to create guidelines, *acknowledging several EPNS members who are involved in the projects:*

- DMD Delphi initiative: *Thomas Sejersen*
- Burden of Sleep/Wake Disorder: *Oliviero Bruni*
- Management of Restless Legs Syndrome: *Oliviero Bruni*
- Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome: *Christine Eltze, Marietta Papadopoulos*
- Infantile Spasms: *Marietta Papadopoulos*
- Dravet Syndrome: *Dana Craiu, Lieven Lagae, Rima Nabbout*
- Pharmacological Treatment Status Epilepticus
- Pre-surgical evaluation: *Andreea Badea*
- Epilepsy surgery: *Pavel Kršek, Cristina Cazacu, Andreea Stefan*
- Neuromodulation: *Pavel Kršek*

## New projects

Members of the Guidelines Committee continue to reflect and put forward proposals for guidelines, expert consensus statements, and checklists to be endorsed by the EPNS.

If you have any suggestions or ideas that could contribute meaningfully to paediatric neurology practice, I warmly invite you to get in touch via [info@epns.info](mailto:info@epns.info)

**Best wishes**

**Dana Craiu, Chair EPNS Guidelines Committee**





## Committee of National Training Advisers (C N A)

The Committee of National Training Advisers is constituted of advisers selected by the national paediatric neurology societies and associations from European countries according to the World Health Organization (WHO) European Region definition. Normally each country is represented by one member. Currently 44 countries are represented in the CNA along with an observer from the European Academy of Neurology (EAN).



Photo: Dilek Yalnizoglu  
Chair C N A

### C N A Meeting

The CNA meets biennially just before the EPNS Congress. The next CNA meeting will be before the 16th EPNS Meeting in Munich, Germany, 8-12 July, 2025. I look forward to a fruitful meeting.

### EPNS Exam

The first EPNS Exam was held just before the 15th EPNS Meeting in Prague, Czech Republic, and it resulted in a great success. Maja Steinlin, head of the EPNS Exam Organising Team, and colleagues have been working on the second exam which will be held before the 16th EPNS Meeting in Munich, Germany in 2025. I would like to note that CNA members are an integral part of the EPNS Exam Organising Team, providing questions and spreading the word about the exam across their national societies. CNA members are invited to contribute to the exam and include their local network -if they think that would be more productive. Maja Steinlin, head of the EPNS Exam Organising Team, continues to support CNA members regarding their questions and comments on preparing exam questions. In addition to classical references, the references for the exam include the EPNS syllabus, training guide with webinar/course synchronisation. More details can be found here <https://www.epns.info/epns-exam/> The Exam Organising Team looks forward to continued support from CNA members for the future EPNS Exams.

### EPNS IGAP Initiative

In 2021, WHO published a discussion paper; *Intersectoral Global Action Plan (IGAP) on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders 2022-2031*. Following a period of consultations and revisions, IGAP was adopted unanimously at World Health Assembly in 2022.

In 2024, the EPNS started an initiative regarding IGAP. The EPNS vision is to ensure IGAP is implemented in each European country with the voice of child neurology heard. This has been an ongoing project lead by Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President and Anna Jansen, Chair EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee, in collaboration with WHO.

Initially a survey on IGAP was sent to CNA members in January 2024, after data gathering and evaluation, an EPNS IGAP zoom meeting was held in 14 March 2024. The panel included Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President, Vanessa Cavallera, Technical Officer, WHO, Anna Jansen, Chair EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee, Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair CNA Executive Committee. One EPNS IGAP representative from almost



every European country as well as special guests from the EPNS Board, OneNeurology and YEPNS attended the meeting. The updated material on IGAP is available for CNA members and EPNS IGAP representatives via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9gkqvfuobxnvuzr3ts1y/h?rlkey=v3lqyqq0b2khgdgj47cqdva8q&st=o0skez5s&dl=0>

The EPNS looks forward to working with you to make the vision a reality, and thank you CNA members, for taking on the crucial role as EPNS IGAP representative.

### **CNA Executive Committee**

The CNA election takes place every 4 years to appoint the Executive Committee positions: Chair, Secretary and 2 Members for 4 years, and each person can serve 2 times in a particular role. The current CNA Executive Committee for the 2022-2026 term consists of 4 positions:

Dilek Yalnizoglu, Turkiye, Chair

Anne-Marie Childs, UK, Secretary, EPNS Board Representative (2024-2026)

Agnese Suppiej, Italy, Member, Elected EPNS Board Member

Monica Vasconcelos, Portugal, Member, EPNS Board Representative (2022-2024)

It has been my honour to serve as the CNA Chair. I would like to emphasize the enormous potential CNA has to contribute to the EPNS, particularly in education and training aspects. I look forward to continued support from the CNA in educational activities of the EPNS and the EPNS IGAP vision.

Best wishes

**Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair C N A**

## Training Advisory Board (TAB)

In 2002 Paediatric Neurology was accepted at the European level as a sub-specialty of Paediatrics and of Neurology. In the process of defining the specialty, a European Paediatric Neurology Training Programme (Syllabus) was compiled and accepted by the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) and the national societies represented in the Committee of National Advisors (CNA) in Paediatric Neurology as well as the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) sections for Paediatrics and Neurology. The revised Syllabus was again discussed and accepted with entry both from Paediatrics or Neurology by EAP (European Academy of Paediatrics, the Paediatric Division of UEMS) in December 2010. The Syllabus was revised and updated by a CNA working group in 2019, which was accepted by the General Board of EPNS and by the CNA (<https://www.epns.info/education-and-training/european-syllabus/>).



Photo: Dilek Yalnizoglu  
Chair TAB

In order to push the implementation of a high standard of paediatric neurology training, in 2004 the EPNS Board and the CNA agreed to create a Training Advisory Board (TAB) and to develop a training evaluation programme intended to support national societies in developing their training systems. TAB offers the national child neurology societies the opportunity to evaluate their national training system. The aim is a standard of training in accordance with the European Paediatric Neurology Training Programme (Syllabus) in each European country. The assessment is voluntary and initiated by the national paediatric neurology society. So far the training system was evaluated in 13 countries. The most recent TAB visit was to Ukraine completed in 2021.

I am delighted to announce that CNA-TAB has received an invitation from Spanish Paediatric Neurology Society, SENEP in October 2024. Thanks to SENEP for the invitation, and a TAB visit to Spain is currently in preparation.

I look forward to working with national paediatric neurology societies while EPNS TAB continues to support national training programmes. In addition, I suggest that national societies of the countries who had been visited in the past may consider if they will benefit from an update visit and assess their progress and accomplishments after the first evaluation. In the mean time, reminder letters to CNA members will be sent periodically.

Best wishes

**Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair TAB**



## Young EPNS (YEPNS)

The Young EPNS was created in 2020 to raise the voice of young members of the Paediatric Neurology Society in Europe and above. The subscription is free to every Young EPNS member through the [ONLINE APPLICATION FORM](#), available at the EPNS website, with currently more than 160 subscribed members.

There are 22 YEPNS Committee members representing 16 European countries. Election of five new YEPNS Committee members, along with the YEPNS Chair election, is ongoing according to the newly established YEPNS Memorandum (available at: [https://www.epns.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/YEPNS-Committee-Memorandum-V-2.0.01\\_05\\_2025\\_MP.pdf](https://www.epns.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/YEPNS-Committee-Memorandum-V-2.0.01_05_2025_MP.pdf)). Results will be announced during the 16<sup>th</sup> EPNS Congress 2025 in Munich.



Photo: Marietta Papadopoulou  
Chair Young EPNS (YEPNS)

YEPNS will also host 2 sessions during the Congress (<https://epns-congress.com/programme/>) and a Networking event (<https://epns-congress.com/networking/>).

All YEPNS members have the opportunity to participate in the following Working Groups, in collaboration with the EPNS Board liaison member for each activity/WG:  
**Education and Clinic WG (Coordinator: Karina Kersbergen)/ Liaison EPNS Board: Pr Craiu & Pr Cilio for EPNS Case discussions**

✓ **Main activities:**

- EPNS Case discussions: <https://www.epns.info/case-discussions/>
- YEPNS “Guess the syndrome” session during the EPNS biannual congress
- Preparation of content based on EPNS Case discussions to be shared in SM platforms
- Participation in the selection of Educational Webinars topics in collaboration with Pr Craiu

**Research and Career WG (Coordinator: Maria Gogou)/ Liaison EPNS Board: Pr Plecko**

✓ **Main activities:**

- EPNS Journal Club: <https://www.epns.info/epns-journal-club/>
- Preparation of content based on EPNS Journal Club to be shared in SM platforms

✓ **New since last report:**

- YEPNS/EPNS Podcasts project ready to be launched: each podcast will be presented by a YEPNS member, summarising and promoting what was discussed in webinars, journal clubs, case discussions, etc

**Social Media and Networking WG (Coordinator: Roberto Previtali)/ Liaison EPNS Board: Dr Lin**

✓ **Main activities:**



- SM and email account handling: **1003** Instagram followers ; **235 Facebook** followers; preparation of at least one SM post per week (i.e. educational content prepared by Education & Clinic AND Research & Career WG)
- Organisation of the YEPNS social event and promotion of YEPNS activities during the EPNS Congress (YEPNS desk and banner)
- Participation in the International Collaboration of the Young Representatives (of continental or subcontinental pediatric neurology Societies- YES, ICNA, others)
- ✓ **New since last report:**
  - Posts via YEPNS SM recently published articles of special importance for early-career child neurologists (collaboration with Research & Career AND Education & Clinic WGs)

**Guidelines & Good Clinical Practice WG (Coordinator: Alessandra Rossi)/ Liaison EPNS Board: Pr Craiu**

- ✓ **Main activities:**
  - Support of the activities of the EPNS Guidelines Committee
  - Educational/training regular meetings on tools and principles relevant to Evidence based Reports and Clinical Practice Guidelines development
- ✓ **New since last report:**
- ✓ **YEPNS Systematic Review on Climate Change and Neurological Disorders in Children to be presented as oral presentation at EPNS Congress 2025**

**Climate Change and Sustainability WG (Coordinator: Thomas Foiadelli)/ Liaison EPNS Board: Pr Jansen**

- ✓ **Main activities:**
  - To raise awareness among members regarding the impact of climate change in pediatric neurology; calculate/reduce YEPNS/EPNS carbon footprint ; plan specific climate-saving actions; collaboration with groups within other Neurology societies with same objective (EAN Environmental Influences Task-Force; Young Epilepsy Section etc)
- ✓ **News since last report:**
  - Organisation of **Early morning session on Climate Change during the EPNS 2025 Congress**

**15/06/2025**

**On behalf of the YEPNS Committee**

**Marietta Papadopoulou, Chair, Young EPNS**

Instagram profile: [young\\_epns](#)

Facebook profile: [YEPNS](#)

[yepns@epns.info](mailto:yepns@epns.info)





## A little more information about

### The European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS)

**Honorary membership** is for persons who the society wishes to honour for outstanding distinction in the field of paediatric neurology.

**Associate membership** is awarded, on application, to all paediatric neurologists and colleagues in related fields and that belong to their national society or association in their field and to any physician, basic scientist or clinical scientist trainees in paediatric neurology who shows an interest in the neurology of infancy, childhood, or adolescence, whether in research or in clinical medical care. There are no geographical restrictions to associate membership. Associate members pay an annual subscription, which includes subscription to the European Journal of Paediatric Neurology, the Journal of the Society.

**Ordinary membership** is for any associate member that is also in practice in Europe (currently taken as the region for which European Office of WHO is responsible). Transition from associate to ordinary membership takes place by the vote of the general assembly at the meeting of The Society. The only difference between associate and ordinary membership is the entitlement of ordinary members to vote for and stand as candidates for election to the Board of the Society.

### EPNS Membership Fees for 2025 and 2026

EPNS membership fees (also known as subscription fees) are payable each year and cover the period 1 January until 31 December.

EPNS members who have paid the current year EPNS membership fee receives access to the [EPNS Moodle](#) , ONLINE [European Journal of Paediatric Neurology \(EJPN\)](#), participate in EPNS activities, discounted EPNS Congress registration fees, plus much more.

EPNS members may also pay an extra fee to receive a printed copy of the FOR ONE YEAR [European Journal of Paediatric Neurology \(EJPN\)](#)

EPNS members can pay their EPNS membership fees for 2025, or if preferred the combined 2025/2026 to benefit from a discount.

### The amount paid depends on the EPNS membership category

EPNS Membership Category	EPNS Membership fee*		Printed Journal 2025 6 issues
	2025	Combined 2025&2026	
Regular members: high-income countries** (WB4A)	150 Euros	270 Euros	60 Euros
Regular members: selected countries*** (WB4B)	75 Euros	133 Euros	60 Euros
Regular members: low-income countries** (WB123)	35 Euros	63Euros	60 Euros
Trainees/Residents who are qualified physicians	20 Euros	36 Euros	60 Euros
Allied Health Professionals & Nurses (AHPN)	20 Euros	36 Euros	60 Euros
Neuroscientists and other Clinical Specialists (NSCS)	20 Euros	36 Euros	60 Euros
PhD full time Students	20 Euros	36 Euros	60 Euros
Medical undergraduate Students	20 Euros	36 Euros	60 Euros

\* Automatic access to the online Society Journal (EJPN), EPNS Moodle and opportunities to be involved in other EPNS activities

\*\* Based on the World Bank (WB) income category of the country in which the member practices

\*\*\* Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain

## Contacting the EPNS



Photo: Sue Hargreaves  
EPNS Executive Manager



Photo: Mel Knowles  
EPNS Operations Manager

Email	<a href="mailto:info@epns.info">info@epns.info</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.epns.info/">http://www.epns.info/</a>
X	<a href="https://twitter.com/EPNSnews">Twitter @EPNSnews</a>
Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/epnsnews">Instagram @epnsnews</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/EPNSnews">Facebook @EPNSnews</a>

## Joining the EPNS

### New members are welcome!

If you are not already a member, please think of becoming one. By doing so you join a growing group of like-minded active professionals in our field who are committed to improving the standards of care of all children with suspected neurological problems and to collaborating on training, continuing medical education and research.

Membership is open to all paediatric neurologists and colleagues in related fields.

Membership rates have been substantially reduced for trainees and for colleagues from certain countries after completion of training.

It's easy to join the EPNS! Our new membership application form can be completed online through our website <https://www.epns.info/become-an-epns-member/new-membership-application/> Once you submit the form, you will receive an email acknowledging receipt. Sue or Mel from our EPNS Administration Team will then get in touch with you shortly afterwards to formally welcome you to the Society.

