

Annual Report 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

As 2025 draws to a close, I am delighted to reflect on what has been another exceptional year for the EPNS. This has been a period marked by growth, collaboration, and meaningful progress, and I am immensely proud of the dedication, energy, and achievements demonstrated across our Society.



Photo: Kevin Rostasy
EPNS President

This year also represents a personal milestone, as I prepare to step down from my role as EPNS President. Serving in this position has been an extraordinary honour. I am deeply grateful for the trust, support, and commitment shown by our Board, our members, and our partners throughout my term. Although I am retiring as President, I am pleased to continue serving on the Board and contributing to the ongoing work of our Society.

A new EPNS President will soon be ratified, and I have every confidence that my successor will provide strong leadership as the Society enters its next chapter. I am certain that under their guidance, the EPNS will continue to thrive, innovate, and make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of children and families across Europe and beyond.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the outgoing EPNS Board for their dedication, wisdom, and hard work, all of which have been essential in advancing our mission. At the same time, I warmly welcome the newly elected EPNS Board for the 2026–2030 term (see page 6). I congratulate all successful candidates and at the same time offer my thanks to those who were not elected, acknowledging their willingness to serve and their continued value to our community. In January 2026, the existing Board will formally hand over to the new Board. During this meeting, the new EPNS positions on the EPNS Board will be ratified, and additional co-opted members will be invited to join in the summer to take on specific roles. Several current members, me included, will continue to serve during the next term. Again, I express my sincere appreciation to the Board members whose term now concludes, and I hope they will continue to share their expertise with the EPNS in the years ahead.

This annual report presents an overview of the many EPNS activities undertaken during 2025 and highlights the exciting initiatives planned for the future.

In the recent years we saw a steady increase in EPNS membership, with more than 700 new members alone in 2025 joining our Society. This growth not only strengthens our collective voice but also enriches the diversity of expertise and experience within our network.

On behalf of the EPNS Scientific & Research Committee, I am delighted to reflect on the success of our 16th EPNS Congress in Munich. With around 2,000 delegates registered, the Congress exceeded expectations and provided an inspiring platform for learning,

networking, and collaboration. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Professor Florian Heinen, Dr Lucia Gerstl, and their team for organising such a superb event.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the 17th EPNS Congress, taking place on 6–10 April 2027 in Barcelona. I would also like to extend my congratulations to the Stockholm team for their successful bid to host the 18th EPNS Congress from 11–15 September 2029.

The EPNS Scientific & Research Committee attention is now on the next EPNS Research Meeting taking place in Thessaloniki on 16-17 October 2026 where experienced professionals and young researchers in the field of Pediatric Neurology will get together for interactive discussions around the presented topics. I hope to see you there!

Through our EPNS Education & Training Committee during 2025, the EPNS continued to support professional development and training across Europe and beyond, with the 2nd EPNS Exam in Munich, completing the latest cycle of its three-year training programme in Ferrara, and supporting the biennial Central Eurasia Workshop in Almaty. Accessible, digital learning remained a priority, with regular webinars and the EPNS Moodle providing ongoing educational opportunities. The Society was also honoured to facilitate the EPNS Fellowships and Visiting Teacher programmes, offering life-changing professional experiences for members.

I hope you will be able to get involved in our planned educational activities for 2026, which include the 3rd and last round of EPNS Training Courses in Ferrara, with the topics 'Neonatal Neurology' and 'Genetics for Paediatric Neurologists'. The EPNS Biennial Caucasus Teaching Course on 'Acute Neurology' will be in Tbilisi. Not forgetting the opportunity for EPNS Fellowships, Visiting Teachers, the EPNS supporting educational events, and of course our ongoing highly respected EPNS webinar programme.

The EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Committee has had another highly productive year in 2025, strengthening our role as a global advocate for child neurology and brain health. The committee successfully completed its first four-year term, expanded our network of 44 IGAP representatives across Europe, and delivered a series of advocacy training webinars, concluding with a session at the EPNS Congress in Munich. Our collaborations with key organisations—including the World Health Organisation (WHO), European Brain Council (EBC), OneNeurology, European Academy of Neurology (EAN), European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD), European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP), European Reference Networks (ERNs), European Medicines Agency (EMA), and international child neurology societies—have reinforced the EPNS's voice in policy, research, and education at European and global levels. Highlights include active participation in Brain Health initiatives, joint projects with the Young EPNS on sustainability, and new Memoranda of Understanding with the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) and International Paediatric Stroke Organisation (IPSO). I am deeply grateful to all EPNS members and partners for their dedication and commitment, and I look forward to 2026 with continued success and vision.

The Young EPNS (YEPNS) continues to be a dynamic and integral part of the EPNS. Their energy, creativity, and dedication play a crucial role in advancing the Society's mission, and I am proud of the meaningful contributions they make across education, advocacy, and innovation. I look forward to building on these achievements in the year ahead. More details can be found in the YEPNS update later in this report.

With representatives from nearly all European national Paediatric Neurology associations, the Committee of National Training Advisers (CNA) is a vital network supporting key EPNS initiatives such as the IGAP initiative. A summary of their activities is included later in this annual report, together with a report about the Training Advisory Board (TAB) which offers national child neurology societies the opportunity to evaluate their national training system.

Thank you to everyone for being part of this journey — your dedication makes the EPNS the vibrant and inspiring community that it is. I also extend my warmest wishes to all our members and supporters for a happy, healthy, and fulfilling New Year.

Best wishes

Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President

EPNS Mission Statement

The EPNS as an international and independent non-profit making Society for physicians, health professionals, scientists, and students with research and/or clinical interest in Paediatric Neurology. Our mission is to promote excellence in patient care, research, and education to improve the neurological outcome of children and young people in Europe and across the world.

The EPNS goals are outlined as follows:

- Advocate for easy and equitable access to the highest standard of patient care in neurology for children, young people, and support for their caregivers.
- Promote excellence in education and training, providing a comprehensive learning environment in paediatric neurology to students, trainees, and qualified professionals in all stages of their career.
- Foster, expand and support science and clinical research in paediatric neurology bringing together the best clinicians and scientists in the field.
- Engage with policy makers, patient groups, and the general public to promote best practice from fetal life to the young adult.
- Nurture multidisciplinary and international collaborations to address the diagnosis and treatment of children and young people with neurological disorders.
- Improve understanding, respect, inclusion, and support for all individuals affected by long term neurological sequelae providing appropriate management and rehabilitation.

EPNS Board Members 2022-2026

Nadia	Bahi-Buisson	France
Dewi	Bakker	Netherlands
Sandra	Bigi	Switzerland
Anne-Marie	Childs	United Kingdom
Maria Roberta	Cilio	Belgium
Dana	Craiu	Romania
Rob	Forsyth	United Kingdom
Lucia	Gerstl	Germany
Kathleen Mary	Gorman	Ireland
Anna	Jansen	Belgium
Altynshash	Jaxybayeva	Kazakhstan
Ilona Anna	Kopyta	Poland
Pavel	Kršek	Czech Republic
Lieven	Lagae	Belgium
Ming	Lim	United Kingdom
Jean-Pierre	Lin	United Kingdom
Ignacio	Malaga Diéguez	Spain
Francesco	Muntoni	United Kingdom
Finbar	O'Callaghan	United Kingdom
Jasna	Oražem Mrak	Slovenia
Barbara	Plecko	Austria
Kevin	Rostasy	Germany
Thomas	Sejersen	Sweden
Agnese	Suppiej	Italy
Inga	Talvik	Estonia
Monica	Vasconcelos	Portugal
Federico	Vigevano	Italy
Michel	Willemse	Netherlands
Dilek	Yalnizoglu	Turkey
Dimitrios	Zafeiriou	Greece
Sameer	Zuberi	United Kingdom

Elected EPNS Board Members 2026-2030

In the coming months, co-opted members will be invited to join the EPNS Board

Nadia	Bahi	FRANCE
Dewi	Bakker	NETHERLANDS
Andreas	Brunklaus	UNITED KINGDOM
Maria Roberta	Cilio	BELGIUM
Dana	Craiu	ROMANIA
Lucia	Gerstl	GERMANY
Kathleen	Gorman	IRELAND
Anna	Jansen	BELGIUM
Pavel	Kršek	CZECH REPUBLIC
Ming	Lim	UNITED KINGDOM
Francesco	Muntoni	UNITED KINGDOM
Rinze	Neuteboom	NETHERLANDS
Finbar	O'Callaghan	UNITED KINGDOM
Juan Dario	Ortigoza-Escobar	SPAIN
Kevin	Rostasy	GERMANY
Sema	Saltik	TURKEY
Federico	Vigevano	ITALY
Tessa	Wassenberg	BELGIUM
Ronny	Wickstrom	SWEDEN
Dimitrios	Zafeiriou	GREECE

EPNS Treasurer & Finance Report

The EPNS maintains a comprehensive budgeting framework for its principal committees and oversees all financial activities with great care. This approach ensures that the Society remains strong and able to support its members and their work in child neurology.

Below is an overview of key achievements during 2025:



Photo: Michel
Willemsen
EPNS Treasurer

EPNS Scientific and Research Committee

In 2025, we were proud to host the 16th EPNS Congress in Munich, Germany—an event that reinforced our mission to advance paediatric neurology. Over 3.5 days, the Congress offered, besides its wonderful scientific content, high-quality educational sessions and networking opportunities. The EPNS contributed financial support, including the EPNS Academy on the last day of the Congress plus offering 20 bursaries to help broaden participation.

EPNS Education and Training Committee

During the EPNS Congress mentioned above, the EPNS subsidised the 2nd EPNS Exam. The EPNS also continued to deliver its established 3-year training programme, which concluded its latest cycle in Ferrara, Italy. In addition, the Society provided support for the biennial Central Eurasia Workshop in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Investment in digital learning remained a priority, with the EPNS Moodle and online platforms used for Webinars taking place approx. once a week. The EPNS was also honoured to have once again funded the EPNS Fellowships and Visiting Teacher programmes, enabling truly life-changing professional opportunities.

EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee

This committee has continued to raise the profile and influence of child neurology on national, European, and global stages. By maintaining full membership in the European Brain Council (EBC), the EPNS gains direct access to a leading advocate for the prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment of brain disorders, while helping to position brain research as a societal priority. Through this network, the EPNS is championing a life-course approach to brain health—supporting development from the antenatal period, through childhood and adolescence, and into later life—ensuring that neurological health remains a priority at every stage.

EPNS Guidelines Committee

The committee continued its work with partner organisations on guideline development in areas such as paediatric epilepsy and transitional care. Although no expenditure was required in 2025, an annual budget remains allocated in accordance with contractual obligations.

EPNS Membership, PR and Website Committee

Membership continues to grow steadily, reflecting the sustained engagement of our community. A modest budget is reserved for communication and promotional activities.

EPNS Finance Committee

We remain committed to managing administrative costs carefully while ensuring the effective support of all EPNS activities.

I am pleased to confirm that the Society remains in a secure financial position, with adequate resources held safely in our account at a Private Bank in Germany.

As I conclude my term on the EPNS Board, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the support, dedication, and collaboration shown by colleagues, members, and partners throughout these years. It has been an honour to serve. I extend my warmest wishes to all of you and every success to my successors as they take on this important role.

With best regards,
Michel Willemsen, EPNS Treasurer



EPNS Scientific & Research Committee

I have had the honour of serving on the EPNS Board for many years, including eight years as Chair of the EPNS Scientific & Research Committee. During this time I have had the pleasure to closely collaborate with three EPNS Presidents, Prof. Lieven Lagae, Prof. Sameer Zuberi and lately also with Prof. Kevin Rostasy, with the EPNS Congress chairs of Athens 2019, Prof. Dimitrios Zafeiriou, Glasgow 2022, Prof. Sameer Zuberi, Prague 2023, Prof. Pavel Krsek and Munich 2025, Prof. Florian Heinen and Prof. Lucia Gerstl and their respective teams as well as with the chairs of the EPNS Research Meetings of 2018 Alicante, Prof. Dr. Francesco Caratalla, 2020 Stockholm, Prof. Thomas Sejersen and in 2024 Ljubljana, Prof. Zvonka Renner-Primec. The members of the Scientific and Research Committee as well as the Working Group Chairs over all this time have given full support and helped tremendously with their expertise and ideas in the joint effort to bring EPNS activities to the next level. Over all the years the active and flexible support by EPNS office, especially Sue and later also Mel were indispensable and contributed to formalising the EPNS Congress Booklet as well as the EPNS Research Meeting Booklet to set standards for the future organisation of our meetings. In January 2026, I will be stepping down from the Board. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many colleagues I have met along the way for their openminded cooperation, for their dedication to child neurology and for their support in helping make EPNS activities possible.



Photo: Barbara Plecko
Chair EPNS Scientific & Research Committee

Please find below the Annual Report from the EPNS Scientific & Research Committee, which summarises the activities throughout 2025 and highlights the meaningful impact achieved by the EPNS in the past year.

I wish the incoming EPNS Board every success, and I very much look forward to remaining part of EPNS activities in the future.

16th EPNS Congress 2025

The 16th EPNS Congress took place at the ICM – International Congress Center Munich, Germany on 8-12 July 2025, hosted by the Gesellschaft für Neuropädiatrie (GNP).

Thank you. I thank Prof. Florian Heinen and Prof. Lucia Gerstl and their local organising committee all speakers, my colleagues on the EPNS Board, Local Organising Committee (LOC) and the Young EPNS (YEPNS) for all their hard work in planning the event and developing a stimulating scientific programme. Special thanks and congratulations must be expressed to Professor Florian Heinen, Congress Chair, Prof. Dr Lucia Gerstl, Congress Secretary for their dedication in organising such a wonderful event.



Thank you also to those of you who were able to join us in Munich, and I hope you have found the event supported your continuing medical education and daily work.

You can visit the photo gallery to relive the Munich EPNS Congress: [CLICK HERE](#)

The Pre-Congress Symposium took place on 8 July 2025 with the title 'The Child and the Brain. Where it's all started.'

Hosted by the GNP, it was a full packed day 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 combined clinical examination, neuroimaging, neuromodulation, AI, gene therapy, and philosophy in an engaging format.



The EPNS Congress



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

The programme was developed with innovative platform sessions and distinguished invited speakers.

A total of 12 Early Morning Sessions, 5 Plenary sessions, 20 parallel sessions and 15 guided poster walks gave plenty of room to learn and discuss about current standards of care and a width of research activities.

An EPNS record breaking 922 abstracts were submitted, 140 of which were accepted as oral abstracts, 105 moderated posters with short presentations and 662 eposters were shown at Terminals through the event.



With more than 1,943 participants, excluding exhibitors, the Congress surpassed all expectations.

The Congress was opened with a ceremony and presentation of best abstract and best paper award and the flagship Aicardi Award Lecture, three full days of educational sessions, a new Skills Lab organised by the GNP, networking, interaction, updates from our industry partners, and the EPNS Academy & Highlights on Disorders of Speech development as a grand finale.



Congratulations to our EPNS Congress award winners:

5th Aicardi Award Lecture

I was honoured to be presented with this award during the opening ceremony on 8 July 2025. My lecture was entitled 'Biomarker Research in Neurometabolic Disorders'.

The laudation was held by Professor Michel Willemse and the award was presented by Professor Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President, Professor Florian Heinen, EPNS Congress Chair and Ms Sally Wilkinson, Senior Publisher at MacKeith Press.

This award is in recognition of our honorary EPNS member and internationally renowned French child neurologist, Professor Jean Aicardi (1926-2015) in partnership with MacKeith Press <https://www.mackeith.co.uk/>



EJPN Best Paper Award 2025 (left picture above): was presented to Lisa Quack from the Germany for the EJPN article 'Autoantibody status, neuroradiological and clinical findings in children with acute cerebellitis'. Thank you to Lisa for delivering a brief presentation about the article during the Opening Ceremony.

The award was presented by Professor Dimitrios Zafeiriou, EPNS Secretary & EJPN Editor-in-Chief, and Riccardo Paracampo PhD, Senior Publisher at Elsevier.

Outstanding Abstract Award (right picture above): was received by Dr Fatemeh Peymani from Germany for the abstract 'Epigenetic variation underlies pleiotropy in MORC2-related disorders' Co-authors: Tomohiro Ebihara, Dmitrii Smirnov, Robert Kopajtich, Masahiro Ando, Enrico Bertini, Felix Distelmaier, Fang Fang, Daniele Ghezzi, Thomas Klopstock, Costanza Lamperti, Agnés Rötig, Yuji Okamoto, Hiroshi Takashima, Christian Schlein, Polina G Tsygankova, Thomas Meitinger, Masaru Shimura, Kei Murayama, Holger Prokisch

Best Oral Presentation: Presenting author: Sakshi Ojha (India). Title: Efficacy of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation in children and adolescents with generalized dystonia: a randomized sham-controlled trial. Co-authors: Prashant Jauhari, Sheffali Gulati, Suman Jain, Biswaroop Chakrabarty, Atin Kumar, Sanjay Wadhwa, Sanjeeda Khan, Ravindra Mohan Pandey

Best e-Poster Presentation: Presenting author: Robin Münger (Switzerland). Title: Neurological outcome prediction models after childhood ischaemic stroke (EPNS25_1006) Co-authors: , Tatia Afrasidze, Maja Steinlin



EPNS Academy and EPNS Highlights these two sessions took place on the last day of the EPNS Congress and complemented the main programme. We were delighted to have the honour of three distinguished speakers.

EPNS Congress 2025: learn more:

- Book of Abstracts can be viewed: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Speaker authorised presentations can be viewed in the members' area of the EPNS website: [CLICK HERE](#)

Evaluation

The evaluation results have been analysed in detail, and I am pleased to report that they were overwhelmingly positive. At the same time, we take delegate feedback very seriously, and we view it as an invaluable opportunity to further strengthen our events. We have noted the suggestions provided and will be addressing areas for enhancement—such as improving the presentation of e-posters—as we plan to introduce an additional format of scientific slam sessions with short pitches of selected abstracts in addition to free oral presentations and the guided poster tours for the future. Due to the high number of abstracts a subset will still remain as unguided poster presentations only. YEPNS will help to outline this strategy on the respective congress homepage.

17th EPNS Congress 2027



Plans are already well underway for the upcoming EPNS Congress, which I am delighted to announce will be held as a hybrid event. The congress will take place in person in Barcelona, Spain, from **6–10 April 2027**, with all lectures taking place in the plenary lecture theatre also available via live stream through a dedicated virtual platform.



Dr Carmen Fons is Chair of EPNS Congress 2027 and the official EPNS Congress website is now live: <https://epns-congress.com/>

Barcelona looks forward to welcoming you. Recognised as a global hub for scientific exchange, the city has, over the past decade, established itself as a leading centre for neuroscience research, supported by its vibrant academic community, world-class hospitals, and strong commitment to paediatric neurology. With its modern infrastructure, excellent international transport links, and unique Mediterranean charm, Barcelona offers an inspiring setting that naturally encourages innovation and collaboration.

We warmly invite you to join us in this exceptional environment as we bring together international experts in paediatric neurology for a stimulating and memorable congress.

18th EPNS Congress 2029

Sincere congratulations to the Stockholm team for presenting an excellent bid in July and they have been selected to host EPNS Congress 2029!



EPNS Research Meeting 2026



Professor Dimitrios Zafeiriou together with Dr Pinelopi Dragoumi 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 the aim of strengthening and promoting research in paediatric neurology. These meetings bring together leaders in the field, active researchers, and young fellows who are interested in joining or initiating research projects.

In 2026, the EPNS Research Meeting will be further enhanced with the addition of two new Working Groups—Developmental Neurology & Neurogenetics, and Leukodystrophies—as well as an increased capacity for participants up to 50 per working group.

Across the two-day programme, attendees will benefit from three plenary lectures, in addition to presentations from young investigators who will share their ideas, findings, and emerging research. This structure fosters dynamic interaction between young researchers and provides an excellent foundation for networking, knowledge exchange, and future collaborative projects across Europe and beyond. The meeting creates a unique environment where experienced professionals and early-career researchers can engage in lively, constructive discussions around cutting-edge topics.

The EPNS looks forward to welcoming child neurologist researchers at all career stages to Thessaloniki—senior experts, junior scientists, and PhD students alike are warmly 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/>

As I step down from my role as Chair of the EPNS Scientific & Research Committee, I am grateful for all our achievements this year and extend my warmest wishes for continued inspiration, collaboration, and success in the years ahead. I thank the members of the Scientific and Research Committee as well as the full board and especially Sue and Mel for all their support and friendship throughout the years.

Best wishes

Barbara Plecko, Chair EPNS Research & Scientific Committee

EPNS Education & Training Committee

The E&T Committee developed many activities, summarized in the Figure below:

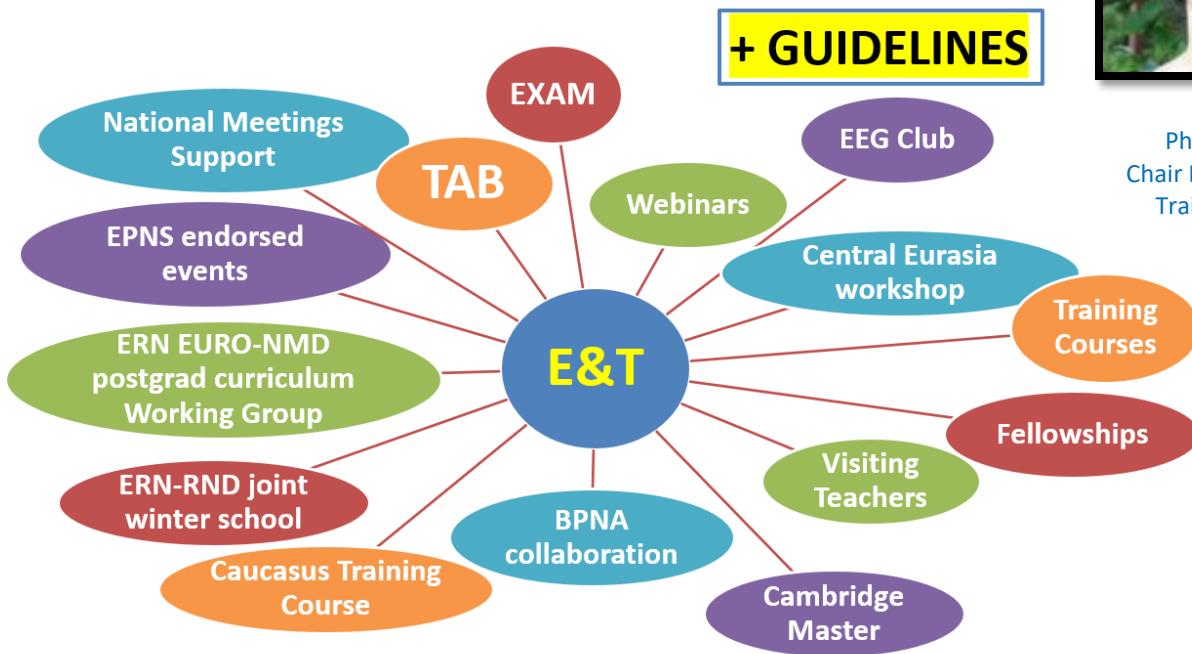


Photo: Dana Craiu
Chair EPNS Education and Training Committee

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 a growing library of EPNS educational and scientific resources. There are many resources such as previous EPNS Training course presentations and all EPNS webinar recordings from our educational webinars, EEG Club webinars, and our YEPNS case discussion and journal club webinars. New for 2025 you will also find our series of EPNS Advocacy webinars.

EPNS Exam

After a successful first summative EPNS Exam in Prague in 2023, our 2nd EPNS Exam took place on 8 July 2025 at the EPNS Congress in Munich. The CNA contribute to the exam question development, with the EPNS Exam assessing 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. Plans will soon be underway for the next EPNS Exam which will take place at the next EPNS Congress in Barcelona in April 2027.

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 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
24 Sept 25	Three challenges, one webinar - From solved to unsolved in paediatric neurology
26 Nov 25	MOG-antibody-associated and anti-NMDA receptor encephalitis: clinical management challenges through real-life cases

Plans for the 2026 Case Discussion webinars are well underway, the first taking place on 25 February with the topic “Signaling Pathway Abnormalities in Neurodevelopmental Disorders: PTEN Hamartoma Tumor Syndrome and Related Conditions”

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 course is scheduled to take place 23-26 May 2026, and the topics will be Neonatal Neurology and Genetics for Paediatric Neurology. Registration opened on the 25 November 2025.

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

After 2026, the next 3-year rolling EPNS Training Courses will take place over the period 2027-2029 in Thessaloniki, **Greece**. And the 2030-2032 cycle will take place in Sibiu, **Romania**.

EPNS Central Eurasia workshop 2025

The Central Eurasia workshop took place in Almaty City, Kazakhstan on 26-29 March 2025 with the topic '**Epileptic conditions of children from Newborn to childhood**'

Organised locally by Altynshash Jaxybayeva

Moderators: Dana Craiu, Roberta Cilio, and Ilona Kopyta.

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.

The next EPNS Eurasia Workshop will take place in 2027, dates to be confirmed.

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

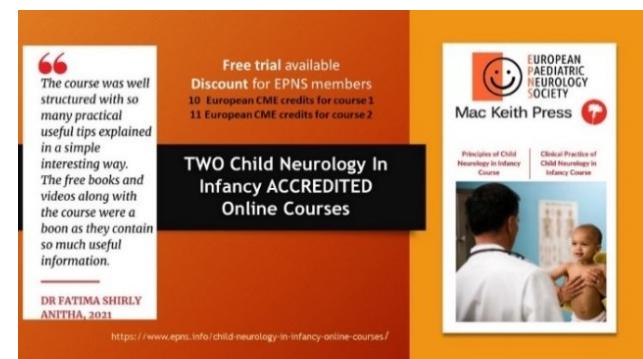
As a result of a collaboration project, the EPNS and Mac Keith Press are offering interactive online learning courses based on the 2nd edition of the Professor Colin Kennedy book *Principles and Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy*.

There are 2 courses:

Course 1: Principles of Child Neurology in Infancy.

Course 2: Clinical Practice of Child Neurology in Infancy

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



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

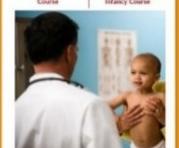
TWO Child Neurology In Infancy ACCREDITED Online Courses

DR FATIMA SHIRLY ANTITHA, 2021

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

Mac Keith Press

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



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/>

The EPNS Educational webinar schedule for 2026 is finalised:

DATE 2026	TOPIC	PRESENTER/senior	Chair
14-Jan-26	Educational - Leukodystrophy	Nicole Wolf	Dewi Becker
11-Feb-26	Educational - Modified hammersmith for SMA	Eugenio Mercuri	Roberta Cillio
11-Mar-26	Educational - Challenging Neurological Symptoms in Pediatric Palliative Care: Tips for Practice	Anna Mercante	Kathleen Gorman
8-Apr-26	Educational - Holistic approach to severe infantile epilepsies	Federico Vigevano	Dilek Yalnizoglu
13-May-26	Educational - joint EACD Key neurological signs in chronic movement disorders of childhood'	Jean-Pierre Lin and Elegast Monbaliu	Ilona Kopyta
10-Jun-26	Educational - Spectrum of infection related encephalopathy	Terence Thomas	Kevin Rostasi
Jul			
Aug			
9-Sep-26	Educational - NORSE/FIRES - analysis of the case -series of NORSE -	Marios Kaliakatsos & mentee	Ilona Kopyta
7-Oct-26	Educational -EAN Joint: FND	Natalia Szejko, natalia.szejko@essts.org & Alasdair Parker	Dana Craiu
11-Nov-26	Educational - Vitamin responsive disorders- an overview	Barbara Plecko	Roberta Cillio
9-Dec-26	Educational - overview on congenital muscular dystrophies	Francesco	Altynshash Jaxibajeva

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. It started as a wish of developing a round table for reading EEGs together with pros and cons like in the daily life environment. 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-eeg-club/>

EEG clubs 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
2 June 25	Typical EEG patterns in some genetic epilepsies	Marietta Papadopoulou
16 June 25	EEG aspects in normal neonates	Ronit Pressler
8 Sept 25	Interactive EEG reading	Dana Craiu
29 Sept 25	Electro-clinical aspects in developmental and epileptic encephalopathies in neonates and infants	Monika Eisermann
10 Nov 25	EEG aspects in FCD type II	Stefano Francione
24 Nov 25	Interactive EEG reading	Dana Craiu
8 Dec 25	Ictal EEG	Margitta Seeck
22 Dec 25	Interactive EEG reading	Dana Craiu

EPNS Visiting Teacher



We are delighted that the EPNS supported the following visits in 2025: **EPNS Visiting Teacher Pasquale Striano visited Georgia 27 April – 1 May 2025**

“With the generous support of the EPNS Visiting Teacher Programme, we held a three-day teaching conference titled “From Genetic Testing to Targeted Disease Management in Pediatric Epilepsies”. The event welcomed around 30 participants, including pediatric neurologists, residents, and medical students, and created a lively space for learning, sharing, and exchanging ideas”

EPNS Visiting Teacher Manoëlle Kossorotoff visited Romania 9 – 11 October 2025

This visit came as a natural follow-up after the EPNS fellowship won by Raluca Tudorache who worked in a vascular – stroke unit in Necker Paris under supervision of MK. With the intention of returning in Romania and developing a pilot stroke thrombolysis unit in Bucharest Romania, the Romanian Pediatric Neurology Society invited MK to coach the Romanian team. A group of practical discussions were organized together with the Neurology colleagues in the Obregia Center of Expertise of Rare Pediatric Neurology Disorders. MK was invited and offered a series of talks in the Hospital and in the National Conference organized by the Romanian Society of Pediatric Neurology.

The application period for EPNS Visiting Teacher 2026 opened in summer 2025. Thank you to all our applicants and we are delighted that the EPNS will be supporting the following visits in 2026:

EPNS Visiting Teacher Kevin Rostasy will visit Ukraine 26-28 April 2026

EPNS Visiting Teacher Altynshash Jaxybayeva will visit Kyrgyzstan in May 2026

The application period for **EPNS Visiting Teacher 2027** will open in summer 2026.

EPNS Fellowships

The EPNS is thrilled to have awarded a total of 76 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, 8 in 2024, 6 in 2025 and 8 in 2026).

Congratulations to the following who were awarded an EPNS Fellowship which took place in 2025:



EPNS Fellowship Award 2025 -Successful candidates



Giuseppe Tiralongo -From Italy to Canada - [AICARDI](#)



Hadi Helali
From UAE to UK



Antonio Spagariello
From Italy to UK.



Sibel Öz Yıldız
From Turkey to UK



Marie Rohlenová
From Czech Rep to France



Maria Angeli
From Greece to UK

Congratulations to the following who have been awarded an EPNS Fellowship to take place in 2026:



EPNS Fellowship Award 2026 -Successful candidates



Radu-Stefan Perjoc From Romania to Denmark



Manuela Lo Bianco From Italy to UK



Anas Alyazidi From Saudi Arabia to UK



Xhentila Doka From Albania to Italy



Federica Basile From Italy to Belgium



Artemis Stephanede From UK to France



Chiara Corsini From Italy to UK



Yvonne Nyakeri From Kenya to UK

The application period for **EPNS Fellowship 2027** will open in summer 2026.

TAB

Training advisory board is a sub-group of the Board working by invitation if National Societies are in need of support for organizing the National Syllabus for training in Pediatric Neurology. The TAB was invited by Pediatric Neurology Society from Spain to support the recognition of the specialty by their government and to coach in the built-up of a training programme in Spain. The visit took place in September 2025; Dilek Yalnizoglu, Dana Craiu and Kevin Rostasi participated. A report is being created.

Save the date!

EPNS Masterclass 2026: 16-19 September 2026

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

EPNS Eurasia Workshop: October 2027

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 share that the EPNS has continued to enjoy the privilege of serving a growing and diverse community of members from across the world.

It has been wonderful to welcome so many new colleagues to the Society this year. Our members benefit from a rich range of EPNS education, research and networking opportunities, and these collective efforts strengthen our shared voice in advocating for paediatric neurology.

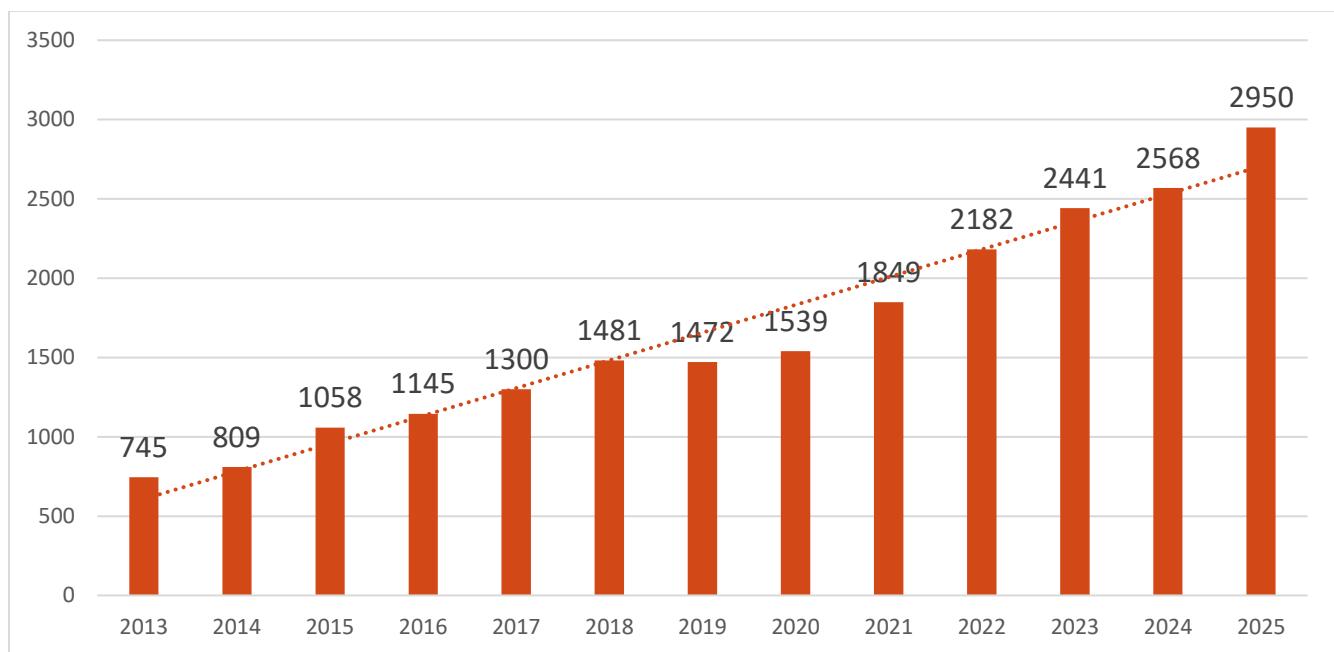
As I will be stepping down from the Board in January 2026, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for all the support, kindness and collaboration I've experienced. It has been a joy to work with you, and I send my warmest wishes to the committee and the Society for the years ahead.



Photo: Jean-Pierre Lin
Chair EPNS Membership,

EPNS membership numbers

The number of EPNS members continues to grow, and we now have a total of 2,950 members. It has been a pleasure to welcome 787 new members in 2025. We are proud to serve a truly global community, with approximately 15% of our members practicing outside Europe—a privilege that enriches the Society and strengthens our shared mission in paediatric neurology.



Figures at 31 Dec 2025



Not an EPNS member yet?

It's easy to join EPNS and connect with a vibrant community of child neurology professionals across Europe and beyond. Stay informed, share knowledge, and access exclusive educational opportunities to advance your practice and career.

Join now using this link:

<https://www.epns.info/become-an-epns-member/new-membership-application/>

EPNS membership fees

EPNS membership fees are payable annually, covering the period from 1 January to 31 December. For added convenience, members also have the option to pay for two years at once, coinciding with years when an EPNS Congress takes place.

If you haven't already, now is the perfect time to pay your 2026 fee and continue enjoying all the benefits, resources, and exciting activities EPNS has to offer.

And the good news is that EPNS Membership fees are still frozen at 2021 rates:

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

The EPNS maintains an up-to-date membership database, and members who have not paid their fees for two consecutive years are removed from the active membership list. However, they continue to receive EPNS newsletters so they can stay connected with the Society.

EPNS Congress 2025

The EPNS Congress in Munich in July 2025 was a great event, bringing together people from around the world in the field of child neurology.

The EPNS Congress App provided delegates with up-to-date information and interactive features, enhancing engagement during the event.

In the months leading up to the EPNS Congress, all fully paid EPNS members were entered into a free prize draw, offering free registration to three winners. I am delighted to report that the winners were Nazira Dyussembek (Kazakhstan), Ibrahim Oncel (Turkey), and Martina Zandl-Lang (Austria).

In addition, the EPNS Desk, strategically located at the Congress Centre entrance next to Young EPNS (YPEPNS) and we were thrilled to welcome many visitors and serve as a key point of contact. The desk was staffed by EPNS Board members on a rota basis, and we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who visited us and contributed.



EPNS Congresses are more than a congress — it's where knowledge grows into lasting connections.

Please take a moment to watch our video which will be used to promote future EPNS Congresses
<https://youtu.be/JJ706cllias>

Promoting the EPNS

EPNS has continued to expand its promotional activities throughout the year. Webinars are now held almost weekly, offering members regular educational and interactive opportunities, and we always take this opportunity to share EPNS membership information. Mailchimp communications, with almost 6,500 subscribers, have been strengthened through newsletters, ensuring timely updates and sustained engagement. Additionally, EPNS has distributed PowerPoints and flyers at other relevant meetings, further increasing visibility and outreach within the field of child neurology.

We also greatly value the collaboration between EPNS and the 44 members of the Committee of National Training Advisers (CNA). I was delighted to be invited to their biennial meeting in Munich on 8 July 2025, where I had the opportunity to present information about EPNS and its initiatives.



Social Media



As a strategic initiative, we have recently increased our social media activity with a more planned and targeted approach. Our number of followers continues to grow steadily.

Since its creation in 2023, our Facebook account has gained approximately 460 followers, while Instagram has grown to around 1,280 followers. Launched in 2025, our BlueSky account now has about 30 followers, and our LinkedIn page has approximately 350 connections.

If you are not already following us, we warmly invite you to connect with us through these platforms using the following links and tag us into your posts which are relevant to the EPNS:

[LinkedIn @EPNSnews](#)

[BlueSky @EPNSnews](#)

[Instagram @epnsnews](#)

[Facebook @EPNSnews](#)

EPNS Website

The EPNS website (<https://www.epns.info/>) continues to grow and evolve, staying up to date with the latest technology and security standards, and serving as a gateway to accessing the EPNS Moodle platform, the Society's Journal, EJPN, and other useful tools.

The screenshot shows the EPNS website homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for Member Login, Pay EPNS membership fees, EPNS Moodle, How to Join, and Contact us. The main content area features a large orange banner with the text 'European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) Education, Promotion, Networking, Science' and 'New members welcome!'. To the left is a sidebar with links to President's Welcome, What is the EPNS?, Membership & Finance, Society Journal, EPNS Moodle, Education & Training, EPNS Exam 2025, EPNS Webinars, Science & Research, Advocacy & Collaboration, EPNS Guidelines, and Committee of National Training Advisors (CNA). The right side of the page contains a sidebar with links to the Society's Journal, Research & Scientific Committees, Education and Training, Membership, Advocacy, EPNS Moodle, and a link to the EPNS Moodle platform.

Final words

Wishing all our EPNS members a joyful and successful 2026.

As I step down from my role, I want to thank you all for your support and collaboration. It has been a true privilege to serve, and I send my very best wishes to the Society and its members for the years ahead.

Best wishes

Jean-Pierre, Chair EPNS Membership & Public Relations Committee

EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Report

As we close another successful year for the EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Committee, I am pleased to present this Annual Report summarising our activities and achievements throughout 2025.

This has been a particularly meaningful year, marking the completion of the committee's first four-year term. Since its establishment, our committee has worked to strengthen the EPNS's role as an advocate for child neurology and brain health across the life course.

Through collaboration with international organisations, the development of advocacy training, and engagement with the World Health Organisation's Intersectoral Global Action Plan (IGAP), we have continued to amplify the voice of paediatric neurology at the European and global levels.

I am deeply grateful to every member of the committee and our partners for their dedication and teamwork. Together, we have laid a strong foundation for continued advocacy and collaboration in the years to come. Please read on to learn more details.

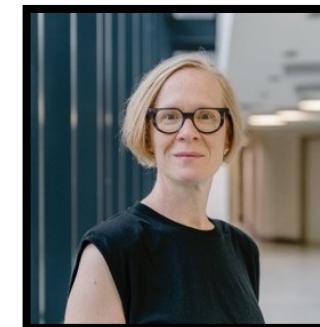


Photo: Anna Jansen
Chair EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Committee

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

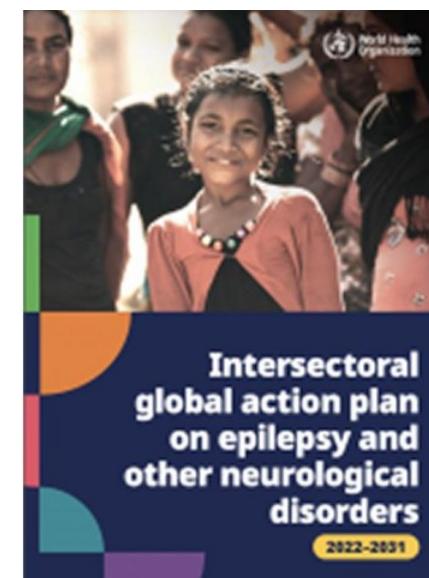
The World Health Organisation's IGAP (Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders, 2022–2031) aims to improve access to treatment and care, enhance quality of life, and promote brain health across the life course.

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240096356>

This has been the driving focus of the EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Committee.

We are honoured to have appointed 44 volunteer EPNS IGAP representatives, one person in each country across Europe, and they continue to play a crucial role in advocating for implementation at the national level, and I express my thanks for their contributions:

As a reminder, the 5 strategic objectives of the global action plan by 2031 are:



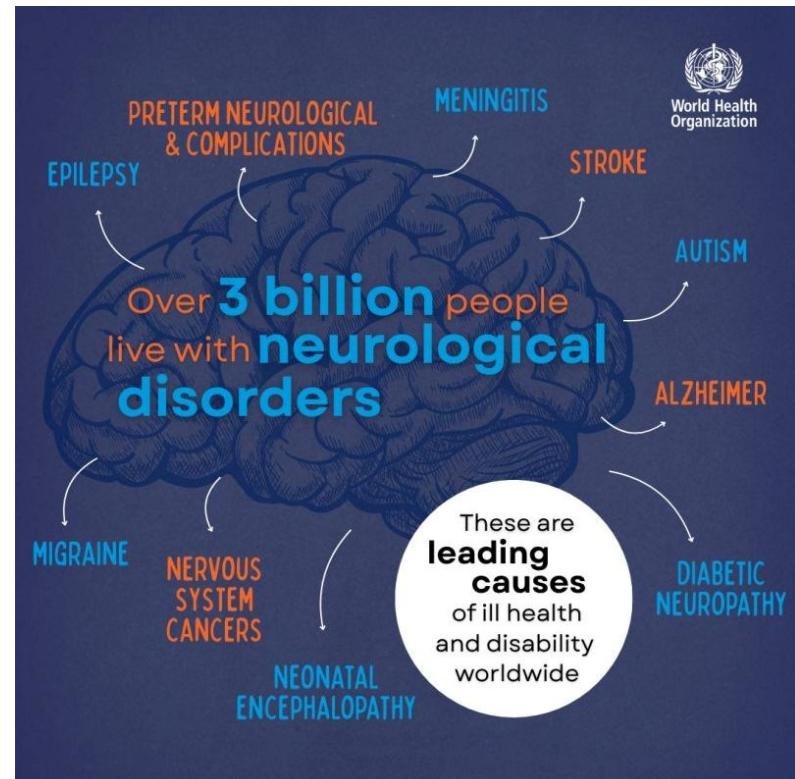


World Health Organisation

EPNS welcomed the release of the World Health Organisation's Global Status Report on Neurology, a groundbreaking call to action to address the growing burden of neurological disorders and promote brain health for all. This landmark publication presents the first-ever global baseline assessment under the *Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders 2022–2031 (IGAP)*. Drawing on data from 102 WHO Member States, representing 71% of the world's population, the report establishes 2022 baseline values for IGAP's 10 global targets. It identifies critical gaps, barriers, and inequities, and provides data-driven, actionable recommendations to help countries advance neurological care and achieve IGAP's strategic objectives.

Read more: WHO news article: [Urgent Action Needed on Neurological Care](#)

In the coming year, EPNS plans to strengthen and expand our connections with the World Health Organisation (WHO).



World Brain Day: 22 July 2025

This year's theme was 'Brain Health for All Ages' and the EPNS celebrated this important campaign with our EPNS IGAP representatives and via a dedicated newsletter and our EPNS social media platforms. The EPNS is dedicated to a healthier, more equitable future—ensuring that every individual benefits from improved brain health and well-being.



EPNS Advocacy Training

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

Consequently, 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.

To conclude this series, at EPNS Congress 2025 in Munich, there was an in-person Early Morning Teaching session entitled 'Advocacy Training for Child Neurology and Brain Health' on 9 July 2025 where we were thrilled to welcome Frédéric Destrebecq Executive Director [European Brain Council \(EBC\)](#) as our guest speaker who provided practical guidance on approaching advocacy.



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>

We aim to continue monitoring the implementation of IGAP in Europe in close collaboration with our IGAP representatives.

Building on the success of this year's EPNS Advocacy training initiatives, the EPNS plans to further develop this work in 2026 by hosting a series of webinars focused on Brain Health. These sessions will provide opportunities to learn together, define the concept of Brain Health, and explore topics such as Brain-Healthy Lifestyles, the Societal Value of Brain Health, and strategies for promoting brain health.

Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new EPNS initiative.

For further context, see the Brain Health Mission later in this report, which will be closely linked to the upcoming EPNS Advocacy Training plans.

Committee of National Advisors (CNA)

The CNA continues to serve as a strong network for promoting EPNS initiatives across Europe. On 8 July 2025, Anna Jansen attended the CNA biennial meeting to share updates on the committee's activities and ongoing projects. The CNA has become a strong integral part of the EPNS and more can be found later in this full EPNS Annual Report.

Young EPNS (YEPNS)

This committee works in close alignment with the YEPNS Climate Change & Sustainability Working Group, and it has been a pleasure to collaborate with such a highly motivated and talented team, led by Thomas Foiadelli. The group has made significant progress, and you can read more about their achievements in the YEPNS report included in this document.

A Climate Change webinar is planned for February 2026, chaired by Roberto Previtali YEPNS Working Group Coordinator with speakers Ivan Janssens and Thomas Foiadelli, further demonstrating YEPNS's commitment to integrating environmental considerations into the practice and education of paediatric neurology.

Want to get involved? If you're a young member of the EPNS and passionate about climate change and sustainability, you are most welcome to join the YEPNS in shaping the future of this vital initiative at the EPNS. Just send us an email to get started info@epns.info

EPNS Sustainability

Led by the Young EPNS (YEPNS) in collaboration with the EPNS Advocacy & Collaboration Committee, the first ever EPNS Sustainability report was published this year reflecting on 2024. This marks the official launch of our EPNS journey toward a greener, more equitable future in paediatric neurology, aiming to make a real and lasting impact on health, equity, and the planet. Read the EPNS Sustainability Report 2024 here: <https://www.epns.info/epns-sustainability-report/>



Moving forward, the EPNS will be appointing an EPNS Board member to champion a broad vision of sustainability — integrating environmental responsibility, equity, diversity, inclusion, and social accountability into the Society's core functions. It would be an overarching role and report to the full EPNS Board – not one dedicated committee with the following key responsibilities. We look forward to sharing more news about this role as it evolves.

EPNS Representatives

The EPNS has appointed representatives in key organisations who play a vital role in advocating for child neurology and ensuring the Society remains well-informed about relevant developments. Their contributions are essential in maintaining the visibility of paediatric neurology across Europe and around the world.

As in previous years, in 2025 the EPNS continued to strengthen its collaborations with major neurological and child-health organisations, fostering advocacy, shared goals, and coordinated initiatives at both the European and global levels. Read on to discover more about our collaborations in 2025, along with our aspirations and plans for the future.

OneNeurology



The EPNS is a partner of OneNeurology, an initiative that unites and strengthens neurology-related groups to stimulate collaborative advocacy, action, and accountability for the prevention, treatment, and management of neurological

disorders worldwide. OneNeurology is currently focusing on the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan for Neurological Disorders (IGAP) through its member states.

In 2025, EPNS Honorary Member and OneNeurology Vice Chair Coriene Catsman-Berrevoets represented the EPNS at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, contributing an EPNS statement to 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.*' At the WHA, the OneNeurology position paper, '*Ensuring Neurological Conditions are a Distinct Pillar in the NCD Response*', was presented and discussed.

OneNeurology successfully lobbied for the reinstatement of neurology in a UN-level political document, which shapes global political and financial support and serves as a framework for regional initiatives such as those in the EU. The organisation emphasised the urgent need for action, highlighting that neurological disorders are a leading cause of both disability and premature death worldwide. These conditions impose lifelong burdens with significant societal and economic impacts, affecting patients, caregivers, and communities alike.



European Brain Council (EBC)

In 2025, the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) continued to strengthen its advocacy at the European level through active engagement with the European Brain Council (EBC). Since 2021, the EPNS has been a full member of the EBC, with EPNS Board member and past President Sameer Zuberi serving as Vice-President, ensuring that child neurology is represented within this influential European network.



The EBC is a key advocate for the prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment of brain diseases, promoting brain research as a societal priority. Through this network, the EPNS is advancing a life-course approach to brain health, from antenatal influences on brain development, through childhood and adolescence, and into later life.

EPNS participation in EBC activities in 2025 included Sameer Zuberi representing the society at the EBC 'Rare Disease Day 2025: Towards a Rare Brain Disease Ecosystem' on 20 February and endorsement of *The European Charter for the Responsible Development of Neurotechnology*—to which Sameer Zuberi contributed



On 5 March 2025 an EBC event entitled "Health & Social Benefits from Reduced Alcohol Consumption: When Less is More" 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 panelist Prof. Mirjam Landgraf. There was a fruitful discussion about the impact of alcohol on brain health.

Kevin Rostasy presented the EPNS mission at this first ever International Meeting which



was hosted in Bern. Representatives from 21 national, regional and societal initiatives met under the auspices of the Swiss Brain Health Plan with the World Health Organisation (WHO) to exchange their experiences in the development of Brain and Mental Health Plans across the world.

On June 26, 2025, the EBC met with MEP Romana Jerkovic, and Ilona Kopyta, EPNS Board member. Among the issues raised, attention was drawn to the need to improve communication between basic researchers and clinicians, translating the results of basic research into application in patients.



The annual EBC Brain Innovation Days took place this year in Brussels from 14–16 October. Sameer Zuberi attended a session exploring how insights from neuroscience can guide educational practices and support healthy brain development. From the built environment to the role of parents and society, the session called for more research and collaboration between neuroscientists, educators, and policymakers to help every child reach their full potential. Learn more: <https://www.braininnovationdays.eu/about/>

EPNS was proud when Sameer Zuberi represented the EPNS and EBC at this year's United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) in New York. (24–26 September)

Professor Zuberi participated in the Gates Foundation's prestigious Goalkeepers event and contributed to high-level discussions at the UN Headquarters on integrating brain health into the United Nations' strategy on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). As part of the UNGA Brain Health Summit, he also spoke on the topic '*Brain Health Across the Lifespan*', placing a spotlight on the need to raise global awareness of Childhood Dementia.



EPNS has been involved in the EBC Coordination & Support Action on Brain Health contributing to ensure that brain health across the lifespan and child neurological disorders were integrated into future research calls within the European Partnership for Brain Health with 500m Euros funding commencing in January 2026. The EBC continues to develop its Rethinking series, with Myasthenia Gravis, NF1 and Childhood Dementia being explored.

Through these combined efforts with the EBC, the EPNS has reinforced its role as a leading advocate for paediatric neurology in Europe, driving policy, research, and collaborative initiatives to improve brain health across the life course. Many further projects are in development.

European Academy of Neurology (EAN)

In 2025, the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) continued to strengthen its collaboration with the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), which focuses on adult neurology in Europe.

The two societies operate under a Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on guidelines, education, and research. The EPNS has representatives on nineteen EAN scientific panels relevant to child neurology, and the Presidents of both societies meet regularly to coordinate initiatives on brain health, guidelines, and the process of transition. Ongoing collaboration includes a Taskforce on transition from childhood to adulthood in Europe, led by Dana Craiu. During the EAN Congress on 23 June 2025, Kevin Rostasy met with EAN Board members, including President Elena Moro, to discuss all matters included in the MoU.



EPNS is proud to continue its collaboration with EAN as we work together toward our



shared mission: reducing the burden of neurological diseases across the lifespan. This partnership was recently demonstrated through a successful Joint EPNS/EAN webinar on 'Paediatric Arterial Ischemic Stroke: Risk Factors, Acute Management, and Prognosis', featuring expert contributions from Thomas Clement Truelsen, Julie Brix Bindslev with EPNS Board members Ilona Kopyta and Roberta Cilio. Following this well

received webinar on 7 October 2026 a further joint EPNS/EAN webinar is planned covering the topic of Functional Neurological Disorders (FND). One of the speakers will be Natalia Szejko from the EAN.

In addition, EPNS representatives attended multiple EAN Scientific Panels, including the Neuro-oncology Panel on 22 June and the Stroke Panel in June, both represented by Ilona Kopyta.

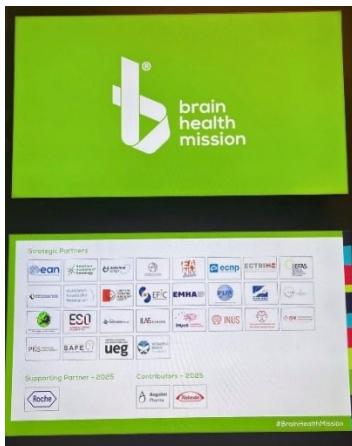
Joint sessions at the 2025 congresses further highlighted the collaboration between the societies, including at the EAN Congress, the session '*Acute demyelinating syndromes across the ages*' featured speakers Kevin Rostasy, Barbara Kornek, and Rinze Neuteboom.

At the EPNS Congress, the session '*Dyskinetic cerebral palsy: Update in management opportunities*' was chaired by Leena Haataja with invited speaker Anne Koy. EAN had an exhibition desk at the EPNS Congress in Munich 2025 and endorsed the 2025 EPNS Congress.

Through these collaborative initiatives, the EPNS has reinforced its role as a leading advocate for paediatric neurology in Europe, promoting research, education, and clinical excellence, while advancing the interface between child and adult neurology.

Building on this momentum, EPNS is thrilled that a joint EPNS/EAN session proposal covering Paediatric Stroke Across Ages has been accepted into the next EAN Congress programme, which will take place on 27-30 June 2026 in Geneva. The Chairpersons will be Ilona A. Kopyta (EPNS) and Thomas Clement Truelsen (EAN) and is now in the process of being organised.

Brain Health Mission (BHM)



On 19 March 2025, the European Brain Health Summit, hosted by the European Academy of Neurology (EAN) in collaboration with the Brain Health Mission (BHM) initiative, brought together leading voices from across the globe to broaden the dialogue on brain health. Roberta Cilio (EPNS Board member) and Evelina Carapancea (YEPNS member) attended and represented the EPNS, pictured with EAN President Elena Moro. While paediatric neurology was barely mentioned



during the summit, the event provided an important platform for the EPNS to monitor developments and identify opportunities for future advocacy.

Following the summit, on 31 March 2025, Anna Jansen presented on behalf of the EPNS at the virtual Brain Health Mission Forum. This meeting convened strategic and supporting partners, neurological association representatives, and EAN board members to provide a comprehensive update on Brain Health Mission activities from the Steering Committee. Representing the EPNS offered an important opportunity to emphasize the inclusion of paediatric neurology in these initiatives. There followed a summit meeting on 17 November 2025, where Anna Jansen once again presented on behalf of the EPNS.

On 23 June 2025, the EPNS was kept informed about efforts to encourage national neurological societies to lobby their respective governments in preparation for the high-level meeting on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in New York, highlighting the society's ongoing engagement in global brain health advocacy.



A recent exciting opportunity has arisen, and we are delighted to announce that in 2026 the EPNS will become involved in the BHM Brain School Challenge, an initiative that aligns closely with the EPNS commitment to promoting brain health awareness among young people. Plans are underway to coordinate with BHM to define next steps. Initially, the EPNS will support the Challenge by promoting it through our networks and National Societies, and by contributing representatives—ideally paediatric neurologists from host countries—to serve on the judging panels. In addition, we look forward to co-developing educational materials to assist schoolteachers in delivering the Challenge effectively.

We are excited to be part of this inspiring initiative and to contribute to a project that is so close to our mission and values. Look out for more information about this exciting collaboration.

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 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 with support of Agnese Suppiej 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 with the European Academy of Childhood Disability (EACD), cementing a longstanding and fruitful collaboration.

In 2025, this partnership was highlighted through joint sessions at both the EPNS and EACD/IAACD congresses.

At the EACD/IAACD Congress in Heidelberg in June, the EPNS participated in the joint symposium '*EACD/IAACD meets International Child Neurology*', held in collaboration with EACD, GNP, and ICNA, with speakers including Kevin Rostasy, Florian Heinen, and Sebastian Schroeder.



At the EPNS Congress, a plenary session covered *Movement Disorders and Rehabilitation*, featuring speakers Mark Hallet, Andreas Meyer-Heim, and Elegast Monbaliu.

These joint initiatives highlight the EPNS's commitment to fostering international collaboration in paediatric neurology and advancing education and clinical excellence across the field.

On 13 May 2026 there is a joint EPNS/EACD webinar planned to cover the topic of key neurological signs in chronic movement disorders of childhood with speakers Jean-Pierre Lin (EPNS) and Elegast Monbaliu (EACD), chaired by Ilona Kopyta.

The next EACD Congress will take place on 3-6 June 2026 EACD in Galway and EPNS Board members Ilona Kopyta is in consultation with Rory O'Sullivan and developing a joint EPNS/EACD session to cover the acute phase of some severe conditions such as intracranial hemorrhage, stroke, neonatal stroke, NORSE, etc. with Kathleen Gorman presenting on behalf of the EPNS.

European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP)

From 16–19 October 2025, Roberta Cilio represented the EPNS at the European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP) Masterclass in Warsaw, presenting on '*Seizures or Non-Seizure: Diagnosis and Management.*'

In addition, the EPNS contributed to an accepted manuscript, '*Sport Activities for Children and Adolescents: Part 2. Joint Position Statement of Pediatric Societies,*' which is set to be published in *Acta Paediatrica*. These activities demonstrate EPNS's ongoing commitment to education, clinical guidance, and collaboration in paediatric neurology.



European Medicines Agency (EMA)



Since 2023, the European Paediatric Neurology Society (EPNS) has been a recognised EMA stakeholder, ensuring that child neurology is represented in the evaluation and supervision of medicines.

Several EPNS experts have been appointed as points of contact in key paediatric neurology fields, providing expert input on regulatory and therapeutic matters. In 2025, the EMA engaged the EPNS on multiple initiatives: Dimitrios Zafeiriou provided input on CHMP early dialogue with healthcare professional organisations regarding leriglitazone; Christine Makowski participated in a project on Angelman Syndrome; and Nadia Bahi-Buisson provided input on CHMP early dialogue regarding Trofinetide. These collaborations highlight EPNS's role in representing paediatric neurology expertise in regulatory decision-making and medicine evaluation at a European level.

Most recently, the EMA, in collaboration with the EPNS and other European healthcare professional and consumer organisations, launched a new awareness campaign on medicine shortages. The #ItTakesATeam campaign highlights the shared efforts to prevent and manage shortages across the EU, and the role of each actor in supporting patients faced with these shortages.

On 4 November 2025 Dimitrios

Zafeiriou and Ilona Kopyta attended and represented the EPNS at the EMA public webinar on 'shortages: putting patients first'

For more information on how the EU and its partners are tackling medicine shortages, visit <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/post-authorisation/medicine-shortages-availability-issues/fighting-medicine-shortages-it-takes-team>



International Presidents



The group continues to meet virtually every 6 months with the aim to collaborate and avoid duplicating activities. Two board representatives from the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA), the African Child Neurology Association (ACNA), Asian & Oceania Child Neurology Association (AOCNA), South American Child Neurology Association (AINP), North American Child Neurology Association (CNS) attends, together with the EPNS.

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 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. The most recent meeting in November 2025 focused on sharing activities of each and the plans for ICNA's next congress ICNC2026 taking place in Taipei next year. Several EPNS Board members have been invited to talk at ICNC2026, and more details will be shared next year.

In tradition of the close relationship between EPNS and ICNA, on 10 July 2025 at the EPNS Congress in Munich there was a joint EPNS/ICNA session on Neuroinfectiology / neuroimmunology

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

EPNS was honoured to be represented at the 17th Asian Oceanian Congress of Child Neurology (AOCCN), held in New Delhi, India, from 16–20 September 2025. Prof. Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President, delivered a keynote lecture on 'MOGAD – Diagnostic and Management Consensus', contributing to this year's theme, "Innovations and Insights in Child Neurology." The congress brought together global experts to share the latest advancements and strengthen international collaboration in paediatric neurology. Our sincere thanks to the AOCCN organisers for hosting such a valuable and inspiring event.



International Paediatric Stroke Organisation (IPSO)

Our EPNS representative Ilona Kopyta launched this new collaboration later last year and on 25 March 2025 the EPNS signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). We look forward to working alongside IPSO.



International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE)

 The ILAE is the world's leading association of health care professionals and scientists working toward a world where no person's life is limited by epilepsy. This year, the EPNS was delighted to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the ILAE, and we look forward to future collaborations. There are already several joint guideline projects underway. The 15th European Epilepsy Congress took place in Rome in September 2024 which was attended by many EPNS Board members and the YEPNS manned an EPNS/YEPNS desk in the exhibition area.

Lviv, Ukraine Congress

On 6-7 June 2025, Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President was honoured to be a special guest of the Prime Paediatrics pre-congress in Lviv Ukraine, representing the EPNS covering the topic of demyelinising and autoimmune nervous system.



Closing remarks

As we look to the future, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to our progress and offer my warmest good wishes for the continued success of this important work.

Best wishes

Anna Jansen, Chair EPNS Advocacy & 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

EPNS and YEPNS finalized a review paper on transition in Europe who will be sent to EJPN.

The EPNS is collaborating with the EAN within a newly created Transition 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 Papadopoulou*
- Infantile Spasms: *Marietta Papadopoulou*
- Dravet Syndrome: *Dana Craiu, Lieven Lagae, Rima Nababout, Cristina Cazacu, Andreea Badea*
- Pharmacological Treatment Status Epilepticus
- Epilepsy surgery: *Pavel Kršek, Cristina Cazacu, Andreea Badea*
- Neuromodulation: *Pavel Kršek, Cristina Cazacu, Andreea Badea*

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

Best wishes

Dana Craiu, Chair EPNS Guidelines Committee

Committee National Advisers (C N A)

The Committee of National 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).



The CNA is a forum for mutual information, discussion and debate on matters relevant to pediatric neurology. The CNA has an executive group consisting of its chairperson, secretary and 3 elected members. The CNA is independent of the EPNS but is intended to work in close relation with it. While the CNA is constituted of advisers selected by the national societies, the EPNS is a society of individual members. The CNA is represented on the board of the EPNS and in its Education and Training Committee by its chairperson and elected members. The EPNS is represented in the CNA by its president and other relevant persons as full members of the CNA. Established in 2022, the EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee has brought new opportunities to improve this relation further.

Photo: Dilek Yalnizoglu
Chair C N A

C N A Meeting

The CNA meet biennially just before the EPNS Congress. The CNA meeting took place on 8 July 2025, before the 16th EPNS Meeting in 8-12 June, 2025 in Munich, Germany.

Following the CNA meeting in Prague, Czech Republic in 2023, it was a wonderful opportunity for the CNA representatives to gather and hear a comprehensive update about the EPNS activities, as well as comments and questions on current situation of paediatric neurology in their country. More than half of the CNA members confirmed attendance to the meeting, and 26 of the 44 representatives attended. After a welcome and introduction by Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair, CNA Executive Committee, Kevin Rostasy, the EPNS President, provided a general update about the EPNS activities, followed by presentations by Dana Craui, Chair, Education and Training Committee and Guidelines Committee; Maja Steinlin, Chair, EPNS Exam Organising Team; Barbara Plecko, Chair, Scientific and Research Committee; Anna Jansen, Chair, Advocacy and Collaboration Committee, Jean-Pierre Lin, Chair, Website and Membership Committee.

The role of the CNA in education and training activities of the EPNS was emphasised throughout the meeting. CNA members were invited to contribute to the next EPNS Exam in 2027 in Barcelona, Spain. The EPNS Exam Organising Team will be providing continued support and guidance for preparing exam questions.

Perspectives and remarks on future CNA activities, and training issues were discussed.

Ivan Ivanov, CNA member for Bulgaria, presented the results of his project 'Survey on Neurodevelopmental Screening in Europe'. He had invited all CNA members to respond a survey on neurodevelopmental screening in Europe back in 2022. Ralitsa Yordanova presented the project as the representative for Bulgaria during the CNA meeting in 2023, in Prague, then the survey was re-sent after the EPNS Congress in 2023. During the CNA meeting in 2025, Ivan Ivanov presented the final results of the project which was also presented as a poster at the EPNS Congress, and he will be working on the project to include more European countries.

Regarding patient care, treatment challenges of rare disease and epilepsy in low and middle income countries were discussed. Regarding training, subspeciality training in paediatric neurology in Europe was discussed with special emphasis on epilepsy.

At the end of the meeting the first announcement about CNA Executive Committee election for the term 2026-2030 was made, along with summary of election process, what the roles entail and why members should consider nominating themselves.

EPNS Exam

The first EPNS Exam was held just before the 15th EPNS Meeting in 2023 in Prague, Czech Republic. The second exam was 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 next EPNS Exam will be held before the EPNS Congress in 2027 in Barcelona, Spain. The EPNS Exam has been considered as exit exam or replacement for the written test of the current exit exam by some of the national societies. Therefore it was suggested to hold the EPNS Exam annually going forward, this will be further discussed and clarified after the third EPNS Exam in 2027 in Barcelona.

EPNS Syllabus

This EPNS syllabus describes the European training programme in paediatric neurology. It is regularly reviewed and updated. The first version of the document was approved in November 2002 by The European Paediatric Neurology Society and by the European Committee of National Advisers (comprised of representatives of National Paediatric Neurology Societies in Europe) and by the Sections of Paediatrics and of Neurology of

the Union of European Medical Specialists in December 2002 and March 2003 respectively. The first revision dates from January 5th 2009 and was approved by Sections of Paediatrics and of Neurology of the Union of Medical Specialists in November 2010. Subsequently, European Paediatric Neurology Training Programme Concept Version was approved by the General Board of the EPNS on March 9th, 2019 and by the EPNS Committee of National Advisers on September 17th, 2019. EPNS syllabus can be found here <https://www.epns.info/education-and-training/european-syllabus/>

In the face of rapidly expanding knowledge in child neurology, an update on the EPNS syllabus is expected during the next term. Principles regarding subspeciality training in paediatric neurology were suggested to be taken in consideration during preparation of the updated version. These aspects were discussed during the recent EPNS Board Meeting in 31 October-1 November 2025, in Leuven, Belgium.

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 led by Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President and Anna Jansen, Chair EPNS Advocacy and Collaboration Committee, in collaboration with WHO and relevant international societies. The updated material on IGAP is available for CNA members and EPNS IGAP representatives via this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9gkqvfuoabxnvuzr3ts1y/h?rlkey=v3lqyqq0b2khgdgi47cqdva8q&st=o0skez5s&dl=0>

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

CNA Executive Committee Election

The CNA election takes place every 4 years to appoint the Executive Committee positions: Chair, Secretary and 3 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 consisted of 4 positions:

Dilek Yalnizoglu, Turkiye, Chair

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

Agnese Suppiej, Italy, Member, Co-opted EPNS Board Member

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

The election process for the new term started in July 2025 and completed in October 2025, then the candidates and all CNA members were notified of the outcome for CNA Executive Committee for the term 2026-2030. A hand over meeting will be held via zoom in December 2025, and Executive Committee duties will be transferred to the new CNA Executive Committee during the EPNS Board Meeting in 16-17 January 2026 in Leuven, Belgium.

Congratulations to the CNA Executive Committee of the term 2026-2030, and I wish them a most fruitful term:

Sophia Bakhtadze, Georgia, Chair
Dipak Ram, UK, Secretary
Esra Serdaroglu, Turkiye, Member
Agnese Suppiej, Italy, Member
Monica Vasconcelos, Portugal, Member

It has been an honour serving as the CNA Chair during the term 2022-2026. I would like to thank the CNA Executive Committee, CNA representatives and EPNS Board members for their support and dedication. I would like to emphasize the enormous potential CNA has to contribute to the EPNS, particularly in education and training areas. I look forward to continued support from the CNA members regarding educational activities of the EPNS, particularly the EPNS Exam, and the growing EPNS IGAP initiative.

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, further information can be found here <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 Committee of National Advisors (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, relevant information can be found here <https://www.epns.info/about-epns/tab/>

So far the training system was evaluated in 13 countries. The most recent TAB visit was hosted by Spanish Paediatric Neurology Society (SENEP), Spain, in 27-28 October 2025. Kevin Rostasy, EPNS President, Dana Craiu, Chair, Education and Training Committee, Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair CNA and TAB completed the TAB visit, and an evaluation report is in preparation. Of note, Spain is the first and the only country with an EPNS TAB re-visit more than 10 years apart.

I am delighted to announce that CNA-TAB has received an invitation from Greece in September 2025, and a TAB visit to Greece is currently in preparation.

I would strongly encourage national societies to consider an EPNS TAB visit. 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 meantime, reminder letters to CNA members will be sent periodically.

Best wishes

Dilek Yalnizoglu, Chair TAB

Young EPNS (YEPNS)

Another Young EPNS year full of exciting projects, fruitful discussions, educational activities, networking, and innovation has come to an end, and we are happy to share our annual report with you!

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. Currently, YEPNS counts more than 220 subscribed members, with several new members actively participating in YEPNS projects.

YEPNS is represented by a Committee, currently composed by 23 members, representing 14 European countries.



Photo: Marietta Papadopoulou
Chair Young EPNS (YEPNS) 2023-2025

2025 was an election year for YEPNS! Five new Committee members were elected (4 out of 5 replacing former members) in June 2025, followed by the election of the new YEPNS Chair in November 2025. The official hand-over between the former Chair (Marietta Papadopoulou, France) and the New Chair (Moritz Thiel, Germany) will be held in person in Leuven in January 2026. The new YEPNS Chair will serve a minimum term of two years.

The procedures and modalities of the YEPNS elections were conducted in accordance with the YEPNS Memorandum, which was created and approved by all Committee members and the EPNS Board in May 2025 (available at: <https://www.epns.info/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/YEPNS-Committee-Memorandum-V-2.0. 01 05 2025 MP.pdf>).

2025 was also a Congress year (and what a wonderful congress it was)! YEPNS had a strong presence with the first-ever YEPNS desk, where YEPNS members could meet, discuss and brainstorm! YEPNS also hosted two sessions during the Congress (<https://epns-congress.com/programme/>): an early morning session on Climate Change and Paediatric Neurology and an interactive Mystery case session, in addition to a very successful Networking event (<https://epns-congress.com/networking/>).

YEPNS is structured into the following Working Groups/Task Forces, each operating in collaboration with the relevant EPNS Board Committees and supported by an EPNS senior member who acts as liaison to the EPNS Board:

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/>
- 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

✓ **New in 2025:**

- *Highlights of Pediatric Neurology literature:*
Overview articles with a short summary, shared monthly on the social media channels
 - *Sharing Job Opportunities*
Available job opportunities in PN updated regularly and shared on the EPNS newsletter/website (approved, to be launched)

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
 - Participation in the planning and preparation of the EPNS Research meeting
- ✓ **New in 2025:**
 - *YEPNS/EPNS Podcasts project:* podcast series presented by a YEPNS member, summarising and promoting what was discussed in EPNS webinars, journal clubs, case discussions, other interesting topics etc (launched)
 - *EAN Scientific Panel on Sleep-wake disorders:* EPNS/YEPNS representative (M.Gogou)

Social Media and Networking WG (Coordinator: Roberto Previtali)/ Liaison EPNS

Board: Dr Lin

- ✓ **Main activities:**
 - SM, webpage and email account handling: **1140** Instagram followers ; **251** **Facebook** followers
 - Preparation of at least one SM post per week
 - Promotion of YEPNS/EPNS activities through SM platforms (EEG Club, Educational Webinars, Journal Club, Case Discussions)
 - Promotional slides posted at least two weeks before each event, with reminder stories the day before or the morning of the event.
 - Strengthen relationships with young sections of pediatric neurology societies within Europe and beyond: participation in the International Collaboration of the Young Representatives (of continental or subcontinental pediatric neurology Societies), collaboration with the Young Epilepsy Society (ILAE)
- ✓ **New in 2025:**
 - *Highlights of PN literature (collaboration with Education & Clinic WG)*
 - *Online Quizzes regarding webinars and Journal Club recap*
 - *Planning of common projects with FLICNA*
 - *Collaboration and online interesting case discussion with the young section of the Kazakhstan Paediatric Neurology*

Guidelines & Good Clinical Practice WG (Coordinator: Alessandra Rossi)/ Liaison EPNS

Board: Pr Craiu

- ✓ **Main activities:**
 - Support of the activities of the EPNS Guidelines Committee with participation of YEPNS members in the under development joint guidelines of EPNS and other societies

- Educational/training regular meetings on tools and principles relevant to Evidence based Reports and Clinical Practice Guidelines development
- ✓ **New in 2025:**
 - YEPNS Systematic Review on Climate Change and Neurological Disorders in Children presented as oral presentation at EPNS Congress 2025, manuscript under review

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
 - Actions and proposals towards a more green and sustainable EPNS Congress in collaboration with local organizing committees
 - Collaboration with groups of other Neurology societies with same objective (EAN Environmental Influences Task-Force; Young Epilepsy Section etc)
- ✓ **New in 2025:**
 - *Early morning session on Climate Change during the EPNS 2025 Congress*
 - *Collaboration with the EAN Task force on Environmental Influences in Neurology: inter-societal Position Paper is to be published soon in EJN*
 - *Contribution to the first-ever EPNS sustainability report released in 2025*
 - *Short commentary- call to action article on Climate Change and PN under submission*
 - *Webinar based on the Congress' Early morning session on climate change planned in 2026*

EPNS Congress Task Force (Coordinator: Moritz Thiel)

A transverse task force created in 2025 to focus on ongoing activities and increasing responsibilities of YEPNS at the EPNS Munich 2025 and future congresses.

- ✓ **Main activities:**
 - Organization of the YEPNS Early morning session (topic of interest for early career child neurologists)
 - Organization of the YEPNS Mystery Case session (interactive session featuring short interesting cases)
 - YEPNS Desk: increasing visibility of YEPNS for new members acquisition, activities promotion and networking
 - Planning and organization of the YEPNS Social event
 - Poster session “re-invent” project (to be launched)

18/12/2025

On behalf of the YEPNS Committee

Marietta Papadopoulou, Chair, Young EPNS

Instagram profile: young_epns

Facebook profile: YEPNS

yepns@epns.info



YOUNG
EUROPEAN
PAEDIATRIC
NEUROLOGY
SOCIETY



European Journal of Paediatric Neurology Report (EJPN)

The European Journal of Paediatric Neurology (EJPN) is the official journal of the EPNS and is available to all members in either electronic or print & electronic format. Published 6 times a year by Elsevier Ltd. on behalf of the society it accepts high-quality papers primarily of a clinical research nature on the whole spectrum of paediatric neurological disease, as well as consensus statements and expert guidelines on current interesting issues and controversies. The journal is owned by the society and contributes to the income of the EPNS through royalty payments.

With an Impact Factor of 2.3, the number and quality of submissions remains high, despite the difficulties posed by and after the pandemic. A new special issues on New Advances in Neurometabolic Diseases was just published and a second one on New Advances in Childhood Stroke) is currently on the way, with many world-leading basic and clinical neuroscientists contributing articles. For 2026 two new special issues are planned: Advances in Neurocritical Care in Children and New Complex Therapies ,Chances, Challenges & Missing Structures.

In accordance with the educational nature of EPNS, the Editorial team has continued to publish high-quality “Teaching Papers” on specific topics presented in the EPNS monthly Webinars.

EJPN’s Editorial Team together with the EPNS Board awarded for the second time the “EJPN Paper of the Year” award (original paper), which was presented during the Opening Ceremony of the Biennial EPNS Congress in Munich (July 2025) and accompanied by a money prize and free registration to the Congress. The next “EJPN Paper of the Year” will be awarded during EPNS Congress in Barcelona (April 2027). The journal has a distinguished and recently renewed international Editorial Board of specialists who advise on the direction of the journal, special issues, and review papers, superbly moderated by four Associated Editors, Kathleen Gorman, Lucia Gerstl, Anne Jansen and Ming Lim and who are world-renowned experts in their field.

Best wishes

Dimitrios Zafeiriou, MD, PhD

Professor of Paediatric Neurology & Developmental Paediatrics SEP **Editor-in-Chief,**
European Journal of Paediatric Neurology



Photo: Dimitrios Zafeiriou
Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of
Paediatric Neurology (EJPN)

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 2026

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

The amount paid depends on the EPNS membership category

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

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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.