

## ANNUAL REPORT

EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION
2024

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## FOREWORD



### BUILDING ON OUR LEGACY, ADVANCING IN MENTAL HEALTH

2024 marked another milestone year for the EPA as the Association continued to expand its influence and collaborations to deliver on its key priorities and raise the profile of psychiatry and mental health across Europe.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry held at the stunning HUNGEXPO Budapest Congress and Exhibition Centre from 6 to 9 April. For the second year in a row, 4000 participants representing over 100 countries gathered to exchange ideas, make connections, and engage in an ever-growing Scientific Programme.

With an impressive lineup of 147 sessions, high-level panels, symposia, workshop and debates - alongside a vibrant 10th EPA Forum on Inclusive Mental Health - the Congress delivered clinically relevant insights while setting a new benchmark for psychiatric research and clinical practice.

During the Congress, we were proud to announce the creation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> EPA Section, on Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities. This new Section reflects the EPA's commitment to addressing the mental health challenges faced by sexual minorities and raising awareness within the broader mental health community.

From a policy perspective, the EPA made significant progress in contributing to the mental health agenda at a European level. The cross-promotion of our manifesto with those of GAMIAN-Europe and EUFAMI underscored a shared vision for mental health advocacy. At the heart of this collective effort lies the idea of a Trilogue for Mental Health, uniting clinicians, patients, and families to advocate for policies that promote mental health and ensure it remains a top priority on the EU agenda. Our presence has grown further with the signing of four new Memoranda of Understanding with leading scientific societies. In addition, the EPA deepened its ties with the World Health Organization and actively contributed to a European Joint Action on Mental Health.

A major accomplishment was the culmination of efforts to launch the first European Board Examination in Psychiatry. With the inaugural exam on 28 February 2025 attracting many candidates from a wide range of countries, the EPA now offers a unified standard of excellence for European psychiatry. This ambitious project has been supported by a fruitful collaboration with the European Union of Medical Specialists — Psychiatry Section and the European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees.

2024 also saw the launch of two new EU-funded projects — Virtual Brain Twin and PsyPal — where the EPA contributes as a communication and dissemination partner. The EPA's contribution to the TRUSTING project continues to bear fruit, with the EPA spearheading the creation of a Clinical User Board tasked with providing a clinicians' perspective on the project outputs.

Our educational activities continued to flourish this year. Held once again in Strasbourg, the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the EPA Summer School – with the theme "Suicidal Behaviours – One Step Beyond" – brought together 28 participants from around the world.

Online education moved forward with the launch of two flagship e-Library modules, Best of Research and Telepsychiatry Toolkit, both of which are now accessible to all EPA members. Five new webinars enriched the EPA's 2024 online programme and, responding to increasing demand, the EPA initiated a structured webinar programme with a dedicated jury that evaluates submissions from governance bodies across the association. Out of 16 submissions received, six have been approved for roll-out in 2025. I was particularly proud to see the EPA's Sections and National Psychiatric Associations play a greater role in shaping these initiatives.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire EPA community. Your energy and commitment – from our staff in Strasbourg and Brussels to the Executive Committee, Board, Committees, NPAs, and Sections – have been instrumental in making 2024 an extraordinary year.

Together, we are not only building on a strong legacy but also forging new pathways to improve mental health. We can approach the coming year with confidence and enthusiasm – and I look forward to seeing many of you at our 33<sup>rd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry in Madrid, Spain, on 5-8 April.



FOREWORD

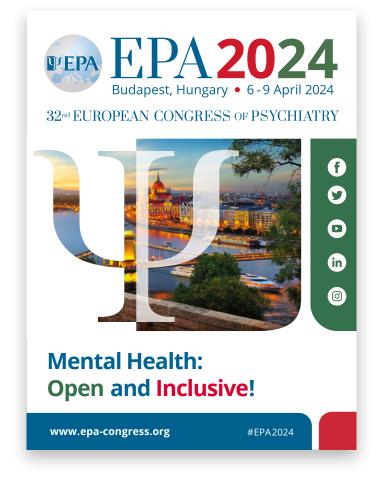


# THE 32<sup>ND</sup> EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY

The 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry, which took place from 6-9 April 2024 in Budapest, Hungary, provided a vital platform for advancing mental health globally. The Congress brought together psychiatry professionals to exchange knowledge, network, and collaborate on innovative solutions to address mental health challenges.

The Congress theme was "Mental Health: Open and Inclusive!" – a reflection of a commitment to examine diverse aspects of mental health, promote open-mindedness, and fostering inclusivity in psychiatric research and practices. The theme was built on three core principles. First, mental health, focusing on a broad spectrum from prevention and resilience-building to the treatment of mental health disorders. Second, openness, highlighting the need for open-mindedness, curiosity, and innovation in tackling mental health challenges. And third, inclusivity - advocating for respect for and accommodation of diversity across individuals and communities.

The Congress saw the active participation of  $4\,000$  delegates representing 100 countries, highlighting its global significance.









### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Our EPA Scientific Programme was meticulously designed to feature a wide array of sessions. It included three Plenary sessions, six State-of-the-Art lectures exploring advanced topics and trends in psychiatry, three engaging Debates on emerging issues in mental health, and six Core Symposia sessions. The Scientific Programme also featured 47 Accepted Symposia, 15 interactive Workshops, 15 EPA specialized Courses, nine dedicated Early Career Psychiatrists sessions fostering development among emerging professionals, and three 'Ask the Expert' sessions offering in-depth interaction with renowned experts. Overall, the Congress facilitated 126 Oral Communications, 709 e-Posters presentations and 1605 e-Posters viewings. In addition, we extended accessibility to our livestreamed sessions, which were available on-demand for three months after the Congress.

### **ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

The EPA Extraordinary and Ordinary General Assemblies were held in-person during the Congress, on 7 April 2024, with 72 Individual members and 25 National Society/Association members in attendance. At the Assemblies:

- A new Section on Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities was approved
- Prof. Rutger Van Der Gaag was appointed as Internal Auditor, for a term of office from 2024 to 2026

The following EPA Committees also held meetings during the Congress: the Executive Committee, the Board, the Council of NPAs, the Early Career Psychiatrists Committee, the Committee on Education, the Committee on Ethics, and Section Coordination.





### PRIZES AND AWARDS

### **RESEARCH PRIZES 2024**

The EPA Research Prizes reward the authors of the best scientific papers published in 2023 in five different categories.

In 2024, we received 46 applications from young psychiatrists all over Europe. Among the excellent candidates, the international jury selected five winners for the 2024 Research Prizes:

Category 1: "Clinical psychopathology and refinement of psychiatric diagnostic categories"

Dr Elvira Anna CARBONE, Italy

"The relationship of food addiction with binge eating disorder and obesity: A network analysis study", published in *Appetite* 

Category 2: "Biological correlates and treatments of mental disorders"

**Dr Spyridon SIAFIS,** *Germany* 

"Antipsychotic dose, D2 occupancy and extrapyramidal side-effects: dose-response meta-analysis", published in *Molecular Psychiatry* 

Category 3: "Psychiatric epidemiology, social psychiatry and psychotherapeutic interventions in mental disorders"

Dr Aleksandra KANINA, Sweden

"Association between cumulative psychosocial adversity in the family and ADHD and autism", published in *Translational Psychiatry* 

Category 4: "Child and adolescent Psychiatry"

**Dr Tuomas MAJURI, Finland** 

"Effect of onset age on the long-term outcome of early-onset psychoses and other mental disorders", published in *European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 

Category 5: "Best paper published in European Psychiatry" Daniel GALLARDO GÓMEZ, Spain

"Exercise to treat psychopathology and other clinical outcomes in schizophrenia", published in *European Psychiatry* 







### **SCHOLARSHIPS 2024**

Early Career Psychiatrists and trainees who wished to attend the European Congress of Psychiatry once again had the opportunity to apply for an EPA ECP Scholarship Programme and receive Congress benefits.

In 2024, winners were invited to attend the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congress in Budapest with the following benefits: free registration, paid travel and accommodation expenses, access to one of the 15 EPA Courses held during the event, an invitation to the ECP luncheon, and complimentary one-year EPA membership.

For this edition, the jury selected five winners from the 55 European applicants:

Agata GABRYELSKA, Poland

Stefan JEROTIC, Serbia

Giulio LONGO, Italy

Beren OZEL, Türkiye

Filipa SANTOS MARTINS, Portugal

### CONSTANCE PASCAL – HELEN BOYLE PRIZE

The EPA's prestigious Constance Pascal - Helen Boyle Prize celebrates outstanding achievements made by women working to improve mental health care in Europe.

Prof. Merete Nordentoft was selected as the 2024 winner of the Pascal-Boyle Prize, receiving the accolade during the Opening Ceremony of the 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest on 6 April 2024.

Prof. Nordentoft is a clinical psychiatrist and Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Copenhagen. A leading expert in epidemiology, suicidal behaviour, psychopathology, and early psychosis intervention, she has pioneered early intervention services in Denmark and across Europe. Her research highlights the reduced life expectancy for individuals with schizophrenia. She leads the Danish High Risk and Resilience Study VIA 7, tracking children at risk of severe mental illness.

An advocate for improved mental health services, Prof. Nordentoft authored "How do we create the future psychiatry?" and has received prestigious accolades, including the Novo Nordisk Prize. She also serves as President of the Schizophrenia International Research Society.





## COUNCIL OF NPAs



"At the end of 2024, the NPAs reform process reached a successful conclusion, with the Steering Committee's proposal of a new governance model for the Council. The proposal, set to be approved by the General Assembly, aims to increase participation in the life of the EPA from our National Psychiatric Associations and their representativeness. This will be achieved through an increased role of the Steering Committee within the EPA Board. We have also continued to facilitate exchange of experiences, activities and challenges through our online platforms, including NewsPAges and InterAct, as well as by organising webinars to update our knowledge on relevant clinical topics of common interest.

"In addition, we supported several important initiatives, such as the EPA Ambassadors Programme and the surveys promoted by the Committee on Ethics. The first phase of the Anti-Stigma Project was recently completed, with the survey's main findings – focused on anti-stigma initiatives undertaken in Europe over the past decade – set to be presented soon. Finally, as in previous years, we supported EPA-NPAs Joint Symposia organized in the context of National Congresses, with the aim of strengthening and giving visibility to the growing collaboration between EPA and its National Psychiatric Associations."

**Prof. Bernardo Carpiniello** Chair of the NPAs Steering Committee

### **MEMBERS**

With 44 member associations from 40 European countries, the Council of National Psychiatric Associations (NPAs) has grown to become a vital platform for dialogue and collaboration for the EPA, representing more than 78 000 psychiatrists across Europe. Detailed information on all 44 NPA members can be found on the EPA website.

### **MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA**

The Council of NPAs hosted a highly successful and well-attended meeting on Saturday 6 April 2024 during the 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest. The Council also organized an online yearend meeting on Monday 9 December.

Two symposia were organised during NPA national events in 2024:

#### 10 May 2024 - Mersin, Türkiye

"Challenges in establishing community mental health services in Georgia", presented by Prof. Eka Chkonia

#### 23 May 2024 - Timișoara, Romania

"Challenges for psychiatry", presented by Dr Julian Beezhold

"Can antipsychotics prevent transition to psychosis in high-risk population?", presented by Prof. Pavel Mohr

### **ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN 2024**

The Council of NPAs was involved in the following projects and activities:

- Continued the work on NPAs Reform, culminating in a proposal approved at the Council meeting on 9 December 2024.
- Published monthly NewsPAge updates to provide NPAs with key information about EPA activities.
- Strengthened the role of the Council of NPAs in the European Congress of Psychiatry, including organising a Symposium titled "Community mental health services in Europe: the state of art" during the Congress in Budapest.
- Organised a successful webinar in June on "Effective Psychotherapies for Depression: State of the Art and Implications for Mental Health Services".
- Facilitated the dissemination of the Anti-Stigma survey and supported the analysis of results.
- Continued participation in the EPA Ambassadors' Programme.

### **INTERACT NEWSLETTER**

In 2024, *InterACT*, the quarterly newsletter of the Council of NPAs, celebrated another successful year. Guided by its Editorial Board, currently chaired by Prof. Simavi Vahip, the newsletter continues to offer a wide range of content tailored to the interests of NPAs. Each issue includes a Special File focusing on a specific topic, updates on EU funding and advocacy, and coverage of critical issues from across Europe. Contributions from NPAs, EPA Sections, and other collaborators enrich the wide array of material featured in the newsletter's four quarterly editions. Over time, *InterACT* has established itself as a key platform for sharing insights on psychiatry and mental health across Europe. All past editions are accessible on the EPA website.

EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS



Under the leadership of Dr Tomasz Gondek (Poland) and Dr Egor Chumakov (Russia), the Early Career Psychiatrists Committee (ECPC) remained highly active throughout 2024. Building on the work of its four Task Forces, the Committee continued implementing initiatives to meet the needs of psychiatric trainees and Early Career Psychiatrists across Europe. The ECP Programme sessions at the 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest were key contributions in 2024, along with several other notable projects including:

### GAINING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME (GEP)

As part of the 2024 Gaining Experience Programme, the Committee was delighted to provide eight passionate young psychiatrists with the opportunity to engage in observerships at prestigious psychiatric institutions across Europe. This initiative allowed participants to enhance their clinical and research expertise while gaining valuable insights into diverse mental health systems. With the collaboration of the host institutions, the following candidates successfully completed their placements:

- Dr Mikołaj Achremczyk (Poland), hosted by the University of Pecs Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (Hungary)
- Dr Marsida Berisha (Germany), hosted by the Queen Mary University of London (United Kingdom)
- Dr Mustafa Dinçer (Türkiye), hosted by the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry University Department, Tours (France)
- Dr Sofiya Hrechukh (Ukraine) hosted by the IΨK Institute of Psychotherapy and Greek rTMS clinic (Greece)
- Dr Eka Kikvadze (Georgia), hosted by Észak-budai Szent János Centrumkórház (Hungary)
- Dr Alena Leonova (Russia), hosted by the Institute of Psychiatry and Mental Health Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañon (Spain)
- Dr Anna Szczegielniak (Poland), hosted by the Unit of Clinical Psychiatry in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Università Politecnica delle Marche (Italy)
- Dr Cristiana Tapoi (Romania), hosted by the Department of Medicine and Surgery, University of Milano-Bicocca (Italy)

### **ONLINE TALKS WITH EXPERTS**

One-hour sessions that combine a brief presentation with an interactive Q&A, the Online Talks with Experts provide Early Career Psychiatrists with a platform to engage with leading figures in psychiatry and explore pressing topics in the field. In 2024 the ECPC held two successful Online Talks with Experts sessions.

The first, "Public Mental Health: Challenges and Opportunities", was organised in collaboration with the EPA Section on Public Mental Health and took place on 1 February. The second, "Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry and Psychosomatics", was held on 2 July in collaboration with the EPA Section on Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry. Each Online Talk attracted approximately 30 participants from 25 countries and stimulated a vibrant exchange of ideas.

### **ONLINE SURVEYS**

The Task Force on Communication continued its work on the survey on Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM), gathering responses from 1237 psychiatrists across 44 countries. This wide-reaching initiative underscores the growing interest in, and relevance of, TDM in psychiatric practice. Meanwhile, the Task Force on Meetings and Associations made significant progress on the ECP Map Project, an initiative designed to chart and connect Early Career Psychiatrist organisations and networks across Europe. Finally, the Task Force on Professional Development focused its efforts on the European Board Examination of Psychiatry, finalising a draft manuscript of the survey's quantitative results and contributing an editorial to European Psychiatry.

### LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The ECPC continued to refine the concept of the EPA Leadership Academy, a new educational programme developed in collaboration with the Committee on Education. The Academy aims to equip psychiatric trainees and Early Career Psychiatrists with essential leadership skills in research and clinical settings.

Building on the foundations laid in the previous year, the ECPC focused on enhancing the online curriculum, which features more than 15 video contributions from international experts in various domains. The Leadership Academy is set to adopt a blended learning approach, combining online content hosted on the EPA e-Learning platform with a dynamic in-person practical course. Preparations are well underway for the first face-to-face event, which is scheduled to take place in the second semester of 2025.



### **EDUCATION**



2024 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION MEETING, PARIS

Led by Dr Cécile Hanon (France), the Committee on Education met in Paris to continue its commitment to implementing e-Learning and online training activities featuring experts from across the EPA. In 2024 the Committee organised another successful series of in-person educational events, including the Summer School and the Continuing Medical Education (CME) courses held during the 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest.

### EPA SUMMER SCHOOL ON SUICIDAL BEHAVIOURS

The 13th EPA Summer School took place from 12-15 September 2024 at the European Youth Center in Strasbourg, France. This was the third Summer School dedicated to the theme "Focus on Suicidal Behaviours – One Step Beyond". Building on the e-Learning course "Focus on Suicidal Behaviours", this blended learning programme allowed 27 young psychiatrists from all over Europe to attend three immersive training days, combining theoretical sessions on the management of suicidal crises, therapeutic innovations, and prevention strategies with practical workshops, simulations, and roleplaying scenarios.

Held under the auspices of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, the event provided young psychiatrists with a unique opportunity to refine their clinical skills and connect with their peers. Participants also enjoyed a guided visit to the European Parliament on the opening day, setting the tone for a rich educational experience in a prestigious European setting.

"The opportunity to challenge ourselves in different situations through roleplays was invaluable. We gained up-to-date knowledge, performed assessments, received constructive feedback from colleagues, and shared diverse perspectives on addressing particular clinical cases."

Participants in the EPA 2024 Summer School

### **E-LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

With a growing community of more than 3500 users on the EPA e-Learning platform, the Committee on Education continued its commitment to delivering innovative and high-quality online educational resources. Among the highlights of 2024 was the refinement of the Psychiatrists' Library, a curated repository of essential readings designed to support clinical practice and research.

The Telepsychiatry Toolkit, led by Prof. Umberto Volpe (Italy) and Prof. Donald Hilty (United States), saw further updates. The toolkit equips mental health professionals with practical guidance and insights into telemental health care, including legal considerations, emergency protocols, mobile services, and privacy protection for patients.

The "Best of 2023" series was another standout achievement, highlighting key research and advancements in psychiatry from the past year. The e-Learning platform features four comprehensive online courses, including two accessible free of charge: Introduction to Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Introduction to Motivational Interviewing, Understanding and Treating Major Depressive Disorder, and Focus on Suicidal Behaviours. Finally, the Committee played a key role in structuring the selection process for EPA webinars, ensuring engagement and cross-pollination of all EPA bodies in future online events.

### **EPA CME COURSES**





Scan the QR code to access the EPA e-Learning platform.

Fifteen accredited educational courses were proposed to participants at the 2024 European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest, covering multiple key aspects of psychiatry:

- A practice-oriented intensive course on pharmacological treatment of schizophrenia and some other psychotic disorders
- ABCs of neuropsychiatry
- Affective disorders in the elderly
- Assessment and treatment of ADHD in adults
- Brief motivational interventions in the emergency room: how to quickly engage patients with addictive disorders
- Change is the goal of psychodynamic therapy: practical strategies and new evidence
- Child and adolescent mood disorders updates and new practice guidelines
- Comprehensive psychiatric management of borderline personality disorder
- Hikikomori, pathological social withdrawal and modern type depression: assessment, intervention and novel therapeutic approach using digital technologies
- Hospital architecture how to renovate, repurpose and build psychiatric facilities?
- How to write a good scientific paper (and get it published in European Psychiatry)
- Medical ethics in psychiatry
- Systemic therapy skills for eating disorder: an introduction
- · Useful open science tools to do research in psychiatry
- · Working as a team and involving families





The EPA Committee on Ethics, chaired by Prof. Meryam Schouler-Ocak, continued to promote ethical standards in psychiatric research and clinical care in 2024. The Committee participated in several events across Europe and developed educational content to raise awareness on key ethical issues. Key focus areas included knowledge-sharing and skills development on alternatives to coercion, ethical counselling and case discussions, and cooperation with service users and care givers.

### PROMOTING ETHICAL STANDARDS IN EUROPE

Committee members promoted the EPA Code of Ethics at several events organised by EPA NPAs as well as other national associations:

### May - Timisoara, Romania

Romanian Psychiatric Association's Conference on Patient-Oriented Health Care in Schizophrenia

May - Mersin, Türkiye Congress of Psychiatry

### May - Verona, Italy

Congress of the Italian Psychiatric Association

June - Riga, Latvia
Nordic Congress of Psychiatry

### October - Albufeira, Portugal

Portuguese Psychiatric Association Conference

#### November - Belgrade, Serbia

Congress of the Serbian Psychiatric Association

### November - Berlin, Germany

DGPPN – Congress of the German Association for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics

### December - Szczecin, Poland

Plenary lecture on "Facing Ethical Dilemmas of Mental Health Care for Migrants and Refugees"

### EDUCATIONAL CONTENT ON ETHICS STANDARDS

- Presentation of an EPA Course on "Medical Ethics in Psychiatry" during the 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry in Budapest (April, 27 participants)
- Webinar on Ethical Principles and Dilemmas in Psychiatry (February)
- Webinar on Transgender, Ethical Challenges and Mental Health (June)
- · Webinar on Migration and Mental Health in Europe (December)

### PUBLICATION AND SURVEY

- Publication of a research article in European Psychiatry (Volume 67, Issue 1, 2024): "Comparing the World Psychiatric Association and European Psychiatric Association Codes of Ethics: Discrepancies and shared grounds"
- Dissemination of the survey "Ethics in Psychiatric Practice"
- Creation of the survey "The Rights of People with Lived Experience of Mental III Health and Informal Carers"

Other activities included preparatory work for a revised version of the Code of Ethics and for position papers addressing various ethical principles and dilemmas in psychiatry. The Committee also collaborated with the EPA Task Force on Migration and Mental Health, the Task Force on Racial Discrimination and Mental Health, and the Task Force on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

### EPA POLICY AND POSITION PAPERS

In 2024, the following EPA Policy and Position Papers were published in *European Psychiatry*:

### EPA Policy Paper "Digitalising mental health care: Practical recommendations from the European Psychiatric Association" (European Psychiatry, Vol. 67, 2024)

Authors: Janos L. Kalman, Gerrit Burkhardt, Jerzy Samochowiec, Christian Gebhard, Geert Dom, Miriam John, Ozge Kilic, Tamas Kurimay, Lars Lien, Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Diego Palao Vidal, Jan Wiser, Wolfgang Gaebel, Umberto Volpe, and Peter Falkai.

### EPA Policy Paper "Clinician treatment choices for posttraumatic stress disorder: ambassadors survey of psychiatrists in 39 European countries"

#### (European Psychiatry, Vol. 67, 2024)

Authors: Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Frank Padberg, Benedikt L. Amann, Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Zarko Bajic, Tarja Melartin, Adrian James, Julian Beezhold, Jordi Artigue Gómez, Celso Arango, Tihana Jendricko, Jamila Ismayilov, William Flannery, Egor Chumakov, Koray Başar, Simavi Vahip, Dominika Dudek, Jerzy Samochowiec, Goran Mihajlovic, Fulvia Rota, Gabriela Stoppe, Geert Dom, Kirsten Catthoor, Eka Chkonia, Maria João Heitor Dos Santos, Diogo Telles, Peter Falkai, Philippe Courtet, Michal Patarák, Lubomira Izakova, Oleg Skugarevski, Stojan Barjaktarov, Dragan Babic, Goran Racetovic, Andrea Fiorillo, Bernardo Carpiniello, Maris Taube, Yuval Melamed, Jana Chihai, Doina Constanta Maria Cozman, Pavel Mohr, György Szekeres, Mirjana Delic, Ramuné Mazaliauskiené, Aleksandar Tomcuk, Nataliya Maruta, and Philip Gorwood.

### EPA Position Paper "Climate change and mental health: Position paper of the European Psychiatric Association"

### (European Psychiatry, Vol. 67, 2024)

Authors: Lasse Brandt, Kristina Adorjan, Kirsten Catthoor, Eka Chkonia, Peter Falkai, Andrea Fiorillo, Tomasz M. Gondek, Jessica Newberry Le Vay, Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg, Andreas Heinz, Geert Dom, and Jurjen J. Luykx.

### **ENDORSED PUBLICATIONS**

The EPA continues to endorse publications that align with its mission of enhancing mental health care and promoting collaborative efforts across Europe.

In 2024, the EPA endorsed the report:

### "Schizophrenia: Time to Commit to Policy Change 2024"

Authors: Silvana Galderisi, Stephen Marder, Davi Kaur, Peter Kéri, Belinda Lennox, David McDaid, Tina Matthews-Hayes, Sabine Müller, Fiona Nolan, Merete Nordentoft, Pavalkis Dainius, John Saunders, and Tomiki Sumiyoshi.

### **PRESS RELEASES**

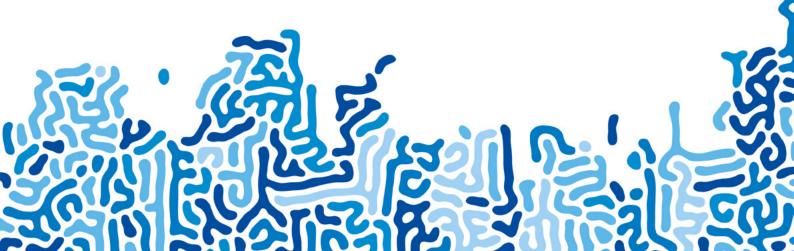
In 2024, the EPA published the following press releases during the EPA Congress in Budapest:

2024 EPA Congress Press Release, 8 April: "War in Ukraine is increasing the prevalence of mental health conditions in children, new study finds"

2024 EPA Congress Press Release, 8 April: "Cannabis use during pregnancy linked to increased risk of ADHD, autism and intellectual disability in children"

2024 EPA Congress Press Release, 9 April: "Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) shown to reduce severity of certain mental illnesses"

2024 EPA Congress Press Release, 9 April: "Lonely children more likely to experience psychosis, new study finds"





### **SECTIONS**

### **NEW EPA SECTION**

In 2024 the EPA increased the number of its scientific Sections to 23 with the establishment of a new Section on Sexual Orientations and Gender Identities in April. The mission of this new Section is to raise awareness among mental health professionals and the public about the mental health challenges faced by sexual minorities, their links to stigma and discrimination, and the importance of promoting research and best practices based on scientific evidence and a human rights perspective across Europe. The Section's leadership includes Goetz Mundle (Chair), Lieselotte Mahler (Co-Chair), and Koray Başar (Secretary).

### SECTIONS ACTIVITIES AT THE 32<sup>ND</sup> EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY

As in previous years, the Scientific Programme of the 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry was significantly supported by EPA Sections. In 2024, the Sections contributed a total of 20 Symposia, ten Workshops, and seven Courses.

### SECTIONS ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

A Section Coordination Meeting was held in Budapest in April 2024, with nearly all Section chairs or representatives attending. Throughout the year, EPA Sections organised scientific and educational activities, including webinars and symposia, and published articles in scientific journals. All of these activities are detailed in the annual reports provided by Sections, available on the EPA website.

The Task Force for Sections made significant progress in 2024 harmonising Sections' activities. The Task Force's efforts aim to increase interaction among Sections, as well as between Sections and NPAs, to develop interaction with Early Career Psychiatrists (ECPs), and to improve the involvement and visibility of Sections in EPA activities, particularly at the European Congresses of Psychiatry. The Task Force also worked on establishing guidelines to support these objectives.



### EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRY JOURNAL

European Psychiatry continues to develop following the move to a fully open-access model in 2020.

Since then, the journal has published numerous impactful and highly influential papers, notably around the COVID-19 pandemic and its continuing impact, and widely read EPA Guidance papers. This strong performance is reflected in the journal's impressive metrics, with the Impact Factor maintaining a top-20 ranking in the 'Psychiatry' category.

Article downloads also surged in 2024, further illustrating the journal's continued impact and growing readership. A key focus for *European Psychiatry* remains on sustained development, with an emphasis on journal growth, the experience of authors and peer reviewers, and maintaining the journal's reputation as a high-quality publication for psychiatric researchers.

Submissions to *European Psychiatry* increased significantly compared to previous years. This upward trend indicates the success of the efforts made to raise the journal's profile and attract high-quality research.

## EU POLICY AND ADVOCACY



2024 was a year of change in Europe and globally. The European elections increased the imperative for the EPA to achieve its mission as a voice for psychiatrists and an advocate for ambitious mental health policies across Europe.

The year featured several advocacy highlights, from our **EU Elections Manifesto**, the **Trilogue of Mental Health partnership**, and the resounding success of the **10**<sup>th</sup> **EPA Forum**. These occasions served as the focal points for increased engagement with international organisations. The commitments for mental health in Commission President Ursula Von der Leyen's Political Guidelines for 2024-2029 represent a vital milestone, as policymakers increasingly recognise the societal importance of mental health. Prof. Geert Dom's commemorative letter for **World Mental Health Day 2024** on the theme of "Mental Health at Work" set the scene for our advocacy efforts in 2025.

### 10TH ANNUAL FORUM

The EPA Forum took place in Budapest on 6 April 2024 with the theme "Towards Inclusive Mental Health Care". The event gathered the EPA community, its partners, and representatives from the EU and UN health policy spheres for a series of discussions on steps to reduce barriers to treatment and the need for greater resilience in mental health care systems across Europe.

The EPA was pleased to feature speakers from our partners at EAN, EFPA, EUFAMI, FEANTSA, and GAMIAN-Europe alongside representatives of the European Parliament, IOM, OECD, and WHO Europe. They shared valuable perspectives on achieving inclusive mental health care, focusing on links with migration, homelessness, informal carers, and patient experiences. The Forum was organised under the auspices of the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The event opened with a speech by Prof. Geert Dom, with discussions chaired by Dr Julian Beezhold. Prof. Andrea Fiorillo led the dialogue among healthcare professionals, which focused on their shared achievements and challenges in building inclusiveness. Prof. Dom spoke at the roundtable on finding solutions, underlining that inclusion is essential for human beings.

Prof. Martina Rojnić Kuzman presented the results of the **4**<sup>th</sup> **EPA Ambassadors Survey** and its insights into the treatment of schizophrenia spectrum disorders across Europe. Prof. János Réthelyi closed the event by recognising the interconnectedness of our field: a good psychiatrist must also be a good clinical psychologist, a good nurse, a good administrator, a good communicator, a good educator, and a good researcher. More than 400 attendees in Budapest joined the session alongside audiences watching the livestream and event recording.

### ENGAGEMENT WITH THE EU INSTITUTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The EPA maintained its steadfast engagement with international bodies, including work on the European Commission's **Joint Action on Mental Health** (JA ImpleMENTAL). Prof. Geert Dom participated at the project's final conference in Athens on 17-19 September.

The EPA contributed to meetings and collaboration with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) in Amsterdam though its membership of the Healthcare Professionals' Working Party (HCPWP). This includes the EMA Workshop on Psychedelics on 16-17 April and the EMA Workshop on Artificial Intelligence on 5 November. This focus on novel treatments and emerging technologies aligns with recent research in psychiatry. The EPA also acted as liaison between our scientific community and regulatory authorities, such as for the EMA Committee for Human Medicinal Products consultation on postpartum depression.

The EPA continued its engagement with UN organisations, particularly through its membership of the WHO Pan-European Mental Health Coalition. The coalition's focus on countering stigma and discrimination and its discussions on the mental health of healthcare professionals are welcome directions that complement the EPA's advocacy efforts for 2024 and aims for 2025. The EPA also participated in initiatives to bring the EU and UN spheres together, such as the JA ImpleMENTAL and WHO Pan-European Mental Health Coalition Workshop on Leadership and Service Transformation in Mental Health in Brussels on 22–23 May.

### **PARTNERSHIPS**

Following the launch of our **EU Elections Manifesto** at the European Parliament on 6 December 2023, the EPA was honoured to link up with EUFAMI and GAMIAN-Europe as the **Trilogue of Mental Health.** Together, the three organisations amplified each other's voices and advocated for policies that prioritise the well-being of individuals and families affected by mental health conditions. The EPA celebrated GAMIAN-Europe's successful call for the establishment of a new crossparty European Parliament Intergroup on Mental Health, a decision confirmed in December.

### **STATEMENTS**

The EPA marked **World Mental Health Day** on 10 October with a commemoration letter from Prof. Geert Dom on the 2024 theme of "Mental Health at Work". This chosen theme comes at a time of increased awareness of the mental health pressures on workforces, as well as the burden placed on those working on mental health themselves. This vital topic is the theme of the EPA Forum in 2025. The EPA and partners used World Mental Health Day to call for the establishment of a **European Year for Mental Health**.

This year, the Association also developed and published a Policy Paper on Digitalising Mental Health Care, a Policy Paper on the Treatment of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, and a Position Paper on Climate Change and Mental Health.





### **EVENTS**

The EPA was also well represented at policy-oriented events on mental health. Prof. Andrea Fiorillo spoke at the **4**<sup>th</sup> **Headway Forum** at the European Parliament on 25 September. The event featured the release of the fourth edition of the "Headway – Mental Health Index" report, with contributions from Prof. Fiorillo and Prof. Celso Arango. The report demonstrates that every euro invested in mental health brings a return of €4.50 to the economy plus benefits across healthcare systems and the wider society. This is a key message on investment from the healthcare community to the EU's economic policymakers in the wake of the Draghi Report on the Future of European Competitiveness, published on 9 September.

As a member of the European Brain Council (EBC), the EPA contributed to the **No Health Without Brain Health** campaign, with Prof. Livia De Picker presenting our EU Elections Manifesto at the European Parliament on 7 March. The EPA was also pleased to participate in the

**Brain Innovation Days** policy event at the European Parliament on 13 November and its main conference in Brussels on 14-15 November. Prof. Geert Dom spoke at the conference on the importance of protecting the planet to preserve our health, recalling the EPA Position Paper on Climate Change and Mental Health. Prof. Sandra Kooij led a discussion on clinical guidelines and medical education for the treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders.

The EPA advanced its engagement with the **European Academy of Neurology (EAN) Brain Health Mission** initiative. This included building on our role as a strategic partner representing healthcare professionals, as well as accepting a seat on the initiative's steering committee. The EAN Brain Health Summit in Brussels on 7 May represented another highlight of the year, with EPA Past President Peter Falkai presenting research on the connections between mental and brain health.





### **EU-FUNDED PROJECTS**

The EPA achieved several milestones in 2024 in its development and contributions to EU-funded research projects. These include the launches of PsyPal (2024-2027) and Virtual Brain Twin (2024-2028). Meanwhile, the TRUSTING (2023-2028) project continues to yield promising results. The projects are funded through the EU's Horizon Europe programme and represent excellent opportunities for the EPA to establish collaborations with leading scientists, share expertise from our community, and disseminate knowledge to EU stakeholders.

### **PSYPAL**

The EPA has also organised meetings with project partners to establish the foundations for the establishment of a **Coalition for the Standardisation of Psilocybin Therapy.** The project includes the first-ever EU-funded multi-site clinical study into psychedelic-assisted therapy (the study receiving ethical approval at the end of 2024). The EPA is proud to contribute to this consortium which, together with our membership of the Psychedelic Access and Research European Alliance (PAREA), cements our Association's role in furthering understanding of and supporting access to promising novel treatments for patients across Europe.

### **VIRTUAL BRAIN TWIN**

The Virtual Brain Twin project secured €10 million in funds via the Horizon Health Europe Calls 2023. This open-access and open-source project aims to generate virtual brain twins for psychiatric patients, through an ecosystem that utilises neuronal microcircuit simulation, mathematical analysis, artificial intelligence, and insights from psychiatric care and clinical studies. The EPA participated in the VBT **Consortium Meeting** in Brussels on 23-24 April and also mobilised our clinicians community to participate in the first edition of the VBT **Co-Creation Workshops** in Madrid on 7 November. The consortium was also featured at several Brussels events this year, including the Research and Innovation Days on 20-21 March and the Brain Innovation Days on 14-15 November.

### **TRUSTING**

In 2024 the TRUSTING project achieved several milestones in the development of a user-friendly and trustworthy AI application for monitoring the risk of psychotic relapse. The EPA established and coordinated the TRUSTING **Clinical User Board** with leading experts on psychosis treatment to advise on the design and represent potential users of the project's AI monitoring tool. The group works in parallel to the TRUSTING Patients User Board. This highlights the EPA's commitment to integrating experts in mental health and persons with lived experiences in the co-design and co-development of treatment options, as well as the use of emerging technologies.





# COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES

### EPA COLLABORATION WITH EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

Council of Europe

European Medicines Agency (EMA)

World Health Organization (WHO)

European Commission - EU Health Policy Platform

European Parliament (MEP Alliance for Mental Health)

### **EPA PARTNERS IN EUROPE**

European Academy of Neurology (EAN)

European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM)

European Brain Council (EBC)

European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP)

European Federation of Addiction Societies (EUFAS)

European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI)

European Federation of Psychiatric Trainees (EFPT)

European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA)

European Institute of Women's Health (EIWH)

European Pain Forum

European Psychiatric Nurses (HORATIO)

European Scientific Association on Schizophrenia and other Psychoses (ESAS)

European Sleep Research Society (ESRS)

European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)

Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS)

Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks – Europe (GAMIAN-Europe)

Psychedelic Access and Research European Alliance (PAREA)

Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) Platform

### **EPA PARTNERS WORLDWIDE**

African Association of Psychiatrists and Allied Professions (AAPAP)

Asian Federation of Psychiatric Associations (AFPA)

Senior International Health Association (SIHA)

The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)

World Psychiatric Association (WPA)

### ASSOCIATE ORGANISATIONS

American Association for Emergency Psychiatry (AAEP)

Association of Judicial Psychiatrists of Slovakia (ASPS)





In 2024 the EPA strengthened its network through several new partnerships and initiatives. At the 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry, the EPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the European Sleep Research Society (ESRS). Additional MoUs were signed throughout the year with the European Association of Nuclear Medicine (EANM), the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), and the European Federation of Addiction Societies (EUFAS). In addition, discussions were initiated with WHO Europe to establish a stronger and more structured collaboration model.

The EPA also engaged in three coordination meetings with key mental health partners, including GAMIAN-Europe and EUFAMI, further consolidating these key partnerships. As part of its commitment to schizophrenia care, the EPA participated in the European Brain Council's "Rethinking Schizophrenia" project and collaborated with GAMIAN-Europe on the initiative "The Future of Digital Mental Health for the Care of People with Schizophrenia".

We enhanced collaboration in European Joint Actions focusing on Mental Health, such as the JA ImpleMENTAL project, which focused on providing expert input to develop evidence-based strategies and sharing best practices to enhance the accessibility and quality of mental healthcare across Europe.



### COMMUNICATION

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media continues to be a powerful tool for reaching EPA members, enabling the EPA to connect and engage with a diverse audience across Europe and beyond. In 2024, the main objective remained to highlight the EPA as Europe's leading association in the field of psychiatry, promoting its activities and events, and foster community growth by converting followers into active participants in EPA initiatives.

In 2024 the EPA achieved significant milestones across its social media platforms:

#### X: @Euro Psychiatry

Steady increase in followers and engagement.

Facebook: @europsy

Continued growth and interaction with a large and diverse community.

Instagram: @euro\_psychiatry

A remarkable 30% increase in followers, further attracting a younger audience and amplifying visibility through posts and Stories.

LinkedIn: European Psychiatric Association

The most substantial growth, with a 40% increase in followers, reflecting growing interest from professionals in the mental health field.

This year, the EPA prioritised a consistent and strategic approach to content across platforms, ensuring the tone and style aligned with audience expectations for each channel. Posts focused on promoting key EPA initiatives, events, and advocacy efforts, while collaborations with partners such as EUFAMI, GAMIAN-Europe, the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), and the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) expanded the EPA's reach and strengthened our community.

Live posting during events, including the EPA Congress, further increased the EPA's visibility and provided real-time updates to its community. These efforts have positioned the EPA as a dynamic and engaged association, continually fostering dialogue and collaboration across the mental health community in Europe.







4500 followers



### **EPA WEBSITE**

The EPA website remained the central hub for our communications, delivering high-quality and timely information on Association's activities and partnerships, and mental health news.

In 2024 significant efforts were made to improve the website's structure, including:

- Reorganising and redesigning several key pages to enhance user experience.
- Providing monthly updates to the News section, aligned with newsletter publications, featuring events, partnerships, global mental health initiatives, and EPA webinars.
- Creating new pages to increase the visibility of strategic projects, notably the European Board Exam in Psychiatry, ensuring key information is more accessible to our users.

These improvements have strengthened the website's role as a reliable source of information both for members and external visitors.

### MINDS ONLINE NEWSLETTER

EPA Minds Online proved again to be a vital communication tool in 2024, delivering timely updates on EPA activities, events, and initiatives to a growing audience. The newsletter saw a 15% increase in its subscriber base compared to 2023, reflecting its expanding reach within the EPA community.

Building on the success of its updated format, the newsletter maintained an average opening rate of 40-45%, demonstrating the continued interest of readers. The click rate remained in line with previous years, a notable achievement for a publication of this type.

The dual-distribution strategy—sending each issue first to all subscribers and then, two weeks later, to those who did not open it initially—continued to prove valuable in maximising readership, ensuring the widest possible reach.

In 2024, the newsletter was distributed to an audience exceeding 18 000 subscribers, with 12 regular issues published alongside a range of ad hoc mailings. This consistent engagement highlights the newsletter's role as a trusted source of information and a key touchpoint with the wider EPA community. With its streamlined design and targeted distribution, EPA Minds Online remains an essential platform for connecting with members and sharing updates on the Association's work.



### **MEMBERSHIP**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The EPA is an association of National Psychiatric Association Members; of qualified individuals in the forms of Individual Members, Fellows, Emeritus Members, Honorary Members, International Individual Members, Student Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members; of Donor Members; and of Associate Organisations.

### **KEY FIGURES**

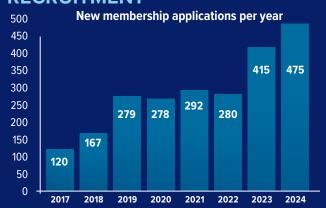
The EPA community represents more than 78 000 European psychiatrists from 88 countries, including 2 381 individual psychiatrists and mental health professionals and 44 National Psychiatric Associations. The Association, dedicated to psychiatry and its related disciplines, is focused on improving care for the mentally ill and developing professional excellence.



"The European Psychiatric Association continues to show strong membership growth, reflecting our position as the leading voice of psychiatry across Europe".

Julian Beezhold
EPA Secretary General

### RECRUITMENT



The number of new members has shown promising growth in recent years, reflecting a sustained interest in joining the EPA community.

In 2024 the EPA approved 474 new membership applications. These include 300 Individual Members, 80 International Individual Members, 35 Student Members, and 59 Associate Members. Of note, 210 of the new members are Early Career Psychiatrist Members, highlighting the EPA's appeal to the next generation of mental health professionals.

### **PAYMENTS**



Fees were paid by 774 members in 2024. The number of paid-up members has been growing steadily each year. This increase has been facilitated by user-friendly payment options through the Extranet, an optimised reminder and follow-up system integrated with Congress registration, and significant discounts on the annual Congress.

## FINANCES & BUDGET

With 4 000 participants, the 32<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Psychiatry was a tremendous success, with a correspondingly high level of income from registrations. Combined with lower expenses than forecasted and high backing from sponsors, the Budapest Congress returned a substantially higher surplus than anticipated.

Income from membership fees remained stable, while revenue from the EPA journal, *European Psychiatry*, and educational course subscriptions increased.

Income from invested funds (included under Miscellaneous) far exceeded expectations, due to continued high interest rates on savings accounts throughout 2024.

These combined elements led to a total income surpassing forecasts by more than a third.

On the expense side, costs were generally lower than originally estimated. This does not imply that Committees were less active or that fewer activities were organised (apart from the planned online course under the Committee on Education, which was not realised). Activities included:

- The EPA Summer School, held as usual in Strasbourg in September, with 27 participants.
- Eight placements completed as part of the Gaining Experience Programme in 2024.
- Further enrichment of the contents of the e-learning platform (with the Best of 2023 amongst others).
- Joint support by the Committee on Ethics and the Council of NPAs for two EPA symposia at NPA Congresses (Romania and Türkyie), aimed at disseminating the Code of Ethics.
- EPA support for GAMIAN-Europe on a joint project on Digital Mental Health for Schizophrenia.

On a general level, Committees remained well within or under their allocated budgets, including for their annual in-person meeting in the autumn. In additionally there was no in-person Board meeting this year and all Publication Committee and Task Force meetings were held virtually, leading to further savings.

Likewise, work on the European Board Examination in Psychiatry (EBEP) project progressed as planned, with a view of holding the pilot exam early 2025, yet cost optimisation led to a much lower expenditure than budgeted.

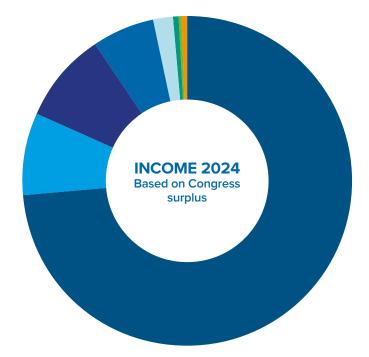
Office-related charges were in line with projections, except for thirdparty services and salaries, which were lower than anticipated. This was due to a minimal need for legal advice in 2024 and delays in replacing staff following turnover (maternity leave, end of contract, etc.).

The above led to much lower level of expenses that originally estimated, despite an increase in taxes due to higher levels of income.

The combination of higher income and lower expenses explains the higher-than-usual positive balance compared to the original forecast.

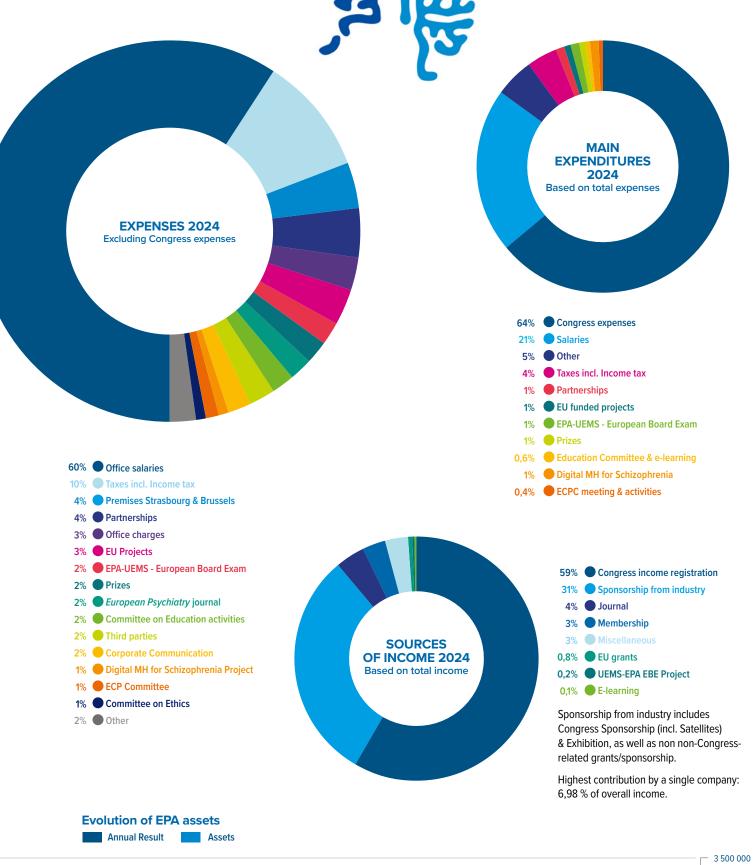
EPA Internal Auditors Gilles Bertschy and Rutger Jan van der Gaag approved the 2024 annual accounts following the official Auditors' meeting held in person in Strasbourg on 14 February 2025.

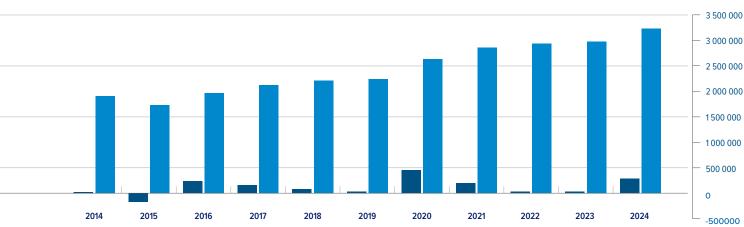




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INCOME	2024 FORECAST 02/04/2024 FOR BOARD & GA 05-07/04/2024	2024 FORECAST 21/09/2024 FOR EC - 27/09/2024	2024 RESUL
Surplus from Congress	702 089	998 170	988 650
Total income from membership	93 000	93 000	103 055
Annual membership fees (individual)	58 000	58 000	66 788
National Psychiatric Associations fees	35 000	35 000	36 267
European Psychiatry journal	82 607	117 669	117 669
Miscellaneous	26 236	26 236	81 541
TRUSTING Project (EU)	18 000	18 000	8 147
PSYPAL Project (EU)	24 800	24 800	10 343
COMET Project (EU)	5 921	5 921	617
VBT Project (EU)	20 000	20 000	7 865
	12 000	12 000	6 000
UEMS - EPA European Board Exam	7 350		
Unrestricted educational grant exchange programme		7 350	6 800
Unrestricted educational grant e-learning	0	0	0
Educational course subscriptions	1500	1500	3 949
INCOME TOTAL	993 503	1 324 646	1 334 636
EXPENSES			
EPA building (Strasbourg)	31 000	31 000	25 663
Third parties	30 000	30 000	18 480
Brussels Office	17 000	17 000	12 537
Board meetings	13 200	13 200	0
Executive Committee meetings	5 500	5 500	0
Committee on Ethics: meetings and activities	12 800	12 800	9 840
Committee on Ethics meeting (one meeting at the Congress, one external meeting)	5 000	5 000	7 525
Ethics course (itinerant) - Code of Ethics Dissemination	4 800	4 800	2 248
Ethics webinars	2 000	2 000	67
	1000	1000	0
Publication fees (open access) - Harmonisation of the Code of Ethics	63 100		18 536
Committee on Education: meetings and activities		63 100	
Committee on Education (one meeting at the Congress, one external meeting)	5 000	5 000	<i>3 776</i>
E-Learning activities	40 400	40 400	7 220
Summer School	16 500	16 500	7 540
Representation at UEMS meetings	1200	1200	0
National Psychiatric Associations symposia & meetings	5 096	5 096	2 022
Section Coordination activities	5 000	5 000	0
Publication Committee	0	0	0
Visits to HQ /auditors	5 000	5 000	1 323
Early Career Psychiatrists Committee: meetings and activities	30 100	30 100	12 046
ECPC meeting	3 800	3 800	3 566
ECPC promotion at other congresses/events	1 800	1 800	397
ECPC Exchange programme (GEP)	8 500	8 500	6 800
EPA Leadership Academy	12 000	12 000	1 200
Publications and surveys	4 000	4 000	83
Partnerships	36 250	37 750	37 204
Presidential Projects	20 900	23 100	11 981
EPA-UEMS - European Board Exam	70 000	70 000	23 128
TRUSTING Project (EU)	18 000	18 000	8 147
PSYPAL Project (EU)	24 800	24 800	10 343
COMET Project (EU)	5 921	5 921	617
VBT Project (EU)	20 000	20 000	7 865
GAMIAN-EPA Project: Digital MH for Schizophrenia	7 500	15 000	15 000
Prizes	20 000	20 000	20 000
Corporate communication	20 000	20 000	17 385
Membership costs	4 500	4 500	2 619
European Psychiatry journal costs	21 050	21 050	19 051
Other direct charges (Taxes)	7 500	7 500	103 138
Office charges	32 400	32 400	29 047
Office salaries total incl. President's assistant	685 900	685 900	617 846
Training for staff	5 000	5 000	5 129
INCOME TOTAL	<b>1 217 517</b> 993 503	1 228 717	1 <b>028 947</b> 1 334 636
		1324 646	
EXPENSES TOTAL	1 217 517	1 228 717	1 028 947
	-224 014	95 929	305 689





## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Geert Dom, Belgium (President)
Peter Falkai, Germany (Past President)
Andrea Fiorillo, Italy (President Elect)
Julian Beezhold, United Kingdom
(Secretary General)
Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Croatia (Treasurer)
Bernardo Carpiniello, Italy
(Council of NPAs Chair)
Cécile Hanon, France
(Secretary for Education)
Jerzy Samochowiec, Poland
(Secretary for Sections)

### **BOARD**

Geert Dom, Belgium (Chair) Julian Beezhold, *United Kingdom* Bernardo Carpiniello, Italy Philippe Courtet, *France* André Decraene, Belgium Livia De Picker, Belgium Peter Falkai, Germany Andrea Fiorillo, *Italy* Tomasz Gondek, Poland Cécile Hanon, France Péter Kéri, Hungary Tamas Kurimay, Hungary Lars Lien, Norway Pavel Mohr, Czech Republic Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Croatia Jerzy Samochowiec, Poland Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany Simavi Vahip. Türkive Umberto Volpe, *Italy* 

### PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Livia De Picker, Belgium (Chair)
Kristina Adorjan, Germany (Co-Chair)
Marisa Casanova-Dias, United Kingdom
Egor Chumakov, Russia (ECP representative)
Sophia Frangou, United States of America
(Editor)
Tamas Kurimay, Hungary
Pavel Mohr, Czech Republic
Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany
Umberto Volpe, Italy
Jan Wise, United Kingdom

### **EDUCATION**

Cécile Hanon, France (Chair)
Nikolina Jovanovic, United Kingdom
Jorge López-Castromán, Spain
Livia de Picker, Belgium
Andrea Raballo, Italy
Norman Sartorius, Switzerland
Liene Sile, Latvia
George Stercu, Romania
Umberto Volpe, Italy

### **ETHICS**

Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany (Chair) Sofie Bäärnhielm, Sweden Eka Chkonia, Georgia Luis António Duarte Madeira, Portugal Silvana Galderisi, Italy Mariana Pinto da Costa, United Kingdom Thomas Pollmächer, Germany Jerzy Samochowiec, Poland Sam Tyano, Israel Simavi Vahip, Türkiye

### EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS COMMITTEE

Tomasz Gondek, *Poland (Chair)* Egor Chumakov, *Russia (Co-Chair)* Federico Mucci, *Italy* Gaia Sampogna, *Italy* Asilay Seker, *United Kingdom* 

### STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF NPAs

Bernardo Carpiniello, *Italy (Chair)* Eka Chkonia, *Georgia (Vice-chair)* Koray Basar, *Türkiye (Secretary)* 



### TASK FORCE **MEMBERS**

### **PRESIDENTIAL** TASK FORCES

### TASK FORCE ON URBANISATION **AND MENTAL HEALTH**

Geert Dom (Chair)

Kristina Adorjan

Julian Beezhold

Victor Buwalda

Jonathan Campion

Philippe Courtet

Marianne Destoop

Peter Falkai

Fabian Kraxner

Błażej Misiak

Meryam Schouler-Ocak

Umberto Volpe

### TASK FORCE ON FINANCIAL SUS-**TAINABILITY**

Julian Beezhold

**Geert Dom** 

Peter Falkai

Andrea Fiorillo

Martina Rojnic Kuzman

Simone De Ioanna

### **TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

Geert Dom (Chair)

Kristina Adorjan

Kirsten Catthoor

Eka Chkonia

Peter Falkai

Andrea Fiorillo

Tomasz Gondek

Andreas Heinz

Jurjen Luykx

Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg

Jessica Newberry Le Vay

Martina Rojnic

### **TASK FORCE ON PSYCHEDELIC USE IN PSYCHIATRY**

Geert Dom (Chair)

Florence Butlen

Livia De Picker

Marianne Destoop

Peter Falkai

Andrea Fiorillo

Peter Kéri

Kim Kuypers Pavel Mohr

**David Nutt** 

Jerzy Samochowiec

### **GENERAL** TASK FORCES

### **TASK FORCE ON EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED SUICIDE**

Geert Dom (Chair) Bernardo Carpiniello Kirsten Catthoor Philippe Courtet

Cécile Hanon

Olivia Kalinowski

Lars Lien

Radboud Marijnissen

Pavel Mohr

Meryam Schouler-Ocak

Jan Wise

#### TASK FORCE ON RACIAL **DISCRIMINATION** AND MENTAL HEALTH

Meryam Schouler-Ocak (Chair)

Felicia Boma Lazaridou

Helen Bennett

Geert Dom

Tomasz Gondek

Pavel Mohr

Asilav Seker

Agata Todzia-Kornaś

#### TASK FORCE ON MIGRATION AND MENTAL HEALTH

Meryam Schouler-Ocak (Chair)

Tamer Aker

Dinesh Bhugra

Sofie Bäärhielm

**Egor Chumakov** 

Ilaria Tarricone Jerzy Samochowiec

Apostolos Veizis

Kristina Adorjan

### TASK FORCES (SECTIONS & NPAS)

#### TASK FORCE ON SECTIONS

Objective: To harmonise Sections' activities, to increase interaction between Sections as well as between Sections and NPAs, to develop interaction with ECPs, and to improve the involvement of Sections in EPA activities, including the visibility of Sections at the European Congress of Psychiatry.

Martina Rojnić Kuzman, Croatia (Chair)

Egor Chumakov, Russia

Andrea Fiorillo, Italy

Nadja Marić Bojović, Serbia

Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany

Agata Szulc, Poland

Umberto Volpe, Italy

Angelika Wieck, United Kingdom

### **TASK FORCE ON EPA-NPA REFORM**

Koray Basar, Türkiye Julian Beezhold, United Kingdom

Bernardo Carpiniello, Italy Eka Chkonia, Georgia

Geert Dom, Belgium

Peter Falkai, Hungary

Andrea Fiorillo, Italy

Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Croatia Jerzy Samochowiec, Poland

### **EARLY CAREER PSYCHIATRISTS** (ECP TASK FORCES)

### **ECP TASK FORCE ON MEETINGS** AND ASSOCIATIONS

Objective: To organise meetings and promote activities relevant for European

Early Career Psychiatrists.

Federico Mucci, Italy (Chair)

Kezban Burcu Avanoğlu, Türkiye Emre Cem Esen, Türkiye

Maria Filip, Poland

Sundar Gnanavel, United Kingdom

Jamila Ismayilova, *Azerbaijan* 

Theodoros Koutsomitros, Greece

Matilda Naesström, Sweden

#### **ECP TASK FORCE ON RESEARCH**

Objective: To involve Early Career Psychiatrists across Europe in research projects related to educational aspects and career opportunities.

Gaia Sampogna, Italy (Chair)

Marton Asztalos, Denmark

Dorottya Őri, Hungary

Victor Pereira Sanchez, Spain

Diego Quattrone, United Kingdom Ekin Snmez, Türkiye

Anna Szczegielniak. Poland

Renato de Filippis, Italy

### **ECP TASK FORCE ON COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICATIONS**

Objective: To improve the visibility of publications by Early Career Psychiatrists.

Egor Chumakov, Russia (Chair)

Gamze Erzin, Türkiye

Laura Fusar-Poli, Italy

David Gurrea Salas, Switzerland

Alena Leonova. Russia

Laura Orsolini, Italy

Georgios Schoretsanitis, Greece

Robertas Strumila, France

Kirill Vasilchenko, Russia **ECP TASK FORCE ON** 

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Objective: To improve training needs and identify key areas for action in career advancement for Early Career Psychiatrists.

Asilay Seker, United Kingdom (Chair)

Raul Felipe Palma Alvarez, Spain Irvna Frankova. Ukraine

Yuriy Osadshi, Russia

Ilaria Riboldi, Italy

Khrystyna Shalak, Ukraine Nikola Žaja, Croatia



# **EPA ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

### EPA ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

### PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

#### **MARCH**

7 Mar - EBC Brain Awareness Week 2024 event, "The brain and mental health in Europe", European Parliament (Brussels, Belgium)

14-15 Mar - Swedish Psychiatry Congress (Stockholm, Sweden)

#### **APRIL**

6-9 Apr - 32nd European Congress of Psychiatry (Budapest, Hungary) 16-17 Apr - EMA multi-stakeholder workshop on psychedelics — Towards an EU regulatory framework (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

#### **JUNE**

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

28 Jun - Global MH Leadership Exchange (Utrecht, The Netherlands)

### JULY

29 Jun to 2 Jul — Congress of the European Academy of Neurology (Helsinki, Finland)

1 Jul - Meeting with European Academy of Neurology's leadership (Helsinki, Finland)

16 Jul - Meeting with the European Association Geriatric Psychiatry's leadership (Online)

#### **SEPTEMBER**

17-19 Sep – JA ImpleMENTAL Final Conference (Athens, Greece)

### **OCTOBER**

10 Oct - 10th Annual Ukrainian Psychiatric Association International Conference (Online)

#### **NOVEMBER**

5-6 Nov - Opening of the 120th Anniversary of the Department of Psychiatry of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Munich, Germany)

13-14 Nov - Brain Innovation Days (Brussels, Belgium)

18 Nov - WHO strategic meeting with the Polish Ministry of Health - Mental Health Leadership and the Health Insurance Fund (Warsaw, Poland)

27 Nov - EMA CHESSMEN Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Shortages of Medicine (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

#### **DECEMBER**

5 Dec - GAMIAN-Europe Workshop, "Collaborate on Schizophrenia & Digital Mental Health" (Online)

9-10 Dec – Conference, "Towards a strengthened European cooperation in Brain health research conference under the Hungarian presidency of the Council of the European Union" (Online)

11 Dec - European Alcohol Health Alliance Symposium (Copenhagen, Denmark)

19 Dec - Brain Health Mission Forum (Online)

### **EPA INTERNAL ACTIVITIES**

#### **FEBRUARY**

1 Feb - Committee on Ethics meeting (online)

5 Feb – Publication Committee meeting (online)

15 Feb – Executive Committee meeting (online)

22 Feb – EPA Board meeting (online)

#### **APRIL**

5 Apr – Executive Committee meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

5 Apr – EPA Board meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

6 Apr – Council of NPAs meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

7 Apr – Early Career Psychiatrists Committee meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

7 Apr – Publication Committee meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

8 Apr – Committee on Education meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

8 Apr – Committee on Ethics meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

8 Apr – Section Coordination meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

#### **MAY**

24 May – European Congress of Psychiatry Madrid 2025 – 2nd Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) meeting (online)

#### **JUNE**

21 Jun – Executive Committee meeting (online)

27 Jun – Committee on Ethics meeting (online)

### JULY

18 Jul – European Congress of Psychiatry, Madrid 2025, 2nd Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) meeting (online)

#### **SEPTEMBER**

4 Sep – Publication Committee meeting (online)

12-15 Sep – EPA Summer School

27 Sep – Executive Committee meeting (online)

#### **OCTOBER**

4 Oct – Early Career Psychiatrists Committee meeting (Strasbourg, France)

18 Oct - Committee on Ethics meeting (Brussels, Belgium)

#### **NOVEMBER**

13 Nov – Executive Committee meeting (online)

19 Nov – EPA Board meeting (online)

22-23 Nov – Committee on Education meeting (Paris, France)

26 Nov – European Congress of Psychiatry Madrid 2025 – 3rd Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) meeting (online)

#### **DECEMBER**

9 Dec - Council of NPAs meeting (online)

### EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

**ANNUAL REPORT 2024** 

#### **EPA ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

#### **EPA Administrative Office**

Executive Director:

Simone De Ioanna (from March 2024)

Director of Governance and Administration:

Katie Luck (until August 2024)
Director of Finance and Operations:

Valérie Allspach-Kiechel

Marketing and Communications Manager: Inès Goetz (until December 2024)

Project Manager for Education, Ethics, ECPC: Sarah Mathern

Project Manager for Governance and Committee Coordination: Coline Godard (from July 2024)

Administrative and Membership Officer: Carole Guillaume

Administrative and Governance Officer: Mélanie Rieder

Junior Project Manager for Congress and Events: Alexandra Hochner (from June 2024)

### **EPA Brussels Office**

Congress and Events Manager:
Michelle Godinho (from August 2024)

Scientific and Policy Officer: Lara Grosso Sategna (until March 2024), Thibaut Le Forsonney (from August 2024)

Administrative & Governance Officer:
Jeanne Demonque (from August 2024 to January 2025)

Junior Project Manager for Congress and Events: Anna Van der Heyden Codina (until June 2024)

The EPA wishes best of luck to departing EPA team members Katie Luck, Inès Goetz, Lara Grosso Sategna, Anna Van der Heyden Codina, and Jeanne Demonque.

### 2024 Annual Report Editors

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