European Mental Health Innovation Summit

Summit Agenda

10:00 – 16:00 CET | 27 January 2027
Renaissance Hotel, Brussels

EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

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Summit Agenda

European Mental Health Innovation Summit Renaissance Hotel, Brussels | Wednesday, 27 January 2027	
10:00 – 10:30	Registration & Networking
10:30 – 11:00	**Session 1** (Speeches): Europe's Mental Health Innovation Challenge
	Opening Speech: **Andrea Fiorillo**, President, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli" Naples **Keynote Speech:** **Ignazio Marino**, Member of the European Parliament (MEP) **Keynote Speech:** **Joanna Drake**, Deputy Director-General: Planet, People and Science for Policy, European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) **Keynote Speech:** **Andreas Reif**, President, European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) & Director of the Clinic for Psychiatry, Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy, University Hospital Frankfurt A series of speeches frame the challenge and set the stage for the Summit: Europe's scientific research advantages are not translated into timely, equitable access to treatments for people with mental and neurological conditions. Speakers will provide insights on the development of an EU Mental Health Strategy, the evolving EU Research and Innovation framework, and the European Mental Health Medicines Innovation Coalition (EU-MIC).
11:00 – 11:45	**Session 2** (Panel): Confronting the Gap between Discovery and Clinical Care
	Panellists: **Andreas Reif**, President, European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) & Director of the Clinic for Psychiatry, Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy, University Hospital Frankfurt [TBC] **Celso Arango**, President Elect, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & President-Elect, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Chair of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Hospital Universitario La Paz

European Academy of Neurology (EAN) [TBC]
European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) [TBC]
Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks-Europe (GAMIAN-Europe) [TBC]

This session examines the evidence behind Europe's innovation gap, the distance between scientific discovery and clinical practice, and its consequences for patients, systems, and society. With the connections between mental and neurological conditions increasingly recognised, it looks at why disciplines must work together, and how patients and clinicians can gather evidence, provide expertise, and meaningfully advocate for mental health innovation.

11:45 – 12:45	Lunch Break
12:45 – 13:30	**Session 3** (Panel): Aiming for Equity & Access to Mental Health Innovation

Panellists:

Eka Chkonia, Chair, Council of National Psychiatric Associations, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Tbilisi State Medical University

Ewa Bałkowiec-Iskra, Chair of the Central Nervous System Working Party (CNSWP) and Vice-Chair of the Scientific Advice Working Party (SAWP), European Medicines Agency (EMA) [TBC]

Geert Dom, Past President, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Professor of Psychiatry, University of Antwerp

Tadeusz Hawrot, Executive Director, Psychedelic Access and Research European Alliance (PAREA)

Moving from problem to solution, this session asks how access to critical medicines and novel treatments can be made more equitable across Europe. It examines the regulatory frameworks and health economics shaping what reaches patients, and the conditions under which innovation can benefit everyone in need of care.

13:30 – 14:15	**Session 4** (Panel): Extending Innovation to the Frontlines of Mental Health Care

Panellists:

Åsa Konradsson-Geuken, President, European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI) & Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Uppsala University

John Francis Leader, Vice-President, European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) & Adjunct Research Fellow, University College Dublin (UCD)

	Koray Başar, Chair Elect, Council of National Psychiatric Associations, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Hacettepe University **Umberto Volpe**, Secretary for Sections, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Professor of Psychiatry, Marche Polytechnic University Moving from labs and clinics into broader care settings and treatment delivery, this session examines mental health innovation from the perspective of everyday life for many people: family and peer care, psychosocial support, digital mental health interventions, and a whole-person health approach.
14:15 – 14:45	Coffee Break
14:45 – 15:30	**Session 5** (Panel): Implementing Innovation across Health Systems and Policy Areas
	Panellists: **Albino Oliveira-Maia,** President-Elect, Portuguese Society for Psychiatry and Mental Health (SPPSM) & Director of Neuropsychiatry, Champalimaud Foundation **Frédéric Destrebecq**, Executive Director, European Brain Council (EBC) & European Brain Foundation (EBF) **Martina Rojnić Kuzman**, Treasurer, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Professor of Psychiatry, University of Zagreb School of Medicine European Heart Network (EHN) [TBC] Bridging the day's discussions and policy outcomes, this session distils them into actionable policy ideas for health systems and care settings. By connecting mental health to other health and policy areas, it tests what is achievable, what is needed for success, and what will feed into the EU Mental Health Strategy.
15:30 – 16:00	**Session 6** (Speeches): A European Commitment for Mental Health Innovation
	Keynote Speech: **Ledia Lazëri**, Regional Adviser for Mental Health, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe [TBC] **Keynote Speech:** Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (SANTE) [TBC] **Keynote Speech:** **Tin Pongrac**, President, Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks-Europe (GAMIAN-Europe) & President, Croatian Suicide Prevention Association

Closing Speech:
Andrea Fiorillo, President, European Psychiatric Association (EPA) & Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli" Naples

The concluding speeches connect the Summit's outcomes to the EU research and health agendas and to civil society advocacy and the MEP Mental Health Intergroup. They frame a European commitment to mental health innovation and look ahead to the **European Mental Health Innovation Roundtable** at the European Parliament in Brussels on 28 January from 09:00-12:00 CET hosted and co-organised with **Romana Jerković**, Member of the European Parliament (MEP) & Vice-Chair, Committee on Public Health (SANT).