

Austria | Belgium | Canada | Finland | France | Germany | Israel | Italy | Latvia | Netherlands | Norway | Poland | Portugal | Romania | Slovakia | Spain | Turkey | UK

## NEURON's partner organisations

The network is coordinated by the Project Management Agency at German Aerospace Centre (DLR-PT) on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany.

-  Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Austria
-  Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium (Flanders)
-  Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS), Belgium (Wallonia)
-  Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS), Canada (Québec)
-  Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Canada
-  Academy of Finland (AKA), Finland
-  National Research Agency (ANR), France
-  Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France
-  Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale (INSERM), France
-  Project Management Agency at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR-PT), Germany
-  Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
-  Chief Scientist Office, Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH), Israel
-  Ministry of Health (MOH), Italy
-  State Education Development Agency (VIAA), Latvia
-  The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), Netherlands
-  The Research Council of Norway (RCN), Norway
-  National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), Poland
-  Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT), Portugal
-  Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research Development & Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Romania
-  Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), Slovakia
-  Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO), Spain
-  National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), Spain
-  The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Turkey
-  Medical Research Council (MRC), UK

## Contacts

### NEURON Secretariat

German Aerospace Center (DLR)  
Project Management Agency in DLR  
Health Research  
Heinrich-Konen-Str. 1  
53227 Bonn, Germany  
Phone: +49 228 3821-1191  
Fax: +49 228 3821-1257  
E-Mail: [info@neuron-eranet.net](mailto:info@neuron-eranet.net)

### For Neuroscience to Society

(Newsletters, video clips and Facebook)  
Dr. Benny Leshem  
CSO-MOH  
Israeli Ministry of Health  
39, Yirmeyahu Street POB 1176  
Jerusalem 91010, Israel  
Phone: +972-2-508-2161  
Fax: +972-2-672-5833  
E-Mail: [bennyleshem@gmail.com](mailto:bennyleshem@gmail.com)



More information can be found on our web page

<http://www.neuron-eranet.eu/index.php>

 Visit us on our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/ERA-Net-NEURON-215819515216747/>

# ERA-NET NEURON



NEURON supports basic, translational and clinical research in the diverse fields of disease-related neuroscience. Ministries and funding organisations across Europe, Israel, Turkey and Canada have joined forces to combat diseases of the brain and the nervous system.



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## Background

Research into the human brain and its diseases is one of the key challenges of the 21st century. Brain disorders have become an increasingly heavy burden on our societies. Not just for those afflicted with the disease, but for their families too, and thus reflect one of the major causes of impaired quality of life. Among the many diseases affecting health, brain disorders generate enormous costs and are a challenge for policy makers and researchers alike. Despite the progress made in understanding the molecular mechanisms of various neurological and psychiatric disorders, research is still far from being able to offer solutions for how to conquer them and the development of curative treatments or prevention strategies has not been, to date, very successful. In many cases the underlying mechanisms are still not properly understood.

Therefore, the ERA-NET NEURON aims to fund research directed at a better understanding of the causes of disease and its progression which could open the way for new or improved routes for diagnosis and therapy. Funded by the European Commission the ERA-NET NEURON coordinates national and regional programmes for disease-related neuroscience research in participant funding organisations across European Member States, associated countries and Canada.

## ERA-NET NEURON main activities

**Funding of research projects** is the core activity of NEURON. Joint transnational calls (JTCs) in the field of disease-related neuroscience are launched annually to attract researchers and small and medium-size enterprises from partnering countries to form multinational consortia to perform joint research projects in basic neuroscience, neurology or psychiatry. Call topics are usually kept broad to cover various aspects of a research field and to allow

for participation of different disciplines in the projects. International peer-review panels assess the research projects and recommend on the funding of the best projects from those applied.

In 2015 a **Strategic Research Agenda**, framing the future scientific focus of NEURON was developed by international experts and published online. The implementation of this framework including the surveyed feedback of professional and patient organisations is a major goal of NEURON in the coming years.

**Scientific workshops** are an important instrument of maintaining a dialogue between programme managers and the scientific community.



Photo: EPNA, 2014

Right to left: NEURON coordinator, PD Dr. Marlies Dörflöcher, Dr. Anai Gonzalez Cordero, the winner of the 2014 EPNA award, Dr. Erkki Raulo, in charge of management of EPNA activity in NEURON.

**The Excellent Paper in Neuroscience Award (EPNA)** addresses early career scientists (ECS) and is one of NEURON's support activities for this particular group. The annual award is bestowed upon the most remarkable and outstanding scientific publications by an ECS in the field of disease-related neurosciences. The award laureates present their work in a designated symposium during an international conference. This offers high visibility to the ECS and to NEURON.



The participants of the NEURON Cofund kick-off: scientists, ministry representatives and project managers of funding agencies. Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in Berlin, Germany, January 2016.

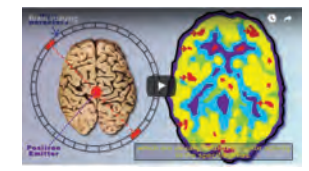
## ERA-NET NEURON outreach activities

Several activities serve to inform programme managers, researchers, lay groups and the broad public.

**The newsletters** summarize relevant events or other activities of NEURON. Targeted to the interested public, topics of the scientific workshops or the research projects funded by NEURON are addressed.



**Educational video clips** focusing on neurological and psychiatric diseases and their treatment options were produced to inform the general public about the research work done in this field. The clips are subtitled in several languages and also accessible via "YouTube".



**The NEURON website** ([www.neuron-eranet.eu](http://www.neuron-eranet.eu)) comprises latest news relevant to NEURON such as the launch of joint calls for research applications, the excellent paper award, interviews and articles as well as background information on past calls and on all participating organizations.

**NEURON's Facebook page** intends to address the science community at large, ECS and the broad public with NEURON's brief news, pictures and links to the newsletters and video clips.

