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A photograph of the European Union flag waving in front of a modern building with a curved facade. The flag is blue with twelve yellow stars arranged in a circle.

28TH EDITION OF THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF PAIN (SIP) NEWSLETTER

Dear Reader,

2020 is in full swing and so is the work of the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP).

Building on the successes of 2019, which marked the SIP platform's tenth anniversary, we will be looking to bring pain policy into the next decade with the support of our European and national platforms.

We are happy to inform you that the [SIP 2019 Symposium Proceedings](#) are now available. More than 70 faculty members have contributed to the publication of the Proceedings booklet which provides a comprehensive documentation on the discussions, outcomes and recommendations from the Symposium and the pre-meetings on 6-7 November 2019 in Brussels.

What has happened in the first weeks of the new year?

At the European Union level, 2020 will be an exciting year. In Brussels, the new Commission is up and running and is beginning to deliver on its key priorities, one of them being the ["Europe's Beating Cancer Plan"](#). SIP is proud to see that the overall objective of the Cancer Plan is to improve prevention, detection, treatment and management of cancer across the EU. It also looks to solve a range of issues including the lack of adequate healthcare models and skills for palliative care and pain management. The inclusion of such wording is the result of the work done by the SIP platform over the past ten years in raising awareness at both the national and European levels.

Besides this, a new delivery mechanism, which will be key to the Plan, is the Mission on Cancer of the new EU research programme Horizon Europe (2021-2027). The Mission will be guided by the [Mission Board for Cancer](#) which is in charge of identifying one or more specific missions for implementation under Horizon Europe and proposing concrete targets and timelines. SIP has often highlighted how EU funding programmes can offer opportunities to foster pain research and share success stories and challenges. For instance, in early January, the European Commission published a dedicated issue on pain ["Why do people develop chronic pain"](#) in ["Horizon, the EU research & Innovation magazine"](#).

2020 kicked off with a [SIP Malta workshop](#) which brought together clinical experts and patient representatives to define the most urgent needs of patients and how to address them with concrete actions. The common objective has been that patient-centred holistic pain care needs to be achieved which will be the focus of the next SIP Malta activities.

Beyond Europe, we would like to inform you that SIP has submitted an abstract to present the [SIP national pain plan results from the survey](#) at the next International Association for the Study of Pain ([IASP](#)) [Congress on pain](#) on 4-8 August in Amsterdam which is the world's largest pain congress. Have a look at the [SIP calendar](#) and let us know if other SIP related meetings should be added.

As you can see, 2020 is on track to be a very interesting year and all these opportunities and challenges were discussed by the SIP Partners (EFIC, PAE, ACN and Grünenthal) in their annual meeting at the end of January. More information and details on the strategy for 2020 will follow in due course.

On behalf of the SIP partners, I wish you a healthy and successful year 2020! We look forward to further collaborations in this exciting year ahead.



Prof. Dr. Bart Morlion

Director of the Multidisciplinary Pain Centre of the University of Leuven, Belgium
President of the European Pain Federation (EFIC)

SIP 2019 Proceedings



SIP 2019 Proceedings now online!

Read the Proceedings from the SIP 2019 Symposium “Bringing pain policy to the next decade” and the pre-meetings which are now available for download.



SIP Malta Workshop - moving from raising awareness to change behaviour.

A group of clinical experts and patients identified what are the most urgent needs of pain patients in Malta and how to address them with concrete actions.



Application to the Second BMP Grant ‘Stop Stigma’ now closed

Several projects have been submitted by end of 2019 which will be evaluated now by the jury. The winners will be made public on 24 June 2020.





Join the SIP endorser community

Check the more than 340 international and national organisations which have endorsed SIP in the past 10 years. Join the SIP community if your organisation is not included yet.



SIP calendar 2020

The SIP calendar provides an overview about relevant national and international meeting and congresses in the area of pain. Please check the calendar and let us know if SIP related meetings are missing.



Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

The new European Commission has started to deliver on its key priorities, one of them being the "Europe's Beating Cancer Plan" which is a good opportunity to bring pain on the political agenda.



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QUESTIONS? NEED SUPPORT? WISH TO ENDORSE OR TO PUBLISH ON SIP PLATFORM?

In case you should have any question regarding the newsletter's contents, please contact Sam Kynman, Executive Director European Pain Federation EFIC sam.kynman@efic.org.

In case you would like to endorse the SIP Platform or to publish news on the SIP Website, please contact Norbert van Rooij (Grünenthal GmbH, Head of Governmental Affairs & Patient Centricity): sip-platform@grunenthal.com

In case you should have any technical questions or need assistance, please contact Dr. Gudula Petersen (Website Editor): sip-platform@grunenthal.com

IMPRINT

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European Pain Federation EFIC®
Rue de Londres 18
1050 Brussels, Belgium

Tel : +32 2 251 55 10
Fax : +32 2 251 48 10

e-mail: secretary@efic.org
www.efic.org

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For further information please click here

Grünenthal GmbH
Governmental Affairs & Patient Centricity

Zieglerstraße 6
52078 Aachen
Deutschland
e-mail: sip-platform@grunenthal.com
www.grunenthal.com

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