

Introduction to the network of National Brain Councils (NBCs)



SRPSKI SAVET ZA MOZAK
SERBIAN BRAIN COUNCIL



Consejo
Español
del Cerebro

Roland Pochet¹, François Mauguière², Pavle Andjus³, Jose-Luis Trejo⁴

¹Belgian Brain Council, Brussels, ²Conseil Français du Cerveau, Paris, ³Serbian Brain Council, Belgrade, ⁴Consejo Español del Cerebro, Madrid

National Brain Councils (NBCs)

are independent and multidisciplinary councils that unite scientific organisations of neuroscientists, psychiatrists, neurologists, neurosurgeons and patients' associations at the national level in order to speak with one strong voice on behalf of the whole of the "brain space".

European Level

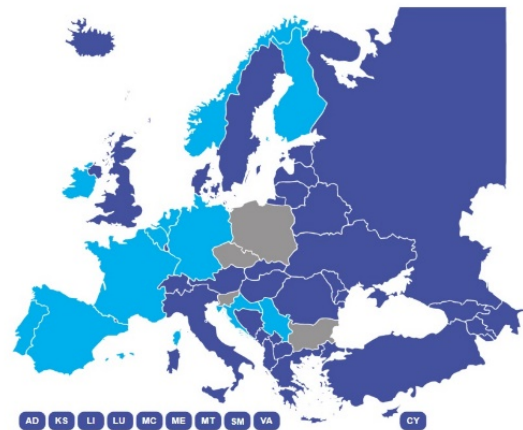
Although independent, the initiatives of NBCs are often aligned with the advocacy of the European Brain Council (EBC). Common goals include promoting brain research, addressing stigma, raising awareness of the disease burden of brain disorders and supporting the development of national strategies on brain research and healthcare.

National Brain Plans

The NBCs work at fostering adoption of National Brain Plans by European governments. A Norwegian National Brain Health Strategy (2018-2024) was launched in December 2017 following extensive advocacy work by the Norwegian Brain Council. Furthermore, July 2019 marked the launch of a Brain Plan for Poland. The authors of this strategy are currently working on ensuring its adoption by Polish officials.

Horizon Europe

NBCs are closely involved in EBC's advocacy on Horizon Europe, the next research and innovation framework programme. The most recent initiatives launched in cooperation with the NBCs focused on the priorities of the first Strategic Plan of Horizon Europe as well as the proposal for the co-funded "Brain Health" partnership.



Academy of NBCs

The Academy Meeting of NBCs, organized on an annual basis, enables all NBCs to meet and align advocacy strategies. The 2019 Academy Meeting, held in Dubrovnik from 9th-10th May, gathered delegates from 15 European countries.

