



Dear Reader,

Between 4-7 September, the 11th Congress of the European Pain Federation EFIC 'PAIN IN EUROPE – BRINGING THE FUTURE TO THE PRESENT' took place in Valencia. It was attended by around 3,500 participants including healthcare professionals, basic researcher patient representatives, industry and others. EFIC 2019 served as a unique opportunity to raise awareness of the impact of pain on society and to share the SIP policy recommendations from the [Joint Statement](#) of the European Commission Thematic Network Program 2018. If you were present, we hope you enjoyed the program and that you will be interested to attend in 2021 in Dublin!

The activities of SIP at EFIC Congress were kicked-off by the [SIP national platforms pre-EFIC workshop](#) on 3 September where for the first time, around 25 representatives of the eight SIP national platforms (Spain, Portugal, France, Malta, Belgium, Netherlands, Finland, Ireland) gathered together to share their experiences and best practices on how to tackle the societal impact of pain at national level. The [SIP Toolkit](#) was also presented, with the aim of helping the work of the newly created national platforms and supporting the creation of future ones. The final version of the SIP Toolkit will be disseminated at the SIP 2019 symposium on 7 November.

[SIP and SIP related topics](#) were present throughout the EFIC Congress in several sessions focusing on

- the need for [political action to change the current paradigm of pain medicine](#)
- [how to build multi-stakeholder platforms](#) to tackle the societal impact of pain at national level
- the link between pain and employment and the need to prevent work-disability
- the implementation of the [WHO 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases](#) (ICD-11).

On this last topic, SIP is currently working to produce concrete policy recommendations that will be presented at the SIP 2019 Symposium and delivered to the upcoming German Presidency of the European Council (July-December 2020).

Further to this, SIP and SIP National Platforms presented several posters showcasing national experiences such as those in [France](#), [Portugal](#) and [Spain](#) and [Malta](#). Other SIP

related topics like the results of the Pain Alliance Europe surveys in [pain and stigma](#), [pain and work life](#) and pain in ICD-11 were on the program as well. To have a complete overview of the SIP activities during the Congress please open the [program](#).

The current focus of our SIP communication activities is on the third of the four key topics of our [SIP Joint Statement](#) Recommendations: “[Pain Education](#)”. Pain Education is central to EFIC’s mission, whether that is providing educational programs for medical professionals or promoting basic education on pain for patients, policy makers and the general public. The SIP Joint Statement provides some basic policy recommendations on pain education for EU stakeholders, taking into account the current availability of education on pain. To know more about our recommendations and our commitments on this topic, please read our [Joint Statement](#) which is also available in many languages.

Further, we want to remind you to [register](#) for the Societal Impact of Pain Symposium on 6-7 November 2019. The program will focus on three main topics:

- How to build on the SIP achievements and notably implement the Joint Statement recommendations
- Sharing best practices from SIP national platforms and beyond
- The future of SIP after its first 10 years

Do not miss the chance to [apply for poster presentation](#) of your SIP related projects and initiatives! Abstracts submission is possible until 27 September!

There will be several pre-SIP meetings on 6 November like the [Brain Mind and Pain \(BMP\) Interest Group](#) meeting in the European Parliament or the [Pain Alliance Europe workshop about Pain and Stigma](#). Please check the program and [register](#) for the SIP 2019 event.

To know more about international and national SIP related conferences and events that will take place in 2019, please consult the [SIP calendar](#).

Looking forward to welcoming you at SIP 2019 in Brussels!



Prof. Dr. Bart Morlion

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



[SIP@EFIC congress](#)

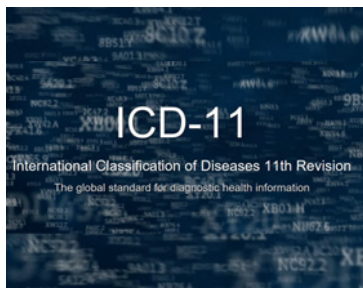
SIP and SIP related topics were present throughout the EFIC Congress and demonstrating the need for political action to change the current paradigm of pain medicine.



[How to build SIP national platforms?](#)

SIP national representatives came together for the first time to share their experiences and best practices how to build sustainable SIP national platforms.





Implementation of the WHO 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11)

With the inclusion of chronic pain in the new ICD-11 a giant step has been taken. SIP is very active to produce concrete policy recommendations that will be presented at the SIP 2019 Symposium.



SIP 2019 Symposium – register now and apply for poster presentation!

In the year of its 10th Anniversary the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) platform is organising the eight International Symposium on 6-7 November 2019 in Brussels. Check the program and apply for a poster presentation until September 27th.



Pain and Stigma - join the PAE workshop!

Results from the Pain Alliance Europe (PAE)'s 2019 survey show the significant problem of stigma in the area of pain. Submit your proposals for the Brain Mind and Pain (BMP) grant on this theme and join the workshop on 6 November.



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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

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