



Photo: ECNP/Tobias Koch

## REPORT

**Stichting 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress 2025**

## **CONTENT**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Committees</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Aim and congress activities</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Finance</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>General information</b>	<b>12</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The Foundation 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress was established on 14 Januari 2025.

The objective of the Foundation is to obtain funds for the benefit of the ECNP Research and Scholarship Foundation (ECNP R&S), whose goal is to promote and maximise research in the field of neuropsychopharmacology. ECNP R&S is a Dutch public interest serving entity (ANBI).

The Foundation achieves its objective by organising the international congress named "40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress".

The Foundation does not aim to make a profit. A net operating surplus, if any at all, will be transferred to ECNP R&S. Any shortfall will be covered by ECNP R&S.

The members of the board do not receive remuneration for their role.

This report will give you an outline of the activities related to the organisation of the congress.

We hope you will enjoy reading this report and for any comments or questions please contact us at [congress2027@ecnp.eu](mailto:congress2027@ecnp.eu).

Alexander Schubert  
Secretary, Foundation 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress  
April 2025

## COMMITTEES

### **Board of the Foundation 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress**

Andreas Reif, Germany, *Chair*

Brenda Penninx, The Netherlands, *Treasurer*

Alexander Schubert, The Netherlands, *Secretary*

### **Scientific Programme Committee**

Barbara Franke, The Netherlands, *Chair*

## AIM AND CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

The aim of the ECNP Congress is to bring together people from disciplines across the spectrum of applied and translational neuroscience to network, exchange ideas and to advance the science of the brain, promote better treatment and enhance brain health.

To fulfil this aim, a variety special activities and sessions will be organised.

### Keynote Lecture (KL)

80 minutes (including welcome speech and ECNP Award hand-overs); livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants.

Opening with a welcome by the ECNP President, the Keynote Lecture is given by a world-renowned speaker and formally launches the ECNP scientific programme. All participants are invited to join it.

### Plenary Lectures (PL)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

The six Plenary Lectures at the ECNP Congress are given by internationally-recognised eminent scientists and are the backbone of the scientific programme. Two of the six lectures are given by the 2027 ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award winner and by a Brain Prize Winner.

## Symposia and other presentations

### Symposia (S)

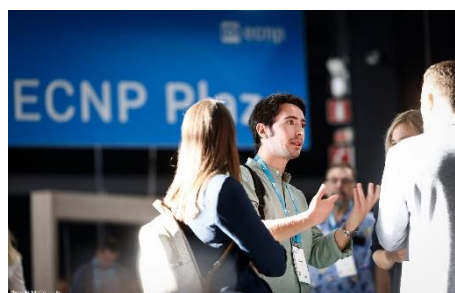
80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

In these traditional ECNP Symposia, four top experts on a specific topic – led by a chair – map out the state of the field and present their most recent findings. Each speaker has 15 minutes to present their data followed by Q&A. Questions can be from in-person and online participants.

### Breaking Hot Topic Symposium (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The Breaking Hot Topic Symposium offers an opportunity to present and discuss the timeliest science during a short talk. Speakers are selected by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) from open submission.



### New Findings in Applied Neuroscience (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

This is a special symposium that gives six promising Early Career Scientists – selected from the best research presented at the ECNP Workshop for Early Career Scientists in Europe – the opportunity to present their latest findings. Each lecture ends with Q&A time. Questions can be from in-person and online participants.

### Novel Therapies Symposium (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

The Novel Therapies Symposium is a special symposium dedicated to clinical trials of new compounds, including proof of concept and post-marketing studies, using data from human trials, especially phase II and III trials. It also provides the opportunity for studies using new medical devices, e.g. neurostimulation technologies. The selected speakers – led by a chair – present their data during a short presentation followed by Q&A. Questions can be from in-person and online participants.

### Career Development Sessions (CD)

45 minutes; available for in-person and virtual participants

The Career Development Sessions are training sessions with a leading expert in the field. The topics of these sessions focus on building your scientific career – writing scientific papers, improving presentation skills, creating a spin-off company or finding a job in the industry are just a few examples. Designed especially for Early Career Scientists these sessions conclude with an interactive Q&A segment.

### Love Your Brain Sessions (LB)

30 minutes; only available for in-person and virtual participants

These sessions – each led by a single speaker– focus on the importance of prevention of brain disorders and promotion of mental health through a healthy and brain-friendly lifestyle. These sessions will explore neuroscience from a different perspective! The presentation of the speaker is followed by a short Q&A time.

### Top Paper Sessions (TP)

30 minutes; only available for in-person and virtual participants

During the Top Paper Sessions, distinguished speakers present and discuss four papers published during the last year, which they consider clinically most important and cutting-edge in their discipline. These sessions are a great way to get up-to-speed with the latest developments in research.

## Interactive sessions

### Campfire Sessions (CA)



45 minutes; only available for in-person participants

The Campfire Sessions allow maximum interaction between experts and participants on a specific topic. In these unique sessions, participants gather in a circle – as if around a campfire – without slides or screens. The expert, supported by a moderator, introduces the topic before opening the floor for an engaging, interactive conversation.

The campfire format provides a perfect opportunity to ask your burning questions directly to a leading expert. Limited

to a maximum of 80 participants, Campfire Sessions operate on a 'first come, first served' basis. .

### Educational Update Sessions (EDU)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

These interactive sessions are designed to provide an educational update with an emphasis on new information relevant for clinical practice. During their talks, the speakers engage the participants repeatedly by inviting them to take part in multiple interactive polls on the presented topics. Questions to speakers can be asked from in-person and online participants, using the Slido automated system.

## Poster Sessions



### Poster (P) and ePoster Sessions (EP)

*Poster Sessions (P)*: available for in-person participants in the poster area. The abstracts accepted for in-person presentation will be presented by means of a paper poster.

*ePoster Sessions (EP)*: available for in-person and virtual participants.

All posters from accepted abstracts are also available via the congress platform as ePosters, starting from the first day of the congress.



## Innovative Sessions

### **ALBA Network Diversity & Inclusion Session (AL)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The general goal of this session is to raise awareness of gender and diversity issues in brain sciences and to disseminate positive practices countering discrimination.

### **ECNP's Got Talent – a contest in Storytelling (T)**

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

For this innovative format, ECNP challenges four Early Career Scientists to explain their research to a lay public audience. The contest is not about what you present, but how you present – 'storytelling' and 'engagement' are key concepts. Their performances will be evaluated by a jury and the best one will receive an award.

### **ECNP Inspired Sessions - The stories behind the researcher and the research (EI)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

'Inspiration' can be defined as an event that reveals a new truth to our mind, guiding us to new acts or a new perspective about our life and work. The ECNP Inspired Session gives the stage to speakers that will inspire you by giving a short talk on their experiences as researchers and clinicians.

### **Neuroscience-based Nomenclature Session (NS)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

The Neuroscience-based Nomenclature (NbN) is a pharmacologically driven nomenclature for medications with CNS indications, and updated continuously. It is a result from an unprecedented collaboration between the five leading CNS pharmacological organisations: ECNP, CINP, ACNP, AsCNP and IUPHAR. During this session, presenters from the NbN taskforce will present how the NbN has been developed and illustrate how to use it.

### **New Frontiers Session (OS)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

A session dedicated to the outputs of the 'ECNP New Frontiers Meeting' held that year in March.

### **Panel discussions (PD)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

Panel discussions host a selected group of panellists who discuss and share differing perspectives about a specific topic. A moderator will guide the panel and the audience through the session. The discussants will offer opinions and respond to audience questions either through questions curated by the moderator or taken from the in-person and online participants.

### **Patient Session (ES)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

ECNP is committed to ensuring that advances in the understanding of the brain are translated into better treatments and enhanced public health. Hence, one of the goals of ECNP is to facilitate the dialogue between researchers, regulators, government bodies, and patients. As such, each year the Congress organises and hosts this session with patient organisations, on a specific topic.

### **Regulatory Spotlight Session (RS)**

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and online participants

This is a special regulatory dialogue session with the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Designed for open and active engagement amongst EMA stakeholders, the session is an excellent opportunity for scientific and regulatory exchange.

## Industry Sessions

These industry sessions are organised with financial support from industry partners and are reviewed for balance and rigour by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC).

### Industry Satellite Symposia (ISS)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These industry sessions are scientifically oriented and have a well-balanced programme (e.g. not concentrating on one specific medication). The programmes are not organised in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

### Industry Mini Sessions (IMS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These scientifically oriented mini sessions have a well-balanced programme and are not organised in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

### Industry Interactive Discussions (IID)

30 minutes; not-livestreamed; available for in-person participants only.

These interactive sessions offer the opportunity to move from commercial oriented exposure to more focused, scientifically driven engagement with the in-person participants. This format allows for close interaction with participants on a specific topic. After a short introduction by the expert(s), the session is focuses on interactive discussion with the audience. The programmes take place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

### Industry Product Theatre (IPT)

30 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These high-value sessions provide a podium for industry to present to participants on a broad range of issues, including new treatment approaches, medical devices, digital health apps, the uses of specific medications, clinical insights, innovative services and product demonstrations. The programmes take place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

### Industry Case Study (ICS)

30 minutes; not-livestreamed; available for in-person participants only.

These interactive sessions provide participants with the opportunity to discuss the application of medicines, devices, and/or treatment strategies in real-world clinical settings. After a short introduction, the session focuses on interactive discussion and problem solving with the industry expert(s). The programmes take place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

## Exhibition

An exhibition will be organised during the congress days..



## **TIMELINE**

### **2025**

The foundation will request the approval of the Dutch tax authorities to become a public interest serving Dutch entity (ANBI).

Stichting Buro ECNP based in Utrecht, the Netherlands, is charged with the organisation of the congress.

Registration with the tax authorities in the Netherlands will be completed.

In Autumn 2025 information will be available on the congress website and a call for symposia and educational update session and case study proposals will be sent out.

A bank account will be opened in the name of the 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress at the ABN AMRO bank. A deposit amount will be transferred from ECNP R&S to the 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress as income for the Foundation from registration fees and industry support will not start until January 2025.

The contract with the venue will be signed.

### **2026**

A site visit will be planned to start negotiations with the venue suppliers and other suppliers.

The annual accounts of 2025 will be prepared and finalised.

Work on the budget of the 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress will start and registration fees will be set.

The deadline for programme proposals is in March and in April the first meeting of the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) will be held at Schiphol Airport to review the programme suggestions received and to make the first draft of the scientific programme.

In June the second and third meeting of the SPC through Zoom will take place and the scientific programme will be finalised and reviewed by the members of the Scientific Advisory Panels (SAPs). At the end of September invitations to speakers will be sent out.

In autumn, the Industry Guidelines, with the request for support will be sent out with deadline of application of industry sessions and exhibition space 15 January 2027. Remaining space of the exhibition can be applied for until 1 July 2027.

It is foreseen that in December the chairs of the sessions will be invited.

### **2027**

The annual accounts of 2026 will be prepared and finalised.

In January 2027 registration will be opened and it will be possible for scientists to submit an abstract for poster presentations.

In March the programmes of the industry sessions will be approved and allocated to time slots. CME accreditation will be requested for the scientific programme.

Logistics will be settled regarding catering, meeting space, AV, IT, exhibition, signage and set-up of the venue. Committee meetings of ECNP will be scheduled and committee members invited.

Promotion for the congress will be arranged at related congresses and every month the ECNP e-news will contain information about the congress. Special e-alerts will be e-mailed to the ECNP database.

In May the submission of abstracts for poster presentations will close and review will be undertaken by the members of the Scientific Advisory Panels. Final decision will be made by the field editor of ENP and the chair of the Scientific Programme Committee before 1 July 2027.

For the best abstracts of European early career scientists ECNP Excellence Awards are given. During the congress the most excellent posters will be rewarded with the ECNP Poster Award.

A second site visit is planned.

The congress will be held in October 2027.

In November the financial and registration administration and procedures with suppliers will be finalised.

## **2028**

The annual accounts of 2027 will be prepared and finalised.

In 2028 finances will be settled and VAT issues finalised. The final account of 40<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress should be finished in first quarter and an audit report will be requested. Before 30 June, any net operation surplus is to be transferred to ECNP R&S.

It is foreseen that by the summer the closing balance can be presented, and the Foundation will be liquidated and deregistered at the chamber of commerce.

## **FINANCE**

### **Board**

The members of the board do not receive remuneration for their role.

### **Secretarial Assistance**

The chair of the Scientific Programme Committee will receive € 6,000 for secretarial assistance.

### **Reimbursement small expenses**

The other members of the Scientific Programme Committee are entitled to request the amount of € 1,000 for the duration of their term on the Scientific Programme Committee. This amount should cover their expenses for ground transportation, lunch, dinner, drinks, etc.

### **Strategy**

The strategy for the coming years can be found in the ECNP R&S report which is also published on [www.ecnp.eu](http://www.ecnp.eu).

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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### RSIN

867485413

### Dutch Chamber of commerce number

96140097

### Dutch TAX number

Not available yet