



EFiC
EUROPEAN PAIN FEDERATION

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL PERIOD: 1ST APRIL 2018 – 31ST MARCH 2019

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1 - PEOPLE

1.1 - EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Bart Morlion
Vice President	Chris Wells
Honorary Treasurer	Elon Eisenberg
Honorary Secretary	Silviu Brill
Member-at-Large	Magdalena Koçot Kepska
Member-at-Large	Thomas Tölle

1.2 - COUNCIL

Albania	Apostol Vaso	Lithuania	Arunas Sciupokas
Austria	Rudolf Likar	Moldova	Adrian Belii
Belgium	Olivier De Coster	Norway	Astrid Woodhouse
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Amira Karkin Tais	Poland	Andrzej Basinski
Bulgaria	Atanas Temelkov	Portugal	Duarte Correia
Croatia	Ivan Rados	Romania	Adriana Sarah Nica
Czech Republic	Richard Rokyta	Russia	Maxim Churyukanov
Denmark	Thomas Graven-Nielsen	San Marino	Daniele Battelli
Estonia	Kaire Pakkonen	Serbia	Snezana Tomasevic Todorovic
Finland	Nora Hagelberg	Slovakia	Marta Kulichova
France	Pierrick Poisbeau	Slovenia	Nevenka Krčevski Škvarč
Germany	Martin Schmelz	Spain	Victor Mayoral Rajols
Greece	Emmanuel Anastassiou	Sweden	Anna Bjarnegård
Hungary	László Vécsei	Switzerland	Marie Besson
Ireland	Laserina O'Connor	The Netherlands	Michiel Reneman
Israel	Elyad Davidson	Turkey	Süleyman Ozyalçin
Italy	Caterina Aurilio	United Kingdom	Arun Bhaskar
Kosovo	Adem Bytyqi	Ukraine	Volodymyr Romanenko
Latvia	Mihails Arons		

1.3 - EXECUTIVE OFFICE TEAM

Executive Director	Sam Kynman
External Relations Manager	Vittoria Carraro
Executive Secretary	Christel Geevels
Congress Manager	Inbar Caspi
Congress Operations and Scientific Programme Manager	Jennifer Simon
Congress Industry Liaison Manager	Maya Ravinsky

1.4 - INTRODUCTION

Dear friends,

It is a pleasure to address you in our second annual report and after two years as President of the European Pain Federation EFIC®. At this point, we are two thirds of the way through my term as President, and therefore it is important to take stock of what progress has been made so far. I hope that our mission to be 'on the move' has been a success.

After two years, I believe the organisation is stronger, and our impact on pain medicine is growing. We have many achievements to be proud of, some of which I will list below. I hope that I can pass the baton over to Brona Fullen, safe in the knowledge that we are moving in the right direction. I am delighted that our next President will be both our first female President as well as our first physiotherapist. Interprofessional and multimodal pain management is central to our approach to pain and indeed has been reinforced within each of our ongoing educational projects. Electing a physiotherapist to lead EFIC is the clearest sign that we value the role of all professions relevant to pain.

Keeping to the subject of physical activity, you will hopefully have seen in Valencia the clearest manifestation of our 'on the move' campaign, promoting the importance of physical activity in the prevention of chronic pain. We had congress sessions on the subject, along with a few creative campaign ideas to reinforce the message with congress delegates. Exercise should be prescribed by clinicians and as a society we should be doing more to stay 'on the move' to avoid increased incidences of chronic pain. I hope you will join us in pushing this message out.



Bart Morlion
President



EFIC Council 2019, Valencia

2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.1 - ORGANISATIONAL CHANGES

We have undergone a few organisational changes since the 2018 Council meeting. Following Brona's election as our next President, a gap was left for the role of Honorary Secretary.

Silviu Brill was elected and has served in this role, guiding our Executive Board agendas. Chris Eccleston stood down as Research Committee Chair, with that role being taken by Gisele Pickering since January 2019. As such, we have unfortunately had a slow-down in activities in this area, though with some notable successes.

Supporting two of our Committee chairs, we have created the roles of Vice Chair for the Education and Advocacy Committees respectively. Morten Høgh from Denmark deputises for Andreas Kopf on the Education Committee, directing the work of a few Working Groups. Paul Cameron from Scotland deputises for Thomas Tölle on the Advocacy Committee and will work with our office to manage EFIC's various advocacy campaigns and priorities.

We have created two new Working Groups in the Research Committee, focusing on Geriatrics and Paediatric populations. These will exist as rolling Working Groups, rather than temporary Task Forces.

Very soon we will also have a new Chair of the Research Committee Clinical Affairs Working Group, with Nanna Finnerup standing down. Otherwise our structure remains largely the same and has functioned very well over the last year.

Over the last 2 years the number of female colleagues in leadership positions in EFIC has increased substantially, and I look forward to Eija Kalso joining the Executive Board as a co-opted member, serving as Scientific Programme Committee chair for our 2021 congress.

2.2 - TEAM CHANGES

The team established last year remains in place, including the recruitment of Vittoria Carraro in our Brussels office and the team managing our congress based in Israel.

Their supervision and implementation of our work has been fantastic, and we hope to maintain this team in place for the foreseeable. In addition to the team announced last year, the office is supported by trainees. We have had two trainees on 6-month contracts since January 2019, both focusing primarily on communications activities, but generally supporting all of our activities.

2.3 - OFFICE MOVE

In September 2018 we moved into our new office premises in the heart of the EU quarter in Brussels. The offices were purchased in spring 2018 and have allowed EFIC to diversify its assets.

The location is very attractive and the space very practical, and we can assume the value will steadily increase over the years.

The offices have been used for Executive Board meetings, as well as for Committee and other working meetings.



EFIC Executive Office, Brussels





2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

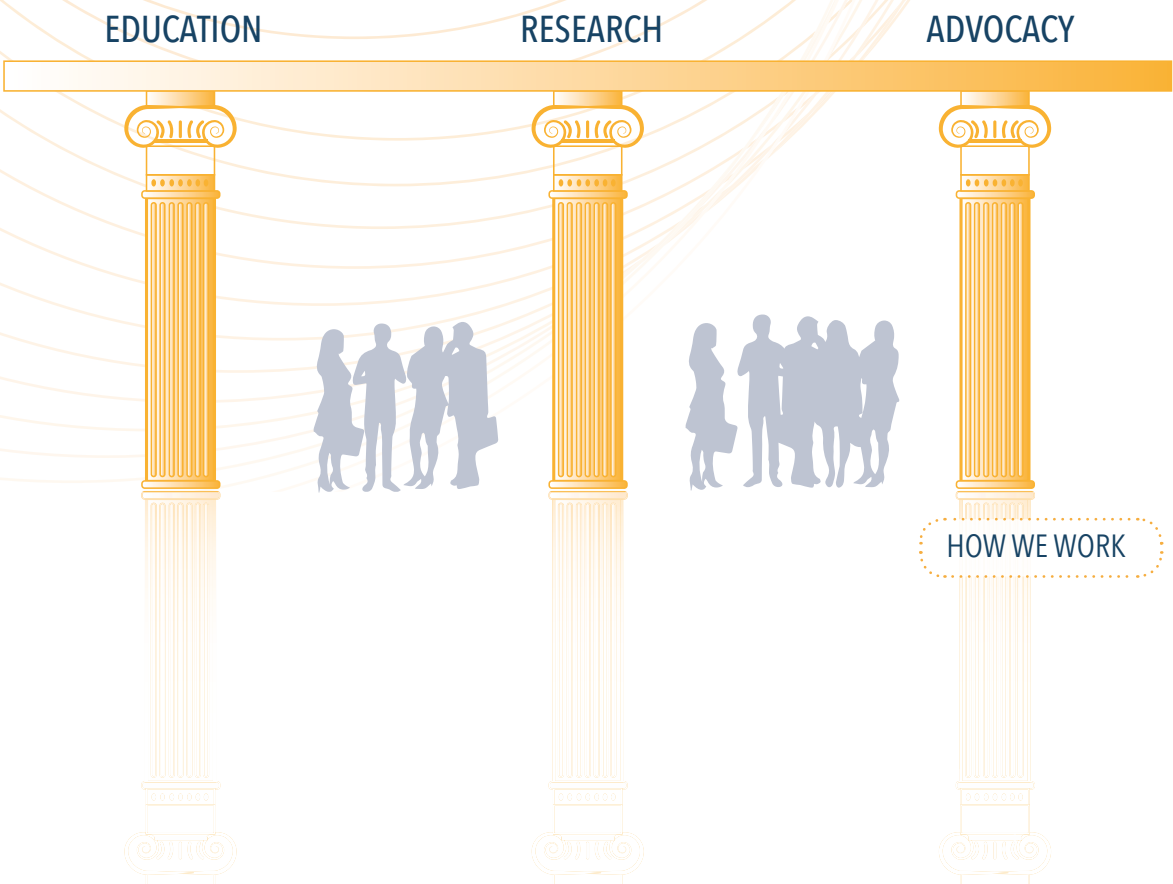
2.4 - KEY PROJECTS

I will allow our Committee chairs to explain their work in more detail, but I would like to draw attention to a few key projects which merit special attention. Firstly, our Examinations, for the European Diplomas in Pain Medicine and Pain Physiotherapy have progressed and matured, with an increasing number of attendees and clearer processes. Launching these Examinations was a major undertaking and potential risk if not done well. I am grateful for Chris Wells' initiative in kicking off these projects and Liam Conroy and Harriet Wittink's stewardship of the first exams in their early stages.

I am delighted to see our two new curricula, for Nurses and Clinical Psychologists, have been published and launched already this year. I would like to thank Emma Briggs and Geert Crombez for their leadership on these projects and their incredible work rate.

In terms of advocacy, two new projects deserve special attention. Firstly, the European Pain Forum has allowed EFIC to develop strong links with other medical societies relevant to the field of pain, including many groups where a relationship did not previously exist.

Thomas Tölle has been the architect of this project and is to be thanked for what are likely to be great rewards in the long-term. I would also like to thank all of those who have worked on the 'On the Move' campaign. It has been a personal priority of mine and I am delighted to see it become a reality.



2.5 - CHALLENGES

It is not a secret that some countries across the world are facing serious problems with irresponsible use of opioid pain killers. Responsibility for these problems has been attributed to many causes, and the scientific community has been one of those groups in the firing line. This has opened up new discussions on the interactions of health care professionals with pharmaceuticals companies.

The EFIC Executive Board is fully aware of these developments and their seriousness. Transparency in our activities and keeping up to date with ethics and compliance practices is crucial to safeguarding our reputation as a scientific organisation.

Our annual reports have been publicly available since 2018 and our Ethics and Transparency Committee will propose new actions to ensure trust in EFIC and our independent voice on all issues of importance in pain.

2.6 - CONGRESS

Our transition to independent management of our own congress has been a success.

We have successfully managed the transition from our previous PCO, and now work with the company KIT, who support our own in-house team logistically. The additional work has been a strain on the team, though with minor teething problems we are coming out of the process much stronger.

We had an increase in abstracts of over 20% since 2017 (over 1100 at the first deadline) and received an increase in attendance of over 25%, reaching almost 3,500 attendees.

We look forward to seeing this success in Valencia, and hope you enjoy the congress with us.

Bart Morlion

President



EFIC Congress 2019, Valencia

2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.7 - ORGANIGRAMME – COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

CO RE COMM ITTEES – WORKING GROUPS & MAN DATES

CONGRESS COMMITTEES – MANDATES

OPERATIONAL
CONGRESS PLANNING, OVERSIGHT OF CONGRESS
FINANCES, DEVELOPMENT OF FRAMEWORK FOR SPC

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME
DEVELOPMENT OF CONGRESS SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM-
ME FRAMEWORK AND COORDINATION OF SESSION
ORGANISERS

LOCAL ORGANISING
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND LOGISTICS ADVICE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**WG - EUROPEAN DIPLOMA IN PAIN
MEDICINE (EDPM) CURRICULUM**
REVISION OF THE EDPM CURRICULUM

WG - UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM
REVISION OF THE UNDERGRADUATE
CURRICULUM

WG - COMMON TRAINING FRAMEWORK
DEVELOPMENT OF CTF

WG - EDPM EXAM
ORGANISATION OF THE EXAM

**WG - EUROPEAN DIPLOMA IN PAIN
PHYSIOTHERAPY (EDPP) EXAM**
ORGANISATION OF THE EXAM

**WG - NURSING & PHYSICIAN
ASSISTANTS CURRICULUM**
DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM

**WG - CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
CURRICULUM**
DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM

WG - PAIN SCHOOLS
COORDINATION OF SCHOOLS PLANNING

WG - PATIENT EDUCATION
DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL TOOLS
FOR PATIENTS

**WG - E-LEARNING EDUCATION
PLATFORM**
DEVELOPMENT OF PLATFORM
SPECIFICATIONS

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

WG - RESEARCH STRATEGY
DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVERARCHING
RESEARCH STRATEGY FOR THE
FEDERATION, TO GUIDE OTHER
PROJECTS

WG - GRANTS AND PRIZES
DECISION-MAKING ON EFIC
ADMINISTERED RESEARCH GRANTS
AND PRIZES

WG - CLINICAL AFFAIRS
OVERSIGHT OF EFIC'S CLINICAL-
FOCUSED TASK FORCES

WG - TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
IDENTIFY GAPS AND PROPOSE
BRIDGES BETWEEN BASIC RESEARCH
AND CLINICAL NEEDS

**WG - COLLABORATION AND
PARTNERSHIPS**
GUIDING THE EFIC ROLE IN
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH
PROJECTS AND IDENTIFYING
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

WG - PAEDIATRIC PAIN
DEVELOPING EFIC PROJECTS
RELEVANT TO THE FIELD OF
PAEDIATRIC PAIN

**WG - GERIATRICS, ELDERLY AND
COMMUNICATION IMPAIRMENT**
DEVELOPING EFIC PROJECTS
RELEVANT TO GERIATRIC, ELDERLY
AND COMMUNICATION IMPAIRED
POPULATIONS.

ADVOCACY & LIAISON COMMITTEE

WG - SOCIAL IMPACT OF PAIN
SIP PLATFORM, COMMISSION EXPERT
GROUP

WG - NETWORKING AND LIAISON
DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH
OTHER SOCIETIES, MOUS

WG - RESEARCH PROMOTION
ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE THE
FEDERATION'S RESEARCH STRATEGY

**WG - EUROPEAN YEAR AGAINST
PAIN (EYAP)**
COORDINATION OF EFIC INPUT IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF EYAP MATERIALS

WG - 'ON THE MOVE'
DEVELOPMENT OF CAMPAIGN MATERIALS
ON PRIMARY PREVENTION AND
MOVEMENT

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES – MANDATES

COMMUNICATIONS
WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER, SOCIAL MEDIA,
CAMPAIGNS, PRESS

EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT
FELLOWSHIPS, CONGRESS FINANCIAL AID,
AD HOC FUNDING REQUESTS

ELECTION NOMINATIONS
EXB ELECTIONS PROCESS

AUDIT
SIGN-OFF ON ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

SUSTAINABILITY AND FUNDRAISING
FUNDRAISING STRATEGY,
FINANCIAL PLANNING CONSULTATION

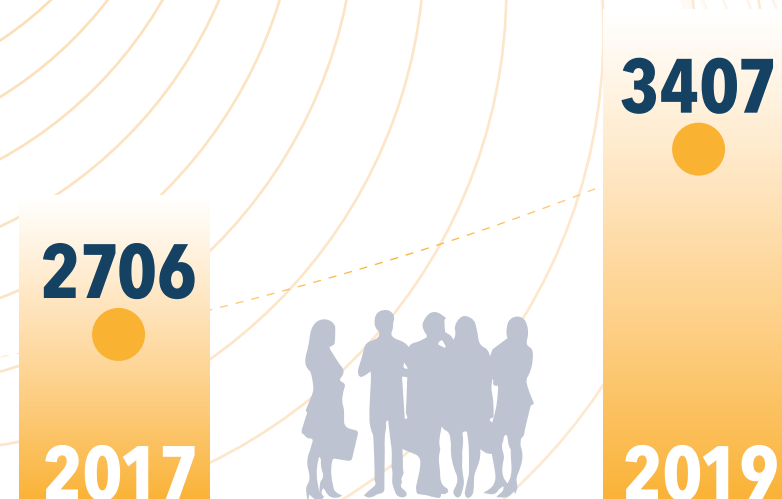
ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY
TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY POLICIES,
AD HOC ADVICE

3 - MAPPING OUR PROGRESS

In order to better understand the impact EFIC has, we have decided to start including in our annual report, a series of performance metrics related to our key projects and objectives. We may expand on these as we go forward, but for now we stick to a few for which we have measurable data:

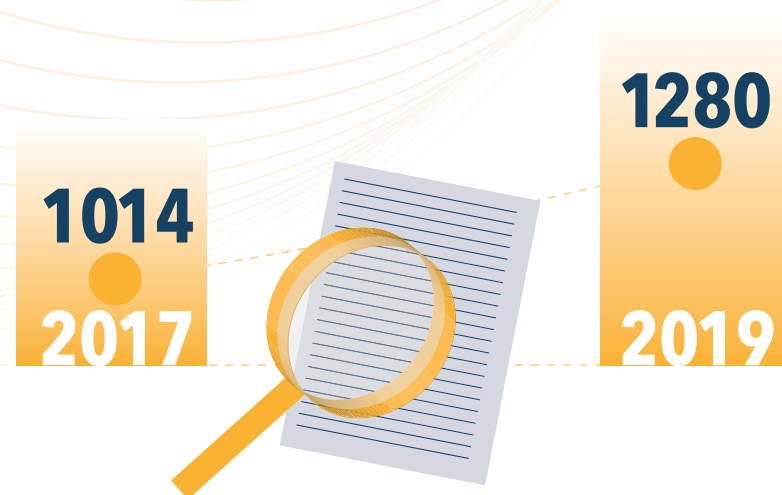
3.1 - CONGRESS ATTENDEES

Over 25% more clinicians and researchers were able to benefit from the scientific and educational content of the EFIC congress, compared to the previous meeting.

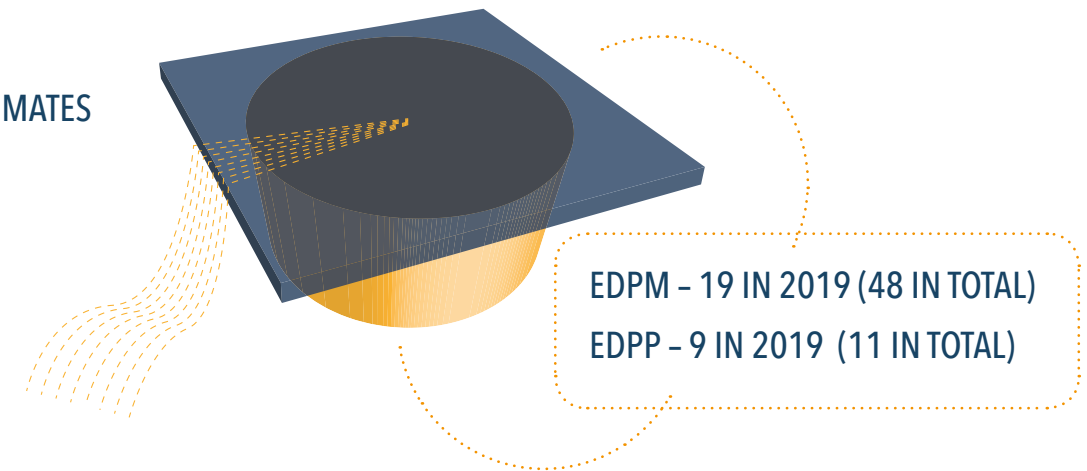


3.2 - ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS

There were 26% more abstracts submitted for presentation at the 2019 congress compared to the previous meeting, suggesting a stronger interest in our meeting amongst the scientific community and a growing pain science environment.

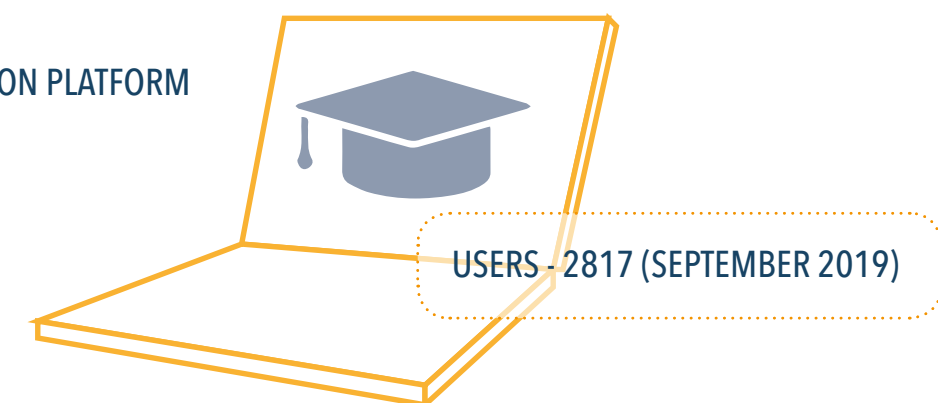


3.3 - DIPLOMATES



48 medical doctors have achieved the European Diploma in Pain Medicine, and 11 physiotherapists have achieved the European Diploma in Pain Physiotherapy meaning EFIC recognise that they have adequate training and knowledge to manage the care of patients with all types of pain. This is tested through our Examinations which cover both knowledge as well as clinical management skills.

3.4 - EDUCATION PLATFORM



Our Education Platform, featuring lectures from leading pain educators, ensuring our educational output is not limited to our congress and pain schools, has over 2,800 users. Average viewing time is over 50% across almost all videos and we have plans to enhance the user experience and grow this further.

3.4 - EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN IMPACT FACTOR



While the European Journal of Pain (EJP) is editorially independent of EFIC, it is our house journal and intrinsically linked to the Federation. The impact factor rose by 0.3 since 2017 and the journal was recently ranked in the top 10 in the anaesthesiology category.

4 - HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

4.1 - ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to serve as Honorary Secretary to the European Pain Federation and to take over from Bróna Fullen who served in this role before her election as our next President.

I was elected only in December 2018, though in the first 9 months we made a number of changes to the organisation of the Federation's work.

Firstly, we have moved ahead with more virtual meetings. We have had full Executive Board meetings that have taken place virtually via the medium of GoToMeeting. This is an excellent service which has allowed for long and discussion-filled meetings without the cost and time required for in-person meetings with multiple flights. We now have the flexibility to discuss and make decisions more frequently whilst keeping our costs low.

The GoToMeeting service is also something we have rolled out across our various Committee and Working Groups to enable our projects to move forward without so many expensive kick-off meetings. Of course, in-person meetings are sometimes needed to launch projects, though with the number of projects we are engaged in, this would be too much of a luxury to allow in every case. We will do more in the coming year to roll out GoToMeeting further and to train all volunteers on how to use it with their groups.

Another major administrative change is the move of the office to the heart of the EU quarter in Brussels. The move was complete in September 2018, and the team are up and running. With the move came a few changes, such as our adaptation to a new Microsoft Office 365 system and cheaper VOIP telephony. The office allows us to save money on meeting rooms for Board meetings, as well as to provide space for special projects such as the European Pain Forum meeting.

A final administrative change to inform you of is the organisation's adaptation to the new EU General Data Protection Regulation. This came into effect in May 2018, though the adaptation to its rules continues to shape our work, especially around our promotional activities and our database.



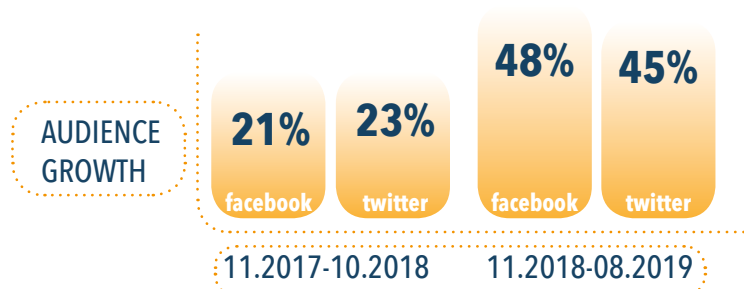
4.2 - COMMUNICATIONS

The Communication team of the European Pain Federation continued building on the effort of rationalisation and coherent branding undertaken in the previous year and stepped up the promotional efforts for our 2019 Congress.

Social media

Coordinated by the External Relations Director, the social media presence of the organisation further grew with the valuable input of communications trainees who supported the implementation of successful social media engagement efforts e.g. on physical activity for pain prevention as part of the 'On the Move' Campaign. In preparation of our Biennial Congress the communication and promotion of our scientific and social programme played a huge role in the increase of our social media presence. This was done with the support of an external consultant curating the organic posting around the congress and creating engaging social media interviews on the scientific content of the EFIC 2019 Congress.

This combined effort, coupled with the increased volume of social media activity due to the approaching congress, resulted in a social media growth twice as big as the period 2017-18 (see table below).



Website

The European Pain Federation launched its new website in January 2019. The website has a more modern look and feel, in line with the visual identity of our organisation. Its structure allows the EFIC team to update it independently from IT providers and web designer in most cases, which increases in-house control of the tool and contributes to the reduction of service fees. The flexibility of the homepage allows for more timely news updates and space to showcase news from partner stakeholders. SEO optimisation of each page enables the site to appear as a key result on Google within relevant searches. SEO updates and rational use of Google ads will be further pursued in 2019-2020.

Newsletters

Along with the quarterly news updates to our community we are making good use of the mass mailing platform Mailchimp to curate our database of healthcare professional contacts.

A major change to our communications was the launch of the European Pain Federation Education Platform. Mailing subscribers with new content formed a big part of our new approach to communications. Another important purpose of mass mailing was targeted promotion of our EDPM and EDPP exams and pain schools. Given the multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder nature of our community, email targeting proved very important to learn more about and how to address their needs in a tailored and more efficient manner, and in turn curate the quality of the information we have about our health care professionals, which is relevant to many other of our activities. This effort paid off as some of our most recent mails received an open rate of 60%. A new Communications Committee has been formed and will evaluate and give further recommendations to our communication strategy. The next task of this Committee will be to produce lay versions of scientific position papers produced by our taskforces.

Branding

The production of targeted communication material e.g. a generic EFIC flyer, 'EFIC at a glance', and more recently flyers on our EFIC Pain Schools and Exams follows a more coherent approach to branding, to make our content recognisable for our community and therefore increase EFIC's visibility and recognition as go-to source of educational material.

Silviu Brill

Honorary Secretary

4.3 - COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

- www.europeanpainfederation.eu
- www.youtube.com/user/EFICorg
- www.facebook.com/EFICorg/
- twitter.com/efic_org
- <http://bit.do/EFIC>
- www.linkedin.com/groups/12111963
- www.europeanpainfederation.eu/newsletter/
- educationplatform.europeanpainfederation.eu/





5 - SUPPORT FOR EFIC'S CHAPTERS

The beneficiaries of EFIC's educational support are young clinicians and researchers from the 37 chapters of EFIC. Funding for education is provided through the following activities:

- Places at EFIC Pain School
- EFIC Fellowships at approved pain clinics
- Speakers at national scientific meetings funded by EFIC
- Financial support bursaries for congress attendees

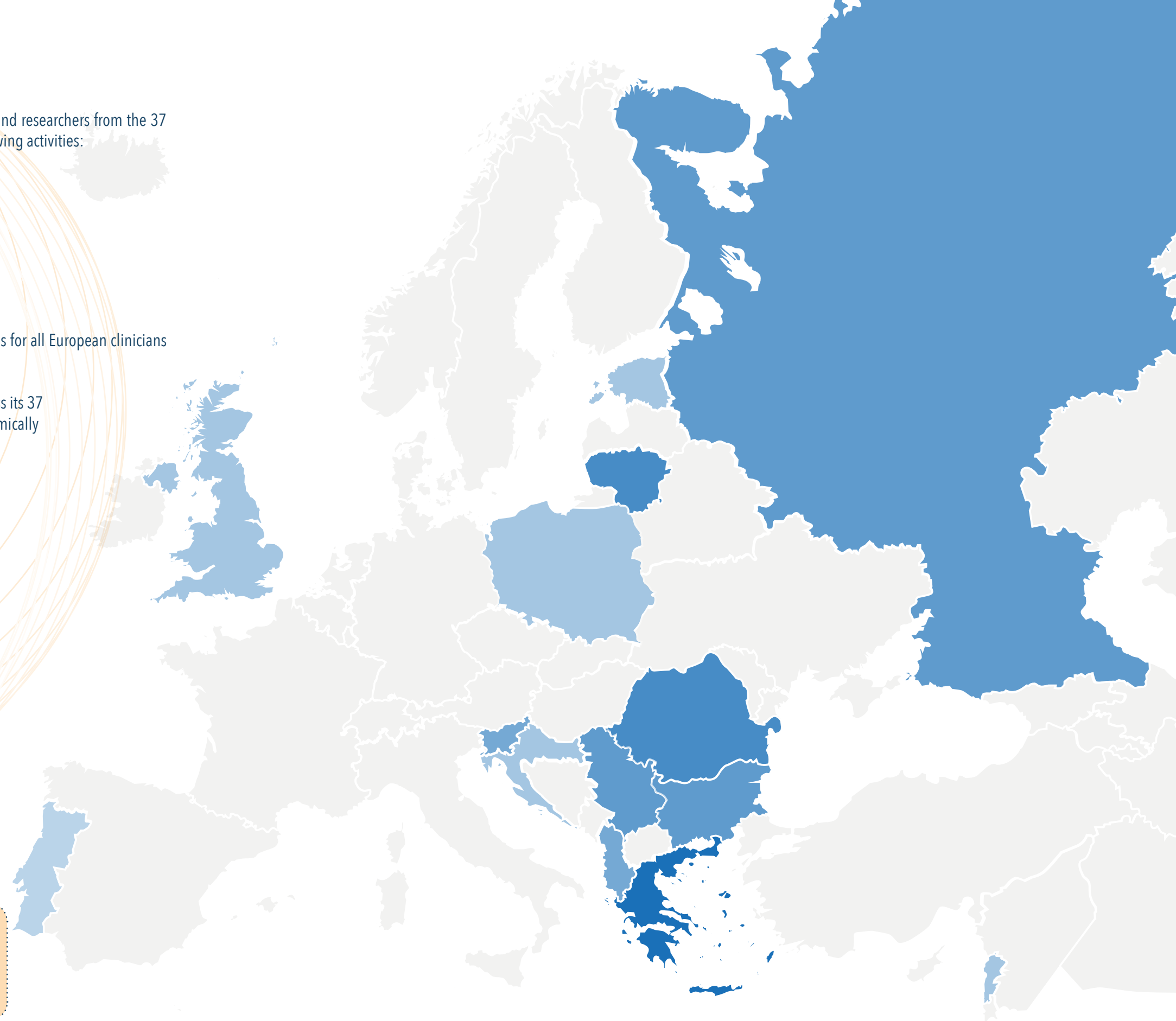
EFIC provides high quality interprofessional educational opportunities for all European clinicians and researchers working in pain medicine.

EFIC aims to distribute these opportunities as widely as possible across its 37 chapters, noting the need for stronger financial support in less economically developed countries.

The top 10 recipient countries in 2018 were the following:

Country	Value of support (euros)
Greece	11,000
Romania	6,328
Lithuania	6,000
Serbia	5,260
Russia	5,100
Bulgaria	4,616
Slovenia	3,000
Poland	2,328
Croatia, Estonia, Israel, Portugal, UK	2,000

EFIC encourages all young clinicians and researchers in its 37 chapter countries to contact their local pain society and inquire about educational support opportunities available through the European Pain Federation EFIC.



6 - PATIENT INCLUSIVITY

6.1 - OVERVIEW

The European Pain Federation EFIC strives to be as patient inclusive as possible. We do this through various actions:

- By taking into account the patient voice when putting together our projects
- By building relations with patients' organisations
- By providing tools for patients to spread knowledge of pain science

These actions are under development, and we intend to provide updates on these on an annual basis.

6.2 - TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PATIENT VOICE

We included two patient representatives on our scientific programme committee for the 2019 congress. Their contributions were sought on themes and speakers, session formats and sessions designed specifically on patient-focused subjects and patient engagement.

Within our Committee structure, we have included patient representatives in 5 working groups and one operational committee, where their views were thought to be complimentary to the work undertaken. We will be reviewing this involvement in the near future and potential expanding such collaboration further.

Our European Pain Forum project, aiming to build relations across all scientific organisations involved in pain medicine, includes a role for patients' organisations. Any actions that stem from the Forum should take into account the patient voice.

6.3 - RELATIONS WITH PATIENTS' ORGANISATIONS



Our main partner in this field is Pain Alliance Europe (PAE), the main umbrella organisation of 41 national and regional associations in 18 European countries, concerned with chronic pain, regardless of the underlying condition. Our Executive Office team work closely with PAE and their staff and provide scientific input in PAE's own projects. Cooperation between EFIC and PAE is growing and discussions are ongoing on how EFIC can further support the success of PAE.

EFIC have also tried to expand its relations with other patients' organisations represented at European and global level. An ambition is to establish a platform with a diverse range of organisations interested in pain to help expand the reach of EFIC's patient education tools and to help guide our work from the perspective of patient need.

6.4 - TOOLS FOR PATIENTS

EFIC aim to work with patients' organisations to help create tools that disseminate evidence-based scientific information that helps patients understand and better manage, or even prevent the development of pain.

One initial project at the 2019 congress was the creation of webinars and recorded videos where scientific experts explain their research avoiding technical jargon, breaking down the information in a way that is digestible to a patient audience.

A second initial project was the 'On the Move' campaign, which served as a public awareness campaign on the benefits of physical activity for the prevention of chronic pain. We intend to work with patient representatives to formulate new projects that include their input.



Patient webinars, EFIC Congress 2019 Valencia

7 - COMMITTEES

7.1 - EDUCATION COMMITTEE – CHAIR: ANDREAS KOPF

7.1.1 - STRUCTURE

Working Groups	Chair
EDPM Curriculum	Bart Morlion
Undergraduate Curriculum.....	Andreas Kopf
Common Training Framework	Andreas Kopf
EDPM Exam	Liam Conroy
EDPP Exam	Harriet Wittink
Nursing Curriculum.....	Emma Briggs
Clinical Psychology Curriculum	Geert Crombez
Pain Schools	Troels Jensen
Patient Education	Snezana Tomasevic Todorovic
E-learning Education Platform	Ruth Zaslansky

7.1.2 - EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

The last year has seen our Committee achieve a lot in furthering EFIC's educational objectives. As a starting point, we developed an Educational Strategy, neatly summarised in the graphic below. This provides a foundational stone for all of our future projects and gives our community a sense of our role. Our Working Groups have been incredibly active in pursuing their tasks, and I have been supported by a new Vice Chair in Morten Høgh. Morten is a physiotherapist with a research background and has a strong grasp of the current educational trends and needs of healthcare professionals. He is supporting me in managing the work of half of our Working Groups.

In the past year we have achieved the following:



EFIC Core Curricula

- Our Nursing and Clinical Psychologists Curricula have been completed and were launched at the 2019 EFIC congress. These projects were delivered on schedule by Emma Briggs and Geert Crombez respectively. Consultation across the pain community and indeed with organisations such as the European Specialists Nurses Organisations and European Federation of Psychologists Associations have led to these

being exceptionally well-informed documents. Interprofessional cooperation has been a core component of these curricula and will likewise be integrated into any future curricula updates. We hope they contribute to improved pain knowledge across these professions and finally to better patient care. The next steps are for Examinations to be organised no earlier than 2021.

- We held the Examinations for the European Diploma in Pain Medicine and European Diploma in Pain Physiotherapy in April 2019. Both examinations received a record number of participants and the Examinations are becoming better established and well-known across the pain community. The next sittings for both are planned for spring 2020. Liam Conroy stood down as Exam Director for the EDPM after 3 years of leadership, delivering our first Examination from conception to its current state. We all thank him for his exceptional service.



Examiners brief: EDPP & EDPM 2019, Leuven

Bart Morlion will step in until a new Director has been identified. Bart is also leading on the revision of the EDPM Curriculum and started by updating the reading list for the current Curriculum.

- Our patient education work led by Snezana Tomosevic Todorovic has started, beginning with the concept of 'patient plenaries'; web-streamed interviews with the plenary speakers at our 2019 congress, where they are asked to explain their talk to a patient audience. We hope this concept is successful and that we reach a patient audience. We will continue with new projects in this area after Valencia.
- I personally have been leading the work in updating our curriculum for medical students and creating a Common Training Framework for pain as a medical 'supra-specialty'. The Curriculum review is underway and as a supporting component we have commissioned a translation of a basic medical textbook put together by the German Pain Society. The Common Training Framework is drafted and close to completion.
- Our Pain Schools, one of the earliest EFIC educational projects, are undergoing a process of review and consolidation led by Troels Staehelin Jensen. As a starting point, we are improving the promotion of the schools, led centrally by our Executive Office, with an aim to improve the number of applications. As a second step we will be putting together a framework for the Schools, to ensure consistency across all Schools and good coverage of the EFIC curricula in the teaching.
- Finally, our Education Platform, which has proven very popular in its first year of existence, is due to be updated by Ruth Zaslansky. A new model for the platform, and for the development of new content better suited to the online viewing experience has been mapped out. An update is planned in 2020.

Andreas Kopf

Chair, Education Committee

7.1.3. - EFIC EDUCATION STRATEGY



7 - COMMITTEES

7.2 - RESEARCH COMMITTEE – CHAIR: GISÈLE PICKERING

7.2.1 -STRUCTURE

Working Groups	Chair
Research Strategy	TBC
Grants and Prizes	Barbara Przewlocka
Clinical Affairs	Tony O'Brien
Translational Research	Thomas Graven Nielsen (co-chair)
Collaborations and Partnerships	Gisele Pickering
Paediatric Pain	Karel Allegaert
Geriatrics, Elderly & Communication Impairment....	Gisele Pickering

7.2.2 - RESEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

It is my honour to take up the role of chair of the Research Committee of EFIC following the resignation of Chris Eccleston. Following the resignations of Chris and Nanna Finnerup, there has been a little disruption to our plans, though we remain ambitious for the future.

In terms of research strategy and defining research priorities, following EFIC's initial submission of a position paper on pain research priorities to the European Commission, a follow-up document is being prepared. In mid-2018, EFIC also contributed to the European Commission's consultation on 'mission-focused research', working with Michaela Kress on the creation of a pain-focused mission. We will appoint a chair of this Working Group in the near future.

Thomas Graven Nielsen's Working Group on Translational Research met for the first time to discuss plans for the group. As a kick-off project, the group will develop position papers on translational research needs in relation to the theme of the European Year Against Pain project.

Barbara Przewlocka has reformed EFIC's grants and prizes work, taking charge of the EFIC-Grunenthal-Grant process and coordinating the jury. In addition, she has worked with Luis Garcia Larrea on the 'EJP Prize', a prize given to the best papers published in the European Journal of Pain in a given year. Section Editors identify potential prize winners and Barbara's team select final winners. The EJP Prize provides cash prizes of 2,500 euros plus free registration and costs at the EFIC congress. Perhaps most importantly, Barbara is leading the process for the congress abstract prizes, coordinating the Scientific Programme Committee, a huge job in itself. We have recently established a collaboration with a research funder and patient support group from the UK, Versus Arthritis. Versus Arthritis generously funded the congress abstract prizes, and we expanded the number of prizes to 8, including 4 for young presenters.



I am leading our work on collaborations and partnerships, aiming to enhance the role of EFIC in collaborative research, including the identification of calls and the submission of proposals. We have defined a plan to get this work started, and we will kick the work off in earnest after the 2019 congress.

EFIC could serve the European pain research community by serving as a conduit for researchers and institutions, highlighting the opportunities available and bringing together the partners necessary to be selected. In the meantime, EFIC are continuing to play a role in the EU Innovative Medicines Initiative project, IMI-PainCare, and has put its name towards other consortia proposals where deemed suitable.

In 2020, EFIC will benefit from the expertise of Mary O'Keefe, a researcher whose proposal for an EU Marie Curie Fellowship was supported by EFIC. Mary will join the office for a period of 3 months and will help support our actions in this area.

Our clinical affairs work continues, with recently completed projects including our Position Papers on

- Cannabis-Based Medicines
- Standards for the Management of Cancer-Related Pain
- Standards for the Diagnosis and Management of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome

Hopefully these papers will contribute to improved clinical decision-making and better patient outcomes. Following Nanna Finnerup's resignation, we have appointed Tony O'Brien to lead our work in this area.

We recently proposed creating Working Groups on thematic issues of continuous relevance, with two initial proposals being 'Paediatric Pain' and 'Geriatrics, Elderly and Communication Impairment'. The terms of reference for these groups are still to be defined, though a leader for the paediatric pain group has been selected in Karel Allegaert.

Gisèle Pickering

Chair, Research Committee

7 - COMMITTEES

7.3 - ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – CHAIR: THOMAS TÖLLE

7.3.1 - STRUCTURE

Working Groups	Chair
Social Impact of Pain.....	Bart Morlion
Networking and Liaison.....	Thomas Tölle
'On the Move'.....	Brona Fullen
European Year Against Pain 2019.....	Patricia Schofield
European Year Against Pain 2020.....	Brona Fullen
Research Promotion.....	Rolf-Detlef Treede

7.3.2 - ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues,

It was a pleasure to take responsibility for advocacy activities in the European Pain Federation EFIC. I have long been involved in the Societal Impact of Pain campaign. Our campaign reached its 10th anniversary in 2019, which shows its value and sustainability. Against this scenario, pain clinicians should play a strong role in changing policies affecting pain through political activities.

Since 2017, the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) campaign, has shifted focus, from big marquee events in Brussels, to the launch of SIP platforms at national level. The launch of National Platforms and their development has gone a long way since then.

Next to the first existing platform launched in Malta in 2017, 7 new platforms saw the light of the day. Platforms in Spain, France, Portugal, Netherlands, Belgium and Finland involve our national councillors and key volunteers from our Chapters. Finally, an Irish Platform will be officially launched in October and a meeting is soon to be organised in Slovenia. The SIP Working Group members are integral to the national platforms and provided scientific guidance to the development of specific tools that will aid further development of the platforms in the future.

Along with the national platforms, SIP has continued to be active in Brussels – last year we established stronger ties with the European Commission via our SIP Joint Statement and by being invited to a workshop on transatlantic cooperation on pain research organised by the Commission Directorate for Research and Development. The SIP Joint Statement, managed jointly by the European Pain Federation and Pain Alliance Europe (our closest partner among patients' organisations), received the endorsement of more than 100 organisations.

Networking and Liaison are activities which the Federation is focusing on more, using our great connections to other disciplines and groups, to establish formal partnerships and greater cooperation on pain matters. Central to this activity is the 'European Pain Forum'. The Forum brings together European medical societies and patients' organisation relevant to pain, to work together and promote cooperation on issues where we share a common scientific understanding. This platform could lead to common responses to requests for expert opinion, the development of common clinical guidelines, and perhaps the development of common educational tools.



The first official meeting took place in April 2019, after a preparatory staff meeting in June 2018. The following organisations officially endorsed the initiative

Other signatories will be officially joining in the next months and the forum will start work on joint projects in Q4 2019.

Our president Bart Morlion has launched the idea of a presidential campaign, that will run across the three-year mandate of each President. The theme for 2017-2020 is 'EFIC On the Move' focusing on the importance of physical activity in preventing primary and secondary pain. A Working Group has been created and has delivered engaging awareness and education material that was deployed in full at the EFIC 2019 congress in Valencia. The key messages of the campaign have been co-created with the European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (ER-WCPT) and have been used in support of the 2019 European Public Health Week, a platform managed by the European Public Health Alliance and funded by the European Commission to showcase best practices in public health policy and in particular healthy lifestyles and prevention.

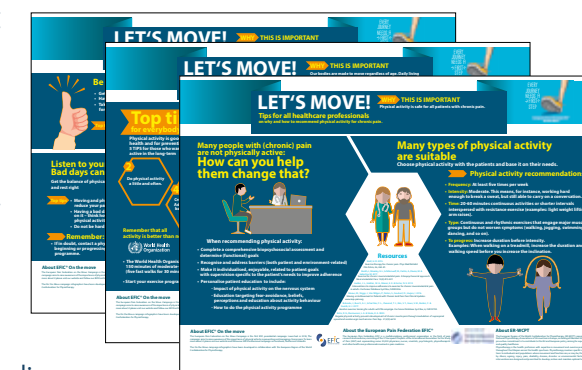
The European Year Against Pain (EYAP) has been a collaborative project with our partners at IASP, with co-chairs from each organisation leading a group in developing campaign materials. The topic of this year, pain in the most vulnerable, was featured at the EFIC 2019 congress. Under the guidance of the EYAP Working Group, EFIC has developed resources and a web page to better showcase the messages of the year in Europe. The translation of the factsheets of the European and Global Year have been made available in 11 European Languages thanks to the collaboration of our Federation with our national chapters.

Research Promotion is a big priority at European level, with the European Union being one of the biggest funders of research globally. The European Pain Federation put together a group of experts in pain research to identify key areas where more funds for pain research were needed. The group compiled their input in a position paper that was used to advocate for funding for pain research to be included in the new research and innovation budget of the EU (2020-2024).

We are expanding beyond the confines of the SIP campaign with various new advocacy projects and proving that the European Pain federation is a strong player in advocacy, towards the European Union and elsewhere.

Thomas Tölle

Chair, Advocacy Committee



SIP National Platforms 2019 meeting, Valencia

8 - CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

8.1 - 2021 PREPARATION

8.1.1 - SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

Title for the congress: Targeting pain and its comorbidities in the digital age

The two main themes of this congress will be 'pain and its comorbidities' and 'pain management in digitalised health care'. Comorbidities play a crucial role in most chronic pain conditions and it would be important to consider all these in the rehabilitation of the patients. 'Comorbidities' is one of the key topics of Horizon 2020 funding for health care at the moment. Comorbidities associated with persistent pain include mental health problems such as anxiety and depression which can both precede or be a consequence of pain. Sleep deprivation enhances pain sensitivity and insomnia has been shown to precede pain, enhance regional pains developing into widespread pain. Systemic inflammation is involved in all these conditions as well as in metabolic diseases such as diabetes and obesity which is also associated with persistent pain. Understanding the mechanisms of these overlapping conditions and targeting e.g. sleep in pain patients could be a new way of helping decrease the burden of pain. More specific topics could be e.g. neuroinflammation as a key promotor and mediator of comorbidities, sleep and the glymphatic system, the vicious circle of anxiety, stress, insomnia and pain. Regarding therapeutic approaches the programme would include discussions about how primary care could be involved in education, lifestyle changes, and prevention of persistent pain.



EFIC Congress 2019, Valencia

Also digitalised health care is one of the main topics of Horizon 2020. It will play an important role in health care, including pain management. It offers new possibilities for pain management but there are also several issues to be discussed, e.g. the role of human therapeutic interaction when treating patients in pain. The goal is to discuss these two topics throughout the sessions in the congress, e.g. in education and prevention of persistent pain, internet-based programmes incorporated to pain management in pain clinics and primary care, virtual reality in the rehabilitation of e.g. patients with CRPS.

New research methods are urgently needed as large RCTs cannot answer all questions and exclude most vulnerable patients, do not address personalised therapies or rare conditions and are not optimal in evaluating new therapies e.g. transcranial magnetic stimulation. On the other hand, new questions and research ideas can be researched with machine learning, taking advantage of large data bases and bio-banks. This is also a topic in Horizon 2020 calls. This theme could be "From single case studies to machine learning".

The above-mentioned themes will also cover ways of monitoring, preventing and managing pain in children and adolescents. Science of emotions and how this knowledge can be used in pain management will be another exciting topic in EFIC 2021. An overview of the state of new analgesics will also be discussed.

Science, healthcare, patients and society will meet in discussions about lessons learned and the way forward regarding the used opioids and cannabinoids in pain management. Science, clinical utility, education and active involvement of the audience will be considered throughout the Congress programme for EFIC 2021 in Dublin.

Eija Kalso
Chair, Scientific Programme Committee

8.1.2 - CONGRESS PLANNING

Many changes were implemented during 2018-2019 concerning the EFIC congress management and execution. The EFIC Executive Office team is actively managing every aspect of the congress from budget to scientific programme, from marketing to direct relations with all our sponsors and exhibitors. We are also in full control of the selection of all congress suppliers and actively negotiating all contracts. We ended our contacts with Kenes (our long-time congress organizer) and engaged in a new relationship with a new congress organizer (KIT). Establishing a new relationship with KIT allowed us to re-establish EFIC as the 'owner' of the congress and using KIT services as extension to the EFIC team, in tasks that we cannot perform in house, specifically operational, and logistics, finance, registration, accommodation, exhibition management and others.

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DUBLIN

9 - EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

9.1 - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT

9.1.1 - CONTENT

- Submission figures, rejection rates, Impact Factor
- Editorial Board –Section and Managing Editors
- Advisory Board
- New features implemented (2018-19)
- Position papers, Virtual Issues
- Summary and Conclusions

9.1.2 - SUBMISSION FIGURES, REJECTION RATES, IMPACT FACTOR

The number of papers submitted to the European Journal of Pain increased from 630 manuscripts in 2017 to 680 in 2018. It is reasonable to think that such numbers will still increase in 2019, since the number of papers received by August 15 was already $n=472$. The average response time from reception to first decision letter was 36 days in 2018. The rate of rejections remains stable at ~80%, hence we are accepting one paper on five. Up to 60% of rejections are proposed directly by the Section Editors or Editor-in-Chief before sending out the paper for external review; these 'Editorial rejections' correspond to manuscripts that are judged not to have reasonable chances to pass successfully external refereeing, or are considered of too small added value to existing literature. Editorial rejections are meant to save time to authors and spare time and energy to external experts. We do our best to notify Editorial rejections to the authors in less than 10 days. Importantly, at a difference relative to most other Journals, the letter of Editorial rejection is always accompanied by a short comment indicating the reasons of such rapid decision, the possible ways to overcome them, and offering when possible alternative Journals that can be better targets for the manuscript.

The Journal's Impact Factor increased by ~0.3 points relative to the last year and reached $IF=3.2$. The European Journal of Pain is now one of the top 10 journals in the Anaesthesiology category and is in the top tiers (69/199) in Clinical Neurology.

9.1.3 - EDITORIAL BOARD – SECTION AND MANAGING EDITORS

The Editorial Board last changes were implemented in 2018: Bart Morlion who was Section Editor of the Journal became President of the European Pain Federation and therefore Deputy Editor ex officio. Per Hansson (Oslo, Norway), Danielle van der Windt (Staffordshire, UK) and Ted Price (Phoenix, Az) stepped down in 2018. All of them had served their position at outstanding level for more than 5 years. Professor Rafael Maldonado (Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain) and Professor Kate M Dunn (Keele University, Staffordshire, UK) were appointed to take over Editorial tasks, respectively for the Neuropharmacology and Epidemiology sections of the EJP. Both have been doing a great job as Section Editors since.

Managing editor Dr Bettina Haake-Weber and Assistant Editor Dr Koichi Hagiwara keep working as pillars of the EJP day-to-day logistics. They continually interact with Chief Editor, Section Editors, Authors and Publisher, respond to multiple author queries and ensure a smooth editorial process under a continuous increase in number of papers to handle.

The panel of Section Editors in 2019:

- Ulf Baumgärtner, Heidelberg, Germany
- Frank Birklein, Mainz, Germany
- Didier Bouhassira, Paris, France
- Christine Chambers, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
- Daniel Ciampi de Andrade, São Paulo, Brazil
- Michele Curatolo, Seattle, USA
- Kate M Dunn, Staffordshire, UK
- Jörn Lötsch, Frankfurt, Germany
- Rafael Maldonado, Barcelona, Spain
- Lance McCracken, London, UK
- Bart Morlion, Leuven, Belgium, (Deputy Editor)
- Michael Schäfer, Berlin, Germany
- Luis Villanueva, Paris, France

9.1.4 - EJP ADVISORY BOARD

The EJP Advisory Board (AB) is composed of 70 members, who represent a first line of high-quality potential reviewers for submitted papers. We have pursued the policy of replacing long-standing AB members with little or no late activity, who are being progressively substituted by young colleagues: 12 positions were thereby exchanged in 2017-18, and 5-10 other changes will operate in 2019. Decisions to update the Advisory Board are taken collegially, during the annual Editorial Board meeting, by the Board of Section Editors and the Editor-in-Chief. Managing and Assistant Editors (Drs Haake-Weber and Hagiwara) keep statistics of the relative contribution of AB members each year, and give useful advice to take such decisions.

9.1.5 - NEW FEATURES IMPLEMENTED (2018-19)

Table of contents circulation: Uncontrolled channels of scientific information are continuously appearing, with increasing pressure from pseudo 'open access' (or 'pay-for-publish') journals more interested in the authors' money than in the authors' scientific ideas. Among the reasons pushing colleagues to publish in these journals, Clark and Thomson in JAMA (2016)¹ have pointed out how they cleverly camouflage themselves by closely approximating the forms of existing credible journals via, for instance, similar titles. Such periodicals tap into well-intentioned enthusiasm for the 'open access' publishing movement, including from the EU recent directives. While most of the manuscripts submitted to these journals would have been readily rejected in EJP, we surely loose a small but significant number of potentially interesting (and citable) pieces of work, which get trapped in such expensive holes.



9 - EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

9.1 - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF'S REPORT

9.1.5 - NEW FEATURES IMPLEMENTED (2018-19)

Since 2018, the Table of contents of EJP is being widely circulated among EFIC members, authors and colleagues attending EFIC congresses, and new subscribers. This represents >1200 colleagues, clinicians and investigators, who are regularly made aware of EJP contents and can, with a simple click, open the Journal's Web page containing the articles and –if they are member of an EFIC Pain Society– get access to the full text. Additional promotional ideas are being discussed with the EFIC Executive Office.

Rapid PubMed access of accepted manuscripts: All accepted articles are now posted online in PubMed/Medline within 7 days of acceptance and release to Wiley's. This posted version is a PDF of the accepted files, before typesetting. The PDF of the accepted article has a DOI number, and hence becomes fully citable.

Access of EFIC members to full text: The ergonomics and response times to get full text access of EJP papers via the EFIC or Wiley Web sites was significantly improved by the end 2018. Any EFIC member can now go from the EJP Table of Contents to the Full text in only 5 consecutive clicks.

The EJP translated: Cooperation between EJP-EFIC with our Publisher Wiley and the Grünenthal company was put forward to have selected papers from the EJP translated in Portuguese/Brazilian. Papers are selected with special attention to their didactic value, under the supervision of Prof. Daniel Ciampi de Andrade, Section Editor of the Journal, who acts as Chief Editor of its Portuguese version. Sixteen (16) papers are translated per year, distributed in 4 issues of 4 papers each, with 5000 paper copies of each issue distributed. In 2019 we shall be discussing the opportunities to extend this initiative to a Spanish translation, mainly addressed to Latin America.

Novelties in instructions for authors: We have been confronted to ethical problems regarding studies in neonates, due to the frequent lack of appropriate analgesia in control groups. This growing problem in paediatric pain research has given rise to a number of alarming reports. The EJP is taking leadership on this matter and will be the first pain journal that explicitly excludes from eligibility any paper on neonatal/infant pain not including appropriate analgesia in control groups. This was already implemented in the Instruction for Authors of the Journal and will be the subject of a Commentary article by Prof. Christine Chambers, Section Editor of EJP.

Other changes have been or will be soon incorporated, such as the decrease in numbers of references allowed in letters to the editor, and small changes to allow more place for the Introduction section. The next Editorial Board meeting (November 2019) will be discussing the possibility of stricter rules for the submission of review papers, and the introduction of the ARRIVE guidelines for submission of papers on research in animal models.

Automatic reminders to reviewers: Delay in the reception of articles' reviews is an everlasting problem for all major journals. Dr Koichi Hagiwara, assistant editor, introduced this year automatic reminders in Editorial Manager, as a test to improve response delays. Thus, each reviewer receives an automated email ('no respond') reminder on the day of his/her review due date. As a function of the results we shall be discussing whether the reminder can be rather sent a few days before the due date.

9.1.6 - POSITION PAPERS, VIRTUAL ISSUES

The Journal initiated in 2017 a policy of publication of articles reflecting the position of the European Federation on a number of important and timely items. After one paper on the appropriate use of opioids, a European Pain Federation position article on the use of cannabis-derived medicines appeared in 2018, along with a recently published European survey on the legal and regulatory aspects of medical cannabis use in 30 European countries. These contributions appear in the context of semi-monographic issues including 4-6 papers original contributions, reviews and points of view on the same topic.

In parallel, homogenous series of papers on a given topic from different EJP issues are joined together as "virtual issues", which put together papers on a same topic having appeared in different issues of the EJP, and that which can be consulted from the Journal's Web page to provide a broad and immediate access to the subject. Virtual issues on Fibromyalgia and Pain in Children, Opioids for non-cancer pain and Cannabis –derived medicines are already available

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/15322149/homepage/virtual_issues.htm

9.1.7 - SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The European Journal of Pain firmly remains in a position of scientific excellence. We are however confronted by multiple challenges, not least the increasing concurrence of periodicals attracting authors via less stringent requirements to publish. We pursue an active strategy to gain visibility, enhance content dissemination, and optimise selection to improve our position in the fields of pain science and pain clinics. This energetic policy is accomplished by a panel of high-level Section and Managing Editors and has translated in a substantial increase of the number of submissions and enhancement of impact factor. The European Pain Federation Councillors and Executive Board members have a crucial role to play by enhancing the recognition of the Journal in their respective countries, prompting talented colleagues to submit their best productions to EJP, and referencing the Journal in their own papers, to keep the EJP as the incontrovertible reference of pain research and clinics in Europe.

Luis Garcia-Larrea

Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of Pain

- L. Garcia-Larrea, Editor-in-Chief
- Bettina Haake-Weber, Managing Editor
- Koichi Hagiwara, Editorial Assistant

10 - FINANCES

10.1 - HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

I write to you today part-way through a process to transform our finances through various actions and investments. We are already seeing progress and the Executive Board are confident that the measures we have taken will strengthen the financial position of the organisation.

We closed the 2018 financial year with just under €4,600,000 in assets. There was no scientific congress in 2018, and thus we expected to spend more than we received in income. Our financial cycle is biennial, and our goal is to set targets that match biennial expenditure with biennial income. We received less income than budgeted owing to a few contracts being invoiced just after the close of the financial year, and therefore contributing to an increase in the next financial year. As our finances become more stable after a period of investment, we believe that parity is achievable over the next cycle.'

- Firstly, our decision to take ownership over our congress organisational process is paying off. Our in-house team have delivered a very strong meeting, with high attendance and good levels of income from sponsorship and exhibition. Registration was over 20% higher than in 2017, and income from sponsorship and exhibition is around 40% higher than that year. Even counting for the investment costs of staff, we expect a return that is at least 25% higher than was promised by our previous contract with a PCO.
- Secondly, our Executive Office has a strong and stable team to manage our key projects, lead on relations with sponsors and ensure better use of our resources. Our team has been in place since Q1 2018 and we hope to maintain this team for the years to come. The investment in personnel has been well contained whilst improving the organisation's productivity.
- We undertook a major investment in 2018, with the acquisition of an office building in the heart of the EU quarter in Brussels. This improves our organisation's reputation, saves money on rent, and allows us to rent out space to other organisations as a tertiary source of income. The property is attractive and in an improving area of Brussels, likely to mean a steadily increasing value over the years.

Going forward, we plan for a biennial budget of approximately €2.2 million. I should be possible to contain our expenditure at €1.1 million per year. This requires therefore an income target of €2.2 million across the same period. Our congress will continue to remain our main source of income, and therefore it is reassuring that we have surpassed our targets for 2019 in terms of congress income. We expect this to deliver around 45-50% of our income across the biennial cycle. The remaining income will derive from our Industry Partnership Scheme, our examinations, royalties from the EJP and a few other small sources.

We have achieved our primary target, to enhance the congress and increase the income generated. We now need to balance income with expenditure and increase and diversify our other sources of income. One final point to note is that in our presentation of the finances we have separated operating income and expenditure from project-based income and expenditure. We believe this gives a more transparent view on our financial status.

Elon Eisenberg

Honorary Treasurer

10.2 - 2018 ACCOUNTS CLOSE

OPERATING INCOME

Item	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals
EJP	176,000.00	141,435.50
Industry support	340,000.00	117,000.00
Miscellaneous		
- Contributing members	3,500.00	7,828.60
- Examinations	12,000.00	37,517.67
- IMI-PainCare	0.00	10,937.50
- Other	0.00	2,039.54
Congress	0.00	16,000.00
Financial income	4,300.00	65,389.86
Total income	535,800.00	398,148.67

PROJECT INCOME

Item	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals
EGG Grant	0.00	0.00
PAIN OUT	282,800.00	284,174.00

10 - FINANCES

10.2 - 2018 ACCOUNTS CLOSE

OPERATING EXPENSES		
Item	2018 Budget	2018 Actuals
Office expenses	188,000.00	52,213.38
Website, Software & Online Subscriptions	25,000.00	19,936.59
Communications, Marketing & Publications	65,000.00	59,858.46
Service providers and consultants	200,940.00	140,067.16
Meeting expenses	92,500.00	94,914.35
EJP	101,000.00	76,647.05
Educational programs	180,000.00	143,116.33
Personnel	411,680.00	265,807.07
Depreciation	2,500.00	27,953.83
EXB expenses	38,400.00	47,142.48
Taxes	21,100.00	5,309.69
Financial costs	2,500.00	7,164.02
Total expenditure	1,328,620.00	940,130.41
PROJECT EXPENSES		
EGG Grant	0.00	0.00
PAIN OUT	286,133.00	287,456.00

10.3 - AUDITOR'S REPORT

	
STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NOT-FOR-PROFIT ASSOCIATION EFIC EUROPEAN PAIN FEDERATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019 <small>(TRADE REGISTER OF BRUSSELS, DEPARTMENT DUTCH - VAT BE 0470.673.486)</small>	
<p>In the context of the statutory audit of the annual accounts of EFIC European Pain Federation (the 'Organisation'), we hereby present our statutory auditor's report. It includes our report on the annual accounts as well as on the other legal and regulatory disclosure requirements. This forms an integrated whole and is indivisible.</p> <p>We have been appointed as statutory auditor by the general meeting of members of 5 September 2017, following the proposal formulated by the board of directors. Our statutory auditor's mandate expires on the date of the general meeting of members deliberating on the annual accounts closed on 31 March 2020. We have performed the statutory audit of the annual accounts of the organisation for 8 consecutive years.</p> <p>Report on the annual accounts – Unqualified opinion:</p> <p>We have audited the annual accounts of the Organisation, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2019, the profit and loss account for the year then ended and the notes to the annual accounts, characterised by a balance sheet total of € 4,592,133 and a profit and loss account showing a loss for the year of € 561,806.</p> <p>In our opinion, the annual accounts give a true and fair view of the Organisation's net equity and financial position as at 31 March 2019, as well as of its results for the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium.</p>	

10.4 - AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Dear Colleagues

As Chair of the Audit Committee, it is my duty to provide the Council with a statement on the accounts for the last financial year; in this case, from 1 April 2018 until 31 March 2019. I can confirm that our statutory auditor, VGD, declare that the Federation's accounts give a true and fair view of the organisation's net equity and financial position, without qualification. I have discussed the accounts directly with the Treasurer and Executive Office and I am happy with the status of the 2018 accounts. On that basis I recommend the Council approve the accounts for the last financial year.

Laserina O'Connor

Chair, Audit Committee

10.5 - 2019 BUDGET

OPERATING INCOME	
Item	2019 Budget
EJP	140,000.00
Industry support	445,000.00
Miscellaneous	
- Contributing members	7,000.00
- Examinations	31,000.00
- IMI-PainCare	10,000.00
- Other	15,000.00
Congress	800,000.00
Financial income	1,000.00
Total income	1,449,000.00
PROJECT INCOME	
EGG Grant	193,523.81
PAIN OUT	0.00

OPERATING EXPENSES	
Item	2019 Budget
Office expenses	58,000.00
Website, Software & Online Subscriptions	30,000.00
Communications, Marketing & Publications	48,000.00
Service providers and consultants	175,750.00
Meeting expenses	112,000.00
EJP	100,000.00
Educational programs	228,333.00
Personnel	335,500.00
Depreciation	5,000.00
EXB expenses	52,200.00
Taxes	17,800.00
Financial costs	7,000.00
Total expenditure	1,169,583.00
PROJECT EXPENSES	
EGG Grant	193,523.81
PAIN OUT	0.00

11 - TRANSPARENCY

The European Pain Federation EFIC is a strong believer in the value of transparency in order to establish trust in the scientific world, and in particular the role of medical societies. The information provided below aims to provide a coherent insight into the Federation's activities and finances; in particular concerning our relationship with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

What percentage of EFIC's income comes from the pharmaceutical and medical device industries?

EFIC's main sources of operating income are our congress and our industry partnership scheme. Across a two-year cycle, EFIC budgets for approximately 2.2m euros in operating income.

- Approximately 900k euros (40%) of that budget is expected to come from EFIC's congress.
- A further 600k euros (27%) of that budget is expected to come from our industry partner scheme.
- Around 280k euros (13%) is expected to come from our Journal (royalties and expense budget)
- The remaining income comes from smaller sources such as our examinations, EU-funded projects and others.

Of the congress income, approximately 60% comes from ticket sales and approximately 38% comes from sponsorship and exhibition.

Therefore, it is fair to say that approximately **43%** of EFIC's operating income derives from the pharmaceutical and medical device industries.

Across the **2017-2018** biennial financial cycle, the figure was 507k euros out of a total operating income of 1.93m euros (**26%**). However, as EFIC's financial situation has changed in the past few years, it is more accurate to work with the budget expectations for the future.

How does EFIC work with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries?

Our congress is organised in line with all relevant compliance codes and laws concerning scientific meetings. Sponsorship and exhibition activities are labelled appropriately to avoid any confusion between the official scientific programme organised by EFIC and activities promoted by industry.

Our industry partnership scheme is a means of receiving financial support from industry for our educational and scientific projects in a transparent and respectful way. EFIC retains independent control of its core work and objectives in the fields of education, research and advocacy. The scheme helps support existing work and defines mutually beneficial projects that can supplement the core work of the Federation and contribute to the fulfilment of its objectives. At present, members include Grunenthal, Pfizer, Eli Lilly and Co., TEVA, Boston Scientific and Shionogi.

How does EFIC ensure it remains independent whilst working with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries?

Any financial support from or collaboration with the pharmaceutical and medical device industries is reviewed thoroughly by the EFIC Executive Board following advice from the Ethics and Transparency Committee. Engagement with companies is managed professionally by our experienced Executive Office team, to ensure that EFIC's values and objectives are followed. EFIC's educational, scientific and political direction is developed independently by EFIC's experts.

EFIC is not beholden to any particular company or treatment. Multimodal pain management as supported by EFIC includes a wide variety of treatments including opioids, low strength analgesics, antidepressants, anti-epileptics, cannabinoids, and other treatments. EFIC also promotes non-pharmaceutical-based treatments such as physiotherapy, counselling, and distractive techniques such as meditation and mindfulness. Any engagement between EFIC and the pharmaceutical and medical device industry should reflect this broad biopsychosocial approach to pain management.



12 - NOTES

