



EFiC
EUROPEAN PAIN FEDERATION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL PERIOD: 1ST APRIL 2023 - 31ST MARCH 2024

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1 – PEOPLE

1.1 – EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Luis Garcia Larrea
President Elect	Brona Fullen
Honorary Treasurer	Patrice Forget
Honorary Secretary	Silviu Brill
Member-at-Large	Daniele Battelli
Member-at-Large	Joanne O'Brien Kelly

1.2 – COUNCIL

Albania	Apostol Vaso	Latvia	Mihails Arons
Austria	Wolfgang Jaksch	Lithuania	Arunas Sciupokas
Belarus	Siarhei Hapanovich	Moldova	Iana Burmistr
Belgium	Olivier De Coster	Norway	Audun Stubhaug
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Ivan Keser	Poland	Andrzej Basinski
Bulgaria	Ralitsa Marinova	Portugal	Ana Pedro
Croatia	Ivan Rados	Romania	Adriana Sarah Nica
Czech Republic	Simon Kozak	Russia	Maxim Churyukanov
Denmark	Thomas Graven-Nielsen	San Marino	Barbara Brancaleoni
Estonia	Kaire Pakkonen	Serbia	Snezana Tomasevic-Todorovic
Finland	Marion Wuestefeld	Slovakia	Miroslav Ferenčík
France	Valéria Martinez	Slovenia	Bozena Jerković- Parać
Germany	Winfried Meissner	Spain	Maria Luz Padilla del Rey
Greece	Kyriaki Vagdatli	Sweden	Anna B. Sellius
Hungary	László Vécsei	Switzerland	Chantal Berna Renella
Ireland	David Finn	The Netherlands	André Wolff
Israel	Haggai Sharon	Turkey	Gül Köknel Talu
Italy	Caterina Aurilio	Ukraine	Volodymyr Romanenko
Kosovo	Adem Bytyqi	United Kingdom	Roger Knaggs

1.3 – EXECUTIVE OFFICE TEAM

Executive Director	Sam Kynman
Executive Secretary	Christel Geevels
Deputy Director and Communications Manager	Melinda Borzsak-Schramm
Congress Manager	Inbar Caspi
Congress Scientific Programme Officer	Paloma Verdegal
Advocacy and Projects Manager	Angela Cano Palomares
Research Projects Advisor	Mary O'Keeffe
Industry Liaison Manager	Johannes Mueller-Diesing

2 – PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear colleagues,

it has been an honour to serve as EFIC President for the past year. It is a role which comes with great responsibility. I have spent my first year laying the foundations for changes and improvements I would like to bring in, and in some instances, fortunately, I have had the satisfaction of seeing them underway. One of my main objectives is reflected in the motto "Joining forces; breaking barriers". This means expanding, with the help of you all, our role and philosophy by moving from a "radial" model of communication, from EFIC to the Chapters, to a more transversal and fluid pattern which not only strengthens this relation, but also fosters communication between our chapters, and expands EFIC relationship with allied scientific organisations whose aims are very close to our own. Improving the access of each national pain society to what others are doing should be one of EFIC's main objectives, as only this approach can promote networking and mutual fertilisation, for the benefit of our patients.

While one year is certainly a very short time to see the fruits of this undertaking, a number of promising results can already be highlighted, which I will briefly summarise in this report, together with some other key themes.

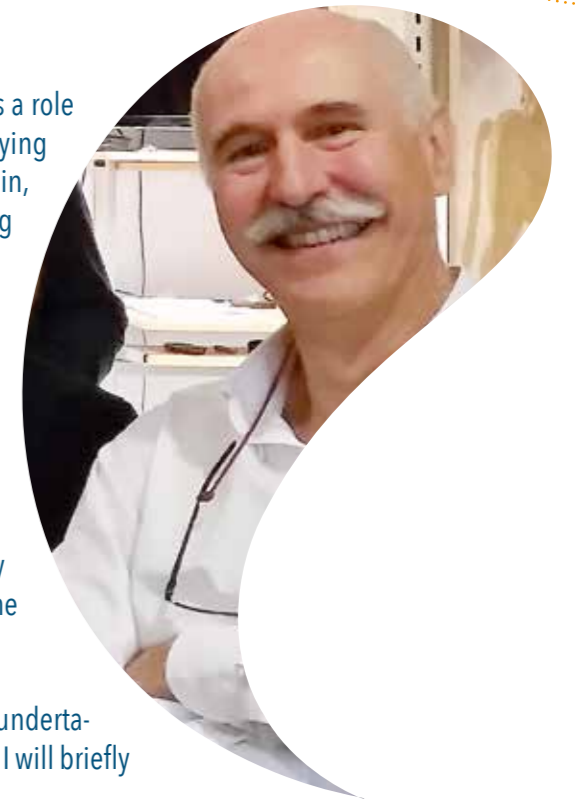
2.1 - Connecting Chapters - connecting you

Access to updated information from our various Chapters has been greatly improved, thanks to users' feedback and Melinda Borzsak's constant work. Details and news of all national Chapters can now be accessed directly from the Web main page (<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/>) by simply clicking on the "About EFIC" tab.

National societies have been encouraged to upload their current activities in real time, hence improving cross-cutting collaboration and networking. A recent example where this approach has proved invaluable is the access to a toolbox for intrathecal pain therapy developed by the French Pain Society, now translated into English, available free of charge on our website, and currently being translated into Spanish by the Spanish Chapter.

Other recent examples of successful inter-communication are the reactions of several Chapters to the decision of the European Medicines Agency EMA to launch a review process for Metamizole, and of course, the impressive "Book of Evidence" developed by the EFIC Advocacy Committee and SIP, now available to all National Chapters via translation to 8 different languages.

A new and important initiative is underway, which aims to make the abstracts from National pain meetings accessible to all EFIC chapters via a dedicated link. Four national Chapters have already endorsed this enterprise, which I hope will become a reality before the end of the year.



2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.2- Connecting researchers and clinicians

You all know my strong belief that both the research world and the clinical world would benefit from closer interaction and collaboration. This is a belief which I have postulated throughout my first year as President, and which hopefully has been brought to life via key activities such as our Congress, our Pain Schools and the relaunch of our Research Committee. I am glad to say that with our Scientific Programme Chair André Mouraux, this has been a conducting line to develop innovative ideas for Congress sessions, allowing to connect with both researcher and clinician audiences. For our Pain Schools, I believe we are not up to the job if we do not connect educational basics with cutting edge research; and this is now reflected in the criteria for our Pain School guidelines. I was delighted to see our Translational Pain Research school attract a very high calibre of applicants in 2024, and enabling young colleagues to understand that not only does basic research feeds clinical reflection, but that clinical observations are a source of ideas that researchers must use to develop relevant preclinical models. Over 90 candidates applied for this year's new school on "Pain Psychology for Non-psychologists", where the collaboration of clinicians and researchers will again be essential to ensure fruitful developments. I do hope that the relevance of this subject, which had never been covered before by EFIC schools, will ensure its continuity.

This year has also seen the final developments of EFIC's Pain Research Strategy for Europe. This ambitious project, supported by the European ERA-Net PRISE initiative, has combined the efforts of previous and current Research Committees to develop an evidence-based strategy for the future of European pain research. EFIC recommendations target both professionals and policy-makers, and are discussed in a publication co-authored by clinicians and researchers from 23 European countries, which will appear early next year in the European Journal of Pain. Since the priorities identified will require a substantial increase in research funding, we need to draw this to the attention of funding bodies and political decision-makers. To this aim, we will present the results at the European Parliament during the session on "Pain Treatment, Management and Prevention - Is Europe Providing Adequate Access?", organised by Angela Palomares on behalf of the EFIC/PAE Societal Impact group in October this year.

With Esther Pogatzki-Zahn and Daniel Ciampi de Andrade Chair and Vice Chair of our Research Committee, I look forward to sharing ideas on new opportunities that reflect our goal of 'bridging the gap', throughout the various workstreams they are currently developing, which include maintaining a focus on translational research and looking at opportunities to elevate and support early career researchers.

2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.3 - Working towards official recognition of EFIC'S examinations and enhancing their status and visibility across Europe

Our efforts to gain official recognition of EFIC's exams are moving forward steadily. The EFIC curriculum for pain medicine has now been endorsed by an impressive number of International medical societies, including the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), the ESAIC and ESRA Anaesthesiology Societies, the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), the European Organisation of General practitioners (WONCA Europe) and the European Cancer Organisation (ECO). While this wide recognition underscores the high value of our Diploma, it also raises the crucial question of its articulation with the national curricula in European countries. We have established relations with the French pain specialist examination board (Collège National de Médecine de la Douleur), and an official alignment for EDPM diplomates within the French system is on its way, with the EDPM becoming for the first time an external qualification enabling swifter access to national accreditation. We do hope that this initial success will become extensive to additional countries in the future, since our vision is for the EDPM to be a qualification that opens doors professionally across Europe.

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the diverse professional qualifications, certificates and training programmes in pain medicine across Europe, the Education Committee has devised a survey for our national representatives, to which most of you have already responded. This survey is a crucial step in identifying where the EDPM aligns with national equivalents, laying the groundwork for future recognition. Beyond of the EDPM, we are also working to establish partnerships between our European Diploma in Pain Physiotherapy (EDPP) and other established organisations such as the European Region of the World Congress of Physiotherapy (ER-WCPT), the European Network of Physiotherapists in Higher Education (ENPHE) and the recently formed Spanish Society for Pain Physiotherapy, which has a growing European audience.

A number of important initiatives aiming at optimising the path to the EDPM are being developed under the leadership of the Education Committee Chair and Vice Chair, Indre Bileviciute-Ljungar and Victor Mayoral, the director of the exam Daniele Battelli and the unfailing support of executive director Sam Kynman. A full series of educational video recordings depicting paradigmatic cases of chronic pain conditions were produced early this year, which describe the entire consultation process, from the patient's interview to the treatment. The videos are being currently edited at professional level and will be available to all EFIC Academy members in short. In parallel to such educational support, we are at the initial steps of developing a Handbook of Pain management specifically oriented to the preparation of the EDPM exam. Such manual will provide access to a body of knowledge that is comprehensive but also compact and digestible, matching the EFIC curriculum and containing the necessary information to meet the exam requirements. This is a cyclopean enterprise that will take many months, but one that I am very happy to help get off the ground.

2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.4 - Further strengthen EFIC's role in international collaborative research

EFIC's role in collaborative research has grown significantly in recent years, with three fairly substantial consortia positions ongoing (DIGI4MSK, PRiSE, and PANACEA). These projects demonstrate EFIC's ability to play a strong networking and dissemination role on topics important to the pain science community. We are now participating in around 3-4 new applications per year, and our ability to identify and respond to calls is growing. Our 'research projects team' now constitutes 4 people, rising stars in pain science, who can bridge between academic partners and the EFIC network of experts and leaders. There is more work to do, but I am glad that Esther and Daniele are in place to transform this field further.

Institutional contacts with scientific societies sharing common interests with EFIC have been actively established during this year, in particular with the European Headache Federation (EHF), the European Society of Regional Anesthesia (ESRA), and the European Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ESPRM). Regular institutional meetings and joint workshops on topics of common interest are being developed, including during our next EFIC congress in Lyon, and the possibility of organising joint pain schools, and drafting joint position papers is being studied by our respective Committees. Cross-promotion of our respective meetings has already started, and a Memorandum of Understanding between EFIC and ESPRM was officially signed in the presence of both Presidents this September.

2.5 - Building stronger connections in East and South-East Europe

EFIC's duty to support and nurture pain management across all parts of Europe is at the core of its mission. EFIC continues to support the pain science community in less developed countries via tiered pricing of events such as our Congress and Virtual Pain Education Summit and actively promotes a geographically diverse attendance at our Pain Schools via grant selection. I'm conscious that much work is still to be done in order to build substantial bridges between East and West, and the Executive Board is developing plans which we hope to put into place soon, such as establishing Executive Board liaisons for different chapters and regions. One action which has already taken shape is a reflection process on access to pain treatment across Europe, in the context of our Societal Impact of Pain project on 'multimodal pain management'. At the Brussels event in October, we will be asking to what extent this definition is realistic in all parts of Europe and how 'access to treatment' can be improved in practical ways. In this same vein, I shall be proposing to the Executive Board the development of a new EFIC pain school on multimodal pain management, specifically addressed to South-East Europe. This school should be trans-national and co-organised by multiple countries in this region, with the support of EFIC and the main objective of promoting multidisciplinary pain management in South East Europe, through the training of young doctors.

2 - PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2.6 - Finances

I leave our Treasurer to expand on this topic in full, but it should be clear that the financial sustainability of EFIC is a key priority of my term. My predecessor, President Brona Fullen, set the wheels in motion for various changes that have helped improve the situation for EFIC, including the creation of the EFIC Academy project which now contributes substantially to our income. It is with a lot of gratitude and respect that I say goodbye to Brona as she leaves the Executive Board. Aside from the Academy, the Board has agreed on various measures to improve income generation and rationalise expenditure.

We are already seeing the fruit of these changes and our financial result in 2023 was significantly better than 2022. There is still a lot to do, in particular transforming the congress into an event that supports our budget at levels we saw pre-pandemic. There is no easy solution but one thing is certain: our congress succeeds when it is both a high-quality scientific event that is appealing to early career researchers and useful to the working lives of clinicians. With your active contribution, we will ensure that this remains the case in the years to come.

To make things advance we need a vision, but also concrete goals. I believe we have started to demonstrate that 'joining forces, breaking down barriers' is not just a motto, but a reality in the making that, with your help, will become increasingly visible over the next few years.

Luis Garcia Larrea

President, European Pain Federation EFIC

3 – COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

3.1 – ORGANIGRAMME – COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

CORE COMMITTEES - WORKING GROUPS & MANDATES

CONGRESS COMMITTEES - MANDATES

CONGRESS OPERATIONAL

Chair: Luis Garcia Larrea

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Chair: André Mouraux

LOCAL ORGANISING

Chair: Frédéric Aubrun

EDUCATION

Chair: Indre Bileviciute-Ljungar

WG - PAIN MEDICINE EDUCATION

Chair: Bart Morlion

WG - PAIN PHYSIOTHERAPY EDUCATION

Chair: Harriet Wittink (VC)

WG - PAIN PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION

Chair: Ed Keogh

WG - PAIN NURSING EDUCATION

Chair: Felicia Cox

WG - UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM

Chair: Andreas Kopf

WG - COMMON TRAINING FRAMEWORK

Chair: Andreas Kopf

WG - PAIN SCHOOLS

Chair: Bart Morlion

WG - PATIENT EDUCATION

Chair: Vacant

WG - ONLINE EDUCATION

Chair: Morten Hoegh

RESEARCH

Chair: Esther Pogatzki-Zahn

WG - RESEARCH STRATEGY AND PRIORITY SETTING

Chair: Gisèle Pickering

WG - RESEARCH FUNDING & PRIZES

Chair: André Mouraux (VC)

WG - CLINICAL AFFAIRS

Chair: Elon Eisenberg

WG - TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

Chair: Thomas Graven Nielsen

ADVOCACY

Chair: Patrice Forget

WG - SOCIAL IMPACT OF PAIN

Chair: Patrice Forget (VC)

WG - EUROPEAN PAIN FORUM

Chair: Thomas Tölle

WG - EYAP 2021

Chair: Paul Cameron

WG - CANCER PAIN

Chair: Silviu Brill

WG - HEALTH LITERACY

Chair: Laura Mackey

WG - 'ON THE MOVE'

Chair: Henrik Bjarke Vægter

OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES - MANDATES

AUDIT

Chair: Ana Maria Pedro

ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY

Chair: Nevenka Krčevski Škvarč

FUNDRAISING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Chair: Patrice Forget

EDUCATIONAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Chair: Magdalena Kocot-Kępska

ELECTION NOMINATIONS

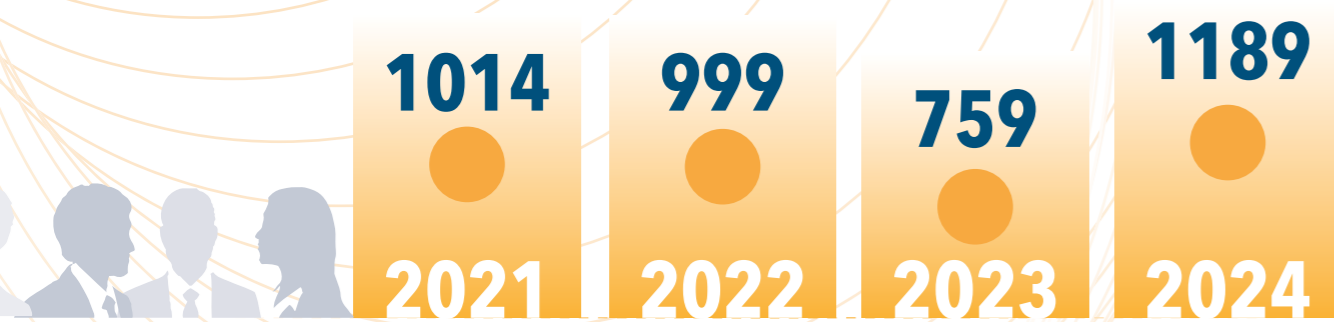
Chair: Arunas Sciupokas

4 - MAPPING OUR PROGRESS

To better understand EFIC's impact, we have decided to start including a series of performance metrics related to our key projects and objectives in our annual report. We may expand on these as we go forward, but for now, we will stick to a few for which we have measurable data. Where no new data is available for 2024, we use the last available metric. Please note that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many activities have had to be postponed, for that reason, some activities still display figures from previous years.

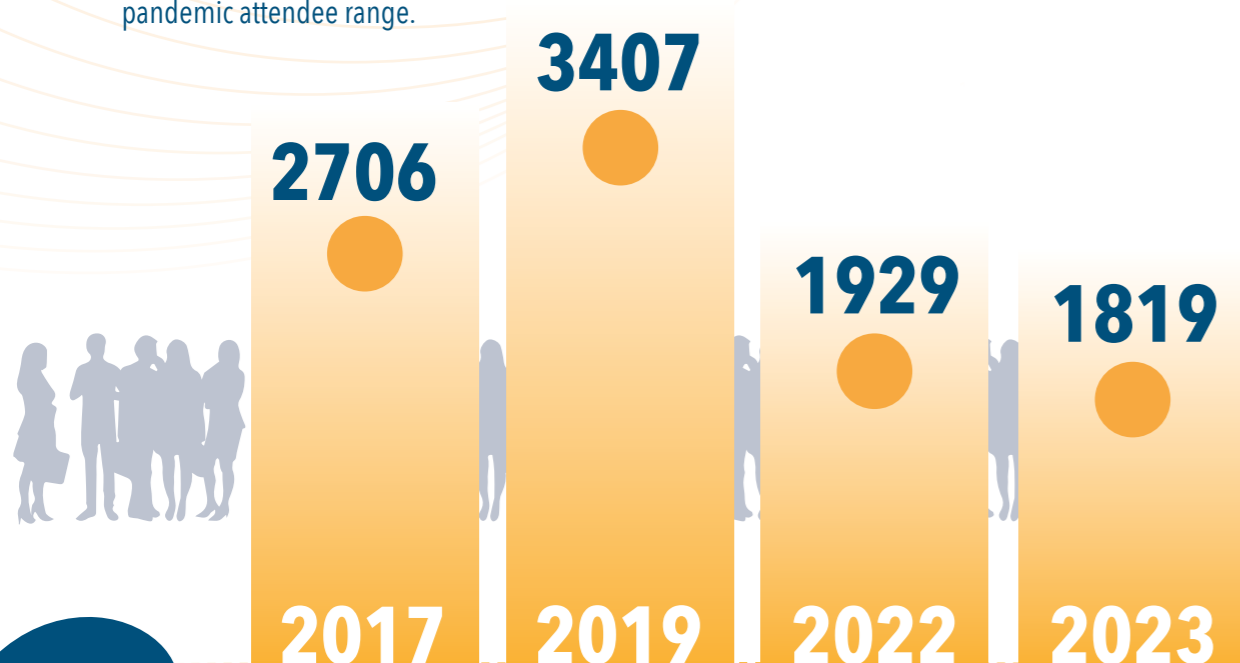
4.1 - ACADEMY MEMBERS

The EFIC Academy is our latest educational and community-building project. As of 5 September 2024, we have 1,189 members. This means that over 1,100 people have access to EFIC's education platform, the European Journal of Pain as well as webinars and Q&As. Numbers were higher this year in line with the occurrence of our Virtual Pain Education Summit in May 2024.



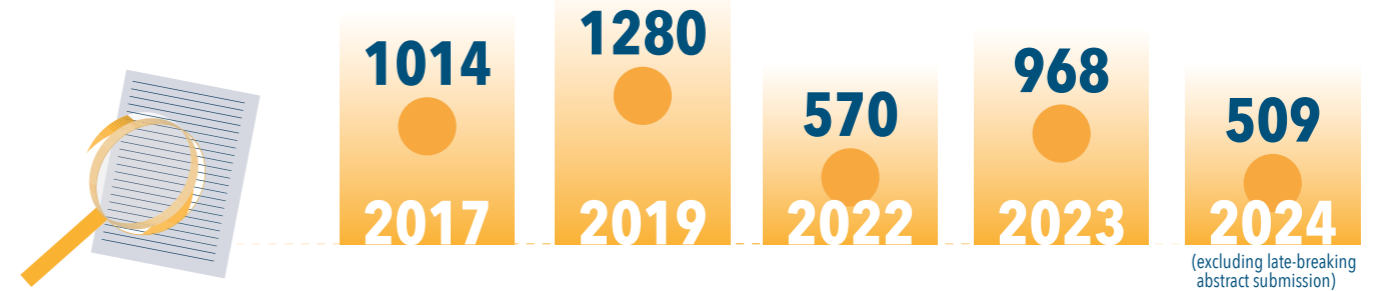
4.2 - CONGRESS ATTENDEES

Our congress numbers, like those of many other congresses, have been impacted substantially by the pandemic and its knock-on effects on the economy and travel. We hope that the Lyon Congress takes us back into the pre-pandemic attendee range.

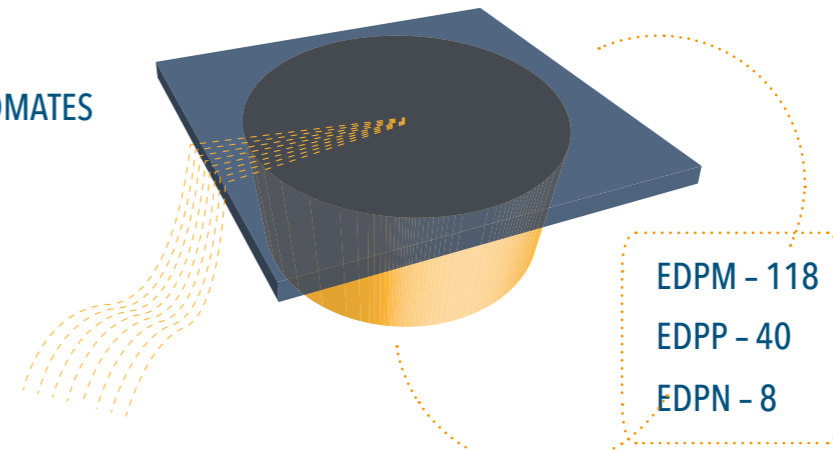


4.3 - ABSTRACTS SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS

After a decrease in abstracts compared to previous congresses in 2022, we saw a return to a higher number of abstract submissions for the 13th EFIC Congress in September 2023. At the point of publishing, the final number of abstracts submitted to the 14th EFIC Congress taking place in April 2025 was not yet determined.

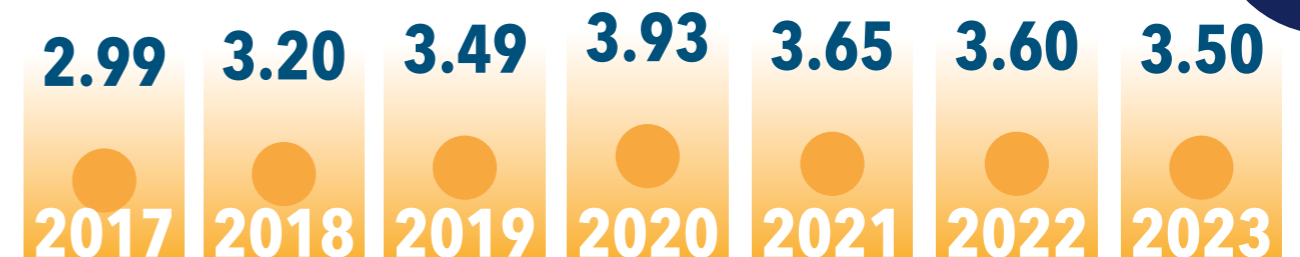


4.4 - DIPLOMATES



118 medical doctors have achieved the European Diploma in Pain Medicine, and 40 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. In 2024, EFIC also organised the first successful sitting of the Examination of the European Diploma in Pain Nursing, where 8 candidates achieved their Diploma.

4.5 - 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.

5 – HONORARY SECRETARY’S REPORT

5.1 – ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Dear colleagues

This is my last report to you as Honorary Secretary as my second term concludes. My two terms as Honorary Secretary have spanned a period of great change for EFIC. As an organisation, our administration and processes have improved significantly. At the same time, we have had to respond to societal and economic changes that have affected all organisations in one way or another. Most significantly, of course, the pandemic has transformed us into an organisation that operates very effectively via virtual means. I do not see a reversion to the old way of doing things, not least due to the financial and environmental benefits.

The only significant administrative change over the past year has been the approval of our Ethics Policy, which will necessitate various new administrative processes in its implementation. These processes will include:

- Set up a standardised COI form to centralise COI declarations and make them publicly available
- Rolling out standardised COI processes for setting up new projects as well as standard operating procedures for declaring COIs on an ad hoc basis.
- The reforming of a new ethics committee to administer the policy

Unfortunately, the roll-out has been postponed due to staff illness, though it should start taking shape before the end of the year.



5.2 – COMMUNICATIONS

The European Pain Federation EFIC Communications Team continued building on the previous years' work by successfully managing promotion and communications around the 2025 EFIC Congress – Pain in Europe XIV. With Communications Manager Melinda Borzsak-Schramm and additional support from Communications and Advocacy trainees Heidi Koivukoski, Javier Ubrí Sanchez, Paloma Verdegal, and Raluca Marcu, the team was able to form a comprehensive promotional strategy for all EFIC's projects and activities and implement it on a multitude of communications channels ranging from mailings to cross-promotion to social media.



EFIC Virtual Pain Education Summit 2024

5 – HONORARY SECRETARY’S REPORT

5.2 – COMMUNICATIONS

In the leadup to the Virtual Pain Education Summit as well as during and after the virtual event, all communication channels were used to re-introduce the concept of the event after a 3 year break, promote sessions, highlight speakers, and engage with our audience.



#EFIC2025 Congress – Pain in Europe XIV

In the leadup to the #EFIC2023 Congress in Budapest, communications played a major role during every building on the success of previous years, promoting key deadlines such as workshop and abstract submissions, as well as registration, is essential for effective outreach.

While EFIC utilizes all communication channels available, the website and the mailing list have proven to be the best methods to reach our audience effectively.

Our main focus was on introducing the congress theme, promoting the venue and congress location as well as the social activities taking place at the congress. With national and international meetings resuming, EFIC also ensured a strong presence at as many relevant events as possible.

5 – HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

5.1 – ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Social media

Our social media channels have been growing continuously, increasing the number of our followers on all channels (in total just under 23,000, up from 20,000 last year). However, not all of them have proven successful in engaging with our audience; Twitter/X has experienced a significant decrease in activity, whereas LinkedIn has shown to be a lively place of online communication. The continuous and strategic use of hashtags such as #EFIC2023 for the Congress, #EFICAcademy for our educational platform or #EJPPain for content pertaining to the European Journal of Pain has further increased visibility.

	Audience size			
	Facebook	Twitter/X	Instagram	LinkedIn
July 2023	6.525	7.412	2.770	3.312
July 2024	6.834	8.022	3.505	4.412
Growth in %	5 %	8 %	26 %	33 %

CRM Database & Newsletter

We have increased our audience significantly thanks to our comprehensive and professional CRM and newsletter setup. This also allowed us to communicate more effectively and clearly, making sure that key audiences receive messages specifically relevant to them.

Webinars

EFIC also organised several successful webinars - completely free of charge - on timely topics such as Pain Nursing Education, World Physiotherapy Day or CRPS. An effort was made to co-organise webinars with either national chapters or international partner organisations, allowing EFIC to cross-promote relevant projects and resources to a new audience.

Website

As expected, the in-house management of both the general EFIC website as well as the EFIC Congress website continues to result in a more streamlined process and effective content management. The combined usage of our website, online store system, CRM database, education platform and newsletter programme has resulted in more in-house control and data protection.

New projects and sections launched online:

› EFIC Congress 2025

A complete website providing comprehensive information around the 14th EFIC Congress.

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/efic2025/>

5 – HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

5.2 – COMMUNICATIONS

› Virtual Pain Education Summit 2024

A complete page giving a comprehensive overview on this event.

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/virtual-pain-education-summit/>

› Bio-Psycho-Social Model of Pain

A comprehensive overview which serves as a resource for our audience

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/what-is-the-bio-psycho-social-model-of-pain/>

› Core Committees

A streamlined and reorganised presentation of EFIC's core committees.

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/how-we-work/committee-structure/core-committees/>

› European Day on Pain Awareness

A page to promote European Pain Awareness Day, emphasising EFIC's education and advocacy efforts.

<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/european-day-on-pain-awareness/>

Silviu Brill

Honorary Secretary

5.3 – COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

- www.europeanpainfederation.eu
 - <https://efic-congress.org/>
- www.facebook.com/EFICorg
- www.twitter.com/EFIC_org
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/efic2021/>
- www.europeanpainfederation.eu/newsletter/newsletter
 - https://www.instagram.com/efic_org/
- <http://academy.europeanpainfederation.eu/>



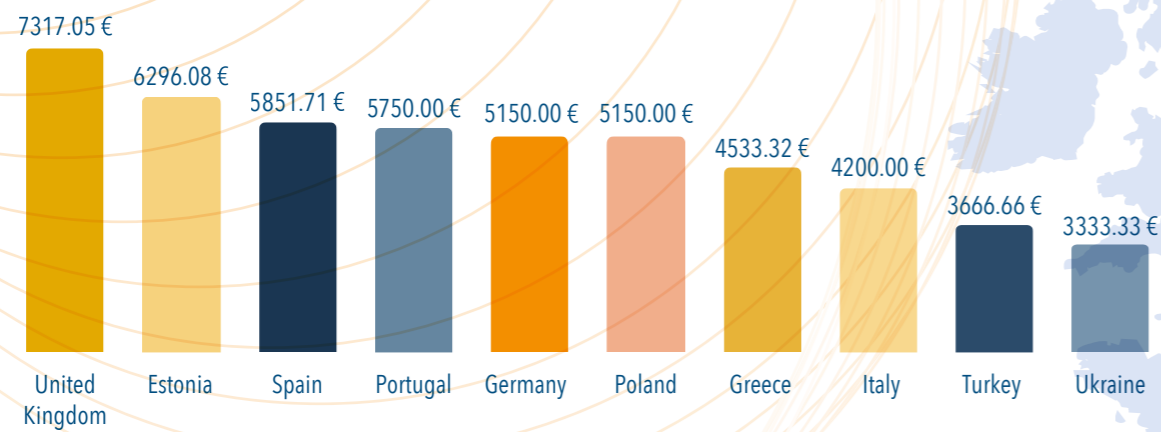
6 – SUPPORT FOR EFIC’S CHAPTERS

The beneficiaries of EFIC’s educational support are young clinicians and researchers from the 38 chapters of EFIC. Funding for education is provided through the following activities:

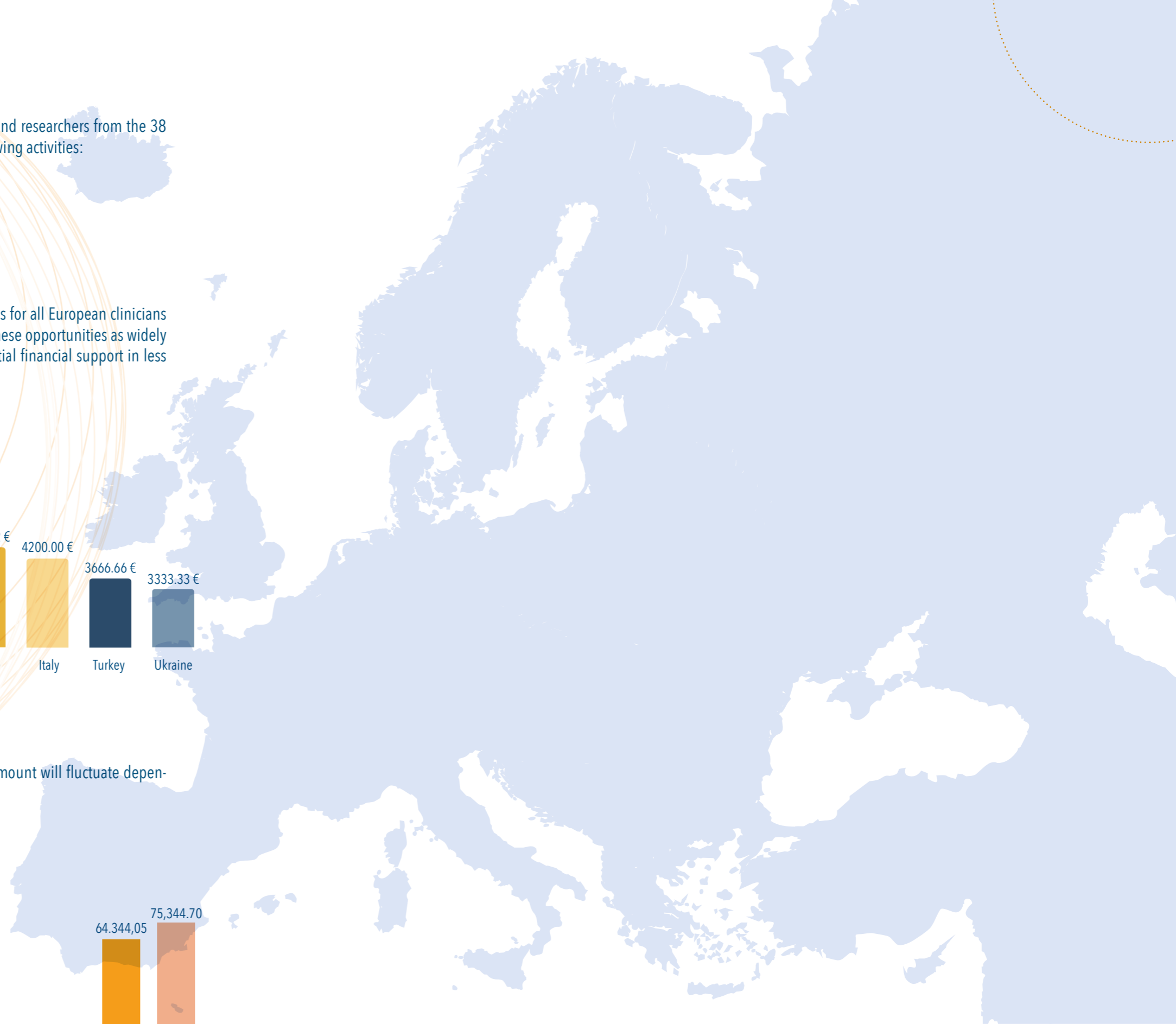
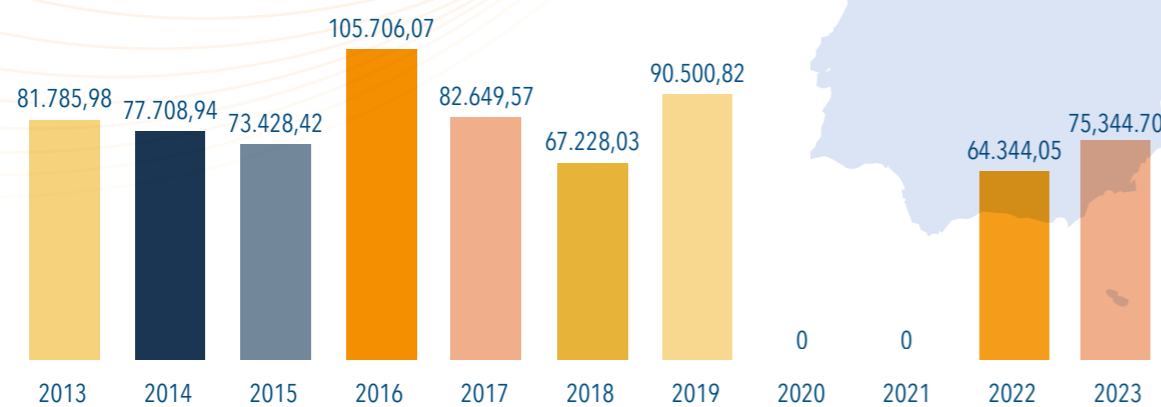
- Places at EFIC Pain Schools
- EFIC Fellowships at approved pain clinics
- Speakers at national scientific meetings funded by EFIC
- Financial support bursaries for congress attendees

EFIC provides high-quality interprofessional educational opportunities for all European clinicians and researchers working in the field of pain. EFIC aims to distribute these opportunities as widely as possible across its 38 chapters, noting the need for more substantial financial support in less economically developed countries.

The top 10 recipient countries in 2023 were:



The total funding provided in 2023 was € 75,344.70 euros. Below are the sums for the previous 10 years, for comparison. The amount will fluctuate depending on the activities available during the year.



7 – PATIENT INCLUSIVITY

7.1 – 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
- By providing materials to patients to learn more about pain management and treatment

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

7.2 – TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PATIENT VOICE

Projects, where we have involved patients directly in their development include, our task force defining multimodal pain management. This project involved Pain Alliance Europe being consulted, along with a range of scientific societies relevant to pain. The definition promotes the importance of patient-centredness of care and the role of patient education as a treatment modality.

Our 2025 Congress involves Pain Alliance Europe being part of the Scientific Programme Committee, guiding the SPC in relation to the patient perspective on science, and providing commentary on aspects of the programme considered relevant to patient involvement.

7.3 – RELATIONS WITH PATIENTS' ORGANISATIONS

Our partnership with Pain Alliance Europe has grown stronger this year. As they go through a transition period in their leadership and staff, the EFIC team have assisted them, providing them with administrative and strategic support. Intermim PAE leader, Nadia Malliou, who sits on the EFIC 2025 Congress SPC, is working with the EFIC Executive Director to bring the two organisation closer together.

**Pain Alliance
Europe**



New ideas for structural cooperation are being proposed, such as:

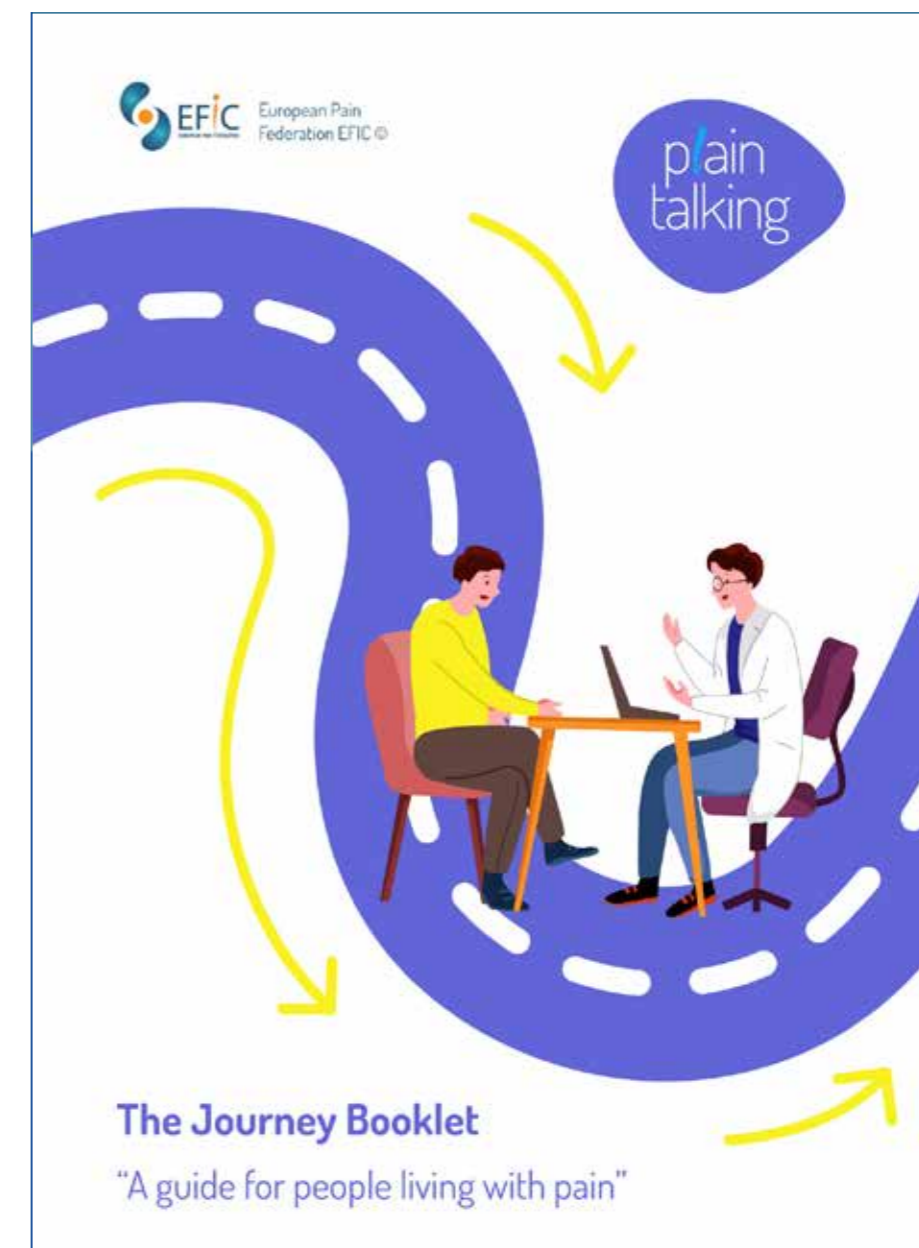
- Routine collaboration on EU research project applications, PAE benefitting from EFIC's research projects capabilities
- Inviting the EFIC Executive Director to PAE board meetings to offer advice and support

7 – PATIENT INCLUSIVITY

7.4 – TOOLS FOR PATIENTS

Our health literacy work via the 'Plain Talking' project has been further elaborated for use on the ground by HCPs and patients. The materials are translated into 23 languages, including many languages spoken by patients navigating the healthcare system in a second language.

The Societal Impact of Pain 'book of evidence' document, produced in partnership with Pain Alliance Europe, is an excellent tool for explaining pain to non-experts. The document is primarily an advocacy tool, for explaining pain to politicians, but it is also likely to help explain pain science to people newly living with pain.



8 – COMMITTEES

8.1 – EDUCATION COMMITTEE – CHAIR: INDRE BILEVICIUTE-LJUNGAR

8.1.1 – STRUCTURE

Professional Leadership Groups		Assessments		Educational materials & events	
Physicians	Indre Bileviciute-Ljungar	EDPM	Daniele Battelli	Pain Schools	Bart Morlion
Physiotherapists	Harriet Wittink	EDPP	Harriet Wittink	Masterclasses	André Mouraux
Psychologists	Ed Keogh	EDPPsy	TBC	Summit	Indre Bileviciute-Ljungar
Nurses	Felicia Cox	EDPN	Nadja Nestler	Education Platform	Morton Hoegh
				Textbook	Victor Mayoral
				Patient and public education	TBC

8.1.2 – EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR’S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

As you can see from the Committee Structure above, our work has grown rapidly over recent years, and we felt that a change of structure better represents the scale and organisation of the work. At the heart of the Committee are our professional leadership groups, representing various professions integral to pain management. These groups initiate and update their specific curricula, design their assessment formats, and ensure their professional perspective and curriculum are factored into our various educational materials and events. So whenever we organise something like the Virtual Pain Education Summit, these professional leadership groups put forward representatives to help steer the project and ensure diverse multidisciplinary input.

The second pillar in this new structure is the assessments, designed to test competences and knowledge reflected in the curricula developed by our professional leadership groups. The assessments now function in their own cycles, semi-autonomously. The scale of work is such that a separate Exam Director, Exam Committee, and Board of Examiners is usually needed.

The third pillar is the materials, by which we mean events, tools, and documents designed to educate our audience of clinicians and researchers. As mentioned above, the groups developing these materials should reflect our diverse multidisciplinary community, though usually one or more leaders are needed to coordinate and motivate these projects. We believe this new structure better clarifies the distinctions between these various working groups and how their work should proceed.



As far as recent work is concerned, I would highlight the following:

- We are developing a textbook, which aims to act as a key preparation tool for our assessments. While we have a reading list and e-learning materials on our Academy platform, we feel that a textbook, updated regularly, will fill a gap for our learners and better establish an EFIC approach to pain education.
- The 2024 edition of our Virtual Pain Education Summit, the third since its launch in 2020, was a success. We now have over 1,000 Academy members and feedback on the summit was very strong. We are considering improvements for 2026 to help make the summit attractive to a wider audience.
- Our Pain Schools continue post-pandemic, with a return of our Krakow Translational Research Pain School, our Liverpool Cancer Pain School and our Lyon Neuropathic Pain School. Our new Acute Pain School is taking place again in 2025 after a successful first edition. We have also successfully organised new interprofessional Pain Schools on Musculoskeletal Pain in Aarhus and Pain Psychology for Non-Psychologists in Verona.
- Our Examination for the European Diploma in Pain Nursing had a successful pilot in 2024 in London. This is likely to take place next in Germany, approaching a German-speaking audience.
- Our 'refresher courses' within the congress programme have been rechristened 'masterclasses', with an emphasis on the highest quality integration of research and education for a high level audience.
- Our Academy education platform has seen many improvements over the past year, including materials to better prepare candidates for exams and, soon to come, videos that provide a more practical demonstration-based approach to clinical management.

The Education Committee is a juggernaut, with much work rolling forward with its own energy and organisational processes. Our ambition is to consolidate, professionalise and gradually build in new components that contribute to a multidisciplinary pain education framework.

Indre Bileviciute-Ljungar

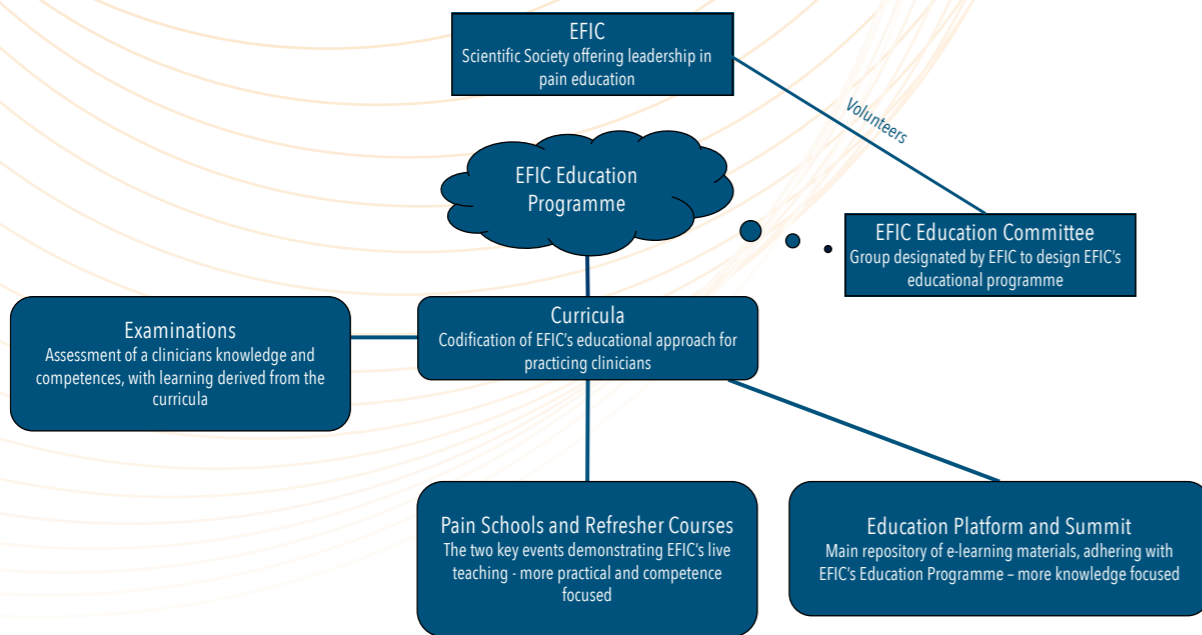
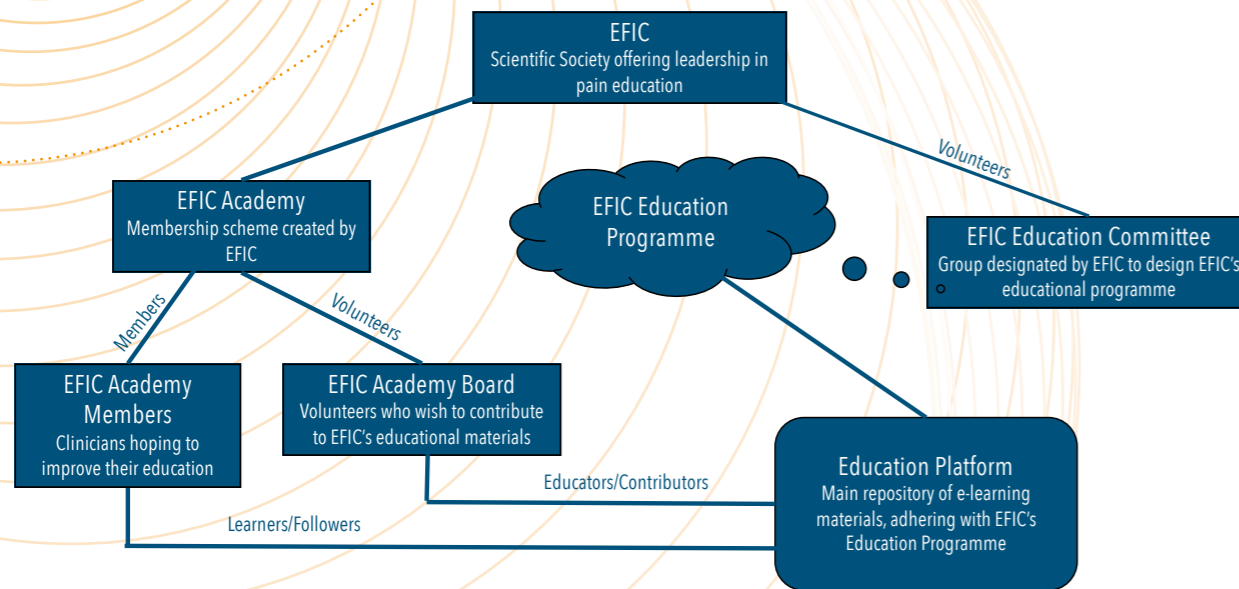
Chair, Education Committee

8.1.3. – EFIC EDUCATION STRATEGY



8 - COMMITTEES

8.1.3. - EFIC EDUCATION STRATEGY



8 - COMMITTEES

8.2 - RESEARCH COMMITTEE - CHAIR: ESTHER POGATZKI ZAHN

8.2.1 - STRUCTURE

Working Groups

Chair

Developing a Pain Research Strategy	Esther Pogatzki-Zahn and Brona Fullen
Patient collaboration on the future of research	Esther Pogatzki-Zahn and Kevin Vowles
European pain research collaboration and opportunities mapping	Daniel Ciampi de Andrade (vice chair)
Producing evidence-based clinical guidance	Elon Eisenberg and Xavier Moisset
Bridging the gap from the lab to society	Ipek Yalcin and Geert Crombez
Improving translational pain research	Daniel Segelcke and Esther Pogatzki-Zahn
Supporting rising stars in pain research.....	Jan Vollert and Kristian Kjaer Petersen
Providing research funding opportunities for early career researchers.....	Thomas Graven Nielsen

8.2.2 - RESEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues

I have the pleasure of writing to you for the first time as Research Committee chair and presenting you with a new strategic vision for this Committee. I have the advantage of following some pioneering work by my predecessor, Gisèle Pickering, who established a European pain research strategy for the first time. That work is only concluding now, but the content is already permeating our thoughts and plans for the future. It will be a major milestone for the pain research community and a reference point for EFIC and others.

You will see below the graphic reflecting the strategy for the Research Committee I have established with my vice chair Daniel Ciampi de Andrade and the EFIC team. Along with furthering the European pain research strategy, I plan to better involve the perspective of people with lived experience of pain (i.e. patients) in the co-creation of pain research priorities. While pain scientists are in the best position to understand pain research, its flaws and potential improvement, we cannot make proposals for improved care without involving patients in these discussions.

We will continue with and hopefully improve some of the Research Committee's previous workstreams, such as distributing pain research funding and creating new grants and prizes. Likewise, the development of clinical practice recommendations, taking the best evidence, and providing recommendations for the clinical community in Europe. I also plan to re-energise the focus on 'translational' pain research needs, taking as a starting point the ITPain project of ERA NET Neuron, which is closely connected to EFIC personnel and ideas.

Daniel and I are proposing various new workstreams which we hope will benefit EFIC and the future of pain research. One of these is a series of activities designed to reach a wider audience for pain research, 'bridging the gap from lab-to-society', which should hopefully be reflected in public



awareness and advocacy activities that spotlight pain research for those who had until now not really understood it or its significance.

Another new workstream is to focus on supporting rising stars in pain research. By this, we mean to provide a programme of activities to benefit those at the start of their pain research career, to ensure that a career in pain research feels exciting and one in which there are platforms and means of support for those who embark on that path. The transition from 'early career researcher' to a solid career in pain research is not easy, and many take a different path. We aim to work for and with early career researchers to provide them with greater opportunities to showcase themselves and more means of support and guidance.

Finally, we wish to establish a stronger structure to manage our role in EU-funded projects and to identify new opportunities better. EFIC has a burgeo-

ning 'research projects team', which we hope to strengthen and consolidate within the Research Committee. Academic partners should see EFIC as an effective and meaningful participant within consortia and we should be aiming to bring the credibility and expertise of the organisation into each individual project. We plan to develop SOPs on how to get involved in such projects and ideas for strategies related to our commitment to European Pain Grant Applications and projects.

I think the time has come for the Committee to play a stronger and more consistent role in EFIC life, and I hope to make this a reality across the next 2 years.

Esther Pogatzki-Zahn

Chair, Research Committee



8 – COMMITTEES

8.3 – ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – CHAIR: PATRICE FORGET

8.3.1 – STRUCTURE

Internal Objectives

Lead

- 1. Be a trusted scientific partner for policy makers on policy issues related to pain prevention, management and treatment Luis García-Larrea
- 2. Unify and represent the voices of medical and scientific societies in Europe around the idea of 'pain as a biopsychosocial phenomenon'..... Ulrike Kaiser
- 3. Be an inclusive organisation, recognising the value of all professions involved in pain management, as well as the voice of patients..... Joanne O'Brien Kelly

External Objectives

Lead

- 1. Foster the uptake of pain education for healthcare professionals in Europe at all levels of education Victor Mayoral Rojals
- 2. Promote pain as a priority research area, and encourage European and national research funding bodies to include pain as priority area Esther Pogatzki-Zahn
- 3. Campaign for (access to) multiprofessional and multimodal pain management Michiel Reneman
- 4. Promote the concept of 'pain as a condition in its own right' to empower patients with chronic primary pain Rolf-Detlef Treede
- 5. Engage in an evidence-based approach to opioids and cannabinoids to inform public understanding and prevent misuse Patrice Forget
- 6. Promote the role of physical activity and low-risk interventions in pain management..... Paul Cameron
- 5. Promoting health literacy and good communication between healthcare professionals and patients Joanne O'Brien Kelly

Projects

Chair

- Social Impact of Pain Patrice Forget (Chair)
- Networking and Liaison Luis Garcia Larrea
- 'On the Move' Paul Cameron
- Cancer Pain..... Silviu Brill
- Health Literacy..... Laura Mackey

8 – COMMITTEES

8.3 – ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – CHAIR: PATRICE FORGET

8.3.2 – ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues,

As the new Chair of the advocacy committee, I am delighted to report that the committee continues to work at full speed. Further, with the new EFIC Presidency, new adjustments have been made to the committee structure and targets. In addition, there are new Chairs in place for the different working groups.

Firstly, I am supported by Co-Chair Joanne O'Brien Kelly, who helps guide and shape our work.

Over the last year, the advocacy committee has made progress in a number of areas, introducing new full advocacy committee quarterly meetings and ensuring all parties involved are on the same page and work collaboratively rather than in silos. Further, our regular advocacy Chairs' monthly meetings continue to take place to guide the committee's activities. New targets have been set for the Advocacy objectives, both internal and external, providing a new perspective to our work and focus.



The Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) remains our primary vehicle for achieving policy change, led by both EFIC and Pain Alliance Europe (PAE). SIP continues to move forward, strengthening and expanding the SIP network and forging new alliances with different EU Stakeholders, achieving major successes in 2024.

For the last couple of years, the European Commission focused on digital and mental health. SIP took part in various consultation processes to ensure the European Commission's European Health Data Space (EHDS) and the European Mental Health Strategy proposals took pain into account. Additionally, with similar aims, SIP met and engaged with several policymakers, including the European Commission, the European Council, and the European Parliament, over the last two years.

SIP launched in 2023 its Joint Statement on Pain and Mental Health, a collaborative project between 10 different organisations working in the field of pain, pain-related and mental health policies and organised a multi-stakeholder policy event at the European Parliament, to disseminate the nine key Recommendations. Moreover, SIP also launched in 2023 its Position Paper on the International Classification of Diseases – 11th Revision (ICD-11). The International Classification of Diseases – 11th Revision (ICD-11), is a major development for the pain community, as it is the first classification system to systematically represent chronic pain.

SIP is delighted to share that after months of hard work on both topics, the Mental Health Report of the European Parliament Health Committee (SANT) now includes several SIP Amendments, such as, references to pain and chronic pain; the co-occurrence of chronic conditions and mental health; quality of life and disability; integrated, holistic and multidisciplinary care; and workplace adaptation and reintegration, amongst others. Likewise, SIP is delighted to announce that an International Classification Coding system for diseases is included within the European Health Data Space (EHDS) Joint Text of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. More specifically, as part of Annex 1, the main characteristics of priority categories of personal electronic health data for primary use are: Patient Summary. They state 'An International Classification Coding' to classify 'Current, resolved, closed or inactive problems' within patient summaries. This is a step in the right direction, and it will hopefully support the national roll-out of the International Classification of Diseases – 11th Revision.



During the first half of 2024, SIP has been heavily focusing on access to treatment, developing a Book of Evidence on the burden of pain, which will be launched at the European Parliament in October 2024 and which has been translated into all the different languages of the SIP National Platforms. Further, and as part of its access to treatment annual priority, SIP launched in June 2024 a Policy Framework for the delivery of pain care. This valuable publication aims to address the challenges individuals living with pain encounter in their respective countries. It provides a detailed framework to improve pain management and treatment, heighten patient outcomes, and decrease the overall burden of pain.

In addition, SIP will also hold its annual Stakeholder Forum, bringing together different EU Stakeholders and organisations working in the field of pain or pain-related policies, to discuss the new EU Agenda and set the policy priorities for the upcoming year.

In this regard, the new EU Political Guidelines for the next five years published by Ursula Von der Leyen in July 2024 specifically mentions her interest in focusing on severe shortages of medical devices and medicines, including painkillers and other products that are becoming more difficult to obtain. Although a specific strategy on pain is unlikely, and it's more likely that the focus will be on generic medicines overall, it is still an interesting development for the pain community, which brings opportunity. Other topics of interest for both EFIC and SIP include:

- Improved access to advanced treatments.
- Mental health, including at work.
- Cardiovascular diseases.
- Education, especially the recognition of different types of training to enable people to work across the EU, focusing also on vocational education and training (VET), to boost the number of people with secondary VET degree.

Finally, SIP has been strengthening its relationship and working very closely with its SIP National Platforms, holding quarterly meetings and discussing and setting activities at national level for each annual objective and policy priority. For example, SIP National Platforms have been translating all SIP Position Papers and advocacy resources into their national language, providing case studies on the burden of pain, and organising successful local events and webinars on different SIP objectives. Other activities and forms of collaboration include:

- Presenting SIP at their national congresses.
- Engaging with their national and EU policymakers.
- Co-developing with SIP all advocacy resources (i.e. Policy Framework for the delivery of pain care) and being part of the discussion with regards to setting the objectives and policy priorities for the upcoming year, amongst others.

8 – COMMITTEES

8.3 – ADVOCACY COMMITTEE – CHAIR: PATRICE FORGET

8.3.2 – ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT

The European Pain Forum continues to be a key pillar of EFIC's advocacy work, strengthening our relationship with our scientific partner organisations and expanding the impact of our scientific and educational work. Current projects that involve the European Pain Forum include our Research Strategy and our work in defining 'Multimodal Pain Treatment'. Both projects are expected to be finalised in the upcoming months, with both being showcased at the SIP event in October 2024. The Pain Forum members' endorsement of these projects will hugely increase their credibility and political weight. Further, EFIC has expanded the scope of the European Pain Forum and has invited a number of new organisations to join as members.

Our 'On The Move' campaign and working group, now led by Paul Cameron, continues to move along very nicely. A new plan has been drafted for the upcoming years, focusing on developing new materials and policy change. In addition, the working group recently published a Position Paper on Physical Activity, targeted at non-physiotherapists in the European Journal of Pain.

The 'Plain Talking' campaign and working group, now led by Nadja Nestler, continues to deliver numerous successes. In collaboration with PAE, the working group developed a Booklet entitled 'The Journey', a road-map for treatment that will prepare the person with pain for the experiences they are likely to encounter. 'The Journey' booklet has also been translated to more than fifteen languages. Further, and following the health literacy workshop at #EFIC2023, the working group is now looking into analysing what type of health literacy resources do healthcare professionals need, to support their patients' health literacy needs. In addition, they are also working on a scoping literature review. The deliverables of both projects can be expected in 2025.

Our work has carried on strongly, and we hope to continue this course and have an even greater impact in the coming years.

Patrice Forget

Chair, Advocacy Committee

8 – COMMITTEES

8.4 – OBJECTIVES

8.4.1 – INTERNAL OBJECTIVES

1

Be a trusted scientific partner for policy makers on policy issues related to pain prevention, management and treatment

2

Unify and represent the voices of healthcare professional organisations in Europe around the idea of 'pain as a biopsychosocial phenomenon'

3

Be an inclusive organisation, recognising the value of all professions involved in pain management, as well as the voice of patients

8 – COMMITTEES

8.4 – OBJECTIVES

8.4.2 – EXTERNAL OBJECTIVES

1

Foster the uptake of pain education for healthcare professionals in Europe at all levels of education

2

Promote pain as a priority research area, and encourage European and national research funding bodies to include pain as priority area

3

Campaign for (access to) multiprofessional and multimodal pain management

4

Promote the concept of 'pain as a condition in its own right' to empower patients with chronic primary pain

5

Engage in an evidence-based approach to controversies and societal concerns to inform public understanding

6

Promote the role of physical activity and low-risk interventions in pain management

7

Promote improved health literacy amongst HCPs, patients and general public to improve adherence to treatment and better self-management

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.1 – 2025 SPC CHAIR REPORT

PAIN IN EUROPE XIV: COMORBIDITY OF CHRONIC PAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS: BREAKING THE CYCLE

The congress will take place on Thursday, April 24th, Friday, April 25th, and Saturday, April 26th, 2025.

Plenary sessions

The congress will feature a total of 13 plenary including one early-career plenary session, two joint plenaries providing crossed views on a given topic one joint session with the European Headache Federation, and a plenary debate. Below is a list of the plenary sessions along with the respective speakers:

- Early-career plenary session: "Pain as a comorbidity of mental health disorders" - Keira Johnston, Lea Becker
- Joint plenary session: "Brain stimulation for chronic pain and psychiatric disorders" - Daniel Ciampi de Andrade, Dirk Rasche
- Joint plenary session: "The role of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration in chronic pain" - Marco Iloggia, Tsuda Makoto
- Joint plenary session with the European Headache Federation (EHF): "Monoclonal antibody therapies for chronic pain" - Simona Sacco, Martin Schmelz
- Plenary debate: "Nociplastic pain" - Winfried Hauser, Eva Kosek, Fusao Kato "Early Life Experiences And Chronic Pain" - Mélanie Noel
- "Evidence-Based Analysis Of Healthy Lifestyle Interventions In Chronic Pain" - Amanda Williams
- "Neuroimaging chronic pain and mental health disorders" - Etienne Vachon-Preseau
- "Pain management in people with substance use disorders" - Patrice Forget
- "Phenotyping chronic pain in population studies, and measuring associations with mental health" - Blair Smith
- "Psychedelics in chronic pain and mental health disorders" - Kim Kuypers
- "Neurobiological substrates underlying the interactions between mood disorders and pain" - Michelle Roche
- "How side effects may improve analgesic treatment efficacy" - Christian Buchel

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.1 – 2025 SPC CHAIR REPORT

PAIN IN EUROPE XIV: COMORBIDITY OF CHRONIC PAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS: BREAKING THE CYCLE

Abstracts

In the first round, a total of 556 abstracts were submitted. The SPC Committee will convene on September 20th to select them. The second round for Late-Breaking Abstract submissions will open on October 1st and close on November 25th.

The SPC has allowed (and encouraged) submission of abstracts with incomplete results. Submitters of abstracts with incomplete results will be invited to submit an updated version of their abstract during the "Late Breaking" call.

Oral poster communications and poster walks

Poster walks : 3 congress days x 4 poster areas x 2 poster walks per poster area = 24 poster walks

Number of posters that can be included in a poster walk : $24 \times 10 = 240$ posters

A selection of ± 20 workshops will be adjoined (1) a short oral poster communication (5 minutes presentation + 5 minutes Q&A at the beginning of the workshop session) and (2) a dedicated poster walk during the poster presentation session (10 posters, 60 minutes) which will be advertised during the workshop.

- Integrating oral poster communications within the topical workshops will improve attendance to these communications.
- Integrating oral poster communications within the topical workshops may enrich the workshop content.
- For workshop organizers and attendees, the poster walks will constitute an opportunity to extend discussions beyond the workshop.
- Poster walks led by experts in the poster walk topic will ensure good interactions during the poster walks.

A slot in the programme to be saved for a Late-breaking oral abstract session with the outstanding late-breakers to be allocated to a special session that will also be specially promoted in the programme.

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.1 – 2025 SPC CHAIR REPORT

PAIN IN EUROPE XIV: COMORBIDITY OF CHRONIC PAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS: BREAKING THE CYCLE

Refresher courses

The term "Refresher Courses" has been updated to "Clinical Masterclass" or "Research Masterclass," depending on the type of workshop. The congress can feature a total of 10 Masterclasses.

Currently five workshop submissions have been selected by the SPC to be reformatted into a Masterclass (4 Clinical Masterclasses and 1 Research Masterclass).

In addition, the Education Committee has proposed (in preparation):

- A profession-specific masterclass for nurses : "From Novice to Expert: Career pathways for pain nurses across Europe.
- A second master class for nurses promoting the EDPN.
- A profession-specific masterclass for psychologists
- A profession-specific masterclass for physiotherapists

"French Touch" Sessions

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has selected three sessions to take place during the congress. These sessions will be held on different days throughout the event. The selected sessions are as follows:

- "Regards croisés sur la douleur oculaire (Crossed perspectives on eye pain)"
- "De la multidisciplinarité à la pluriprofessionnalité dans la prise en charge de la Douleur (From multidisciplinary to multi-professional pain management)"
- "Science et prise en charge de la douleur en France : une brève histoire (A story of Pain research and management in France)"

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.1 – 2025 SPC CHAIR REPORT

PAIN IN EUROPE XIV: COMORBIDITY OF CHRONIC PAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS: BREAKING THE CYCLE

French Research Network

The French Research Network RFRD will organize two workshops with short oral communications by promising early-career researchers. Presentations will be in English.

Innovations implemented to improve the congress experience for ECRs

- New format for poster walks which should foster quality discussions between ECR poster presenters and experts in their field of research.

New format for ECR

André Mouraux

Chair, SPC of EFIC Pain in Europe XIV

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.2 - CONGRESS STRATEGY

Dear Councillors,

In preparation for the 14th Congress of the European Pain Federation EFIC®, which will be held in Lyon, France, from 24 to 26 April 2025, I would like to give you a more comprehensive overview of the landscape we are operating in, our challenges, and our focus for the future.

Challenges

Before discussing future strategies and ideas, I would like to present the main trends and challenges in the pain Congresses 'arena' and within EFIC, which influence and shape our congress participation and EFIC profit from Congress.

1. Congress and finances

Perhaps the central area of concern for EFIC over the coming years is the role of our Congress in our funding plans. Until the pandemic, the congress steadily grew both in numbers and profit. The 2019 congress in Valencia had around 3500 attendees and over 1,000,000 Euros in profit. The absence of new pain treatments and weak R&D led to a significant decline in the industry support, affecting not only the income from sponsorship and exhibition but also the number of participants. A large percentage of our attendees were supported by industry, directly or indirectly. It is assumed that around 40% of our attendees in 2019 were supported by pharma companies, either by registering them to Congress directly or indirectly through funds. In 2023, the ratio is different, and we assume that now less than 15% of attendees are supported by pharma.

Exhibition and sponsorship comparison 2017-2023

	2017	2019	2022	2023	2025
Sponsorship	€ 400,147	€ 400,000	€ 120,000	€ 140,000	
Exhibition	€ 340,575	€ 481,573	€ 225,000	€ 184,257	
Total	€ 740,722	€ 981,573	€ 325,000	€ 324,257	expected € 500,000

2. Other players in the arena:

the competitive environment in which multiple meetings and organizations are trying to attract Pain specialists leaves us in a situation where EFIC needs to stand out and continually differentiate our unique position and our leading role in the field of pain. We must do that while being lean, creative, and cost-effective as the financial environment is competitive, and we have to "fight" for every sponsor. This is the heart of our strategy!

9 – CONGRESS – PAIN IN EUROPE

9.2 - CONGRESS STRATEGY

Our strategy and actions for EFIC Congress 2025

1. Moved the congress dates – to avoid directly competing with several large-scale meetings in September/October 2025 we moved the congress dates to April.
2. Made a desirable business proposition to exhibitors and sponsors – we invite industry at all levels, exhibitors, and sponsors, offering unique value and exposure to our community. We continuously expand our database, adapting our offers to emerging companies with technologies and solutions that are not necessarily the “traditional pharma” we were used to.
3. A significant cut in cost – the congress budget is lean in every aspect – congress center rental, logistics, and supplier’s contract. Also, the efficiency and professionalism within the EFIC team, the fact that much of the operation and production is done in-house, and our open, and transparent relations with our PCO. Our goal is to improve the sustainability of our congress, so we can provide excellent value to our audience even in lean years. Lean budget, efficient team, managing the budget and negotiation within EFIC, strong technology, creativity, and innovation
4. Promotion – we promote the congress as part of our continued education, research and certification value. EFIC is one unit with many attributes that promote knowledge, science, professionalism and best practices and care for our community’s career evolution.
5. EFIC academy –Educational sessions from the congress are recorded, edited and are available for on-demand viewing. EFIC Academy allows us to extend the congress educational sessions to our larger audience while promoting membership and facilitating ongoing communication with our audience.
6. Strong growing database and constant scientific presence in social media – expanding our reach to larger audience with valuable content.

Inbar Caspi

Congress Manager, EFIC

10 – EFIC ACADEMY

10.1 – INTRODUCTION

The European Pain Federation Academy is our flag-ship education programme bringing together everyone who wishes to advance their competences through the Federation's comprehensive multi-professional education programme. Membership of the EFIC Academy allows individuals to have access to our most comprehensive educational projects, and to receive discounts on various events. All individual healthcare professionals and researchers looking for high quality pain education provided by leading European educators are invited to join the EFIC Academy. At present, we have dedicated content streams targeted at physicians, physiotherapists, psychologists and nurses.

10.2 – BENEFITS

Current benefits include:

- Free attendance to the EFIC Virtual Pain Education Summit of the year in which the membership is active
- Free access to the EFIC Academy Education Platform
- Free access to the European Journal of Pain
- Reduced fees for the EFIC Congress "Pain in Europe" – 10% discount on the fee (excl. VAT)
- Reduced fees for the EFIC exams – 25% discount on fees (excl. VAT)
- Networking and mentoring opportunities

10.3 – PRICING

Pricing is structured to be affordable to all clinicians regardless of profession and geography.

Category	Rate per annum
Regular (physicians from World Bank High Income Countries and pharmaceutical/ MedTech industry professionals)	145.00 €
Discounted (physicians from World Bank Lower- and Middle-Income Countries)	85.00 €
Allied Professionals (physiotherapists, psychologists, nurses)	75.00 €
Students	35.00 €

Prices as of September 2024 – excluding VAT.

10 – EFIC ACADEMY

10.4 – ACTIVITIES

The EFIC Academy has evolved in many ways in the past 12 months. The 3rd Virtual Pain Education Summit - organised as a members-only event - took place in May 2024. As a fully interprofessional education event, the Summit provided tailored education for four different key professions, whilst bringing all groups together for interprofessional learning.

On the Moodle-based EFIC Academy education platform, new sessions were added every two weeks with interactive Q&A webinars accompanying them.

In 2024, subtitling of the material was made available on the education platform in Spanish, German and Portuguese for a majority of pain medicine modules. We will very soon upload subtitling for all physiotherapy, nursing and psychology sessions.

Perhaps the biggest innovation for the Academy recently is the accreditation of numerous medical modules on our education platform by UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialists).

Modules now consist of the video lecture, additional reading materials, user feedback, and a short assessment with multiple choice questions. We will soon seek accreditation from nursing, psychology, and physiotherapy bodies.

10 – EFIC ACADEMY

10.5- NUMBER OF MEMBERS

As of September 2024, the EFIC Academy has 1.189 members broken down by these categories:

Category	Number of members
Regular	453
Discounted	175
Allied Professionals	276
Students	285

10.5.1 – PROFESSIONAL SUB-GROUPS

As the Academy brings together four key professions working in pain management, we aim to create and solidify these sub-groups within EFIC, which is most visibly represented by the number of registrants identifying with these professions.

As of September 2024, the sub-groups looked like this:

Category	Number of members
Physician	913
Physiotherapist	182
Psychologist	44
Nurse	50



11 – EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

11.1 – SUBMISSION FIGURES, REJECTION RATES, IMPACT FACTOR

The number of papers submitted to the European Journal of Pain (EJP) has steadily increased in the past years. Besides the increased attractiveness of the Journal, the high number of submissions in 2019 reflected an effect of the Covid-19 pandemic conditions, which allowed authors to find more time at home to work on their research. In 2023, EJP received 669 submissions, in accordance with the pre-pandemic figures, and we expect a slightly increased number this year since we received a total of more than 650 submissions until today.

The average response time from reception to the first decision went down to 19 days in 2023. Modifications in the panel of Section Editors and the use of the highly qualified Editorial Advisory Board members as reviewers had beneficial effects on decision times, which are currently stable at 18 days in the January-September 2024 period.

The rate of rejections remained stable at about 80% in 2023. 76% of rejections are proposed directly by Section Editors or Editor-in-Chief before submitting the paper for external peer 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 for authors and spare time and energy for external experts. We do our best to notify Editorial rejections to the authors in less than 10 days.

Unlike most other journals, the editorial rejection letter is always accompanied by a brief commentary indicating the reasons for such a quick decision, possible ways to overcome them, and suggesting if possible other journals that might be better targets for the manuscript. Starting January 2022, an agreement with our publisher Wiley & Sons is taking effect for a selection of rejected papers, whereby a “Transfer Desk Assistant” automatically indicates other possible journals from Wiley’s where the manuscript can be addressed after revision. This possibility will be optional, with the authors always being able to choose the ‘no transfer’ option.

After a somewhat artificial increase in the Journal’s Impact Factor (IF) in 2020, reaching almost 4, it is now stable at about 3.5 to 3.6.

11 – EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

11.2 – EDITORIAL BOARD – SECTION AND MANAGING EDITORS

Editor-in-chief: Didier Bouhassira

Deputy Editor: Luis Garcia-Larrea

Section Editors: Since the last report, Luis Villanueva and Rafael Maldonado stepped back from their position as section-editor. We are happy to welcome Kirsty Bannister from King’s College in London as new section-editor.

The panel of Section Editors as of September 2024:

Kirsty Bannister, London, UK

Michel Barrot, Strasbourg, France

Sophie Baudic, Paris, France

Ulf Baumgärtner, Hamburg, Germany

José Biurrún Manresa, Entre Ríos, Argentina

Daniel Ciampi de Andrade, Aalborg, Denmark

Luana Colloca, Baltimore, USA

Michele Curatolo, Seattle, USA

Geana Paula Kurita, Copenhagen, Denmark

Jörn Lötsch, Frankfurt, Germany

Lance McCracken, Uppsala, Sweden

Esther Pogatzki-Zahn, Münster, Germany

Michael Schäfer, Berlin, Germany

Andrea Truini, Rome, Italy

Tine Vervoort, Ghent, Belgium

Jan Vollert, London, UK

Harriet Wittnik, Utrecht, The Netherlands

You can see them all at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/15322149/homepage/editorialboard.html>

Managing Editor Dr Bettina Haake-Weber and Assistant Editor Dr Koichi Hagiwara keep working as pillars of the EJP day-to-day logistics. Their proficiency should be underscored in this report: their continual interaction with Chief and Section Editors, Authors, and Publisher, including responses to multiple (and often repetitive) author queries, ensure a smooth editorial process under a continuous increase in the number of papers to handle.

11 – EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

11.3 – EJP ADVISORY BOARD

The EJP Advisory Board (AB) is currently composed of 73 members, who represent a first line of high-quality potential reviewers for submitted papers. Regularly long-standing AB members with little or no late activity are asked to step down.

We try to progressively substitute these with young colleagues, particularly young she-doctors. The AB was last revised and updated in March 2024. 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. The Editorial Office keeps statistics on the relative contribution of AB members each year and gives valuable advice to make such decisions.

The 2024 Advisory Board can be consulted at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/15322149/homepage/editorialboard.html>

11.4 – PUBLISHED PAPERS

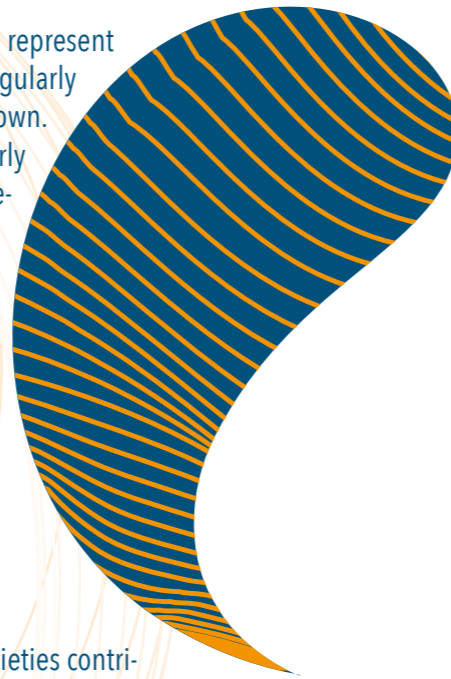
11.4.1. Access of EFIC members to full text: Members of national pain societies contributing to EFIC are entitled to free access to papers published in the EJP, regardless of whether these papers are categorized as 'open access'. Once on the EFIC main Webpage (<https://europeanpainfederation.eu/>), you need (i) to click on the "Our Journal" menu, then (ii) login with your EFIC member password, and (iii) click on the section "Access the European Journal of Pain" which appears in a further page. While the ergonomics to get the pdf access still needs to be improved (three consecutive pages needed), the procedure is robust and reliable, and should be widely explained and disseminated to Chapter members, so as they can access freely to published papers.

11.4.2. Video Abstracts. Starting in 2021, the authors of accepted papers were invited to produce a short video-abstract summarising the results of their article. All in all this opportunity unfortunately was not accepted by authors.

11.4.3. The EJP translated:

Cooperation between EJP-EFIC with Publisher Wiley and external sponsors allowed papers to be translated into Portuguese/Brazilian during the 2018-20 period under the supervision of Pr Daniel Ciampi de Andrade. In 2021, we started contacts to explore the possibility of implementing the translation of EJP papers to other languages to have them incorporated into the official journals of other European pain societies. This culminated in 2022 with a global EFIC-Wiley agreement, whereby all papers published in the EJP can be translated to appear in the Journals of National Pain Societies members of EFIC. The two conditions are that the translation itself is at the charge of the receiving Society, and that any citation to the article, including after translation, must correspond to the original paper in EJP. The Polish and French EFIC Chapters have already initiated the procedure toward their respective official organs of their Societies (Douleur & Analgésie, Ed. Pr Pierrick Poisbeau, and Ból, Ed. Pr Barbara Przewlocka). Since 2022, the three Editors' Choice articles chosen per issue have been sent to all EFIC chapters.

Special issue on Personalized Pain Medicine, including 9 papers, was published in October 2023: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15322149/2023/27/9>



11 – EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

11.5 – SPECIAL ISSUES, VIRTUAL ISSUES

Planned:

- Special issue on "Integrating AI and machine learning into pain research and therapy" (Jörn Lötsch)

- Special Issue on Basic Science (Michel Barrot)

Some members of the editorial board contribute to the publishers multi-journal collection/ special issue on "Gender Equality in Education" (Esther Pogatzki-Zahn):

[https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)9999-0009.gender-equality-in-education2023](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)9999-0009.gender-equality-in-education2023)

Homogenous series of papers on a given topic from different EJP issues are joined together as "pain collections", which are virtual issues that assemble papers on a same topic having appeared in different issues of the EJP. These collections can be consulted in full from the Journal's Web page to provide a broad and immediate access to the subject. Current collections on Cancer pain, Pain in Children, Cannabis-derived medicines and Complex regional pain syndrome are already available.

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



11.6 – AI IN PUBLISHING, OPEN ACCESS AND OUTLOOK TO A NEW PUBLISHING PROCESS

11.6.1. The use of AI in scientific publications is no longer science fiction but probably widely used. EJP implemented in its instructions for authors and in its submission form a required statement on whether and for what AI was used.

11.6.2. The publisher Wiley has a strong drive to become EJP, an open-access journal. At the moment, about 68% of EJP's content is published as paid open access. OA-articles are more cited and receive more attention. More and more institutions have an OA transformational-agreement with Wiley for not only full-OA-journals but also hybrid journals like EJP. Papers from R4Life-countries receive OA-options for free (Research4Life provides institutions in lower- and middle-income countries with online access to academic and professional peer-reviewed content.)

11.6.3. At the moment, an EJP-volume contains 10 issues with a total of up to 160 papers published per volume. The articles published in an issue are chosen "by hand" from the existing backlog by the editor-in-chief. From January 2025 on EJP will be testing a continuous publication process but keep the number of 10 issues per volume: every paper accepted for publication and typeset by the production office will automatically be included in the next issue that will be "closed" at its publication date.

11 – EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PAIN

11.7 – CONCLUSIONS

The European Journal of Pain remains in a position of scientific excellence, but also confronted to multiple challenges, in particular 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 papers' selection to improve our position in the fields of pain science and pain clinics. This policy is accomplished by a panel of high-level Editors and has translated since five years in a steady increase of the number of submissions and of impact factor. The European Pain Federation Councillors and 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 citing the Journal in their own papers, to keep the EJP as the indisputable reference of pain research and clinics in Europe.

Didier Bouhassira

Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of Pain

12 – FINANCES

12.1 – HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Colleagues,

I address you again as Honorary Treasurer of EFIC, with a more positive future appearing before us. We are still looking at a challenging environment, with congresses and especially pain congresses facing difficulties. Nevertheless, through the actions we have taken, EFIC is starting to see a financial picture that is beginning to stabilise. This is very difficult, when the congress contributed 50% of our necessary operating income. However, we have found a way to decrease our losses without a large amount of income coming from our congress. We hope this trend continues and with our congress performance improving, profitable years on the horizon.

12.1.1 – 2023 PERFORMANCE

We end the financial year with assets of 2.709.803,06 euros, with a loss of -337,251.77 euros for the period. This is our fourth negative year, though with losses this year less than half the size of 2022. Our expenditure for 2023 came to just under 2.17 million euros. Operating expenditure is reasonably well controlled. On the income side, we had just over 1.8 million euros in income, as increase of over 200,000 on the previous year. Our congress profit came to around 120,000 euros, with additional income coming from projects like the EFIC Academy, EU-funded projects and an improved situation with our financial investments.

A loss of 337k is significant, but the loss was 711k the year previous and was originally predicted to be 120k higher this year. This should be seen as a good sign of progress.

12.1.2 – 2024 BUDGET

Our 2024 budget foresees a stable operating expenditure, with a modest increase in costs coming from our involvement in EU-funded research projects, as well as an increase in salaries owing to mandatory indexation and a temporary increase in employees reflecting the congress team structure changing. We usually see a drop in expenditure actuals compared to budgeted figures, but we can't predict now where that will fall.

The income picture is more positive than in recent years, with a profit of around 200,000 euros expected from our congress, owing in particular to a stronger sponsorship environment. We also expect continued success from our Academy project.

12 – FINANCES

12.1 – HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

12.1.3 – SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

The Executive Board met at the start of 2024 to consider various stronger measures to improve financial performance. Some measures were adopted and have started taking effect already.

Income

Academy membership to be prioritised – we set a target of 80,000 euros per year in income. We surpassed this already last year and are on track for 120,000 euros per year.

EU-funded projects – we are currently receiving around 70,000 euros per year in income and aim for nearer 100,000 euros per year. It is a learning process and comes with a lot of accompanying expenditure.

Academy-related sponsorship – we have launched a few items that are proving popular with sponsors, and this significantly contributes to the total income-generating impact of the Academy.

We hired a new sponsorship liaison manager for EFIC, which is proving to be a big positive change for the profitability of the Lyon congress.

We increased fees for our examinations which has not had an impact on their attractiveness, suggesting scope for further increases in the future.

Expenditure

We cut Executive Board secretarial expenditure costs by 50%.

We proposed a new financial model for the EFIC pain schools which should lead to around 18,000 euros per year in savings.

We are minimising our printing and travel significantly – both for working meetings and for net-working meetings.

The impact of all these changes is not reflected in 2023 performance but should be visible in the next financial year.

Patrice Forget

Honorary Treasurer

12 – FINANCES

12.2 – 2023 ACCOUNTS CLOSE

OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals
Office expenses	32,050.00	24,003.16
Website, Software & Online Subscr.	40,000.00	41,870.56
Communications, Marketing & Publ.	23,000.00	16,437.85
Service providers and consultants	296,750.00	343,229.23
EU-funded projects	33,000.00	31,984.12
Meeting expenses	32,000.00	17,191.15
Events	1,136,953.00	777,498.20
EJP	87,500.00	81,636.46
Educational programs	266,500.00	240,186.40
Salaries	377,256.12	363,940.00
Depreciation	0.00	27,904.47
EXB expenses	52,500.00	39,200.00
Taxes	9,700.00	12,153.05
Financial costs	185,500.00	-9,616.96
Total Operating Expenditure	2,572,609.12	2,007,617.69

PROJECT EXPENDITURE		
EGG	110,000.00	110,179.99
SIP	62,500.00	59,178.82
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,745,109.12	2,166,976.50

OPERATING INCOME	2023 Budget	2023 Actuals
EJP	211,350.00	223,100.83
Industry support	132,434.66	106,868.63
Miscellaneous		
– Contributing members	70,000.00	115,355.50
– Examinations	43,000.00	43,159.07
– EU-funded projects	104,320.80	87,808.20
– Rental income	30,000.00	22,500.00
– Secretarial services	20,500.00	15,156.00
– Other	0.00	0.00
Congress	1,349,003.00	902,880.92
Financial income	98,438.00	83,656.14
Total Operating income	2,059,036.46	1,600,485.29

PROJECT INCOME		
EGG	110,000.00	110,000.00
SIP	120,000.00	119,239.44
TOTAL INCOME	2,289,036.40	1,829,724.73

12 – FINANCES

12.3- AUDITOR'S REPORT



**STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL NOT-FOR-PROFIT
ASSOCIATION EFIC EUROPEAN PAIN FEDERATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
(TRADE REGISTER OF BRUSSELS, DUTCH DEPARTMENT – VAT BE 0470.073.480)**

In the context of the statutory audit of the annual accounts of IVZW 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.

We have been appointed as statutory auditor by the general meeting of members of 19 September 2023, 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 2026. We have performed the statutory audit of the annual accounts of the Organisation for 12 consecutive years.

Report on the annual accounts – Unqualified opinion

We have audited the annual accounts of the Organisation, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2024, the profit and loss account for the year then ended and the notes to the annual accounts, characterised by a balance sheet total of € 3.018.544 and profit and loss account showing a loss for the year of € 337.251,77.

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 2024, as well as of its results for the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium.

Basis for unqualified opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Belgium. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Statutory auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the annual accounts' section in this report. We have complied with all the ethical requirements that are relevant to the audit of annual accounts in Belgium, including those concerning independence.

12 – FINANCES

12.4 – 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 2023 until 31 March 2024. 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 2023 accounts. On that basis I recommend the Council approve the accounts for the last financial year.

Ana Pedro

Chair, Audit Committee

12.5 – 2024 BUDGET

OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2024 Budget
Office expenses	28,500.00
Website, Software & Online Subscr.	40,000.00
Communications, Marketing & Publ.	18,000.00
EU-funded projects	87,000.00
Service providers and consultants	292,150.00
Meeting expenses	16,500.00
Events	1,100,000.00
EJP	93,000.00
Educational programs	168,500.00
Salaries	390,430.41
Depreciation	27,827.35
EXB expenses	20,400.00
Taxes	16,750.00
Financial costs	100,600.00
Total Operating Expenditure	2,399,657.76
PROJECT EXPENDITURE	
EGG	0.00
SIP	60,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,459,657.76

12 - FINANCES

12.5 - 2024 BUDGET

OPERATING INCOME	2024 Budget
EJP	221,878.67
Industry support	106,000.00
Miscellaneous	
- Contributing Members	120,000.00
- Examinations	48,000.00
- EU-funded projects	63,000.00
- Rental income	0.00
- Secretarial services	0.00
- Other	35,000.00
Congress	1,300,000.00
Financial income	18,888.00
Total Operating income	1,912,766.67
PROJECT INCOME	
EGG	10,000.00
SIP	120,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	2,042,766.67

13 - TRANSPARENCY

The European Pain Federation EFIC strongly believes 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, particularly 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 primary sources of operating income are our congress, our Academy scheme, our journal income and industry partnerships.

Across 2022-2023, EFIC had a total operating income of 2,954,492.38 euros.

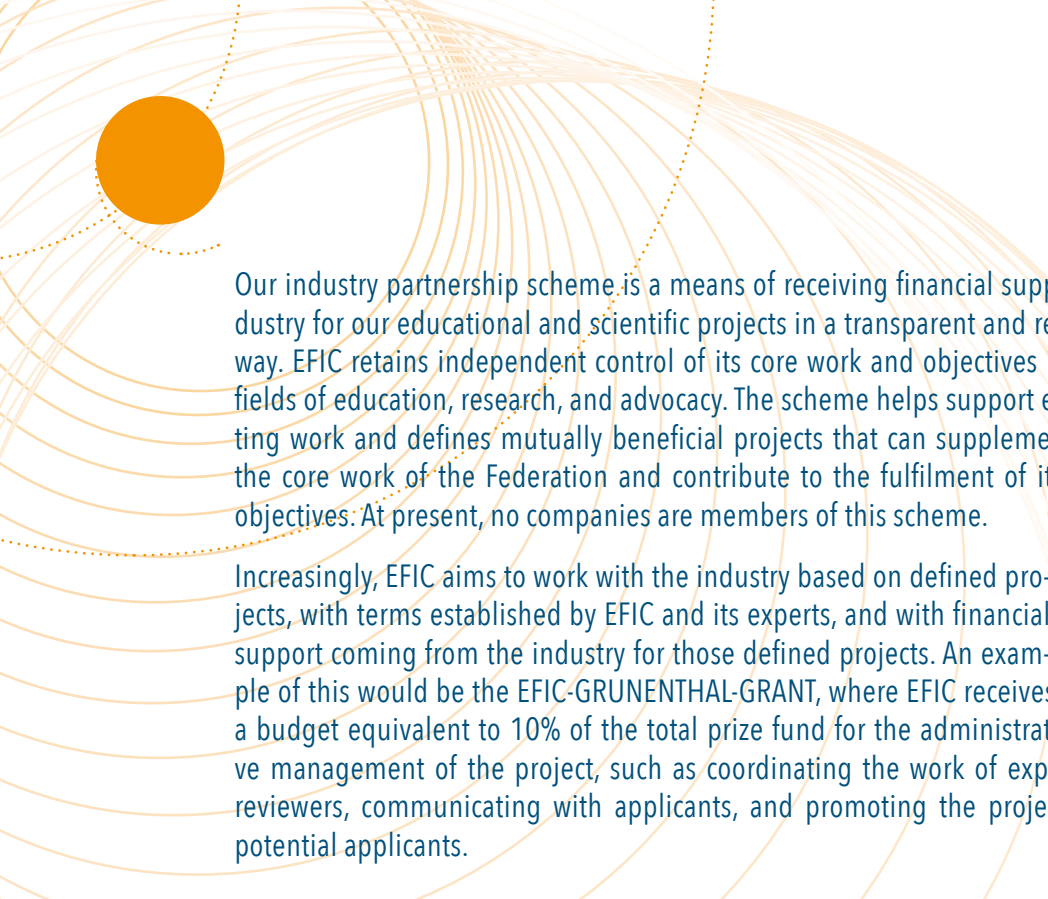
- 1,681,970.72 euros came from EFIC's congress.
- 172,234.46 euros came from our Academy scheme
- 218,668.15 euros came from industry partnerships.
- 454,622.37 euros came from our Journal (royalties and expense budget)
- The remaining income comes from smaller sources such as office rental income and secretarial services, our examinations, EU-funded projects and others.

Congress income can be divided primarily between registration fees and sponsorship from industry. Income from congress sponsorship over this period amounted to 536,039.439 euros

Therefore, approximately 754,707.59 euros of our operating income came from the pharmaceutical and medical device industries, which comes to around 25.5% as a percentage of total operating income.

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

Our congress is aligned 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, no companies are members of this scheme.

Increasingly, EFIC aims to work with the industry based on defined projects, with terms established by EFIC and its experts, and with financial support coming from the industry for those defined projects. An example of this would be the EFIC-GRUNENTHAL-GRANT, where EFIC receives a budget equivalent to 10% of the total prize fund for the administrative management of the project, such as coordinating the work of expert reviewers, communicating with applicants, and promoting the project to potential applicants.

How does EFIC ensure it remains independent while 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. Our experienced Executive Office team manages company engagement professionally to ensure that EFIC's values and objectives are followed. EFIC's educational, scientific, and political direction is developed independently by EFIC's experts. In 2023, EFIC approved an ethics plan which is due to be implemented this year, establishing best practices and rules to follow to safeguard the organisation's independence and integrity.

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.

