

Regional Meeting of National Brain Councils

10th July 2019

Belgrade, Serbia

Main conclusions

The first Regional Meeting of National Brain Councils (NBCs), gathering NBCs, neuroscience groups, psychiatric associations and patient groups, was organized in Belgrade on 10th July 2019. On this occasion, delegates representing 9 countries located in South-East Europe met in order to exchange views on joint initiatives, regional challenges and strategies for reinforcing the advocacy work of the NBCs. Please find below an overview of the main proposed actions that were discussed during the meeting (to be considered by EBC and the network of NBCs):

- Further support the policy-related outreach activities launched by NBCs aimed at informing and advising national decision-makers about robust policy-measures for accelerating brain research;
- Expand the NBC-webpages on the EBC website and look into opportunities for launching an online platform allowing NBCs to interact and share news about their recent activities as well as best practices and experiences. Such platform could also serve as a means to support regional partners in their efforts aimed at launching new NBCs;
- Update and re-circulate the “Toolkit for National Brain Councils”. The updated toolkit should in particular focus on providing guidance on how to connect with national decision-makers and the general public;
- Explore opportunities for launching start-up grants to support local partners in setting up NBCs;

- Extend the network of EBC ambassadors and involve the ambassadors in outreach activities targeting relevant national organizations that could join as members of NBCs;
- Set-up a newsletter that covers the activities and advocacy initiatives launched by NBCs.