



# Brain Innovation Days

13-14 October 2020  
Brussels, Belgium

Disrupt and Rewire: How Brain Innovation is changing Europe

**179 million Europeans** are currently living with brain disorders and this is to steadily increase as the population ages.

Though **one in three Europeans are set to live with a brain disease** at some point of their life, neurological and mental alike. In addition, it is estimated that brain disorders account for up to 45% of total healthcare budgets and this burden is expected to grow.

Despite the prevalence of brain disorders in Europe, there is currently no disease modifying treatment available to cure a wide range of mental and neurological conditions. Developing treatments that can significantly improve the lives of those living with brain disorders is extremely challenging.

Yet, compared to other disease areas, the pace of innovation in this field has traditionally been hindered by multiple factors, including the complexity of the brain itself. As a result, brain treatments remain insufficient and research is disproportionately underfunded compared to other disease areas.

We believe **enhanced multi-stakeholder engagement** in the brain ecosystem is needed to foster dialogue, exchange knowledge, accelerate investment in research and innovation, facilitate business development and showcase on-going work.

## Organizers



### European Brain Council

The European Brain Council (EBC) is a network of key players in the “brain space”, with a membership encompassing scientific and professional societies, patient organisations and industry partners. A non-profit organisation based in Brussels, its main mission is to promote brain research with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of those living with brain conditions, mental and neurological alike.



### beLean.net

beLean.net is the reference accelerator in the field of biotechnology and medical technologies in Wallonia, Belgium. Its team of complementary experts supports biotechs and med-techs by providing them services in strategy, finance and management all along their growth journey: from scratch, through start-up to scale-up.

# Who should attend the Brain Innovation Days?

The Brain Innovation Days were shaped through the notion that **multi-stakeholder engagement** in the brain community is key to drive progress and foster innovation. Though the community at large has improved in collaboration, it is oft still fragmented and siloed; the Brain Innovation Days want to help change this and reshape the brain ecosystem to one that supports its members, pushes for knowledge exchange for the greater good, stimulates investment and convinces key stakeholders that the future is in brain innovation.

The Brain Innovation Days will welcome:



Innovators/start-ups



Industry



Researchers



Patients/patient representatives



Academics



Funders



Businesses



Healthcare professionals



Policymakers

## Shaping policy through the Brain Innovation Days

As part of the funding community, policymakers play a vital role in ensuring brain research and innovation remain at the top of the research priority list. Through the Brain Innovation Days, particularly the **policy-oriented opening session** and **showcase of cutting-edge brain innovation** throughout the two days, the event hopes to convince and enforce the importance of innovation in research – particularly brain research – to these key decision makers.

# ●●● Overarching Theme & Topics ●●●

## Disrupt and rewire: How brain innovation is changing Europe

*Thomas Edison, one of the great minds of the second industrial revolution, once said that “the chief function of the body is to carry the brain around.” Understanding the human brain – how it works, and how it is afflicted by diseases and disorders – is an important frontier in science and society today.*

## TOPICS

All sessions within the Brain Innovation Days will fall under the following 5 overarching topics:



### **The Brain and The Machine**

Is your brain a machine? Are machines intelligent? Can they think? Nowadays, we can connect our brains to technologies through artificial intelligence, robots, and brain computer interfaces. But can they help to overcome our human limitations?



### **United for brain innovation**

Costs of brain diseases are increasing. The brain is still a mystery and its complexity hinders the pace of innovation. How can partnerships accelerate the translation of our huge amounts of knowledge into novel interventions and improve the lives of millions of brain patients and of our society as a whole?



### **Personalised brain care for all?**

There is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all approach to brain health. Considering the side effect of common brain health interventions, how can we provide more personalised healthcare? Is precision medicine the future of brain health?



### **Creative brain interventions**





From medication to meditation, new pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical interventions are continuously popping up to treat brain diseases. How can they be combined? Novel technologies provide hope for more effective therapies.



### **Societal and (neuro)ethical responsibilities**

Rapid advances in neuroscience, diagnosis and interventions of brain diseases raise critical questions. How do we decide how far to go? How do we ensure that brain innovations will help and not harm society? How will they be accessible to those who need them? How to protect and use personal data collected by these technologies?

# ●●● Exhibition Village ●●●

Exhibitors	Start-ups (<5 year old)	Advanced
<b>Price</b>	750€	1500€
<b>One space</b> (around 2mx3m) <b>in the allocated area with one table and chairs</b>	 In the Innovation Corner	 General exhibition
<b>Number of tickets</b> (total 50 tickets)	2	2
<b>Logo exposure on website and programme booklet, mailings and additional exhibition showcase coverage</b> (i.e. Twitter)		

For further information and to take part, please contact [info@braininnovationdays.eu](mailto:info@braininnovationdays.eu)

