



Brain Innovation Days

15-16 October 2025
Brussels, Belgium

The Adaptive Brain in a Fast-Evolving World

What are the Brain Innovation Days?

The concept of the Brain Innovation Days, led by the European Brain Council, is to enhance multi-stakeholder engagement in the brain ecosystem to foster dialogue, exchange knowledge, accelerate investment in research and innovation, facilitate business development and showcase on-going work.

At some point of their lives, one in three Europeans will live with a brain disease – neurological and mental alike. It is estimated that brain disorders account for up to 45% of total healthcare budgets. Despite this high prevalence of brain disorders in Europe, a wide range of mental and neurological conditions has currently no disease-modifying treatment or cure. Compared to other disease areas, multiple factors hinder the pace of innovation in this field, including the complexity of the brain itself. Research in the field is disproportionately underfunded compared to other disease areas and, as a result, brain treatments remain insufficient. It is critical that the scientific, patient, stakeholder and policy community come together and exchange on the state of play.

The first Brain Innovation Days launched virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, kicking off one full year of a packed brain innovation agenda, building up to the 1st on-site event in 2021. Five years later, the 5th edition of the Brain Innovation Days took place on **15-16 October 2025** in Brussels (Belgium) under the overarching theme “**The Adaptive Brain in a Fast-Evolving World**”. The two jam-packed days of high-level brain innovation brought together more than 80 speakers and more than 30 sessions, including inspiring Brain Talks and panel discussions, impressive innovation showcases, and last but not least, an abundance of networking opportunities.





Engaging the entire brain community

An idea born out of exchange between leading organisations in brain research and brain-related start-ups, and the need to better integrate the various brain communities in the wider ecosystem.



Accelerating Innovation

Where leaders in their own fields can meet to exchange knowledge, foster collaboration, connect the dots within the wider brain innovation community, inspire policy reform and prioritisation, and potentiate/accelerate investment and business opportunities.



Showcasing the best of the ecosystem

To provide opportunities for the wider brain community in Europe to showcase their work to a diverse audience, allowing for exposure of their work and/or business and networking opportunities, especially for stakeholders without day-to-day interaction that may be relevant to each other.

Key Takeaways from 2025

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Being able to interact with other players in the ecosystem during Brain Innovation Days is really important.

Antoine Pouppez, CEO & Co-Founder of neuroClues
(Winner Pitch Competition Audience Prize)



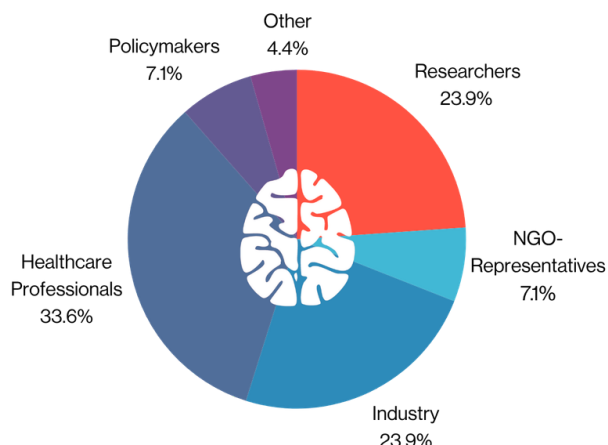
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What start-ups are doing successfully is applying to Brain Innovation Days and to be seen on the European stage, making connections, making networks that provide additional benefits.

Pascal Joncour, Partner, Convergence Partners
(Pitch Competition Jury Member)



Stakeholder Mapping 2025



80+ Speakers



250+ Attendees



Most Represented Countries:
Belgium, Germany, USA, France
The Netherlands, Italy



Rated 4.4/5 by Attendees

Digital App BIDsays and the Treasure Hunt

For the first time at the Brain Innovation Days, a **treasure hunt** via the **BIDays app** promoted interactive and meaningful engagement, motivating participants to visit booths, connect with exhibitors and discover innovative solutions through conversations. The treasure hunt was supported by prizes from **Garmin Health** and **Waking Up**, including a fitness smartwatch, a one-year subscription to a meditation app and a signed book recommendation from EBC President Suzanne Dickson.

What to expect in 2026 and beyond



Knowledge sharing

Attend a number of sessions presented by experts, focused on the latest cutting-edge work underway. These will take place throughout the day in the form of panels, round tables, inspiring Brain Talks and How To Sessions — without taking away from the networking time.



Showcasing Opportunities

Explore the latest in brain innovation by visiting our Innovation Hall, set up for companies to showcase their tangible tools and devices and for researchers to present posters. The 5th Brain Innovation Days Pitch Competition will take place — finalists will battle it out on stage to be awarded Best Pitch by a jury of experts and the public.



Community Building

Meet new people and build your brain network — the Brain Innovation Days put a heavy focus on bringing the community together to foster interaction and build connections for the benefit of the brain! Find an investor for your idea/company, meet a researcher with similar work, learn more from patients living with a brain condition, connect with industry and learn about their pipelines... and plenty more!

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Innovation
Days**

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