



## Letter of Intent for current and future collaborations between ESO and EAN

### Prepared by:

**EAN:** Prof. Dr. David B. Vodusek, Chair, Liaison Committee, European Academy of Neurology, Medical Director, Division of Neurology, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Slovenia, Tel. +386 15223074, [david.vodusek@kclj.si](mailto:david.vodusek@kclj.si)

**ESO:** Prof Joanna M Wardlaw, Chair, Liaison Committee, European Stroke Organisation, Director, Edinburgh Imaging, Neuroimaging Sciences and Brain Research Imaging Centre, University of Edinburgh and NHS Lothian, Edinburgh, UK, tel:+441315372943, [joanna.wardlaw@ed.ac.uk](mailto:joanna.wardlaw@ed.ac.uk)

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### Other contacts:

**EAN:** Liaison Officer: Ms. Eveline Sipido. [sipido@eaneurology.org](mailto:sipido@eaneurology.org)

President: Prof. Dr. Günther Deuschl, Chairman of the Department of Neurology, UKSH, Kiel, Christian-Albrechts University, President of the European Academy of Neurology, Kiel, Germany, Tel. +49-(0)431-597-8500, [g.deuschl@neurologie.uni-kiel.de](mailto:g.deuschl@neurologie.uni-kiel.de)

**ESO:** Liaison Officer: Ms Elvira Pistillo. [elvira.pistillo@congrex-switzerland.com](mailto:elvira.pistillo@congrex-switzerland.com) until Jan 2016, thereafter Daniela Niederfeld [daniela.niederfeld@eso-stroke.org](mailto:daniela.niederfeld@eso-stroke.org)

President elect: Valeria Caso, MD, PhD, FESO, Stroke Unit, Perugia, Italy [vcaso@hotmail.com](mailto:vcaso@hotmail.com)

Principle goal: to create a stronger bond between EAN and ESO

Why? To promote optimal treatment of stroke patients in Europe and to promote EAN and ESO as the leading societies for neurologists and stroke specialists, respectively, in Europe. This collaboration aims at improving availability and quality of educational and scientific endeavors, attracting and growing intellects and creating truly European neurologists and stroke specialists. Lobbying in Brussels for harmonization of therapy of stroke and other neurological diseases as well as lobbying for research is another topic for collaboration.

Key areas of collaboration to deliver this goal:

1. **Annual Scientific Conferences:** the permanent establishment of joint sessions at each other's annual meetings and other relevant conferences,
2. **Best Practice Guidelines:** the nomination of representatives for the guidelines modules,
3. **Optimising Education:** summer schools, teaching courses and visiting doctor exchanges
4. **Liaison:** encouraging links with other relevant Societies.



Some points worth noting: **EAN** represents Neurologists, for whom stroke is one area of interest amongst many other neurological disorders. **EAN** strives to provide to the non-subspecialist high quality fully updated information from a subspecialist field, useful and necessary to the "general neurologist". To maintain a good working relationship with subspecialties and have "external assurance" of high quality of speakers, **EAN** seeks collaboration with subspecialty societies.

**ESO** represents all stroke specialists, of which Neurology is one represented specialty amongst many including Geriatrists, Stroke Physicians, Emergency Medicine Physicians, Neuroradiologists, Cardiologists, Rehabilitation Medicine Physicians, Basic Scientists, Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech therapists, Clinical Trialists, Epidemiologists, Public Health Physicians, etc.

This suggests that the two societies' mutual aspirations should be complementary and fit rather well together.

#### Operationalising the vision:

**Science:** EAN and ESO should run a *joint scientific seminar within their respective Annual conferences* on a topic of mutual interest, e.g. in EAN there could be a "Hot off the press stroke science for the general neurologist" and in ESO there could be a "New science from neurology as relevant to stroke". Each seminar would have a mix of speakers suggested by EAN and ESO; the respective conference committees to take responsibility for organising these each year.

Additionally, EAN and ESO could provide each other with advice on good speakers for plenary talks, educational symposia, etc. This exchange should be managed via the EAN Scientific Panel of Stroke (see below), or via the EAN Education Committee (see below) other relevant Scientific Panel for other topics.

**Guidelines:** see <http://www.eso-stroke.org/eso-stroke/education/guidelines.html> ESO already has several guidelines (inclusive translations) that would be of interest to EAN – note one with ENS and EFNS will need to be renamed or updated. This should conceivably be the start of a fruitful cooperation on guidelines.

ESO Guideline Committee members are listed on the last page (note all except one are neurologists). Possibly there is an overlap here with the EAN Committee already. As the EAN Subspecialty committee on stroke is in transition, it will be easy to implement any agreed modifications of composition of this committee even in 2015.

Suggest ESO nominates someone from their Guideline Committee and someone from their International Liaison Committee to sit on the Managing Group of the EAN Scientific Panel on Stroke. Or that EAN allows ESO to propose the EAN co-chair of this panel. These suggestions may be evolved in light of recent changes in how EAN manages its Scientific panels.

**Education:** EAN and ESO could have a *joint educational workshop/Teaching course (TC) at their respective Annual Scientific Meetings* – e.g. a joint EAN-ESO TC on stroke at the next EAN meeting? ESO educational workshops typically take place on the day before the Scientific Conference starts and are charged separately. E.g. there could be an ESO-EAN symposium in the next ESO Annual Meeting (Barcelona, May 2016) on e.g. 'What should





stroke specialists tell the general neurologist' with speakers from both societies, and vice versa.

ESO holds an annual Summer School (a week in a different stroke centre in Europe each year), a Winter School (joint with ESMINT and ESNR, on acute interdisciplinary stroke treatment), and a Masters in Stroke Medicine (runs over 2 years with various lectures, a thesis and practical experience) and has online Educational Modules, lectures, etc. Much of this would be of interest to EAN members and indeed are already heavily attended by neurologists – suggest:

- That these ESO activities should be formally 'acknowledged/endorsed' by EAN for stroke education for neurologists?
- Consider reduced fees or other recognition for EAN full or corresponding individual membership.

EAN Education is coordinated through the Education committee (members at the end of text) led by Hannah Cock, London, UK.

***Liaisons:*** EAN would strive to include ESO in any collaboration with third partners if stroke would be on the agenda. ESO will keep EAN informed on issues related to stroke and general neurology, including multinational initiatives. EAN would bring to the partnership contacts with other neurological subspecialty societies potentially valuable for cross-fertilization of the scientific and educational missions of both EAN and ESO, particularly where relevant to stroke, for instance, the International League against Epilepsy – European Chapter represents interest in a major complication of stroke – thus all societies' members would benefit.

EAN would propose to collaborate on general issues concerning communication and cooperation with other stakeholders in the health and research fields, including institutions, patient associations and industry.

Potential issues:

EAN and ESO next annual congresses are already in late planning stages.

There are also other specialties contributing to the ESO guidelines, but this should be valuable for creating consensus in Europe.

Current members of ESO Guidelines committee:

Thorsten Steiner (Chair), Germany  
George Ntaios (Chair), Greece  
Natan Bornstein, Israel  
Valeria Caso, Italy  
Hanne Christensen, Denmark  
Jacques De Keyser, Belgium  
Exuperio Diez-Tejedor, Spain  
José Ferro, Portugal  
Armin Grau, Germany  
Emanuela Keller, Switzerland  
Danilo Toni, Italy



Guillaume Turc, France  
Bart van der Worp, Netherlands  
Hans-Christoph Diener, Germany - advisory member  
Gary Ford, UK - ESO-Karolinska Stroke Update advisory member  
Didier Leys, France - ESO-Karolinska Stroke Update advisory member  
David Russell, Norway - ESO-Karolinska Stroke Update advisory member

Current members of ESO education committee:

Charlotte Cordonnier (Chair), France  
Marcel Arnold, Switzerland  
Jean Claude Baron, France  
Yannick Béjôt, France  
Alvaro Cervera, Spain  
Krishna Dani, United Kingdom  
Raoul Eckhardt, Austria  
Julia Ferrari, Austria  
Jaap Kappelle, Netherlands  
Rolf Kern, Germany  
Martin Köhrmann, Germany  
Keith Muir, United Kingdom  
Satu Mustanoja, Finland  
Georgios Ntaios, Greece  
Laszlo Olah, Hungary  
Aleksandra Pavlovic, Serbia  
Jesper Petersson, Sweden  
Marco Ribo, Spain  
Jan Sobesky, Germany  
Emmanuel Touzé, France  
David Werring, United Kingdom

Current members of the EAN Education Committee

Hannah R. Cock, United Kingdom  
Joke Jaarsma, The Netherlands  
Jan B.M. Kuks, The Netherlands  
Theodore Landis, Switzerland  
Vitalie Lisnic, Moldova  
Maria Trojano, Italy  
Anna Isabel Verdelho Portugal  
Antonella Macerollo, Italy  
David B. Vodusek, Slovenia

Current members of the ESO Programme Committee

Kennedy Lees, UK (Chair)  
Natan Bornstein, Israel  
Michael Brainin, Austria  
Valeria Caso, Italy



Angel Chamorro, *Spain*  
Martin Dichgans, *Germany*  
Urs Fischer, *Switzerland*  
Miquel Gallofre Lopez, *Spain*  
Heinrich Mattle, *Switzerland*  
Patrik Michel, *Switzerland*  
Robert Mikulik, *Czech Republic*  
Turgut Tatlisumak, *Finland*  
Bart van der Worp, *The Netherlands*

Current members of the EAN Programme Committee

Paul Boon, Belgium  
Valeria Caso, Italy  
Hannah Cock, UK  
Marianne Dieterich, Germany  
Antonio Federico, Italy  
Theodor Landis, Switzerland  
Philip Scheltens, The Netherlands  
Aksel Siva, Turkey  
Riccardo Soffietti, Italy  
Guido Stoll, Germany  
Joaquim Ferreira (Portugal) - MDS-ES delegate

Vienna, 23 September 2015

Glasgow,

A blue ink signature of Guenther Deuschl.

Guenther Deuschl  
President  
European Academy of Neurology

A black ink signature of Kennedy Lees.

Kennedy Lees  
President  
European Stroke Organisation