

Neurotech^{EU}

The European University of Brain and Technology



[D1.1]

[All governance structures are established and running]

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Executive summary

In the proposal of Neurotech^{EU}, we promised to implement, execute, and refine, as necessary, a dynamic, efficient, and effective organizational structure for project handling, resource allocation, financial management, quality assurance, and risk and change management. As a result, from the start of the project, we have pursued this objective. We have implemented a scalable and modular governance structure allowing an optimal international, multi-institutional and intersectoral collaboration. The NeurotechEU governance and management structure follows a multi-levelled and multi-layered structure organisation with clear connections and synergies between each organizational body and unit. The core values of this structure are efficiency, flexibility, and robustness consistent with EC guidelines.

1. Neurotech^{EU} Board of Rectors

The NeurotechEU Board of Rectors (BoR) consists of all the rectors from the partners forming the Alliance. They are responsible for the long-term strategies and goals of Neurotech^{EU}. Furthermore, their role is to implement the cooperation principles in the participating universities.

The BoR has a rotating chair, changing every six months. At each meeting, a new chair is appointed. The first chair of the BoR was Rector Magnificus Prof. Dr. Han van Krieken (Radboud University) who passed the lead in October 2021 to Prof. Dr. Michael Hoch (University of Bonn), followed by Prof. Dr. Anca Buzoianu (Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy). The second part of 2022 the NeurotechEU alliance BoR will be chaired by Prof. Dr. Vicente Micol (Miguel Hernández University of Elche).

The BoR meets twice a year, and the location of the meeting circulates across the Alliance. On June 11, 2021 the first meeting was held digitally due to the Covid19 pandemic hosted by Radboud University. The second meeting was organised in person at the University of Bonn on October 6 and 7, 2021. The third meeting was organized in Cluj-Napoca, Romania on May 17 and 18, 2022 and was organized by Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy. The next meeting is set for November 2022 in Alicante, Spain and will be hosted by Miguel Hernández University.



Board of Rectors, October 7, 2021, Bonn.

From left to right:

- Elek Bartha** (University of Debrecen)
- Abdallah Ougazzaden** (Georgia Tech Lorraine, invited as a guest in the perspective of our Alliance expansion)
- Anders Gustafsson** (Karolinska Institutet)
- Vicente Micol** (Miguel Hernández University of Elche)
- Han van Krieken** (Radboud University)
- Zoltan Molnar** (University of Oxford)
- Anca Buzoianu** (Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy)
- Can Yücesoy** (Bogazici University)
- Michael Hoch** (University of Bonn)





2. Neurotech^{EU} Board of Governors

The Board of Governors is composed of the designated lead PIs of the consortium partners. These are mostly also lead one of the eight Work Package (WP). In addition, the BoG includes two elected student representatives who will sit as full members with one vote for the voting process. The BoG acts as the project management board which is the ultimate decision making body of the project. Each partner lead has a vice-lead who will join the board meeting in case of unavailability. The composition is the following:

WP	BoG Members
WP1, led by RU: General Management and Coordination	Prof. Paul Verschure Maud Hendriks
WP2, led by UMH: Quality Control and Assurance	Prof. Juana Gallar Martinez Inmaculada Blaya Salvador
WP3, led by KI: Neurotech2040	Prof. Robert Harris Prof. Anders Gustafsson
WP4, led by UBO: Neurochallenges in Education and Research	Dr. Katharina Fuchs-Bodde Tina Odenthal
WP5, led by BOUN: Neurochallenges in Technological Innovation	Prof. Can Yücesoy Prof. Naz Zeynep Atay Gök
WP6, led by OXF: Neurochallenges in Societal Innovation	Prof. Zoltan Molnar Dr. Nicholas Irving
WP7, led by UMF: Widening access: Diversity, Multilingualism and Multiculturalism	Dr. Stefan Strilciuc Calina Retisan
WP8, led by UD: Sustainability and Dissemination	Prof. József Tózsér Orsolya Gregán
Neurotech ^{EU} Student Council	Stefanie Taylor (student from UBO) Mohamed Sayed-Ahmad (student from UD) Abishek Arora (student from KI)

The chair of the BoG is Prof. Dr. Paul Verschure who replaces Prof. Dr. Tansu Celikel (former coordinator of the project representing Radboud University) and Valentine Gaillot (former vice-lead). Prof. Celikel has accepted another position in the USA (head of Dept. of Psychology Georgia Tech) while Ms. Gaillot is on medical leave. Initially, the position of Prof. Celikel was taken over by Wessel Meijer who was appointed managing director of the project at Radboud University. Unfortunately, Mr. Meijer fell ill shortly after his appointment, and subsequently, Prof. Verschure, who initially was appointed as the scientific lead of the project, took over the role as the coordinator on May 1, 2022. With these changes, a period of uncertainty has ended, and the project is now in a strong position to deliver on its objectives.

Each board member represents a WP and a partner organization. Each WP leader has established its own WP structure. All 8 WPs are now formed, including on average 30 representatives per WP coming from each university member of the consortium. Although the WP teams were established from our application's proposal, it is now complete with the representation of three student members of the Neurotech^{EU} student society in each WP.

3. Neurotech^{EU} Associates Advisory Committee





The Associates Advisory Committee is a Neurotech^{EU} committee composed of nine individuals, serving for a period of two years. Three associates within the AAC have a direct link to the industry, three associates have a clear responsibility in public policy-making, and three associates contribute with academic insights. The chair of the AAC rotates among the members and is selected by the members. The chair alternates across the three sectors represented in the committee. Neurotech^{EU} central management office supports the AAC in its activities.

The AAC has an advisory role by providing the Board of Governors with their observations on the present and future challenges of society which could be addressed by advances in the education and research on brain and technology. This includes, neuropathologies, cognition, behaviour, AI, etc. and the associated technologies that enable progress in society. As the goal of Neurotech^{EU} is to create a joint education, research, and innovation ecosystem at the intersection of brain and technology, AAC's vision in this domain will help to shape this broad network of stakeholders in Europe.

The NeurotechEU AAC comprises:

Member name	Organisation name	AAC Position	Country
Mohsen Kaboli	BMW Group	Industry	Germany
Mai Johansson Alm	Sana Labs	Industry	Sweden
Bülent Üner	BÜDOTEK Teknopark	Industry	Turkey
Georgios-Alexandros Tsaltas	European Union Intellectual Property Office	Public policy making	Spain
Mehmed Özkan	TÜBİTAK	Public policy making	Turkey
Heleen Vermeulen	muZIEum	Public policy making	Netherlands
Ivar Björkman	Open Lab	University	Sweden
Michelle Adams	Bilkent University	University	Turkey
Andra-Mirona Stan-Dragotesc	West University of Timisoara	University	Romania

Since the two year period duration of the AAC is nearing its end, we are now reestablishing this board with broader coverage of stakeholders, including end-users of neurotechnologies, and regions.

4. Neurotech^{EU} Scientific Advisory Board

The Scientific Advisory Board has, as the AAC, an advisory role in the scientific and research aspects of the activities at Neurotech^{EU}. The BoG has nominated high-profile experts across the four corners of the world in order to bring their unique expertise to Neurotech^{EU}. The board will also bring further visibility to the scientific work of the Alliance.

The SAB is currently composed of seven members:

Member name	Organisation name	Country
Christoph Koch	Allen Institute	USA
Abigail Morrison	Institute for Advanced Simulation	Germany
Roderic Pettigrew	Texas A&M University	USA
Fernando Cendes	University of Campinas	Brazil
Kristen Donald	University of Cape Town	South Africa
Panayiota Poirazi	IMBB-FORTH	Greece





Yukiko Goda	RIKEN Centre for Brain Science	Japan
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5. Neurotech^{EU} Student Council

NeurotechEU exists for the students and is guided by the students, giving them visibility and voice in the Alliance. Student representatives from each university are a part of the NeurotechEU Student Council. They have formed their very own decision-making system with their own leadership and organization.

The leadership of the Student Council is held by the Neurotech^{EU} students who have been democratically elected among themselves. Furthermore, they have also organized themselves into three working groups (WG) composed of a balanced representation from each university with elected managers.

The Student Council is managed under the following structure:

Role	Name (University)
Chair	Sara Berci (UMF)
Chair	Abishek Arora (KI)
Secretary	Stephanie Taylor (UBO)
Treasurer	Csongor Szepesi (UD)
Manager WG communications	Nóra Horváth (UD)
Manager WG events	Dragos-Nelu Font (UMF)
Manager WG synapses	Ahmed Aizi (UMF)

The NeurotechEU Student Council has also created their own Student Club called Synapses. The club organizes scientific events targeting students across the world, promoting open science and knowledge exchange. The Student Council and Synapses have organized several events over the past two years, including, the Synapses kick off (2021), research seminar on the occasion of Cajal's 169th birthday (2021), three minute thesis competition (2022) and monthly Synapses Lecture Series where early career and senior researchers are invited from the Alliance partners to share their research and network with the participants.

