

1ST EUROPEAN BRAIN ECONOMY SUMMIT

5.05.2026 BRUSSELS
The Merode, Place Poelaert 6

What will it take to turn Europe
into the world's leading Brain Economy?

**RI
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Brain
Capital
Alliance



Global
Brain
Economy
Initiative



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Date:
5 May 2026



Time:
08:00 - 18:30



Location:
The Merode, Pl. Poelaert 6, Brussels

08:00 - 09:00 Coffee & Registration

09:00 - 09:15 Welcome and Introduction

09:15 - 10:15 **The Brain Dividend:
Unlocking Societal and Economic Value Through Better Brain Health**

Indrit Bègue

University of Geneva, Member of the Board, Swiss Brain Health Plan

John Boyd

Vice-President, Behavioral Health & Wellness, Kaiser Permanente

Shiva Dustdar

Director, European Investment Bank

Kana Enomoto

Director of Brain Health, McKinsey Health Institute

William Heisel

Director for Global Services, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation

Jan Schadrack

Head, Neuroscience and Rare Diseases, Roche

10:15 - 10:30 **Launch of the Brain Capital Index for Europe**

Rym Ayadi

President, Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

Co-Founder, Brain Capital Alliance

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 - 11:50 **The Neuro's Next Leap:
From Today's Breakthroughs to Future Discoveries**

Stéphanie Debette

Executive Director, Paris Brain Institute

Wiesje van der Flier

Director, Alzheimer Nederland

Stéphanie Lacour

Vice-President, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

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11:50 - 12:15 **The Brain Positive Cities: Building Houston's Brain Economy Lighthouse**

Jochen Reiser

President, University of Texas Medical Branch

12:15 - 13:15 **Brains and Benefits: Towards Innovation Moonshots in the Brain Economy**

Niklas Blomberg

Executive Director, Innovative Health Initiative

Felicitas Riedl

Director for Innovation and Competitiveness, European Investment Bank

Pascal Joncour

Partner, Convergence Partners

Marco Mohwinckel

President, Tech Tour Mental & Brain Health Program

13:15 - 14:15 **Lunch**

14:15 - 15:00 **Women's Brain Health: The Frontier We Must Advance**

Elizabeth Kuiper

Associate Director, European Policy Centre

Antonella Santucci-Chadha

CEO, Women's Brain Foundation

Gennarina Arabia

Co-Chair, European Academy of Neurology Gender Equity and Diversity Panel

George Vradenburg

Chairman, Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative

15:00 - 15:45 **Nesting the Brain in the Built Environment**

Marco Lucisano

Senior Vice-President, Built Environment,

RISE Research Institute of Sweden

Maria Tunberg

Vice-President, Research and Business Development,

RISE Research Institute of Sweden

Ben Hamley

Director of Innovation, JLL

Essi Viding

Clinical, Educational, and Health Psychology Research Department, University College London

15:45 - 16:00 **Coffee break**

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16.00 - 17:00 Parallel Sessions

THE CONSERVATORY

THE SALON

Protecting the Brain in the Age of AI

Jaime de Mora

Co-Founder, CogniGuard; CTO for Startups & Digital Natives, Microsoft EMEA

Piano for the Brain

Rafał Kulczycki

Pianist, Composer

The Youth Shield: Protecting Brain Capital at the Height of Neuroplasticity

Catarina Mastellaro

Head of Strategic Engagement, WHO Foundation

Elisha London

Founder and CEO, Prospira Global

Annika Sten Pärson

Founding Partner and Executive Chair of the Inner Foundation

The Brain Advantage: Towards a Brain-Positive Organization

Jacqueline Brassey

Director Healthy Workforces and Director of Research Science at the McKinsey Health Institute

Linda Jarnhamn

Founder and Managing Director, flow2thrive

Krystal Sexton

Founder and CEO, Cognitive Capital Group

François Veron

General Partner, Newfund

17:00 - 17:15 Europe and the Future of the Brain Economy

Fred Destrebecq

Executive Director, European Brain Council

Harris Eyre

Executive Director, Brain Capital Alliance; Senior Fellow, Rice University & UTMB

Joakim Ramsberg

Head of Science and Society, Swedish Brain Foundation

Paweł Świeboda

Founder and Director, NeuroCentury; Co-Founder Brain Capital Alliance

17:15 - 18:30 Networking reception



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