

# 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?

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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 - 09:10** Welcome and Introduction

**09:10 - 10:05** **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**

Global Head, Neurology, Medical Affairs, Roche

**10:05 - 10:25** **Transforming Brain Health Through Value-Based Care**

**Susan Armiger**

President and CEO, Catalight

**10:25 - 10:40** **Launch of the Brain Capital Index for Europe**

**Rym Ayadi**

President, Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

Co-Founder, Brain Capital Alliance

**10:40 - 11:00** **Coffee break**



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## 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

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

**Jochen Reiser**

President, The University of Texas Medical Branch, CEO UTMB Health System

## 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

**Chiara Varazzani,**

OECD Lead Behavioural Scientist, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

## 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

**Dimitrios Georgiopoulos**

Head of Mid-Europe Healthcare, Merck



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## 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

## 16.00 - 17:00 Parallel Sessions

### THE CONSERVATORY

### THE SALON

#### Protecting the Brain in the Age of AI

##### **Jaime de Mora**

Co-Founder, The Brain Future Foundation;  
CTO for Startups & Digital Natives,  
Microsoft EMEA

#### Piano for the Brain

##### **Rafał Kulczycki**

Pianist, Composer

#### Youth 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

##### **Pier Luigi Sacco**

University of Chieti-Pescara,  
metaLAB @ Harvard

#### 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

##### **Lawrence E. Jones**

Energy Plexus Institute

##### **Krystal Sexton**

Founder and CEO, Cognitive Capital Group

##### **François Veron**

General Partner, Newfund

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## 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

We gratefully acknowledge the support of:



[info@neurocentury.com](mailto:info@neurocentury.com)



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