

MIND & BRAIN – 64th International Neuropsychiatric Congress, Pula, Croatia – 29th May – 1st June 2025

AUTHORS:

VIDA DEMARIN

HRVOJE BUDINČEVIĆ

The Mind&Brain - 64th International Neuropsychiatric Congress was held in Pula from May 29 to June 1, 2025.

The Congress was organized by the International Institute for Brain Health and the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, together with the Society for Neuropsychiatry, Department of Neurology – University Hospital Center “Sestre milosrdnice”, Croatian Society for Personology, Personality and Eating Disorders, Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (CEESS) and Croatian Stroke Society under endorsement of the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) and European Academy of Neurology (EAN). The Croatian Medical Chamber, Croatian Nursing Council, and Croatian Council of Physiotherapists accredited the Congress. Congress president Prof. Vida Demarin led the Congress. This year, the President of the Organizing Committee was Prof. Marina Roje Bedeković.

Thanks to our consistently outstanding scientific program, which bridges neurology and psychiatry and adjacent disciplines, we saw a diverse group of 300 registered participants. Notably, our program continues to attract interest from beyond Central European countries, with participants joining us from as far as South Korea. The first day of the Congress was reserved for registration and networking activities, as well as scientific symposia on multiple sclerosis, dementia, and dysphagia. The scientific program, held on May 30th and 31st, commenced with Plenary sessions that included interdisciplinary lectures in neurology and psychiatry. After the Plenary session the Congress was divided into two or three parallel sessions on following topics: Graz Stroke Symposium (Management of subarachnoid hemorrhage), Neuropsychiatry Symposium (Overlapping mechanisms in neurodegeneration and mental health disorders), Psychiatry Symposium (Personality development and pathology in an evolutionary perspective; Psychiatry in neurology, Psychiatry in neurology), 2nd symposium on neurodevelopment disorders, Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (CEESS) Stroke Symposium, Neurodegenerative Symposium, Headache Symposium, Psychoneuroendocrinology Symposium on approach to kynurenine pathway, Epilepsy Symposium, HISPA & NAM Symposium, Neurodegenerative and Neuropsychiatry Symposium, and Selected Oral Presentations Symposium. We organized a traditional Psychopathology Summer School on novel approaches to schizophrenia research and practice.

The poster session involved 56 poster presentations. Prizes were awarded to the three best posters from neurology and the three from psychiatry. The City of Graz provided the first two prizes, and INPC Kuratorium and the International Institute for Brain Health provided the second and third prizes, respectively. Those

posters were presented at a special session (Best Posters' Awards Presentation Session)

The Satellite Symposia were rich in recent data on the latest therapeutic possibilities and achievements. The last day was reserved for meetings of the Kuratorium, Central and Eastern European Stroke Society, and International Institute for Brain Health.

Over these four days, our Mind & Brain Congress was a resounding success, fostering numerous interactions and lively discussions. Distinguished lecturers generously shared their vast knowledge and expertise with their younger colleagues, thereby broadening perspectives and paving the way for new directions. This collaborative spirit is at the heart of our Congress, embodying the founding idea of the Pula School of Sciences and Humanities, which was particularly evident during the Posters' Awards Presentation Session.

We look forward to another exciting opportunity to learn, share, and grow together next year in May!

