ARCHIVE BOOKLET

It was the idea of President Jacques L. De Reuck to establish the Archive of the EFNS, which was presented at the last congress in Madrid. The archive can be looked up at the EFNS Website.

For everyone who never worked up to it in the Web an excerpt of the Archive summarized in this booklet is presented here. It should stimulate your interest on it and if you have not yet given your personal contribution to it do it, please, right now.

A long living institution or society needs an archive, especially if the officers of such a society, out of democratic reasons, turn over rapidly (e.g. members of the management committee can only be elected twice for a two years period).

The knowledge of the past is the basis for the future development and innovation and makes it possible to look forward to new visions. Otherwise the danger of stagnation is on the horizon.

To look up the past of the EFNS, anyone can be referred to the minutes of the sessions of the council, the management committee and all the other committees and the newsletters.

But it was decided to give a more vivid interpretation of the past asking all the persons who played a role in the Federation to give a very personal contribution regarding his or her cooperation with it.

The archivist collects and edits these contributions. There are of course different views of some persons on the identical object, but this will highlight the liveliness of the archive.

As anyone can recognize in the contents there are chapters about the various activities and the details can be looked up easily.

By Eberhard Deisenhammer, Archivist
The Archive is divided into chapters as listed here and parts of some chapters are presented in this booklet.

Archive of the EFNS

Contents

1. Introduction
2. History
3. Honorary Members
4. Presidents
5. Standing committees
   Management Committee
   Byelaws and Membership Committee
   Congress Programme Committee
   Education Committee
   European Co-operation Committee
   Finance Committee
   Liaison and European Affairs Committee
   Publication Committee
   Scientific Committee
   Sub-Committee on Continuing Medical Education
   Teaching Course Committee
   European (Union) Affairs Committee*
   Liaison Committee*

* were merged in 2003 and became
the Liaison and European Affairs Committee

6. Scientist Panels
7. National Societies
8. Council of Delegates
9. Congresses and Meetings
10. Regional Teaching Courses
11. Academy for Young Neurologists
12. European Journal of Neurology
13. EFNS Offices
14. Impressum

If you have not yet sent your contribution
DO IT NOW!
History

Maybe it was more than pure chance that the idea of an European neurological organisation coincided with the political "Wende" and the opening of the iron curtain, which was the strict border between the West and the Communist East in Europe.

The contributions by Lord Walton, Franz Gerstenbrand, Jes Olesen and Ragnar Stien about the development of the EFNS give an impression on how the different ideas finally came to the happy ending, i.e. the foundation of the EFNS.

By Eberhard Deisenhammer
Contribution to History by Franz Gerstenbrand

Previous History that led to the foundation of the EFNS

In 1955, having obtained the status of a neutral country, Austria was able to invite neurologists and psychiatrists from Central and East-European countries, occupied by the Soviet Army. In 1962, the foundation of the “Danube-Symposia for Neurology” took place.

In 1986, during the first business meeting of the Danube-Neurology, Professor M. Wender of Poznan, Poland, proposed a unified European Neurological Society. Professor Daniel Bartko, President of the Czechoslovakian Neurological Society picked up on this idea and in 1989 organised a PAN-European congress for neurology in Prague with around 1,500 attendants.

The first European Congress of Neurology, which was at the same time the 2nd PAN-European Congress as well as the 1st EFNS Congress, took place in Vienna in 1991 (December). Its location was the “Wiener Hofburg”, and the President was Professor Franz Gerstenbrand. The main principles for both the elaboration of the programme and the invitation of speakers were to select highly qualified speakers for excellent topics. The speakers were invited from all over Europe to Vienna, as well as from the United States. As a representative of the AAN Dr. Antonio Culebras, and from the Soviet Union Professor Batalian, came to Vienna. In his welcoming speech Professor Gerstenbrand announced the foundation of a European Federation of Neurological Societies. During one of the final meetings, everybody jointly agreed to this introduction.

Lord John Walton and Professor Franz Gerstenbrand suggested establishing the European Society as a Federation of European National Neurological Societies, with a Council of Delegates consisting of representatives of each national European society. All details regarding the President and President elect were arranged, as well as the role of a Management Committee. Dr. Friederike Tschabitscher was in charge of handling the secretariat with its office in Vienna.

It was decided that the congress should be held annually, which was not an easy task to realize in the early stages of the EFNS. Professor Einhäupl agreed to host a meeting in 1993 in Berlin, Germany and Professor Wender 1994 in Poznan, Poland.

The next so called “first EFNS congress” was held in Marseille, organised by the Congress President Professor Serratrice.

Under the office guidance of Dr. Friederike Tschabitscher multiple business-meetings were held in Vienna, and during one of these Professor Richard Godwin-Austen designed today’s logo of the EFNS. Since the shared office space with the Austrian Society of Neurology and Psychiatry got too cramped, the EFNS office, organised by Dr. Tschabitscher and her co-worker Elisabeth Müller, moved to the University Campus, in the vicinity of the “Wiener Medizinische Akademie” (WMA) and rented
their own office space.

Ever since the first European Neurology Congress in Vienna in 1991, the structure and constitution of the EFNS was accomplished by the loyal and solid teamwork of Professor Gerstenbrand, Dr. Tschabitscher and the Management Committee and the well directed framework of Professor Jes Olesen. During Professor Olesen's presidency many more different committees were set up, all the while the EFNS was designed as a model for neurological organisations. Attempts to cooperate with the already existing ENS were not continued by their officers/members in charge.
The creation and early development of the European Federation of Neurological societies (EFNS)

Franz Gerstenbrand Innsbruck, Austria Daniel Bartko Bratislava, Slovakia and Alessandro Agnoli, Rome, Italy had planned the so called Pan-European Society of Neurology. It was inaugurated at a congress in Prague in 1989 and was a society with individual membership. The backing group was heavily weighted towards members from eastern, central and southern European countries. For a number of reasons many people did not like these plans. Top clinician/scientists were not represented and it was offensive that people from the Eastern countries should have a significant influence over a European organization. Furthermore, the transparency of the organization was limited. For these reasons, the Scandinavian countries, following my recommendation, decided to propose an alternative structure for an all embracing European neurological organization. I drafted a proposal for a federation of national neurological societies that was accepted by all Scandinavian countries. It was sent to the president of the world federation of neurology, Lord Walton of Detchant, requesting his support. This led to discussion all over Europe of the best way of organizing European neurology. Professor Serratrice Marseilles, France called a meeting of chairpersons of national neurological societies. Since I had already been involved in these issues, the chairperson of the Danish neurological society, Professor Gudrun Boysen, appointed me as her delegate at that meeting. Following long discussions, Professor Gerstenbrand who had been elected president of the pan-European society agreed to transform this society into a federation of national neurological societies. He subsequently organized a neurology congress in Vienna in 1991 where the EFNS was born. The first constitution of the EFNS did not deviate much from the draft originally submitted by the Scandinavian countries.

The European neurological society ENS had been created in the late eighties by leading academic neurologists from Western Europe. This society was organized with individual membership and was in fact controlled by a handful of people. They managed in a very short time to stage highly successful congresses of neurology in Europe and took the lead over the EFNS which had a slow and difficult birth. I had the offer to join the executive committee of the ENS but, looking back, I am extremely pleased that I chose the more democratic structure of the EFNS. The first management committee of the EFNS consisted mostly of elderly professors. However, Professor Gerstenbrand who was the first president was extremely attentive to the views of the younger members of the management committee. I was appointed vice-president and there were also two other vice-presidents plus a first vice-president, Professor Serratrice.

At the start of the EFNS we had an organization with no money, no projects and fierce competition from the ENS. The original plan was to have a congress every four years similar to the world congress of Neurology. Every other year there would be a European congress and every other year a world congress. However, I pushed very hard to move to more frequent meetings, realizing that an organization could only be financed by surplus from meetings. After much debate this was accepted by the
MC. We then proposed to the ENS to host congresses alternately, such that a European neurology congress would take place every year in Europe but organized by the ENS on even years and by the EFNS on the uneven years. It was our impression that this was taken positively by the ENS at a meeting in Lausanne. We sent several letters about this arrangement but never got an answer from the ENS. Instead, we all of the sudden learned from the first announcement of a congress that they planned annual meetings. This was a slap in the face and a totally unacceptable behaviour from a responsible organization. It made clear to us that the only way forward was direct competition with the ENS. Not having much in the way of finance or organization, we organized what we called regional meetings in Berlin, Poznan and Prague until we could hold our first full scale congress in Marseille in 1995. After that followed congresses every year with an ever increasing number of delegates and ever increasing financial surplus that allowed running our organization efficiently. The number of submitted abstracts and their quality has also been going up steadily.

From the beginning it was agreed that we should have many activities in between meetings. But what should the EFNS do besides congresses? We developed a number of standing committees, task forces and special interest groups. The latter were subsequently disbanded, but committee-life flourished and many task forces successfully completed their tasks. The constitution was expanded and amended many times until we reached the present constitution which has remained fairly stable for years.
The creation of a forum for all European neurologists
A contribution to the history of EFNS.

It is to be underlined, that this presentation is very personal and the sole responsibility of the author. It does not necessarily represent the opinion of the Norwegian Neurological Association.

I was elected president of the Norwegian Neurological Association in November 1989. In 1988 and 1989 we had heard rumors about an initiative to create a European Neurological Society; particularly about a meeting at a congress in Prague in April 1989 (no Norwegian official delegates) were said to have not been well organized and resolutions had tried to be passed in a very not democratic way. I was informed about the ongoing work for the first time in June 1990. The chairman of the Scandinavian Neurological Association, Professor Olaf B Paulson of Copenhagen, sent a letter to all Nordic Neurological Associations about the status of work (1) and a resolution supported by the delegates from all five Scandinavian countries (2). He included a report, in Danish, from the meeting in Prague in April 1989 (3). This report was somewhat critical about ideas brought forward at the meeting. About the same time I got letters from Professor Serrattrice (4,6) were he invited the chairman of all European Neurological Associations to meet in France and discuss the matter. I answered him positively (5,7). We had at that time received the proposed Constitution and bye-laws of the “Pan European Society of Neurology (PESN)”. It was very obvious to us that we could not support this creation, and we got information particularly from Denmark (Jes Olesen), Sweden (Barbro Johanson) and Finland (Jorma Palo) that they had about the same objections towards this constitution as we had. We tried to make it clear that we supported a European Neurological Society, but only if:

It was formed as a federation of the European Neurological Societies.
No Personal members or para-neurological institutions should be accepted as ordinary members.
Delegates to this Federation should be elected in a democratic way by the national societies.
The national delegates should elect the officers of the federation.
No “ex-officio” officers should be accepted.
The number of officers should be reduced (the bye laws suggested 6 Vice Presidents in addition to a President elect).

Later, we added:
The European Federation should be organized by the European Neurological Associations with no interference from WFN.
Later the possible Federation could seek sponsorship from WFN as the only regional European representative.
The meeting in Marseilles November 9th 1990 was in many ways very constructive and credit should be given to Prof.
Serratrice for arranging it. Somewhat confusing is the different minutes that were distributed after the meeting:
1. The most reliable one is the proposal signed by all delegates present in Marseilles. This proposal was formulated by Professor Frackowiak and strongly supported by Professor Olesen and myself (8).
2. The French organizers sent out a set of minutes (9) that were opposed by me and probably by some of the other present (I know Professor Olesen made his own comments).
3. Professor Gerstenbrand circulated his impressions from the meeting, and I had no great problems with accepting them.
4. As the confusion seemed to continue (none of the groups elected in Marseilles to improve/change the bye-laws and constitution come into work), I sent a letter to all presidents of the European Neurological Associations asking for their comments on 3 specific questions. I enclosed my version of the minutes from the Marseilles-meeting (12) and the proposal (8). I got nine answers and they all agreed that we should create a Federation that the national delegates should work elect a small number of officers and that we, the Europeans should work this out without interference from WFN. Only the German Association was willing to accept other members than the national associations. I include some of the typical answers (13,14,15).

As no progress was made by the groups elected in Marseilles, the presidents of the Scandinavian Neurological Societies met in Copenhagen in April 1991. During a couple of days discussions, Professor Jes Olesen made a terrific work, took down our ideas and changed the bye-laws and constitution of PESN in a way we found correct and acceptable. Later the corrected version and a letter (16) were circulated to all European Neurological Associations. I am proud to state that this version, with a few changes, was accepted as constitution and bye-laws of EFNS when it was founded officially in Vienna in December the same year.

Later I have always had a never failing believe that EFNS would be a success. My thoughts about the organization could be summarized in a letter to Professor Gerstenbrand in July 1992 (17) where I also put forward the suggestion of “travelling courses”. As far as I understand, similar courses have turned out to be a success within EFNS. I have not worked extensively within the EFNS-organization after -92. This is partly because my term as President of the Norwegian Association ended in Dec 1994, partly because I had a lot to do with the arrangement of the first “Brain Year” in Europe in Norway in 1995 and partly because I got heavily involved in the problems in the Balkans and was for months in 1993 and 1994 “imprisoned” in Sarajevo during the siege of that city.

I do hope my comment can be of some interest. If needed, I still have other documents from the founding time of the EFNS including different versions of the much debated bye-laws.

(The documents 1-17 can be viewed upon request at the EFNS Headoffice or sent as pdf-file via email.)
On assuming the Presidency of the WFN in 1989, I was aware that a number of regional organisations, responsible for organising regional conferences, had been established, including the Asian and Oceanean, the Pan-American and the Pan-Arab Congresses. Although a number of European meetings had been established, not least the Danube Symposium, based largely upon the Central and Eastern European countries, and which had become increasingly vigorous with well-attended meetings, no Pan-European organisation existed. In organising the Danube Symposium Professor Franz Gerstenbrand of Austria was prominent; he and several colleagues proposed, in the 1970s, the establishment of a Pan-European Congress of Neurology, to be in many ways comparable to the other regional congresses already in existence. This plan, however, did not meet with universal support from many neurologists in Western Europe who felt that they had not been fully consulted about the proposals; and some even took the view that Eastern dominance of the organisation was likely to prevail. At the same time, a group of young, vigorous neurologists from France and the UK, including Gerard Said of Paris, P K Thomas and Anita Harding of London to name but three, decided to launch an organisation which would function as a European Neurological Society of individual members, owing no specific allegiance to the national societies. They intended that it should resemble in some respects the well-known organisation in the United States, known colloquially as "The Young Turks", which had been established to bring together young people in research and clinical practice rather than those concerned with organisational and administrative matters. As President of the WFN, I confess that I was concerned to note these developments, which seemed to me to carry danger of producing a major split in European neurology. However, I was able, with the aid of colleagues, to persuade all of the national associations and societies in Europe that the organisation of a Pan-European Congress should be created, involving each of them. The first meeting was held in Vienna in December 1991, at which it was agreed to establish formally a European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS), which would have a coordinating role between the individual national bodies, but would also have the authority to organise biannual congresses and to establish research groups, comparable to those established internationally within the WFN and its Research Committee, so as to present to the EFNS organising committee a draft constitution and statutes, comparable in several respects to those which had been used by the WFN; with some minor modification these were accepted.

Some four years later, in Marseilles, a very successful Congress of the EFNS was held under the Chairmanship of Professor Georges Serratrice, at which he and I were honoured by being made Honorary Members of the EFNS; since that time the organisation has grown in strength and authority and has continued to organise, every two years, important neurological congresses in major European centres.

Attempts which I and others made to try to bring the EFNS and the ENS closer together stalled in the initial stages, but in
more recent years, while the two organisations have continued to flourish independently, the relationships between them have been more cordial, and their activities and the dates of their congresses have been closely coordinated, so as not to clash with each other or with major international meetings, such as the World Congresses of Neurology. It has been a pleasure to see how the EFNS has grown and developed, and has continued not only to organise major congresses, but also to promote European research programmes and to improve mutual understanding and coordination between the activities of the national neurological societies.
The Presidents

My main intention as the founding president of the EFNS was to include the neurology of the former Socialist Countries in the European Community, lifting up the scientific level and starting with an educational programme. Professor Pavel Kalvach, Prague, founded an academy in South Moravia, inviting young neurologists mostly from East European countries and presenting an excellent teaching programme. Flying teaching courses were performed, mostly with the help of Professor Kalvach with the basic organization of Dr. Uschi Tschanitscher. A clinical exchange programme was started.

Intensive discussions with the leaders of the ENS under the patronage of Lord Walton had no success. Professor Said, as the permanent Secretary General and part of the Management Committee refused steps of a cooperation. Nowadays the leading group of ENS remarked the mistake of the former politic and changed the strategy to be more interested in East Europe and tries to start with political obligation in the field of neurology.

My personal intention was to include the East European Neurology to be a full member in the EFNS with a close cooperation, beginning with Russia, but as well with the neurology of the South European Countries to find a realistic equilibrium between West and East European neurology. The basis of the cooperation till now is the Danube Neurology, the Central and East European Association for Neurology. The annual conferences of the Danube group are used to intensive the cooperation with the EFNS and for common decisions. Continuous cooperation is held with the Pula-Group for Neurology and Psychiatry.

After my opinion, the main obligation of the EFNS is to continue the cooperation on European research programmes and in education, but to use the mandate of an official European organisation, intensify political consultations at the EU-level as well as in regional political health decisions, with the aim, to have a better position of neurology. Neurology all needs a better position as a speciality in health as well as in professional politics. A better cooperation should be started with the World Federation of Neurorehabilitation and its European branch as well as with the World Federation of Neurosurgery and its European branch.
The Presidents

I was very actively involved in the business of the EFNS during the presidency of Franz Gesteinbrand. Franz has always been a master at picking the right collaborators and then gives them lots of freedom to work....

After four years of hard work as a vice-president, I could take on the presidency in 1995 during the first official congress of the EFNS in Marseille. My first job was to extensively revise and improve the constitution and bylaws, because a number of problems had been encountered that slowed down the EFNS and made it less efficient.... Using an American style rather than a European style, I tried to institute the principle that, if persons had an office but did not do the job, then he should be replaced at the first possible opportunity,..

Another thing that started already during my vice-presidency but continued during my presidency was a dedicated effort to improve EFNS congresses..... Serratrice had organized the first congress of the EFNS successfully..... He promised to organize the 1996 congress in Rome and did so with huge success. 2000 participants.... Another friend, Miguel Lainez from Valencia, together with Professor Chacon from Seville offered to host the second EFNS congress in Seville in 1997..... I knew that they would be able to stage a successful meeting. In fact what happened was that the meeting became too successful. An overwhelming four thousand two hundred participants registered.... A large number of other initiatives were taken during my presidency. They will be described elsewhere. The last two were to form the European Brain Council as reported above and to start an IT task force to develop a much better website for the EFNS. The first of these two initiatives was a big success..... The EFNS must be credited to a large extent with the creation of both EFNA (European Federation of Neurological Association) and EBC (European Brain Council). Without EFNS support, the EBC had not been formed and the collaborative spirit that these organizations are developing in Europe, would not have appeared.

(For full text refere to the archive: www.efns.org)
It was the wish of many, which was approved by President Jes Olesen and the Management Committee, to propose me as a candidate for presidency, and the Council followed this recommendation and elected me for president at the Congress in Copenhagen 2000. My presidency started at the end of the World Congress in London in 2005, and I had the task to succeed Jes Olesen, who had formulated and inaugurated the constitution, the byelaws and the 10 missions and formed the structure of the EFNS. As all the basics were created I only had the job and duty to fulfil these assignments. With the cooperation of the various committees and assisted by the headoffice the activities of the EFNS were very successful; the congresses - Vienna 2002, Helsinki 2003, Paris 2004 and Athens 2005 - were of increasing scientific quality, attracted increasing numbers of participants and of industrial exhibitors, and were continuous economical successes; teaching courses were organized in various places, mainly in Eastern Europe, and were attended by local neurologists; courses for young neurologists were organized for a selected number of highly motivated young colleagues; and a visiting programme for young neurologists supported fellowships in highly qualified neurological centres. During my presidency efforts were undertaken to coordinate the 2 European societies of neurology, but despite several meetings and intensive negotiations with the representatives of ENS a fusion or tight-cooperation could not be reached.

During this time the EFNS was supporting the foundation of the EFNA and the EBC. However, despite the success and prosperity of the EFNS during my presidency there was one fate overshadowing these years: it was the malignant and progressive disease of Uschi Tschabitscher. With all her will Uschi could control progression and fully work for the success of the EFNS, and actually was able to be a substantial part of the Congress in Vienna, which was with all the scientific and social events one of the highlights of her life (and also of mine, as an Austrian living in Germany being President of the Congress in Vienna). After Uschi had lived to experience this highlight, her body's capability of resistance gave up and the disease progressed. Uschi died on July 27, 2003. But she managed to pass on her legacy to Lisa Müller as Executive Director and Anja Sander. The Headoffice in Vienna is (therefore still) the heart of the EFNS and its team ensures a smooth administration.
During my presidency the main achievements of the EFNS was to become more and more recognized as the leading European Neurological Society all over the world. The EFNS has been closely involved in the further development of the European Brain Council (EBC). It is in close relation with the European Federation of Neurological Associations (EFNA) by helping this patients' association financially and allowing a representation and participation in our congresses. Also the European Association of Young Neurologists and Trainees (EAYNT) is closely involved in the EFNS activities.

The EFNS has now close relations with the Pan-African and Pan-Arabic Neurological Societies, organizing common scientific sessions. The ties with the American Academy of Neurology have been reinforced. The adjoining Mediterranean neurological societies have become associated members, allowing mutual exchange programmes in particular for young neurologists and trainees.

The EFNS now organizes regional teaching courses in the Sub-Saharan countries according to the African policy of Johan Aarli, President of the World Federation of Neurology, to help to develop and promote neurological knowledge and centres.

In the near future there is good hope that the European Neurological Society will start to cooperate with the EFNS. This effort should be sustained in view of the more and more difficult financial situation.

The EFNS is growing and has now become an institution with many tasks in order to promote Neurology and helping patients with disabling brain and neuromuscular diseases.
Taking over the Presidency of the EFNS is a humbling privilege and an exciting challenge. It is humbling because to follow in the giant footsteps of Gerstenbrand, Olesen, Heiss and de Reuck is a daunting task. We owe them all tremendous thanks for bringing the EFNS to its present position as the premier European neurological association. It is exciting for many reasons. We can continue to take advantage of contemporary advances in neurobiology, genetics, immunology and imaging to benefit people with diseases of the nervous system throughout the world. We can continue to disseminate best practice in neurology in our annual congresses, in the European Journal of Neurology, in management guidelines, with the department-to-department exchange programme and through the regional teaching courses held in Eastern Europe and now also in Africa. We will now use the resources of our updated website to launch an e-learning programme which will benefit trainees and trainers alike without increasing our carbon footprint. We will bring randomised trials, Cochrane reviews and EFNS guidelines to bear on the whole field of neurology, disseminating knowledge where it exists, supporting the trials and reviews to fill the gaps where we are ignorant. We need to undertake these tasks humbly realising that there is art as well as science in the practice of medicine. We need to appreciate that we will succeed best for our patients if we partner our service with academia, government, industry and patient organisations. It will only work with the help and support of you, the members of the EFNS. It will be hard work but it should be fun.
Congresses were held from 1991 on every year except 1992 and 2001. Some of it were choosen for the booklet.

1991 Vienna, Austria
1993 Berlin, Germany
1994 Poznan, Poland
1995 Marseille, France
1996 Rome, Italy
1997 Prague, Czech Republic
1998 Seville, Spain
1999 Lisbon, Portugal
2000 Copenhagen, Denmark
2001 London, United Kingdom, (co-sponsor of the WFN Congress)
2002 Vienna, Austria
2003 Helsinki, Finland
2004 Paris, France
2005 Athens, Greece
2006 Glasgow, United Kingdom
2007 Brussels, Belgium
2008 Madrid, Spain
Pan-European Society of Neurology Congress, Vienna, Austria, 7 - 12, December 1991

Opening Ceremony at the famous Imperial Hofburg

Johan Aarli, later becoming WFN President, supports the EFNS from the beginning.

Chairperson: Franz Gerstenbrand

Highly respected scientists joined the EFNS from the beginning (1st Council of Delegates of the EFNS)

Young Mozart, Franz Gerstenbrand and Ragnar Stien (from Norway)

Franz Gerstenbrand (President) and Eberhard Deisenhammer (Secretary General) start their work.
After founding the EFNS at this Congress: First Council of Delegates

End of Congress

After founding the EFNS at this Congress: First Council of Delegates

President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General at the Congress (from left: Eberhard Deisenhammer, Jes Olesen, Georges Serratrice, Franz Gerstenbrand, Endre Csanda)

Lord Walton at the social event

Lord Walton, WFN President, addressing audience at Opening Ceremony
4th EFNS Congress, Lisbon, Portugal, 7 - 11, September 1999

Chairperson: Isabel Leite

Monasterio São Geronimo, the conference center left from it

Neurological string quartet at the opening ceremony

Ragnar Stien gives a lecture on Art and Neurology

The EFNS booth in the exhibition hall

Uschi Tschabitscher and Jes Olesen working hard preparing the Management Committee meeting
Final impression of Lisboa-Congress

Successful Congress

Room for power point preparation

Castelo de São Jorge

Uschi Tschabitscher and Johann Aarli working hard preparing the Council of Delegates
9th EFNS Congress, Athens, Greece, 17 - 20, September 2005

Opening Address by President Wolf-Dieter Heiss

Preparation of Congress bags by Kenes Staff

Happy Girls at the End of the Congress (Anja, Evelyn, Lisa, Magda, Maria)

Welcoming words by His Excellency, the President of the Hellenic Republic, Dr. Karolos Papoulias.

Presidents – all our Presidents (from left: Treasurer E. Deisenhammer, J. Olesen, F. Gerstenbrand, J. L. de Reuck, W.-D. Heiss)

Delegates' Dinner at the University Museum

Uschi Tschabitscher Prize winner A. Palotás
Very vivid poster discussion

Sunset in Athens

End of the Congress –
Professor Davaki very happy,
"Thanks to the
Gods!"

Council of Delegates

Greek Music for the Delegates
at their dinner

The performance of Zorba the Greek

Chairperson:
Panagiota Davaki

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETIES
10th EFNS Congress in Glasgow, United Kingdom, 03 - 06, September, 2006

Ian Bone
UK

Welcome address from Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Ian Bone

Entrance to Congress Hall

Crowded auditorium

Pipers and Drummers entering the hall

Graham Teasdale
UK

Graham Teasdale presenting the Glasgow Coma Scale

Chairmen on the way to the stage

Science Centre, site of reception
11th EFNS Congress in Brussels, Belgium, 25-28, August, 2007

Congress Hall, Entrance

Opening Address by President Jacques L. de Reuck

On the way to the meetings

Toots Tielmans and Combo at Opening Ceremony

Uschi Tschabitscher Prize winner A. van Dycke (with Hubert Kwiecinski)

Uschi Tschabitscher Prize winner A. Benchoua (with Pavel Kalvach)

Poster Prize winner K. El-Sale (with Jacques L. de Reuck)
Social Event: Audience is awaiting the performance.

Teaching Course: Detlef Kömpf demonstrates Oculomotor Examination.

"They have done a great job" (Magda, Anja, Julia, Lisa, Evelyn, and their President Jacques L. de Reuck).

End of the Congress?

Chairperson: Jean Schoenen

Yes, end of Congress!

Ommegang: from above.
The Presidents opening speech on Brain and Wine, explaining how red wine prevents stroke.

Petra Schwingenschuh, London, winner of the Uschi Tschabitscher Prize in clinical neurology (with President Jacques de Reuck).

Chairperson: Antonio Gil-Nagel.

Preparing the congress bags.

Flamenco performance at the opening ceremony.

Lunchtime between scientific sessions.

David Vodušek, master of the lottery.
David P.J. Hunt, Cambridge, winner of the Uschi Tschabitscher Prize in basic Neurology, (with Gian Luigi Lenzi, Chairman of the Congress Programme Committee)

The national delegates meet for dinner

Cathleen Haense, Cologne, winner of the Investigator Award EFNS Scientist Panel on Dementia (with President Jacques de Reuck)

End of the Congress, President Jacques de Reuck, Local Chairman Antonio Gil-Nagel and relaxed EFNS staff

...... and the councils chair (Giorgio Cruccu, Lisa Müller, Jacques de Reuck, David Vodušek, Wolf-Dieter Heiss)

Highly interesting presentation at the opening ceremony
Academy for Young Neurologists

Singing in Staré Splavy 2005

Staré Splavy 2005

Staré Splavy 2004

Staré Splavy 2003

Singing in Staré Splavy 2005

Staré Splavy 2008

Staré Splavy 2008
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>member since</th>
<th>Society Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Albanian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Armenian Scientific-Practical Union of Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Austrian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Belarussian Scientific Society of Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Belgian Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Association of Neurologists in Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Bulgarian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Croatian Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Cyprus Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>1991-1993</td>
<td>Czech Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Danish Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Estonian Ladvig Puusepp Society of Neurologists &amp; Neurosurgeons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Finnish Neurological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Macedonian Medical Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Yugoslav</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>French Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Georgian Society of Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>German Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Hellenic Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Hungarian Society of Neurology &amp; Psychiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Icelandic Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Irish Institute of Clinical Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Israel Neurological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Italian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Italian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Italian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>member since</td>
<td>Society Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Latvian Neurologists Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Lithuanian Neurological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Luxembourg Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Moldovan Scientific Society of Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Norwegian Neurological Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Polish Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Portuguese Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Romanian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1991-1992</td>
<td>All-Russian Society of Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>2000 official letter for Yugoslavia, enclosing Serbia and Montenegro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>1991-2003</td>
<td>National Neurological Society of Serbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia and Montenegro</td>
<td>2003-2006</td>
<td>Slovak Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Slovenian Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Spanish Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Swedish Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Swiss Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Dutch Society of Neurology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Turkish Neurological Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Scientific Society of Neurologists of the Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Association of British Neurologists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>National Neurological Society of Uzbekistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EFNS Meetings Vienna

MC Meeting Vienna 2009

MC Meeting Vienna 2006

MC Meeting Vienna 2006

CPC Meeting Vienna, 2006

CPC Meeting Vienna 2005

MC Meeting Vienna 2006

MC Meeting Vienna 2006

CPC Meeting Vienna 2005
EFNS Offices

Head Office Vienna

The office of the Österreichische Gesellschaft für Neurologie und Psychiatrie (ÖGNP) was located in a room at the Neurological Hospital Rosenhügel in Vienna. Uschi Tschabitscher worked part time for this society in the office. Already before the foundation of the EFNS in 1991 Franz Gerstenbrand was a member of the management committee of this society and with the permission of the ÖGNP Uschi Tschabitscher was now able to start her brilliant work for the EFNS.

After a short time her workload increased and the engagement of a second person was urgent. That was the moment when Lisa Müller, now executive director of the EFNS, joined the secretariat of the EFNS.

However, not only the workload increased, but also the stationary / papers, computers, telephones, faxes and congress materials... and we had to look for more space.

Uschi was acquainted with the director of the Wiener Medizinische Akademie, a non profit professional congress organisation in Vienna. This organisation had its office in an administrative building of the old Wiener Allgemeines Krankenhaus, which dates back to Joseph II in 1780 and was nowadays renewed as the University Campus. She found out that they had two rooms unused, which we could rent in 2002. In addition, we were allowed to use their meeting rooms.

Due to the financial development of the EFNS the Management Committee considered to purchase an office of its own and asked me ( after approval by council) to look for it.

Anja Sander, in the meantime a further co-worker in the office, Lisa Müller and I spent some time viewing many real estates and finally found a freshly finished building just above the Museumsquartier and near the centre of the city.

The empty space could be constructed and shaped by an architect, exactly according to our needs.

We own now 4 nicely accommodated secretarial spaces, a small meeting room, a big one on the upper floor and a “social corner”.

Branch Office Florence

President Franz Gerstenbrand recognised that Luigi Ardizzoia from Florence, Vice president of the EFNS, already had tight connections to the EU in Brussels and it was decided to build up strong connections in Brussels to promote neurology at the political level. This activity was much supported by Jes Olsen, but all the work could not be delegated to the head office in Vienna.

Consequently, a branch office in Florence had to be opened. From then on, Evelyn Sipido was responsible for this task and later on for many others activities.

Branch Office Prague

The fall of the iron curtain in Europe and the foundation of the EFNS coincided closely in time and the EFNS, from the beginning, felt very responsible towards our colleagues in the middle and eastern European countries. To have a close connection to these countries another branch office was opened in Prague where Pavel Kalvach was responsible with the help of Magda Dohnalova. Also this office is still very active and efficiently organising important activities such as the department-department programme and the EFNS Academy for young neurologists.

By Eberhard Deisenhammer and Lisa Müller
**Impressum**

**EFNS HEADOFFICE**  
Breite Gasse 4-8  
1070 Wien  
Austria  
Tel.: +43 1 899 05 03  
Fax.: +43 1 899 05 03 13  
e-mail: headoffice@efns.org  
www.efns.org

---

**Concept, Design, Lay Out**  
Barbara Holter  
Girardigasse 7/36  
1060 Wien  
Austria  
mobile: +43 6991 923 83 83  
barbara.holter@gmx.net  
barbara.holter@reflex.at