

Yearly Report of the RVP Central and Western Europe for the year 2023

1.0 Meeting of the national society presidents in Central and Western Europe

On Monday 20.03.2023, 16.30 – 18.00 hrs. CET, a meeting of the presidents of national societies in Central and Western Europe was held digitally with the following agenda:

1. WFNR activities (Presidium: global survey on neurorehabilitation services;
Education committee: certificate teaching course)
2. Short presentations of national presidents
 - a. Membership of national societies (number, professions involved)
 - b. Main activities (e.g. annual meetings, educational activities, guideline development)
3. General discussion

Results of the general discussion had been:

Compared to many regions in the world the standards of implementation of neurorehabilitation in the healthcare systems and capacities for NR-related research are high in Central and Western Europe. Accordingly, these societies have something to offer to the global NR community.

The membership of the Central and Western Europe NR societies is diverse, at times physicians only (or mainly), at times multi-professional. While there are reasons for this diversity it is clear that neurorehabilitation is multi-professional.

The link between acute care and rehabilitation as well as the continuum of care is frequently not as well established as it should be to meet the needs of those being affected by neuro-disabilities.

Public awareness for the relevance of neurorehabilitation does frequently not match the affordances for and the relevance of this healthcare segment in our societies.

These topics could be areas of common concern and activities for our national NR societies in Central and Western Europe.

2.0 Neurorehabilitation Societies in Europe join the World Brain Day to raise Awareness for Brain Health and Disability

In 2023, the focus of World Brain Day was on Brain Health and Disability. It underscores the need to prioritize brain health, especially in people living with disabilities. The World Federation for Neurorehabilitation (WFNR) partners with the World Federation of Neurology for this year's World Brain Day to raise awareness about brain health and disability.

“Our societies need to make sure that people with neurological disabilities receive the care and rehabilitation they need to reach their full potential.” said Prof. Volker Hömberg, President of the WFNR.

The national neurorehabilitation societies in Central and Western Europe (a WFNR region) strongly supported these objectives of the World Brain Day held on 22nd of July.

3.0 Discussing the idea of a Pan-European NR congress in 2025 in Berlin

The idea was entertained and communicated among the presidents of the national neurorehabilitation societies in Central and Western Europe, and in addition with the EFNR. Pros and cons needed to be evaluated. For economical reasons, i.e. the relatively high costs both for well reachable locations in Germany and relatively high costs for a hybrid congress concept, the idea of a Pan-European congress to be organized in Berlin in 2025 could not be substantiated.

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Prof. Dr. med. Thomas Platz – RVP Central and Western Europe
Medical Director Research
Head Institute for Neurorehabilitation and Evidence-based Practice
BDH-Klinik Greifswald
Head Neurorehabilitation Research Group
Universitätsmedizin Greifswald
E mail address: t.platz@bdh-klinik-greifswald.de