

**INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (ILAE)
Commission on European Affairs (CEA)**

STRATEGIC PLAN

The CEA strategic plan is in accordance to the ILAE Strategic plan recently discussed and approved in Budapest in July 2009. Consequently the CEA aims are organized similar to the goals and aims of the ILAE.

Goal 1

ILAE shall serve the health profession as the premier international resource for current and emerging knowledge on epilepsy prevention, diagnosis, treatment and research.

Aim 1-- Articulate internationally applicable guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of persons with epilepsy in Europe.

1.1.1. Seeking partnership with other relevant European organizations (e.g. EFNS¹, ENS², EPNS³, UEMS⁴, IFCN-EC⁵, SENP⁶) to identify existing relevant guidelines developed by European organizations and harmonize recommendations across Europe.

1.1.2. Working towards making CEA educational activities more accessible.

1.1.3. Serve as an informational resource to national and regional groups in Europe as they develop statements regarding prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of epilepsy.

Aim 2 -- Stimulate and enhance education and training that concentrate on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of epilepsy throughout Europe.

1.2.1 Create a coordinated business plan for all CEA educational activities. Base future educational programs on a careful cost-benefit analysis of previous programs, taking into consideration regional and local needs. The analysis should include:

- ✓ Evaluation of current and previous programs
- ✓ Prospective post-program analysis and evaluation of each CEA sponsored activity
- ✓ Inter-regional collaboration with other ILAE regional commissions.
- ✓ Identification of unmet educational needs in Europe.

¹ EFNS: European Federation of Neurological Societies

² ENS: European Neurological Society

³ EPNS: European Pediatric Neurology Society

⁴ UEMS Union Européenne des Médecines Spécialistes – European Union of Medical Specialists

⁵ IFCN-EC: International Federation of Clinical Neurophysiology (European Chapter)

⁶ Societe European de Neurologie Pediatrique

1.2.2. The CEA will further develop its portfolio of educational courses based on available resources and previous successful experience, taking into consideration the specific needs of the European target audience.

1.2.3 The CEA will welcome applications and suggestions from European ILAE Chapters and individuals to organize Educational Courses (regional; with added European value; in collaboration with the CEA).

1.2.4 The CEA will consider continuing supporting regional educational (but not national) courses (symposia) in underserved areas as identified by the CEA needs assessment.

Aim 3 -- Stimulate and enhance basic and clinical research in epilepsy in Europe

1.3.1 The CEA will further work to make the European Congresses on Epileptology (ECE) even more remarkable than the recent ECEs that were very successful academically as well as financially.

1.3.2 The CEA will continue to co-sponsor and support scientific conferences that have regional added value and that publish proceedings in an international peer-reviewed journal.

1.3.3 The CEA should aim at facilitating multi-national European collaborative basic and clinical research, including clinical trials.

1.3.4. The CEA will continue to aim at securing the necessary resources for successful and outstanding epilepsy research in Europe. For this purpose CEA coordinates the three inter-related tasks: lobbying activities to enhance funding, public advocacy of the needs, and training of professionals both in basic and clinical research.

1.3.5. CEA educational courses are utilized to link prospective clinicians and researchers in epilepsy care with mentors and locations for their training.

Goal 2

ILAE shall serve as an international information resource and leader for optimal, comprehensive epilepsy care.

Aim 1 -- Work with European organizations, ILAE European Chapters, lay organizations and WHO to catalogue current practices of epilepsy care in Europe and then to determine needs.

2.1.1. Building on previous CEA assessment of Provision of Epilepsy Care across Europe, the CEA will catalogue the European areas and types of gaps that exist in the care and treatment of persons with epilepsy.

Aim 2 -- Promote and facilitate initiatives that improve standards of comprehensive epilepsy care to include diagnosis, treatment, and social care. Reduce, in sustainable ways, the treatment gap throughout Europe.

2.2.1. Promote and facilitate cost-effective interventions by disseminating information about successful regional programs that have improved care.

2.2.2 The CEA will substantiate its relationships with the European Medicine Agency (EMA) and give its input to EMA guidelines of approval of new AEDs. Examples of further areas of collaboration are: orphan AEDs, iv formulation for status epilepticus and recommendation concerning automatic generic substitution of AEDs.

Aim 3 -- Interact with governmental groups in establishing resources for comprehensive epilepsy care.

2.3.1. CEA will provide support for local Chapters in their interaction with their governmental agencies to develop models for care delivery.

Aim 4 -- Enable health care professionals in all the European countries to have an active relationship with ILAE.

2.4.1 Establish an operating ILAE chapter in the few European countries that currently do not have an ILAE Chapter.

2.4.2 Continue to coordinate chapter activities so that European initiatives complement and contribute to the successful implementation of the ILAE strategic plan.

Goal 3

ILAE shall work to ensure its ongoing organizational and financial viability.

Aim 1 – To help ensuring that ILAE’s organizational structure is efficiently and effectively dedicated to fulfilling ILAE mission.

3.1.1 The CEA reconfirms that ILAE is an organization of chapters, not of individuals. Empower chapters to become fully developed in order to fulfil ILAE’s mission.

3.1.2. The CEA will review and update current CEA rules, standards of procedures, statutes as well as the current guideline for seeking a CEA support for educational activities.

Aim 2 -- Enhance communication practice and volunteer participation within ILAE

3.2.1 The CEA will continue enhancing communication with key participants in Europe including commission and task force members, chapter leaders, and other individuals.

3.2.2 Explore ways of improving inter-chapter and chapter-CEA communications.

3.2.3 Improve the transparency in reporting and disclosing CEA financial data.

Aim 3 -- Streamline ILAE’s administrative structure and review its financial operational practice to ensure an efficient and effective management.

Aim 3 is mainly a centralized task coordinated and led by the ILAE-EC.

Aim 4 -- Diversify and enhance the financial resources of ILAE

Aim 4 is mainly a centralized task coordinated and led by the ILAE-EC.

Goal 4

ILAE will address and implement thought-provoking and innovative concepts that advance the League's vision and mission long term. ILAE will:

Goal 4 is mainly a centralized task coordinated and led by the ILAE-EC. CEA is committed to contribute to innovation.