

Dear Friends and Colleagues,
Dear Executives of the ILAE European Chapters

I feel honored to have been nominated as a candidate for the ILAE-Europe Committee 2025-29. I sincerely thank all the European chapters that supported my nomination.

Epilepsy has shaped the core of my professional life, fuelling my dedication to improving patient care, promoting research and educating young professionals. Throughout my career, I have remained committed to supporting the epilepsy community with integrity and purpose, guided by a vision of a future in which education, care and research are accessible to all, regardless of geographic location or resources.

Here, I outline my personal priorities if elected:

1. Education

I fully support the vision of the ILAE-EC regarding the importance of advanced education for healthcare professionals in the field of epilepsy. Since 2007, I have been organizing the **Baltic Sea Summer School on Epilepsy**, a yearly event that remains very popular among young doctors and researchers. This initiative has provided high-quality education, fostered international collaboration, and inspired many early-career professionals in the field.

I will work to further develop the ILAE-EC's educational agenda, including the resumption of EUREPA train-the-trainer courses and the initiation of new courses for nurses with an interest in epilepsy and EEG. I also aim to promote exchange programs for education and research within Europe, as well as visiting professorships and mentorship initiatives. I believe that joint educational efforts with radiologists, psychiatrists, and intensive care specialists can significantly enhance the care of people with epilepsy, and I would take the initiative to foster such collaborations.

2. Empowering the Next Generation

Nurturing young physicians and researchers is vital for the future of epilepsy care. I am committed to strengthening ties with the Young Epilepsy Section by developing mentorship opportunities, exchange programs, and inspiring initiatives tailored to early-career professionals. Ensuring that bursaries and scholarships remain accessible will be a continued priority, helping to create equal opportunities for learning and growth across all regions.

3. Research

It is essential that epilepsy and epilepsy research receive higher priority in European Union research funding. This is crucial for advancing epilepsy care in Europe.

I will advocate for and support collaborative research projects, encouraging participation not only from large, established centers but also from smaller countries and chapters. Rather than waiting for EU action, I propose that we use the ILAE-EC as a platform to organize and initiate transnational epilepsy research across Europe.

4. Communication and Partnership Among European Chapters

Strengthening communication and cooperation between the ILAE-EC and the European ILAE chapters—and among the chapters themselves—is vital. I will work to support and assist chapter activities and build bridges that promote mutual learning and collaboration.

As a candidate from Eastern Europe, I will pay special attention to the unique

challenges and needs of this region, working to improve access to research and educational opportunities.

5. **Equity in Care**

It is essential that all patients, regardless of where they live in Europe, have access to appropriate medications and diagnostic tools. Similarly, physicians across all countries should have access to the same facilities, training, and scientific knowledge, enabling them to provide the most up-to-date care based on the latest scientific advances.

I am willing to contribute actively as a member of the ILAE-Europe Committee 2025-29 to pursue these goals in the next term, therefore I kindly ask for your support in the upcoming elections. I am committed to continuing the work I have started and to making meaningful progress together.

Together, we can achieve small changes—and together, we can make a difference!

Respectfully yours,



Rūta Mameniškienė,

Professor, Vilnius University;

Consultant Neurologist, Vilnius university hospital Santaros klinikos;

Head of the competence center for Rare epilepsies;

President, Lithuanian Society for Epileptology, (Lithuanian chapter, ILAE)

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