

PRESS RELEASE

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FENS endorses the ALBA Declaration on Equity and Inclusion

FENS is proud to announce its endorsement of the ALBA Declaration on Equity and Inclusion. Established by the ALBA Network, this declaration is a commitment towards making the brain research community more inclusive. It aims to raise awareness of the challenges faced by underrepresented groups in brain sciences and provides a concrete set of actions for individuals and institutions.

“FENS is proud to support this key milestone in ALBA’s mission to foster equity and diversity. The neuroscience community at large has become increasingly aware of the importance of the issues addressed by the Network, demonstrating the fundamental role it has to play to implement change. I hope many other neuroscience organisations and research institutions across the world will join this movement and sign the Declaration,” commented Jean-Antoine Girault, FENS President (2020-2022).

This endorsement reflects the active commitment of FENS and its member societies towards equity and diversity in neuroscience. FENS is proud of its position as one of the founding members of the Alba Network, alongside the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) and the Society for Neuroscience (SfN).

The ALBA Declaration will be launched on Tuesday 12 January 2021 at 9 am EST/3 pm CET during a dedicated online event at SfN Global Connectome: A Virtual Experience.

About FENS – the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies

Founded in 1998 at the first Forum of European Neuroscience, the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) is the main organisation for neuroscience in Europe. FENS currently represents 44 European national and single discipline neuroscience societies with more than 20,000 member scientists from 33 European countries. FENS' mission is to advance research and education in neuroscience within and outside Europe, and to facilitate interaction and coordination between its members.

Website: www.fens.org

Contact information: office@fens.org

About the ALBA Network

The ALBA Network was founded in 2018 by a group of international scientists to promote equity and diversity in brain sciences. It is led by the ALBA team composed of international brain scientists involved in research, education, communication and advocacy. The Network

is hosted by the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) and is also supported by the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) and the Society for Neuroscience (SfN).

Website: www.alba.network

Contact information: info@alba.network

ALBA Declaration Launch event at SfN

ALBA will launch the Declaration during a special virtual event on Tuesday 12 January 2021 at 9 am EST/3 pm CET, on the occasion of the SfN Global Connectome. The ALBA Network and ALBA Declaration will be presented and the invited panellists will share real-life examples of effective implementation of the Declaration action points.

Panellists: Carmen Sandi (EPFL, Switzerland), Megan Carey (Champalimaud Research, Portugal); Laura Andreae (King's College London, UK), Tracy Bale (University of Maryland, School of Medicine, US), Stephen Curry (Imperial College London, UK), Yasmin Hurd (Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, US), Michelle D. Jones-London (OPEN, NIH, US), Diane Lipscombe (Brown University, US).

Website: www.alba.network/declarationlaunch-sfn