



Introduction to the Danube Symposium

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XXI World Congress of Neurology

Teaching Course 49: Danube Symposium
Neurodegenerative disorders I

September 21-26, 2013
Vienna

Development of Neurology in Europe after 1945

- Europe divided in Eastern and Western region by the "iron curtain"
- Great different possibilities in economic support and political background between East and West Europe
- Separation of Eastern Europe from other European regions in economy and sciences, politically based
- In Western Europe intensive support of neurology based on help of North America (modern technology, high advanced biochemistry, new developed medicaments, help in reorganization of training and education) fast reorganization of damaged institutions
- In Eastern Europe neurological institutions suffered by war damages, loss of specialists, minor support of governmental and private institutions, neurologists had left to west before 1945, strong political control.

Hans Hoff

- Medical education in Vienna
- Postgraduate training neurology Vienna, Prague, New York
- Last assistant of Wagner von Jauregg
- Professor for neurology and psychiatry in Vienna, 1950-1968
- Numerous publications in neurology and psychiatry
- Humanization of psychiatry, "open psychiatry".
- Leading advancement in topical based neurology
- Cofounder of the Central and East-European Association for Neurology (Danube-Neurology)



11.12.1897, Vienna, (A) -
23.8.1969, Vienna (A)

Neurological organizations Eastern Europe Splitted neurology and psychiatry by iron curtain

- Albania
- Baltic States
- Belo-Russia
- Bosnia
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- Croatia
- Hungary
- Macedonia
- Moldavia
- Montenegro
- Poland
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Ukraine



Consequences of the separation

- Greatest difficulties for neurologists in Eastern Europe in visiting western neurological institutions and vice versa
- Difficulties on both sides when inviting to congresses, symposiums, workshops, etc.
- Difficulties to organize common scientific projects
- No exchange of young neurologists department to department between Eastern and Western Europe
- No possibility to attend training courses on both sides

Consequences of the separation in East European Neurology

- Politically guided decisions, different neurological system to the West
 - Difficulties in development of pre- and post-graduate training
 - Difficulties in development of a common neurological system in Eastern European region
 - Difficulties in separation neurology from psychiatry
 - Difficulties in cooperation with independent psychiatry

Danube-Neurology Reorganization 2000

- Depending on the changed political situation in East European countries:
 - Organization of additional teaching courses
 - Starting with an exchange program department to department
 - Co-working program between different neurological institutions in the various countries
 - Establishment of a permanent office in Szeged, Hungary
 - Honorary President: F. Gerstenbrand (Austria)
 - Secretary General: Laszlo Vecsei (Hungary)

Danube-Neurology



During the scientific session of the 33rd International Danube Symposium in Lublin, Poland. From the left: Prof. Laszlo Vecsei (Hungary), Prof. Franz Gerstenbrand (Austria), Prof. James Toole (USA) and Prof. Zbigniew Stelmasiak (Poland).

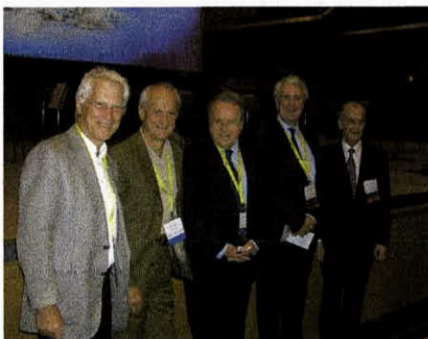
Danube-Neurology Current aims

- Development of neurology in the Danube countries after changed political situation, some former "socialist countries" are now members of the European Community
- Harmonization in neurology between West-, South-, North- and East-European institutions
- Close cooperation with EFNS
- Close cooperation with the WFN and WFNR
- Adjustment in scientific programs in Europe and worldwide
- Adjustment in educational programs in Europe

European Federation of Neurological Societies – EFNS Organization

- Member countries: 41
Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan
- 53 individual members, who are not affiliated to a member society.

Presidents of EFNS



Prof. Eberhard
Deisenhammer
(Secretary General)

Prof. Jes Olesen

Prof. Franz
Gerstenbrand

Prof. Jaques de
Reuck

Prof. Dieter Heiss

Summary

- Foundation of the Danube Neurology during the „Cold War“, splitting of Europe due to the iron curtain
- Intention for exchange in modern development of clinical neurology, neuroscience, basic research between East and West in a separated Europe
- Undermining the iron curtain by invitations of East European neurologists to the neutral Austria as a meeting place between East European and international neurologists to get information about better technical and biochemical development in Western countries
- West European neurologists could profit from well developed clinical neurology of East European colleagues depending on "hammer-based" clinical experience

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

14:30-16:00

Hall K

**Teaching Course 49: Danube Symposium:
Neurodegenerative disorders I**

Chairpersons: L. Vécsei, *Hungary*
Z. Stelmasiak, *Poland*

14:30 INTRODUCTION

F. Gerstenbrand, *Austria*

**14:45 COGNITION DETERIORATING AFTER STROKE- A
MAJOR DISABILITY**

M. Brainin, *Austria*

15:00 FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIAS

G. Ransmayr, *Austria*

**15:15 THE PRIONIZATION OF NEURODEGENERATIVE
DISEASES**

A. Korczyn, *Israel*

15:30 THE BLOOD-BRAIN BARRIER IN DEMENTIA

O. Bajenaru, *Romania*

16:00 Coffee Break, Poster and Exhibition Visit

14:30-16:00

Hall L

**Teaching Course 50: Education neurology (paradigm shift
in training and assessment)**

Chairpersons: J. Kuks, *The Netherlands*
M.M. Mehndiratta, *India*

**14:30 INTRODUCTION: TEACHING AND LEARNING IN
THE 21ST CENTURY**

J. Kuks, *The Netherlands*

**15:05 WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN TODAY'S
NEUROLOGICAL TRAINING?**

T. Wijeratne, *Australia*

15:40 DISCUSSION

16:00 Coffee Break, Poster and Exhibition Visit

XXI WORLD CONGRESS OF NEUROLOGY

**WCN
2013**

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Vienna, Austria, 21-26 September 2013



NEUROLOGY IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION

FINAL PROGRAM

www.wcn-neurology.org