

NEWSLETTER EEBEZE

Ελληνική Εταιρεία

Βιοϊατρικής Έρευνας & Ζώων Εργαστηρίου

Τεύχος 42, Ιούνιος 2023



Σε αυτό το τεύχος:

Προμετωπίδα

Επιστημονικά θέματα

Επιστημονικές εκδηλώσεις

Περιοδικά για Ζώα Εργαστηρίου Αγαπητοί φίλοι και μέλη της ΕΕΒΕΖΕ,

Στις 30 Μαΐου - 01 Ιουνίου 2023 έλαβε χώρα το 1° Central-East European Laboratory Animal Science Congress (CELASC) στην Πράγα. Το συνέδριο πραγματοποιήθηκε με την συνεργασία εννέα εθνικών εταιρειών (ARSAL, Balt-LASA, CLASA, CroLASA, GALAS, HLASA, HSBLAS, ILAF, PolLASA), οι οποίες συμμετείχαν και στην οργανωτική επιτροπή. Ανάμεσα στις διοργανώτριες εταιρείες ήταν και η ΕΕΒΕΖΕ. Το συνέδριο πραγματοποιήθηκε με επιτυχία με τον αριθμό συμμετοχών να ξεπερνούν τις τριακόσιες. Το επόμενο συνέδριο CELAS θα λάβει χώρα στη Βουδαπέστη, το 2026.



Για εγγραφές μπορείτε να επισκεφτείτε της ιστοσελίδα της EEBEZE στη διεύθυνση: http://hsblas.gr.

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ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΑ ΘΕΜΑΤΑ

STATEMENT OF EARA ON THE
EU CITIZEN'S INITIATIVE (ECI) "SAVE
CRUELTY-FREE COSMETICS"

The European Animal Research Association (EARA) is deeply concerned by the implications for public health and scientific research of proposals outlined by the EU Citizen's Initiative (ECI) "Save Cruelty-free Cosmetics - Commit to a Europe without Animal Testing". The ECI calls upon the European Commission to commit to a legislative proposal plotting a roadmap to phase-out all animal testing in the EU before the end of the current legislative term (June 2024).

The ECI has three objectives:

- 1. Protect and strengthen the cosmetics animal testing ban.
- 2. Transform EU chemicals regulation.
- 3. Modernise science in the EU (essentially phasing out the use of animals in scientific research across all sectors).

The ECI petitioners creatively used their specific complaints about animal testing for risk and safety assessment of hazardous ingredients used in cosmetics and other chemicals, to demand the creation of a roadmap to end the use of animals in all biomedical research in the EU by the end of 2024.

In the European Parliament hearing the proponents for a total ban believe that ending the use of animals will be a "win, win, win for science, society and animals". The key implication, and one that has become common currency by the NGOs, is

that what is holding back the full introduction of non-animal methods, or new approach methodologies (NAMs), across all scientific research areas is tradition and the 'old-fashioned' scientific methods of researchers.

At the hearing, where no life science representatives were invited to speak, EARA noted the absence of any reference by the ECI proponents to the fact that without the use of animal research we would have been unable to develop and deliver, at extraordinary speed, the vaccines that halted the Covid-19 pandemic. From their point of view, it was as though the pandemic and the unprecedented scientific response never occurred. There is a no scientific assessment of the potential and limitations of animal and non-animal approaches in the ECI.

The scientific community should welcome any opportunity to take part in public discussions on the use of animal and non-animal methods in scientific research. We need to show that innovation is central to scientific practice, and provide evidence of where the transition away from animal models has happened, and will happen further. However, we need to be clear and honest with the public as to where the transition is still some way off.

Whilst non-animal methods are becoming increasingly powerful for specific applications, and as emphasized in the response of the European Commission to the 2021 Parliamentary vote, the guiding principles for an ethical use of animals for research are enshrined in EU Directive 2010/63/EU "final goal of full replacement of procedures on live animals.....as soon as it is scientifically possible to do so". However, in many fields of research non-animal methods are currently not sufficiently advanced or not available at all. Consequently, the use of animals is still critical to understanding the function of complex biological systems, understanding body functions and diseases of humans and animals.

A premature ban on the use of animals in research would also lead to the effective diminishing of the European life sciences sector. If Europe wishes to maintain its leading global role in research and development, and continue to create an environment attractive for life science investment (including the hundreds of thousands of jobs associated with scientific research and medical advancement), it would be self-defeating to shut the door to the large number of scientists and enterprises who see animal research as being essential to the discovery of causes, diagnoses, and treatment of disease and suffering in humans and in animals.

The ECI call for a phase-out plan by the end of 2024 is not based on scientific evidence, but on emotion. The development of new drugs and surgical techniques will be dramatically impeded without continued animal research, with basic and fundamental research potentially coming to a complete stop. The ECI exaggerates the current existence of viable alternatives to animal models, and by conscious omission diminishes the role of animals in scientific research.

EARA is hopeful that the Commission will not be beguiled by activist groups into believing that non-animal methods of biomedical research can be universally applied to provide the safety, efficacy and insights that are currently gained from animal models.

If institutions in Greece want to support EARA campaign to oppose the ECI, please contact Kirk Leech, Executive Director of EARA kleech@eara.eu.

Kirk Leech Executive director of EARA



ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΕΣ ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΕΙΣ



Στις 26-27 Ιουνίου του 2023 θα πραγματοποιηθεί το **ESLAV-ECLAM Annual Meeting στην Εσθονία (Τάλιν)**. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες περιηγηθείτε στην ιστοσελίδα: <u>ESLAV-ECLAM Conference</u> (eslav-eclam2023.eu).



Στις 22-24 Νοεμβρίου του 2023 θα πραγματοποιηθεί το 1st EALAS (European Academy of Laboratory Animal Surgery) Congress στην Ιταλία (Ρώμη). Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες περιηγηθείτε στην ιστοσελίδα: https://www.ealas.eu/1-congress-in-rome.

ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΑ ΠΟΥ ΑΦΟΡΟΥΝ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΗ ΤΩΝ ΖΩΩΝ ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟΥ

Lab Animal Europe (Δωρεάν εγγραφή) https://www.lab-animal.com/LAE/

Scandinavian Journal of Laboratory Animal Science

www.scandlas.org

Comparative Medicine

https://www.aalas.org/publications/comp arative-medicine

Journal of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science

www.aalas.org

Experimental Animals (Journal of the Japanese Association for Laboratory Animal Science)

http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/jalas/english/en_j ournal.html

Laboratory Animals http://la.rsmjournals.com

ΕΠΙΜΕΛΕΙΑ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΗΣ:

Βασίλειος Ντάφης Αναστασία Τσιγκοτζίδου