

ESN Milan meeting Young Member Symposium 2019

– what the young scientists think about it

Following the tradition started at the ESN meeting in Tartu in 2015 and continued at the joint ISN-ESN meeting in Paris, the Young Member Symposium (YMS) was an important part of the Scientific Programme of the ESN meeting held in Milan in September this year. There were 8 selected speakers from 15 high quality applicants who presented their work at two parallel sessions of the YMS held on the afternoon of September 3rd. The sessions were very well attended and young scientists had a chance to hold real scientific discussion of their results with the experts in the fields of their research. As such the Programme Committee and Meeting Organisers can state with satisfaction that the main goal of the YMS to give young scientists a platform to talk about their work at an international meeting has been fully achieved. Here is what the speakers of the YMS are thinking about this event.

Livia Cabitta (Milan, Italy)

“Joining the ESN meeting was surely an important step on my career path, as I had the opportunity to present my work at the YMS and also to find out about all the interesting work my colleagues are doing in the world. The networking available at the meeting and all the knowledge sharing with other scientists were the best part of the event for me, and I’m sure I’ll carry this experience with me for a long time in my career”.

Paolo Grazioli (Milan, Italy)

“This was my first ESN meeting and I have been really happy to be selected as a speaker for the YMS. Moreover, I am studying and living in Milan, therefore, it was amazing to attend such great and good science in my own city. I managed to meet and talk to people from other countries, share ideas and have the possibilities to improve my personal scientific knowledge. After I had delivered my talk during the YMS, I received lots of questions from the interested audience and the chairman. I couldn’t be more proud of the work I’m doing, and this experience will allow me to make even better science in the future. And for this, I would love to thank again you and all the ESN committee for giving me this tremendous opportunity”.

Susanne Köhler (Leipzig, Germany)

“Taking part in the ESN meeting in Milan was a very great opportunity to get in touch with the broader European neuroscience community. As a speaker in the Young Member Symposium I was able to present my research in a friendly atmosphere but also to discuss critical aspects of my experiments. Moreover, experienced scientists gave me some input for further experiments and therefore helped me to improve my data and also my scientific skills. Additionally, there have been several events organised specially for young scientists making it easy to orientate and get to know other scientists. The symposia and lectures have been carefully chosen to offer an interesting and versatile program. I would like to thank the organizers for giving me the possibility to take part in this well organized and fascinating meeting.”

Kadri Seppa (Tartu, Estonia)

"It was an amazing experience to present with other young scientists at YMS and get feedback from the audience. Altogether, the Milan meeting was a very motivating event and I believe it increased the impact of my work."

Anastasiia Shcherbitskaia (Saint Petersburg, Russia)

"First of all, I would like to thank ESN Council for selecting my work for presentation at the Young Members' Symposium at the Milan meeting. Because of this I was able to become part of this great scientific event. It was very useful for me to visit such sessions as "Signalling and signatures of the developing nervous systems", "Blood brain barrier models, mechanisms and metabolism in health and disease" and "Brain metabolism failure as a common factor in rare diseases". My oral report at the YMS was an unforgettable event in my scientific career. Moreover, I met Prof Ján Lehotsky, whose scientific works I have been reading since my student days, and had a pleasant discussion with him about the results of my work. Many thanks to the organizing committee for the excellent organization of the event and very delicious dinner".

Shlomo Sragovich (Tel Aviv, Israel)

"Being a Ph.D. candidate under the supervision of Professor Illana Gozes at Tel Aviv University in September 2019, I took part in the European Society for Neurochemistry (ESN) Biennial Conference in Milan, and presented some of the exciting findings of my Ph.D. work in the Young Member Symposium (YMS) session. My talk was entitled "The *Adnp*-deficient mouse models synaptic and behavioral phenotypes of an autism-like syndrome", and I have shown in it that the mouse model developed at Professor Gozes laboratory mimicked the human patient *ADNP* syndrome at several different levels spanning from synapse to behavior.

The ESN Meeting in Milan was a unique opportunity for me to present my work in front of the international scientific community, thus showing some of the beautiful science made in Israel, and for that I feel privileged. With the ESN being an important society in the field of Neurochemistry, as well as general Neuroscience, I have no doubt that my participation in the YMS at the 2019 ESN Meeting will play an important role in my career, given the great significance of scientists presenting their published work in international conferences".

Alexander Trofimov (Saint Petersburg, Russia)

"Let me express my endless gratitude to the organizers of the ESN Meeting-2019 for hosting such a wonderful conference which was full of fruitful discussions and talks both during the sessions and in the breaks. Please accept my deepest thanks for having my work selected to be presented at the Young Members' Symposium. Of course, this was a great opportunity for me to discuss the results of my research with European leaders in the field of neurochemistry and neurophysiology, which opened up new horizons for me to investigate the mechanisms of neuro-immune interaction. Let me also express my willingness and desire to participate in the organization of the next ESN conference, which, to my own and my colleagues' delight, will be hosted in St. Petersburg in 2021".



Speakers at one of the YMS sessions Livia Cabitta, Susanne Köhler and Anastasiia Shcherbitskaia with the Chair of the Session Prof Tony Turner.