

## **Spanish scientists researching abroad are organizing the fourth edition of the symposium “Bridging European Science”**

*This congress emphasizes the role of scientific networks as crucial connecting nodes among science, research, innovation, and evidence-based policy-making*

Brussels, October 9th, 2023. The “Bridging European Science” symposium celebrates its fourth edition on October 20th and 21st in Brussels: “Bridging European Science IV: improving European research, innovation and evidence-informed policy through scientific networks”. “Bridging European Science IV” aims to consolidate the role that scientific networks play as an essential bridge between European science and evidence-based political decision-making. These two days of conferences will bring together, on the one hand, representatives of associations of scientists and researchers from the European Union who perform their scientific activities outside their home country and, on the other, policymakers, funding agencies and representatives of the European private sector. The Network of Associations of Spanish Researchers and Scientists Abroad (RAICEX), the Association of Spanish Scientists in Belgium (CEBE), the Association of Spanish Scientists in the Netherlands (CENL) and the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT) organize this “Bridging European Science” fourth edition.

### **Meeting point for recognized experts**

Science is one of the key drivers of progress and innovation in our societies. It provides the evidence base for the policies that shape our lives and generates the knowledge and technologies that drive economic growth and improve human well-being. However, science is not a solitary endeavor: it depends on collaboration, communication and networking that unites disciplines, institutions and countries. For this reason, networks of scientists play a fundamental role in the configuration of our society and the research context of a region.

For this reason, “Bridging European Science IV” will host several panel discussions attended by renowned experts on current scientific topics in which the opportunities and challenges of European scientific networks will be explored as well as they will serve to identify strategies to improve their impact and sustainability. As it can be seen in the [program](#), topics of great relevance will be discussed:

1. The potential of scientific networks to enhance research mobility and collaboration
2. The contributions of scientific diasporas to improve and homogenize the European research and innovation landscape
3. The sustainability and governance of scientific networks
4. The challenges and opportunities of interdisciplinarity and cross-sectoral collaboration within and among scientific networks
5. The role of scientific networks in shaping European evidence-informed policies
6. The importance of promoting versatile scientific profiles, who can transition from academia to industrial or institutional roles, thereby enhancing the integration of science within our society

This event has the support of the Spanish Embassy in Brussels, the Ramón Areces Foundation, the Cervantes Institute, the Galician Innovation Agency, the Association of Spaniards in European Institutions (AEFICE) and the Permanent Representation of Spain before the Council of the EU (REPER), on the occasion of the fifth Spanish Presidency of the Council during the second half of 2023.

The organizers and sponsors of "Bridging European Science IV" invite researchers, policymakers, funders, practitioners and stakeholders from different fields and sectors to join this vital and timely debate.

### **Practical information**

The session on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of October will be held in English in the auditorium of the Breydel Building of the European Commission (Av. d'Auderghem 45, Brussels). The session on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> of October will be held in Spanish at the Instituto Cervantes in Brussels (Av. Louise, 140). Attendance to both sessions is free, both in person and online, but registration is mandatory via [this link](#).

Redaction: Network of Associations of Spanish Researchers and Scientists Abroad (RAICEX, contact: [comunicacion@raicex.org](mailto:comunicacion@raicex.org))