

## ECTRIMS supports UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science, calls for continued focus on closing gender gap in science

Press Release | 11 February 2022

- The 11 February United Nations' *International Day of Women & Girls in Science* is an empowering reminder that women in science remain underrepresented in many fields, and deserve EQUAL participation and recognition for their work.
- ECTRIMS stands by the scientific community as they continue to strive for gender equality in all areas of STEM disciplines.
- ECTRIMS strives for gender equality in its own organisational structure: in 2022, women comprise 57% of the Executive Board and 45% of the governing Council.

February 11 is the **United Nations' International Day of Women & Girls in Science**. This day serves as an empowering reminder to the scientific community that although the gender gap has narrowed over the last decades, women in science remain underrepresented in many fields and deserve EQUAL participation & recognition for their work.

According to statistics released by the United Nations: "Women are typically given smaller research grants than their male counterparts and, while, they represent 33.3% of all researchers, and only 12% of members of national science academies are women. In cutting-edge fields such as artificial intelligence, only one in five professionals is a woman. Female researchers also tend to have shorter, less well-paid careers."

"The European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis stands by all progressive efforts made in the global scientific community to promote gender equality in all levels of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines," says ECTRIMS Executive Committee President Professor Maria Pia Amato.

"This is something we proudly strive for internally as well – in 2022 women comprise **57% of the ECTRIMS Executive Board** and **45% of the ECTRIMS Council**".

Learn more about our governance here: <https://www.ectrims.eu/about-ectrims/governance/>. You may also visit the UN's International Day of Women & Girls webpage to learn more about ways to

support the narrowing of the gender gap in the scientific community:  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/women-and-girls-in-science-day>

For nearly 30 decades, ECTRIMS has been committed to its mission of facilitating communication, creating synergies and promoting and enhancing research and learning among professionals for the ultimate benefit of people affected by multiple sclerosis.

ECTRIMS works with researchers and clinicians of its member countries and with other organisations that share similar missions and objectives on a worldwide scale, creating networking and collaboration opportunities. The ultimate goal of ECTRIMS is to improve basic and clinical research and clinical outcomes in MS.

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