

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

**AUGUST 20, 2021**

**BOGOMOLETZ INSTITUTE OF PHYSIOLOGY**

**4 BOGOMOLETZ STR., ROOM 214**

### **MINUTES**

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

**Nana Voitenko**, Coordinator, Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Ukraine  
**Gorazd A. Weiss**, Team Leader, Centre for Social Innovation, Austria  
**Dmitri Rusakov**, Team Leader, University College London, United Kingdom  
**Georgy Bakalkin**, Team Leader, Uppsala University, Sweden  
**Boris Safronov**, Team Leader, Institute of Cellular and Molecular Biology, Portugal  
**Pavel Belan**, Team Leader, Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Ukraine  
**Svetlana Ivanova**, Project Manager, Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Ukraine  
**Yugen Sheremet**, Team member, Bogomoletz Institute of Physiology, Ukraine  
**Olga Kononenko**, Team member, Uppsala University, Sweden  
**Philipp Brugner** Team Co-Leader, Centre for Social Innovation, Austria

**Prof. Voitenko** welcomed Annual Meeting Participants.

**Prof. Dmitri Rusakov**, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, London, UK delivered a scientific talk: *Astroglial control of rapid excitatory transmission*

**WP leaders** reported about the progress in the project accomplishment in the reporting period. The team leaders acknowledged that the information about main events and achievements within the Project are uploaded on the project website – [www.neurotwin.in.ua](http://www.neurotwin.in.ua)

**A project coordinator Nana Voitenko** informed Consortium that the first phase of the project was highly successful, with a full approval from the European Commission, scientifically and financially. However, since June 2021, the new administration of Bogomoletz Institute had declined to process financial documents or to provide other administrative assistance related to the project, which is required by the project agreement signed on behalf of the institute. **Prof. Voitenko** also informed the team leaders about the situation with her controversial dismissal from the Institute on August 19, 2021. In the discussion, **Consortium leaders** acknowledged that such a situation is clearly not acceptable; it is disruptive and likely in breach of the Ukrainian legislation arising from the EU agreement with Ukraine on Horizon 2020. The latter may have serious consequences for international projects involving Ukrainian institutions. The **leaders** also understood that the Institute administration had not fulfilled a verbal agreement with the project coordinator by refusing to reemploy her. The **leaders** decided to urgently appeal for the President of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine to help in this critical situation.

**Gorazd Weiss** said that according to EC rules a new coordinator (PCoCo) has to be assigned until resolving the dispute between **Prof Voitenko** and Bogomoletz Institute admiration.

**Nana Voitenko** suggested the candidacy of the co-leader of BIPH team, **Prof. Pavel Belan**.

**Nana Voitenko** said that Pavel had been actively involved in the development and execution of the project from the very beginning to the present. He is a co-leader of BIPH team and she expressed the confidence that under his coordination the project will run smoothly.

**Pavel Belan** agreed to become PCoCo until the resolving of the dispute.

**Consortium team leaders** approved the candidacy of **Pavel Belan** and asked **Voitenko** to contact a project Officer regarding this issue.

