# Becoming a Member

# New members are always welcome

The European Alliance Against Depression (EAAD) membership includes:

- Support with implementing the 4-level intervention programme in your region/country
- Assistance with the adaptation of materials from the large EAAD intervention catalogue according specific regional requirements
- Exchange of experiences with researchers and experts all over Europe via our established network
- Participation in international research projects targeting depression and suicidality and
- Support with national and international grant applications.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the European Alliance Against Depression, or for further information please contact our EAAD coordinating centre (**contact@eaad.net**).

# Contact us



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# EUROPEAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEPRESSION

### Who We Are

The European Alliance Against Depression (EAAD) is an international non-profit organisation based in Leipzig, Germany, with several European members and more than 100 regional network partners in Europe.

It was established in 2008 by a number of mental health experts from different European research institutions in order to sustain the EU-funded EAAD projects (2004–2008). The EAAD is involved in several European research projects targeting depression and suicide prevention in Europe.

# **Depression**

Depression is a prevalent, severe and often lifethreatening mental health disorder which accounts for around one quarter of all disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) lost in Europe.

Depression is associated with deep suffering and is a huge burden to those who are affected. Moreover, it is a major risk factor for suicidal behaviour. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately one million people worldwide die from suicide every year, and the rate of attempted suicides is approximately 10–20 times higher than this (WHO, 2003).

Due to the close relationship between depression and suicidal behaviour, it is envisaged that preventive actions which improves the care and optimises the treatment for depressed patients may contribute to a reduction of suicidal acts.

### Our aims

- Improving care and optimizing treatment for patients with depressive disorders
- Preventing suicidality by initiating communitybased 4-level intervention programmes
- Supporting interested countries and regions by initiating regional alliances against depression
- Providing information and education to the general public and professionals regarding depression and suicide
- Supporting young researchers
- Conducting research projects and studies targeting depression, interventions and prevention of suicide

## **EAAD 4-level intervention programme**

The **4-level intervention programme of the EAAD** comprises of several simultaneous intervention activities which have been shown to generate synergistic effects.



### **Awards**

The EAAD was awarded the first European Health Forum Award at the European Health Forum Gastein in Austria in 2007 and is named as a 'best-practice example' for suicide prevention by the European Commission.





