## **BEYOND THE VOICES**

"Rethinking Schizophrenia: Beyond the Voices" is the first part of a research-driven project offering tangible policy and care pathway changes to improve the lives of people living with schizophrenia across Europe. It challenges the status quo and refreshes the European policy debate on people living with schizophrenia, recognises the essential role of social support and encourages multi-stakeholder-driven policy.



Schizophrenia is estimated to affect 24 million people globally\* and 0.3-1.5% of Europeans.\*\*

\*Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation

\*\*Simone et al. 2015

We call EU national on and policymakers and decision-makers across Europe to improve the lives of with people living schizophrenia through the optimisation of their care pathway. Investments in schizophrenia research and innovation are needed to better understand the pathophysiology, mechanisms, and risk factors of schizophrenia.

Policy recommendations and priorities presented in the report fall under 3 categories:



Early detection/diagnosis and effective treatment



A holistic approach to schizophrenia care and management



Human rights for people living with schizophrenia

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## FACTS & FIGURES ABOUT SCHIZOPHRENIA

Typically starts during adolescence or early adulthood.

(WHO)

Typically starts earlier for men. (WHO)

50% of patients in mental hospitals have this diagnosis. (WHO) Leading cause of disability worldwide in 25-29 years old. (Global Burden of Disease, 2019)

15-50% of patients do not receive adequate treatment. (Kohn et al., 2004) Patients are 2 to 3 times more likely to die earlier than general population. (Lauresen et al., 2014)

"For 43 years I thought mental illness was a concept I would never have to deal with. But you know what? I'm stronger and more solid than I've ever been, having dived to the very depths of it."



Péter Kéri President, GAMIAN-Europe



## **Rethinking Schizophrenia Care Pathway**

The second phase of the project, Rethinking the Schizophrenia Care Pathway, co-created by the European Brain Council (EBC) and the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), will aim to examine health gains and societal impacts resulting from optimal healthcare interventions in comparison with current care or inadequate treatment and data evidence convert to recommendations on how to improve the care pathways. In-depth patient care pathway analysis will be conducted for optimized care and development of concrete strategies. The project covers 9 countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Spain and UK).



