



# European Drosophila Society

## Annual Newsletter 2025

Dear Members of the European *Drosophila* Society (EDS),  
Welcome to the latest update from the European *Drosophila* Society!  
You are receiving this message because you have registered through the EDS website.  
Please share this newsletter with colleagues who might be interested in joining our community.

## Board elections in 2025

The European *Drosophila* Board aims to represent the full diversity of the European *Drosophila* research community, while maintaining a board size that is sufficiently small that in-depth discussions do not become unwieldy (see Representation rules). Elections will be held this year to renew half of the board.

### Election timeline:

- **March:** solicit nominations for openings
- **June–July:** electronic election
- **September:** newly elected members announced at EDRC Alicante

Look out for the call for nominations by email and from @fly-eds.bsky.social in March! Encourage your students and post-docs to register.

We are also pleased to announce that **in September 2025 Marco Milán (IRB Barcelona) will take over from Bruno Lemaitre as president of the EDS**. Mirka Uhlirova (CECAD Köln) will replace Marco as vice president.

## European *Drosophila* Research Conference in Alicante in 2025



**Workshops** are a vital part of the EDRC and attract many participants. If you are interested in proposing a workshop, please **send a one-page proposal** to edrc2025alicante@umh.es **by May 5th, 2025** (more information here).

The 28th European *Drosophila* Research conference will be held **in Alicante from September 25th to 28th**. We encourage all of you to register and make this event a vibrant scientific gathering. The EDS will hold its general assembly during the conference to enable as many members as possible to attend in person.

## EDS best PhD thesis prize

To stimulate, acknowledge, and reward outstanding work performed by PhD students in life sciences using the *Drosophila* model, the European *Drosophila* Society is launching a new prize. **This prize will be awarded every two years, endowed with €1000 and a keynote presentation at the European *Drosophila* Research Conference (EDRC)**. PhD students working in countries represented within the European *Drosophila* Board that have obtained their PhD diploma between January 1st, 2023, and December 31st, 2024, are welcome to apply.

More information here.

# Rejuvenating the VDRC: a call to strengthen Europe's core *Drosophila* resource

The Vienna *Drosophila* Resource Center (VDRC), host to important and unique fly stocks such as the genome-wide Vienna RNAi collection and [other resources](#), is launching an initiative to expand its valuable collections and help ensure long-term sustainability.

To boost its attractiveness for the European *Drosophila* community **we invite you to deposit your most popular stocks**, especially comprehensive sets of lines for studying specific pathways or mechanisms. The aim is to increase the number of lines that have broad appeal or high value for current and/or future research. Your participation will strengthen this vital European resource while ensuring your lines are professionally maintained and readily available to the research community.

To facilitate the ordering procedure, the VDRC will soon be introducing alternative payment options in addition to credit cards.

## A message from the JEDIs



The JEDIs (**Junior European *Drosophila* Investigators**) are early career scientists working on *Drosophila* in Europe and having recently established their independent research group. You can find out about our history, follow news about the initiative on the [new website](#) and follow us on BlueSky @fly-jedi.bsky.social.

Why the JEDIs? In a global context where basic research is no longer a priority, it is vital to co-construct a group showing the need for this basic research and demonstrating the power of model organisms-based approaches.

Join us by contacting us through [jedi@fly-jedi.org](mailto:jedi@fly-jedi.org) and taking part in our **2025 JEDI meeting near Paris 3-5 June 2025!**

The EDRC 2027 meeting will be held in Bonn, Germany (main organizer: Ilona Grunwald-Kadow). The EDS is delighted to open the **call for a host city for the 30th European *Drosophila* Research Conference in 2029**. If you are interested in organizing EDRC 2029 in your city, please find [instructions](#) on this and contact Marco Milán ([marco.milan@irbbbarcelona.org](mailto:marco.milan@irbbbarcelona.org)) by March 1st 2025.

## Call to host the 30th European *Drosophila* Research Conference in 2029

## EDS and *Drosophila* national meetings

One of EDS' missions is to promote *Drosophila* research in Europe. To this aim, EDS can provide financial backing to the various national *Drosophila* meetings. We can advance funds and offer safekeeping of conference profits between events. In return for this financial support, EDS-endorsed conferences are encouraged to provide visibility to EDS sponsors. In 2025, we endeavor to establish written endorsement agreements with national conference organizers to guarantee our sponsors maximum visibility.

## Attracting new sponsors

Although the *Drosophila* community is very dynamic in organizing numerous high-quality meetings throughout the year, sponsor interest for fly meetings remains low. Establishing a society allows us to build a lasting relationship with our sponsors. It is now possible to sponsor the EDS directly, with significant discounts for EDRC sponsorship. Our goal is to retain a core group of trusted sponsors, attract new ones, and centralize sponsor-related information within the EDS secretariat.

**We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the sponsors (listed below) who supported the activities of our society in 2024 and continue to do so in 2025.**

## Platinum Sponsor 2024



INJECT+MATIC Sàrl is a company based in Geneva (Switzerland). For more than 30 years, INJECT+MATIC has created, developed, and commercialized products designed for scientific research following specific requests from researchers that correspond to their needs with easy-to-use technology. Our main objective has been to find reliable technical solutions to build devices to simplify the work with new tools and to fight against obsolescence. Our company has been a pioneer in instruments for *Drosophila* anesthesia including equipment without an external source of gas and designed for laboratories not equipped with CO2 and for teaching.

## Bronze sponsors 2024/25



Rainbow Transgenic Flies



Finally, we also want to thank all of you who contributed to Flybase by paying your annual fee!  
This is a vital contribution to sustaining this critical resource.

We wish you all a Happy New Year 2025 and  
hope to see many of you in Alicante for the EDRC 2025!

With best regards,

Marco Milán and Bruno Lemaitre, on behalf of the European *Drosophila* Board