

*COBRAIN Center for Fundamental Brain Research  
Yerevan State Medical University named after Mkhitar Heratsi  
The International Stress and Behavior Society (ISBS)  
L.A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology NAS RA*

**NEUROSCIENCE WEEK MAY 16-19, 2026**

## **Conference Announcement**

**Conference of COBRAIN “Armenia Center for Translational  
Research on Chronic Neurodegenerative Disorders”**

**The 32nd International Annual ISBS  
“Stress and Behavior” Neuroscience and Biological Psychiatry  
Conference**

**Symposium of L.A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology**



**May 16-19, 2026, Yerevan, Armenia**



## NEUROSCIENCE WEEK VENUE

May 16-18, 2026 – COBRAIN Center, Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi  
1 Heratsi Str., Yerevan 0025, Armenia

May 19, 2026 - L.A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology of Armenian National Academy of Sciences  
22 Orbeli Brothers Str., Yerevan 0028, Armenia

## CONTACTING INFORMATION

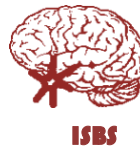
ISBS-CPBP Secretariat

Tel/Fax: +1 (240) 899-9571  
Web site: [www.stressandbehavior.com](http://www.stressandbehavior.com)  
E-mail: [isbs.congress@gmail.com](mailto:isbs.congress@gmail.com)

## Our hosts:

**The Yerevan State Medical University named after Mkhitar Heratsi (YSMU)** is the leading higher educational institution in Armenia, founded in 1920. The university is named after Mkhitar Heratsi, a doctor and the founder of Armenian medicine. More than 1200 teaching and research staff work at the university. This powerful scientific and teaching potential plays a major role in the development of medicine and related sciences in Armenia ([www.ysmu.am](http://www.ysmu.am)).

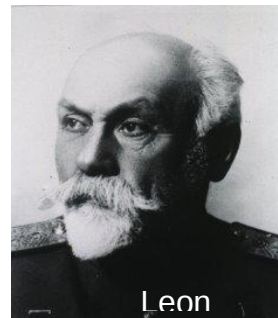




**COBRAIN Scientific-Educational Center for Fundamental Brain Research at YSMU** is the flagship neuroscience research center in Armenia focusing on problems of healthy brain ageing ([www.cobrainarmenia.org](http://www.cobrainarmenia.org)).



**The L.A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology** of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences is the leading biomedical research institute of Armenia. The institute was founded in 1943, and named after Prof. Leon A. Orbeli, a prominent neuroscientist and Pavlov's friend and follower. Currently, the Institute is a leading center of neuroscience research in Armenia, and a regular host of various scientific forums and national and international neuroscience meetings ([www.physiol.sci.am](http://www.physiol.sci.am)).





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## NEUROSCIENCE WEEK PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

### **DAY 1, May 16, 2026 (Conference of COBRAIN, Day 1) COBRAIN CENTER**

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 10.00-18.00 | Registration open   |
| 10.00-11.00 | Welcoming addresses |
| 11.00-13.00 | Symposium 1         |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch break         |
| 14.00-18.00 | Symposium 2         |
| 18.00-19.30 | COBRAIN reception   |

### **DAY 2, May 17, 2026 (Conference of COBRAIN, Day 2) COBRAIN CENTER**

|             |                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| 10.00-18.00 | Registration open                      |
| 10.00-13.00 | Symposium on Neurochemistry            |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch break                            |
| 14.00-18.00 | Joint Conference Poster Session Part 1 |

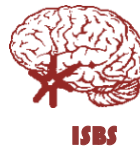
### **DAY 3, May 18, 2026 (ISBS Conference) Yerevan State Medical University**

|             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 10.00-18.00 | Registration open                |
| 10.00-11.00 | Conference welcoming addresses   |
| 11.00-13.00 | Plenary lectures                 |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch break                      |
| 14.00-16.00 | ISBS Symposium                   |
| 16.00-17.00 | Plenary lectures                 |
| 17.00-19.00 | Molecular Neurobiology Symposium |
| 19.00-20.00 | Reception                        |

### **DAY 4, May 19, 2026 (Armenian Neuroscience Symposium) L.A. Orbeli Institute of Physiology Symposium**

|             |                                             |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 10.00-17.00 | Registration open                           |
| 10.00-10.30 | Introduction and Welcoming address          |
| 10.30-11.00 | Plenary lecture                             |
| 11.00-14.00 | Symposium of Orbeli Institute of Physiology |
| 14.00-15.00 | Lunch break                                 |
| 15.00-19.00 | Joint Conference Poster Session 2           |
| 19.00-19.30 | Joint Conference closing remarks            |

### **May 20-21, 2026 POST-CONFERENCE TOURS AND VISITS**



## CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

**Official Language:** English

**Topics:**

- Stress and its biological and societal consequences
- Fear, anxiety and depression
- Neurogenetics of stress
- Neurochemistry and neurophysiology of stress
- Molecular biology of the brain
- Experimental models of behavior
- Stress, memory and learning
- Psychophysiology and neuropsychology
- Psychoneuroimmunology
- Neuroimmunology
- General psychiatry, Gene x environment interactions
- Translational research in biological psychiatry
- Biomarkers of stress
- Neurodegenerative disorders

## SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS

**International Organizing Committee:**

Allan Kalueff, DrSci, MAE (ISBS), ISBS President, Conference Chair  
Armen Muradyan, DrSci (Yerevan), YSMU Rector, Co-Chair  
Konstantin Yenkovyan, DrSci (Yerevan), COBRAIN Director Co-Chair  
Naira Ayyazyan, DrSci (Yerevan), Institute of Physiology Director, Co-Chair  
Victor M. Klimenko, DrSci (St. Petersburg), ISBS Vice President  
Philip Fauket-Alekhine, PhD (Paris)  
Mamiko Koshiba, PhD (Tokyo)  
Dusko Kozic, MD (Belgrade)  
Shun Nakamura, PhD (Tokyo)  
Alexey Semyanov, DrSci, MAE (Jiaxing)  
Vladimir Parpura, MD, PhD, MAE (Hangzhou)



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### **Local Organizing Committee:**

Konstantin Yenkovyan, DrSci (Yerevan), Co-Chair  
Naira Ayyvazyan, DrSci (Yerevan), Co-Chair  
Arsen Arakelyan, DrSci (Yerevan)  
Vaginak Sargsyan, DrSci (Yerevan)  
Alvard Antonyan, PhD (Yerevan)  
Adel Tadevosyan, DrSci (Yerevan)  
Mariam Movsisyan (Yerevan)  
Lilit Martirosyan (Yerevan)  
Hamlet Torosyan (Yerevan)

### **Scientific Program Committee:**

Victor Klimenko, DrSci (St. Petersburg), Co-Chair  
Konstantin Demin, PhD (Tokyo)  
Seyran Qocharyan (Yerevan)  
Katarine Fereshetyan (Yerevan)

### **Symposium Secretariat:**

Nataliya Zinevych, PE, ISBS Secretary General

## **REGISTRATION**

Registration includes full access to all sessions and lectures, welcoming reception, as well as Proceedings (abstract book) and other Symposium materials, bags, and coffee-breaks. After we confirm your pre-registration, Symposium Secretariat will send you Registration Invoice with full bank details and payment instructions. An invoice will be issued electronically, so you can proceed with your payment. If you are presenting an abstract, please register before February 28, 2026: abstract submission closes after this date.

## **REGISTRATION FEES**

Following the ISBS Conferences' 30+ year-long traditions, the registration fees are kept as low as possible:

### **Individual registration:**

- |                                                  |            |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|
| • Early full registration (before Jan 15, 2026): | 130.00 eur |
| • Late full registration (after Jan 15, 2026):   | 150.00 eur |
| • Early student (under- and graduate):           | 90.00 eur  |
| • Late student (after Jan 15, 2026)              | 110.00 eur |



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### **Reduced individual registration for scientists from Armenia\*:**

- Early registration (before Jan 15, 2026): 55.00 eur
- Late registration (after Jan 15, 2026): 80.00 eur
- Early student (under- and graduate): 35.00 eur
- Late student (after Jan 15, 2026) 55.00 eur

\* Scientists and students from YSMU and Orbeli Institute of Physiology will be registered free of charge (please contact our Secretariat for details)

### **Reduced individual registration for scientists from Russia:**

- Early registration (before Jan 15, 2026): 55.00 eur
- Late registration (after Jan 15, 2026): 80.00 eur
- Early student (under- and graduate): 35.00 eur
- Late student (after Jan 15, 2026) 55.00 eur

### **Reduced individual registration for scientists from countries with current economic difficulties (C.I.S. and selected African countries):**

- Early registration (before Jan 15, 2026): 50.00 eur
- Late registration (after Jan 15, 2026): 80.00 eur
- Early student (under- and graduate): 25.00 eur
- Late student (after Jan 15, 2026) 40.00 eur

### **Group registration (>15 delegates):**

- Early registration (before Jan 15, 2026): 95.00 eur
- Late registration (after Jan 15, 2026): 120.00 eur

### **Cancellation policy:**

- Registration fees are non-refundable

### **Accompanying persons:**

No fee is traditionally charged for the accompanying persons



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## PAYMENT

- Due to security reasons, we only accept direct bank transfers and PayPal online payments.
- Special arrangements are possible for payments from Russia and Armenia.
- Credit cards, checks and cash are not accepted for Symposium registration.
- After we confirm your pre-registration, Symposium Secretariat will send you a Symposium Invoice with bank details and payment instructions.
- An invoice will be issued electronically, so you can proceed with your payment.
- Once we receive your registration payment, the Registration Confirmation/Paid invoice/Receipt will be sent to you by post and email.
- Only payments from pre-registered delegates will be accepted.
- There will be no registration on site.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in, copy/paste and email your form to Secretariat at: [isbs.congress@gmail.com](mailto:isbs.congress@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Date: Institute/Company:**

**Name, Family name:**

**Position/Title:**

**Category: please select one**

- Early/Late full
- Early/Late student
- Early/Late Reduced (Armenia)
- Early/Late reduced (other selected countries)

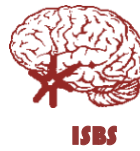
**Address (affiliation): City:**

**Postal code:**

**Country:**

**Phone:**

**E-mail:**



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Delegates may present abstract, or attend the Symposium without presenting the abstract. Only one abstract is accepted per each registered delegate. All abstracts must be written in English (1 page A4 in Word format, Times 12 pt, 1.5-spaced) and consist of the following sections:

1. **Title of the abstract:** ALL CAPITALS
2. **Authors** (e.g., AB Smith, DJ Kalm), presenting author always first
3. **Organization(s):** e.g., Texas State University, Texas, USA
4. **Body** (with mandatory sub-sections):
  - Introduction:
  - Methods:
  - Results and discussion:
  - Research support:

**To submit your Abstract, please email your abstract to our Secretariat at: [isbs.congress@gmail.com](mailto:isbs.congress@gmail.com)**

### Important notes:

- Submitted papers cannot be edited or corrected.
- All authors must receive a written confirmation of their registration form and abstracts being received by the Symposium Secretariat.
- NO TABLES, FIGURES OR REFERENCES!
- Deadline for submission of abstracts is strictly Feb 28, 2026.
- Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by the Program Committee within 1 week after submission.
- Revisions of the abstracts by their authors (for clarity, style and language) may be requested by the Program Committee.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING THE PRESENTATIONS

All presenting authors will be notified by the Program Committee about the acceptance of their abstracts, and the mode of presentation. Final program will be released by April 15, 2026. Once your presentation was accepted, please follow these instructions to prepare your presentation:



### Oral presentations:

- PC-based multimedia projector will be provided for your Power Point presentation
- Please upload all your presentations in advance, on the day of your presentations:
  1. speakers of morning sessions – during morning registration
  2. speakers of afternoon sessions – during lunch break

### Posters:

- Maximal poster size: 1 x 1 m
- Mounting materials will be provided by the Symposium Organizers

## LIABILITY AND PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION:

- The personal information provided by you will be held in our database and may be used to update you on news for this and forthcoming International ISBS Conferences and Schools. This information will not be sold or distributed to any third parties.
- Neither the Organizers, nor its agents or representatives, will be responsible for any injury, loss or damage that may occur to the participants from any cause whatsoever.
- All delegates shall obtain, at their own expense, adequate insurance against any such injury, loss or damage.
- The Organizers shall not be liable for failure to perform its obligations as a result of strikes, riots, or any other cause beyond its control.
- In exceptional circumstances, if necessary, the Symposium Organizers retain the right to modify program, without prior notice.
- The Organizers may close registration at any time, shall the number of registered delegates reach the full capacity. In such circumstances, we will not accept complaints from individuals or groups who failed to register due to closure of Symposium registration.



# SOCIAL/CULTURAL PROGRAM

## Day 1: Yerevan Bus Evening City Tour (Eur 40.00)

Yerevan is the capital of Armenia, and one of the oldest cities in the world. It stretches under the gaze of biblical *mountain Ararat* and resembles a beautiful gilt bowl to those flying over it. A basalt slab with an Urartu cuneiform inscription, unearthed by archaeologists in the south-eastern part of the city shows the age of Yerevan to be 2783 years old. Modern Yerevan is a vibrant colorful city with buildings of unique architecture, constructed from basalt, marble, onyx and volcanic tufa stone, and it is a contemporary to such ancient metropolises as Babylon and Nineveh.



## Day 1: Conference Dinner (Eur 60.00)

## Day 4: Post-conference half-day tour 1: “Mayr-Hayastan” (panoramic view of Yerevan) and Matenadaran (Depository and Museum of Ancient Manuscripts) (Eur 55.00)

The Matenadaran is one of the oldest and richest book-depositories in the world. Its collection of about 17,000 manuscripts includes almost all areas of ancient and medieval Armenian culture and sciences – history, geography, grammar, philosophy, law, medicine, mathematics, cosmography, theory of calendar, alchemy, chemistry, translations, literature, chronology, art history, miniature, music and theatre, as well as manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, Greek, Syrian, Latin, Ethiopian, Indian, Japanese and others. Street tour including Republic Square, Yerevan State University, Victory Bridge, Tsitsernakaberd (Genocide Memorial), Sports and Concerts complex, Kiev Bridge, Parliament, Palace of President, Academy of Sciences, Opera house and State Museum of History of Armenia (at Republic Square). Includes lunch at a local restaurant.



**Optional (upon request):**

**Visit to Yerevan Brandy Company with tour and tasting (Eur 15.00)**

**Post-conference full-day tour 1: Visit to the ancient temple of Garni, Monastery of Geghart and Mount Ararat (Eur 75.00)**

Includes: Transportation (to/from hotel), English-speaking guide, admissions, local taxes and lunch during tour.



The pagan temple of Garni was built in 1st. c. AC and was devoted to one of the Armenian Pagan Gods, Mitra. After Armenia converted to Christianity in the 4th c, the rulers used the temple as their summer residence. Garni was destroyed when the Arabs conquered Armenia but was rebuilt in the beginning of the 10th c. Its destruction again came in 1638 during the Turkish invasion, followed by a violent earthquake in 1679.

The Monastery of Geghard (UNESCO World Heritage) was initially established as Ayrivank (Cave Monastery). Its present buildings date back to 10-13th cc, at which time it was renamed as Geghard (lance, spear in Armenian). The name refers to the biblical lance used by a Roman soldier to pierce Christ's body to examine if he was alive. The lance was kept in Geghard for a long time (before moving to Echmiadzin Cathedral). The main church, constructed in 1215, is the oldest building in the monastery complex. Avazan Church (1283) is carved right into the solid rock and is an incomparable work of art, opening to a rectangular portico and another church deeper in the rock.

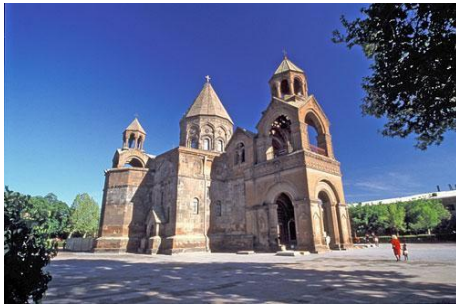


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## **Post-conference full-day tour 2: Visit to the Great Cathedral of Etchmiadzin, Holy See, Zvartnotz Temple and Hripsime Church (a UNESCO Heritage site) (Eur 85.00)**

Includes: Transportation (to/from hotel), English-speaking guide, admissions, local taxes, and lunch during tour.



The tour starts with the drive to St. Echmiadzin (Holy See), visiting *en route* Hripsime Church - a masterpiece of architecture, and a marvelous example of cross-cupola architecture of the 7th century. Remnants of very old constructions were discovered under the temple in 1959 while the temple was being restored. Virgin's tomb lies here in the crypt of the church. Cathedral of St. Echmiadzin (UNESCO World Heritage) is one of the oldest Christian temples, founded in 301, and one of the first churches in the Christian World. It is an unique architectural monument of early Christianity. There is a small altar in the centre of the Cathedral where, according to the legend, Christ descended from Heaven and with a golden hammer pointed to the site upon which the Cathedral was to be built. On return to Yerevan, the tour stops at Zvartnots temple (UNESCO World Heritage), built as Armenia's main cathedral in 641-661, to compete with Echmiadzin Cathedral by its grandeur and extraordinary artistic splendor.

**To register for these cultural events, please contact our Secretariat by email at your earliest convenience.**



### Important notes:

- After we confirm your pre-registration, the Secretariat will send you Social Program Invoice with payment instructions.
- Once the Tour Operator received your social program payment, the confirmation will be sent to you by mail and email.
- Due to limited availability and high demand, please register as soon as possible.

## VISAS TO ARMENIA

- Foreign participants may require Armenian visas to enter the country.
- A Visitor Visa is issued when a foreigner intends to enter the Republic of Armenia for the purposes of tourism, visiting relatives or other persons, business, transportation and other professional interest, medical treatment or other short-term stay.
- Visitor visa is issued for a single entry or for multiple entries with validity of one year.
- Citizens of many countries may not need visas to enter Armenia.

## ACCOMMODATION IN YEREVAN

### Accommodation cancellation and liability policy:

- All cancellations must be made by written notification and addressed to the Symposium Organizers by post and e-mail.
- To reserve your accommodation, please email your request to ISBS Secretariat.
- Only requests from REGISTERED delegates will be accepted.  
Please register before sending your accommodation reservation requests.

## CONTACTING INFORMATION

### ISBS 2026 Secretariat:

Tel.: +1 (240) 899-9571  
Web site: [www.stressandbehavior.com](http://www.stressandbehavior.com)  
E-mail: [isbs.congress@gmail.com](mailto:isbs.congress@gmail.com)

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