



## **An introduction to the ECU**

The ECU **mission** is to enable the chiropractic profession to thrive in Europe.

The ECU **vision** is a Europe where all citizens have access to **Appropriate, Affordable and Accessible** chiropractic care.

Everything we do is underpinned by our **core values**:

- giving leadership,
- embracing diversity,
- respecting subsidiarity,
- acting collaboratively,
- operating efficiently and to the highest standards of transparency,
- behaving ethically.

The ECU acts in partnership with national associations and others, performing only those tasks which cannot be better performed at a more local level by member associations or elsewhere.

Our over-arching **strategic goals** are: to promote the value of chiropractic care; to secure a strong evidence-base; and to develop chiropractic as a profession.

## **Community**

The ECU supports the community of European chiropractors. It enables individual chiropractors and national associations to come together in a safe space, to support each other, to contribute to the growth and development of the profession, and to be stronger together than they are apart.

## **Research**

The ECU invests over a quarter of its income in evidenced-based research through its research arm, the **European Centre for Chiropractic Research Excellence**.

It helps disseminate research as a partner in the **Chiropractic and Manual Therapies Journal**

## **Education**

The ECU has supported, and continues to support, the founding and development of undergraduate chiropractic education programmes across Europe. It provides strong financial support to the **European Council for Chiropractic Education** as the custodian of educational standards.

Through the **European Academy of Chiropractic (EAC)** the ECU supports Continuing Professional Development for chiropractors across Europe

The EAC is a partner in the **GEN-C** online learning platform.

## Sharing knowledge and learning

At the **Convention**, where original research is presented, the ECU enables chiropractors to develop themselves professionally and to share knowledge and expertise on an ongoing basis in a safe space.

The ECU magazine, **BACKspace**, provides chiropractors with news, information and insights about chiropractic practice, education and research across Europe.

## Advocacy

The ECU **supports member associations** to raise the profile of chiropractic care, enable the profession to become consistently recognised by national health authorities and regulated across Europe, and for chiropractors to be regarded as respected colleagues in the healthcare community.

The ECU works with **pan-European** organisations and alliances to promote chiropractic care, contribute to debates and developments in health policy and provides trustworthy, evidence based insights.

## ECU members

The ECU requires member associations to admit only properly qualified chiropractors graduating from courses recognised by the European Council of Chiropractic Education.

Individual ECU Membership is open to individual chiropractors who are graduates of CCEI-accredited chiropractic educational institutions and who work in a country which is not represented as a full ECU Member.

## ECU governance

The ECU is a federation of 23 European national chiropractic associations (including both EU members and non-members).

The ECU was founded in 1932 in London by the national associations of Great Britain, Belgium, Sweden and Switzerland. It is registered in the Netherlands and currently has a Secretary General and Administrator based in the UK.

ECU governance systems are open, transparent and accountable.

An Executive Council - comprising the elected officers (President, Vice-President and Treasurer) and the Secretary General - is responsible for leading the ECU on a day to day basis, including the development of strategic proposals and policy formulation.

The General Council meets twice a year. It is made up of one member from each member association and is the ultimate policy body of the ECU.

For more information:

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