

**The Neurobiology of Action,
an ESF-FENS Conference in Stresa, Italy, 20-24 October 2013.**

ESF-FENS (Federation of European Neuroscience Societies) Conference in Stresa was the third and last conference from the series of conferences organized and financed by ESF together with FENS. It was organized, similarly like the previous two, in the hotel La Palma in Stresa, a beautiful spa on the shore of Lago Di Maggiore.

The programme of the conference was prepared by the FENS committee together with Prof. Sten Grillner from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm and Prof. Ann Graybiel from MIT, Cambridge USA. The conference started on Sunday afternoon, October 20 and lasted until evening of Wednesday, October 24. Altogether there were 85 participants, from that number 32 speakers and 30 poster presenters. Most of the speakers belonged to world famous scientists but there were also many young scientists and PhD students.

Main content of the talks and poster presentations was concentrated on function of the motor system of the brain. There were following sessions: The neural underpinning of specific patterns of behavior; Spatial navigation, role of hippocampal/entorhinal circuits; The extended basal ganglia – roles for action selection, habits, value and learning; Birdsong and motor learning; Role of pallium /cortex in the control of action; Role of cerebellum in action.

In principle this was a high level conference with distinguished speakers and very vivid discussions. Well invested money of the ESF and also very well prepared conference by the ESF staff. Unfortunately last in the series.

Prague, October 26, 2013

Josef Syka