

# Advancing Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science Research in Europe: The Role of ROTOS

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**ROTOS**

Research in Occupational Therapy  
and Occupational Science Foundation





# Occupational Therapy Europe

## ROTOS

Research in Occupational Therapy  
and Occupational Science



## ENOTHE

European Network  
of Occupational Therapy  
in Higher Education



## COTEC

Council of Occupational Therapists  
for the European Countries



# ROTOS foundation board



Mirian Santamaría Peláez  
Chair



Margo van Hartingsveldt  
Vice-chair



Farzaneh Yazdani  
Research Interest group-lead



Sandra Sánchez Viramalay  
Communications



Annick Van Gils  
Friend of ROTOS-lead



Marieke Rothuizen-Lindenschot  
Treasurer



Michelle Perryman-Fox  
Secretary





# Survey 2023-24

(n = 53)

## **What are your expectations for the ROTOS NETWORK?**

- Networking and connections with other researchers
- A space to discuss research ideas, share work, and build collaborations
- Inspiration from other researchers
- Information and support on research grants, opportunities, guidelines, and research vacancies

# WHY?



## **Strong connections between researchers are important**

1. Study populations can be small
2. Context influences outcomes
3. The profession must demonstrate its added value
4. European collaboration enhances quality, visibility, and impact

(Haynes et al, 2019)

# Vision ROTOS

## 2024-2028

To improve European peoples' lives by having one strong voice about the benefits and value of occupational therapy and occupational science research

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# Mission 2024-2028

To connect occupational therapists and occupational science researchers across Europe to maximise the impact of their research

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# Strategic goals

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## 1. Sustainability

ROTOS aims to build a sustainable Foundation to work towards its mission and vision

## 2. Connections

ROTOS aims to build a strong network of OT and OS researchers

## 3. One Voice for Impact

ROTOS aims to support OT and OS researchers in enhancing the societal relevance of their work, by collectively projecting research findings and communicating their value with one strong, unified voice

# Friend of ROTOS (FoR)

**Friend of ROTOS** is the title awarded to those actively participating in and supporting the ROTOS Foundation

## **FoR benefits**

- Support ROTOS' Mission
- Enjoy access to a Research Interests Groups (RIG)
- Reduced fee for the OT-Europe Congress

The logo for ROTOS consists of three interlocking rings in shades of grey and brown. The text "Friend of ROTOS" is overlaid on the rings, with "Friend of" in a smaller font and "ROTOS" in a larger, bold font.

Friend of  
**ROTOS**

# How to Become a Friend of ROTOS



<https://www.rotosfoundation.eu/>

## Choose Your Friendship Level

- **Student Friend of ROTOS** for undergraduate students (10 €)
- **Friend of ROTOS** for practitioners, master- and PhD-students, researchers, educators, and managers (20 €)
- **Organisational Friend of ROTOS** for organisations and research groups, include all the staff (max n=10) (100 €)



# Research Interest Groups (RIGs)

- **Specialised groups** led by dedicated researchers
- Each RIG will focus on a **specific topic** within OT/OS
- **Providing a platform** for members to:
  - Inspire and learn from each other
  - Share their work and current research projects
  - Collaborate on new research pathways and initiatives
  - Collaborate on research projects and grant applications
  - Discuss relevant articles and research
  - Provide possibilities for mentoring

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# Themes of RIGs

- 1.Children, Youth and Family
- 2.Mental Health
- 3.Aging
- 4.Community-based OT
- 5.Participative Health Research
- 6.Technology
- 7.....
- 8.....

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# What we need

- More Friends of ROTOS
- OT and OS researchers
  - who would like who would like to join and actively contribute to a RIG
  - who would like to lead a RIG on a specific topic
- Your experiences and best practices from other research networks.

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# How to get involved

- ROTOS website:  
<https://www.rotosfoundation.eu/>
- ROTOS email:  
[communications@rotos.eu](mailto:communications@rotos.eu)



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rotos-foundation-bb31ab283/>





**Thank you!**