

October 2025

[View this email in your browser](#)

EKTG for eTechnology



Dear Colleague,

EKTG 36th Late Summer Newsletter - October 2025 -

Introduction

The EKTG Main Board and other parts of the Organisation have been busy working on your behalf.

We are also delighted to welcome our new International Ambassador from Holland, Tim van Rees, based in Amsterdam.

International Ambassadors play an important part in our work and are especially able to tell us about activity in their country.

There are whole areas of the world where we do not have an International Ambassador. This is particularly in the Far East and the Southern Nations.

Why not tell us of some suitable people in those parts of the world. Maybe volunteer yourself?

Currently the International Ambassadors are being asked to help us with new work. There is a plan to revise an event at the Japanese Embassy in London. We have asked Professor David Cope, from Cambridge University to take an active part with this. David Cope has earlier connections with Japan and is the holder of a Special High Honour, the Order of the Rising Sun.

More will be shared with you about this planned event.

The International Ambassadors are also being asked about the possibility of further EKTG events, further EKTG Webinars, further EKTG Courses.

Your views about all these things are very welcome.

We are planning an International Ambassadors Meeting in mid October so do let us have your views.

Somen Bannerjee, Chairman of the EKTG Main Board

Features

PERKESO Rehabilitation Centre



PERKESO Rehabilitation Centre Tun Abdul Razak is set up by Malaysian workers compensation. This centre is at Melaka, Malaysia. The centre has a in patient service providing comprehensive service which include prosthetist, audiologist, speech therapist, occupational therapist , physical therapist, nursing, dietitian and counsellors. They offered retraining of skills such as in hairdressing, clerical etc. The social / vocational counsellors assist patients to resettle back to their employment or retraining . Check them out on YouTube PERKESO.

This year I was invited by Mr Tan Eng Wah, Rehabilitation Director to conduct a workshop “Let collaborate in our clinical reasoning for best Practice” from May 3rd till May 6th. This workshop was attended by Occupational Therapists and Physical Therapists who are working in the centre.

The workshop consists of first 2 days of theories in motor learning and neuromuscular theories for patients with stroke with lab sessions to apply the mentioned theories in handling skills such as in bed mobility, transfers , restraining of UE etc. The third and fourth day was organized with me co treating with the primary OT and PT with their own patient to further reinforce application of theories to practice. The choice of activities are occupational based such as praying in a mosque, bed mobility, ambulation and dressing as requested by patients. We analyse the missing motor components needed for the activities and how to achieve the success in these skills with the appropriate facilitation of movements.

After each session, I provide a sample of documentation to demonstrate clinical reasoning to support positive or negative changes and identify the steps for the next session.

I have a fifth day follow up session to further review any application of theories in 2026.

It is good to have interdisciplinary communication for teams to use a common language and formulate common occupational based goals as requested by patients. Also this facilitates on going dialogues amongst the therapists. They can build therapeutic skills and activities to address any functional assessment and treatment.

**Miss Ai Lian Lim,
EKTG International Ambassador, USA**

Equipment Examples and News

Our 17 Seater Minibus You Can Drive On a Standard License!



**17 SEATER
FLEXILITE MINIBUS**

**ACCESSIBLE MOTORING, RE-IMAGINED
WAV, ADAPTED & STANDARD VEHICLES**

- ✓ Drive on a Standard License
- ✓ Flexible Layout Up to 17 Seats
- ✓ Electric Rear Tail Lift & Side Step
- ✓ High Spec including Rear Camera

0330 1239122 hello@accessiblevehicleclub.co.uk

With an AVC subscription, you can request a minibus on the days you need it. No long-term commitments – just simple, flexible bookings designed to suit you. Whether it's a standard car, a wheelchair accessible vehicle adapted car or the Flexilite Minibus, everything is included:

- ✓ Free insurance
- ✓ Free delivery & collection
- ✓ Breakdown cover
- ✓ Flexible vehicle swap options

Spacious, Flexible Interior Designed To Suit Your Needs.

Our Flexilite Minibus comes with 14 removable rear seats and 3 fixed seats up front. The flexible layout allows multiple wheelchairs to be accommodated when needed, and it's equipped with a rear tail lift and side step for easy access.

[See the brochure](#)

Informal EUCO | EFC | Savings and Investment Union

This week, European Parliament committee and group meetings will take place. On Monday, ministers in the Competitiveness Council will have a policy debate on the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), one of the main elements of the 2028-2034 long-term EU budget. On Tuesday, EU Commissioners will gather in Brussels to unveil the Savings and Investment Union package. On Wednesday, EU leaders will discuss how to strengthen Europe's defence, including in view of Russia's recent airspace violations in several EU Member States.

[See the full agenda](#)

European Commission

Magnus Branner will participate in the Cybercrime Conference at Europol, in the Hague. On Friday, Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis will receive Andrew Puzder, US Ambassador to the EU, in Brussels.

[Read more](#)

Council of the European Union

On Monday, ministers in the Competitiveness Council will have a policy debate on the European Competitiveness Fund (ECF), one of the main elements of the 2028-2034 long-term EU budget. On Tuesday, ministers are expected to approve Council conclusions on the importance of research and innovation for the EU Startup and Scaleup Strategy.

[Read more](#)

Saboteurs and sabotage

Big stages and epic speeches dominated this week's headlines as world leaders gathered for the UN General Assembly. Trump, ever the showman, blamed "sabotage" for a string of technical glitches — but Denmark is grappling with the real thing, a serious act of sabotage that hints at an all-too-familiar hand from the east. And while the geopolitical drama plays out, within the EU nature itself faces an even more alarming threat.

[Read more](#)

Climate | EU-India agenda | Health

No parliamentary meetings are scheduled in Brussels, as the week is set aside for external parliamentary activities. On Wednesday, EU Commissioners will gather in Brussels to unveil a joint communication on a new strategic EU-India agenda. On Thursday, ministers in the Environment Council will seek to reach an agreement on a proposal to amend the European climate law to establish a binding intermediate climate target for 2040.

[See full agenda](#)

Paper bear, if you prefer

After US President Donald Trump publicly encouraged Ukraine to recover its lost territories, the Kremlin reaffirmed its offensive course in Ukraine and dismissed the idea of any Ukrainian reconquest as impossible, writes Luxembourg's Tageblatt. Kremlin spokesman Dmitri Peskov told Russian media that Moscow has "no alternative" but to continue the country's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine, of which the full-scale invasion begun in 2022, to protect its interests and achieve President Vladimir Putin's goals, adding that attempts at rapprochement with Washington had produced "results close to zero". He also rejected Trump's portrayal of Russia as a "paper tiger", insisting Russia was a "real bear" with stable macroeconomic fundamentals, while conceding some sectoral strains. Trump had met Ukrainian President Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, praising Ukraine's fight and writing on social media that with EU support Kyiv could reclaim all its territory and "perhaps go even further", to the surprise of nearly everyone as it totally reversed his earlier suggestions that Ukraine should cede land for peace. Trump also indicated he would back shooting down Russian

allegations of overblown hysteria and said Russian aircraft obey international flight rules. Meanwhile, drone incidents at Copenhagen and Oslo airports and attacks on Russian energy sites, including a refinery in Bashkortostan and strikes in Novorossiysk, underscored the conflict's widening reach. The article recalls that Russian forces still control about one-fifth of Ukraine's territory and that the war has killed tens of thousands and displaced millions. It also highlights Moscow's plan to raise VAT from 20 to 22 per cent next year to fund spiralling defence spending, up 75% since 2022, which has deepened deficits and inflation, raising doubts among economists about Russia's ability to sustain growth while maintaining its war effort.

[Read more](#)

Hopefully a game changer

As of this week, a large majority of UN Member States now recognise the State of Palestine, with recent declarations by France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Malta, Andorra and Monaco joining a wave of European countries reversing earlier caution after nearly two years of war in Gaza. According to the Times of Malta, at least 151 of the 193 UN Member States have extended recognition since the Palestinian leadership proclaimed independence in exile in 1988, a process that began with Algeria and accelerated in successive waves including 2010–2011 and again since the October 2023 Hamas attack and Israeli response. The UK and Canada have become the first G7 states to recognise Palestinian statehood, alongside Australia and Portugal, while Russia, all Arab countries, most African and Latin American states, India and China were already on board. Israel, the United States, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and many Oceania countries still refuse recognition, as do some EU Member States including Italy, Germany, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Until recently Europe was the most divided continent, with Sweden the sole western EU country recognising Palestinian statehood since 2014, but in 2024 Norway, Spain, Ireland and Slovenia joined, followed by the latest additions this week. Experts cited in the article underline that recognition is a political act with legal implications but does not by itself create a state or guarantee its existence, and that there is no central registry for such decisions. International law scholars argue, however, that recognition changes the diplomatic landscape by placing Palestine and Israel on a more equal footing, lending symbolic legitimacy to Palestinian claims. Israel meanwhile rejects outright the notion of a Palestinian state, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government regarding the current wave of recognition as a reward for Hamas's October 2023 attack. The article frames the recent surge in recognition as a "game changer" in global diplomacy that may alter the dynamics of negotiations and pressure on Israel but remains primarily symbolic in practical terms.

[Read more](#)

The Russians are coming! The Russians are coming!

In Denmark, multiple airports and at least one military airbase experienced drone overflights that triggered airspace closures and renewed concerns over hybrid warfare tactics; Die Presse has the details. In Aalborg the airspace was shut down for over three hours after drones circled the airport, and similar sightings occurred near Esbjerg, Sønderborg, and the Skrydstrup military airfield in the past week. Authorities quickly ruled out hobby drones, citing the size, pattern, and behaviour of the unmanned aircraft, and Defence Minister Troels Lund Poulsen called the events the work of "professional actors," warning that Denmark may face more hybrid attacks in the future. While no proof has been found linking the incidents to Russia, the government did not rule out activation of NATO's Article 4, allowing formal consultations among Member States. Police said they deliberately did not shoot down the drones due to safety concerns, and investigations are ongoing into whether they were locally launched rather than flown in from abroad. Just days

occurrence the heaviest attack on Denmark's critical infrastructure so far. Justice Minister Peter Hummelgaard characterised the wave of sightings as “a hybrid attack intended to spread fear,” and warned that state actors may be behind the flights. The article also notes that recent drone incursions follow broader patterns of aerial provocations across Europe, while analysts see these incidents as potentially testing European defences, raising serious questions about national and alliance readiness. All this comes right on the heels of incursions into the airspace of Estonia, Poland, and Romania; not a good sign from the Russians at all.

[Read more](#)

Hands off our nature

The European Commission will postpone the EU's controversial deforestation regulation by another year amid mounting criticism from businesses and several Member States, including the Czech Republic, over its complexity and readiness, writes Czech outlet iDNES. Environment Commissioner Jessika Roswall said the delay is necessary to address “system functionality” issues after similar postponement last year. While another delay is bad news for businesses that need legal and political predictability, it is primarily our forests that suffer. However, this move fits within the overall environmental simplification (= deregulation) efforts that have kept environmental organisations on their toes since von der Leyen started her second term. The deforestation regulation, originally due at the end of 2024 and then delayed to December 2025, requires sellers of commodities such as cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, soy, timber and rubber to verify and declare that their products are not linked to deforestation anywhere in the world. Critics, from Czech food producers and retailers to forest owners and agricultural analysts, call it an unrealistic bureaucratic burden, pointing out that Europe's forests are expanding rather than shrinking. They also argue that applying the same rules to low-risk Member States as to high-risk third countries creates distortion and extra costs. Proposed risk-based tiers place Belarus, North Korea, Myanmar and Russia at the highest risk level, Brazil and Indonesia in the standard category, and all EU Member States in low risk, yet some believe risky countries are misclassified and want a zero-risk category to exempt low-risk regions entirely. The Czech Food Chamber's spokesperson said the regulation shows how “ambitious European plans collapse under bureaucratic unpreparedness,” warning of separate markets where non-compliant goods would simply be rerouted outside the EU with no environmental gain but higher EU prices. Czech Agriculture Minister Marek Výborný welcomed the new postponement, saying it allows time to adapt the system to genuinely combat deforestation where it occurs.

[Read more](#)

From Accountancy to Sustainability: 60 Years of Farm Data

Discover how the EU Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) is transforming into the Farm Sustainability Data Network (FSDN) to better support the CAP and sustainable farming, from 60 years of farm accountancy to the future of sustainability data.

[Register for the conference](#)

Upcoming EU CAP Network events on innovation, knowledge exchange & EIP-AGRI

The EU CAP Network is organising many networking and capacity-building events over the next 12 months related to innovation, knowledge exchange & EIP-AGRI.

[Read more](#)

Check out our Annual Work Plan 2025-2026

The new EU CAP Network Annual Work Programme 2025-2026 is now available and outlines our planned activities to help advance sustainable agriculture and rural development within the EU. Have a look and discover our upcoming thematic work, publications and events.

[Read more](#)

Breaking new ground: Rewriting the story of Europe's farmers

Farmers are far more than food producers: they are environmental stewards, educators, innovators, and pillars of rural communities. Nevertheless, much of this societal contribution remains unseen or undervalued by the wider public. A recent EU CAP Network's Thematic Group focused on ways to change that.

[Read more](#)

New levels of (un)certainty

This week, Europe speaks with one voice: EU leaders in Copenhagen send a firm message to Moscow, while Moldovans cast their vote for a future in the EU. Meanwhile, Gaza remains under siege as outside aid is blocked — just as Trump unveils a new plan to end the war, though its chances of success appear slim.

[Read more](#)

Now or never

At an informal European Council summit in Copenhagen, EU leaders heard stark warnings that Europe now faces a graver threat from Russia than during the Cold War years, with Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen declaring, "I think we are in the most difficult and dangerous situation since the end of the Second World War," writes *The Irish Times*. The summit focused heavily on proposals for a "drone wall"; not a literal wall, but systems to jam or shoot down drones entering EU airspace from Russia or its allies. Further were calls for enhanced collective defence and early warning capabilities. Recent Russian drone incursions over Poland and disruptions at Danish airports helped frame the urgency of the discussions, reinforcing the view that hybrid warfare tactics are being deployed across Member States' borders. French President Emmanuel Macron said Europe was being "tested" by Russia and urged stronger cooperation in military equipment, anti-drone systems and surveillance. Ursula von der Leyen proposed a €140 billion loan for Ukraine, using interest from frozen Russian assets, a measure meant to ease Kyiv's funding crunch without compelling EU capitals to absorb full costs. Debate over this loan exposed divisions: Belgium and Luxembourg opposed it, citing legal concerns over asset confiscation, while others argue it reflects a consensus that Russia should bear the burden. Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda warned against overreliance on documents and plan-making, insisting Europe must accompany words with action. Meanwhile, the summit signalled a turning point: Member States are under pressure to shift from rhetoric to implementation, especially in defence investment, procurement and collective deterrence.

Murky waters

Delo reports that Israeli naval forces intercepted part of the Global Sumud flotilla bound for Gaza, seizing 13 vessels carrying food, medicine and some 500 activists, including Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, while about 30 other boats continue toward the enclave. The flotilla, which comprises over 40 civilian ships from multiple nations, seeks to breach Israel's maritime blockade to deliver humanitarian aid despite repeated Israeli efforts to disrupt similar missions. Israeli authorities argued the interception was justified by a lawful naval blockade and warned that humanitarian deliveries must use "safe channels", while flotilla organisers claimed the action occurred in international waters, involved water cannon fire and communication jamming, and that many activists were forcibly brought onboard. Some videos, posted to Telegram, show activists alleging they were transferred against their will. The incident has sparked diplomatic backlash: Turkey condemned Israel's actions as "terrorism", Malaysia as an affront to human rights, while Colombia expelled Israeli diplomats and severed its free trade agreement with Israel. European governments sent naval vessels and drones to shadow the flotilla but withdrew escorts when the group neared Israel's off-limits exclusion zone of 150 nautical miles. Italy and Spain also expressed concern. Israeli officials claimed activists sought confrontation rather than true aid delivery and dismissed the flotilla's mission as provocative. Organisers, undeterred, insist they will press on: "The flotilla will continue without hesitation," they declared, aiming to force international pressure and attention. As geopolitical tensions mount, the flotilla's approach to Gaza is shaping up as another high-stakes flashpoint in the broader conflict.

[Read more](#)

Sorry, Vlad

In Moldova's parliamentary elections on Sunday, the pro-European Party of Action and Solidarity (PAS) delivered a striking win, consolidating control in its second consecutive term and strengthening the country's westward trajectory, writes Balkan Insight. With most votes counted, PAS seemed poised to govern on its own, having secured a solid majority; an outcome analysts say signals considerable public support for EU integration despite relentless pressure and interference from Russia. The campaign saw intense hybrid tactics: Moscow was accused of deploying disinformation campaigns, cyberattacks, and vote-buying, while the government moved to ban two pro-Russian parties on grounds of illicit financing. In the face of this environment, PAS's victory underscores both its resilience and the determination of voters to resist external meddling. The article argues this election must now be translated into substantial reform: judicial overhaul, anti-corruption measures, and alignment with EU standards. It also warns that symbolic gestures will not suffice; PAS must use its strengthened mandate to push structural change, restore public trust and deliver on the promise of European membership to avoid disappointments that could fuel disenchantment. The author notes that while Moldova is small and economically fragile, its geopolitical significance between Ukraine and Romania magnifies the implications; PAS's success is viewed by many as a test of Europe's ability to protect democratic transitions under authoritarian pressure. The article concludes that the victory is important not just domestically, but as a signal to the region and EU that even under aggressive external interference, Member States can choose the European path, and that this choice comes with responsibilities and risks as much as opportunities.

[Read more](#)

Back to the drawing board

according to the outlet's analysis. The first is an almost total lack of trust between Israel and Hamas: after nearly two years of devastating conflict, neither side believes the other will honour commitments, so even if an agreement were signed, both would be quick to accuse the other of bad faith. The second problem is asymmetry: Hamas is asked to make the largest concessions, including full disarmament, the dismantling of its tunnel networks, and the release of all Israeli hostages, while Israel would face far fewer binding obligations, raising questions of balance and fairness. Third, the plan leaves critical details undefined, especially regarding the international stabilisation force that Trump proposes to deploy in Gaza; there is no clarity on which states would contribute troops, how they would operate, what mandate they would have, or how they would eventually hand over authority to a new Palestinian administration. Fourth, the proposal makes no mention of the West Bank, despite the fact that any comprehensive settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must address both territories and their political linkages; by isolating Gaza from the wider conflict, the plan risks being dismissed as incomplete. Finally, the domestic political situation in Israel is an additional barrier: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his far-right coalition partners are unlikely to support measures they perceive as compromising Israeli security or rewarding Hamas, making parliamentary ratification doubtful even if negotiations advanced (despite Netanyahu's covert support for Hamas over the years and the political advantage that Hamas serves his agenda). The article stresses that while there is fatigue on both sides and growing international pressure for a ceasefire, the gaps in Trump's proposal are so significant that, without substantial revision and international consensus, it may remain more a political gesture than a workable roadmap to peace.

[Read more](#)

KAN (Kommission Arbeitsschutz und Normung) Brief 3/25

The KANBrief is a quarterly update concerning news and trends in the field of occupational safety and health and standardization.

[Access the update](#)

Dear Reader,

We hope that you have found the EKTG Late Summer Newsletter interesting to you. We are welcoming new items and would be glad to have a contribution from you for the next newsletter. Please send any comments or suggestions you have to us **before the end of November** and we can make sure they are included.

If you have suggestions for any New International Ambassador, especially from any nation where we do not have an International Ambassador at present, that would be really excellent.

Send any of these points to the EKTG Webmaster (ektgwebmaster@gmail.com) and Maggie Ellis, EKTG Main Board Member (westsqas@mac.com).

About EKTG

To find out more about us, please download a document that outlines [the background and history of EKTG](#).

If you have any questions about EKTG activities please send these to: Margaret Ellis, EKTG Main Board Member, westsqas@mac.com

Copyright © 2024 EKTG for eTechnology, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

European Knowledge Tree Group for eTechnology · c/o Maggie Ellis, Lead Academic and Co-ordinator EKTG, · Enterprises, London
School of Economics · London, WC2A 2AE · United Kingdom

