



2024 ACTIVITY REPORT

A year of commitment to contribute in a paradigm change

The past year has been marked by an unprecedented mobilization of the Pro Anima Committee to advance practices and mentalities in favor of greater recognition of new non-animal methods, more reliable biomedical research and toxicological testing, in a global health approach.

Many of you, from all walks of life, have expressed your support for our position and the relevance of our actions.

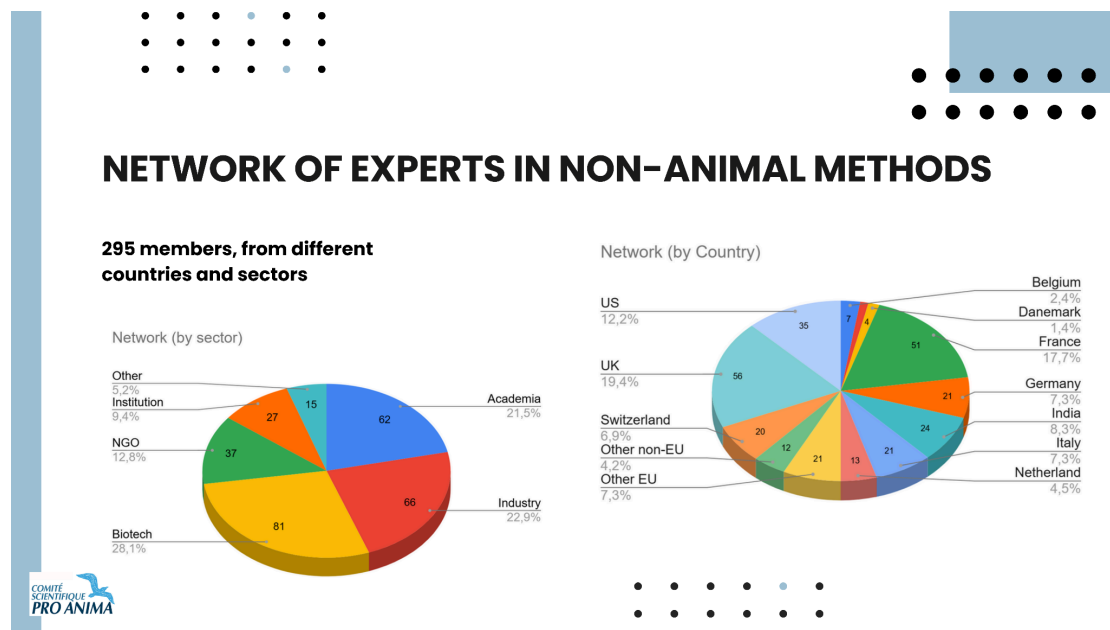
Thanks to this support, we have been able to carry out numerous actions that have contributed **to making 2024 a very dense and constructive year to accompany this transition.**

Find below the major actions carried out by the Pro Anima Scientific Committee.

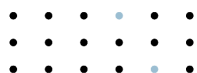


The construction and coordination of a unique scientific hub serving the progress of science

To strengthen our expertise and encourage exchanges between the various players in research, **Pro Anima has set up a network of experts in non-animal methods (NAMs)**. Chaired by Dr Lilas Courtot, this network brings together nearly 300 members from all over the world and from different, complementary backgrounds (Biotech, academic, institutional, regulatory, NGOs). This interdisciplinary, international network is a forum for knowledge sharing, collaboration and innovation.



The network currently takes the form of a [Linkedin group](#), the [NAMs Interface](#) resource that is continually updated and also offers a calendar of events related to non-animal methods and technological innovation for healthcare, and a [collaborative map](#) under development in collaboration with an American NGO (PCRM) enabling experts in Europe and around the world to be easily viewed and found.



THE QUARTERLY REVIEW *SCIENCE, ENJEUX, SANTÉ*



THE ONLY FRENCH MAGAZINE
DEDICATED TO NON-ANIMAL
RESEARCH



Accompanying this networking work, we also gave **the floor to key players in research** through Pro Anima's *Sciences, Enjeux, Santé* magazine. Supported by the [Fondation Brigitte Bardot](#), *Sciences, Enjeux, Santé* is the only French-language magazine dedicated to non-animal research whether **in the form of interviews or of feature articles** on societal themes.

We thus had the honor of interviewing in 2024:

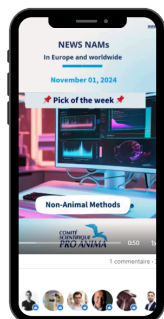
- [Prof. Donald Ingber](#), founding director of the [Wyss Institute](#) at Harvard University, and pioneer of organs-on-a-chip.
- [Prof. Merel Ritskes-Hoitinga](#), University of Utrecht, pioneer of the transition to non-animal research
- [Dr. Vincent Dani](#), co-founder of [ExAdEx-Innov](#), a young French start-up developing human adipose tissue *ex vivo* derived from patients.

And to count on contributions from :

- **Dr. Juliane Fischer** of biotech [Dynamic42](#) on [OoC](#) (*Organ-on-chip* or *Organ-on-a-chip*) technology to advance biomedical research ;
- **Dr Lilas Courtot**, Scientific Leader of the Pro Anima Scientific Committee, on [xenotransplantation](#) ;
- **Dr Jean-Pierre Cravedi**, Toxicologist, Chairman of the Scientific Council of Aprifel, former expert for ANSES and EFSA, Chairman of the Strategic Committee of the DVES Prize, on [endocrine disruptors](#).

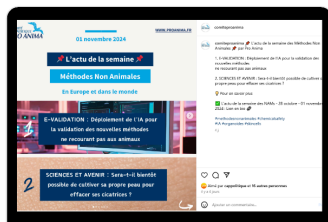
WEEKLY NEWS MONITORING

IN FR AND EN



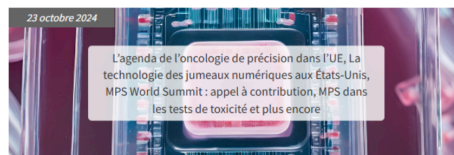
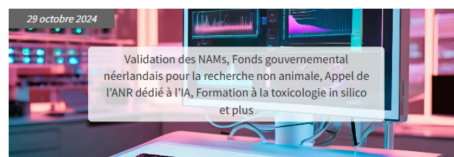
News of the week

Non-Animal Methods



COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE PRO ANIMA

Actualités



We also conduct [a rigorous weekly watch on advances in non-animal research](#). Produced in French and English, [available by subscription](#), this watch enables us to **stay at the forefront of knowledge and centralize information to subscribers and beyond**.

This watch is a unique tool for identifying new funding opportunities for non-animal research as well as strengthening our expertise in the field of alternative methods to better inform and mobilize.

Communication: increased visibility in the public debate

DIGITAL PRESENCE & MEDIA

IN THE MEDIA

Le Monde

SCIENCES

TRIBUNE

Lilas Courtot
Responsable scientifique du Comité scientifique Pro Anima

Emeline Gougeon
Directrice développement et stratégie du Comité scientifique Pro Anima



« L'expérimentation animale soulève des questions éthiques et scientifiques »

La gazette du LABORATOIRE

2024-11-08
Élimination progressive des tests sur les animaux pour l'évaluation des risques chimiques : Le Comité scientifique Pro Anima a participé au 2e workshop de la Commission européenne

Suite à une initiative citoyenne européenne lancée en 2021, qui avait rassemblé plus de 1,2 million de signatures à travers l'UE pour la sortie des tests de cosmétiques sur les animaux, la Commission européenne s'est saisie du sujet et élabore actuellement une feuille de route vers la sortie progressive des tests sur animaux pour l'évaluation des risques chimiques.

COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE PRO ANIMA

One of this year's great successes was [the publication of a Tribune in the Science & Medicine pages of the newspaper Le Monde](#). The article, which received a lively response and very positive feedback, highlighted the challenges of non-animal research and raised awareness among a wide audience of the importance of developing alternative methods to animal experimentation, based on scientific arguments and in particular to meet the public health challenges of the 21st century.

Our association has benefited from increased visibility on both the national and international scenes.

We were [invited to speak at several symposia and scientific days](#) (3d.Fab Days, Brain Organoids), where we presented Pro Anima's work and positioning, advances in non-animal research and during which we were able to exchange and create links with experts from all over the world.

Our contribution to the symposium ["Animal Welfare and Artificial Intelligence: the European Union at the Crossroads"](#), organized at the European Parliament by Strasbourg University's CEIE, was notably an opportunity to highlight the potential of AI in replacing animal testing.

In addition, our **presence at key events in the research and innovation sector** (such as at [ChangeNOW](#), the [EPAA Annual Congress](#), [Journées françaises des 3R](#)) enabled us to make valuable contacts with key players and expand our network. These meetings were decisive in developing new collaborations and strengthening our impact.

Awareness-raising actions at the heart of our concerns

Alongside this commitment to communication, we also organized [the first awareness-raising workshops on non-animal research](#) for the general public and students supported by [Lush](#) and the [SNDA](#).

AWARENESS-RAISING WORKSHOPS

5 WORKSHOPS
4 online and 1 in person

WORKSHOPS IN NON ANIMAL RESEARCH

Supported by **LUSH** and **SNDA**

50 participants

New, free and inclusive/friendly

Aiming at the widest possible audience

Animation: Thomas and Julia, respectively work-study and internship mediators

Support and supervision: Dr Lilas Courtot, scientific manager at Pro Anima

POSITIVE AND ENCOURAGING FEEDBACK

“Thank you and may science advance without the sacrifice of animals.”

“Exciting !”

“Thank you for these very interesting workshops.”

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

COMITÉ SCIENTIFIQUE PRO ANIMA

The 5 workshops carried out (online and face-to-face) were **an opportunity to present advances in non-animal research, demystify certain preconceived ideas** and answer participants' questions, whether about new methods, their benefits and concrete applications, or the obstacles to their adoption.

The creation of popularization content

To better understand the issues involved in non-animal research, and as an accompaniment to the awareness-raising work, Pro Anima has published **[an awareness-raising booklet](#)** of 20 pages (illustrated, in color, A5 format), accessible free of charge to all and sundry, and available in hard copy (on request) and/or **downloadable online**.



To reach an ever-wider audience throughout the year, Pro Anima creates and publishes **popular content on alternative methods to animal experimentation**.

NON-ANIMAL HEALTH AND RESEARCH AWARENESS WEEK

CONTENT ON SOCIAL NETWORKS



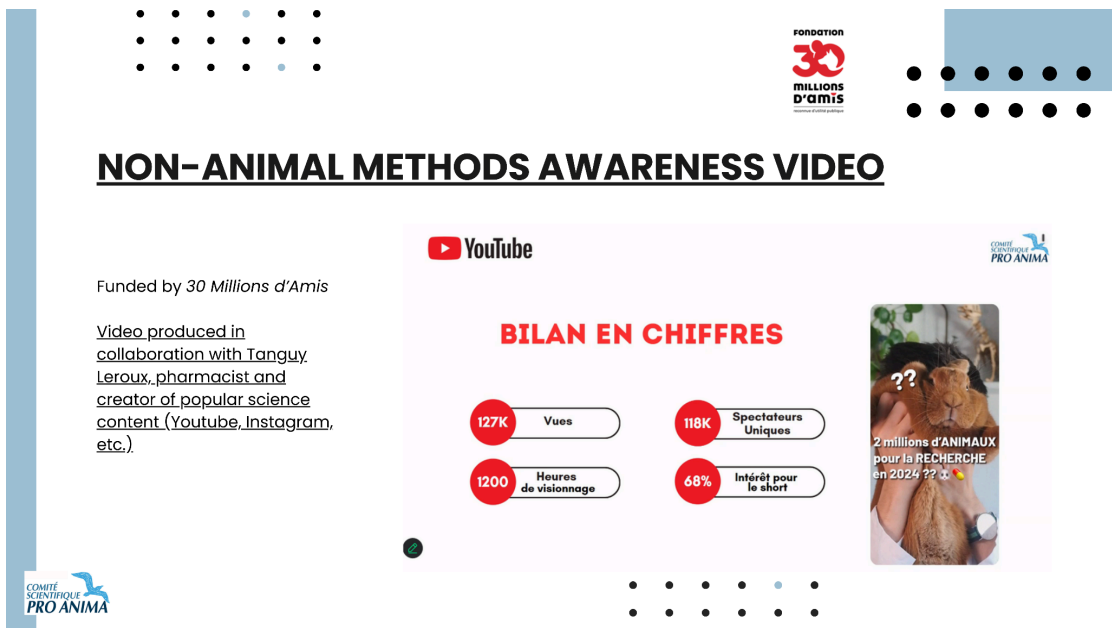
This content, broadcast on social networks, helped to raise awareness and keep the general public informed about news and issues in non-animal research.

Supported by the [Fondation 30 Millions d'Amis](#) and the Brigitte Bardot Foundation, Pro Anima also produced an [awareness-raising video in collaboration with Tanguy Leroux](#), pharmacist and creator of popular science content.

NON-ANIMAL METHODS AWARENESS VIDEO

Funded by 30 Millions d'Amis

Video produced in collaboration with Tanguy Leroux, pharmacist and creator of popular science content (Youtube, Instagram, etc.).



PRO ANIMA PRESENTATION VIDEO



Panel discussions to foster dialogues and address crucial issues

We have also launched the [Science & Dialogue panel discussion series](#) to enable open and constructive discussions to address critical issues related to the adoption of non-animal methods on both regulatory and social levels.

LA SÉRIE DE PANELS SCIENCE & DIALOGUE

En ligne ou en présentiel
Gratuit sur inscription
Des intervenants français et internationaux, experts dans leur domaines

Disponibles en replay sur la chaîne YT de Pro Anima

Avec notamment pour thématique :
toxicologie, NAMs et régulation

3 sessions : 2 en ligne et 1 en présentiel



Supported by [PARC](#) and the [FC3R](#), the 3 panels (2 online and 1 face-to-face) brought together French and international speakers, experts ((public and private research scientists, lawyers, consultants) around the crucial issues addressed in each session; **with the additional challenge of offering a space for pragmatic and constructive exchanges.**


For the first two online sessions, which focused on criteria for acceptance of non-animal methods (NAMs) by regulatory agencies and harmonization of NAMs, we were honored to welcome **Dr Carl Westmoreland** (Unilever), **Prof. Ellen Fritsche** (DNTOX and SCAHT), **Dr Clive Roper** (Roper Toxicology Consulting); **Dr Nicole Kleinstreuer** (NICEATM at the *National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences* of the USA), **Dr Nina Hobi** (AlveoliX), and **Dr Surat Parvatam** (HSI India).

The third panel was held face-to-face at the Maison de la Recherche, co-organized in **partnership with the Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale (FRM)**. Gathering **Dr Valérie Lemarchandel** (FRM), **Dr Stéphanie Descroix** (Institut Curie and PEPR MED-OOC), **Dr Luigi Formicola** (ExAdEx-Innov), the panel gave rise to rich and constructive exchanges on issues and approaches to raising public awareness.

Each session was co-moderated by specialist profiles: Dr Lilas Courtot (Pro Anima Scientific Committee), **Prof. Robert Lee** (Birmingham Law School), **Prof. Merel Ritskes-Hoitinga** (Utrecht University), **Dr Athanassia Sotiropoulos**, (FC3R - French 3R center).




Each panel resulted in a report published or in the process of being published.

Access the [report panel 3 online](#)




SCIENCE & DIALOGUE PANEL SERIES

Supported by






60' participants




From industry, public institutions,
NGOs, regulatory agencies...


Published reports



A panel in partnership
with the FRM



Innovier pour sauver



A strong commitment at European level

In addition to our national actions, we have been **very active at European level, notably as part of the [work on the roadmap for phasing out animal testing for chemical substances initiated by the European Commission](#)**.

Our representatives present at the Commission's *workshops* also contributed to the organization of a multi-stakeholder roundtable held in June in Brussels to make the voice of civil society heard in the debates on the future of European regulation, the phasing out of animal testing and the integration of new non-animal approaches.

The event was an opportunity to [publish a flash report with recommendations for the Commission.](#)

WORKING / INSTITUTIONAL NETWORKS

- Pro Anima x CAP
- Pro Anima x ECEAE
- Pro Anima x European Commission
- Pro Anima x Global Anima-Free Education Hub
- Pro Anima x PARC
- Pro Anima x Influence & Strategy

And meetings with many stakeholders



Feuille de route de la Commission européenne
Une table ronde multipartite réussie

Significant collaborations for enhanced impact

Finally, while continuing to cooperate within networks such as the **French hub of the European PARC** project led by ANSES, we are proud to have **established new partnerships with key players such as CAP** (Convergence Animaux Politique).

Our participation in the international [Global Education Animal-Free Hub](#) network, initiated by **Utrecht University** and notably organized by Dr Daniela Salvatori (President of TPI, Utrecht's program for transition to animal-free innovations), further testifies to **our commitment to non-animal research education on an international scale** ; a crucial issue if ever there was one.

Encouraging results, but challenges ahead

The results obtained this year are extremely encouraging, but we are aware that there is still a long way to go.

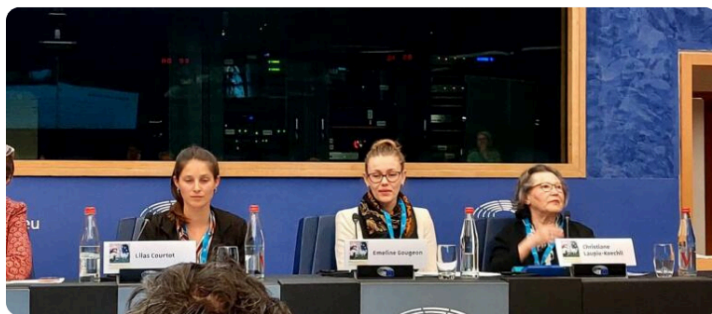
There are still many challenges ahead, including: boosting funding for non-animal research with resources commensurate with the stakes, accelerating the development and validation of new alternative methods, raising public awareness and supporting all stakeholders to change attitudes and practices.

Together, let's build the future and accelerate the transition

Your support is essential if we are to meet these challenges. We invite you to continue to support us in our actions and to spread the word about our Committee.

Together, let's continue to make non-animal research a reality and pave the way for more reliable and ethical science.

Thank you all for your support!



Our plans for 2025 include

DESCROIX-VERNIER ETHICS SCIENCE PRIZE 2025

- Reward and promote the work of researchers who develop and/or use tools that do not use animals
- Promoting non-animal research and innovative/leading methods



- A strategic committee composed of 8 members
- Next edition in March 2025
- Under the high patronage of a French senator
- Unique in France and among the best endowed European prizes

Dr Jean-Pierre Cravedi
Président

Toxicologue,
président du Conseil
scientifique d'Aprifel,
ancien expert de
l'ANSES et de l'EFSA



Prof Jean-François Narbonne
Président d'honneur

Docteur en biologie
moléculaire et
toxicologue, ancien
expert auprès des
agences sanitaires
nationales et
internationales



OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS AND ACTIONS IN 2025



- Calls for projects/funding currently being submitted
- A network of experts to be deployed
- The DVES Prize 2025
- A network of financial partners to develop
- The 3rd edition of the Non-Animal Health and Research week
- Training in non-animal methods for scientists
- A new series of panels and workshops
- Working with the European Commission on the roadmap for phasing out animal testing
- Exchanges with regulatory agencies, public and private officials



About Pro Anima

Since 1989, and as a pioneer in France, Pro Anima has been working to :

- Build bridges and make information on these transformations and evolutions accessible to a wide range of audiences, in order to promote informed reflection on the subject.
- (Re)building, contributing to and enriching the debate between Science & Society
- Support, accompany and highlight initiatives, researchers and teams developing these methods; but also accompany researchers who want to make the transition from animal research to these new non-animal methods and technologies.
- Inform and engage in dialogue with public decision-makers on the health, competitiveness and sovereignty issues to which these new methods and tools are attempting to respond, and the importance of better funding and support for those involved.