

Brussels, 29 February 2016

Invitation to the 8th EPF Regional Advocacy Seminar 2016

“Getting the patients’ message across to the national and European level”

(The Hague, the Netherlands, 6-7 June 2016)

Dear Patient organisations’ representative,
Dear colleague,

The European Patients’ Forum (EPF) is an umbrella organisation that represents the interests of patients to the European institutions in public health and health advocacy.

We have the pleasure to invite you to our Eight European Regional Advocacy Seminar organised in The Netherlands on 6-7 June 2016 (venue to be confirmed), **under the auspices of the Netherlands Presidency of the Council of the European Union.**

The Regional Advocacy Seminar 2016 is open to applications from patient organisations’ representatives from Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and The Netherlands (criteria to participate available [here](#)).

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR

With this seminar entitled “**Getting the patients’ message across to the national and European level**”, EPF aims to provide patients’ organisations with tools to advocate effectively and to become more empowered stakeholders at European and national level.

More specifically, this seminar aims at:

- **Developing knowledge among national patient organisations on the European Union**, its institutional structure and its policies in the field of health;
- **Raising knowledge and awareness of how to get involved in policy-making**, transposition and implementation of key EU health-related policies;
- **Training patient leaders in order to develop effective advocacy skills** to influence national and European health policies;
- **Building mutual understanding and cooperation among national patients’ organisations**: this seminar is a chance to network and increase cooperation between patient organisations from Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg the Netherlands.

STRUCTURE OF THE SEMINAR

The draft agenda is available [here](#).

The methodology of the seminar will be based on interaction and active involvement of participants. Indeed, the seminar aims to build on your knowledge, and to be a place for experience-sharing and cross-fertilisation.

The seminar will take place over two days. It will include plenary sessions and workshops on advocacy tools and EU decision-making processes. On the second day, you will have the opportunity to put in practice the theoretical knowledge developed on European decision-making logics and processes through a **simulation game** on the adoption of a real piece of European legislation.

LOGISTICS AND REGISTRATION

You can find the application form [here](#). The deadline to register is **9 May 2016**.

Please note that good working knowledge of English is mandatory to allow for active participation and interaction.

EPF will cover all expenses related to your participation at the seminar. This includes accommodation, catering and economy travel in line with our reimbursement policy, available [here](#).

Please note that only online applications will be accepted and that they are subject to confirmation. Due to the limited number of places we might not be able to accept all registrations. We will send you a confirmation that your application has been accepted.

For more information on this event please contact Ms Véronique Tarasovici at veronique.tarasovici@eu-patient.eu or + 32 (0)2 280 23 34.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Seminar.

Yours Sincerely,



Anders OLAUSON
EPF President



This seminar arises from the EPF 2016 Work Programme, which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme.

Disclaimer: The content of this seminar reflects only the author's views and the Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.