

JUNE 26, 2013

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## HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN THE NEW EU MEMBER STATES AND CANDIDATE COUNTRIES.

### EQUITY OF ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTHCARE

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#### AGENDA

VENUE: European Parliament; Rue Wiertz 60, 1047, City of Brussels

ROOM: József Antall Building 6Q1

**11:30 – 12:30**      **REGISTRATION/ BUFFET LUNCH**

**12:30 – 12:40**      **Welcome Remarks**

- *Dr. Andrey Kovatchev, MEP; European Parliament*
- *Mr. Tomasz Szelagowski, FPP*

#### **SESSION 1: DATA**

*This session discusses the First Conference on Health Inequalities in the New EU Member States which took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, on the 20–21 September and the related extensive survey among patients' organizations in the new EU Member States and candidate countries. The session also includes case studies on access to quality healthcare in hepatitis and oncology.*

*Moderator: Mrs. Nicola Bedlington, European Patients' Forum (EPF), Belgium*

**12:40 – 12:50**      **"Outcomes of the First Conference on Health Inequalities in the new EU Member States"**

- *Dr. Stanimir Hasardzhiev, National Patients' Organization (NPO), Bulgaria*

**12:50 – 13:00**      **"Access to healthcare: results of survey amongst patients' organizations in the new EU Member States and candidate countries"**

- *Ms. Emily Peasgood, INCITE, UK*

**13:00 – 13:10**      **"Access to quality healthcare of hepatitis patients: case study"**

- *Mr. Achim Kautz, Policy Director, The European Liver Patients' Association (ELPA)*

**13:10 – 13:20**      **"Access to quality healthcare of oncology patients: case study"**

- *Mr. Erik Briers, Secretary, Europa Uomo (European Prostate Cancer Coalition)*

## SESSION 2: POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

*This session explores the ways to create equity access to treatment and care in the EU Member States. Panelists will share their insights on the possible solutions to expanding access to quality healthcare throughout Europe.*

- Moderator: *Dr. Andrey Kovatchev, MEP*

**13:20 – 13:30**

### **“Collaboration and best practice sharing between the EU Member States”**

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- *Ms. Dessislava Dimitrova, Chair of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee, WHO*

**13:30 – 13:50**

### **“Sustainable pricing system and how to expand access to medicines in Europe?”**

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- *Mr. Johan De Cock, General Administrator at National Institute of Health & Disability Insurance (RIZIV), Belgium*

**13:50 – 14:00**

### **“What does the EU do to reduce health inequalities in the new EU Member States”**

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- *Ms. Nathalie Chaze, Head of Unit, DG SANCO, European Commission*

**14:00 – 14:30**

### **DISCUSSION PANEL**

*The discussion shall highlight some key objectives and approaches (EP resolution, EC initiative, European partnership for equity of access to healthcare) to help shaping EU policies 2020, in particular with regard to restoring equity and expanding access to quality healthcare for citizens in the EU Member States and candidate countries.*

- Moderator: *Mr. Nikos Dedes, “Positive Voice”, Greece*

**14:30 – 14:40**

### **WRAP UP OF THE CONFERENCE**