

Raising the Bar for Patient Leadership: EPF AGM 2025 and Youth Voices Take Center Stage

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On May 24th 2025, the European Patients' Forum (EPF) convened its Annual General Meeting (AGM), gathering patient leaders, advocates, and member organizations across Europe to review past achievements and shape future priorities. Along all stakeholders there were also our EPF Youth Group member Konstantina Boumaki who was re-elected as a EPF Board Member that we all are extremely proud of and would like to congratulate her!

Beyond the AGM, EPF Youth Group members Konstantina Boumaki, Marleen Sorensen, and Aedan Kaal participated in the Patient Engagement Open Forum (PEOF) 2025. While all three took part in the Forum's broader discussions, Konstantina who represented the Youth Group in a high-profile plenary session titled "*Leadership in Patient Engagement: Who is stepping up?*", co-organised by EPF, PFMD (Patient Focused Medicines Development), and EUPATI (European Patients' Academy). The session challenged traditional perceptions of leadership, focusing on the future, concrete actions, and inclusive engagement.

During the session, Konstantina delivered a powerful intervention emphasizing the need to create meaningful space for young patients to lead. "Experience isn't just measured in years; it's about daily realities and deep personal insight," she reflected. Her compelling call to "shift the system" captured the essence of a more inclusive, forward-thinking patient movement.

At PEOF, Marleen Sorensen also contributed meaningfully to the broader discussions, drawing attention to the importance of amplifying underrepresented voices in healthcare, including women's health, marginalized communities, and the essential contributions of youth in co-creating equitable policies.

Our tremendous motivation is a fundamental force to reshape the future of patient involvement which will ensure that our voice will be heard and considered.

Do not forget to follow us on our social media platforms, including [Facebook](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) to find out more about our new members, for more interesting content from our Youth Group, for our progress on our projects, and how you can get involved and support our team, or email us at youthgroup@eu-patient.eu with any questions!

