

European Patients' Forum Newsletter

A strong patients' voice to drive better health in Europe



//JULY 2017 ISSUE

Welcome to the latest issue of our Newsletter!

Our one-year campaign on Access to Healthcare is now entering its second half, with less than 6 months of activities left! Let's look at the engagement and support so far, and see how you can still contribute to help make Universal Health Coverage for All a reality by 2030! **#Access2030**

Our first **Summer Training Course for Young Patient Advocates – Leadership Programme** took place in Vienna earlier this month and was a great success - we had really positive feedback from all participants! Read our report on how young patient advocates from all over Europe learned and shared their experiences in patient advocacy leadership and fighting discrimination, during three days of intense training and workshops.

From Vilnius to Brussels, NGOs are calling for the same thing: a **robust EU health programme** and dedicated EU actions in public health! We report on two events organised by the **Patient Access Partnership**, debating the role of health in the EU, following the publication of the five scenarios by the European Commission; and share some updates on the major public campaign co-led by EPF and EPHA, **#EU4HEALTH**.

If you are wondering what are the benefits of setting up a national coalition of patient organisations in your country, look no further! See our **Toolkit on National Coalitions** and learn the added-value of speaking with one united voice and the positive impact it has on patients and communities.

Elected as full EPF member in April, **the Swedish Disability Rights Federation** features in our 'Under the Spotlight' interview, sharing their priorities and challenges.

This month our Blog has three interesting posts from our members: the call to action on allergy and asthma by the **European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients - EFA**; the **Societal Impact of Pain Symposium** that was organised in Valetta, Malta; and the latest survey on access to dementia care and treatment by **Alzheimer Europe**.

Finally, some **changes in the EPF Secretariat**: we say thank you and goodbye to Véronique Tarasovici, and welcome our new Events Officer Anna Trczinska!

The EPF Newsletter will be back in September, in the meantime enjoy the summer and a well-deserved break!

Enjoy the reading!

Marco Greco, EPF President and Nicola Bedlington, EPF Secretary General



EPF CAMPAIGN ON ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE: HALFWAY THROUGH



YOUNG PATIENT ADVOCATES LEARNING ABOUT THE VIRTUES OF LEADERSHIP



[SEE OUR VIDEOS ON OUR YOUTUBE PAGE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

14/09/2017 | EUnetHTA Stakeholder Forum

Brussels

EPF attendance
Valentina Stramiello

24-26/09/2017 | [Conference "The Citizen Voice in Primary Care; a social commitment to 'health for all'"](#)

Earlier this year, EPF launched a patient-led campaign on access to healthcare with the objective to define concrete actions to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of Universal Health Coverage for All by 2030. With the campaign now entering its second half, let's take a look at the engagement of stakeholders so far!

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#EU4HEALTH: EU COORDINATED ACTION AND CROSS-COUNTRY SOLIDARITY ARE CRUCIAL FOR PATIENTS



On the occasion of two events organised by the Patient Access Partnership (PACT), health stakeholders offered clear arguments on why EU coordinated action and cross-country solidarity are crucial for patients, thus echoing the #EU4HEALTH campaign calling for strengthened EU collaboration in the field of health.

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THE CASE FOR NATIONAL COALITIONS OF PATIENT ORGANISATIONS: LOUDER AND STRONGER TOGETHER



At the beginning of the year, EPF published its latest toolkit, a step-by-step guide on building national coalitions of patient organisations. But why is it important for local and regional patient organisations to organise and speak with one voice at national level? And what does this mean for the other stakeholders?

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(BLOG) NEW ALZHEIMER EUROPE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS INEQUALITIES IN ACCESS TO DEMENTIA CARE AND TREATMENT ACROSS EUROPE

The 1st edition of EPF's Summer Training Leadership Programme for Young Patient Advocates took place in the surroundings of beautiful Vienna, Austria. From the 3rd to 5th of July, 39 young people got together to share experiences and learn about leadership skills. With one objective: preparing the future generation of patient advocates!

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EUPATI STRENGTHENS ITS NETWORK THROUGH TWO IMPORTANT EVENTS



Two full productive days in Berlin ushered in major advancements in the development of EUPATI's network this June. The Annual General Meeting of national platforms and the "Train the Trainers" capacity-building event for EUPATI alumni and future trainers looked at the internal and external development and expansion of the project.

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EPF TEAM UPDATE: GOODBYE VÉRONIQUE, HELLO ANIA!



Over the last few weeks, we said goodbye to Véronique Tarasovici, EPF Office Manager and welcomed Anna Trzcinska, our new Events Officer!

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(BLOG) JOIN THE CALL TO ACTION ON ALLERGY AND ASTHMA!

Porto

*EPF speaker
Nicola Bedlington*

29/09/2017 | EPF Youth Group meeting

Leuven, Belgium

07/09/2017 | EPHA 2017 Annual Conference 'Debate new pathways for change'

Brussels

*EPF attendance:
Katie Gallagher*

23-24/10/2017 | PRO-STEP Final Conference

Brussels

04/12/2017 | EPF roundtable on the Implementation of the EU Directive on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare

Brussels



Not everybody is equal when it comes to dementia care and treatment. This is the telling result of the recent Alzheimer Europe's report entitled the "European Dementia Monitor", which assessed countries for their dementia policies and the support and treatment they provide to people with dementia and their carers.

Patients, doctors and Members of the European Parliament Interest Group on Allergy and Asthma have launched a call to action to improve the quality of life of allergy and asthma patients. See more details on this campaign co-led by EFA, our member, on EPF's Blog!

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(BLOG) 5 QUESTIONS TO THE SWEDISH DISABILITY RIGHTS FEDERATION

(BLOG) EXPERTS PAVE THE WAY FOR BETTER EUROPEAN PAIN POLICY

Funktionsrätt Sverige



Every month we put the spotlight on one of our members. Today, we are delighted to catch up with the Swedish Disability Rights Federation, who joined EPF in April 2017.

From the 7th to the 08th of June, the city of Valetta in Malta hosted the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) symposium. Patients, healthcare professionals, researchers and European politicians came together to discuss EU healthcare policies to alleviate the burden of chronic pain for an estimated 100 million patients.

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TO DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE**

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