



EUROPEAN PATIENTS' RIGHTS DAY 2024

The key role of HCPs for a healthier Europe
*Combining the protection of patients' rights with skills shortage,
medical desertification and job strain*

20 March 2024 | 16:30 – 18:30
Room ASP 3H1 | European Parliament, Brussels

SPEAKERS' LIST



Noel Abela

He has been working as specialist nurse in a tertiary Hospital in Malta. He is now a senior infection prevention and control nurse and is a visiting senior lecturer at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Malta. He obtained an MSc in Infection Prevention at the University Of Essex, UK. His main interests are Hand Hygiene, AMR and patient safety.



Vytenis Andriukaitis

Outstanding Lithuanian politician, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety (2014-2019). Having background of professional doctor, V. Andriukaitis had been a practicing surgeon with specialization in cardiovascular surgery (more than 20 years). He is co-author and a signatory of the Independence Act of Lithuania (March 1990), also one of the co-authors of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania adopted in 1992. V. Andriukaitis is one of the founders of the Lithuanian Social Democratic Party and later on Chairman of the party (1999-2001), currently having the position of honorable chairman of LSDP. He served as the Head of the Lithuanian Delegation to the European Convention. From 2020 - Special Envoy of the WHO for Universal Health Coverage for the European region and Member of the Political Advisory Panel of the UHC 2030 Movement. He is an author of multiple articles and books, more than 140 legislative proposals and amendments on national and the EU level; among them Amendments to European Treaties.



Corinne Hinlopen

She is a sociologist by background who later specialized as Master of Public Health. After working in public health in different capacities abroad as well as in The Netherlands, she joined Wemos in 2014. Wemos was the lead partner in two recently concluded European projects: the AHEAD project on medical deserts, and the Pillars of Health project on the uneven availability of health and care workers across the European region, including health worker mobility and migration in the context of a free European internal labour market.



Martina Giusti, Italian radiographer, research fellow at the University of Florence. Interested in health management and Italian technical, rehabilitation and prevention Health Professions. Engaged in the SAPIS (Studies and Action for Innovation in Healthcare), the research centre of the Italian National Federation of Radiographers and Technical, Rehabilitation and Prevention Health Professions (Federazione nazionale Ordini dei Tecnici sanitari di radiologia medica e delle professioni sanitarie tecniche, della riabilitazione e della prevenzione - FNO TSRM & PSTRP).



George Griffin

Past-President of the European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) and Emeritus Professor of Infectious Diseases and Medicine at St George's, University of London. He gained BSc in Pharmacology and Molecular Biology at King's College London, where he was awarded the Delegacy Prize for Excellence in Preclinical Science. He was awarded PhD in Cell Biology/Biochemistry, University of Hull, and returned to clinical studies at St George, University of London, where he was awarded the MBBS. Professor Griffin was awarded the distinction of CBE in 2018 (Commander of the British Empire) for his research and its contribution to Public Health.



Maya Matthews

Head of Unit responsible for State of Health in the EU, European Semester, Health Technology Assessment at the European Commission's Health and Food Safety Directorate General (DG SANTE). Maya joined the European Commission in 2008. From 2013-2016, Maya worked at the European Union's Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva where she covered health issues and relations with the World Health Organisation. Before joining the European Commission, Maya worked in Brussels for Eurohealthnet and consulted on reproductive health, HIV prevention and Tuberculosis. Maya holds a BA in Human Sciences from Oxford University and a Masters in Health Promotion Sciences from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where she also worked as a researcher from 1993-1995.



Lyudmil Ninov

He has joined EHMA's Team as the new Programme Manager in 2023. He is delivering on EHMA's rich portfolio of policy, projects, and engagement activities, primarily through the management & sustainability support of a range of EU-funded projects, focused on planning, upskilling & reskilling of the healthcare workforce. He has vast experience and understanding in EU advocacy, hands-on project management of EU-funded & IMI projects, and also capacity building for patient organizations and patient advocates. His areas of expertise mostly cover - self-management for

patients with chronic conditions, digital health (solutions), integrated care, patient engagement, personalized medicine, primary and tertiary prevention and healthcare workforce. Besides his native Bulgarian, Lyudmil speaks fluently English and has intermediate knowledge of French and basic understanding of German.



Daniela Quaggia

Senior project manager at Cittadinanzattiva APS | Active Citizenship Network | Public health and citizens engagement. She has been working in Cittadinanzattiva for 4 years in the institutional Relations office; since January 2010 she is a member of the EU branch of Cittadinanzattiva, ActiveCitizenship Network (ACN), staff and project manager of EU projects related to health and patients&citizens' engagement. She is also responsible for the networking activities among the almost 200 EU partners of ACN, working to exchange information, experiences and good practices, and for the involvement in projects and political activities.



Cristina Rey Valcárcel

General Surgeon in the Trauma and Emergency Unit at the Gregorio Marañón University Hospital in Madrid, Spain. Extensive experience in education and investigation on the field of Trauma and Em.Surg. Current Chair of the Advisory Council of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Trauma (ESTES) and co-founder of the Gender Equity Task Force of ESTES.



Oana Scarlatescu

Associate Director, Strategic Partnerships, in the Healthcare Systems team at the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), where she leads the patient engagement and partnerships work. Previously, Oana worked in programmes & partnerships at the World Heart Federation (EHF) and supported development, research & evaluation projects at the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as judicial cooperation work at the British Embassy in Bucharest, Romania. Oana has an MA in International Relations and a BA in Communications & Public Relations.



Mariano Votta is responsible for EU Affairs of the Italian NGO Cittadinanzattiva and the Director of its EU branch called “Active Citizenship Network” (ACN). He has over 20 years of experience in advocacy, stakeholder engagement, European projects, communication, and civic information. In 2015 he led the launch of the MEP Interest Group "EU Patients' Rights & Cross-Border Healthcare," endorsed by nearly 100 organisations across Europe, and the MEP Interest Group "SDGs for wellbeing and consumer protection" in 2021. In 2016 Mariano has won the Efhre International University Excellence Awards on patients' rights and in 2017 he was appointed as Secretary-General at European Consumer Union. Along the mandate 2016/2019, he was also appointed by the EU Commission to represent Italian Consumer Associations in the EU Consumer Consultative Group. MEPs Interest Group's secretariat: ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP NETWORK (ACN) Rue Philippe Le Bon, 46 1000 Brussels - Belgium www.interestgroup.activecitizenship.net Mariano holds an MSc in Political Science and two post-graduate courses in EU Public Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility.