



EUROPEAN PATIENTS' RIGHTS DAY 2022

CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF A HEALTHY EUROPE

Taking part in the decision-making process on health priorities

20 – 21 April 2022 | 14:30 – 16:00 CEST

SESSION 1

Between new challenges and gaps to fill: what is missing and what to expect

Final remarks 20th April 2022

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Key messages and recommendations:

In today's session we have touched upon priority issues for the future of a Europe that must be able to guarantee peace and security to all of us now more than ever: the common goal of a Healthy Europe cannot be separated from the absence of war.

In the second half of 2022 we will have to monitor and control the way in which the European Institutions will follow up on the recommendations that emerged from the Conference on the Future of Europe: in this regard, from many parts there is a need

to lay the groundwork to start, after the next European elections, a constituent phase to go beyond the current treaties.

Follow up and possible next steps:

As always, we will try to do our part:

- 1) For example, today, among others, the topic of access to treatment for Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products has been discussed. It is a complex issue in which information is still scarce: for this reason, we have decided to commit ourselves to this topic with an ad hoc training session to better define the patients' right to access and the patients' right to innovation in this new challenging context. Titled "Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) revolution: empowering leaders of EU civic and patients' advocacy groups", the initiative is planned next 24th May 2022 as an opportunity to highlight the fact that ATMPs are a paradigm shift for patients, public decision-makers, healthcare systems, and to better understand how to address the public budget and sustainability issues to consider ATMPs as an investment.
- 2) As I mentioned in my opening remarks, since the beginning of the Conference 215 events on the topic of health have been organized in the EU Member States, and this was one of the topics with the lowest number of related events: we understood this signal also as the need to invest more in raising awareness to better contribute to the pursuit of the goal of **global health** defined by WHO as "*[...] a fundamental human right, in which health and disease are considered the result of processes that are not only biological but also economic, social, political, cultural, and environmental, transcending and exceeding the perspectives, interests and possibilities of individual nations [...]*". And to this end we are committed to the drafting of a Global Health Charter focused on the three central themes of health & well-being, environment, and social justice, with the aim to

sanction and protect concrete and enforceable rights and commitments, both by citizens and institutions in every context and territory. The humanitarian implications caused by conflicts dramatically impose it on us, because war cancels every right.

- 3) More in general, to deepen the topics discussed today, we have agreed with our media partner Health Europa on a special issue that will be released soon. I would also like to take this occasion to mention our second media partner, the publisher “SyncSci Publishing” of the international peer-reviewed journal “Advances in Health and Behavior”, and that this conference has been realized with the support of Boehringer Ingelheim, Illumina, MSD, Teva and Viatrix, which I would like to thank.
 - 4) I would like to thank all the speakers, all the participants who had the pleasure to connect, our moderator Brian Maguire and of course the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety for the very incisive video message.
 - 5) We are stopping here for today, and we will resume always at 14:30 CEST tomorrow with the second session which will offer us the opportunity to assess the "Mission of Health" provided by the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs).
- Thank you all again and stay safe. Goodbye from Rome.