



// DECEMBER 2016 ISSUE



A WORD FROM EPF PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL

Welcome to this special December issue of the EPF newsletter.

As 2016 comes to a close, we are delighted to share with you a recap of our main achievements, which have contributed to driving better healthcare for all patients in the EU. This is not an exhaustive list, but it hopefully will give you a flavour of what happened at EPF over the past twelve months.

The EU and Brussels have met considerable challenges throughout the year and more than ever, we believe true progress on health equity and patient empowerment can only be achieved via a strong and collaborative patient community.

We feel very proud of our membership, representing patients' voice all over the EU, and, unquestionably, none of our achievements would have been possible without our members' valuable contribution and engagement. We wish to express our gratitude to all our member organisations, new and old, for their collective investment and support that drives the EPF to be a strong voice for patients in Europe.



Similarly, we are grateful to our many allies and fellow stakeholders who work with us on a daily basis to advance patient-centred, equitable and sustainable health systems in Europe.

There have been some really fantastic and memorable times this year and we are proud to share some of these achievements with you. There have also been challenges – very serious challenges for Europe and, inter alia, the Patients' movement and associative world. We count on your on-going commitment, energy and ambition to help address these together.

The EPF Board members and Secretariat are wishing you a restful and happy festive break with your family and friends. We look forward to working with you again in 2017!

Enjoy the reading!

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

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is "MG" and the second is "NB".



JANUARY 2016 - OUR MEMBERS, OUR COMPASS



EPF is proud of its broad and diversified membership, the driving force of our daily work. In 2016, we have developed our set of communications and interactions tools to reinforce this crucial link between EPF and our members. And we keep growing! Four new members have recently joined us!

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FEBRUARY 2016 - EPF A SOLID PARTNER IN EUROPEAN PROJECTS



EPF reinforced its position as central patients' voice representative by taking active role in several different EU-funded projects in 2016. Advancing the involvement of patients in topics that matter to us.

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MARCH 2016 - NEW PRESIDENT AND NEW BOARD!



On the occasion of the EPF Annual General Meeting, Marco Greco was elected our new President for a mandate of two years.

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APRIL 2016 - EPF PROMINENT PLAYER IN HEALTH-RELATED POLICY DOSSIERS



2016 was no short of crucial policy topics for patients in Europe. Once again, EPF thanks to its broad representativeness, stood forth to voice patients' interests and concerns.

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MAY 2016 - EPF YOUTH GROUP: PREPARING PATIENT ADVOCACY FOR TOMORROW!



The EPF Youth Group plays an important role in the advocacy work of EPF, and central to our Youth Strategy. Here is what happened in 2016.

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JUNE 2016 - EPF PATIENT EMPOWERMENT CAMPAIGN



After 12 months of intense advocacy and public affairs work, the EPF Patient Empowerment Campaign came to a close in late June 2016. A true success that put empowerment at the centre of key debates and mobilised fellow stakeholders to understand its key role in ensuring quality, sustainable health systems for the future.

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MARK YOUR AGENDAS FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2017!



17-18/1/2017 | [Adaptsmart annual meeting](#)

London

*EPF attendance:
Valentina Strammiello*



JULY 2016 - EPF CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME SUPPORTING PATIENTS' ORGANISATIONS



Our Capacity Building Programme reached out to many countries and patients' organisations in 2016. Various trainings and workshops helped to develop a stronger and more united patient movement in Europe.

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AUGUST 2016 - VISUAL, RESPONSIVE AND RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS



The EPF Communications strategy took some further steps towards a more inclusive, visual and responsive interaction with its internal and external audiences. A must-have in an ever more connected Europe.

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SEPTEMBER 2016 - EUPATI: FINAL MILESTONES AND CHANGE IN SIGHT



The EUPATI project as we know it will come to an end this December, and we held a final conference in December. But this is not the end of the road, just the beginning of a new phase!

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OCTOBER 2016 - EPF'S BLOG, OUR WINDOW FOR EXTERNAL CONTRIBUTIONS



EPF's Blog is a great platform to demonstrate the exceptional work our members are doing for their respective patient constituencies. It is also a platform for guest external authors and other health stakeholders to share their stories.

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NOVEMBER 2016 - NEW CAMPAIGN ON ACCESS, A PRIORITY FOR EUROPEAN PATIENTS



Access to healthcare and social services has been a major policy priority for EPF in 2016. From positions papers to consultations with members, our tireless work will continue next year with the EPF Campaign on Universal Health Coverage.

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DECEMBER 2016 - REPRESENTING PATIENTS AT THE EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY



For more than 8 years now, EPF has been an active participant in the Patients and Consumers Working Party of the European Medicines Agency. 2016 was no exception, culminating with the election of EPF as the co-chair of the Working Party.

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A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE
TO DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE

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