



National & European Parliamentarians for Cancer Action

Newsletter Issue One

New pan-national campaign "Cancer screening: from policy to implementation" launched in Bratislava, Slovakia



On 20 June 2023, the European Cancer Organisation launched a new pan-European policy campaign, 'Cancer Screening from Policy to National Implementation', to encourage all countries to go further faster on implementing cancer screening best practices, including taking up the freshly agreed EU Council Recommendations on cancer screening. The Slovakian event was conducted in close partnership with OnkoAlliance, bringing together leading figures from across the health and political community. Latest evidence and policy recommendations were shared, and high level speakers such as Penilla Gunther, former Member of Parliament, Sweden and EU Cancer Mission Board Member and Dr. Torsten Blum, co-chair of ECO Prevention, Early Detection and Screening Network.

Underpinning the event was the publication of new European Cancer Pulse country report: Slovakia. See the report <u>here</u>.

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ECO pays particular thanks to Marek Krajčí, founding member of the National & European Parliamentarians for Cancer Action, and Chair of the Slovakian Parliament's Health Committee, for helping make the event possible.

ECO will be visiting other national capitals in the year ahead as part of the campaign. If you are interested in hosting and/or supporting us in visiting your country, please contact riccardo.moschetti@europeancancer.org

Italy on the way to adopt the Right to be Forgotten national law

ECO is delighted to share news that the Italian parliament is currently examining a range of proposals to introduce a 'right to be forgotten' to protect cancer survivors from discrimination by financial service providers. Already in place in Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, France, Romania and Portugal, the 'right to be forgotten' provides legal protection for cancer survivors not to have to declare their cancer diagnosis when applying for financial services such as mortgages, business loans and travel insurance. More information about the current implementation of the right to be forgotten in these countries is available here.

Supported by the Italian Prime Minister and Minister of Health, Italy would then become the seventh European country to adopt such legislation. A consensus proposal is expected to be delivered by the Italian Parliament by spring of 2024. Elsewhere, Spain is also making great strides to ensure fair treatment for cancer survivors. The Spanish Council of Ministers has agreed in principle that cancer survivors can now exclude their medical history when applying for a loan, mortgage or insurance after five years of completing treatment without relapse.

More information about the right to be forgotten campaign is available here. https://endingdiscrimination-cancersurvivors.eu/

If you would like to support the achievement of the right to be forgotten for cancer survivors in your country, ECO will be delighted to connect you with leading champions of the campaign such as Professor Françoise Meunier.

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Eliminating HPV cancers in Europe: ECO and EPF launch HPV Policy Atlas in Romania



On 22 June 2023, the 2nd EPF/ECO HPV Prevention Policy Atlas was launched at the Romanian Parliament in Bucharest, hosted by Catalin Tenita MP, and member of National & European Parliamentarians for Cancer Action, in collaboration with ECO and the European Parliamentary Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Rights (EPF). The Atlas is a joint project that scores countries throughout Europe on their policies to eliminate the human papilloma virus (HPV).

As well as the HPV Prevention Policy Atlas, you can also find more date on how your country is performing in the global goal to eliminate HPV cancers here: https://www.europeancancer.org/pulse-map/countries

If you would like to help champion accelerated action on eliminating HPV cancers in your country, please contact riccardo.moschetti@europeancancer.org

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Look Ahead to the Autumn



Ahead of the European Parliament elections in June 2024, the European Cancer Organisation will be developing a manifesto to outline the next major strategic steps for European cancer policy. To be launched at the **European Cancer Summit**, **15-16 November**, the charter for cancer control improvement will feature key consensus recommendations for all countries in areas such as cancer prevention, early detection, quality of cancer care, survivorship and follow-up care and research.

Before publication, ECO will be in contact with all members of National & European Parliamentarians for Cancer Action to ensure your voice can be heard ahead of finalization. In the meantime, if you would like to raise our attention to some relevant topics for your and in your country, you can contact us anytime: riccardo.moschetti@europeancancer.org

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