

**25th Anniversary of reconstruction of the
Slovak Medical Chamber
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The role of the medical chamber in the health care system in Hungary



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The short story I.

- 1936 – 1945 “National Medical Chamber” followed the German-Austrian standards. **Mandatory** membership.
 - After the II. World War the chamber was abolished by the new regime.
- 1989. The chamber was reestablished by the physicians as a civil body “Hungarian Medical Chamber”. **Voluntary** ms.
- 1994. The Parliament issued a law about the medical chamber which was nominated as a public body. **Mandatory** membership, several tasks (e.g. register of physicians, ethical code etc.)
- The members are not only physicians but dentists too.

Hungarian Medical Chamber

The short story II.

- 2003 – 2007 During this period the HMC had a stronger and stronger activity/fight against the neoliberal health policy and privatization ambition of the government. The consequence:
- 2007. The HMC was totally destroyed by a new law (with the chamber of pharmacists and chamber of nurses) prescribing a reestablishment with **voluntary** membership. The 80% doctors stood together immediately as a strong sign of to the disagreement with the government.
- 2011 - The HMC regains a part of lost rights and the membership becomes **mandatory** again.

The Hungarian Medical Chamber

by the valid law

- Represents the interests and defends the rights and interests of the members in healthcare activities
- Creates / adopts its own statutes
- Creates ethical rules, and conducts ethical proceedings against the member

- It is entitled to express opinion on:
 - Legislation directly affecting the professional activities or the financial circumstances of healthcare workers
 - decisions made by the state, health insurance, local government affecting the organizational or operational function of healthcare activities
 - attendance conditions and quotas of the medical schools and the quality of continuous medical trainings
 - draft contracts between healthcare suppliers and local governments

- Conducts quality monitoring of health services
- Keeps records of the members
- Determines the principles of mandatory medical trainings, monitors the compliance of the principles and organises trainings
- Cooperates with non-governmental organizations;
- Conducts conciliation proceedings at the initiative of the affected member in disputes related to the practice of healthcare activities

- Publishes a list of the approved professional trainings
- May regularly qualify the activities of the organizers of mandatory medical trainings
- Publishes the quality certificate on its website, if necessary it makes proposals to the authorized institutions for trainings, or to the professional supervisors of the institutions
- Monitors the compliance of the healthcare trainings and the continuous medical trainings organized by colleges
- Obliges members to take part in continuous medical trainings

- Participates in the work of professional bodies or committees
- Provides recommendations on the lower and upper limits of fees set by the individual healthcare providers
- The Chamber is entitled to express opinion on
 - the nomination, assignment, or withdrawal of the mandate of a doctor in a leader position,
 - the nomination, assignment, or withdrawal of the mandate of a doctor in the position of Head of the medical schools,
 - the employment of general practitioners, family paediatricians, and dentists, or termination of employment initiated by the employer

Conclusion

- Unfortunately we have only right to give an opinion. We don't have any right to give a veto.
- Although our chamber's situation is more balanced than it was earlier, we are still very far from the situation of the big traditional European medical association (e.g. Germany)
- It needs more decades in our activity and a political decision to achieve better and more effective position in our health care systems.



Thank you for your attention!