

Word of the exiting president



2019 - when you think about what a new year is: it's the chance not just to experience new things or to learn new things but also to achieve great things, to accomplish the things that didn't quite get done last year, and this is a thing the new year always offers: a look back across the plains into the past before we move onward into the future.

One of the most important events in 2018 was the 3rd Joint Meeting together with FEMS that took place in Lisbon in June. It was an opportunity to strengthen our relationship and engage in common projects.

For AEMH 2019 will represent the start of the European Academy of Clinical Leadership, a project developed in partnership with UEMS and some Universities and with the collaboration of other EMOs. Every great journey, for sure, begins with a single step. We are taking this first step and our desire is to make it grow and to achieve this goal we need the commitment of all of you.

So, let's rush into the New Year with enthusiasm and confidence. Let us head into the New Year believing we can make it a great year. And above all, let's head into it making this project happen. Great things, after all, seldom just happen. They are a product of vision, strategy and hard work.

This is my last editorial as President of AEMH. After 3 terms and at this moment of saying goodbye, I remember those who along with me have walked this path together as board members and also all the delegates who have been an active part of this 55 year old organization and that has played an increasingly relevant role at European level. It would be tiresome to list everything that was done by the AEMH and this is not the time and the place to do it, I just want to thank all of you for all the work and commitment that you have put on behalf our association.

Special thanks to former members of the Board with whom I had the honor of working with: Raymond Lies, Hartmut Nolte, Rolf Kirschner, Thomas Zilling, Mikulas Buzgo, Pierre François Cuénoud and to those of the last magnificent team, Vlad Tica, Theo Merholz, Sergio Bovenga and Hrvoje Sobat.

For the new President and Board I wish the best achievements and I am sure they will make an excellent work.

A very special thanks to Brigitte and to Diana.

A splendid year of 2019 for all of you and hope to see you in Oslo.

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AEMH Conference and General Assembly, Lisbon, 7-9 June 2018

For the 3rd time, AEMH and FEMS (European Federation of Salaried Doctors) held their 3rd common meeting in Lisbon, hosted by the Portuguese Medical Association and SIM (the Portuguese trade union member of FEMS). Prior to the general assemblies, a conference was organised at the premises of the Portuguese Medical Association in which various healthcare systems across Europe were presented. The idea was to provide models and exchange good practices among both AEMH and FEMS members.



The General Assembly saw the election of a new board and executive committee for the period 2019-2021. Thus, the structure of the new AEMH board as of 1 January 2019 is as follows:

- President: Dr Erich-Theo Merholz (Germany)
- 1st Vice-President: Dr Sergio Bovenga (Italy)
- 2nd Vice-President: Dr Karin Batelson (Sweden)
- 3rd Vice-President: Dr Konstantinos Koumakis (Greece)
- Treasurer: Dr Joao Grenho (Portugal).

The **2019 Conference and General Assembly** will take place on **9-11 May, in Oslo, Norway**. Details regarding the programme and registration will follow soon.



EU updates

- Annual meeting of the EU Health Policy Platform
The third annual meeting of the EU Health Policy Platform took place on 12 November 2018 in Brussels. It was chaired by John F. Ryan, Director of public health, country knowledge and crisis management, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission. It recorded the attendance of more than 60 European level health stakeholders.

- State of Health in the EU Report
The 2018 *Health at a Glance: Europe* joint report of the European Commission and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) issued on 22 November shows that the steady increase of life expectancy has slowed down and that large gaps across and within countries persist, notably leaving people with a low level of education by the wayside. The report is based upon comparative analyses of the health status of EU citizens and the performance of the health systems in the 28 Member States, 5 candidate countries and 3 EFTA countries.

- European Health Summit
On 29 November 2018, the European Health Summit took place in Brussels. This multi-stakeholder event seeks to bring together European leaders, policy makers and health stakeholders to discuss how Europe could take the lead in areas such as research and innovation, digital health and healthcare organisation. Among the recommendation it set forth, one could mention:

- The appointment of a Vice-President for health of the European Commission to ensure effective coordination and leadership at high level;
- Establish a European Health Data Institute to produce a range of health data to inform the work of policymakers, researchers, industry and healthcare providers;
- Support health system reform and capacity building;
- Ensure better access for patients to cross-border healthcare.

EMOs meeting calendar 2019

Date and place	Event
5-4 April, Malta	CPME GA
12-13 April, Brussels, Belgium	UEMS Council Meeting
30 May-1 June, Naples, Italy	FEMS GA
7 June 2019, Tirana, Albania	CEOM Plenary Meeting
18-19 October, London, UK	UEMS Council Meeting
15-16 November, Helsinki, Finland	CPME GA
28-29 November, Lisbon, Portugal	CEOM General Meeting