



## CPME MONTHLY BULLETIN

*Stay in the Loop!*

March 2019



Dear CPME members,

We are glad to present you the latest edition of our Monthly Bulletin.

In this Bulletin, you will be informed about the main decisions taken by the Executive Committee on 14 March 2019. Among other items, the Executive Committee decided to join the European campaign 'This time I'm voting', to endorse the White Paper "Limited Access: Europe's Contraception Deficit" and to renew the EMA Healthcare Professionals Working Party (HCPWP)'s mandate.

Furthermore, we kindly invite you to register to the upcoming CPME General Assembly and Board meetings, which will take place in Valletta (Malta) on 5-6 April 2019. Please, find the online registration [here](#). We very much encourage you to express your interest in playing an active role within CPME on the occasion of the upcoming General Assembly and Board meeting in Malta, when the positions of the [Rapporteurs and Working Groups Chairs](#) will be discussed.

We take the opportunity to announce that as from the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019, Piotr Kolczyński, former CPME policy intern, joined the [CPME Secretariat](#) as EU Policy Advisor, replacing Senior Policy Advisor Carole Rouaud during her maternity leave. The CPME Secretariat is delighted to continue working with Piotr.

We hope the bulletin is informative and invite you to consult our latest news, events and updates on the members' section of our [website](#).

Kind regards,

Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery  
CPME President

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## Executive Committee meeting

### Finance

#### **Draft Final Accounts 2018 and balance sheet and reports of the auditors**

*The Executive Committee took note of the draft final accounts 2018 and the reports of the auditors.*

### Internal Affairs

#### **Membership**

*The Executive Committee members took note of the means that CPME currently uses to get in contact with individual National Medical Associations.*

The EC valued the good contacts with the members and hoped to improve them in the coming future.

**Members are invited to show their interest in playing an active role within CPME on the occasion of the upcoming General Assembly and Board meeting in Malta, when the positions of the [Rapporteurs and Working Groups Chairs](#) will be discussed.**

#### **Draft agendas Board and GA, Valletta 5-6 April 2019**

*The Executive Committee took note of the draft agendas of the CPME meetings in Valletta (Malta):*

- [Board and General Assembly draft agendas](#)
- [Supporting documents](#)

#### **Amendment to Statute Proposal**

*The Executive Committee took note of the “secondary” [amendment](#) by the Swedish Medical Association to the CPME Statute proposal circulated on 4 January 2019.*

The proposal has been sent to the members on Friday 15 March 2019 for consideration next General Assembly on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April in Valletta (Malta).

#### **Invitations to Past Presidents**

*The Executive Committee decided to invite the past presidents of the CPME to the future General Assemblies and Board meetings, as gesture of courtesy for having shaped the history of CPME during their mandates. However, any expenses will be on their own cost.*

#### **ThisTimeImVoting**

*The Executive Committee decided to join the European Campaign ThisTimeImVoting.*

[Thistimeimvoting.eu](http://Thistimeimvoting.eu) is a non-partisan community organised by the European Parliament, dedicated to raising democratic awareness. It follows the motto “it’s not enough to hope for a better future: this time each and every one of us must take responsibility for it too.” In fact, the EU Parliament is asking Europeans not only to vote, but also to spread the word and to mobilise their families, friends, neighbours and communities to do so too.

The platform was launched by the European Parliament in 24 languages. It supports over one hundred and fifty thousand volunteers in all member states, who signed up and are committed to persuading people to vote in the European elections on 23-26 May 2019. The use of social media, organisation of local debates and events, production of promotional material, are some of the tools used to promote the campaign for European democracy.

CPME Secretariat is seeking advice on how and in which ways our organisation can join the campaign. Members will be informed as soon as possible.

## **Renewal of the EMA Healthcare Professionals Working Party (HCPWP)'s mandate**

*The Executive Committee agreed to pursue CPME's involvement in the EMA Healthcare Professionals Working Party ([HCPWP](#)) and, therefore, to renew its membership.*

Regarding CPME's representation, Dr Christiaan Keijzer, as chair of CPME cluster on pharmaceuticals, will discuss practical aspects with Dr Erzsébet Podmaniczky, chair of the CPME [WG on pharmaceuticals](#).

## **Policies**

### **Contraception Atlas**

*The Executive Committee decided to endorse the [White Paper "Limited Access: Europe's Contraception Deficit"](#). CPME's feedback on one of the ten recommendations of the White Paper is taken into account.*

The 2019 Edition of the Contraception Atlas was launched in February, emphasising that access to contraception should be a key concern of governments in empowering citizens to plan their families and lives. Its findings show that for many European countries ensuring that people have choice over their reproductive lives is not a priority. The Atlas tracks government policies on access to contraceptive methods, family planning counseling and the provision of online information on contraception in 46 European countries.

The White Paper, established by the group of experts (CPME Immediate Past President Dr Jacques de Haller is expert for CPME) which is supported by the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development, contains the latest information taken from the Atlas and other relevant research and analyses access to contraception in Europe. It covers three areas: reimbursement of contraceptive supplies, access to family planning counselling and access to online information on modern contraception methods. The White Paper provides ten recommendations on how to improve access to contraception in Europe.

### **KDC survey on fees for disciplinary procedures**

*The Executive Committee approved the request of the Kosovo\* Doctors Chamber to circulate a survey on fees incurred in relation to disciplinary proceedings.*

The survey concerns fees levied by national medical associations from the complainant to initiate disciplinary proceedings against a doctor. The background to the request is a query from the national Ombudsman who is questioning the need for a fee, hence the interest in other national medical associations' policies on this. The EC requested further clarification of the type of proceedings this fee relates to for inclusion in the send-out to member. CPME Secretariat will coordinate this.

\*References to Kosovo are without prejudice to positions on status. They are in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/1999 and the opinion by the International Court of Justice on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

### **Defensive medicine**

*The Executive Committee agreed that the draft CPME position paper on defensive medicine should be forwarded to members for discussion and decision at the April 2019 CPME meetings.*

The draft position paper was presented by Dr Daiva Brogiene as Rapporteur for Defensive Medicine. She explained that the draft reflects the current evidence-base and concerns raised in the CPME membership's past discussions, as well as referencing previous CPME policies, e.g. on liability of doctors. It was proposed to make minor changes to the recommendations included in the paper, e.g. to phrase the objective of eliminating defensive medicine in a positive way. The amendment will be made ahead of the send-out of the draft position paper. CPME Secretariat will liaise with Dr Daiva Brogiene to this end.

### **International calendar**

*The Executive Committee took note of the CPME participation at forthcoming meetings of CPME members, European Medical Organisations and international partners.*

## Any other business

*The Executive Committee approved the request of the Taipei Representative Office to Brussels to once again send a letter supporting Taiwan's invitation to the World Health Assembly (WHA) as an observer delegation in their own right to the relevant EU-level contacts, including DG SANTE Director General Anne Bucher. CPME sent a similar letter of support in 2018, however this was not successful.*

## Monitoring news

### The European Court of Justice on public access to documents

The European Court of Justice ruled that the public must have access to information on emissions as well as information concerning the medium to long-term consequences of those emissions on the state of the environment. This also includes the effects of those emissions on non-targeted organisms.

The decision also included that public interest in accessing information on emissions into the environment is specifically to know what is, or foreseeably will be, released into the environment, and also to understand the way in which the environment could be affected by the emissions in question. The decision might also be interesting for the health sector.

Please see more on the case [here](#).

### The Commission Flash report on current measles outbreak in France and Ebola outbreak in DRC action on improving access to social protection

In 2018, there has been reported 36 measles related deaths in EU countries. At the moment vaccination coverage is below 95% in most countries, making the population extremely vulnerable to the disease. ECDC reports over 12 000 cases of measles in the EU/EEA over the past year, with the largest number of cases reported by FR, IT, EL, RO, UK, SK and DE.

France updated on the recently notified measles outbreak in the ski resort Val Thorens. Starting February 2019, there have been cases of measles possibly related to this outbreak reported by DK, UK and BE.

Please see more on the case [here](#).

### The Commission takes further action to ensure professionals can fully benefit from the Single Market

The Commission has taken further steps in infringement procedures against 26 Member States to ensure the full implementation of EU rules on the recognition of professional qualifications. The Professional Qualifications Directive ([Directive 2013/55/EU](#)) was modernised in 2013 and had to be transposed into national law by 18 January 2016. The Commission sent reasoned opinions regarding the non-compliance of national legislation and legal practice with EU rules on the recognition of [professional qualifications](#) ([Directive 2005/36/EC](#) as amended by [Directive 2013/55/EU](#)). All Member States concerned have now two months to respond to the arguments put forward by the Commission.

Please see more [here](#)

### Updates from the Turkish Medical Association

The second hearing of the trial against the members of the Council (2016-2018) of the Turkish Medical Association (TMA), was held in Ankara on 20 March 2019. Dr Jacques de Haller, Immediate Past President of the CPME, and Dr Otmar Kloiber, Secretary General of the WMA, attended the hearing in support of the Turkish Medical Association during these difficult times.

The session concluded with a suspension of the trial, for the Court to consider an objection to the motion submitted by the TMA lawyers stating that the Chief Public Prosecutor acted against the law. Another trial will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.

The members of the Council are on trial because of the public statement issued on 24 January 2018 stressing that war is a public health concern that damages the environment and threatens the survival of society at large.

Background information:

- CPME Press release 20.12.2018: [CPME condemns the Turkish doctor leaders' prison sentences](#)
- CPME Press release 10.08.2018: [European doctors request end of campaign against physicians in Turkey](#)
- CPME Press release 30.01.2018: [CPME condemns arrest of Turkish Medical Association leaders](#)

### Recent publications on the CPME website

Members' section:

- [Report on meeting with Mr Pasi Mustonen and Ms Ulla Närhi of the Finnish Permanent Representation to the EU, 19 February 2019](#)
- [European Union of Medicine in Assurance and Social Security \(EUMASS\) – Activity Report to CPME General Assembly, 6 April 2019](#)
- [Document package, CPME Board, General Assembly and WG meetings, Valletta 5-6 April 2019](#)
- [CPME Session on Professional Practice and Patients' Rights – DRAFT Agenda of the meeting in Valletta, 5 April 2019](#)
- [CPME Members' Briefing on 'Proportionality Directive' – Background, processes, impact, March 2019](#)
- [Presentation on CPME activities in Support for the health workforce planning and forecasting expert network \(SEPEN\) join tender, March 2019](#)
- [Report on meeting with DG GROW Head of Unit 'Professional Qualifications and Skills' Mr Martin Frohn, Brussels 13 March 2019](#)
- [Draft agenda for CPME Session on Public Health and Disease Prevention](#)
- [CPME Semester Report, November 2018 – April 2019](#)
- [Simplified balance sheet accounts 2018](#)
- [Final accounts 2018](#)
- [Global overview 2018-2019](#)
- [Detailed balance-sheet accounts 2018](#)
- [Amendment by the Swedish Medical Association to the amendment keeping the BMA in CPME membership](#)
- [Draft – CPME Statutes; proposals for amendments](#)
- [Presentation 'The integration of refugee doctors into the medical workforce- current state of discussions](#)
- [Info – Letter from External Auditor](#)

- [Discussion paper on Public Health and Disease Prevention Background Note for the Discussion on Air Quality](#)
- [Draft agenda of the CPME session on pharmaceuticals and healthcare products on 5 April 2019, Valletta \(Malta\)](#)
- [Draft – CPME Special Session on National Reports, 5 April 2019](#)
- [Draft agenda of the CPME session on eHealth on 5 April 2019, Valletta \(Malta\)](#)
- [Minutes on CPME Special Session on National Reports, 9th of November 2018](#)
- [Updated Concept note – Second regional debate on the implementation of One Health in undergraduate education](#)
- [Draft – CPME Policy on Healthy Living](#)
- [Draft – CPME Working Group on Healthy Living Minutes of the Meeting, 9th of November 2018](#)
- [DRAFT CPME Position Paper on Defensive Medicine](#)
- [Information on International Calendar](#)
- [Outcomes of the first One Health conference in Paris, 5 December 2018](#)
- [Information on free material for health professionals on migration and health](#)
- [Report on meeting with DG EMPL Deputy Head of Unit ‘Working Conditions’ Ms Marie Lagarrigue, Brussels, 22 February 2019](#)
- [For discussion – Background note on MHE recommendations on transparent cooperation in healthcare, 21 February 2019](#)
- [CPME Working Group on eHealth – Draft CPME comments on the HMA-EMA joint taskforce’s recommendations on Big Data](#)
- [CPME Working Group on eHealth – Draft CPME statement on the ethics guidelines for trustworthy AI prepared by the European Commission’s high-level expert group on artificial intelligence](#)
- [Discussion paper – Towards a CPME policy on artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#)
- [CPME Working Group pharmaceuticals – Draft CPME response to public consultation on EU Regulatory Science to 2025, 26th of January.](#)
- [CPME Working Group on Healthcare for Refugees and Undocumented Migrants – DRAFT Minutes of the WG meeting in Geneva, 9 November 2018](#)
- [CPME WG on Healthcare for Refugee and Undocumented Migrants – planning of 2019 activities](#)
- [CPME Monthly Bulletin – February 2019](#)
- [Report on EU-OSHA – Healthy Workplaces Campaign and Partner Event 5 and 6th of March 2019](#)
- [CPME policy areas and priorities 2019](#)
- [Internal auditing report 5th of March 2019](#)
- [President’s Report November 2018 – March 2019](#)
- [Template expenditure claim 2018](#)
- [Report on meeting with International Organisation for Migration \(IOM\), Brussels office, Brussels, 26 February 2019](#)
- [Medical Device Coordination Group \(MDCG\) meeting on the IMDRF activities, 26 February 2019, Brussels](#)
- [HLEG draft ethics guidelines on artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#)
- [Summary report of EMA-HMA Joint task force on Big data](#)
- [Draft key principles for electronic product information for public consultation](#)

CPME News section:

- [CPME’, Dr Jacques de Haller, UNESCO Chair in Bioethics 13th World Conference, 27-29 November 2018](#)
- [Joint Statement on Medical Devices](#)
- [Letter to CPME members on ECDC survey on antimicrobial resistance \(AMR\)](#)