

JOINT STATEMENT – 1 April 2019

Pharmacists, dentists and doctors call on EU Member States to provide adequate funding for health

The Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU), the Council of European Dentists (CED) and the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) consider the European Parliament's [position](#) on the proposal for the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) to be a positive step towards keeping health high on the EU agenda.

The three organisations call on Member States to endorse the European Parliament's amendments and to provide the EU with the capacity to face health related challenges. It is fundamental that the co-legislators do not compromise EU citizens' future and secure an appropriate budget for health during the upcoming negotiations.

As 70% of EU citizens want the EU to do more in the area of health, PGEU, CED and CPME support the European Parliament's proposal to increase the amount of the Health strand to EUR 473 million. This would allow EU Member States to enhance their cooperation in key policy areas including health promotion, disease prevention as well as better and equal access to high quality healthcare for all European citizens.

*The **Council of European Dentists (CED)** is a European not-for-profit association representing over 340,000 dental practitioners across Europe through 32 national dental associations and chambers in 30 European countries. Established in 1961 to advise the European Commission on matters relating to the dental profession, the CED aims to promote high standards on oral healthcare and dentistry with effective patient-safety centred professional practice, and to contribute to safeguarding the protection of public health. The CED is registered in the Transparency Register with the ID number 4885579968-84.*

*The **Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME)** represents national medical associations across Europe. We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU institutions and European policy-making through proactive cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.*

- *We believe the best possible quality of health and access to healthcare should be a reality for everyone.*
- *We see the patient-doctor relationship as fundamental in achieving these objectives.*
- *We are committed to interdisciplinary cooperation among doctors and with other health professions.*
- *We strongly advocate a 'health in all policies' approach to encourage cross-sectorial awareness for and action on the determinants of health.*

*The **Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU)** is the association representing community pharmacists in 33 European countries. In Europe over 400.000 community pharmacists provide services throughout a network of more than 160.000 pharmacies, to an estimated 46 million European citizens daily. PGEU's objective is to promote the role of pharmacists as key players in healthcare systems throughout Europe and to ensure that the views of the pharmacy profession are taken into account in the EU decision-making process.*