



Cancer Control in Europe

An overview of current activities



Association of European Cancer Leagues

Strategic Goals

- promote a **healthy lifestyle** for all European citizens;
- enhance access to **cancer screening** programmes;
- ensure greater and **cross-border access** to diagnostics, treatment and support;
- advocate for the establishment and implementation of **national cancer control programmes**



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The Association of European Cancer Leagues

- Pan-European umbrella organization created in 1980
- Members: cancer organizations mainly at the national level
- ECL is source of information on cancer, on European initiatives set up at the European level; on EU decisions and legislations etc
- ECL is a unique platform of exchange of best practices for leagues.



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The Cancer Burden in the World & Europe

- The burden of cancer continues to increase. The strain is tremendous and immeasurable on patients, families, and societies.
- World 2008
 - 12.7 million new cases
 - 7.6 million deaths
 - Estimation for 2030: 26 million new cases & 17 million deaths
- Europe 2008
 - 3 427 388 million new cases
 - 1 867 683 deaths
 - Biggest killers; Lung, Colorectal, Breast & Stomach Cancers
- The big opportunity is 30-40% of cancers are preventable

Source: Globocan 2008, IARC, 2010.

ECL and Cancer in Europe

- European Partnership for Action Against Cancer 
- MEPs Against Cancer (all-party interest group in the European Parliament) 
- Patient Support Working Group

www.european-cancer-leagues.eu

The European Partnership for Action Against Cancer (EPAAC)



Launched in 2009, after the European Commission published its Communication on Action Against Cancer: European Partnership.

- Brings together the efforts of different stakeholders into a joint response to prevent and control cancer.
- Coordinated by the National Institute of Public Health in Slovenia
- Encompasses 36 associated partners from across Europe and over 90 collaborating partners.

Key areas of Action

- Health promotion and prevention (ECL)
- Screening and early detection (Finnish Cancer Society, the Netherlands)
- Health Care (Spanish "Institut Catala d'Oncologia")
- Cooperation and coordination in cancer research (European Cancer Organisation in cooperation with support of French Cancer institute)
- Information and data (Italian Instituto Nazionale dei Tumori)

Horizontal Activities

- National cancer plans
- Steering Committee
- Virtual Partnership (National Health Information Centre, Slovakia)
- Yearly Open Forums

www.epaac.eu



WP5 Health Promotion and Cancer Prevention Objectives

Objective 3

Optimise the use of existing simple but effective tools to communicate proven prevention strategies and campaigns, such as the **European Code Against Cancer**, in the development of media templates, toolkits and templates for adaption for use in Member States.

Objective 4

Target vulnerable population groups, such as women, children, Roma populations.



EPAAC WP5: Key Actions Recap

- Collect cancer prevention **toolkits** to be rolled out at European and national levels (starting 2012), using proven materials for communicating cancer prevention messages as provided in the evidence-based European Code Against Cancer (www.cancercode.eu)
- Communicate prevention messages during **European Week Against Cancer (EWAC) is 25-31 May** each year, especially to target groups!
- EWAC includes World No Tobacco Day on 31 May, as vehicle for Health Promotion and Prevention messages, engaging policy-makers at the European, national and subnational levels



MEPs Against Cancer (MAC)



ECL provides the Secretariat for the MAC (MEPs Against Cancer) group. MAC is an **all-party informal group** of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) committed to promoting action on cancer as an EU priority.

MAC is led by **MAC President MEP Alojz Peterle**, **MAC Vice Presidents MEPs Nessa Childers (Ireland), Dagmar Roth-Behrendt (Germany), MEP Frieda Brepoels (Belgium)** and others

www.europeancancerleagues.eu/mac

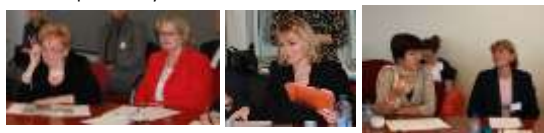


MEPs Against Cancer (MAC)
www.europeancancerleagues.eu/mac

MAC Activities:

Supports WP5 actions and forward cancer prevention and other aims of the European Partnership for Action Against Cancer

Hosts meetings on relevant topics to cancer control: alcohol and cancer, EPAAC, healthy ageing and cancer, patient support, complimentary alternative medicines and cancer.



MAC president, Alojz Peterle from Slovenia is particularly interested in learning about other all party cancer groups in Europe and making contact aloz.peterle@europarl.europa.eu

ECL Patient Support Working Group

Focus: The financial impact of cancer on individuals due to additional costs, loss of income, high insurance premiums and the need for psychosocial screening and support

3.5 Themes:

- Employment
- Insurance
- Psychosocial Screening and Support
 - Palliative Care

And.....

One Campaign.....

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR CANCER PATIENTS

- We, the undersigned, recognise that cancer patients, survivors and family members who need to take time out to care for patients face specific problems in their places of work and need legal protection of their rights to return to satisfactory employment if they so desire.
- And, we the undersigned recognise that cancer patients and survivors are unfairly considered under current legislation, and that the rights of cancer patients to more transparent and fairer access to credit and insurance should be guaranteed.
- Hence, we pledge to:
 - "Call for, at the minimum, a definition of disability as set out by the UN Convention on the rights of people with disabilities, to be implemented in all member states and applied to all existing and proposed EU anti-discrimination legislation"**

Suggestions for Collaboration ECL/MAC/MEPS and APCG

- Event during the European Week Against Cancer (25 – 31 May each year)
- Joint MAC – APCG meeting in European Parliament with all-party groups from other countries 2013?
- Sign our Declaration of Support for Cancer Patients and join the campaign