

PGEU PRESS RELEASE

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Mr Maximin Liebl appointed new President of European Pharmacists for 2013

For Immediate Release

The Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) is the European association representing more than 400,000 community pharmacists.

PGEU's members are the national associations and professional bodies of pharmacists in 31 European countries, including EU Member States, EEA/EFTA members and EU applicant countries.

For more information, please visit the PGEU website www.pgeu.eu or contact

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At its final General Assembly of 2012 held this week in Brussels, the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union unanimously elected **Mr Maximin Liebl** as PGEU President for the year 2013.

President of the *Chamber of Pharmacists of Bolzano* since 1999, and board member of Fofi, the Italian Chamber of Pharmacists, since 2012, Mr Liebl has been active in Italian pharmacy related issues for 15 years and is a pharmacy owner in Bolzano, Italy.

Italy, one of the founding members of PGEU 53 years ago, will take over the Presidency for the 7th time since its creation.

Mr Liebl will bring continuity and completion to the work done by the current French President Ms Isabelle Adenot who will stand down from her role in December. The priorities for his one year mandate include the diffusion both at national and European level of the new European Blueprint for Pharmacy, reinforcing the development of new pharmacy services and advancing the economic sustainability of European community pharmacies.

Mr Liebl, newly elected President of PGEU said: *"In this time of economic crisis European pharmacists will stand even closer to the patients and at the same time will help reducing public health expenditure by implementing new health services in the community pharmacy. This is why is of uttermost importance that public health systems, especially in those countries mostly effected by the economic crisis, guarantee the sustainability and viability of community pharmacies as an essential public health service"*.

The General Assembly has also elected **Mr Štefan Krchňák**, from the Slovak Chamber of Pharmacists, as PGEU Vice President for 2013.