

PRESS RELEASE

14 March 2018

Health professions welcome the opinion of the European Parliament on the next EU Budget

The Council of European Dentists (CED), the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) and the Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU) welcome the decision of the **European Parliament to vote in favour of the report on the next long-term EU budget** – the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) - presented by the Committee on Budgets.

Today the European Parliament recognises that, even in times of budgetary restraints, there is no economic growth without investments in health. The EU Parliament calls for the next MFF to reflect the EU's responsibility to implement the Sustainable Development Goals on public health, health systems and environment-related health problems. The next MFF should also support Member States in eliminating growing health inequalities.

“A first step has been accomplished by the Parliament which recognises the EU health policy as a priority in the EU agenda.” said Mr Jesus Aguilar Santamaria, PGEU President. “We now appeal to the European Commission to take into account the clear vision on health shown by the Parliament when drafting the Multiannual Financial Framework.”

“Although we acknowledge that one of the Union's objectives is to strengthen the internal market, we underline that investment in health and a healthy workforce is a precondition to a sustainable and inclusive economic growth.” argued Dr Marco Landi, CED President.

“Challenges such as antimicrobial resistance and vaccine hesitancy, lifestyle related conditions such as obesity, dental decay and health workforce shortages underline the necessity to maintain and enforce EU cooperation to protect the health of European population and beyond.” stated Dr Jacques de Haller, CPME President.