

NEWSLETTER



Issue 2 - June 2014

EDITORIAL

Dear subscriber subscriber,

In this edition of the newsletter, you can find information about the HOSPEEM study visit to Ireland in April 2014, News from the Members, EU News, upcoming events and recent publications.

In 2014 our intention is to form a network of correspondants from HOSPEEM member's organisations that can share with the Secretariat relevant information regarding industrial relations within the healthcare sector in your country, initiatives by your organisations as well as information that can be of interest to other members.

*This newsletter has been conceived as an interactive tool to facilitate the flow of communication from the EU level, to support the exchange of information between our members and to give your organisation's voice a broader diffusion across Europe. Therefore we encourage you to **send us** your contributions to enrich the future issues.*

Enjoy your reading !

Tjitte Alkema
Secretary General of HOSPEEM

HOSPEEM NEWS

HOSPEEM General Assembly and Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee meeting

HOSPEEM members are invited to the HOSPEEM General Assembly on 24 June and to the HOSPEEM-EPSU Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the Hospital Sector (SSDC HS) on 25 June in Brussels. Please confirm as soon as possible your participation to the meetings (24 & 25 June) and dinner (24 June evening) to the secretariat e.benedetti@hospeem.eu and c.barlet@hospeem.eu.

HOSPEEM-EPSU Joint Work Programme 2014-2016 for the European Sectoral Social Dialogue in the Hospital Sector

The HOSPEEM-EPSU Joint Work-Programme 2014-2016 is now available in five languages (EN,FR,DE,ES,SV). [Read more.](#)

HOSPEEM Study Visit to Ireland in April 2014

On 17 April 2014, HOSPEEM visited its Irish member, the Irish Health Service - HSE. At the Irish Department of Health, the ongoing reform of the Irish health system was discussed. At the HSE Corporate Employee Relations Services (CERS), representatives of HSE CERS discussed with HOSPEEM their respective priorities. The focus was put in particular on the areas of common interest in the industrial relations and occupational health and safety fields where HSE CERS and HOSPEEM are closely working together and will further strengthen their cooperation. The day was concluded by a visit to one of the largest hospitals in Ireland, the Beaumont Hospital, and a meeting with its managing board. [Read more.](#)

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Member's profile: Latvian Hospital Association

The Latvian Hospital Association (Latvijas Slimnīcu biedrība) is the Latvian member of HOSPEEM. It was created in 1997 and operates in the health care and hospital sector. The organisation represents 40 hospitals at four levels, i.e. university hospitals, regional hospitals, local hospitals and day care hospitals. At international level, LHA strongly cooperates with HOSPEEM, HOPE, the International Hospitals Federation and with hospital organisations of the other Baltic states. At national level, LHA participates in the tripartite social dialogue and in the sectoral social dialogue, whilst locally it carries out collective bargaining at hospital level. LHA is at the forefront in advocating for more resources for the healthcare system in Latvia, where the government spending on healthcare as a share of GDP is still just around 3%.



The Dutch solution to the legal transposition of medical sharps

Dutch legislators give employers and employees at sector level a significant degree of responsibility for health and safety policy. The development of Health and Safety Catalogues is an outcome of this policy in the Netherlands. The Health and Safety catalogue for the hospital sector has been developed for all members of NVZ- Nederlandse Vereniging van Ziekenhuizen and organisations covered by the collective agreement of the hospital sector. It also covers the use of medical sharps. [Read more.](#)

EU NEWS

A new Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014 - 2020

On 6 June 2014, the European Commission published the new EU Strategic Framework on occupational safety and health (OSH). The communication recognises that there is already a comprehensive body of existing EU OSH legislation and therefore focuses on better enforcement and simplification of existing legislation. Three key objectives are outlined: Improving implementation of legislation in Member States; improving the prevention of work-related diseases; and tackling demographic change. It also states that specific attention should be given to addressing the impact of changes in work organisation in terms of physical and mental health. However, it is important to note that actions to achieve the strategic objectives are mostly tools of non legislative nature as the exchange of experience and practice. No new legislative proposals are included. HOSPEEM welcomes the recognition by the EC of the important role that EU Social Dialogue plays in the OSH field and the support that it has committed to provide to EU social partners for the implementation of this new strategy. [Read more.](#)

EC Communication on effective, accessible and resilient health systems

On 4 April 2014, the European Commission published the Communication on effective, accessible and resilient health systems that recommends to Member States measures to strengthen effectiveness, increase accessibility and improve resilience of health systems to make them capable of adapting to changing environments and identifying innovative solutions. Amongst others, the Communication is based on the 2014 Annual Growth Survey emphasizes the need to improve the efficiency, financial sustainability and effectiveness of healthcare systems, to reach the objective of building competitiveness and growth. [Read more.](#)

EC Country specific recommendations published

On 2 June 2014, the European Commission published specific [recommendations](#) on budgetary, employment and other structural reforms that each Member State should carry out over the next 12-18 months to help them boost growth. [Read the recommendations for your country.](#)

Flash Eurobarometer reports on working conditions

In April 2014, the European Commission published the Flash Eurobarometer 398. This survey was designed to explore a range of questions about working conditions and occupational health and safety. Results are first analysed at EU level, and then comparisons between individual Member States are made. [Read more.](#)

A directive to improve enforcement of workers' free movement rights

The European Commission welcomes today's adoption by the EU's Council of Ministers of a new [Directive](#) to ensure the better application at national level of EU citizens' right to work in another Member State. The new rules aim to bridge the gap between rights and reality and will make it easier for people working or looking for a job in another country to exercise their rights in practice. Member States now have two years to implement the Directive at national level. [Read more.](#)

Public consultation on the "Europe 2020 strategy"

On 5 May 2014, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the "Europe 2020 strategy: towards a post-crisis growth strategy for Europe". [Read the press release.](#) The deadline for contributions is 31 October 2014 and you can find more information about the consultation and how to submit contributions [here](#).

WHO policy brief "Addressing needs in the public health workforce in Europe"

Health systems in Europe face a number of increasingly complex challenges. Such challenges require not only different funding and organizational approaches to health services, but also demand a multidisciplinary public health workforce supported by new skills and expertise. This policy summary published by the [European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies](#) aims to outline these needs and to consider measures and options towards meeting them. [Read more.](#)

"Health workers for all and all for health workers" project translates WHO Global Code of Practice

Members of the HW4All project translated the [WHO Global Code of Practice](#) on the International Recruitment of Health Workers, a related "users guide" and the "Imagine - a health worker" video on the shortage and migration of health workers into several languages (EN, IT, RO, PL, ES, DE, NL). [Read more.](#)

EVENTS

12/06/2014: Exchange of practices between leaders of public services seminar organised by CEEP, London, United Kingdom

16-18/06/2014: [EU Joint Action Health Workforce Planning and Forecasting Workshops](#) (WP4,WP5,WP7), Lisboa, Portugal

16/06/2014: HOSPEEM will participate in the meeting on the applicability of the WHO

Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel by the EU Joint Action Health Workforce Planning and Forecasting, Lisboa, Portugal.

18/06/2014: International symposium "Cross-Border Healthcare in Europe: Improving Co-operation to Deliver a Patient-Centred System" organised by Public Policy Exchange, Brussels, Belgium

20/06/2014: Technical workshop on continuous professional development and lifelong-learning for health professionals in Europe, organised by CED, CPME, EFN, EMA, EPHA & PPGEU, Brussels, Belgium.

07-09/07/2014: The 22nd European Social Services Conference - Investing in people and communities, social inclusion and social development organised by the European Social Network (ESN), Rome, Italy

PUBLICATIONS

"Who will the Commission's next president be? A multiple-choice question" a policy paper by the Jacques Delors Institute

The designation of the president of the European Commission requires a joint agreement on the part of the European Parliament and the European Council. An analysis of the appointments made since 1979 by Yves Bertoncini and Thierry Chopin identifies several criteria likely to prevail during the negotiations currently getting under way. [Read more.](#)

A new book on health professional mobility in Europe by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

This 2nd volume published by the the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies provides new insights and tools to understand the complexity of health professional mobility The book is written to inform the ongoing policy processes and enrich debates between decision-makers and observers across countries, sectors and disciplines. [Read more.](#)

A toolkit for Gender Equality in practice in the workplace

This [toolkit](#) is a one-stop online facility promoting a selection of a wide range of practices initiated at workplace level or by national social partners. The [toolkit](#) was launched in may 2014 and catalogues 100 best practice initiatives in 25 different European countries from all kinds of sectors. [Read more.](#)

EC draft Joint Employment Report of the 2014 Annual growth survey

The Annual Growth Survey sets out the broad EU economic priorities for the year to come. The draft [Joint Employment Report](#) attached to the Annual Growth Survey, assesses the social and employment situation in the EU. [Read more.](#)
