



EFN Policy Statement

HEALTH SYSTEMS

The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) welcomes the WHO European Region initiative on the “Health Systems Charter”. In order to achieve the Health System Charter objectives, the EFN calls on the Member States of the WHO European Region to:

- Ensure an effective Stakeholder Approach at national and European level, involving nurses and nursing in all phases of policy-making, implementation and analysis of impact on European citizens;
- Uphold the principles of the Alma Ata declaration on its 30th anniversary to provide universal access to health services through primary care, in particular to address the continuing inequalities in the burden of disease and in access to care which exist in the European region;
- Provide strategic support for a qualitative and equitable health service in Europe by developing a workforce of effective, competent, motivated and appropriately remunerated nurses and other health workers;
- Focus on socio-economic health determinants and inequalities in health;
- Invest in human capital by ensuring better education provision and improved levels of qualification for those working in the health sector; and,
- Increase the salaries of nurses to keep them in the profession and eliminate pay disparities between women and men.

The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) was established in 1971. The EFN represents over two million nurses and is the independent voice of the profession. The mission of EFN is to safeguard the status and practice of the profession of nursing and the interests of nurses in the EU and Europe.

Please contact **Mr. Paul de Raeve**, General Secretary of the European Federation of Nurses Associations for more information.

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