



**“Nursing: Safety and Quality
in the working environment”**

**35th Panhellenic Congress
May 2008**

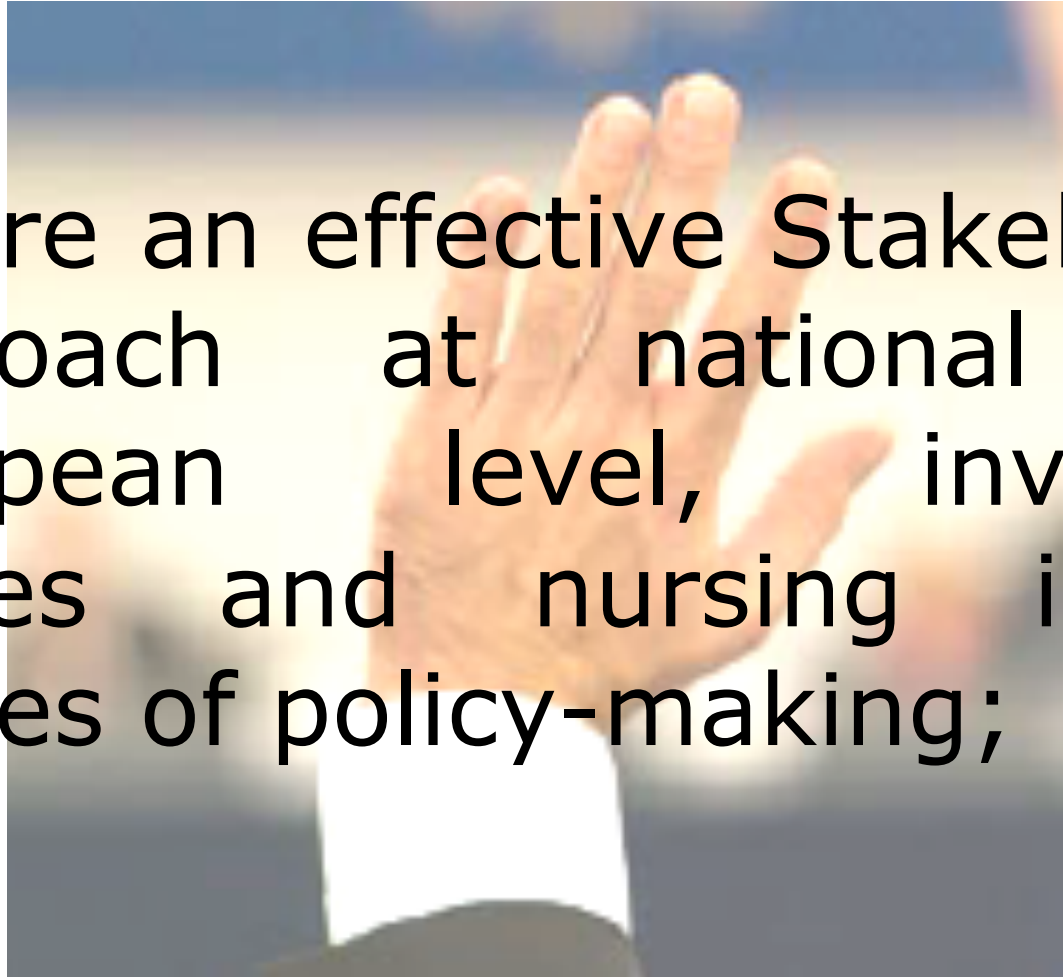
*Paul De Raeve
EFN Secretary General*

STATEMENT

"The National Governments, the European Commission and WHO will be very reactive and unable to fulfill their obligations under public health and patient safety, especially where the quality of care could be improved if policy frameworks become out of touch with what the nursing profession is doing."

Therefore, Governments should:

- Ensure an effective Stakeholder Approach at national and European level, involving nurses and nursing in all phases of policy-making;



Therefore, Governments should:

- Provide strategic support for a qualitative and equitable health service in Europe by developing a workforce of effective, competent and motivated nurses;



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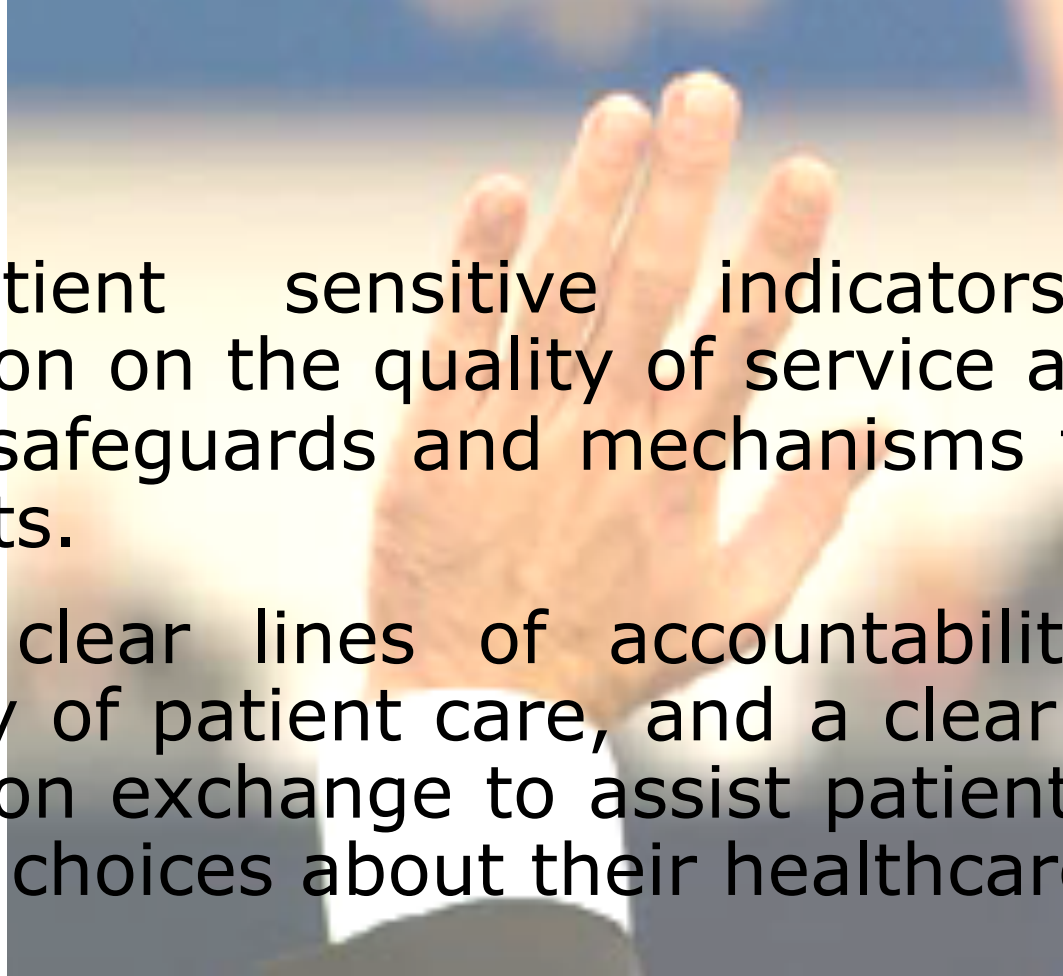
- Invest in human capital by ensuring better education provision and steadily increasing qualification levels.





**EU Health Services Legislation
is essential for our future & for
patient safety.**

Therefore, it is important to:



- Use patient sensitive indicators, gather information on the quality of service and putting in place safeguards and mechanisms to address complaints.
- Develop clear lines of accountability for the continuity of patient care, and a clear system of information exchange to assist patients to make informed choices about their healthcare.

**BUT WE NEED TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THE
“SOFT LAW INITIATIVES led BY DG
SANCO”:**

- Council Recommendations on Patient Safety and Healthcare Associated infections;
- Green Paper on Mobility of health professionals;
- Reduce sharp injuries and medication errors by identifying good practice examples;
- Forecast the nursing workforce, the needs and the skill mix.



CONCLUSION

Nurses provide leadership for change and need to strengthen their voice.

"One voice for nurses and nursing" is the key for success outcomes.

National and European policy influence needs a strong, united voice in nursing.



THANK YOU!

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