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109th General Assembly of the European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN)



National representatives of 3 million EU nurses met in Brussels for the biannual EFN General Assembly, on 11 and 12 April. The [36 EFN Members](#) took this opportunity to share views and analyse the [key political topics](#) that are driving the EU agenda and discuss the nursing contribution, in addition to their impact on the nursing profession.

This General Assembly was a key occasion to reflect and elaborate on the needed actions to improve nursing skills, knowledge and training programmes, and liaise and share views with Agata Walaszczyk-Terrasse ([EC DG GROW](#)) on nursing education, and with Jeroen Jutte ([EC DG Employment](#)) on the [European Semester](#) and its [2019 Country Reports](#).

The EFN Members' future areas of action points relate to the insufficient involvement of nurses in Health policy-making, both at the EU and national level. Nurses' end-user input is the key for addressing societal challenges such as people-centred care and prevention. Moreover, the [Directive 2013/55/EU](#) (including in article 31 a set of 8 competences that set the minimum educational requirements for nurses responsible for general care) has not been transposed by most EU Member States. In addition to these, the working conditions and wages of nurses in many European countries are still far from acceptable.

EFN Members also discussed their involvement in three European projects: two Horizon 2020 projects on Electronic Health Records ([InteropEHRate](#) and [Smart4Health](#)), and one Erasmus+ project on the competences of mentors during nurses' clinical practice ([QualMent](#)).

The EFN members reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring that nurses' contribution to the EU policy-making is valued, as their involvement is key to benefit patients and health systems.

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