



## **Nursing Now Europe Quarterly Report European Federation of Nurses Associations**

**Quarter 2 - May 2019**

### **1. Background**

The European Federation of Nurses Associations (EFN) is the [European lead](#) of the Nursing Now Campaign. As such, over the last few months, the EFN continued to promote the campaign at EU level taking the opportunity of all the different meetings the EFN has been attending and/or organised to communicate on the developments of Nursing Now Campaign (See some examples in point 2).

The EFN members and partners across Europe play an active role in this also and are updated on regular basis (during the EFN General Assemblies, the EFN Executive Committee meetings, through the EFN Press Releases, EFN Newsletter, EU Stakeholders' meetings, etc.). The EFN also relies on a database of more than 3.000 key contacts to disseminate all relevant information on the campaign and on the Nursing Now Europe activities, aiming to raise the role of nurses and the nursing profession, next to EFN [website](#), [newsletter](#), social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#)).

The EFN Members also got more and more involved in the campaign by creating local/national groups (See Annexe I); advocating for local priorities plans; engaging with the development of the 'State of the World's Nursing'; using international nurses' day to promote the Campaign; promoting development of young nurses locally; and making 2020 the year of nursing, and the year of change and celebration. Each country is encouraged to have one national lead to drive country specific initiatives. Regional groups are also encouraged to work together under the Nursing Now Campaign umbrella.



*EFN Members - EFN General Assembly, April 2019, Brussels*

## 2. Highlights

### EFN Orientation Course to EFN General Assemblies Newcomers - April 2019, Brussels

In the context of the EFN General Assembly held in Brussels in April 2019, the EFN organised an orientation course for the EFN Members' Newcomers, at the EFN Brussels' Office, to provide them an overview of EFN priorities (Education/Workforce/Quality & Safety, including digitalisation), and how the EU institutions work and how we lobby them. The EFN took this opportunity to



inform the newcomers the EFN work relating to Nursing Now Campaign (European region), focussing on nurses' support to the current political policy driver across Europe - [European Pillar of Social Rights](#) - building on 20 key principles (with a focus on those principles that EFN Members have committed to: education; wages; healthcare; and long-term care). Nurses' need practical solutions for the daily challenges they face while exercising their profession.

### 109<sup>th</sup> EFN General Assembly - April 2019, Brussels



As for the previous EFN General Assembly, in Slovakia, in October 2018, the EFN took this opportunity to provide the [EFN members](#) with an overview of the ongoing EFN work, also linked to Nursing Now priorities, and asked them 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 and the citizens of Europe. 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, and raised that the Nursing Now campaign could be a good opportunity to showcase the efficiency of the nurses when it comes to Nurse Led Clinics, a topic the EFN is working on.

### Nursing Now Ireland & Spain

As President of EFN, and member of the Nursing Now Campaign Board, Ms Elizabeth Adams was invited as keynote speaker at the launch, in April 2019, of Nursing Now Ireland, hosted by the [Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation](#) (INMO), a member of EFN, in Dublin.



For its part, Paul De Raeve, EFN Secretary General was also invited as keynote speaker

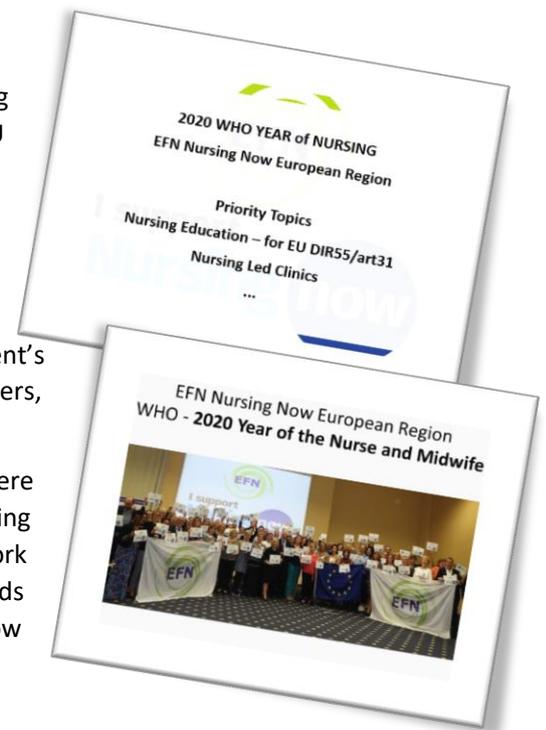
at the launch, in May 2019, of the Nursing Now Spain, hosted by the [Spanish General Council of Nursing](#), a member of EFN, in Madrid.

Both made it clear that nurses play a crucial role in health promotion, disease prevention and treatment, and their involvement in the policy debate is fundamental to ensure that policy making in health is fit-for-purpose. See also Press Release section below.

## External meetings

The EFN Secretary General, is also taking the opportunity of being invited to participate in a lot of meetings and events both EU (European Commission, European Parliament, EU Stakeholders) and national levels (EFN Members), to address the main concerns for nurses in the EU, and to also raise the attention to the Nursing Now Campaign, as for example in the ACN-FNIB meeting on 24 May 2019, in Belgium, or in the Active Citizenship event in April 2019, in the European Parliament, on the occasion of the 13<sup>th</sup> European Patient's Rights Day, or still during more informal meetings with key policy makers, always making sure that the voice of the nurses is heard.

Another example is with the Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, where Paul De Raeve, EFN Secretary General, is a visiting Professor, providing an insight to the students on the EU policies, EFN priorities, lobby work and alliances building, bringing in the EU view/experience as regards nurses and the nursing profession, and as such explain the Nursing Now Campaign and why the EFN is the European lead.



## Press Releases

The EFN took the opportunity of two important events for the nurses, and the Nursing Now Campaign, to send out to all its network two Press Releases as EFN and as European lead for Nursing Now Campaign. Both documents are available on [EFN Website](#).

- » [International Nurses' Day - 12 May 2019 - "Nurses: A Voice to Lead Health for All"](#) - raising the nurses' invaluable work and promoting the importance of universal access to healthcare as a fundamental right for all the EU citizens.
- » [Launch of Nursing Now Campaign Spain - 14 May 2019](#) - expressing that it is key to ensure that the National and EU political leaders enact concrete policies that the nurses can successfully influence and contribute to the shaping of healthcare. 3 million nurses are a [strong political voice](#). We need to take the EU election as an opportunity to build a social Europe!



Advocating that the biggest thing we can do to improve health globally is to empower nurses, representing half the health workforce of the world, the EFN main focus is advocating for policy changes to make sure nurses are central to achieving universal health coverage. The EFN therefore continue to ensure to position nursing more central to health policy and ensure that nurses can use their skills, education and training to their full capacity.

## **Annexe I - List of EFN Members involved in the Nursing Now Campaign**

*17 EFN Members' National Nurses Associations out of 36  
are involved in the Nursing Now Campaign, as of May 2019.*

**Croatia** - Croatian Nurses Association (*Nursing Now Croatia*)

**Czech Republic** - Czech Nurses Association (*Nursing Now Czech Republic*)

**Denmark** - Danish Nurses Organisation (*Nursing Now Nordic*)

**Finland** - Finnish Nurses Association (*Nursing Now Nordic*)

**Germany** - German Nurses Association (*local Nursing Now group*)

**Greece** - Hellenic Nurses Association (*Nursing Now Hellas*)

**Hungary** - Hungarian Nursing Association (*Nursing Now Hungary*)

**Iceland** - Icelandic Nurses Association (*Nursing Now Nordic*)

**Ireland** - Irish Nurses & Midwives Organisation (*Nursing Now Ireland*)

**Italy** - Consociazione Nazionale Associazioni Infermieri (CNAI) (*Nursing Now Italy*)

**Norway** - Norwegian Nurses Organisation (*Nursing Now Nordic*)

**Portugal** - Ordem dos Enfermeiros (*Nursing Now Portugal*)

**Slovakia** - Slovak Chamber of Nurses and Midwives (*Nursing Now Slovakia*)

**Slovenia** - Nurses and Midwives Association of Slovenia (*Nursing Now Slovenia*)

**Spain** - Spanish General Council of Nursing (*Nursing Now Spain*)

**Sweden** - Vardförbundet (*Nursing Now Nordic*)

+ Swedish Society of Nursing (*Nursing Now Sweden*)

**UK** - Royal College of Nursing (*Nursing Now Campaign supporter*)

*For more information on the Nursing Now Campaign Country Profiles:*

<https://www.nursingnow.org/category/country-page/>