

## **ACTIVITY REPORT OF CENTRAL & EAST EUROPEAN HEALTH POLICY NETWORK IN 2015**

### **About CEE Health Policy Network**

Central & East European Health Policy Network (further CEE HPN, or network) is an international think-tank seated in Bratislava, which was established on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011.

The mission of the network is to influence the health care system change in CEE countries for the benefit of the consumer.

The vision of the network is to have a strong and growing network of health policy experts in CEE countries. The network is recognized as a point of influence towards sustainable consumer oriented healthcare systems.

### **Membership**

At the beginning of 2015, CEE HPN had 6 members. (Peter Pažitný, Zsombor Kovácsy, Wesley Berkovsky, Paul van Hoof, Peter Stachura, Alain Rinaldi) During the year, members approved through electronic voting, the membership of 4 applicants who became regular CEE HPN members. (Alberto de Rosa, Ignacio Riesgo, Santiago Delgado, Daniel Rona) All ten CEE HPN members decided to prolong their membership and pay the compulsory membership fee for 2016 in amount of 100 EUR. Based on the new membership conditions (please see below) approved at the CEE HPN meeting, which was held in February 2015 in Brussels, the members are obligated to pay in addition to a compulsory fee, an event fee in amount of 200 EUR per event, which is due by attendance to the network meeting.

### **Membership Conditions**

1. Agreement with the values, mission and vision of the network
2. Ability to work for free for the network
3. Voluntary attendance at the network meetings
4. Ability to fund all travel, accommodation, food and local transport costs during the network meetings
5. Volunteering in preparation of the network meetings
6. Accept the Chatham rules during the network meetings
7. Membership fee is follows:
  - a. Compulsory fee – 100 EUR annually, due each year on November 15th
  - b. Event fee – 200 EUR per event, due by the attendance at the network meeting
  - c. Voluntary fee

The membership for new members must be confirmed at least by 51% of all regular CEE HPN members.

## CEE HPN meetings in 2015

In 2015 two CEE HPN meetings were organized:

- **1st CEE HPN meeting in Brussels, February 26th - 27th, 2015**

*Participating members* – Peter Pažitný (PP), Zsombor Kovácsy (ZK), Paul van Hoof (PH), Peter Stachura (PS), Wesley Berkovsky (WB), Alain Rinaldi (AR)

*CEE HPN Coordinator* – Natália Urbanová (NU)

*February 26th, 2015* – Informal dinner

*February 27th, 2015* – CEE HPN meeting

### ***Agenda for the informal dinner:***

1. Approval of the Financial and Activity Report 2014
2. Expanding CEE HPN through a virtual network (proposed by Paul van Hoof)
3. Approval of the CEE HPN Budget 2015
4. Planning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> CEE HPN meeting
5. Other

1. *Approval of the Financial and Activity Report 2014* – approved by all members without any comments
2. *Expanding CEE HPN through a virtual network (proposed by Paul van Hoof)* – at the conclusion of this discussion the new membership conditions were proposed and approved by the members. After the meeting, the members approved the final wording of the conditions through electronic voting. During this discussion WB expressed that PrimeroSalud S.L., an affiliate of Centene Corporation, can contribute to the CEE HPN budget for year 2015 with amount of 5 000 EUR. PP expressed that his company HPI Consulting, s.r.o. can contribute to the CEE HPN budget for 2015 with amount of 1 000 EUR. These contributions were paid in 2015 based on the sponsorship agreements concluded with the sponsors.
3. *Approval of the CEE HPN Budget 2015* – all members expressed that it is crucial to have the budget, which will cover all costs to avoid any losses. Based on this discussion NU was asked to prepare new revised budget with including of the promised sponsors contributions. The members approved the revised budget through electronic voting.

4. *Planning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> CEE HPN meeting* – the members agreed that the 2nd CEE HPN meeting in 2015 will be held in Valencia, responsible WB.
5. *Other*  
 PS – is interested to arrange the 1st CEE HPN in 2016 in Nurnberg, Bayreuth or Erlangen, proposed topic - palliative care, prioritisation in general, end of life.  
 AR – is interested to arrange the 2nd CEE HPN meeting in autumn 2016 in Switzerland.

**February 27th, 2015 – CEE HPN meeting**

- PH - quick overview of the most relevant developments in Brussels – new structure of the European Commission, European semester, relevant documents, etc.
- Meeting with the representative of the European Patients Forum EPF – Ms. Anke Seidler, Head of EPF office (EPF is the biggest NGO representing patients in Brussels). This meeting provided an opportunity to learn and exchange ideas how to increase the voice of the patients in healthcare decision-making in CEE. For more details, please see: <http://www.eu-patient.eu/>
- Meeting with the EPHA representative - Ms. Emma Woodford, Director of Strategic Partnerships and Development, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA is the biggest public Health NGO in Brussels). This meeting provided a chance to discuss important health system developments, risks and opportunities in CEE and provides an opportunity to further build the network. EPHA has in total approximately 100 members across the EU. For more details, please see: <http://epha.org/>
- *Pricing of Medicines in Europe*
- PH – set the scene with relevant overview of most recent pricing developments in Europe
- CEE HPN members discussed and brainstormed particular impact and solutions for CEE countries
- For more details please see meeting minutes and presentations distributed after the meeting

**• 2nd CEE HPN meeting in Valencia, October 15th - 16th, 2015**

*Participating members* – Peter Pažitný (PP), Wesley Berkovsky (WB), Santiago Delgado, (SD), Alberto de Rosa (AdR), Paul van Hoof (PH), Peter Stachura (PS), Alain Rinaldi (AR), Ignacio Riesgo (IR),

*Excused members* – Zsombor Kovácsy (ZK), Daniel Rona (DR)

*CEE HPN Coordinator* – Natália Urbanová (NU)

Note: Daniela Kandilaki, Partner, HPI Consulting attended the 2nd day of the meeting (October 16th) based on the agreement concluded among the CEE HPN members at the previous meeting in Brussels.

October 15th, 2015 – Informal dinner

October 16th, 2015 – CEE HPN meeting – La Ribera University Hospital Study Visit

**Agenda for the informal dinner:**

1. CEE HPN Strategic Plans<sup>[1][2]</sup>
  2. List of proposals for the future development received from Mr. Peter Stachura<sup>[1][2]</sup>
  3. Planning of the 5th CEE HPN meeting in Nurnberg-Erlangen, Germany<sup>[1][2]</sup>
  4. Planning of the 6th CEE HPN meeting<sup>[1][2]</sup>
  5. Other
- During the informal dinner the members discussed the actual healthcare issues, shared their professional experiences, talked about their current projects and engagements and discussed the ways of the potential future cooperation, etc.
  - Due to very interactive and meaningful discussion during the informal dinner, the originally scheduled agenda for the informal dinner was postponed partially to the second day of the meeting (Point 3, 4, 5) and the agenda concerning the CEE HPN strategic plans and proposals for future developments (Point 1 and 2) was postponed to the next CEE HPN meeting in Nurnberg-Erlangen, Germany.

**October 16th, 2015 – CEE HPN meeting**

La Ribera University Hospital Study Visit

<http://www.hospital-ribera.com>

- Ribera Salud is the leading health management company in the administrative sector of concessions for Spain. The company has developed the “Alzira Model” of State-Private Collaboration in Health, which with long-term strategy and vision, is based on the loyal collaboration of the Civil Service - the commitment by professionals to the citizens to provide an efficient quality service.
- Ribera Salud field of activity is based on the PPP model of public-private collaboration for the integral management of medical services, and socio-medical ones, as well as for the development of projects in the health sector at a national and an international level
- On 1 January 1999, and as part of the firm commitment of the Valencian Generalitat (Regional Government) for the development and implementation of the health concession model, the La Ribera Hospital was established in Alzira (Valencia). It was the first privately run Spanish public hospital.
- During the first session of the day “*The Alzira Model: The experience of Ribera Salud*” was presented. This session was led by Alberto de Rosa, CEO of Ribera Salud group, Elisa

Tarazona, Healthcare Organization Manager, Salvador Sanchis, HR Director; Carlos Catalán, Medical Director, Manuel Bosch, Deputy Director of Strategy and Development;

- AdR provided a short introduction to the Spanish National Health System, highlighted the big challenges, the strengths and the weaknesses of the system, and explained the system of administrative concessions in Spain
- AdR presented the key ideas, model basis and evolution of Ribera Salud Model
- Ribera Salud group developed by itself The Electronic Medical Record, which is updated based on the actual needs; Mr. Manuel Bosch, Deputy Director of Strategy and Development presented the system in detail.
- SD together with the employees of the hospital conducted very interesting hospital tour; the CEE HPN members visited Dialysis Centre (Continuous Abdominal Peritoneal Dialysis-CAPD), Radiotherapy Department and Radiology Department
- During the lunch the members discussed points originally scheduled for informal dinner (Point 3, 4, 5) concerning planning of the 5th CEE HPN meeting and planning of the 6th CEE HPN meeting.
- The 5th CEE HPN will be held in April 14th -15th, in Nurnberg-Erlangen, Germany; PS is responsible for the organization of the meeting. The members agreed also on the preliminary agenda for the meeting. In the morning the topic “Priorisation in Health care system from different perspectives” will be discussed, meeting will continue by the visit and presentation of Department of Palliative Medicine and then by lunch, in the afternoon the discussion will be oriented on the CEE HPN perspectives and future plans (Point 1 and 2).
- The 2nd CEE HPN in 2016 will be held in autumn in Switzerland, AR will be responsible for the organization of the meeting.
- In the afternoon the meeting continued with the presentations of country reports
- SD and WB provided the presentation on PPP projects and capitation models
- At the end of the meeting the CEE HPN members visited The Integrated Primary Care Center, where SD together with the employees of the center explained how these centers are managed, how the patients are treated, showed how the centers are equipped and an employee of the center presented to the members how the electronic system is operated.
- For more details please see meeting minutes and presentations distributed after the meeting

## **2. Other CEE HPN activities in 2015**

- **Attendance of the CEE HPN Executive Director, Mr. Peter Pažitný, at the East Europe E-Health Innovation Summit, which held on January 15 – 16, 2015 in Warsaw, Poland**

The organizers of the East Europe E-Health Innovation Summit contacted CEE HPN Coordinator, NU, with an invitation addressed to the CEE HPN Executive Director, PP, to participate at the summit in Warsaw. (The organizers found the contact on the CEE HPN website). PP decided to accept the invitation and to provide a presentation on the topic “Integrating Healthcare Data To Reduce Costs And Improve Patient Care Quality – Worth The Investment!” NU arranged all logistic details related to the participation of PP at the summit.

- **Workshop for Ribera Salud Group organized by HPI Consulting, July 31st, 2015, Bratislava, Slovakia**

On July 31st, 2015 HPI Consulting (Mr. Peter Pažitný, Executive Director of HPI Consulting and CEE HPN, and his team including Ms. Natália Urbanová, CEE HPN Coordinator) organized the workshop for Ribera Salud Group (In addition to the two CEE HPN members Mr. Wesley Berkovsky, VP, Centene Corporation and Mr. Santiago Delgado, VP for International Business Development and Integration, Centene, other attendees were Mr. Arvan Chan, VP, International, Centene, Alberto de Rosa, CEO, Ribera Salud, Pablo Gallart, CFO, Ribera Salud, Paul Endersby, Corporate Finance, Ribera Salud) in order to present and discuss the general situation in Slovak healthcare, main legislative and political issues in the last 2 years, hard data on health insurance companies and selected segments of healthcare market (hospitals, emergency, labs, pharmacies, etc.), e - prescription, managed care in Slovakia and other current healthcare topics. At the workshop NU gave a presentation of CEE HPN and also presented an international project of HPI Consulting in Croatia. After this workshop, Managing Director of Ribera Salud Group, Mr. Alberto de Rosa, expressed his interests in becoming a CEE HPN member.

- **Registration of CEE HPN to the list of beneficiaries entitled to receive 2% of income taxes paid under the Slovak law**

Based on the CEE HPN Executive Director’s request, NU registered CEE HPN to the list of beneficiaries entitled to receive 2% of income taxes paid under the Slovak law. PP, NU and HPI Consulting expressed their willingness to devote 2% of their paid income taxes to the CEE HPN budget for 2016.

Written by:

Natália Urbanová  
CEE HPN Coordinator

Approved by:

Peter Pažitný  
Executive Director

Zsombor Kovácsy  
Member of the Board

Wesley Berkovsky  
Member of the Board

Bratislava, February 2016

**MEMBERS OF THE CEE HPN until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015:**

- **Slovakia**  
Peter Pažitný
- **Germany**  
Peter Stachura
- **Hungary**  
Zsombor Kovácsy  
Daniel Rona
- **USA**  
Wesley Berkovsky
- **Netherlands**  
Paul van Hoof
- **Switzerland**  
Alain Rinaldi
- **Spain**  
Alberto de Rosa  
Ignacio Riesgo  
Santiago Delgado

**MEMBERS OF THE CEE HPN from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016:**

- **Slovakia**  
Peter Pažitný
- **Germany**  
Peter Stachura
- **Hungary**  
Zsombor Kovácsy  
Daniel Rona
- **USA**  
Wesley Berkovsky
- **Netherlands**  
Paul van Hoof
- **Switzerland**  
Alain Rinaldi
- **Spain**  
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Santiago Delgado