

ACTIVITY REPORT OF CENTRAL & EAST EUROPEAN HEALTH POLICY NETWORK IN 2016

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 22nd 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 2016, CEE HPN had 10 members. (Peter Pažitný, Zsombor Kovácsy, Wesley Berkovsky, Paul van Hoof, Peter Stachura, Alain Rinaldi, Alberto de Rosa, Ignacio Riesgo, Santiago Delgado, Daniel Rona). 7 (Peter Pažitný, Wesley Berkovsky, Paul van Hoof, Alain Rinaldi, Alberto de Rosa, Ignacio Riesgo, Santiago Delgado) out of 10 CEE HPN members in 2016 decided to prolong their membership for 2017 and pay the compulsory membership fee in the amount of 100 EUR.

Based on the membership conditions (please see below) approved at the CEE HPN meeting, which was held in February 2015 in Brussels, the members are obliged to pay additional event fee in the amount of 200 EUR per event, which is due by the attendance at the network meeting. 6 (Peter Stachura, Zsombor Kovácsy, Santiago Delgado, Paul van Hoof, Alain Rinaldi, Ignacio Riesgo) out of 10 members attended the CEE HPN meeting, which was held in April 14th-15th, 2016 in Erlangen and paid this event fee.

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 2016

In 2016 two CEE HPN meetings were planned:

- **1st CEE HPN meeting in Erlangen, April 14th - 15th, 2016**

Participating members – Peter Stachura (PS), Zsombor Kovácsy (ZK), Santiago Delgado (SD), Paul van Hoof (PH), Alain Rinaldi (AR), Ignacio Riesgo (IR)

Excused members – Peter Pažitný (PP), Daniel Rona (DR), Wesley Berkovsky (WB), Alberto de Rosa (AdR)

CEE HPN Coordinator – Natália Urbanová (NU)

Note: Mr. Csaba Kiss, Legal Consultant, Department of Quality, Directorate General for the Organisation and Department of Healthcare, AEEK, Hungary attended the informal dinner on the 1st day and the expert part of the meeting during the 2nd day. His attendance was approved based on electronic voting among the regular CEE HPN members.

April 14th, 2016 – Informal dinner

April 15th, 2016 – CEE HPN meeting

April 14th, 2016 – informal dinner

During the informal dinner 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.

April 15th, 2016 – CEE HPN meeting

Meeting place:

Universitätsklinikum Erlangen, Department of Palliative Medicine

Krankenhausstraße 12

D-91054 Erlangen, Germany

A/ Expert part of the meeting

Prioritisation in Health care system from different perspectives

- Powerpoint presentation and discussion

Presentations:

1. *Peter Stachura – Prioritisation in Health Care - Ethical and medical viewpoint*
2. *Zsombor Kovácsy – Prioritisation of Health Care – Legislative Aspects*
3. *Paul van Hoof – Paul’s Pharmaceutical industry perspective*

The final statement approved by all CEE HPN members, which was published on the CEE HPN website:

Prioritisation in health care system from different perspectives

1. **Prioritisation contributes to the optimisation of the gap between limited resources and citizens' unlimited expectations.**
2. **Preservation of justice in the allocation of resources must take into account the patient's needs and respect patient's autonomy.**
3. **Prioritisation must be based on the principles of human dignity, which take into account the cost-effectiveness of the intervention, but also its effects on the patient's health condition.**
4. **It is necessary to draw up transparent principles of prioritisation in the health care system based on profound professional compliance, reliable evidence and the national budget.**

B/ Internal Meeting – CEE HPN perspectives and future plans

Agenda:

1. Approval of the CEE HPN Financial and Activity Report 2015
2. Approval of the CEE HPN Budget 2016
3. Discussion on the CEE HPN perspectives and future plans
4. Planning of the next CEE HPN meeting
5. Other

- Internal meeting was led by ZK

1. *Approval of the CEE HPN Financial and Activity Report 2015*
 - Reports were approved by all participating members univocally
2. *Approval of the CEE HPN Budget 2016*
 - Budget proposal for 2016 was approved by all participating members univocally
3. *Discussion on the CEE HPN perspectives and future plans*
4. *Planning of the next CEE HPN meeting*

- AR was responsible for the organization of the next CEE HPN meeting, which should be held in Autumn 2016 in Lausanne or Geneva

5. *Other*

- No issues discussed

- For more details please see the meeting minutes and presentations distributed after the meeting

- **2nd CEE HPN meeting should be held in Lausanne, November 3rd - 4th, 2016**

The main topic of this meeting was set as follows:

How to facilitate access to orphan drugs (OD) in CEE countries?

- 8-year experience of Medical Affairs to support access to OD in CEE countries
- Medico-economic assessment of OD
- Positioning of CEE HPN among other existing actors of OD/how to reconcile the OD topic with the other objectives of CEE HPN

CEE HPN meeting in Lausanne was cancelled during the preparation process, because many members excused their originally confirmed participation due to other unexpected important duties.

2. Other CEE HPN activities in 2016

- **Registration of CEE HPN to the list of beneficiaries entitled to receive 2% of income tax 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 tax paid under the Slovak law. In October 2016 NU prepared all documents required for the registration and CEE HPN was registered to this list.

- **Email (sent on December 21, 2016 from Executive Director addressed to all CEE HPN members who decided to prolong their membership for 2017) with the following points:**

1. Creation of the Supervisory board

PP proposed the following members to continue or become CEE HPN Supervisory Board members:

1. Wesley Berkovsky – to continue as a Board member
2. Santiago Delgado – to become a Board member
3. Paul van Hoof – to become a Board member

The proposed members accepted PP's nomination and were approved by all other CEE HPN members as Supervisory Board members.

2. *PP informed other members that he would like to stay in the position of CEO of CEE HPN*
 - All CEE HPN members agreed

3. *PP proposed that the upcoming CEE HPN meeting could be held in March/April in Bratislava/Prague*
 - The key topic for discussion should be the future of CEE HPN. CEE HPN should promote the agreed values and support solutions attractive for public health sector and promote business opportunities in CEE region and should become a small and influential network.
 - PP recommended to prepare a small teaser "Why to join CEE HPN?" for potential future members

Written by:

Natália Urbanová
CEE HPN Coordinator

Approved by:

Peter Pažitný
Executive Director

Wesley Berkovsky
Member of the Board

Santiago Delgado
Member of the Board

Paul van Hoof
Member of the Board

Bratislava, February 2017

MEMBERS OF THE CEE HPN until 31st December 2016:

- **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 1st January 2017:

- **Slovakia**
Peter Pažitný
- **USA**
Wesley Berkovsky
- **Netherlands**
Paul van Hoof
- **Switzerland**
Alain Rinaldi
- **Spain**
Alberto de Rosa
Ignacio Riesgo
Santiago Delgado