

## EPA/UNEPSA activities in 2017

### Report for IPA SC meeting

#### I. Background: EPA/UNEPSA profile

EPA/UNEPSA has changed its profile since its founding in 1976.

**1976-1989** was characterized by international social responsibility of charismatic paediatricians for European children across the Iron Curtain.

Guido Fanconi, Klaus Betke, Pierre Royer and Jean Rey and several others belonged to the pioneers of European paediatrics who built bridges between East and West Europe in the frame of very successful UNEPSA activities, e.g. workshops.

**1990-2000** was characterized by the discrepancy between wishful expectations and reality concerning future cooperation among all European countries. The Berlin wall had fallen but the mental borders (mainly due to a lack of language skills) remained between many paediatricians of East and West Europe.

The international role EPA/UNEPSA weakened because of false decisions had been taken by individual members of EPA council.

**In 2000-2010** EPA/UNEPSA regained strength as a stakeholder of European paediatricians and children by focussing on paediatric education and training during EUROPAEDIATRICES.

**In 2011-2018** EPA/UNEPSA became a research oriented association, studying "diversity of child health care service systems in 53 European countries".

The results of the surveys were published in more than 50 publications and were presented during biannual EUROPEDIATRICES congresses.

EPA/UNEPSA now - 50 national societies and associations from Western and Eastern Europe. EPA is active member of IPA, has 2 seats in SC, pays fees regularly.

#### II. Current priorities:

1. Uniting European paediatricians and paediatric societies - EPA Initiative "Paediatrics Speaking in one voice"

2. Learning across borders- research international projects and publication activities
3. Biannual Congresses Europediatrics
4. Initialization new projects for scientific cooperation between EPA and other European, national and international societies

### **1. Uniting European pediatricians and pediatric societies - EPA Initiative “Paediatrics Speaking one Voice”**

The goal is to discuss ways how to speak as one voice in Europe for the benefit of children’s health and of the European pediatricians.

#### **First steps in 2017:**

Consultations and joined meeting EPA-EAP- ECPCP (November, December 2017)-  
The aim: to develop a common strategy and take decisions that will enable European paediatrics to speak with one voice.

Participants: delegates from more than 30 national societies, stakeholders of EPA, EAP, ECPCP.

Results: The initiative was totally supported. This joint European paediatric umbrella organisation needs to be built that represents ALL paediatricians in Europe, and this should be achieved until 2023. The first steps for merging roadmap were discussed and approved

### **2. Learning across borders- international research projects and publication activities-**

A) Preparing the second supplement “Diversity of health care system in Europe” with other EPA members for J Ped

B) Received the invitation to participate in "Diversity of CHCSS in Africa".

C) Recent EPA publications ([http://www.epa-une psa.org/sites/default/files/Binder1\\_def.pdf](http://www.epa-une psa.org/sites/default/files/Binder1_def.pdf))

1. Pediatrics Building Bridges across Europe”The Eighth EUROPAEDIATRICALS Congress in Bucharest, Romania, June 7-10, 2017

Berthold Koletzko, Doina Anca Plesca, Leyla Namazova-Baranova, Mehmet Vural, Julije Mestrovic and Marin Burlea. The Journal of Pediatrics 2017; 180:298-299

2. The Role of Retired Pediatric Professors in European Child Healthcare Services. Jochen Ehrich, Ndidi Nwaneri, and Natale de Santo. The Journal of Pediatrics 2017; 181:332-334

3. Conceptual Design of Future Children's Hospitals in Europe:

Planning, Building, Merging, and Closing Hospitals Jochen Ehrich, Eleanor Molloy, and Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 182:411-413

4. Conceptual Design of Future Children's Hospitals in Europe. The Role of Public and Private Stakeholders as Transferors of New Concepts from Theory into Practice. Jochen Ehrich, Eleanor Molloy, Reinhold Kerbl, Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani, and Andreas Gerber-Grote. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 183:204-205

5. Conceptual Design of Future Children's Hospitals in Europe: The Role of Caregivers in Transferring New Concepts from Theory into Practice. Jochen Ehrich, Eleanor Molloy, Reinhold Kerbl, Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani, Mehmet Vural, and Andreas Gerber-Grote. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 184: 244-246

6. Improving Community and Primary Care Services for Children, Adolescents, and Their Families in Europe. Simon Lenton, Leyla Namazova-Baranova, Mehmet Vural, and Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani, *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 185: 256-258

7. European Paediatric Association, the Union of National European Paediatric Societies and Associations Turns 40 Years: What This European Platform Offers to Pediatricians. Andreas Gerber-Grote, Leyla Namazova-Baranova, Hilary Hoey, Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani, Mehmet Vural, Julije Mestrovic, Eli Somekh, and Jochen Ehrich, *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 186: 217-219

8. Caring for Infants and Children Following Alternative Dietary Patterns Pietro Ferrara, Giovanni Corsello, Enrica Quattrocchi, Livia Dell'Aquila, Jochen Ehrich, Ida Giardino, and Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 187: 339-341

9. Learning from Others: Child Health and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. Martin McKee, and Ellen Nolte. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 188: 316-318

10. Call for a European Paediatric Association/Union of National European Paediatric Societies and Associations Survey on National Child Health Care Services for European Children with Malignancies Gerhard Gaedicke, Wibke Gronau, Holger Lode, and Jochen Ehrich. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 189: 243-244

11. Public Health Practice and Policy to Improve Child and Adolescent Health in Europe. Danielle Jansen, Sonia Saxena, and Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 190: 294-297

12 Internet Addiction: Starting the Debate on Health and Well-Being of Children Overexposed to Digital Media. Pietro Ferrara, Giovanni Corsello,

Francesca Ianniello, Annamaria Sbordone, Jochen Ehrich, Ida Giardino, and Massimo Pettoello-Mantovani. *The Journal of Pediatrics* 2017; 191: 280-282  
13 Falling back to experience: retired paediatric professors as a solution to Europe's child health care crisis? Jochen Ehrich, Ndidi Nwaneri, Natale De Santo, Juergen Manemann In: "The Human Capital". (2017) p.66-93 – La scuola di pitagora Ed. Naples, It

D) Mapping areas of health status and services -collecting national target dates by Questionaries' for:

Pediatric renal care service

Pediatric surgical care service

Organization of night shifts during weekdays and weekends in European children's hospital

E) EPA Newsletter in October 2017 with the following content:

- a consensus on the improvement of community and primary care services for children, adolescents and their families in Europe
- WHO indicators for pediatric care assessment in European countries: lessons learned
- EPA/UNEPSA Europaediatric congress 2017
- Obituary professor Gerhard Gaedicke
- International policy statement for universal use of kangaroo mother care

for preterm and low birthweight infants

- The role of retired professors (emeriti) of pediatrics in Europe.

the birth of the European society of professors emeriti

- From research to practice in the international literature
- open online course: nutrition & lifestyle in pregnancy

### **3. Biannual Congresses Europaediatrics (2017, 2019)**

#### **Europaediatrics-2017, Bucharest, Romania**

The Europaediatrics Congress was jointly held with the 13th National Congress of Romanian Pediatrics Society ([www.europaediatrics.2017.org](http://www.europaediatrics.2017.org)). It was organized in cooperation with: WHO, National pediatric societies, European sub-specialty societies, American Academy of pediatrics, Chinese pediatric Society

#### **Europaediatrics 2017 in numbers:**

Delegates: 1825

Number of International speakers and chairs to Europaediatrics: 111

Number of Romanian speakers and chairs to Europaediatrics: 32

Number of abstracts accepted: 396

Results: International and European child health care specialists have provided the program with presentations, debates, workshops with following relevant topics that expand the knowledge of providing and promoting the wellbeing of children around the world:

**Sessions with WHO Euro office and national societies:**

- Improving pediatric quality of care. WHO approaches in the regional and national pediatric levels
- panel discussion “School health: WHO/Europe priorities”

**Session with American Academy of pediatrics**

- Non-communicative diseases (pre congress workshop with AAP)

**Session with Chinese pediatric society**

- Eurasian symposium. Advanced Immunization- one of the priorities in pediatrics

**Sessions with European sub-specialty societies**

- Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
- Infection and vaccination
- Allergy and immunology
- Neurology and child development
- Respiratory Tract Disorders
- Training and education
- Clinical research

**Europaediatrics-2019, Dublin, Ireland (13-15th June 2019)**

- This meeting is being hosted by the Faculty of Paediatrics of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.
- The scientific program will be completed with a series of workshops along with plenary lectures, symposia, free communications, poster presentations and meet the expert sessions which will allow both clinicians and researcher to hear and share the most recent developments and future perspectives of the field.

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- We have already invited and received the confirmation from WHO Euro office to participate in the Europaediatrics in the field of child health service improvement, school medicine, child's rights
  - We are very grateful to Professor Zulfi Bhutta for agreeing to give a keynote lecture on Global Child Health. We are delighted to invite the IPA staffs and members to join us for 9th Europaediatrics.

#### **4. New projects for scientific cooperation between EPA and other European, national and international societies**

1. promotion of child health care quality improvement (together with WHO)
2. evaluating changes of pediatric service across borders (together with WHO, national societies)
3. educational projects for child right orientation (together with WHO, AAP, national societies)
4. challenges in pediatric education (together with national societies)
5. harmonization child care service in Europe (together with EAP, ECPCP)- to integrate all European national Pediatric Societies in the unifying process

EPA/UNEPSA President  
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