

The European Charter of Patients' Rights states 14 patients' rights that together aim to guarantee a "high level of human health provided by the various national health services in Europe" (Article 35 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union) and to assure the high quality of services provided by the various national health services in Europe. The 14 rights are an embodiment of fundamental rights and, as such, they must be recognized and respected in every country, they are correlated with duties and responsibilities that both citizens and health care stakeholders have to assume. The Charter applies to all individuals, recognizing socio-economic status differences, such as age, gender, religion, etc., may influence individual health care needs.

- Right to perform general interest activities
- Right to perform advocacy activities
- Right to participate in policy-making in the area of health
- Patients Association Ltd (Ireland), KE.P.K.A (Greece), Irish Patients Association (Uk), Vereniging Samenwerkende Nederlandse Patiënten Consumenten Federatie (The Netherlands), The Patients Association (Uk), Vlaams Patiëntenbond (Belgium), Nederlandse Patiëntenvereniging (Netherlands), The Netherlands

The European Charter of Patients' Rights was drafted in 2002 by Active Citizenship Network in collaboration with 12 citizens' organizations from different EU countries: Apovita (Portugal), Cittadinanzattiva (Italy), Confederacion de Consumidores y Usuarias (Spain), Danish Consumer Council (Denmark), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Versicherung und Patienten e. V. (Germany), Federation Belge contre le Cancer (Belgium), International Federation for Versicherer und Patienten e. V. (Germany), Gesellschaft für Versicherung und Patienten e. V. (Germany), Gesellschaft für Versicherung und Patienten e. V. (Germany), Neurotrauma Research Organization (Austria), International Federation for Versicherung und Patienten e. V. (Germany), and the National Health Service (UK).

Rights of active citizenship



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