



FINAL REMARKS

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Please let me provide in one minute our engagement and next steps on the topic to commit to before the summer break, but mainly in the second part of the year, when healthcare systems will face significant uncertainty in winter 2022/23.

Follow up and possible next steps:

1. As anticipated, we engage ourselves to follow closely the work leading up to the Council Conclusions, and, in the meantime, the main suggestions of today's event will be addressed to the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, as well as to all the Members of the MEPs Interest Group "European Patients' Rights & Cross-Border Healthcare" that has formally supported our initiative today.
2. Our next monthly newsletter will be totally devoted to the vaccination policy, and in September we'll launch our communication campaign with the official endorsement of several Patients Advocacy Groups (PAGs) that have been already engaged in its definition phase, starting from Asociación Española Contra la Meningitis, the Coalition of Patients Organization with Chronic Disease from Romania; the Institute for Patients' Rights & Health Education from Poland;

euPrevent from the Netherlands, National Patients' Organisation from Malta & probably also Malta Health Network, that I want to thank in advance.

3. Meantime, we'll answer the public consultation "Global health – new EU strategy"¹ just launched, also in order to highlight the value of immunization in the new global health strategy to respond to recent changes and strengthen EU leadership in this area. The situation that we have been living for the past two years now only emphasizes every day the fundamental role that the behavior of each individual plays, and how the same can have repercussions on public health. Hence the need to give voice to all those who identify health as a public and primary good that must be protected and for which it is worth committing.
4. After the summer break, we'll support the influenza vaccination campaign and as member of the Steering Group on Influenza Vaccination we'll support the EU Flu Day, an initiative led by Vaccine Europe.
5. At the same time, it is clear for us that we no longer have only flu to consider, we have a trio of vaccine preventable respiratory diseases and we need to ensure pneumococcal pneumonia, covid-19 and flu are all on the high attention of the EU & national Institutions, given the burden that each can place on the health systems with bed occupancy.

Finally, as always, I have my list of acknowledgements.

- Once again, thanks to all the panelists and our moderator Gary Finnegan.
- At the same time, please let me thank the four companies: GSK, MSD, Pfizer and Sanofi Pasteur for supporting our "VaccinAction 2022" EU project, as well as GCI Health, the healthcare communications agency that supports us in the communication campaign.
- As always, thank you to the staff of Active Citizenship Network (Daniela, Bianca, Maddalena, Maira, Ginevra), our event manager Elisa and to our communication office.

If we do not have another chance to be connected together before the summer break, I wish you all a lovely holiday. See you in September. In the meantime, stay safe.

Thank you all again and goodbye from Rome.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13506-Global-health-new-EU-strategy_en