

Health Systems Governance in Europe: the Role of EU Law and Policy

Brussels

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HUSA President Park Hotel

Room Fabiola

boulevard du Roi Albert II, 44

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The Treaties state that healthcare policy is a matter for Member States. Yet it has become increasingly clear that numerous aspects of healthcare fall within the ambit of European law. The inability of the EU's legislative bodies to deal with the issues that arise, or to deal with them in a way that takes account of the specificities of health systems, has meant that the law-making function in this field has often been left to the European Court of Justice.

Policy-makers are increasingly aware of the potential deregulating dynamics of the application of the rules of the single market and are concerned that this might undermine the social principles upon which European healthcare systems and the European social model in general are based. The policy debate on how to reconcile the social objectives of healthcare systems with the application of the EU internal market rules has gained momentum once again with the Commission initiative to legislate on cross-border healthcare.

A team of high level experts has provided a comprehensive overview and multidisciplinary analysis of the developments related to EU law and policies that have an impact on national healthcare systems. The study provides policy-makers with a compelling and rigorous analysis of the real and potential impacts of EU-level policies on the national healthcare systems, highlighting the need to balance economic and social priorities. The findings of this study will soon be published in book form.

The aim of this conference is to present the main findings of the forthcoming book and to discuss them with policy-makers and social managers from the healthcare sector.

09.00-09.30 REGISTRATION

09.30-10.10

Welcome address

Laurette Onkelinx (BE)
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Social Affairs and Public Health

Introduction by the French Presidency of the EU

Health care and the EU: a legal and policy-making perspective

Tamara Hervey
Professor of Law, The University of Sheffield

10.10-12.00

Panel I: EU COMPETITION LAW AND POLICIES

Chair: **Jo De Cock** (BE)
General Manager, National Institute for Health and
Disability Insurance (NIHDI)

Potential implications of EU competition law for national health systems

Elias Mossialos
Professor of Health Policy, London School of Economics
and Political Science; Co-Director, European Observatory
on Health Systems and Policies

Public procurement and state aid in national healthcare systems

Vassilis Hatzopoulos
Assistant Professor, Democritus University, Thrace;
Visiting Professor, College of Europe, Bruges

Pharmaceutical products

Leigh Hancher
Professor of Law, University of Tilburg; Of Counsel,
Allen & Overy Amsterdam

Debate with contributions from public authorities, providers and payers

Bernhard Spiegel (AT)
Chair of the informal SPC Working group on Social Services; Head of Department, Federal Ministry for Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Pascal Garel
Chief Executive, European Hospital and Healthcare Federation (HOPE)

Marcel Smeets
Director-General, Association internationale de la mutualité (AIM)

12.00-13.30 LUNCH

13.30-15.20

Panel II: FREE MOVEMENT OF SERVICES AND PATIENTS

Chair: Dirk Cuypers (BE)
President of the Management Board, Federal Public Service "Public Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment"

Free movement of patients

Willy Palm
Dissemination Development Officer, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Free movement of health services and professionals

Rita Baeten
Policy analyst, Observatoire social européen

EU law and voluntary health insurance

Sarah Thomson
Research Fellow in Health Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science and European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Debate with contributions from public authorities, providers and payers

John Rowan (GB)
Health Attaché, Permanent Representation of the United Kingdom to the EU

Michael Wilks
President, Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME)

Josef Probst (AT)
Deputy General Manager, Main Association of Austrian Social Insurance Institutions

15.20-15.50 COFFEE BREAK

15.50-17.30

Panel III: HEALTH SYSTEMS AND THE EU: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES

Introductory speech

Androulla Vassiliou
European Commissioner for Health

Round table

Moderator: Martin McKee
Professor of European Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Head of Research Policy, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Mars Di Bartolomeo (LU)
Minister for Health and Social Security

Ulla Schmidt (DE)
Federal Minister for Health

Bernat Soria Escoms (ES)
Minister for Health and Consumers Affairs

Melinda Medgyaszai (HU)
Secretary of State for Health Policy and International Affairs

Closing speech

Laurette Onkelinx (BE)
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Social Affairs and Public Health