



European Dental Students' Association



# European Healthcare Students' Associations Summit “Interprofessional Education: A way to transform tomorrow’s healthcare!” Policy Event Press Release

*Brussels, Belgium - 11th June 2018*

On 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the European Healthcare Students' Associations Summit (EHSAS) which consists of the European Dental Students' Association (EDSA), the European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations (EFPSA), the European Medical Students' Association (EMSA), the European Pharmaceutical Students' Association (EPSA), and together represents over 675.000 European healthcare students, organised a policy event with the topic “Interprofessional Education: A way to transform tomorrow’s healthcare!” hosted by MEP Lieve Wierinck at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium.



The idea for the EHSAS was brought about in 2014 with the main objective of bringing together healthcare students from across Europe to work collectively on improving the quality of education that is offered to students. A survey-based policy paper was drafted and adopted by all EHSAS member associations and it was concluded that IPE is highly sought for as an essential part of healthcare students' curricula, all across Europe. Respondents stated that IPE would better prepare them for their future professions, and working within a

multidisciplinary care team, that is centred around the patient. Together with the scientific evidence that proves the need and importance of IPE for healthcare students, this paper calls for action of educational institutions across Europe to implement IPE as a key component of the curricula and to

simulate IPC from the beginning of undergraduate studies, so that students in all healthcare professions graduate with an open and collaborative mind, to work as part of patient-centred and multidisciplinary teams.

**During the event**, distinguished guest speakers from diverse healthcare backgrounds composed of Andrzej Rys (Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, DG SANTE, European Commission), Lilian Azzopardi (European Association for Faculties of Pharmacy - EAFF), Janusz Janczukowicz (Association for Medical Education in Europe - AMEE), Didier Jourdan (Global Health and Education UNESCO Chair), Telmo Baptista (European Federation of Psychologists' Associations - EFPA), Kaisa Immonen (European Patients Forum - EPF) and Alexis Delpierre (Dental School, University Clermont Auvergne, France) identified key issues and presented good examples of interprofessional collaboration and multidisciplinary approach of healthcare professionals followed by a great discussion in the room on how to actually implement IPE in the health professions' curricula and professional practices.

### **About the EHSAS parties:**

#### **European Dental Students' Association**

*edsaweb.org / @edsaweb*

The European Dental Students' Association (EDSA) is a non-profit, non-political organization representing more than 65,000 dental students across the WHO European Region. EDSA was founded in November 1988 in Paris and aims to unite, support and represent students acting as their regional association. We aim to create a platform for the formulation & exchange of students' thoughts, proposals & innovations and to advance research, dental education, teaching methods and philosophy. We strive to give students a voice in the national and international forum, to create a globally connected student community and to develop and promote international contacts.

#### **European Federation of Psychology Students Associations**

*efpsa.org / @efpsa*

The European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations (EFPSA) was established in 1987 as a nonprofit, student-run Federation, at the first International Congress of Psychology Students in Portugal. EFPSA represents a highly diverse network of psychology students working on a voluntary basis by and for psychology students of Europe. The Federation currently consists of 33 Psychology Member Organisations and one Observer Organisation, which are each represented by a Member Representative. EFPSA attracts more students every year, with the number of its members continually increasing across Europe. The Federation is run by seven Board of Management members and an Executive Board of over 50 individ

#### **European Medical Students' Association**

*emsa-europe.eu / @emsa\_europe*

The European Medical Students Association (EMSA) is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation representing medical students across Europe. EMSA was founded 1990 and represents more 150.000 medical students from over 90 European faculties. EMSA is forum for high-level advocacy, projects, trainings, workshops and international meetings. Its activities gather around the five pillars medical education, Medical Ethics and Human Rights, Medical Science , Public Health and European Integration and Culture. Our mission is to promote the highest standards in quality of healthcare in

Europe, foster a strong sense of European Identity and to facilitate intercultural understanding. EMSA is the students member of the European Medical Organisations and an associated-member of the Standing Committee of European Doctors.

### **European Pharmaceutical Students' Association**

*epsa-online.org / @EPSA\_Online*

The European Pharmaceutical Students' Association (EPSA) is the umbrella association representing 160 000 pharmaceutical students within 45 member associations from 37 countries across Europe. EPSA is actively engaged on both student and professional levels, bringing pharmacy, knowledge and students together while encouraging personal development of its members. EPSA facilitates discussions between member associations, by being a platform for sharing knowledge and best practices. EPSA also acts as the voice of the pharmaceutical students in Europe and advocates for their interests. By organising events on a European level, EPSA ensures knowledge transfer as well as social and cultural exchange.