
Tackling multiple challenges for healthcare workers

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Introduction

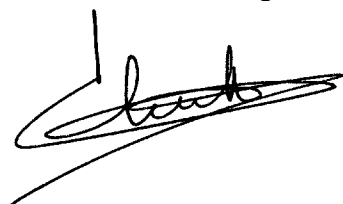


With the organisation of the Trade Council Health Services, Eurofedop wants to put emphasis on the issues that are currently of particular importance to the workforce of this public service sector. Health care workers are standing in the frontline of the fight against the coronavirus and are facing a particularly stressful and mentally very demanding phase in their career.

There are three topics that we want to raise the discussion on during our meeting of the trade council health services: Covid-19 and its effects on health care staff, demographics and migration in the health care sector. The pandemic has not only shown that understaffing is a continuing issue in the health care sector in many European countries, but it has also underlined the need for urgently addressing the problems of demographic imbalances and the worrying migration of health care workers.

Another issue that we want to discuss is the new EU4Health Programme that the EU starts this year. The EU has recognised the need for making national health care systems more capable of responding adequately to health care crises and wants to provide them with the necessary tools to achieve that aim. In particular, we want to find out how trade unions can participate in the EU programme.

Finally, Eurofedop underlines the importance for health care workers to speak with one voice in Europe and wants to convince national health care trade unions of the advantages to join with that aim its organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Bert Van Caelenberg', written over a white background.

Bert Van Caelenberg
Secretary General