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To-Reach and Health First Europe Roundtable on Health Services and Systems Research

European Parliament, Brussels, 29.01.2018



On 29th January 2018, To-Reach and Health First Europe co-organised a joint workshop entitled Identifying and transferring innovation in comparative Health Services and Systems Research. Hosted by MEP Patrizia Toia (S&D, Italy) at the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels, the event was the first opportunity for project consortium representatives to publicly present the concept and objectives of To-Reach to the Brussels-based EU health policy audience.

To-Reach is a project in which several health care institutions from European countries participate and which aims at performing research on how to make health care services and systems more resilient, effective, equitable, accessible, sustainable and comprehensive through innovation. It receives funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 programme.

Following the welcoming remarks of John Bowis (HFE President) and MEP José Inácio Faria (EPP, Portugal), Walter Ricciardi, Principal Investigator of the project and President of the National Institute of Health of Italy (Istituto Superiore di Sanità ISS), together with Ellen Nolte, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, and Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, President of the European Public Health Association, outlined the main aspects of To-Reach before responding to questions and feedback from the participants in what proved a lively high-level discussion that will feed into both ongoing and future project work.

Professor Ricciardi mentioned the ideal opportunity for cooperation at European level provided by the To-Reach project with a view to promoting value of health care through innovation. There is an urgent need for advanced research in order to help tackle common challenges faced by European and International health systems. To organise, manage, finance and deliver high quality health care to all European citizens, the To-Research consortium makes an appeal for identifying and implementing a joint priority programme of research in the field of health services and systems.

Bert Van Caelenberg participated in the event on behalf of Eurofedop.

