



---

On 31 October 2015, the CPME Board adopted the 'CPME Resolution on the Situation of Health in Greece' (CPME 2015/083 FINAL)

---

### CPME Resolution on the Situation of Health in Greece

*The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents national medical associations across Europe. We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU and European policy-making through pro-active cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.*

In 2012 CPME adopted the 'CPME Statement on the Situation of Healthcare in Greece', which was reaffirmed in 2013<sup>1</sup>.

The political and economic decisions of the past years have prevented the healthcare system in Greece from achieving a sustainable structure that ensures access to high quality healthcare for every patient, as well as safe and lawful working conditions for doctors and other healthcare professionals.

At the same time, the socio-economic impact of the measures taken by the Greek government in the context of financial assistance arrangements with international partners has exacerbated health inequalities and created new vulnerable groups of patients.

This situation impairs the daily functioning of the healthcare system and provision of patient care, while its capacity to respond to exceptional circumstances, such as the increasing numbers of refugees arriving in Greece to seek asylum in the European Union, is even more vulnerable.

CPME acknowledges that the political and economic situation in Greece poses restraints on policy makers. This notwithstanding, CPME reiterates its appeal

- To safeguard the availability and functioning of high quality healthcare services to patients as well as lawful and sustainable working conditions for healthcare professionals, including appropriate remuneration, as agreed with the representative organisations of the medical profession. The representative organisations of the medical profession must be strengthened and supported in their activities.
- To ensure that reforms to the healthcare system respect the patient's fundamental right to healthcare, as established i.a. by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, and

---

<sup>1</sup> Please find the 'CPME Statement on the Situation of Healthcare in Greece' [here](#).



adhere to the principle of evidence-based medicine. The medical profession should be fully involved in the development and implementation of reforms.

- To acknowledge that the establishment and operation of healthcare entities cannot be equated to that of purely commercial bodies and must therefore be regulated in full respect of professional regulations in order to protect patient safety and quality of care.
- To adequately address the impact on health inequalities caused by policy decisions in other sectors, in particular education, housing, pensions, transport, energy, personal finance and environment. Health, and the burden of morbidity and mortality caused by an absence of health, must be taken into account in all policies.