

MEPs Against Cancer

The MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) is the only cancer focused interest group at the European Parliament. Since 2005, MAC MEPs work together in order to improve cancer control and prevention in Europe, in the belief that European cooperation adds value to Member State actions.

MEPs Against Cancer receive secretarial support from the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), a Brussels-based non-profit organisation representing national and regional cancer societies in Europe.

To read the full Manifesto, visit www.MEPsAgainstCancer.eu

European Union shall fulfil its potential to become a global leader in the fight against cancer.

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BEATING CANCER: MISSION POSSIBLE

TOWARDS EFFECTIVE CANCER
CONTROL IN EUROPE



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#MissionPossible



MEPs Against Cancer
2019 European Elections Manifesto

I. PREVENTION AS A KEY TO SUSTAINABLE CANCER CONTROL

Up to 50% of cancer deaths in Europe could be prevented if current knowledge about cancer prevention was put into practice.



Address the determinants of health at the individual and community level by influencing demand, access and affordability of tobacco, alcohol and foods and drinks high in saturated fats, trans fats, salt and sugar;



Promote access to quality assured cancer screening and early detection services, supporting Member States in the implementation of cancer screening guidelines and working with the WHO towards the elimination of cervical cancer;



Take action to reduce harmful occupational and environmental exposures, concentrating on reduction of carcinogens and mutagens, and addressing impacts of air quality and climate change.

II. BEATING CANCER WITH HIGH QUALITY TREATMENTS

New diagnostic tools and treatments such as biological antibody medicines, enabled that many cancer cases today can be diagnosed earlier, treated more effectively or even cured altogether. However, in Europe, there are substantial differences in access to new cancer treatments and their added value to the patient has often been uncertain.



Ensuring equal access to high quality treatments set at fair prices which are both sustainable and profitable enough to steer innovation;



Boosting international cooperation in cancer research, including increased public investments in areas of high unmet medical need and support for open science;



Increasing demand for high standards of evidence before and after treatment approvals, focusing on improved quality of life of cancer patients.

III. IMPROVING CARE AND INVOLVING PATIENTS IN HEALTH POLICY DECISIONS

There are around 10 million people with a history of cancer in Europe. Given this large (and growing) number of cancer patients and survivors, focusing on their quality-of-life is fundamental. Moreover, patient voice shall be appropriately represented in the decision-making process related to national and European health policies.



Support legislation protecting for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers, particularly in access to financial services and at in their employment.



Calling for integration for rehabilitation, psychosocial and palliative care in European healthcare services;



Making patient voice heard in European and national decision-making.