



MEPs

AGAINST CANCER



ROADMAP 2019-24



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About the Roadmap

The purpose of this document is to outline the objectives and operational rules related to the MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) Interest Group in the 2019-24 mandate.

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I. About MEPs Against Cancer

The MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) Interest Group was founded in 2005 by a group of MEPs at the European Parliament (EP), and remains the largest and oldest (and until 2020 the only) group dedicated to cancer policy at the EP. MAC members come from different political groups and countries and work together to improve cancer control policies, promote cancer prevention, ensure access to high quality treatments and care for all cancer patients in Europe. MAC share a deep conviction that European cooperation adds value to Member States' action.

II. MAC Objectives in the 2019-24 Mandate

In the 2019-24 legislature, the MAC Group will give feedback to the European Commission about the structure and implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and related legislation and activities, including the Mission on Cancer under the Horizon Europe programme.

In all activities they undertake, MAC MEPs will focus on the below principles:

- ✓ **Promote the health in all policies approach** – all MAC MEPs will ensure that the work in their respective committees ultimately leads to well-being of European citizens by e.g., advocating for an environment, food and workplace free of carcinogens.
- ✓ **Reducing inequalities in Europe** – MAC will strive to put a spotlight and close the gap between Member States' access to prevention, early diagnosis, treatments and patient services.
- ✓ **Ensuring all stakeholders participation, especially patients, in health decision-making process** – MAC will always consult patients, healthcare professionals and public health NGOs while discussing policy recommendations related to the EU beating Cancer Plan and cancer-related activities and legislations.

- ✓ **Elevating cross-border cooperation** – MAC will cooperate with the European Commission and the Council to encourage Member States to work together in the areas where single country's actions are insufficient. E.g., it will ensure data collection (from cancer registries to genomic banks) is done in an ethical way, fully respecting the rights of patients.

As a point of reference to concrete policies, the MAC Group shall refer to the [2019 European Elections Manifesto 'Beating Cancer: Mission Possible'](#).



MAC 2019 Elections
Manifesto_final.pdf

III. MAC Governance

In October 2019 members of the MAC Group elected the board of the MAC Group in the 2019-24 legislature. Our Co-Chairs are:

- Chair Dr. Véronique Trillet-Lenoir (RE, France)
- Chair Mr. Loucas Furlas (EPP, Cyprus)
- Vice-Chair Dr. Sara Cerdas (S&D, Portugal) as of October 2020; Ms Miriam Dalli until 2020
- Vice-Chair Ms. Tilly Metz (Greens/EFA, Luxembourg) as of October 2020; Dr. Petra de Sutter until October 2020

**In the event of one of the above Co-Chairs no longer being an MEP, the MAC Secretariat will follow up with MAC members of the appropriate political group to find a replacement.*

Elected Co-Chair are encouraged to represent the MAC Group in external meetings and events to speak about their expertise in cancer policy. They further serve as points of contact to their MEP colleagues and other EU institution's officials, in case of enquiries about the work of the MAC Group.

IV. MAC Membership

As of 6 January 2021, the MAC Group has 146 members coming from 24 EU Member States and 7 political groups.

A list of all MAC members is available here: <https://www.europeancancerleagues.org/meps-against-cancer-mac-meps/>

Membership in the MAC Group is opened to MEPs only. To become a member, MEPs can:

- Write an email to ECL@europeancancerleagues.org; or
- Fill out an application form: <https://forms.gle/o5E67tn54srfzbc26>

Membership in the MAC Group will be terminated in case:

- Member is no longer an MEP
- Member has ties to the tobacco and/or alcohol industry
- Member is associated with non-scientific movements (e.g., anti-vaccine)

V. MAC Secretariat

The MAC Group receives secretarial support from the [Association of European Cancer Leagues \(ECL\)](#), a Brussels-based non-profit organisation representing national and regional cancer societies across Europe. ECL provides an exclusive platform for members and

partners to collaborate with their international peers, primarily in the areas of cancer prevention, tobacco control, access to treatments and patient support, and creates opportunities to advocate for these issues at the EU level.

VISION: A Europe free of cancers

MISSION: To advocate for improved cancer control and care in Europe through facilitating collaboration between cancer leagues and influencing EU and pan-European policies.

Support by the Secretariat:

- ✓ Provide independent advice to MEPs on matters of cancer policy, based on ECL's expertise or that of its member organisations (EP questions, amendments, etc.)
- ✓ Organise meetings (internal and official stakeholder events – as per below)
- ✓ Identify and suggest experts (for meetings, to provide amendments to reports etc.)
- ✓ Maintain website and social media channels (details below)
- ✓ Regularly inform MAC MEPs about planned activities of the Interest Group

VI. MAC Meetings

i. Internal Meetings

At the end of each year, the MAC Secretariat with the Co-Chairs organise a meeting which is restricted to MAC Members (MEPs and their assistants). In this meeting, the Group will evaluate past activities, and discuss the action plan for the following year. Annual Action Plan for the following year will be distributed to MAC members within 30 days after the internal meeting.

In addition, MAC Co-Chairs will meet with the Secretariat three times per year.

ii. Official Stakeholder Meetings

Each year, the MAC Secretariat, together with various MAC members will organise a up to three meetings with external stakeholders. Topic of the meetings will be published in the annual Action Plan of the MAC Group.

The Secretariat, in consultation with MAC Co-Chairs, will ensure appropriate MAC members are involved as hosts and speakers (based on the priorities submitted via their application form and mentioned in individual meetings with the Secretariat). The Secretariat, together with hosting MEPs, is responsible for bringing appropriate experts to the stakeholder meetings, both as speakers and members of the audience. Latest 30 days after each event, MAC members will receive a meeting report containing policy recommendations related to the discussed area.

Responsibilities for meeting organisation will be distributed as follows:

➤ Hosting MEP's office

- ✓ Securing booking of the meeting room
- ✓ Sending meeting invitations to MEPs
- ✓ Ensuring technical equipment is in place
- ✓ Requesting translation services (if necessary)
- ✓ Order catering (if requested)

- ✓ Print name tags for speakers
- ✓ Providing 1-day badges to registered participants
- ✓ Send thank you email to participants with a report (latest 30 days after the meeting)

➤ **MAC Secretariat**

- ✓ Draft meeting agenda
- ✓ Invite speakers
- ✓ Invite external participants
- ✓ Collect registrations
- ✓ Collect speaker presentation (bring on USB)
- ✓ Provide speaking points to hosts (if requested)
- ✓ Print agendas
- ✓ Bring materials (banner, pens, badges)
- ✓ Send a meeting report within 30 days after the meeting

➤ **Both Host and Secretariat**

- ✓ Send reminders to participants to register
- ✓ Post on social media

iii. Associated Events

In case a MAC member is hosting an event related to cancer, he/she can ask the Secretariat to use the MAC logo and have the event endorsed by the Interest Group. The Secretariat will check the agenda to ensure the: i. content is legitimate; ii. it is not associated with industry/is free of commercial interest; iii. no representatives of the tobacco industry are involved in the event.

The MAC Group functions in an open and collaborative manner. The Group is willing to collaborate with stakeholders who share its objectives. This extends to parliamentary groups, political institution, academic institutions, civil society organisations, medical organisations, or other organisation committed to the reduction of cancer incidence in Europe.

In accordance with the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) Article 5.3, the tobacco industry or its representatives will not be involved in any aspect of the work of the MAC Group.

VII. Communications & Contacts

Contact MAC Secretariat

- Ginevra Papi, MAC Comms / Interim MAC Policy & Coordination
Gina@europeancancerleagues.org
- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), MAC General Contact
ECL@europeancancerleagues.org

Website

- ECL www.cancer.eu
- MAC www.MEPsAgainstCancer.eu
 - About MEPs Against Cancer
 - Join MAC
 - MAC MEPs
 - MAC 2019 Manifesto
 - MAC Events

Twitter

- @MAC_MEPs
 - #MissionPossible
 - *If you wish to be re-tweeted, please tag the MAC MEPs account*
- @CancerLeagues

Facebook

- @MEPsAgainstCancer
- @CancerLeagues

VIII. Transparency statement

ECL's transparency register number is 19265592757-25.

Financial support for MAC activities is financed through ECL's operational budget. Since 2014, ECL has been co-financed by the Third Health Programme of the European Union via an operating grant. The current grant agreement is valid until the end of 2021.

Where a meeting is held in collaboration with another organisation, the costs of meetings (e.g., for catering) can be shared between the organisations. To maintain independence, the MAC Group shall not receive any contributions from industry companies and associations.