

MEPs Against Cancer celebrate establishing of the Cancer Committee

The MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) interest group welcomes the European Parliament's decision to establish a [special committee on beating cancer](#), tasked with evaluating opportunities for the EU to take concrete action, identifying legislation and other measures that can help prevent and fight cancer and looking into the best ways to support research.

The European Parliament has for many decades been a key actor and an essential partner of the European Commission in the EU's fight against cancer. It is important that this work continues, as European cooperation in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and research is essential.

The MAC Chairs and Co-Chairs are certain that this new committee will become a key forum to take forward a common fight against cancer, in the interest of cancer patients and citizens throughout Europe. They look forward to establishing an excellent collaboration with the special committee by sharing information and shaping the European Parliament's response to the EU's cancer and health policy agenda.



MEP Véronique Trillet-Lenoir stated:

'Healthy European citizens are concerned with cancer prevention. Let us encourage protection against the known risk factors, develop screening campaigns and strengthen the resources to help researchers better understand the causes of the disease. European citizens suffering from cancer expect equitable and rapid access to best treatments: let us promote the dissemination of good practices, the training of health professionals, and

the networks of excellence and data sharing on care, research and innovation. European cancer survivors demand the best conditions for reintegration : let us help them return to emotional and professional life in good conditions, and to have the « right to be forgotten.'



MEP Loucas Fourlas said:

'The establishment of the Special Committee on Cancer demonstrates that the EU is showing determination in the fight against cancer. We have already taken important steps towards fighting cancer, but Rome wasn't built in a day. We must continue to work all together, combining our research, our resources and our experience in order to beat the disease. As a co-chair of MEPs Against Cancer I am sure that the co-operation between our interest group and the Special Committee will be a strong and effective one.'



MEP Petra de Sutter stated:

'With this new committee on beating cancer, the European parliament can demonstrate its added value to the European citizens in the field of public health. I look forward to debate in this Committee on how to upscale prevention, fight inequalities within and between Member States, facilitate access to affordable medicines and increase funding for independent research. A focus on prevention will be essential, as this will not only benefits citizens, but also national health budgets. We must not only fight against cancer, but also its causes.'



MEP Miriam Dalli added:

'A stronger, unified position from the European Parliament can benefit our citizens, especially children. The EU needs to invest more in research to ensure the effective development of paediatric care and treatment. I am sure that a close cooperation with the special committee for cancer will strengthen the voice of patients and their loved ones.'