



**ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS DES HÔPITAUX  
EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS  
EUROPÄISCHE VEREINIGUNG DER LEITENDEN KRANKENHAUSÄRZTE  
EUROPESE VERENIGING VAN STAFARTSEN  
DEN EUROPÆISKE OVERLÆGEFORENING  
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΣ ΣΥΛΛΟΓΟΣ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΑΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΩΝ  
ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI  
DEN EUROPEISKE OVERLEGEFORENING  
ASSOCIAÇÃO EUROPEIA DOS MÉDICOS HOSPITALARES  
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ΕΒΡΟΠΕΪΣΚΑ ΑΣΟCΙΑCΙΑ ΝΑ ΣΤΑΡΣΗΤΕ ΒΟΛΝΗCΗΝΗ ΛΕΚΑΡΗ**

<b>Document :</b>	<b>AEMH 09-004</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Call for Support by the Bulgarian Medical Association and replies</b>
<b>Author :</b>	<b>AEMH European Secretariat</b>
<b>Purpose :</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Distribution :</b>	<b>AEMH Member Delegations</b>
<b>Date :</b>	<b>21 January 2009</b>



# БЪЛГАРСКИ ЛЕКАРСКИ СЪЮЗ

## BULGARIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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TO THE CPME  
TO THE AEMH, FEMS, PWG, UEMO  
TO THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS

Sofia, 30.12.2008

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing this letter to you to express deep concern about the current situation in Bulgaria where the politicians amend laws in order to be able to exercise unprecedented direct influence over the professional organization of physicians. Despite the fact that we have summoned and are preparing to hold a General Assembly of the Bulgarian Medical Association in the middle of January, the Bulgarian Minister of Health is now organizing in parallel another GA which is scheduled for January 10th.

Besides, political pressure is exercised upon individual members of the Council of the Bulgarian Medical Association and upon the leadership of local medical colleges.

All these acts are incompatible with the principles of democratic society. In our attempts to restore the dignity and self-governance of the medical profession we do urgently need any kind of support you could provide, including written statements concerning the rude political and administrative interference in the work of non-political professional organizations, which should be independent and self-governed.

May I wish you a very happy and successful New Year!

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Andrey Kehayov, m.d.  
President  
Bulgarian Medical Association

BELGISCHE VERENIGING VAN ARTSENSYNDICATEN  
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Brussels, 13.01.2009

O/ref. : 2/09/RL/md

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Copy to AEMH  
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Dear Colleague,

I would like on behalf of the Belgian Medical Association to bring you our support in the difficult circumstances you are meeting in your country.

The doctor's independence is not a privilege of the doctors but a vital patient's right; If not, there can not be trust from the patient any longer and this trust is necessary for the good therapeutical relationship.

As a matter of fact, doctors may only be independent if their association is also independent. Besides this independence of medical association is a major requirement to joint international medical association.

I wish you will resist any interference.

With my very best regards,

Doctor Roland LEMYE  
President

**El Presidente**

**Dr. Andrey Kchayov**  
**President**  
**BULGARIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**  
**15, Akademik Ivan Goshov Blvd**  
**1431 Sofia**  
**BULGARIA**

Madrid, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008

Dear President,

The Spanish General Medical Council wants to express to you its great concern by these facts, its solidarity and support to the necessity to maintain a strong representation system and a united medical profession that defends the interests of our patients over the pressures of the government, another person or institution interested in the opposite, so that an independent and qualified professional exercise is allowed to the doctor And exercise that contemplates the ethical, scientific and human aspects of Medicine - common values to all the European medical profession - and that all National Medical Associations promise to defend and support opposite to the interests and pressures of third parties.

We beg you to receive our major consideration and our firm support and solidarity in your effort for maintaining your association and the irrefutable values of the medical profession.

With warmest regards,



**Dr. Isacio Sigüero**  
**PRESIDENT**