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ASSOCIAZIONE EUROPEA DEI MEDICI OSPEDALIERI  
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EUROPEISKA ÖVERLÄKARFÖRENINGEN  
EVROPSKO ZDRŽENJE BOLNIŠNIČNIH ZDRAVINIKOV**

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<b>Purpose :</b>	Consequences and necessary measures of the European Court Decision of October 3, 2000.
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### **AEMH-Statement on Regulation of on call duties**

(adopted unanimously by the 55<sup>th</sup> AEMH-Plenary Meeting in Berlin September 7, 2002)

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Working conditions in European Hospitals have been influenced by the European Court Decision of October 3, 2000 defining regulations in the European working time directive (EWTD).

On one hand the regulation of working time of primary health care doctors in hospitals – considering on call duties as working time – must be accepted not only to the benefit of the doctors but also to the best of the patients.

On the other hand the regulation of hospital work according to the judgement of the European Court has the consequence of increasing costs and of reduced manpower. However, the necessary adjustments to the EWTD in the hospital sector should not result in reduced quality or reduced continuity of medical specialist care.

Therefore, the AEMH calls upon the decision-makers in politics and in hospital organisations to provide the hospital management with the financial and qualified human resources necessary to adjust hospital doctors' work to the requirements of the EWTD and the European Court Decision.