

EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST COMMERCIALISATION AND PRIVATISATION OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION



Warsaw, 6-7 October 2012

The *European network against commercialisation and privatisation of health*, which met in Warsaw on 6 and 7 October 2012, has reaffirmed its **essential principles** as defined in the Nanterre declaration of May 2012, i.e. **universal access, public funding or funding based on contributions**, depending on the country, **health that is protected against market logic** and genuine **health democracy**.

Health is a right for all. The Network demands equal access for all to health, without any restrictions whatsoever, whether financial, geographical, cultural, gender, background etc.

The Network champions public funding or funding based on social security contributions, depending on the country, taking each individual's ability to contribute into account.

In the view of the Network, the health care system should be based on public sector providers or those which are truly not for profit. Health is not a commodity. Anything involving health must be protected from the pursuit of profit, in particular when confronted by the appetite of multinational firms, which see a potential source of easy profits.

The Network intends to encourage health democracy by allowing the population and social players to play an active part in deciding the direction of health policies and how they will be implemented, in addition to how healthcare is managed, and this on all levels: organisation, funding, community healthcare, determining factors in healthcare.

Accomplishing these four issues involves putting a stop to liberal policies on a regional, national and European level. To this end, **the Network will:**

- encourage exchanges between members in different countries;
- produce analyses, proposals and joint demands;
- raise public awareness and make health-care players aware;
- mobilise and lead campaigns.

The Network intends its **strategy to be one of expansion** on all levels:

- to move from the idea of healthcare to address the deciding factors for health, that it is to say the right to work, labour conditions, housing, environment;
- to move from the struggle on the local and or professional level to more general, global campaigns, by rallying the public;

- increase the number of countries taking part in the Network and the number of organisations in the countries represented or existing on the European level, which share the common cause;
- move from concerns linked solely to healthcare in order to progress to a strategy targeting the causes of its deterioration, which are namely the convergence of European policies of austerity, instrumentalisation of debt, application of European treaties, including the fiscal compact;
- expand national analyses and campaigns to take European issues into account by way of wide-ranging debates.

In concrete terms, the Network's members undertake to **participate actively in the following plan:**

- the Network primarily intends to act as a tool for action/reaction when confronted with events and policies that affect our underlying principles;
- in order to increase and strengthen our ability to take action, members of the Network and the Network itself will spearhead systematic initiatives to make contact with organisations and networks in other countries; in this context, they will actively participate in strong national and international social encounters.
- based on active participation by its members, the Network will develop a shared comparison chart, for all countries, in order to enable different forms of privatisation and commercialisation and their effects on health to be studied, allowing proposals/demands to be produced. To achieve this, a European project can be initiated;
- the Network will pursue the organisation of a secretary's office, by seeking researches on the local, regional or European level.

In order to implement the different decisions adopted during the Warsaw conference, a working group will be convened in Paris in the second half of January 2013.

Contact: sebastian.franco@sante-solidarite.be

www.europe-health-network.net