

European Elections 2014 Electoral Manifesto for the paediatric oncology and haematology community

During the 2009-2014 European Parliament mandate, a small and very active group of MEPs proactively supported the paediatric oncology and haematology community. The next European Parliament shall sustain and reinforce its support against paediatric cancer. In May 2014, European citizens will have the opportunity to change the future of Europe for the better by electing the new members of the European Parliament. Some of our younger citizens deeply need this change happening as quickly as possible.

Despite progresses made over the last 50 years, Paediatric cancer is still a major public health issue in Europe:

- Each year more than **15,000** children and adolescents are diagnosed with cancer in Europe;
- **3,000** patients die of cancer each year and cancer remains the first cause of death by disease in Europe in children older than 1 year;
- Up to **500,000** European citizens are survivors of a paediatric cancer and it is estimated there will be **nearly 1 Million by 2020 – 2025**;
- **20% to 40% of survivors** experience **long-term side-effects** which may be severe and affect their daily life.

By signing this manifesto, I declare my awareness and my willingness to support the paediatric oncology and haematology community in Europe in fighting childhood cancer.

Together with the **European Society for Paediatric Oncology (SIOPE)**, the only pan-European organisation representing all professionals working in the field of childhood cancers, and the **European representative of the International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations (ICCCPO)** I will contribute towards ensuring the paediatric oncology and haematology community are heard and will actively work for the achievement of the following objectives:

- Promote equal access to standard treatments, care, follow-up and clinical research across Europe;
- Reduce the survival gap in low/middle-income Member States, where the survival rate is 10 to 20% lower compared to high income Member States;
- Address the insufficient national and European funding for specific research (basic, translational and clinical) on paediatric cancers;
- Support the establishment of European initiatives aimed to incentivise the development of specific innovative medicines for children and adolescents with cancer;
- Support appropriate follow-up measures for paediatric cancer survivors, so to tackle long-term toxicities of treatments and their consequences;
- Advocate that each Member State will put in place social policies aimed at supporting children and adolescents with cancer and their families during and after the treatment period;
- Proactively monitor the EU legislative processes in order to guarantee that new initiatives will enhance healthcare and research in paediatric oncology and haematology.



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Other Members of the European Parliament:

- Mr Pino Arlacchi MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, Italy
- Mr Jean-Louis Cottigny MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, France
- Mr Matthias Groote MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, Germany
- Ms Sylvie Guillaume MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, France
- Mr Mario Pirillo MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament, Italy
- Ms Christine Revault d'Allonnes-Bonnefoy MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, France
- Mr Marc Tarabella MEP, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, Belgium
- Mr Keith Taylor MEP, Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance, United Kingdom