

European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines

Joint Declaration

We, representatives of civil society - consumer, patient and public health organisations - have formed the **European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines**.

In Europe and worldwide, the price of new medicines is rising year on year, especially where there is no therapeutic alternative. As a result, treatment for life-threatening infections and diseases, like HIV/AIDS, cancer and hepatitis C, are increasingly unaffordable for both individuals and national health systems. This is the result of an ineffective and costly research and development (R&D) system that rewards new medicines with fixed-term monopolies (patents) and encourages unaffordable price setting. This patent-based system grants pharmaceutical companies monopolies, which allow them to charge exorbitant prices totally unconnected to the cost of developing and manufacturing the medicines. Urgent measures must be taken to ensure that people can afford the medicines they need. At the same time, new models of R&D must be engaged to meet therapeutic needs.

We call for the creation of an R&D system that is driven by public health needs and delivers medicines that are universally accessible and affordable.

For this to be achieved:

- New medicines should be safe, effective and offer real therapeutic progress.
- Relevant data should be in the public domain so it can be independently and transparently assessed.
- Pharmaceutical R&D must not be driven by monopoly protection, which results in high medicine prices.
- Pharmaceutical R&D should result in public goods and medicines that are needed and affordable.
- The pharmaceutical policy process should be fully transparent and developed in consultation with independent stakeholders to avoid conflicts of interest.

We call on policymakers to:

- **Secure affordable prices now.** Address urgent access and affordability issues for life-saving medicines by negotiating lower medicine prices and using effective price control mechanisms, including compulsory licences.
- **Put an end to pharmaceutical monopolies.** Promote generic and biosimilar competition, including stimulating their uptake by healthcare programmes, doctors and patients, and increase scrutiny of anti-competitive practices by the pharmaceutical industry.
- **Implement full transparency** of pharmaceutical R&D, as well as medicine price setting, by:
 - Promoting open access to research data, including data from early stage research and all clinical trials, for both existing and new medicines;
 - Fully disclosing and tracking public and private funding for pharmaceutical R&D;
 - Establishing a publicly accessible database where national or regional health systems publish the actual price of medicines that they negotiate, including discounts and rebates.
- **Promote a new biomedical R&D model by:**
 - Committing increased public funds to support a needs-driven approach to pharmaceutical R&D that does not rely on monopoly protection and high prices. New R&D models which delink the incentive to develop medicines from the expectation of high prices could include innovation inducement prizes, patent pools, open source research, product development partnerships and publicly led and funded R&D;
 - Introducing conditions to public R&D funding that ensure biomedical research results in suitable and affordable medicines (e.g. non-exclusive licensing policies, open access publishing and data sharing and health-needs-driven priority setting).

The **European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines** is comprised of the following consumer, patient and public health organisations:

Aktivni Potrebiteli/Active Consumers - www.aktivnipotrebiteli.bg
Aktionsbündnis gegen AIDS - www.aids-kampagne.de
AIDES - www.aides.org
Aids Action Europe - www.aidsactioneurope.org
All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) - www.network.org.ua
Altroconsumo - www.altroconsumo.it
APC Romania - Vocea Consumatorilor - www.apc-romania.ro
BEUC - The European Consumer Organisation - www.beuc.eu
Brot für die Welt - www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de
Buko Pharma-Kampagne - www.bukopharma.de
CoalitionPLUS - www.coalitionplus.org
Cochrane - www.cochrane.org
Collectif Interassociatif Sur la Santé - CISS - www.leciss.org
Commons Network - www.commonsnetwork.eu
Confederacion de Consumidores y Usuarios - CECU - www.ceu.es
Consumatori Italiani per l'Europa - www.cie-europa.eu
Consumentenbond - www.consumentenbond.nl
Consumers' Association of Ireland - CAI - www.thecai.ie
Consumers' Organisation of Macedonia - OPM - www.opm.org.mk
Consumers' Protection Center - KEPKA - www.kepka.org
Cyprus Consumers' Association - www.cyprusconsumers.org.cy, www.katanalotis.org.cy
DECO - www.deco.proteste.pt
Der Paritätische Gesamtverband - www.paritaet.org
Deutsche Plattform Globale Gesundheit - DPGG - www.plattformglobalegesundheit.de
Dying for a Cure - www.dyingforacure.org
ECUO - East Europe and Central Asia Union of PLWH - www.ecuo.org
EKPIZO - www.ekpizo.gr
European Public Health Alliance - EPHA - www.ephpa.org
European AIDS Treatment Group - EATG - www.eatg.org
Farmamundi - www.farmaceuticosmundi.org
Federacja Konsumentow - www.federacja-konsumentow.org.pl
Forbrugerrådet Tænk - www.taenk.dk
Forbrukerradet - www.forbrukerradet.no
GAT Portugal - www.gatportugal.org
Global Health Advocates - GHA - www.ghadvocates.org
Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS - www.gyca.org
Health Action International - HAI - www.haiweb.org
Health and Trade Network - www.healthandtradenetwork.org
Health Projects for Latvia - www.veselibasprojekti.lv
Hepatitis Scotland - www.hepatitisscotland.org.uk
International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine - www.aidsalliance.org.ua
International Society of Drug Bulletins - www.isdbweb.org, prescrire.org
IPPNW Germany - www.ippnw.de
Knowledge Ecology International - KEI - www.keionline.org
Kuluttajaliitto - Konsumentförbundet ry - www.kuluttajaliitto.fi
LVOA - Lietuvos vartotojų organizacijų aljansas - www.lvoa.lt
Medecins du Monde/Doctors of the world - www.medecinsdumonde.org
Medicines in Europe Forum
Medicines Law and Policy
medico international - www.medico.de
MEZIS e.V. - Mein Essen zahl ich selbst - www.mezis.de
Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign - www.msfacecess.org
Mundo Sano - www.mundosano.org
Neytendasamtökin - NS - www.ns.is
NoGracias - www.nogracias.eu
Organizacion de Consumidores y Usuarios - OCU - www.ocu.org
PRAKSIS - www.praksis.gr
Public Eye (formerly Berne Declaration) - www.publiceye.ch
Restless Development - www.restlessdevelopment.org
Salud por Derecho - www.saludporderecho.org
STOPAIDS - www.stopaids.org.uk
Sveriges Konsumenter - www.sverigeskonsumenter.se
Test Aankoop - Test Achats - www.test-aankoop.be, www.test-achats.be
Transparency International Pharmaceuticals & Healthcare Programme - www.transparency.org.uk
Universities Allied for Essential Medicines - UAEM - www.uaem.org
UFC - Que Choisir - www.quechoisir.org

Verein demokratischer Ärztinnen und Ärzte (Association of Democratic Doctors Germany) - www.vdaee.de

Verein demokratischer Pharmazentinnen und Pharmazeuten - VdPP - www.vdpp.de

Verein für Konsumenteninformation - VKI - www.konsument.at

Wemos - www.wemos.nl

Youth Stop AIDS - www.youthstopaids.org

Zveza Potrošnikov Slovenije - ZPS - www.zps.si