

DECADE OF THE SPECIALIST NURSE 2020-2030

INTERNATIONAL NURSING DAY IN BRUSSELS

PRESS CLUB, RUE FROISSART 95, BRUSSEL, Thursday 12 May, 15.30 – 18.00

Dear ladies and gentlemen's,

Dear friends and colleagues,

On behalf of European Specialist Nurses Organization and myself I want to thank you for sharing this important moment with us. Thank you for being present (onsite or virtually) at celebration of International Nursing day and starting of campaign "Decade of Specialist Nurses 2020 - 2030"

International Nursing Day is a birthday of Florence Nightingale who established modern nursing and we all celebrate across the world. This is very special day for all nurses and off course for specialist nurses too. During this day we want to send messages of the importance of nurses to the governments and all relevant bodies, we want to raise voice and assure better position for nurses all around Europe and world. For this year theme of International Nursing day is Nurses: Voice to Lead – Invest in Nursing Care and Assure Global Health. General message is importance of investment in nursing care if we want to have health for all.

Global pandemic of COVID 19 changed the world. In one second we become locked in our cities and countries. We were not ready for a treats and witnessed how global situation and healthcare can be changed in a moment. Nevertheless, healthcare workers, especially specialist nurses (critical care, anaesthesia, emergency) took a burden of the global crisis and helped override it. Specialist nurses showed to be the backbone of the European healthcare system in pandemic period, we got applaud and it is appreciated but we need a little more to be better recognized and have better position within the EU regulation.

Not only nurses deserve better preparedness, overall society deserve better healthcare, YOU deserve it!

War in Ukraine also changing our life's, gave us feeling of unsafely, and showed again how social situation can be fragile. No one expected to have another war in Europe, but unfortunately that is also the fact we cannot avoid. From this place WE strongly support our colleagues nurses, doctors, and other healthcare workers, and calling for peace. Not only peace in Ukraine, we cry for global peace.

We are very happy to be here in Brussels, without protective masks and joining with our friends and partners. I was happy to be able fly from Zagreb to here and be present with all of you to this special event. Event we will share via social networks with all our colleagues.

Vision and mission of ESNO is recognition of specialist nurses within the European Union, harmonizing of training and mobility and we are very persistence in that direction. We hope that all of you will help us on this path. I want to thanks DG Sante and Maya Mathews for supporting us, and we are quite sure that with this support and constant work we can achieve everything. Even we are moving with small steps, it is about direction, and we are pushing forward all the time.

With to today's event and with Campaign "Decade of Nurses Specialist 2020 – 20230" we want to raise awareness of the importance of specialist nurses. **Specialist nurses are the paradigm of future of all healthcare systems.**

Time of generic nurses slowly is fading, and advances in medicine, new technologies constantly pushing us forward and urges us to specialize in specific fields. The nursing future is in nursing specializations and this issue have to be addressed trough European institution. It is not our only our wish, IT IS NEEDED FOR SOCIETY for efficiency of healthcare towards the new future.

We have a knowledge and expertise, wide network, and we are open for collaborative activities and help.

At the end I want to thank you all for being present to this event and I want to congratulate INTERNATIONAL NURSING DAY to all specialist nurses across the Europe and worldwide.

ALL NURSES ARE SPECIAL TO US.

Adriano Friganovic, president ESNO