

Dear colleagues,

I am proud and honored to have been elected as the new ECPCP president.

I am aware that following the path marked by giants like our past Presidents: our beloved Elke, Gottfried, Angel, and Shimon will be hard work, but I'll try to do my best, thanks also to the support of a wonderful new EB, incidentally, almost entirely feminine.

First of all, I am deeply convinced that the primary care pediatricians are the most competent and appropriate healthcare providers for children and adolescents with both acute and chronic diseases, through which they could receive services with the best obtainable quality and not merely average, affordable services: they are our future.

- Therefore, our aim must be to convince Governments too.

- Secondly, primary care pediatrics should keep pace with the evolution of society, for better implementation of their tasks. So, the following should be our priorities:

- **Environmental issues**, as climate change and environmental pollution, because they are the major threats of the 21st century for children's and adolescents' health and safety. This is an overarching issue that also includes migrants' waves, food insecurity, and vector borne diseases. Regarding this I will suggest an open letter to governments, to share with all the pediatric European associations, since there is no more time to lose.
- **Advocacy**, that means not only defending children's rights according to all the aspects of United Nations children's rights convention, as vaccinations, protection against child neglect and abuse, but promoting and supporting particularly children's neurodevelopment and adolescents' mental health, other major threats of our time. Therefore, implementing the principles of Nurturing Care Framework (WHO-UNICEF document) could be a way to start acting.
- **Research**: Our questions for research arise from our daily work with many children, our practices are our labs which provide the answers to our questions. Pediatric health services research is critical for the implementation of good clinical practice in pediatric ambulatory care, selecting research questions from the analysis of the health needs of our patients and their families in primary care, doing clinical studies and then publishing them, is the necessary access key to be known and considered. We need to apply ourselves more on this issue, perhaps with appropriate collaborations.
 - **Education/Training**, evidence-based high quality training, focused on primary care, but open to collaboration with all health care professionals involved in pediatric care, as required by the ECPCP curriculum. I think that a competency-based training in pediatric primary care should become compulsory for all providers of medical care for children in European countries, see "ECPCP Toledo Statement on primary care pediatric education and training" published by ECPCP.
- **Communication**, because in today's complex and interconnected world sharing common goals and strategies is the best way to achieve our objectives, not only with families, but also in terms of relationships with other European pediatric scientific societies, while maintaining both the definition of pediatric primary care as an independent discipline and the specificity of the ECPCP. Furthermore, the ECPCP Executive Board has produced and published numerous statements and recommendations concerning our viewpoint on current subjects, as the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, and we have to go on this way.

Lastly, I want to thank all the people who supported, helped, and appreciated my candidacy, in working for ECPCP, I hope to be helpful to the affirmation of PCPs in Europe.

Laura Reali, Tel Aviv, 19/03/2023