

Pledge for Cardiovascular Health

- *Make the European Union a force for protecting and promoting cardiovascular health*
 - *Strive to have EU Member States working together to address heart disease and stroke*
 - *Call on the EU Member States to adopt national strategies to promote cardiovascular health and prevent cardiovascular disease*
 - *Call for continued financial support for further research into preventing cardiovascular disease and promoting cardiovascular health at local, national and European levels*
 - *Call on the European Commission to encourage initiatives and collaboration with interested stakeholders which aim to contribute to a socio-economic environment conducive to cardiovascular health*
 - *Take into account potential impact on cardiovascular health when voting on EU legislation*
 - *Help improve the availability of high-quality, comparative data that will allow effective diagnosis and treatment and provide benchmarks for cost-effectiveness, benefiting people and the economy*
- 

MEP HEART GROUP

General Statistics on Cardiovascular Disease (CVD):

- ➔ CVD kills 1.9 million people in the EU each year
- ➔ CVD accounts for 52% of female deaths and 42% of male deaths in the EU
- ➔ The burden of CVD is extremely uneven in the EU:
 - Death rates from coronary heart disease are generally higher in Central and Eastern Europe than in Northern, Southern and Western Europe
 - Death rates from stroke are many times higher in Central and Eastern Europe than in Northern, Southern and Western Europe
- ➔ CVD is estimated to cost the EU economy over €196 billion a year
- ➔ Health care expenditure on CVD varies from 4% in Luxembourg to 17% in Estonia, Latvia and Poland

Since 2007, the MEP Heart Group in the European Parliament has actively promoted measures that will help reduce the burden of CVD in Europe and raise CVD as a priority on the EU political agenda. The Group works in collaboration with the European Heart Network (EHN) and the European Society of Cardiology (ESC).



fighting heart disease
and stroke
european heart network



www.mepheartgroup.eu
secretariat@mepheartgroup.eu