

**CELEBRATING
40 YEARS
1980-2020**

ECL Members' Information Booklet





The **Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)** is a non-profit organisation that unites, supports and represents cancer leagues across the WHO European region.

Established in 1980 by prominent NGOs and experts, and based in Brussels (Belgium), ECL provides a voice and forum for cancer leagues to collaborate and share knowledge, primarily in the areas of **cancer prevention, tobacco control, access to medicines and patient support**, and create opportunities to advocate for these issues at the EU level and beyond. ECL is governed by a [Board of Directors](#) and managed by the [Executive Director and her team](#).

ECL members are cancer societies operating across the whole cancer continuum and patient pathway. Cancer leagues are the main resource for the public for cancer control information and services.

From Iceland to Cyprus, cancer leagues contribute to preventing and fighting cancer by, amongst other things, raising awareness and educating people about cancer, investing in research and providing support to cancer patients and their families during and after treatment.

Our member leagues together employ more than 8,000 people and over 300,000 volunteers. They spend more than €750 million every year to fight cancer and represent over 570 million citizens.

Since its establishment, ECL has grown in achievements and leadership, earning a reputation for being an independent and objective voice in cancer control.

ECL's eminent status in Europe today is due to the successful collaboration with its members, other NGOs, research institutes and global and European institutions, including the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), the European Commission and the European Parliament.

ECL is proud to provide the Secretariat for the [MEPs Against Cancer \(MAC\)](#) interest group at the European Parliament.

ECL is a founding member of the [European Fair Pricing Network \(EFPN\)](#) - an EU-wide collaborative network aiming to put an end to the escalating costs of cancer medicines for the benefit of cancer patients through complementary research and advocacy efforts.

ECL is a full member of the [Health and Environment Alliance \(HEAL\)](#), the [European Public Health Alliance \(EPHA\)](#), the [European Cancer Organisation \(ECO\)](#) and the [COVID-19 and Cancer Global Taskforce](#). ECL is also an affiliate member of [Cancer Prevention Europe](#) and of the [COVID-19 and Cancer Global Modelling Consortium](#).

ECL is proudly co-financed by the Health Programme of the European Union. ECL has been awarded annual operating grants through the Third Health Programme (2014-2020) since 2015 and plans to apply for funding under the EU4Health 2021-2027 programme.



Co-funded by
the Health Programme
of the European Union

Vision: A Europe free of cancers

Mission: To advocate for improved cancer control and care in Europe

Primary objectives:

- ⌘ To influence cancer control policies;
- ⌘ To promote cancer prevention;
- ⌘ To enhance access to cancer screening and early diagnosis;
- ⌘ To ensure equal access to high-value cancer treatments for all cancer patients;
- ⌘ To develop actions supporting cancer patients, survivors and caregivers;
- ⌘ To grow membership and increase the impact of cancer leagues across Europe.

In addressing these objectives ECL focuses on:

- ⌘ Urging European institutions and governments to ensure cancer is a political priority and take action;
- ⌘ Developing capacity building initiatives to strengthen cancer leagues and coordinating ECL working groups;
- ⌘ Convening members, partners and EU leaders through key events and campaigns.

Advocacy

We create a unified voice for cancer leagues and bring cancer to the attention of policy makers, civil servants and leaders at the EU level. Our publications are used by policymakers to understand the needs and wants of our members and the patients, survivors, caregivers and citizens they represent. Our advocacy work ensures that the priorities and views of our members are heard, considered and impactful throughout the EU decision-making process. We support members in influencing national and EU policies.

Capacity Building

We increase cancer leagues' impact by (i) coordinating and supporting ECL working groups collaborating on shared priority areas, (ii) accelerating learning through expert guidance and peer-to-peer connections, and (iii) developing good practice guidance and resources. We have strong links with leading global and European institutions and organisations, and help our members, youth ambassadors and MEPs link up with experts. We empower young professionals and students to promote and disseminate the European Code Against Cancer at the national, regional and local level and facilitate opportunities for training and networking with experienced leaders. We offer our members and youth ambassadors the chance of engaging and participating in high-level international events and meetings.

Convening

We exist to promote the interests of our members, as well as the patients and citizens they serve, who all want to see a Europe free of cancers. We provide a forum for cancer professionals and experienced societies to share best practices and support new entrants facilitating collaboration through our increasing network of members and partners. Our regular online and in person events facilitate knowledge sharing, from this we see big ideas flourish. We unite cancer control experts and policy makers in premier events, such as the [European Conferences on Tobacco or Health \(ECToH\)](#). We raise awareness and bring together the cancer community to call for EU action through [European Week Against Cancer \(EWAC\)](#).

ECL's key activities include:

-  Disseminating and promoting the [European Code against Cancer \(ECAC\)](#)
-  Coordinating the [Prevention and Early Detection Working Group \(P&EDWG\)](#)
-  Managing the [ECL Youth Ambassadors for the ECAC programme](#)
-  Organising the [European Conferences on Tobacco or Health \(ECToH\)](#)
-  Coordinating the [Access to Medicines Task Force \(A2M TF\)](#)
-  Coordinating the [Patient Support Working Group \(PSWG\)](#)
-  Providing the Secretariat for the [MEPs Against Cancer \(MAC\)](#) interest group at the European Parliament
-  Collaborating with other NGOs, research institutes, and EU and global institutions on cancer control issues at the EU and pan-European level
-  Advocating for policy development and effective programme implementation for cancer control.



www.europeancancerleagues.org



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Sakari Karjalainen, President of the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), Secretary General of the Cancer Society of Finland, Finnish Cancer Registry, and the Cancer Foundation of Finland



Celebrating 40 years of reducing the impact of cancer on people’s lives

The Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), a network of national and regional cancer leagues all over Europe, is celebrating 40 years of actions to reduce the impact of cancer. It was founded in Rome by 14 prominent leagues and 21 well-known cancer experts in 1980, to fight against a disease that was considered a death sentence at the time. Cancer knows no borders and is relentless. And so has been our collective determination to fight it.

In the 1980s, cancer mortality was projected to rise beyond the year 2000. Today, not only have mortality rates in Europe declined, but we have sufficient knowledge to prevent half of all cancers. Our members have helped translate scientific findings into concrete actions. What seemed impossible is now a reality.

ECL members are the main public resource for cancer control information and services. Sharing the ambition of eliminating cancer, nothing less is good enough for us or for the citizens, patients and survivors we serve. The ECL network has empowered cancer leagues to accelerate cancer research and actions to support patients and their loved ones.

In 40 years of existence, ECL has grown in achievements and leadership. ECL’s eminent status in cancer control in Europe today is due to successful collaboration, including with the World Health Organization, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the European Commission, the European Parliament and others.

Co-funding from the European Union has enabled ECL to intensify our work, especially in influencing policy, raising awareness of prevention through the European Code Against Cancer, encouraging Youth Ambassadors to improve dissemination among young people, and enhancing networking opportunities for leagues to share best practice and collaborate more efficiently, especially to reduce health inequalities.

The Future

In the next 40 years, we seek to put ourselves out of business. Our vision is nothing less than a future without cancer. To

some this will sound utopian. How can we aim for a cancer-free Europe when experts are predicting that more people will be diagnosed with cancer because we are living longer, and cancer is an age-related set of diseases?

While we do not have all the answers, the following considerations will be key:

- Prevention is the best cure.
- A more robust approach to research on innovative cancer prevention and treatment solutions is needed.
- Cancer is a health inequality issue that cannot be resolved by the health sector alone.
- A substantial amount of data and expertise is available across the continent; we must collaborate to make the most of these tools.

Our major projects for this anniversary year are to:

- encourage countries to step up tobacco control efforts such as outlined in the new tobacco control country ranking report (www.tobaccocontrolscale.org)
- ensure that EU policies and the regulatory environment support collaboration across the cancer community and strengthen the role of representative organisations, such as the ECL
- shape the #EUCancerPlan and Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goal 3.4.

Call to Action

On this 40th anniversary, ECL calls on everyone to join the dedicated efforts of cancer leagues. As the European Commissioner Kyriakides said at a conference on Better Access to Cancer Treatment, in December 2019, “We don’t have to look too far for inspiration. The European Cancer Leagues are doing incredible work.” Our impact on cancer control and our good reputation are based on the strong influence of cancer leagues all over Europe.

Together, we can make beating cancer a Mission Possible.

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ECL member since 1980

FOUNDATION AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

Established in 1924, the Foundation Against Cancer Belgium (Fondation contre le Cancer/ Stichting tegen Kanker) is one of the major players in the fight against cancer in Belgium. The Foundation aims to 'turning hope into victory' by increasing the chances of curing cancers and transforming incurable cancers into chronic diseases through research, information campaigns and practical support to cancer patients and survivors.

The Foundation advocates for better public health policies, notably it contributed to the establishment of the Belgian Cancer Registry in 2006 and was involved in the development of the National Cancer Plan in 2008.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Foundation is a national and independent organisation, with regional coordinators in each Belgian province, including the German-speaking community. It is led by a pluralistic and Board of volunteers co-chaired by Professors Pierre Coulie and Eric Van Cutsem. The Managing Director is Benoit Koerperich. The administration of the organisation counts over 72 employees and 700 volunteers. For the selection and evaluation of research projects, the Foundation benefits from the expertise of two independent bodies: the 'Basic Research' and the 'Translational and Clinical Research' scientific councils. The Foundation collaborates with the international networks EORTC and ICISG.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Foundation is active in three main areas:

- ⚡ Funding scientific research and psychosocial projects that improve the chances of survival and the quality of life of patients and their loved ones through research grants, social grants and services.
- ⚡ Running awareness campaigns and events, including Relay for Life, Cancerinfo, Tabacstop and Tournée Minerale.
- ⚡ Mobilising stakeholders, building partnerships and encouraging the government to always go a step further in the fight against cancer.



“By convening different organisations involved in prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and care of cancer patients, ECL adds an extra value to each organisation and facilitates lobbying at EU level. Together we are much stronger and can achieve more.”

Marc Michils
CEO

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ECL member since 1998

STAND UP TO CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1989, Kom op tegen Kanker/ Stand up to Cancer is a leading non-governmental organisation active in the fight against cancer in the Flemish community of Belgium. Its mission is to reduce the burden of cancer, increase survival and improve the quality of life of Flemish people living with cancer.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

Stand up to Cancer is both an association and a public foundation representing all key Flemish stakeholders active in the fight against cancer. A pluralistic Board of Directors - composed by representatives of universities, sickness funds, patient organisations, and volunteers – guide the organisation in fulfilling its mission. The President of the organisation is Professor Jean-Jacques Cassiman. Frank Deboosere acts as the campaign leader and Marc Michils is the current CEO. The association counts 88 employees and about 10,000 volunteers active in fundraising and patient support activities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Stand up to Cancer is active in five main areas:

-  Setting up and supporting social services for cancer patients.
-  Running information and cancer prevention campaigns.
-  Supporting cancer research projects.
-  Advocating and lobbying for patients' rights.
-  Organising fundraising activities.



"The Croatian League Against Cancer was the first legal entity after the international recognition of Croatia as an independent state to be admitted as a member of ECL in 1992. We joined the European family of cancer leagues to work and collaborate as a team, support all ECL activities at the pan-European level and disseminate messages and campaigns."

Prof. Dr. Damir Eljuga
President

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ECL members since 1992

CROATIAN LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

Established in 1967, the Hrvatska liga protiv raka/ Croatian League Against Cancer, is the oldest non-profit anti-cancer organisation in Croatia. The organisation works towards a cancer-free Croatia and aims to contribute to reducing avoidable deaths by highlighting the crucial importance of prevention, promoting cancer screening and supporting patient groups.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Croatian League is made up of 1 full-time employee, 10 volunteers and 60 members. The President of the league is Prof. Dr. Damir Eljuga. The Vice-Presidents are: Dr. Ilona Sušac, Prof. Ivanka Spalj and Nada Jambrek. The League's Secretariat is composed by the Secretary General Neda Ferenčić Vrban and professional secretary Dr. Domagoj Eljuga.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Croatian League is active in five main areas:

- 🎗 Publishing and translating medical books, resources and guides.
- 🎗 Running information and cancer prevention campaigns, including Daffodil Day, Pink Ribbon Day, Healthy Breast Day, Movember and Mimosa Day.
- 🎗 Convening and aid information sharing and training for healthcare professionals by (co)-organising scientific oncology conferences, congresses and symposia.
- 🎗 Coordinating patients' groups and providing them with psychosocial support.
- 🎗 Organising fundraising activities.



"As a member of the ECL, we can share best practices and participate in various projects with our European counterparts. We translate the feedback of EU-level discussions in advocacy actions in Cyprus to promote patients' rights. ECL provides us access to useful data, guidelines, and toolkits, such as the European Code Against Cancer, which we use to share information with our patients and raise awareness on cancer among the public."

Maria Ioannidou
CEO

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ECL member since 2000

THE CYPRUS ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1971, the Cyprus Anti-Cancer Society is a non-profit organisation with the mission of improving the quality of life of cancer patients, their families, and caregivers by providing a comprehensive array of palliative care services. The Society strives to ensure that every cancer patient receives the care and support they need during their cancer journeys. The Society raises awareness about cancer prevention and early detection, diagnosis, treatment, and palliative care. It also contributes to the development and implementation of the national strategy on cancer, and advocates for the rights of cancer patients.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Cyprus Anti-Cancer Society is a national organisation with offices in all five regions of the island. It is governed by a 20-member Board of Directors, chaired by Dr. Adamos Adamou. Its 6-member Executive Board is responsible for assisting in the planning and implementation of the Society's strategy. The CEO, Maria Ioannidou, oversees operations and a team of over 100 staff members. The Society's work is supported by over 500 volunteers and several committees.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Society is active in five areas:

- 🎗️ Providing comprehensive, free of charge, palliative care services to cancer patients, including medical and nursing care, physiotherapy and lymphedema therapy, psycho-social, and spiritual support as well as complementary therapies.
- 🎗️ Psychological support services to family members and caregivers.
- 🎗️ Public cancer awareness and non-smoking campaigns.
- 🎗️ Healthcare professionals training in palliative care.
- 🎗️ Cancer patient rights' advocacy.



THE CYPRUS ASSOCIATION OF CANCER PATIENTS & FRIENDS



"The ECL membership has been very valuable and beneficial throughout the years. We particularly benefit from collaborations and the sharing of best practices with the Secretariat and other members in the areas of cancer prevention, cancer research, patients support and advocacy."

Nicolas Philippou
CEO

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ECL member since 1992

MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF) is to improve and safeguard the quality of life of cancer patients and their families at all stages of the disease. PASYKAF also aims to (i) promote cancer prevention and early detection and (ii) ensure high-quality cancer management, from using the most up-to-date prevention practices and organised population screening programmes to high-quality treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care services.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

PASYKAF is a registered charity established in 1986 as a voluntary, non-governmental association. The association is made up of 5,500 members and 750 volunteers. The Board of Directors, which currently has 15 members, is elected by the General Assembly every 3 years. By constitution, the majority of Board members are always patients or survivors. The President of the Board is Dr. Anna Achilleoudi. Nicolas Philippou, the CEO, is responsible for the implementation of the strategic goals set by the Board of Directors and to oversee the work of over 80 employees.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The organisation is active in six areas:

- ⌘ Comprehensive and personalised home palliative and medical care services.
- ⌘ Psychological support services to patients, family members, caregivers and survivors, including psychotherapy groups, individual therapy and post-therapy and bereavement support.
- ⌘ Social support, including providing practical assistance on social welfare matters.
- ⌘ Rehabilitation services, including physiotherapy, lymphoedema treatment, acupuncture, electrotherapy and deep oscillation as well as comprehensive programmes.
- ⌘ Patient transfer services from all provinces to the Nicosia and Limassol oncology centres.
- ⌘ Public prevention and early detection awareness campaigns and quit smoking support programme.



"ECL is an inspiring, supportive and very relevant platform for exchanging experiences and best practices with other cancer organisations across Europe."

Iva Kurcová
Director

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ECL member since 1993

LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER PRAGUE

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1990, the Liga proti rakovině Praha/League against Cancer Prague is a non-profit organisation which strives to reduce cancer mortality in Czech Republic by systematically informing the general public about cancer and healthy lifestyles, improving the quality of life for cancer patients, as well as supporting cancer research, quality teaching and investment in oncology centres.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

Founded in 1990, the Liga proti rakovině Praha/League against Cancer Prague is a non-profit organisation which strives to reduce cancer mortality in Czech Republic by systematically informing the general public about cancer and healthy lifestyles, improving the quality of life for cancer patients, as well as supporting cancer research, quality teaching and investment in oncology centres.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The organisation is active in four main areas:

- 🎗 Running information and cancer prevention campaigns, including Czech Day Against Cancer, Daffodil Day, Health days, World Cancer Day.
- 🎗 Running a cancer telephone line to provide cancer prevention information, counselling services and arrange personal consultations.
- 🎗 Organising lectures and symposia to better inform the public about risk factors contributing to cancer development.
- 🎗 Fundraising and providing financial support to hospices, oncology centres and research projects.



Danish Cancer Society



"ECL is an important 'spokesperson' for the cancer cause and acts as the eyes and ears of cancer leagues in Brussels. ECL has been of particular help with tobacco control, alcohol and GDPR issues ensuring, for instance, that the latter would be research-friendly, avoiding a disaster for the sharing of cancer research data within the EU. ECL is an inspiring forum for exchanging new ideas and experiences."

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ECL member since 1981

DANISH CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The Danish Cancer Society (DCS) aims to ensure that as few people as possible get cancer, that as many as possible survive cancer, and that life with and after cancer is as good as possible for patients and their relatives alike. Until 2025, the DCS will focus its efforts on three indicators to achieve its mission, namely: (i) one step ahead of cancer, (ii) reduce cancer inequality and (iii) no-one should be alone with cancer. DCS strive to make sure that anyone grappling with cancer is heard, and that the healthcare system involves patients and their relatives in all major decisions and takes the wishes and needs of the patients into account.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The DCS has more than 400,000 members organised in 98 local committees and over 45,000 volunteers doing what corresponds to around 870 full-time jobs. With around 690 full-time employees, the Society therefore has more volunteers than employees. The Society is a democratic membership organisation, whose course is charted by its volunteers and members. Volunteers represent the highest authority of the Society - they elect the President, set rules and policies, and identify focus areas and priorities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⌘ Investing and engaging in research to help develop and implement evidence-based responses to current and future challenges in cancer care.
- ⌘ Offering professional counselling and services to people affected by cancer. The services are offered free of charge in drop-in counselling centres throughout the country, by telephone counsellors and a Cancer Hotline.
- ⌘ Promoting cancer prevention and prevention-centred policies, including the messages within the European Code Against Cancer.
- ⌘ Carrying out information campaigns and projects in collaborations with volunteers and in partnerships with public institutions, companies, trade unions and health organisations.



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ECL member since 2000

FAROESE CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the Faroese Cancer Society is to increase awareness of cancer prevention and care, assist cancer patients and their families as well as fund cancer research projects and influence local authorities to ensure better treatment and outcomes for people affected by cancer. The Society is in regular contact with local hospitals and other healthcare institutions in and outside the Faroe Islands.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Society is governed by a 5-member Board, which includes doctors, nurses and former patients, who are elected at the Annual General Assembly. The Chair of the Board is Durita Tausen and the Director is Jansy Gaardlykke. The Society has 3 members of staff, 40 volunteers and 1,500 members.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

-  Offering counselling, social support and information through a free telephone helpline.
-  Raising awareness of cancer issues by organising regular conferences, lectures, courses, theme days etc. for patients, their families, caregivers and survivors.
-  Providing psychosocial support and recreational services, including individual therapy, skincare master classes for women undergoing chemotherapy, and counselling for spouses and family members.
-  Coordinating 8 self-help groups.
-  Funding cancer research.
-  Providing grants to support families affected by cancer through the 'Assistance Fund'.



Cancer Society
of Finland



“ECL member organisations are vital in providing services and information about cancer to citizens across Europe. Sharing the same ambition of eliminating cancer, we are learning from each other in a fast-moving world. The ECL network greatly empowers cancer leagues. Working towards a Europe free of cancers unites us and motivates us every day.”

Sakari Karjalainen
Secretary General

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ECL member since 1980

CANCER SOCIETY OF FINLAND

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1936, the Syöpäjärjestöt/Cancer Society of Finland aims to ensure a good quality of life for people in Finland whether they have cancer or not. The Society’s mission is to promote health, prevent cancer, increase survival, provide support for those with cancer and their loved ones, and reduce the adverse effects of cancer throughout the country. It also strives to increase fairness and effectiveness in cancer diagnosis and treatment and strengthen cancer research and expertise.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Cancer Society of Finland is one of Finland’s largest patient and public health organisations as well a national expert organisation. The Society counts 108 employees, over 4,400 volunteers and 113,000 members. The Cancer Society of Finland comprises 12 regional cancer societies and 6 national patient organisations, employing 108 staff members.

Member societies are independent actors that adhere to commonly agreed values and working principles. The Society maintains the Finnish Cancer Registry, which provides epidemiological and statistical information for those who need it. The Cancer Society and the Cancer Foundation have a common strategy. The boards of the two organisations meet jointly, and the Society and Foundation have the same Secretary General.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⌘ Health promotion - influencing general attitudes, social and healthcare practices, individual choices and social policy by providing expert knowledge, running public campaigns and projects, and disseminating the European Code Against Cancer.
- ⌘ Counselling and advice - offering info on cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, rehabilitation and financial issues through personal meetings as well as by phone, email and chat.
- ⌘ Rehabilitation - offering rehab courses intended to provide information on cancer and improve the patient’s and their family’s quality of life, life management skills and ability to cope with everyday life despite the disease.
- ⌘ Financial support - the Social committee provides grants to assist cancer patients who experience financial hardships.
- ⌘ Advocacy - Based on the expertise of the Finnish Cancer Registry, suggestions and recommendations are provided to decision-makers and health care providers for improving the patient care pathway.



"Our organisation is very proud of being a part of ECL. We are particularly glad to be able to work on the topics of medicine shortages through the Access to Medicines Task Force, as this is a cross-border health threat which needs coordination at the EU level. It is also very interesting for us to learn about other leagues' best practices regarding patient support through ECL's publications."

Maria-José Fajardo Reyes

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ECL member since 2011

FRENCH LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

La Ligue contre le cancer/ the French League Against Cancer's goal is to help cancer patients, their families and their friends. Since its foundation, the League has developed into a strong national network.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

Founded in 1918, the French League is a non-profit, apolitical, independent organisation of public utility, funded exclusively by the generosity of the general public. It has more than 560,000 members, 14,500 volunteers and 600 salaried staff. It is governed by a Board of 30 members (16 from the local committees) and an Executive Committee composed of 7 Board members. The French League is made up of 103 departmental committees that are active in realising the mission of the Administrative Council and the national Scientific Council. The Federal office employs around 100 people.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The French league is active in four main areas:

- ⦿ Funding research - initiating and funding research projects, from basic to implementation, driving major advances in the treatment and quality of life of sick people.
- ⦿ Promoting prevention - communicating about risk factors and the importance of organised screening programmes.
- ⦿ Supporting patients - providing an array of services to patients and their families, including financial support, access to loans, adapted physical activity, psychological help, socio-aesthetic care, housekeeping and more.
- ⦿ Advocacy - acting a spokesperson for sick people and their families, working with institutions and businesses to promote the rights of patients and health system's users, as well as lobbying to strengthen laws and regulations aimed at prohibiting the distribution of industrial products harmful to health.

GERMAN CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft/ German Cancer Society is the largest scientific oncology society in all German-speaking countries. The Society is committed to facilitating high-quality oncological care based on evidence-based medicine and interdisciplinarity. Amongst other things, it contributed to the German National Cancer Plan, which was launched in 2008 by the Federal Ministry of Health.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The German Cancer Society is a non-profit organisation financed through membership fees, project-based funding, donations and income from asset management. The Society counts 60 employees and over 7,900 members. It includes 16 regional cancer societies, around 8,000 individual scientific members organised in 25 working groups, and 35 sponsors from research-based pharmaceutical industries, scientific publishers and health insurances. All members are active in the research and treatment of cancer and share the same goal: fighting against cancer. The society is open to clinical experts of all relevant medical branches, including basic researchers, medical technicians, nurses, psychologists, and other professional groups working in the field of oncology.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Society's main activities are:

-  the certification of centres of oncological care.
-  the development of evidence-based, independent treatment guidelines and patient guides.
-  knowledge development and knowledge transfer in oncology.
-  the communication of reliable patient information.
-  the organisation of scientific conferences and symposia, including the German Cancer Congress.



"ECL is one of our key international partners. Through ECL, we are well connected and in exchange with many organisations. Joint events and initiatives, such as the 8th European Conference on Tobacco or Health and the Joint Action iPAAC, have enabled us to intensify cooperation and advance shared goals in Germany and internationally. In the light of new cancer policy developments at the EU level, we are looking forward to work more closely together."

Johannes Bruns
Secretary General

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ECL member since 2015



"Over the last 30 years, there has been a continuous exchange of experiences and learning opportunities for us through ECL. Thanks to the financial support from ECL, we have taken part in numerous conferences, study tours and working group meetings. We also received a lot of practical and financial help to disseminate the European Code Against Cancer. Our Board member, MD Jolán Demeter, was a member of the ECL Board from 2004-2009, and we are members of all ECL's working groups."

Balázs Rozványi

President

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ECL member since 1990

HUNGARIAN LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

The Magyar Rákellenes Liga/ Hungarian League Against Cancer is working for a future in which healthy people can stay healthy and where cancer patients are treated at the highest professional standards and live a high quality and dignified life. This is done by promoting healthy lifestyles and organised screening, as well as helping cancer patients during their treatment and rehabilitation.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Hungarian League is an association composed of 37 local organisations located across Hungary and 3,500 members. It is led by a Board of 9 members, headed by the current President Balázs Rozványi, who manages a team of 10 staff members and 400 volunteers.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Activities run by the Hungarian League include:

-  awareness campaigns.
-  fundraising activities.
-  training of volunteers.
-  patients' clubs.
-  conferences and specialised courses for doctors and nurses.



Krabbameinsfélagið



"Being a member of the ECL is invaluable to the Icelandic Cancer Society. It is important to learn what is being done across Europe regarding cancer, prevention, and patient support to better compare and benchmark Iceland's performance to others. Our involvement in ECL broadens our horizon and has given us valuable insights regarding access to medicines' issues."

Halla Þorvaldsdóttir
CEO

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ECL member since 1998

ICELANDIC CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The goal of the Krabbameinsfélagið/Icelandic Cancer Society is to reduce the number of new cancer cases and deaths due to cancer, as well as improve the quality of life of those diagnosed with the disease.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Icelandic Cancer Society was established in 1951 and counts 25 employees and over 172 volunteers. The Society is an umbrella organisation made up of 27 member associations: 21 local associations and 6 support groups. At the annual General Assembly, 7 members are elected to the board of the Icelandic Cancer Society. The current Chairman is Dr Valgerður Sigurðardóttir and the Managing Director is Halla Þorvaldsdóttir.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Activities run by the Icelandic Cancer Society include:

- ⌘ running and supporting the National Cancer Registry.
- ⌘ carrying out awareness-raising and educational projects as well as producing various types of educational materials.
- ⌘ funding, conducting and collaborating on cancer research projects.
- ⌘ providing advice and support to patients and families through nurses, a social worker and a psychologist.
- ⌘ advocating for and influencing the National Cancer Plan.

In agreement with the Ministry of Health and, from 1964 (for cervical cancer) and 1973 (for breast cancer) to 2020, the Icelandic Cancer Society was in charge of organising and implementing the national breast and cervical cancer screening programmes.



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ECL member since 1980

IRISH CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The Irish Cancer Society is the national cancer charity in Ireland with the mission to improve the lives of those affected by cancer. It is a community of patients, survivors, volunteers, supporters, health and social care professionals and researchers. Together, they are working for accelerated progress in early detection, treatment, survivorship and end-of-life support for the public, people affected by cancer, survivors and their families.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Society is a national cancer charity founded in 1963 and composed of 173 employees and approximately 2,800 volunteers.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Irish Cancer Society delivers direct essential services to support people affected by cancer (e.g. counselling, end-of-life care, etc.), funds collaborative cancer research for the benefit of patients, and conducts advocacy to drive improvements in public services.

Activities include: research; direct end-of-life patient care; early detection; cancer information centres; cancer support services; helpline; research; advocacy.



"The ECL has contributed to many important European initiatives, such as the European Code Against Cancer. Thanks to ECL we have been able to share information and enrich ourselves by receiving updates and participating in various working groups."

Miri Ziv

Chairwoman

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ECL member since 1984

ISRAEL CANCER ASSOCIATION

MISSION AND GOALS

The Israel Cancer Association (ICA) was founded in 1952. ICA's goal is to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality in Israel, by promoting research, prevention, early detection, and improved methods of treatment, rehabilitation and quality of life. The ICA supports cancer patients throughout their ordeal and strives to ensure their rights. The ICA is financially independent, as all its means are derived from public contributions. ICA works closely with national health authorities, but does not receive government subsidies.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The President of the State of Israel serves as the Patron of the ICA. Prof. Aharon Ciechanover, 2004 Nobel laureate in Chemistry, serves as Honorary President. Prof. Abraham Kuten is ICA's Chairman. Leon Recanati and Miri Ziv are respectively the Vice Chairman and Chairwoman. The ICA has a small and active Executive Board, made up of public personalities, medical professionals, research scientists, and a larger group of Board of Governors. The Executive Board takes decisions based on the recommendations of several professional committees composed of the leading experts in their field. The ICA counts approximately 4,000 volunteers who are active in 70 branches across the country. ICA's means are derived exclusively from public contributions.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Activities include:

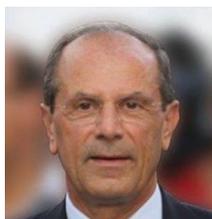
- ⌘ Financing and promoting cancer research.
- ⌘ Initiating and implementing national prevention and early detection programmes.
- ⌘ Assisting in upgrading medical and rehabilitation services provided at oncology centres, at home and in the community for the benefit of cancer patients, survivors and their families.
- ⌘ Assisting in the setup and operation of treatment centres, inpatient clinics and welfare centres.
- ⌘ Providing professional training and updates to multi-disciplinary oncology teams.
- ⌘ Promoting patients' rights and enhancing their quality of life.
- ⌘ Disseminating reliable information to citizens, cancer patients, and survivors in Hebrew, Russian and Arabic.



ITALIAN LEAGUE AGAINST TUMOURS

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1922, the Lega Italiana per la lotta contro i Tumori/ Italian League Against Tumours is a non-profit, membership-based, public entity with the specific aim of spreading the 'culture of prevention' (primary, secondary and tertiary) as a way of life across the country. The Italian League's strength lies in its 400 prevention points/outpatient clinics located throughout the country and the high number of volunteers at the service of the community.



"ECL was proudly founded in Rome in 1980. We are honoured to be part of such the prominent network of national and regional cancer leagues headed by ECL. Eliminating cancer is a mission that takes strength and time. Today mortality in Europe has declined. What seemed impossible 40 years ago is now reality. And this is also thanks to the precious collective collaboration and determination of ECL. Data sharing is fundamental, and prevention is the best cure. These are the very basis of ECL's foundation."

Prof. Francesco Schittulli
President

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ECL member since 1980

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Italian League is one of Italy's oldest health organisations. The League counts over 230 employees, 25,000 volunteers and 200,000 members. It is divided into 106 autonomous provincial associations, which pursue the same objectives and follow the guidelines issued by the headquarters based in Rome. The Italian League acts under the High Patronage of the President of the Republic and the supervision of the Ministry of Health. It cooperates with the regions, provinces and municipalities and other cancer-focused organisations. The budget is audited annually by the Court of Auditors.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

LILT's promotes and implements:

- 🎗 primary prevention – disseminating evidence-based information about lifestyles and habits, promoting health education through national awareness campaigns, organising cancer prevention training in schools and workplaces.
- 🎗 secondary prevention – promoting medical and laboratory examinations for early diagnosis of cancer.
- 🎗 tertiary prevention – caring for patients and their families by offering physical, psychological and occupational therapy and the support of volunteers.
- 🎗 scientific studies, innovation and research in the field of oncology.



Fondation Cancer

Info · Aide · Recherche



“Coming from one of the smallest countries in Europe, we really value being able to exchange information, success stories and best practices with international peers. I am delighted to sit on the Board of ECL and take part in its working groups.”

Dr Lucienne Thommes

Director

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ECL member since 1994

CANCER FOUNDATION

MISSION AND GOALS

The Fondation Cancer/ Cancer Foundation Luxembourg was established in 1994 to provide cancer control information and to boost scientific research and awareness campaigns. The Cancer Foundation aims to (i) reduce the number of cancer cases, (ii) reduce the number of deaths from cancer and (iii) increasing the quality of life of people affected by cancer.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Cancer Foundation is led by a Board of 6 people. The current board president is Dr. Carole Bauer. The Foundation has 13 employees and is supported by over 140 volunteers. All activities organised are possible thanks to donations and legacies from the general public.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Foundation is active in three main areas:

- ⌘ Promoting public awareness on prevention and screening through campaigns, publications and events - Relay for life, Smokefree Class Competition, My Life Without Tobacco, Sober Buddy Challenge.
- ⌘ Providing free psychosocial and financial support to patients and their loved ones as well as onco-aesthetic advice.
- ⌘ Coordinating support, relaxation and sports groups for patient supervised by professionals.
- ⌘ Funding national and international scientific research that improve the chances of survival and the quality of life of patients and their loved ones.



EMANUELE CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION MALTA



"ECL has provided us with a valued European perspective to cancer, research, and behaviour change in prevention. ECL's continuous updates are invaluable in increasing the knowledge base of the Foundation and facilitates the dissemination of correct, scientifically based and up-to-date information. ECL provides an ideal talk shop for sharing experiences from around Europe."

Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca

ERCF Chairwomen and President Emeritus of Malta

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ECL member since 2019

MISSION AND GOALS

The purpose of the Emanuele Cancer Research Foundation Malta (ECRFM) is to reduce the impact and burden of cancer on the people of Malta, the Mediterranean Region and globally, through supporting and promoting excellent cancer research, development, and education.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The ECRFM is a non-profit making organisation set up between the Malta Trust Foundation, Fondazione Terzo Pilastro Internazionale and the University of Malta. The Foundation is governed by a Board of 9 members chaired by the President Emeritus of Malta, H.E Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca. The Foundation has 4 employees and 5 volunteers.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🎗 Funding cancer-related research within the University of Malta.
- 🎗 Facilitating multi-investigator and inter-disciplinary research between basic scientists, clinicians and other allied health workers and research.
- 🎗 Providing information and education about cancer to the public and its representatives.
- 🎗 Attracting and training young investigators in an environment that demonstrates the interrelatedness of different approaches in cancer research and applications in practice.
- 🎗 Organising and participating in conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia dealing with issues related to cancer research in Malta and abroad.
- 🎗 Acting as an advocacy group for policies and strategies in cancer prevention, treatment and care.
- 🎗 Establishing and maintaining a research laboratory for the use of medical and scientific members of the Oncology Units and other organisations and entities who attempt to advance the knowledge of cancer and its treatment.
- 🎗 Serving as a focal point for the introduction of clinical cancer trials.



Dutch Cancer Society



"Cancer does not respect borders. Access to medicines and effective treatments still vary widely within the EU. The Dutch Cancer Society sees the ECL as a good platform for common action. To align research investments, to boost patient advocacy and to address unfairness in cancer drug pricing, another emerging topic deserving the urgent attention of the European Fair Pricing Network and its wide range of partners."

Johan van de Gronden
Chief Executive Officer

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ECL member since 2000

DUTCH CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1949 by Queen Wilhelmina, the KWF Kankerbestrijding/ Dutch Cancer Society is a public benefit organisation which aims to support citizens – from those who have yet to be diagnosed to patients who cannot be cured. The Society's goals are (i) to prevent cancer wherever we can, (ii) to stimulate better treatment for every type of cancer, (iii) to aim for a better quality of life for (recovered) patients and their loved ones and (iv) to ensure that high quality palliative care is available for all patients.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Dutch Cancer Society counts 225 employees and is deeply rooted in society, with 100,000 volunteers involved in fundraising activities and almost 1 million donors. The Society is governed by (i) 5-member Supervisory Board which oversees the policy of the board and the general course of affairs and (ii) a Board in charge of the general management headed by Chief Executive Officer Johan van de Gronden. The Society' strategy and budget is also run past the Advisory Council consisting of over 100 experts, including scientists, (former) patients, volunteers and healthcare providers. Queen Wilhelmina's granddaughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrix, is the Society's current patron.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

-  Funding and facilitating focused scientific research.
-  Influencing policy.
-  Sharing knowledge about cancer and its treatment.

The Society's flexible organisational structure enables staff to respond quickly to developments in society and research. Examples include their campaign on HPV vaccination and new initiatives to stimulate broader availability of cancer drugs.



"We are a proud member of the ECL exclusive platform since 2015. ECL allows us to connect with the major cancer-focused European organisations and experts. We get regular and welcomed updates about relevant meetings publications and policy changes. We are given the opportunity to participate in unique, high-level events and projects. ECL also allows us to make our actions and efforts in cancer control more visible at the European level."

Prof. Jacek Jassem

President

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ECL member since 2015

POLISH CANCER LEAGUE

MISSION AND GOALS

The purpose of the Fundacja Polska Liga Walki z Rakiem/ Polish Cancer League is to initiate and strengthen public benefit initiatives to reduce cancer risk and increase the chances of a cure and a dignified life for people affected by cancer. The mission of the League is to improve the quality of and access to the highest standards of cancer care for all patients in Poland.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Polish League is led by a Board of 6 people and a Council of 35 people who work pro bono. The league also has 1,5 salaried employees.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

The Polish League develops its activities around the Strategy for Fighting Cancer in Poland 2015-2024 and achieves its goals through:

- 🎗 organising awareness-raising campaigns.
- 🎗 organising conferences, seminars, lectures and training on oncology-related issues.
- 🎗 conducting journalistic and publishing activities, including publishing books, magazines, brochures and specialist publications.
- 🎗 supporting actions to implement the national cancer strategy and influencing changes to legislation related to prevention, diagnosis and treatment, including the collection signatures on amendments to legal provisions.
- 🎗 convening and supporting cooperation between the communities of patients, doctors and scientists and public administration bodies.



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ECL member since 1980

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1941, the Liga Portuguesa contra o cancro/ Portuguese League against Cancer is a national reference entity working to (i) support cancer patients and their families, (ii) promote healthy lifestyles and cancer prevention and (iii) contribute to oncological research and training.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Portuguese Cancer League is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation of public utility composed of 5 autonomous regional branches (North, Centre, South, Madeira and Azores). It is led by a National Board made up of representatives from the regional branches. Board members are volunteers, elected for a 3-years term and are responsible for the overall strategy and action plan. The League's decentralised structure and its 25,000+ volunteers ensure that activities are adapted to the specific characteristics and populations of each region.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⌘ Disseminating information on cancer and promoting health education, with an emphasis on prevention.
- ⌘ Contributing to the social support and humanization of care for cancer patients at all stages of the disease.
- ⌘ Cooperating with the key institutions involved in the area of oncology, namely the Centres of the Portuguese Institute of Oncology Francisco Gentil and the Hospitals of the Autonomous Regions.
- ⌘ Stimulating and supporting oncology training and research.
- ⌘ Establishing and maintaining relations with national and foreign counterparts.
- ⌘ Developing structures for primary and secondary prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, either alone or in collaboration with other entities.
- ⌘ Advocating for the rights of cancer patients and survivors.



Societatea Română de Cancer

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ECL member since 2013

ROMANIAN CANCER SOCIETY

MISSION AND GOALS

The Societatea Română de Cancer/ Romanian Cancer Society is an NGO founded in Cluj in 1993 at the initiative of a group of medical staff of the Oncology Institute 'Prof. Dr. Ion Chiricuță'. The mission of the Society is to improve the quality of life of cancer patients in Romania and to promote the importance of prevention in the fight against this disease.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The organisation is run by Executive Director Adriana Melnic and a volunteer Board of Directors. The Society has a strict non-discrimination policy, allowing access to its services to anyone regardless of age, race, sex, language, religion, ethnicity etc. All projects are based on the principles of equal opportunities, active participation, respect and personal dignity.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🎗 promoting healthy lifestyles.
- 🎗 carrying out programmes to training and research in oncology.
- 🎗 providing support for patients' cancer and their families.
- 🎗 advocating for the rights of cancer patients.



LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER SLOVAKIA

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1990, the Slovak League against Cancer is a national, independent organisation with the primary goal of helping oncological patients, their families and loved ones. The Slovak League's main areas of work are: cancer prevention, early detection, patient support and rehabilitation, and improved survival rate and quality of life.



"When we found our organisation, we had a limited budget and limited experience of how non-profit cancer-focused organisation worked. We became members of ECL to learn from and cooperate with our European peers. ECL has helped us grow, gain experience and get in touch with the Norwegian Society, who mentored us for a long time. We appreciate ECL's help and information which we strive to apply in our country."

Eva Kováčová
Executive Director

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ECL member since 1990

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Slovak League is a non-political, non-governmental, non-profit organisation governed by a General Board. The League cooperates with a Scientific Board and with 18 affiliated LAC units in the cancer control programme in Slovakia.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🦿 publishing and disseminating informational leaflets and brochures.
- 🦿 organising awareness campaigns and events to inform the general public.
- 🦿 providing psychosocial support for patient (including running, a free telephone helpline, psychological sessions, relaxation stays and reconditioning family stays) through a team of 25 experts and 21 psycho-oncologists.
- 🦿 running 3 cancer help centres where patients, relatives and citizens can get information, advice and psychological support.
- 🦿 providing financial support to medical institutions to purchase equipment needed to diagnose or treat patients.
- 🦿 running regular workshops and training for nurses.
- 🦿 supporting patient-oriented, clinical research.



"ECL is a key European platform for our society through which we connect with other European NGOs in the field of oncology to exchange ideas and good practices. Being members of ECL help us to learn from and contribute to the international pool of knowledge and experience in the field of cancer control."

Dr Urška Ivanuš

President

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ECL member since 1999

ASSOCIATION OF SLOVENIAN CANCER SOCIETIES

MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the Zveza slovenskih društev za boj proti raku/Association of Slovenian Cancer Societies is to contribute to the creation of a Slovenian society where no one will get sick or die of cancer due to lack of awareness or government inaction. The Association's main goal is to empower citizens, health professionals and decision-makers to actively contribute to cancer control, with emphasis on cancer prevention and early detection, at the national and local level.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Slovenian Association is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, governed by the General Assembly, Executive Board, Steering Committee, Scientific Committee and Disciplinary Committee, which are elected by the members of the Association for a 4-years term.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⌘ Running health promotion and smoking prevention projects in schools targeting primarily children and young adults.
- ⌘ Publishing educational leaflets and other materials for adults, with a focus on the European Code Against Cancer.
- ⌘ Organising the Slovenian Week Against Cancer every year in March.
- ⌘ Organising educational seminars for health professionals, with a focus on general practitioners and nurses.
- ⌘ Fundraising for cancer control activities and supporting organised screening programmes for cervical, breast and colorectal cancer.



SPANISH LEAGUE AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

The Asociación Española Contra el Cáncer/ Spanish Association Against Cancer is a leading organisation in the fight against cancer in Spain. The Association encompasses patients, families, volunteers and professionals who work together to (i) raise awareness on cancer prevention, (ii) help people affected by cancer and their families and (iii) fund research projects to accomplish the scientific advances needed to defeat cancer and improve people's quality of life.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Spanish Association Against Cancer is a non-profit, social entity founded in 1953 and declared of public utility in 1970. The Association operates through its 52 provincial delegations and in more than 1,400 local sites across Spain. The Association has 29,500 volunteers, 450,402 members, 1,007 members of staff and a 20-member Board of Directors who are elected by the General Assembly for a 4-years renewable mandate. Her Majesty Queen Letizia of Spain act as the Permanent Honorary President since 2010.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⦿ developing educational programmes and activities to promote healthy lifestyles and early detection methods.
- ⦿ assisting people with cancer and their families through professional services and volunteers (including a free 24/7 helpline, face-to-face psycho-social services, training and recreational services).
- ⦿ fundraising and financing high-quality, clinical cancer research.



"The ECL is an inestimable source of information and a great platform to exchange knowledge and experiences on cancer prevention, treatment and research. It has helped us to liaise with other like-minded associations, to get involved in the elaboration of the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, to exchange tools and experiences regarding the current pandemic and to participate in international campaigns."

Prof. Ramón Reyes

President

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ECL member since 2019



“Joining ECL has meant joining forces with other European NGOs, sharing knowledge, learning from them and working for similar goals in a broader perspective.”

Clara Rosàs Sabé
Director

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ECL member since 2014

CATALAN FEDERATION AGAINST CANCER

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 2001, the Federació Catalana d’Entitats Contra El Càncer/ Catalan Federation against Cancer is a non-profit umbrella organisation bringing together 15 key NGOs working to improve the quality of life of cancer patients and their families in Catalonia. The Federation provides a platform for members to collaborate with their national and European peers on cancer prevention, patient support and survivorship issues as well as exchange best practices in advocacy, psychosocial research and volunteering.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Catalan Federation against Cancer is a non-profit and non-governmental organisation based in Barcelona. The Federation, which counts 120 staff members, 4,700 volunteers and 15 member organisations, is governed by a 4-member Board of Directors. The Board’s decisions are approved by the General Assembly, made up of representatives from each member organisation. In 2008, the Federation was declared an entity of public utility by the Department of Justice. Since 2016, it has been registered in the Register of Interest Groups of Government Administration and its public sector.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🎗 offering convening and capacity building services to its member organisations (including free training, legal assistance service, grants, coordinating working groups, signposting volunteers to members organisations, circulating information materials and resources).
- 🎗 representing members and their views as well as lobbying public administrations and other institutions.
- 🎗 carrying out information, dissemination and awareness-raising actions on oncological matters.
- 🎗 promoting epidemiological, clinical and social research.
- 🎗 recruiting and training and coordinating groups of volunteers to carry out cancer control activities.
- 🎗 supporting the training of oncology healthcare professionals as well as facilitating knowledge exchange among specialists.



SWISS CANCER LEAGUE



“We are very happy to have been a member of ECL from the very beginning. Thanks to ECL, we have been able to strengthen cooperation and intensify the exchange of information across borders, especially in the areas of access to medicines, prevention and early detection. Although each country faces their own specific challenges, most concerns are shared. As the cancer burden continues to increase, it is now more important than ever to build a strong European cancer community to support cancer patients and their loved ones.”

Rolf Marti

Head of Research,
Innovation & Development

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ECL member since 1980

MISSION AND GOALS

Founded in 1910, the Swiss Cancer League is a national organisation working for a world where cancer occurs less often, causes less suffering and fewer deaths, can be cured more often, and where patients and their relatives find help and comfort at all stages of the disease. The Swiss League is Switzerland’s centre of expertise for anything related to cancer. “United against cancer” is the League’s vision and promise to be close to people affected by cancer and to stakeholders with a common goal.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Swiss Cancer League is a national, non-profit organisation, organised as a federation uniting 18 cantonal and regional leagues in Switzerland and Liechtenstein. The national umbrella organisation is headquartered in Bern and employs 119 staff members. The Swiss League is primarily financed by donations and is certified with the ZEWO quality label. It is governed by an Executive Board of 5 people and a Committee of 11 people headed by President Dr Gilbert Bernard Zulian.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

-  supporting the regional and cantonal leagues by ensuring knowledge transfer, capacity building and coordination services.
-  supporting and promoting cancer research.
-  providing information on risk factors and screening measures, and carrying out national prevention programmes.
-  organising and implementing continuous training for different professional groups.
-  providing high-quality advice and psychosocial support for patients and their loved ones.



TURKISH ASSOCIATION
FOR CANCER
RESEARCH & CONTROL
TÜRK KANSER ARAŞTIRMA VE SAVAŞ KURUMU DERNEĞİ



"ECL is our bridge to Europe and European affairs. We deeply value being able to share knowledge and experiences and learn from new and old cancer leagues across the European continent."

Prof. Dr Tezer Kutluk

Board Member

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ECL member since 2003

TURKISH ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH & CONTROL

MISSION AND GOALS

The Türk Kanser Araştırma Ve Savaş Kurumu Derneği/ Turkish Association for Cancer Research and Control's primary aims are (i) to conduct high-quality research to fight the disease (ii) to create resources that can be used to identify and fight against cancer (iii) to increase cooperation by bringing together institutions and organisations with common goals and (iv) to educate the general public and physicians.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Turkish Association for Cancer Research and Control is a voluntary, non-governmental public benefit organisation founded in 1947. The association counts 4 employees, 114 volunteers, a 10-members Board of Directors. The Association's headquarters are in Ankara, but activities are carried out across the country through 8 regional branches.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🎗 supporting scientific cancer research.
- 🎗 training oncology healthcare professionals by providing educational scholarships and awards and organising conferences, congresses and seminars.
- 🎗 raising awareness of cancer issues among the general public through publications, meetings and events.
- 🎗 advocating for better cancer control policies at the national level and maintaining an updated database of medical and medico-social statistics.

The Association contributed to reaching many milestones in Turkey, including the setting up of, amongst others, the first cancer hospital (1962), the Turkish Journal of Cancer (1973), the National Cancer Congress (1975), World Cancer Day (2005) and Cancer Patient Forum (2006).



CANCER FOCUS NORTHERN IRELAND

MISSION AND GOALS

Cancer Focus Northern Ireland is a local cancer charity working since 1969 to reduce the impact of cancer on people's lives. The organisation provides (i) care and support services for cancer patients and their families, (ii) offer a range of cancer prevention programmes to help people lessen their risk of getting cancer, (iii) fund scientific research into the causes and treatment of the disease and (iv) campaign for better health policy to protect our community and its future. Most of the work is funded through donations and fundraising.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

Cancer Focus counts 98 member of staff and over 250 volunteers. It is governed by the Board of Trustees headed by Professor Roy Spence and managed by the Chief Executive and the Heads of Department.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ⌘ supporting cancer patients and their families through counselling sessions, the nursline and art therapy sessions.
- ⌘ helping the community to take positive steps to a healthier life through school visits, community health events, the stop smoking service and professional training for healthcare professionals.
- ⌘ funding ground-breaking research.
- ⌘ delivering campaigns to increase cancer awareness and working with politicians and decision-makers to develop policies that help people looking after their health.



"ECL provides an opportunity to disseminate our best practice and to learn from other Cancer Leagues. We value the updates on patient support, prevention, advocacy and research and how these relate to local, national and European strategies. The Workshops and Conferences provide an opportunity to network, develop collaborations and share ideas."

Richard Spratt

Chief Executive

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ECL member since 1981



CANCER RESEARCH UK

MISSION AND GOALS

Cancer Research UK is the world's leading cancer charity dedicated to saving lives through research, influence, and information. Our vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured, from the most common types to those that affect just a few people. In the 1970s, less than a quarter of people in the UK with cancer survived. But over the last 40 years, survival has doubled - today half will survive their cancer beyond 10 years. Our ambition is to accelerate progress and, by 2034, see three-quarters of people surviving the disease for ten years or more.



"ECL enables CRUK to work together with partners to improve cancer outcomes across the continent. At a time when the UK is forging a new relationship with the EU, partnerships such as ECL are particularly important to enable us to contribute to pan-European policy conversations and to engage effectively with EU institutions. ECL helps support our ability to exchange knowledge and best practice, and influence policy makers. We believe collaborating with partners is the only way we'll beat cancer."

Emlyn Samuel

Director of Policy

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ECL member since 2019

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANISATION

The Chief Executive (Michelle Mitchell) and Executive Board work together to ensure that the charity continues to carry out world class research. The Council of Trustees (Chair - Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz) sets the Charity's strategic direction, monitors the delivery of the Charity's objectives, uphold its values and governance and advises the Chief Executive.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- 🎗 supporting research into all types of cancer and across all age groups, with a focus on understanding the biology of cancer and increasing research in key areas such as early diagnosis, and hard-to-treat cancers (including lung, pancreatic, oesophageal cancers and brain tumours).
- 🎗 funding clinical trials to bring new cancer treatments to patients as quickly and safely as possible.
- 🎗 developing evidence-based policy to inform Government decisions related to cancer and research.
- 🎗 campaigning for the best cancer services in all parts of the UK.
- 🎗 running awareness raising campaigns and provide cancer information to the people affected by cancer, the public and journalists.



www.cancer.eu



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