

# JOIN MEPs AGAINST CANCER

## Interest Group at the European Parliament



### Who are MEPs Against Cancer?



The MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) Interest Group was founded in 2005 and remains the oldest and largest group dedicated to cancer policy at the European Parliament. MAC members come from different political groups and countries and work together to strengthen cancer control policies, promote cancer prevention, ensure access to high-quality treatments and care for EU cancer patients. MAC members believe that European cooperation adds value to Member States' action.

### What does the MAC Group aim to achieve in the 2019-24 legislature?



On World Cancer Day 2019, the MAC Group published its elections manifesto called '**BEATING CANCER: MISSION POSSIBLE: Towards effective cancer control in Europe**'. MAC members closely monitor and influence key health and cancer-related policy files. Activities undertaken by MAC contribute to reaching the goals set in the Manifesto and ensuring that the needs of cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and EU citizens are well-represented and reflected.

### Why should I join MAC?



**I. VISIBILITY** - MEPs active in the MAC Group are often approached to speak at high-level events, contribute to press conferences/interviews and get greater attention from health stakeholders.

**II. KNOWLEDGE** - MAC members get access to expertise and materials relevant to ongoing cancer-related policy issues discussed at both the European and national levels from the MAC Secretariat's network of national/regional cancer societies and cancer experts.

**III. NETWORK** - MAC members build strong relationships with civil society, patient organisations, healthcare professionals, researchers and other health stakeholders. They get access to opportunities to meet other MEPs, EU Commission officials and national decision-makers, as well as to build partnerships to fulfill their mission: beating cancer sooner.

### How does the MAC Group work?

MAC receives secretarial support from the **Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)** (transparency register: 19265592757-25), a Brussels-based NGO representing national and regional cancer societies across the WHO European region.



MAC members meet on average four times per year with external stakeholders. Topics of meetings are agreed at the annual strategic meeting and announced in advance. A meeting report with policy recommendations is sent within 30 days after each meeting. All meetings are organised in cooperation with respectable NGOs. Participation in meetings and other MAC activities is individual, depending on MEPs' interests. Regular participation is highly appreciated and awarded by increased visibility of each MEP's work.

An internal strategic meeting for MEPs and APAs take place each year to discuss objectives, achievements and future priorities. The first annual meeting and MAC leadership elections took place in November 2019. MAC President and three Vice-Presidents from different countries and political groups were elected for the 5-year term.

### How can I become a member of MAC?

To become a MAC member or find out more information about the MAC Interest Group, please send an email to [ECL@cancer.eu](mailto:ECL@cancer.eu) and fill in a short [application form](#). We look forward to working together to make beating cancer a #MissionPossible!

