

## PATIENT-CENTRED ROUNDTABLE ON WORKING TOGETHER FOR ACCESSIBLE HEALTH

Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania

Organised by the Lithuanian Cancer Patient Coalition (POLA) in cooperation with the Lithuanian Parliament Committee on Health Affairs, Lithuanian Ministry of Health, Lithuanian Patients' Forum, the Patient Access Partnership (PACT) and the European Patients' Forum (EPF). The event is held under the auspices of the Lithuanian Minister of Health, Prof. Aurelijus Veryga.





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## AGENDA

10:00 – 10:45	Registration & coffee	
10:45 – 11:20	Welcoming remarks	<i>Co-chaired by Šarūnas Narbutas and prof. Vilius Grabauskas</i>
10:45 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The added-value of cooperation for improving access to healthcare</li> </ul>	Dr. <b>Stanimir Hasardzhiev</b> , Secretary General of PACT, Board-member of EPF
11:00 – 11:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health in Lithuania: the state of affairs, challenges and opportunities</li> </ul>	Prof. <b>Aurelijus Veryga</b> , Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania
11:10 – 11:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lithuanian Parliament as a forum to balance stakeholders interests</li> </ul>	Dr. <b>Agnė Širinskienė</b> , Chairwoman of Lithuanian Parliament Committee on Health Affairs
11:20 – 13:00	<b>1 session. Overview of existing initiatives to bring EU issues to Lithuanian level</b>	<i>Co-chaired by Šarūnas Narbutas and Stanimir Hasardzhiev</i>
11:20 – 11:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possibilities for stakeholder engagement via the EU Semester</li> </ul>	<b>Arnoldas Pranckevičius</b> , Head of EC representation in Lithuania
11:50 – 12:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of EU Country Specific Recommendations 2016 – 2017</li> </ul>	<b>Jorge Pinto Antunes</b> , Deputy Head of Unit, DG Health and Consumers, European Commission
12:20 – 12:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New voluntary collaborations on pharmaceutical policy: Belgium-Netherlands-Luxembourg-Austria take the initiative</li> </ul>	Prof. <b>Marc Van de Castele</b> , Coordinator Expertise Pharmaceuticals, Belgian Institute for Health Insurance and Invalidity
12:40 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EU perspective of the healthcare industry</li> </ul>	Dr. <b>Endre Ascsillán</b> , Vice President, GE Hungary / Strategic Accounts and Government Relations   GE CEE
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:00	<b>2 Session. Panel discussion: how to improve the current model of cooperation in Lithuania?</b>	<i>Co-chaired by Šarūnas Narbutas and Sergejus Muravjovas</i>
14:00 – 14:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The added-value of cooperation: Lithuanian Health Forum</li> </ul>	Prof. <b>Vilius Grabauskas</b> , Chairman of “Health Forum”
14:10 – 15:00	<i>Discussion with panellists from the following stakeholder groups: government officials, healthcare professionals, patient organisations, expert NGOs, trade associations</i>	Prof. <b>Aurelijus Veryga</b> , Prof. <b>Renaldas Jurkevičius</b> , Prof. <b>Vilius Grabauskas</b> , Prof. <b>Danguolė Jankauskienė</b> , <b>Rūta Pumputienė</b> , <b>Martynas Gedminas</b>
15:00 – 16:30	<b>3 Session. Open discussion: how to work together on strategic matters for Lithuanian health system?</b>	<i>Co-chaired by Šarūnas Narbutas and prof. Vilius Grabauskas</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Importance of health for sustainable growth of economy</li> </ul>	Prof. <b>Gediminas Černiauskas</b> , professor at Mykolas Romeris University
15:30 – 16:30	<i>Discussion with all participants to identify 3 key areas where stakeholders can work together on a regular basis</i>	
16:30 – 17:00	<b>4 Session. Next steps: from solutions into action</b>	
16:30 – 16:45	Presentation of key conclusions	Dr. <b>Stanimir Hasardzhiev</b> , Secretary General of PACT
16:45 – 17:00	Outcomes of the meeting and next steps	<b>Šarūnas Narbutas</b> , President of POLA
17:00 – 17:30	Networking tea time	

## SPEAKERS



**Dr. Stanimir Hasardzhiev** is a Secretary-General of the Patient Access Partnership (PACT). He is also among the founders and current Chairperson of the Bulgarian National Patients' Organization (NPO) – the largest patients' umbrella organization in Bulgaria. Dr. Hasardzhiev has devoted himself to the work in the patients' advocacy sector and in defense of patients' rights. In 2011 and 2015, he represented the Bulgarian patients in the Supervisory Board of the National Health Insurance Fund. As of May 2013, Dr. Hasardzhiev is a board member of the European Patients' Forum as well as a member of several regional and international organizations and networks, e.g. World Hepatitis Alliance, European Community Advisory Board, International Capacity Building Alliance and others. Dr. Hasardzhiev serves as a Secretary of the initiative "Health Partnership" which was officially launched in March 2015 as a permanent consultative body to the Council of Ministers in Bulgaria.



**Prof. Aurelijus Veryga** – Professor of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences and a doctor psychiatrist with more than 10 years of professional experience in addiction treatment. Initiator and one of the establishers of two successfully acting national NGO's: Kaunas Drug Abuse Help Centre for Youth and Lithuanian National Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition. In 2005 became a member of the National Health Council and was responsible for tobacco, alcohol, drugs control and prevention. In 2008 was a freelance expert of the Committee on Health Affairs of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania. During 2009-2012 served as a public adviser on the prevention of tobacco, alcohol and drugs for the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania. During 2011-2016 was the Head of the Health Research Institute (WHO Collaborating centre) under the Faculty of Public Health of the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Prof. Aurelijus Veryga serves as the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania from 13th December 2016.



**Agnė Širinskienė** is the Head of the Committee of Health Affairs of the Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania. Mrs. Širinskienė obtained degrees in Catholic Theology and the English Language and Literature at Vytautas Magnus University in 1998, was granted a Masters (licentiate) degree in Pastoral Theology in 2000, and Doctors degree in Humanities in 2005. Agnė Širinskienė graduated from Bachelor studies in Law at Mykolas Romeris University in 2007 and obtained a qualifying Masters degree in Law (specialization in Law of the European Union) at the same university in 2009. Agnė worked on probation in the University of Georgetown in Washington, USA. She worked in various universities in Lithuania teaching bioethics, biomedical deontological regulation, biolaw, law of pharmacy and other subjects in the field of health law from 2002 to 2016. She served as a freelance expert for the Committee of Health Affairs of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. Agnė Širinskienė became a member of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania in 2016.



**Arnoldas Pranckevičius** is the Head of European Commission Representation in Lithuania. Before joining the Commission in October 2016, he spent 11 years at the European Parliament, serving as diplomatic adviser to EP Presidents Martin Schulz and Jerzy Buzek, advising them on Russia, Eastern Partnership, Western Balkans and Asia, coordinating the work of Cox-Kwasniewski mission in Ukraine, working in the Committee for Foreign Affairs and with the Interparliamentary delegations. In 2004-2006 served as Lithuania's President Adamkus' domestic policy adviser. Holds EU affairs MA from Sciences Po Paris and International relations BA from Colgate University, USA.



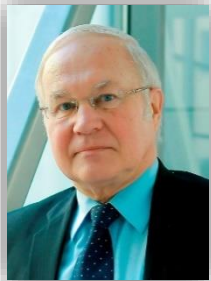
**Jorge Pinto Antunes** is Deputy Head of Unit in the European Commission dealing with Performance of National Health Systems. He is responsible for developing country knowledge on health systems in the EU also as a contribution to the Commission's European Semester exercise. He began his career in the Directorate-General Environment moving on to the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers, where he has worked in the implementation of the EU Health Strategy, in particular issues related to health and competitiveness. Until recently he led the team involved in the development of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. His interests include: interventions for prevention of frailty and innovation in delivery of care (with focus on care integration and health investments). He studied international relations and geography at Minho University and Cambridge University.



**Dr. Marc Van De Castele, MD PhD**, is internist-hepatologist. Since 2003, he is a pharmaceutical expert working for the Commission of Reimbursement of Pharmaceuticals. Since 2013, he is the coordinator of the pharmaceutical assessment for the Commission. This Commission gathers at the Department of Pharmaceutical Policy (*general councilor: Francis Arickx*) of the Belgian Institute for Health Insurance and Invalidity in Brussels (*Director General Health Care: Ri De Ridder*). The Commission advises the Belgian Minister on reimbursement requests of pharmaceuticals. Dr Marc Van de Castele is involved in EUnetHTA, the HTA-Network, Medev and BeNeLuxA. He is visiting professor of hepatology at the University of Leuven (Belgium).



**Dr. Andre Ascsillán** has been the Vice President of GE Hungary and Director of Strategic & Government Affairs in the CEE region since 2013. As a member of the management team, he has a key role in the planning and preparation of investment decisions. He controls and manages the issues of commercial compliance, competition law, incentives and public procurement, as well as government affairs. He has more than 10 years of experience in financing projects in the Central European healthcare sector, rising to a Strategic and Government Affairs Director position at GE Healthcare in 2011. Prior to joining GE, he was an EU & State Aid Leader at PricewaterhouseCoopers Hungary and before that he worked as a Legal Advisor in the EU & PHARE Department of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. Mr Ascsillán was the Chair of COCIR's Hungarian Task Force, the lead committee of Eastern European member countries between 2014 and 2016. Mr Ascsillán studied Law at Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest and Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan.



**Prof. Vilius Grabauskas** has graduated from Kaunas Medical University in 1966. After completion of residency training in internal medicine followed by PhD programme in cardiology he successfully defended PhD theses in 1971. Between 1978-1983, he served WHO/HQ in Geneva as Medical Officer, NCD / OND, and between 1984-1986 – as Director, NCD Division. Upon return from WHO he continued research and teaching activities at Kaunas Medical University, has defended his Doctor of Sciences degree in 1990. In 1991 he was elected as Rector of Kaunas Medical University (now Lithuanian University of Health Sciences) serving University in this position until 2002, since then – as Chancellor of the University and Chairman of the Council of the University. Since 1990 Prof. Grabauskas was active in the development of Lithuanian health policy, served as a Head of several professional NGOs, including Lithuanian Health Forum, was active in international health policy, e.g. served two terms as a Member of Global WHO Executive Board, is still serving as member of editorial board for couple of international journals. He has more than 300 research publications, is married and enjoys having a daughter who is Professor in Pediatric Endocrinology.



**Rūta Pumputienė** is a Head of Local American Working Group (LAWG), a standing committee – an informal pharmaceutical industry platform established by the American Chamber of Commerce in Lithuania representing the voice and opinion of pharmaceutical companies on various issues in the sector and acting as a lead authoritative body dedicated to enhancing a transparent dialogue on health care issues between public and private players. Rūta is also practising attorney at law with over thirteen years of legal work experience in a wide range of complex cross-border and local commercial law related projects, mainly specialising in life sciences field. Acknowledged by Chambers & Partners, international lawyers' rating publication, as one of the top lawyers in Lithuania in the commercial law field. Rūta holds Masters of Law at Vilnius University, as well as LL.M in International Intellectual Property Law at the University of London. She has written numerous articles and other publications in her area of expertise. Rūta is also a co-author of an encyclopaedia "Medical Law in Lithuania".





**Prof. dr. (HP) Danguolė Jankauskienė** is a director of Medicine and nursing at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos and head of Health research laboratory at Mykolas Romeris university, former state secretary and later viceminister of health. She is a teacher and expert on health policy and management, former expert at WHO and European Commission ASISP (Assessing the socio-economic impact of social reforms in Europe) project. She is among creators of Lithuania's health program. Development of Health system, innovations in health policy and management, public health, health technology assessment and evaluation of services of health care quality are among the main research areas of Prof. Jankauskienė. She participated in Lithuania's Science Council projects such as *"Expression forms of stakeholders' interests in public policy forms: social networks analysis"*; *Integrated Transformations of eHealth Development: the Perspective of Stakeholder Networks* and others. Prof. Jankauskienė is also an editor-in-chief and executive editor of scientific research journal "Health policy and management" published by Mykolas Romeris University. She is an author of more than 160 scientific publications.



**Prof. Renaldas Jurkevičius** M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc. habil. (Biomedical Sciences, Medicine), Professor of Cardiology, Director General of Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno Klinikos, Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Medical diploma received in Kaunas University of Medicine, accomplished medical residency in cardiology. In 2003 – 2007 a Senior Scientific researcher at Kaunas Medical University Cardiology institute; in 2004 – 2007 Head of the cardiac ultrasound laboratory at Kaunas Medical University, Cardiology institute. Since 2006 – a Professor at Lithuanian university of Health Sciences Cardiology department. In 2007 – 2013 Vice Rector for Education at Lithuanian university of Health sciences, since 2013 Director General at Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno Klinikos and Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. In clinical field has great expertise in echocardiography, left ventricular function. He led several national and European projects on ultrasound in cardiology. Published more than 170 scientific publications.



**Martynas Gedminas** is a medical student and active member of Student's Union and Lithuanian Medical Students Association since 2008. He is an emergency medicine resident physician from 2014. President of Lithuanian Junior Doctors Association since 2015. Fields of interest include: patient centered medical approach, culture of health, medical education, corporate governance, lean management.



**Prof. Gediminas Černiauskas** is a Professor at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Economics and Finance Management, Mykolas Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania. He is also a program director at Health economics centre. He graduated from Vilnius State University, School of Economics, with Master's degree in Economics in 1980. In 1987 obtained Ph.D. in Economics, Specialisation in Public Administration and Health. In 2008 he was a Vice-minister and later on – Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania. In 2007-2008 he was an adviser to the Prime Minister on health care organization, strategy and reforms implementation. He has extensive experience working as project leader and key expert in transition countries (Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Romania) and at working with international donors (European Commission, World Bank, etc.). His key qualifications include design and implementation of performance related remuneration schemes for health care services; extensive experience in health policy, health care financing, health system management, public health and social policy.



**Sergejus Muravjovas** has been leading Transparency International Lithuania since 2008. He is a member of supervisory boards of two healthcare establishments in Vilnius: the Central Policlinics of Vilnius and the National Vilnius University Hospital. Sergejus is also a council member of the „Clear Wave“ initiative for business transparency. He teaches Corporate Governance and Anticorruption at the International School of Management in Vilnius.



**Šarūnas Narbutas** is President of Lithuanian Cancer Patient Coalition (POLA), deputy chairman of Lithuanian Patients' Forum. He also holds various management positions at international patient organisations, has served on dozen governmental committees and working groups. Among his various roles Šarūnas is also lawyer, a lecturer, a political advisor and a cancer patient advocate, living with chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) for more than 10 years. In 2010-2013 he served as a Board member of “European Cancer Patient Coalition” (ECPC). In the past 5 years, he has participated as a patient advocate speaker / moderator in over 50 high-level conferences throughout Europe and has led a debate on cancer-related issues at the national level and in front of European authorities. Until 2017, Šarūnas Narbutas has also served as a political advisor to the President of the Republic of Lithuania. Before that, he was working in a leading corporate law firm, specializing in Life Sciences field. Šarūnas currently works on his PhD thesis on Networked Government and delivers lectures in Vilnius University Faculty of Law on Health Law, European Union Law and Public International Law.



## EVENT INFORMATION

	<p><b>Welcome dinner</b>  <b>Wednesday, 7 June, 19:30 – 22:00</b>  <b>Restaurant <a href="#">ERTLIO NAMAS</a> (Šv. Jono g. 7, 1123 Vilnius)</b></p>
	<p><b>Event: “Patient-Centred Roundtable on Working Together for Accessible Health”</b>  <b>Thursday, 8 June, 10:00 – 17:30</b>  <b>Constitution Hall, Lithuanian Parliament, Gedimino ave. 53, Vilnius</b></p>
	<p>Bring your <b>ID</b> with you!</p>
	<p><b>PACT, Programme and Policy Coordinator:</b> Lilyana Chavdarova / <a href="mailto:lilyana@eupatientaccess.eu">lilyana@eupatientaccess.eu</a> / +359 879 44 99 84  <b>POLA, President:</b> Šarūnas Narbutas / <a href="mailto:sarunas.narbutas@pola.lt">sarunas.narbutas@pola.lt</a> / +370 652 22852</p>