

European Patient Safety Foundation

Independent foundation, uniting experts and leading organisations to drive patient safety forward across Europe.

2025 ACTIVITY REPORT



2025

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

Highlights of our work



STRENGTHENING THE PS COMMUNITY



Bringing together leading experts and organisations

EUPSF ANNUAL PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025, MUNICH

In collaboration with APS and TUM
Klinikum Rechts der Isar

INFORMAL & FORMAL AFFILIATE MEETINGS

Councils of Affiliates, Tailor-made
exclusive update meetings

EXCLUSIVE WEBINARS AND EVENTS

A2A webinars, Pre-conference visit of the
Simulation Center in Munich

DIRECT MAILING TO THE PATIENT SAFETY COMMUNITY

Newsletters, Webinars, Conference
information

DRIVING CHANGE



Sharing and up-scaling innovative practices

FIGHTING FATIGUE TOGETHER

Launch of the national campaign
in Slovakia, Workshop organised
during the conference in Munich

BUTTERFLY IMPACT AWARD 2025

Small actions, big changes in Patient
Safety

DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT TO PATIENT SAFETY INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

Second victim phenomenon, Fasting
procedures, Patient Blood Management

WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY 2025

Celebrating the day together with our
affiliates

PATIENT SAFETY ADVOCACY



Raising the visibility and discussion of patient safety issues

PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL ALLIANCES, AND EU PROJECTS

PROMOTION OF PATIENT SAFETY AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

PROACTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS OR REGULATORY PROPOSALS TO EU POLICYMAKERS

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

EUPSF AFFILIATES AND PARTNERS

Organisations and individuals who were driving patient safety forward with us in 2025

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS



INDUSTRY



INDIVIDUALS

- Dr. Patricia Burga (Italy)
- Mrs. Panagiota Tsikala (Austria)
- Dr. med. Johannes Wacker, MPH (Switzerland)
- Dr. Angelika Werner (Germany)
- Dr. David Whitaker (United Kingdom)
- Dr. med. Johannes Wacker, MPH (Switzerland)

NETWORK PARTNERS



STRENGTHENING THE PS COMMUNITY

Bringing together leading experts and organisations



2025

Welcome to

PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025

Rethinking patient safety: Evolving roles and responsibilities in a changing healthcare landscape

ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH:



MUNICH, GERMANY

24.OCTOBER

Rethinking patient safety: Evolving roles and responsibilities in a changing healthcare landscape

Healthcare is evolving at an unprecedented pace, driven by digital innovation. At the same time, rising demand for care, workforce shortages, and new medical advancements are reshaping how healthcare is organized and delivered. Traditional patient safety approaches, focused on detecting and analysing risks after they occur, have been instrumental in improving care. However, in a system that is transforming so rapidly, patient safety must evolve to anticipate risks and accompany change, rather than react to it. Strengthening past efforts remains essential, but new strategies are needed to ensure safety is proactively embedded into every shift in healthcare delivery.

These changes are fundamentally reshaping roles and responsibilities within healthcare settings. As automation and data-powered solutions support decision-making, professionals must adapt to new ways of working while ensuring that human oversight remains central to patient safety. The introduction of new treatments, technologies, and care models, such as patient-centered and home-based care, requires continuous adjustments in safety practices, including a re-definition of the patient's role. At the same time, workforce shortages are driving task redistribution among healthcare professionals, often beyond traditional professional boundaries, introducing new categories of risks. While hospital managers work to address pressing challenges like workforce retention, cybersecurity, financial balance, and sustainability, fully embedding patient safety into these strategic decisions remains difficult, even though doing so could enhance overall resilience and provide long-term solutions.

This conference will not only focus on risks but also on solutions: how to anticipate rather than react, how to leverage innovation without increasing complexity, and how to support those who carry the responsibility for safety every day. By bringing together all key stakeholders, we aim to redefine patient safety as an adaptable, forward-looking priority in healthcare systems that are constantly evolving.

Date: **24 October 2025**

Place: **Munich, Germany**

- Co-organisers:
- The German Coalition for Patient Safety
- Aktionsbündnis Patientensicherheit (APS)
 - Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technical University of Munich



PATIENT SAFETY 2025 CONFERENCE

24 OCTOBER MUNICH



KEY FIGURES

- **312** registered delegates (147 in-person, 165 virtual)
- **29** countries
- **35** organisations & projects
- **8** sponsors

DEDICATED WEBSITE

- **7 099+** total visitors
- **11 243+** page views

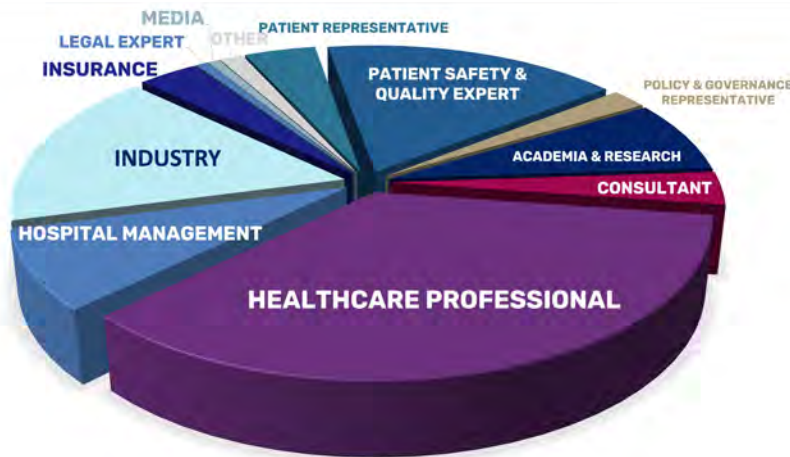
01/01/2025 - 09/12/2025

Lectures and panel discussions:

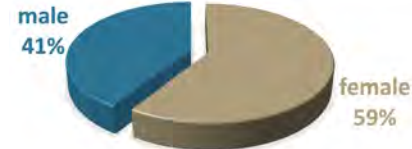
- GOVERNANCE
- SAFE HOME-BASED CARE
- HEALTHCARE WORKER WELLBEING AND SAFETY
- NURSES AND PATIENT SAFETY
- DATA AND PATIENT SAFETY
- DIAGNOSTIC SAFETY
- HUMANITY IN CARE

Workshops:

- FIGHTING FATIGUE TOGETHER
- SECOND VICTIM SUPPORT
- INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEMS
- PRE-OPERATIVE FASTING PRACTICES
- PATIENT BLOOD MANAGEMENT
- BUTTERFLY IMPACT AWARD



- | | | |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Andorra | Georgia | Portugal |
| Australia | Germany | Romania |
| Austria | Italy | Saudi Arabia |
| Belgium | Kuwait | Slovakia |
| Croatia | Latvia | Spain |
| Czech Republic | Malta | Sweden |
| Denmark | Netherlands | Switzerland |
| Estonia | Norway | United Kingdom |
| Finland | Oman | Vietnam |
| France | Poland | |



[CHECK THE PHOTO REPORT](#)

PATIENT SAFETY 2025 CONFERENCE

24 OCTOBER MUNICH



PATIENT SAFETY 2025 CONFERENCE

24 OCTOBER MUNICH



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Dossier
Digital
competency
management

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS AND PROJECTS



Dansk Selskab for PatientSikkerhed **PSI**



STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE & COLLABORATION

A solid governance shaped with and for our Affiliates

In 2025, we continued to reinforce a governance model that is both collaborative and accountable.

Our Board met four times throughout the year to oversee the Foundation's operations, ensure financial and organisational continuity, and support strategic decision-making. These regular meetings are essential to maintaining a strong, well-governed organisation with clear oversight and direction.

In parallel, we held two Council of Affiliates meetings, each with a distinct purpose and format. The first Council meeting of the year, held online in late spring, focused on formal governance topics including the approval of annual accounts, election of Board members, and a review of ongoing activities. The second meeting, organised in person in Munich, created space for deeper exchange, using a World Café approach to shape our priorities and activities for 2026.

Together, these governance touch points helped ensure that the Foundation remains driven by its network: aligning action on key patient safety priorities such as healthcare professional well-being, national patient safety strategies (including CIRs), simulation and training, innovation, and stronger involvement of patients and leaders.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Virtual, 11 September 2025



TAILORED ENGAGEMENT WITH AFFILIATES

Driving Patient Safety Forward Together

Alongside our formal governance activities, we continued regular one-to-one meetings with Affiliates, both online and onsite, to stay close to their local context, achievements, and challenges. These exchanges enable us to build trust, identify shared priorities, and ensure the Foundation's actions remain aligned with the real needs of those improving patient safety on the ground. By listening, learning, and working collaboratively, we help connect diverse experiences across Europe and support our Affiliates in turning ideas into meaningful progress for safer care.



Visiting FOKUS Patient; Stockholm, Sweden, March 2025



Visiting OAMGMAMR in Bucharest, Romania, May 2025



Strategic Meeting with SESAM and WHO leadership, Valencia, Spain, June 2025



Annual Update Meeting with World Patient Alliance, Brussels, Belgium, November 2025



Annual update meeting with Predicttheon, Barcelona, Spain, April 2025



Meeting with Prave Preto, Slovakia, September 2025



Meeting with the leadership of TUM Klinikum Rechts der Isar, Munich, Germany, July 2025



EXCLUSIVE WEBINARS AND EVENTS

Learning together with our Affiliates



A2A MINI-WEBINAR "SUPPORTING THE SECOND VICTIM"

We organised a virtual "Affiliate-to-Affiliate" mini-webinar during which Prof. Dr. Reinhard Strametz **Wiesbaden Institute for Healthcare Economics and Patient Safety (WiHeLP)** for presenting compelling evidence on the economic impact of structured peer support programmes for healthcare professionals affected by adverse events. The compelling data presented are based on the outstanding doctoral research of **Hannah Rösner**, whose work demonstrates that psychosocial support is not just ethically imperative, but economically smart. [Watch the recording](#)



A2A MINI-WEBINAR "FROM INNOVATION TO IMPLEMENTATION: HOW SESAM IS ADVANCING PATIENT SAFETY THROUGH SIMULATION"

During the webinar organised in collaboration with the **Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM)**, Prof. Freeman shared the latest developments in simulation and how it is being applied across a variety of healthcare settings. She highlighted how simulation helps overcome implementation barriers, foster collaboration, and build effective partnerships that drive safer care. [Watch the recording](#)



MEDICAL ERRORS IN EUROPE: BREAKING BARRIERS AND STRENGTHENING REPORTING SYSTEMS

This joint webinar organised in collaboration with **World Patient Alliance** and the European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF) aimed to provide a comprehensive overview of the medical error landscape in Europe and explore solutions for better reporting and learning. [Watch the recording](#)



EXCLUSIVE WEBINARS AND EVENTS

Learning together with our Affiliates



PRE-CONFERENCE VISIT – HUMAN SIMULATION CENTRE, MUNICH

As a prelude to our annual conference, we visited the Human Simulation Centre of the LMU University Hospital in Munich to experience firsthand how advanced simulation and extended reality tools are used to train healthcare teams in communication, decision-making and crisis management. This hands-on visit offered a powerful demonstration of how realistic simulation can enhance preparedness, teamwork and ultimately patient safety, grounding our upcoming conference discussions in real-world practice.



WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY 2025



“Patient safety from the start!”

17th September

World Patient Safety Day calls for global solidarity and concerted action by all countries and international partners to improve patient safety. The Day brings together patients, families, caregivers, communities, health workers, health care leaders and policy-makers to show their commitment to patient safety.

WPSD 2025 theme “**Safe care for every newborn and every child**” reminded us how vulnerable the very youngest patients are and how vital it is to protect them from preventable harm. Learn more about the theme here: <https://lnkd.in/dqpZrYqQ>

At European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF), we chose to mark this special day together with one of our affiliates each year. It’s a way to show how patient safety is advanced not only through European collaboration but also and above all through the daily work of leading experts and organisations at national and local level, with the aim of bringing change where it matters: in healthcare settings and communities.

On this occasion, we were especially proud to join Aktionsbündnis Patientensicherheit e. V. at their conference, hosted by the German Ministry of Health and opened by the Minister herself, Mrs. Nina Warken to celebrate the 20th anniversary of APS!



DIRECT MAILING TO OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Patient Safety Newsletters, Events, Important updates about the EUPSF work

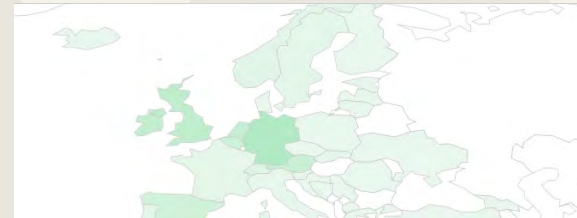
KEY FIGURES:

- **3736 recipients** (+57% since 2024)
- 16 direct mailings to wider patient safety community in 2025
- Average opening rates:
 - 49% (whole database),
 - 76% (Affiliates)

01/01/2025 - 05/12/2025



Global recipients



European recipients



Spring is in the air, and a new flow of energy is running through the Foundation. In recent months, more affiliates have joined us, bringing to our collective action more diversity and reach. At the same time, we have been following recent EU level policy developments that could hold promise for the future of health and patient safety. And looking ahead, we're pleased to share the first news about our next Patient Safety Conference, which will take place in Munich this autumn.

Enjoy the read!

Summer often invites a moment to pause, but at the Foundation, it's been anything but quiet. As we enter the final phase of preparing our annual Patient Safety Conference in Munich, the activities in progress, but we can share it with our co-organising and participating partners – whose commitment makes us feel the strength of a growing patient safety community. At the same time, new collaborations on topics like simulation and the second victim phenomenon keep us busy and engaged, opening up promising directions for the Foundation's future. And with a renewed focus, we're stepping up our efforts to follow data and AI-driven innovations that bring not only exciting possibilities, but also a clear need to keep trust, responsibility, and safety at the centre.

Enjoy the read!



SAVE THE DATE: PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025
24 October 2025, Munich, Germany

Healthcare is undergoing rapid transformation, driven by digital innovation, medical advancements, and shifting care models. At the same time, growing demand for care, workforce shortages and financial constraints are putting pressure on healthcare systems, reshaping how care is delivered and how patient safety is ensured.



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN
European Patient Safety Conference 2025 (24 October, Munich)

We excited to announce that registration is now open for the 2025 European Patient Safety Conference, taking place on 24 October 2025, at the iconic Mauthausen Klostergarten in Munich.



Medical errors remain a significant challenge in healthcare systems across Europe, affecting patient safety and trust. Despite advancements in medical practices, barriers to effective error reporting persist, limiting opportunities for learning and improvement.

To address these critical issues, the European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF) together with the World Patients Alliance (WPA) are hosting a webinar on "Medical Errors in Europe: Breaking Barriers and Strengthening Reporting Systems" on **March 20, 2025, at 04:00 PM CET.**

This session will bring together experts, policymakers, and patient representatives to discuss the current landscape of medical errors, explore solutions for improving reporting mechanisms, and foster a culture of transparency and learning within healthcare systems. Join us as we work toward building safer and more accountable healthcare for all.

Don't miss out - remember to join us on **March 20th, 2025 from 04:00 PM CET** for the webinar. Mark your calendar and register now to secure your spot at this informative event. We look forward to your participation in this crucial conversation.

REGISTER NOW

AI-powered Simultaneous Translations in 80+ Languages Available for This LIVE Event
Click here to learn how to use it.



A2A DISCUSSION
From Innovation to Implementation: How SESAM is advancing patient safety through simulation
Prof. Kirsty J. Freeman
Secretary (2024) - Society for Simulation in Europe

Dear John,

This is a kind reminder about tomorrow's A2A (Affiliate-to-Affiliate) Mini-Webinar, organised in collaboration with the Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM).

From Innovation to Implementation: How SESAM is advancing patient safety through simulation

2 October 2025
15:00-16:00 CET
Virtual

Healthcare simulation has become an essential tool for improving patient safety – from training healthcare teams to testing new processes and systems before they reach real patients.

In this session, Prof. Kirsty Freeman, Secretary of SESAM, will share the latest developments in simulation and how it is being applied across a variety of healthcare settings. She will highlight how simulation helps overcome implementation barriers, foster collaboration, and build effective partnerships that drive safer care.

Prof. Freeman will also introduce SESAM's Communities of Practice – networks that bring together experts and practitioners to exchange knowledge, translate research into practice, and develop strategies that turn collective expertise into meaningful change for patients.

Through real-world examples, you will gain insight into how simulation and collaboration can accelerate progress toward safer healthcare systems.



PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025
Defining patient safety, evolving roles and responsibilities in a changing healthcare landscape

Dear Stephen,

We are pleased to announce that our Patient Safety Conference, titled **Defining patient safety. Evolving roles and responsibilities in a changing healthcare landscape**, taking place this Friday in Munich, will be available via live-streaming for those unable to attend in person.

This free live stream gives you the chance to follow the discussions in real time and hear leading experts address key developments and challenges in patient safety across Europe. For your convenience, please find attached the final programme.

Live-streaming access is available here: <https://www.eupsf.org/en/2025/10/24-patient-safety-conference-2025>

Please feel free to share this link with others who may benefit from these valuable discussions.

We look forward to your participation and to fulfilling our shared commitment to patient safety.

Warm regards,

The Conference Team

PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE 2025

EUROPEAN PATIENT SAFETY FOUNDATION
Dromaeus Medicus Europe
24 rue de Frobenius
1000 Brussels, Belgium

DRIVING CHANGE

Sharing and up-scaling innovative practices



2025

FIGHTING FATIGUE TOGETHER



A truly European collaborative campaign

KEY INFORMATION:

Collaborative campaign launched in 2023 to raise awareness of the risks of fatigue and its impact on health and performance, taking into account the specific context of each country and finding ways to make EVERYONE feel concerned.

www.fightingfatiguetogether.eu

2018 - The launch of national campaign in UK

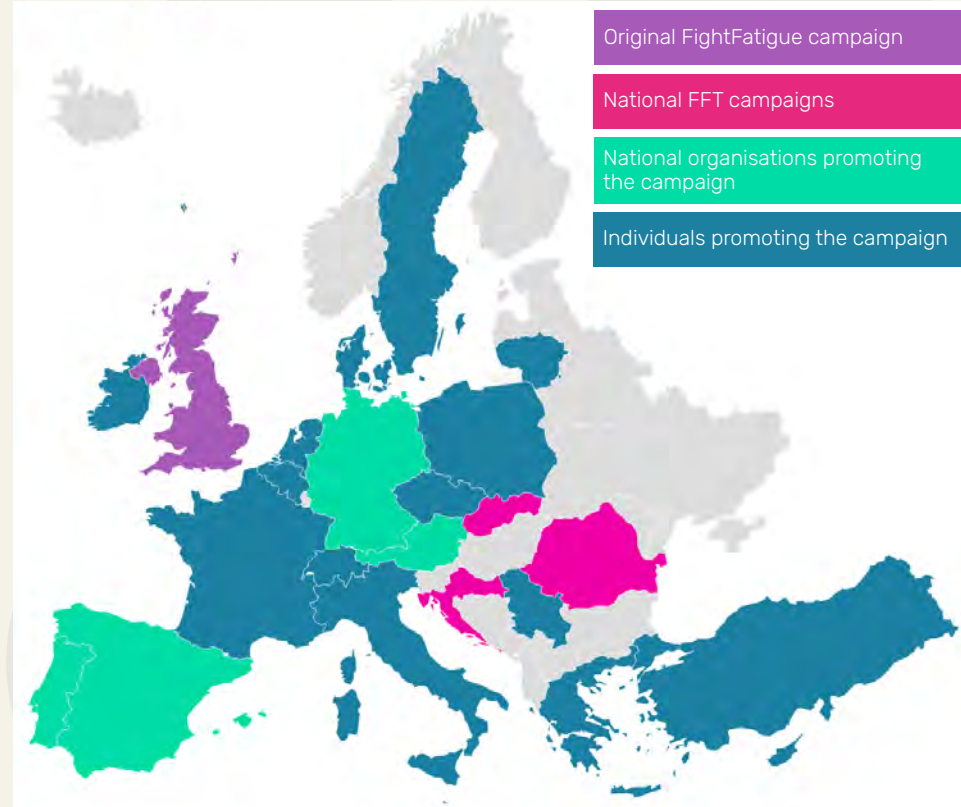
2021 - EUPSF backs the UK Campaign

2023 - EUPSF launched Fighting Fatigue Together campaign and won the European Health Leadership Award



2024 - Launch of the national FFT campaigns in **Croatia** and **Romania**

2025 - Launch of the national FFT campaign in **Slovakia**



NATIONAL FFT CAMPAIGN IN SLOVAKIA

Strategic Meeting (12th August), National campaign launch (16th September 2025)



On World Patient Safety Day, we supported our Affiliate organisation Práve Preto at the launch of the *Fighting Fatigue Together* campaign in Slovakia, where healthcare professional fatigue remains a largely overlooked and often taboo issue. Despite clear evidence of risk, from medical errors, staff shortages to rising burnout, there is still no coordinated approach to managing fatigue or supporting healthcare workers in Slovakia.

The campaign aims to make fatigue a visible patient safety priority and advocate for practical improvements in working conditions and psychological safety. A national campaign website was developed, a podcast was recorded, and a press conference was organised to officially launch the campaign. A national memorandum is now open for organisations and individuals to show their support.

📌 Read more: eupsf.org/fftsklaunch

🇸🇰 National campaign website: <https://www.spoluprotiunave.sk/>

🎧 Listen to the podcast: youtube.com/watch?v=H7gfieYcegE



práve
preto!



FIGHTING FATIGUE TOGETHER



Additional Events

LECTURE

At the 2025 Patient Safety Conference, we highlighted the Fighting Fatigue Together campaign with a dedicated session showcasing Slovakia's national rollout. The lecture illustrated how a multi-stakeholder initiative can be built and adapted locally, engaging partners, shaping messages, and linking workforce well-being with patient safety. The session aimed to inspire other countries to take action and develop their own national efforts.



WORKSHOP

We also hosted a workshop on Fighting Fatigue Together: Addressing Fatigue to Protect Well-Being and Patient Safety, highlighting fatigue as a major yet overlooked risk in healthcare. The session shared insights from our European campaign, explored how other high-risk industries manage fatigue, and encouraged participants to identify practical actions to create safer and healthier working environments for healthcare professionals.



<https://www.fightingfatiguetogether.eu>

HEALTHCARE FATIGUE FORUM

On 4 November, we contributed to the Healthcare Fatigue Forum in Bristol (UK), sharing the Fighting Fatigue Together campaign and the European perspective on addressing healthcare worker fatigue. The event gathered experts and organisations working to advance fatigue risk management in healthcare by learning from high-risk industries and improving system-level approaches. Our participation helped strengthen collaboration with UK partners and reinforced the shared ambition to better protect both healthcare professionals and patients from the risks linked to fatigue.



At the European Patient Safety Conference in Munich, we celebrated projects that demonstrate how small actions can drive big changes. This award, inspired by the 'butterfly effect,' honours innovative and accessible practices that have a measurable, positive impact on patient safety.

THE WINNER OF THE 2025 BUTTERFLY IMPACT AWARD IN PATIENT SAFETY IS:

🏆 1st Prize - Mental Health for Health Professionals (MeSu) Project, presented by Dr Pernille Cedergreen, Department of Anaesthesiology, Herlev og Gentofte Hospital, Copenhagen, and Inge Kristensen, Dansk Selskab for Patientsikkerhed (Danish Society for Patient Safety). The MeSu project provides a simple yet powerful peer-support model that strengthens staff well-being and psychological safety, key foundations for safe, resilient healthcare systems.

🥈 2nd Prize - From Silence to Support: Implementing a Hybrid Physician Handover Meeting in Medicine, developed and presented by Dr Ganesh Arunachalam, Consultant Physician in Elderly Care, Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust, Harlow Town, United Kingdom.

🥉 3rd Prize - Developing a Low-Fidelity Simulation Curriculum to Improve Patient Safety Across a University Hospital, led by Dr. med. Hannah Wehrmann, Assistant Physician in Paediatrics, Teaching Faculty Member, University of Witten/Herdecke & Helios University Hospital Wuppertal, Helios Kliniken GmbH, Germany. [Click here for more details](#)



ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH:



SECOND VICTIM SUPPORT

Development and support to 2024 Butterfly Impact Awards winners



Building on the 2024 Butterfly Impact Award granted to the ERNST Network, we continued to support the development of structured second-victim support in Europe. In 2025, we worked closely with the leadership team to guide the transition of the **RESCUE initiative** from a COST Action consortium into an independent and sustainable structure. In November, the EUPSF officially became the **umbrella organisation for RESCUE** for the next three years. We helped advance knowledge dissemination by supporting the launch of the **European strategy e-book** on second-victim support, and we hosted a **workshop** to share practical peer-support models and spark discussion on how hospitals can strengthen emotional and psychological safety for healthcare professionals after adverse events. Together with RESCUE and our Affiliates, we are reinforcing the principle that **no system can be safe if it neglects those who deliver care**.

EUROPEAN STRATEGY E-BOOK ON SECOND-VICTIM SUPPORT



PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT BETWEEN EUPSF AND RESCUE - THE INITIATIVE ON SECOND-VICTIM SUPPORT



[READ MORE >](#)



WORKSHOP: SUPPORTING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AFTER ADVERSE EVENTS: PEER SUPPORT FOR SECOND VICTIMS, PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE, 24 OCT 2025, MUNICH



PERIOPERATIVE FASTING

Development and support to 2024 Butterfly Impact Awards winners

Following the recognition of the **“Fasting Cards” project** as the 2nd Prize winner of the 2024 Butterfly Impact Awards, we continued to support efforts to modernise pre-operative fasting practices and reduce avoidable patient discomfort and harm.

Together with our Affiliates, we contributed to a multi-stakeholder **Delphi consensus study** on perioperative fasting, reinforcing the need to avoid unnecessarily prolonged fasting, especially for clear liquids, and to adopt more patient-centred practices grounded in current evidence.

We also brought this conversation to our Patient Safety Conference by organising a **workshop** focused on practical implementation. The session highlighted barriers still faced in clinical settings and invited participants to explore what support is needed, institutionally and at policy level, to ensure safer, more humane fasting practices for patients across Europe.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PERI-OPERATIVE FASTING IN ADULTS DELPHI ROUND 3 – ONLINE MEETING, 9 SEPTEMBER 2025



WORKSHOP: RETHINKING PRE-OPERATIVE LIQUID FASTING PRACTICES PATIENT SAFETY CONFERENCE, 24 OCT 2025, MUNICH



PATIENT BLOOD MANAGEMENT

Development and support to external initiatives

In 2025, we reinforced attention to Patient Blood Management (PBM) as a transversal patient safety challenge. On World Health Day, we took part in a multi-stakeholder policy event at the European Parliament, highlighting blood health as a policy priority and supporting the newly published WHO implementation guidance on PBM.

We continued the discussion at the Patient Safety Conference by hosting a dedicated workshop exploring systemic risks in the blood management lifecycle and practical strategies to improve transfusion safety. Together, these activities helped strengthen collaboration, raise awareness, and promote safer PBM practices across Europe.

THE TIME IS NOW: MAKING BLOOD HEALTH A POLICY PRIORITY

7 APRIL 2025, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS



CONFERENCE WORKSHOP - PATIENT BLOOD MANAGEMENT (PBM):

A TRANSVERSAL PATIENT SAFETY CHALLENGE, 24 OCT 2025, MUNICH



PATIENT SAFETY ADVOCACY

Raising the visibility and discussion of patient safety issues



2025

PARTICIPATION IN EU ALLIANCES & PROJECTS

Bringing in the patient safety perspective



ERNST - European researchers' network working on second victims

The main aim and objective of ERNST is to facilitate discussion and share scientific knowledge, perspectives, and best practices concerning adverse events in healthcare institutions to implement joint efforts to support second victims, and to introduce an open dialogue among stakeholders about the consequences of this phenomenon. EUPSF is member of the network.



EPACT - Alliance for the digitalisation of medication management in European hospitals

Via the Alliance for the Digitalisation of Medication Management in European Hospitals, a white paper publication highlights the benefits that can be gained by implementing and upscaling digitalisation hospitals' medication management pathways for patient safety, healthcare professionals' well-being, medicine shortages, hospital resilience. The EUPSF is a member of the Alliance.



ECAMET - European collaborative action on medication errors and traceability

The Alliance aims to reduce medication errors and promote, at European and national levels, the implementation of comprehensive electronic traceability systems in hospital settings. The EUPSF is a member of the Alliance.



CEI - Working Group on Capacity-Enhancing Innovation (CEI)

CEI is an initiative committed to addressing critical workforce shortages and improving resource optimisation in European healthcare systems. The group's core objective is to equip EU policymakers with actionable recommendations that leverage innovation to build resilient, sustainable health systems. EUPSF's role is to bring the patient safety and system perspective in the discussions.

PROMOTION OF PATIENT SAFETY

AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



HEALTH CHALLENGES CONGRESS

13 MARCH 2025, KATOWICE, POLAND

We also contributed to high-level European discussions on strengthening patients' rights. On 13 March in Katowice, our President Penilla Gunther represented the Foundation at a special session of the Health Challenges Congress dedicated to advancing the European Charter of Patient Rights. Originally drafted in 2002, the Charter defines 14 key rights, including the Right to Safety, but has never been formally endorsed by the European Union. With Poland preparing to assume the Presidency of the Council of the EU, the conveners signalled a renewed commitment to move the Charter forward, bringing national and European stakeholders together to explore next steps. We highlighted that patient safety must remain a central pillar in this process, ensuring that the Right to Safe Care is recognised and protected equally for all citizens across Europe.



7TH GLOBAL MINISTERIAL SUMMIT ON PATIENT SAFETY

3-4 APRIL 2025, MANILLA, PHILIPPINES

Our Board Member Kira Tosberg joined the Summit, co-hosted by WHO and the Philippine Department of Health. Speaking in the panel on patient engagement, she shared national initiatives from Aktionsbündnis Patientensicherheit and highlighted EUPSF's work, notably the *Fighting Fatigue Together* campaign. Her contribution helped bring the European perspective into a global dialogue focused on strengthening patient participation and advancing the Global Patient Safety Action Plan 2021-2030.



PROMOTION OF PATIENT SAFETY

AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS



EUROPEAN HEALTH FORUM GASTEIN

2 OCTOBER 2025, GASTEIN, AUSTRIA

At the European Health Forum Gastein 2025, EUPSF President Penilla Gunther contributed to the session *Beating hearts: a vision for cardiovascular health and equity*. The discussion focused on the growing case for an EU-wide cardiovascular health plan to address major inequalities and strengthen resilience across Europe. Representing the patient safety perspective, Penilla highlighted the importance of strong networks that connect patient advocates and stakeholders, ensuring patients' voices are heard and that equity is embedded in research, clinical trials and access to care.



THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HEALTHCARE

1 DECEMBER 2025, PARIS, FRANCE

We were represented by our Policy Advisor Stéphane Boulanger at in Paris, where he spoke on the link between access to care, AI adoption and patient safety. His intervention highlighted that fatigue and workforce shortages are major systemic risks across Europe, reinforcing the message of the *Fighting Fatigue Together* campaign. He emphasised that AI can only improve safety if it supports clinical teams, ensures high-quality interactions with patients, and is implemented with appropriate training, data security and clear governance. The contribution helped bring the patient safety perspective into a national debate shaping the future of AI in healthcare.



BRINGING PATIENT SAFETY IN DISCUSSION

SUPPORTING AFFILIATES WITH KEYNOTE LECTURES & EVENT MODERATION



AMMA'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY
6TH FEBRUARY 2025, BRUSSELS

At the 80th Anniversary Symposium of AMMA in Brussels, Stéphane Boulanger and Mirka Cikkelova were invited to deliver a keynote lecture on rethinking patient safety. The presentation reflected on 25 years of progress since *To Err is Human* and highlighted why innovation remains essential in today's complex healthcare systems. The session emphasised the need to anticipate risks, strengthen psychological safety, and embed patient safety into institutional governance and strategic decisions.



FOKUS PATIENT FUTURE DAYS
17 MARCH 2025, STOCKHOLM

At the FOKUS Patient Future Days in Stockholm, Mirka Cikkelova represented EUPSF and moderated a session on patient safety across the full care journey. Bringing together perspectives from regulation, industry, primary care and patient advocacy, the discussion highlighted the importance of anticipating risks, improving coordination, and strengthening collaboration across all stakeholders to build safer and more resilient healthcare systems.



BRINGING PATIENT SAFETY IN DISCUSSION

SUPPORTING AFFILIATES WITH KEYNOTE LECTURES & EVENT MODERATION



ESNO CONFERENCES
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM & ZAGREB, CROATIA

We strengthened our collaboration with the European Specialist Nurses Organisation (ESNO) through two key engagements in 2025. Our President, Penilla Gunther, spoke at the ESNO Congress, underlining the strategic role of specialised nurses in ensuring safe care across Europe. We were also invited to virtually open the first workshop of the newly created ESNO Patient Safety Committee, encouraging frontline-driven priorities and confirming our support as their work advances.



16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF OAMGMAMR

21 MAY 2025, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

At the 16th Annual Conference of OAMGMAMR Bucharest Branch, Mirka Cikkelova delivered a keynote lecture on rethinking patient safety as a systemic responsibility, deeply connected to the working conditions of nurses and midwives.



The intervention highlighted their indispensable role in safe care and the need for empowerment through appropriate staffing, fatigue management, training, and participation in decision-making. This engagement strengthened collaboration with Romanian partners and reinforced the message that protecting patients requires protecting those who care for them.



BRINGING PATIENT SAFETY IN DISCUSSION

SUPPORTING AFFILIATES WITH KEYNOTE LECTURES & EVENT MODERATION



30TH ANNUAL MEETING OF SESAM
25-27 JUNE 2025, VALENCIA, SPAIN

At the SESAM Annual Meeting, Mirka Cikkelova delivered a keynote titled *Unlocking the Full Potential of Simulation to Improve Patient Safety*, exploring how simulation can support safer care in a rapidly evolving healthcare environment. The talk highlighted simulation's role in helping professionals adapt to new technologies, strengthen teamwork and anticipate emerging risks, while also improving well-being, resilience and retention. By reframing simulation as a strategic investment in both patient and workforce safety, the keynote encouraged wider integration of simulation into future healthcare transformation.



PSI! CONFERENCE ON PATIENT SAFETY IN THE INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
7-8 OCTOBER, KOLDING, DENMARK

The event organised by the Danish Society for Patient Safety focused on turning healthcare reform vision into reality, and on the safety implications of shifting roles, settings, and responsibilities across sectors. Mirka Cikkelova's keynote, *Rethinking patient safety in a changing healthcare landscape*, acknowledged Denmark's leadership in patient safety and highlighted how reforms, workforce pressures, digitalisation and increasing care complexity require patient safety to be treated as a guiding principle. The intervention reinforced the importance of embedding safety into governance, supporting healthcare professionals through change, and strengthening collaboration between national efforts in Denmark and European initiatives led by EUPSF.



PUBLICATIONS

Keeping Patient Safety at the top of the agenda

Aim:

To create a sustained and dynamic narrative around patient safety, leading to increased engagement, awareness, and collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Upcoming EU Cardiovascular Health Plan - EUPSF's extensive contribution integrating Affiliates' input**

For more information contact EUPSF Secretariat.

ARTICLE

- **Rethinking responsibility: A collaborative approach to medication safety**

Boulanger S., Open Access Government, 8 May 2025 [Learn more](#)

INTERVIEWS

- **Patientsikkerhed skal være et ledende princip / Patient safety must act as a driving principle**

Author: Lars Jørgensen, Interview with Mirka Cikkelova, EUPSF General Secretary, Danish Society for Patient Safety, 13. august 2025, [Learn more](#)

- **Meet our conference speakers – Flash interview with Dr. Arnt Suckow**

Author: Stéphane Boulanger, Interview with Dr. Arnt Suckow, Head of Quality, Risk Management & Internal Audit, TUM University Hospital (Munich), Patient Safety Conference 2025, 23 September 2025 [Learn more](#)

- **20th Anniversary of German Coalition for Patient Safety (APS) – Interview with Kira Tosberg**

Author: Stéphane Boulanger, Interview with Ms. Kira Tosberg, Scientific Board Advisor, German Coalition for Patient Safety (APS); Board Member, European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF), Patient Safety Conference 2025, 4 September 2025 [Learn more](#)

- **9 questions for Penilla Gunther, President of the European Patient Safety Foundation**

SIMZINE Dec 13, 2024. Issue n. 18. [Learn more](#)



Tackling Cardiovascular Disease Across Europe

Placing Patient Safety at the Heart of Europe's Upcoming Cardiovascular Health Plan
Contribution of the European Patient Safety Foundation

Introduction

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) is responsible for an estimated 1.7 billion growing burden on individuals, fa

As populations age and treatment extends well beyond clinical out consequences for all Member St hospitalisations and long-term c as many people living with CVD c must reduce their hours. At the s strain the medical workforce. Le

Rethinking responsibility: A collaborative approach to medication safety

May 8, 2025

Clear up of an old bottle inside putting with the medical community



9 questions for Penilla Gunther, president of the European Patient Safety Foundation

https://openaccessgovernment.org/2025/05/08/9-questions-for-penilla-gunther-president-of-the-european-patient-safety-foundation/

"First, no do harm" is the most core principle that underpins all healthcare services. Nevertheless, there is strong evidence indicating a significant burden of preventable patient harm worldwide, affecting both developed and developing healthcare systems. This issue carries substantial human, moral, ethical, and financial consequences. Thus, the quality of care is nowadays a political priority worldwide. In this context, we spoke with Penilla Gunther, President of the European Patient Safety Foundation, to discuss the challenges and opportunities in enhancing patient safety with a focus on medication as a contributing factor in creating safe health systems in Europe, and

Penilla Gunther
President of the European Patient Safety Foundation

personal medicine with precision, a dedication, making her a powerful voice for patient safety and healthcare innovation.

"The European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF) is an independent organization dedicated to advancing patient safety and quality of care across Europe. President of the Foundation, we have patient advocates, healthcare professionals, providers, academics, and life sciences companies to address the complex challenges of patient safety. Guided by a holistic and systemic vision, EUPSF emphasizes that enhancing patient and healthcare worker safety requires considering all factors influencing care quality, from expert and resilience to the interconnected value of technology and human factors. EUPSF's mission is to empower patients and healthcare workers through education and advocacy, drive meaningful change in patient safety policy and foster a collaborative network that promotes innovative practices and shared solutions. With a strong commitment to ethics, transparency, and European collaboration, EUPSF aims to create a healthcare environment where patient safety is a shared responsibility, upheld by all stakeholders.

Ms. Gunther, it is truly an honor

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PSI

Open Access Government

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SOCIAL MEDIA

Focus on LinkedIn

We have strategically chosen LinkedIn as our primary platform for sharing updates and engaging with our community.

Key figures:

- 2361+ (+43% since 2024)
- 60 349, median impression rate: 890
- 56 posts, 2 293 reactions
- 14,5 % engagement rate

01/01/2024 - 18/12/2024

Expectations from using LinkedIn:

- Increased visibility
- Targeted networking
- Building community and relationships
- Sharing and promoting work of our affiliates
- Global reach with personalised approach
- Optimisation of available resources

Top 6 posts:

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
1mo · Edited · 🌐

🏆 Winner Announcement of the 2025 Butterfly Impact Award in Patient Safety! 🌟 ...more



Total number of impressions: 3 740
Posted on 07/11/2025, [Read post](#)

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
1mo · 🌐

👏 European Patient Safety Conference 2025 felt like the perfect place to meet, exchange, and rethink #patient #safety together. ...more



with Joachim Maurice Mielert and 30 others

Stéphane Boulanger and 97 others

Total number of impressions: 2 216
Posted on 27/10/2025, [Read post](#)

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
1mo · Edited · 🌐

🎉 We're excited to share the final #programme for the upcoming Patient Safety Conference 2025, taking place on 24 October in Munich! 📅
<https://lnkd.in/g4Y9dXMW> ...more



Total number of impressions: 3 627
Posted on 10/09/2025, [Read post](#)

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
9mo · Edited · 🌐

📺 Webinar about Medical Errors in Europe: Breaking Barriers and Strengthening Reporting Systems 📄 ...more



Total number of impressions: 2 093
Posted on 28/02/2025, [Read post](#)

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
6mo · Edited · 🌐

We've just held our annual Council of #Affiliates meeting, an important moment to reflect on the progress we've made and the direction we're shaping together. ...more



with Penilla Gunther and 17 others

Total number of impressions: 2 678
Posted on 06/05/2025, [Read post](#)

European Patient Safety Foundation (EUPSF)
2,361 followers
2mo · 🌐

📌 2025 European Patient Safety Conference – Interview with Dr. Arnt Suckow 🗣️ ...more



Learn more at conference.eupsf.org

Stéphane Boulanger and 60 others

Total number of impressions: 1 769
Posted on 23/09/2025, [Read post](#)

ABOUT EUPSF

Driving patient safety forward across Europe



2025

WHO WE ARE

Our identity



EUPSF is an independent foundation, uniting experts and leading organisations to drive patient safety forward across Europe.

By involving stakeholders such as patients, healthcare professionals, healthcare managers and life sciences companies in all aspects of our work, including in our governance, we bring together complementary points of view to develop solutions tailored to the complexity of patient safety challenges.

PATIENTS

**EXPERTS
NATIONAL PS
ORGANISATIONS**

**HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS
HOSPITALS**

INDUSTRY

WHO WE ARE

Our vision



Continuous improvement of patient safety and quality of care is the top priority of European healthcare.



A broad understanding of patient safety

Patient safety needs to be approached holistically, considering all the direct and indirect factors that condition excellence in care, and linking it to the equity in care, the resilience and the sustainability of the healthcare systems.



A systemic vision of change

Approaches aiming at improving patient safety must embrace the complexity of healthcare systems, the interdependencies between processes, technologies and the human factor, and seek to produce a sustained positive impact.



A shared responsibility

Improving patient safety must involve all the stakeholders concerned - including patients, healthcare professionals, leadership-to combine different perspectives and develop solutions tailored to the challenges of patient safety and the growing technicity of care.

WHO WE ARE

Our mission



We promote improvement of patient safety and quality of care across Europe.

Empowering people

By ensuring European patients, healthcare professionals and providers are informed, trained and empowered in their roles to provide the safest and highest quality care possible.

Driving change

Through partnership with leading organisations and experts in the field of patient safety, developing initiatives and policy proposals that genuinely advance patient safety across Europe, making it a tangible reality for all patients.

Fostering collaboration

By connecting healthcare stakeholders across Europe, creating a united network who share knowledge, tools and recommendations for implementing innovative practices, to improve patient safety and outcomes.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

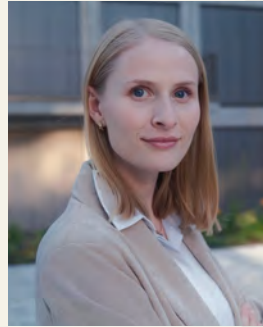
Our governance



Mrs. Penilla Gunther
EUPSF President
FOKUS Patient, Sweden



Mr. Pedro Vieira Dos Santos
EUPSF Vice-President
Medtronic, Portugal



Ms. Kira Tosgberg
Board Member
APS, Germany

According to the EUPSF by-laws, the Foundation is managed by a Board consisting of a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of seven (7) members.

Only Non-profit Organisation Affiliates and Industry Affiliates can be elected as Board member, a majority of which must be NPO Affiliates.



PD Dr. Michael Wagner
Board Member
MedUni Vienna, Austria



Mrs. Doina Carmen Mazilu
Board Member
OAMGMAMR, Romania



Mr. Jose Luis Gomez
Board Member
Becton Dickinson, Spain



Mr. Andrea Rappagliosi
Board Member
Edwards Lifesciences, Switzerland

ADVISORY BOARD

Bringing independent and critical view on our actions and strategic development



PD Dr. Sven Staender
Switzerland



Prof. Eberhard Kochs
Germany



Dr. Nancy Redfern
United Kingdom



Prof. Adrian Gelb
United States



Dr. David Borshoff
Australia



Mrs. Cecilia Edström
Sweden

SECRETARIAT

The EUPSF is based in Brussels, Belgium and the Secretariat is managed by [TRASA](#).



Mrs. Mirka Čikkelová
General Secretary
Belgium



Mr. Stéphane Boulanger
Policy Advisor, Founder of TRASA
Belgium



MERRY CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year 2026!



www.eupsf.org