



Statement on working conditions of Greek doctors

The undersigned European Medical Organisations take note of concerning reforms to the reimbursement of medical services, in particular cost-cutting measures such as ‘clawback’ discounts and mandatory rebates in Greece as reported by the Panhellenic Medical Association.

We reiterate that doctors are entitled to fair, adequate and predictable remuneration. This comprises remuneration for the medical services provided, beyond the cost incurred by the examination, e.g. for medical devices used. Arbitrary amendments to reimbursement without consultation with the medical profession and compulsory fee cuts after medical service delivery are both unacceptable and unfair.

Moreover, fair remuneration is not only about financial compensation; it is also the proper acknowledgment of a demanding profession that requires constant commitment, ongoing education, and continuous study to maintain high standards of patient care.

Fair remuneration is one of the components of working conditions among many others which ensure that the medical profession remains attractive. Contracts and terms signed between public or governmental authorities and medical service providers, should be implemented without discounts and be respected by all sides. In times of health workforce shortages, it is in the societal interest to safeguard access to healthcare by retaining medical services. To achieve this, governments need to make long-term commitments to investment in health to protect the sustainability of high-quality patient care.

European Medical Organisations support that ethical and deontological principles have to be preserved in all cases and must not be compromised by adverse working conditions.