



Newsletter No 5- 08

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Dear CAM – supporters,

Androulla Vassiliou, the new EU Health Commissioner, took over her position on April 1st. Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), was not mentioned in her inaugural speech. In the past, she was active in issues regarding the environment and human rights. We remain in suspense!

Thanks to a special invitation by the EU-Liberals ALDE/ADLE, **ANME was a guest at the European Parliament on April 15th**. In a conversation with four EU parliamentarians and two members of the commission, we were able to talk about the issues considered problematic for CAM such as: Evidence Based Medicine, herbal monographs, nutritional supplements, increased prices for medicine due to bureaucratic requirements in the name of consumer protection, lack of research, lack of EU-wide freedom in various forms of therapy and scientific proof of efficacy. As a result of this three hour conversation, we were assured that these subjects will be looked into and a subsequent meeting will take place.

Attached to this letter, you will find an appeal to participate in the **Demonstration for Natural Medicine in Europe**, which takes place **in Brussels on May 15th**, and is being organized by our Dutch/Belgian member's Ver.E.A.T.R.G. (Association of European Action for Freedom of Therapy and a Right to Health). ANME e.V. supports this appeal and encourages your participation as well as forwarding this appeal on to others.

The **“First EU-Homeopathy Day in Brussels”** held on April 10th by ECHAMP (European Coalition on Homeopathic and Anthroposophic Medicinal Products), was well visited and is to be held once a year in order to bring political attention to the significance of homeopathy. **Evidence Based Homeopathy** was the theme of this day. Representing the interests of homeopathic doctors EU-wide, the European Council for Homeopathy (ECH), is leader in defining this term. It sees the option of working with the EBM standards in a homeopathically-acceptable way as the only possibility for the survival of qualitatively good homeopathy. According to Dr. van Wassenhoven, “Good politics must be based on good science”. As seen in other areas of therapy within CAM, the “integration” of homeopathy into the system of conventional medicine will probably be the result.

Best regards,

Nora Laubstein

Association of Natural Medicine in Europe e.V.

Waldstr. 21 D-61137 Schöneck Tel. 0049(0) 6187- 9928121 Fax: 0049(0) 6187-9928074
e-mail: info@anme.info home: www.anme.info

Konto-Nr.: 4201780301 BLZ: 501 900 00 Frankfurter Volksbank e.V.
IBAN: DE 52 501 900 00 420 1780 301 BIC:FFVBDEFF