



## Union Européenne de l'Hospitalisation Privée European Union of Private Hospitals

### **UEHP International Congress on the Modernization of Healthcare Systems and Health Sustainability**

**17-18 September Milan**

#### **FINAL DECLARATION**

Welfare and social protection are supreme European values. Europe is a great opportunity for citizens, ensuring a high level of health protection. Due to the global economic crisis and lately the immigration issue, we are facing severe challenges if these values are to be maintained.

We have to discuss together – as equal partners - how to address these challenges.

We must achieve higher efficiency standards and better spend the available resources, with the one objective to continue to ensure comprehensive health coverage to all the citizens of Europe. This means being able to provide anyone with prevention, care and rehabilitation at a high quality level.

Citizens' freedom of choice, transparent regulation and plurality of providers are broad criteria which give rise to a more efficient health care coverage through enhanced productivity. In this regard, it is essential to facilitate

- equity in access for citizens and in accreditation conditions for providers,
- quality through rigorous and equal controls for all providers,
- information for citizens about services available and for the financing entity about services' quality and costs,
- financing, determined by exact and homogenous criteria for all providers,
- innovation and high technological development in health care.

In this last regard, following the conclusions of the Expert Panel of the European Commission we emphasize the strategic value of investing in health.

Presently, to be able to cope with the economic crisis, it is necessary to fulfil the fundamental aim of improving accessibility, quality, efficacy and sustainability through the modernization of healthcare systems, by means of a better use of all existing resources. In this perspective, reforms will have to pursue, all at once, equity of access, quality standards and financial sustainability, to prevent the rationalisation of health care costs from giving rise to the rationing of services.

It will be the responsibility of the stakeholders – jointly - to work towards a modern, sustainable and resilient health care system for all European citizens.