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12.05.2020 – Day of the Nurse



WHO has designated 2020, the bicentenary of the birth of the founder of Florence Nightingale, the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. Nurses work at all levels of health systems and across diverse settings and contexts delivering quality care, leading teams, influencing and implementing policy, and educating the next generation of nurses and midwives.

Their role is critical to making universal health coverage a reality in Europe.

WHO could not have chosen a better year to showcase nursing.

Nurses and health-care professionals are playing a key role in the successful delivery of health and social-care services. Not only in times of crisis, but also as the health needs of the European Region change, nurses are becoming an increasingly important part of the response.



Let us hope that this time actions will not be left behind. EUROFEDOP, together with their national trade unions, has been fighting for years to draw attention to Europe, for the profession, their working conditions and pay.

For example, staff shortages, the consequences of the migration of nurses and doctors, and current nurses education and skills were the subject of negotiations with the European Commission.



Let me list a few points here where the nurses ask for a solution.

- Nurses education.
- Preparing nurses for leadership roles in health-care systems.
- Increasing participation in decision-making through a well-structured social dialogue.
- Improving salaries.
- Developing effective workforce planning strategies at European level.



One point that can be considered realized by the Covid-19 is "raising awareness in government and society of the importance of nurses work".

As EUROFEDOP we are ready to take advantage of the opportunity to get involved in the political support for more health workers.

Health workers with the right skills on the right locations.

Bert Van Caelenberg
Secretary General Eurofedop



**Eurofedop Seminar - Migration
and its impact on the health care sector
Podgorica (Montenegro), 16-17.05.2019**