

PROMeTHEUS volume II: Book launch evening reception

Health Professional Mobility in a Changing Europe:

New dynamics, mobile individuals and diverse responses

26 May 2014, Brussels

18:30-21:00

JOINT ACTION STATUS

Dear all,

It is a pleasure for the Joint Action on Health Workforce Planning & Forecasting community, which I represent this evening, to welcome the new PROMeTHEUS Book. It is like a raising child cheering its parents as Prometheus and various very valuable previous works helped to give birth to the dynamic of the Joint Action, and brought the awareness that caused 78 members to participate with enthusiasm to our Joint Action.

Briefly, the Joint Action is now in its second year, surely one of the most important one. Many leading members are in the process of writing core documents, based on the many workshop & research up to now, or preparing the challenging pilot projects scheduled on year 3.

By the end of the year we will have the pleasure to organize our second conference under the auspices of the Italian Presidency of the Council of Europe. By this conference, we will have produced the following results:

#1. A review of the best practices for planning & forecasting methodologies used and proved throughout Europe, with comprehensive identification of the best practices and lessons learned from the historical difficulties encountered. This review, put together by our Italian colleagues, will take the form of a handbook. We are confident that this product will be a key element in sharing knowledge and in helping countries to find a pathway towards the implementation of a planning process for their health workforce.

As a live test, both Italy & Portugal will choose elements to be used during both implementation pilot projects.

#2 An analysis of the terminology gaps between the current international reporting and the countries understanding and capacity to deliver the data. Let us remind the first PROMeTHEUS issue recommending us to perform this important activity! The analysis, joined with recommendation to evaluate towards an improved international data collection and analysis, should help our international organizations, but also each country to add value to the current process and potentially add a kick to make the improvement.

#3 An inventory of the method used all through Europe to gather qualitative information, essential for building long term planning scenarios, with a discussion on their practical organization. The main focus here lays on stakeholder involvement and enabling long term ahead thinking.

#4 The start of a network of European experts on HWF planning & forecasting, together with a dedicated website & portals, fostering more sharing of knowledge.

But also, by April next year, our Hungarian partners will put the last hand on the report on mobility data within EU with target on understanding the current data gap and proposing a minimal mobility data and set of indicators to help an improved collection. This activity is currently running with an important chapter on the applicability of the WHO Global Code for Ethical Recruitment. Next month, a next workshop on this topic takes place in Lisbon, and by October, a closing workshop on Mobility Data will be organized in the very active city of Budapest.

I refer to our website for further information, and I shall make sure that the pre-invitation for our next conference reaches you soon.

The Joint Action is moving fast, follow our tracks!

Thank you for your attention.

On behalf of the Joint Action for Health Workforce Planning & Forecasting

Michel Van Hoegaerden – FPS Health, Food Chain Safety & Environment – Belgium.