

First European NASH – NAFLD Summit

Event hosted by Alojz Peterle MEP

Wednesday 31 May 2017, 16.30 – 18.30

European Parliament, Brussels, Room 6Q1

BIOGRAPHIES

Prof. Helena Cortez-Pinto, European Association for the Study of the Liver / United European Gastroenterology

Professor Helena Cortez-Pinto is presently EU Policy Councillor-Elect of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL). From June 2013 to June 2015 she served as the President of the Portuguese Association for the Study of the Liver. Between 2009 and 2013 she was EASL's representative at the Scientific Committee of the United Gastroenterological Federation (UEG). She is Associate Editor of Liver International (2006-present), and member of the Editorial Board of Journal of Hepatology (2006–present), and Hepatology (2008-2011). She co-organized two monothematic EASL meetings on Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis in 2004 and 2009.

Professor Helena Cortez-Pinto is recipient of the prize: “Rising Star in Gastroenterology - UEG”. Major research interests include alcoholic and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. She has recently developed and implemented a project for National Registry of Liver Patients, named Liver.pt, aiming to put together clinical, laboratory and histological data from ambulatory liver patients, while simultaneously being a clinical process with algorithms and scores embedded. She has published original papers in a number of scientific journals, including JAMA, Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology and Liver International.

Since 2008, she is Associate Professor of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon. She is the President of the Commission of Pharmacy and Therapeutics, and Coordinator of a section of the Gastroenterology Department, in the University Hospital of Santa Maria.

Helena Cortez-Pinto graduated from the Faculty of Medical Sciences of Lisbon, in 1981. Between 1985 and 1990, she did her internship in Gastroenterology in the University Hospital of Santa Maria. In 1998, Professor Cortez-Pinto did a research fellowship during 6 months at Johns Hopkins University, investigating in the area of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. In 2000, she presented her PhD entitled “Steatosis and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis. Clinical aspects and pathogenic mechanisms”.

Ingrid Keller, DG Health and Food Safety, European Commission

Ms Keller trained in public health and food policy. She previously worked for the World Health Organization in Geneva to develop the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. After managing the EU's Health Programme for several years, she moved to the European Commission to work on chronic disease.

Marko Korenjak, European Liver Patients' Association

Marko is Master of Business and Economy, international certified NLP Trainer and NLP Coach, president of Slovenian Association for patients with viral hepatitis SLOVENIA HEP and works as ELPA board member and Program manager.

Furthermore, he was closely involved in the development of ELPA strategy plan, ELPA work plan and budget, ELPA Symposium preparation at ILC organized by EASL and ELPA fundraising activities. He works in ELPA and Horizon2020 project as leader of dissemination of the project LIVERHOPE, project GALAXY, and project CIRROTRANS. Marko is a member of the steering committee and trainer at ELPA University, representative of ELPA in NoHEP movement, in WECAN - Informal Workgroup of European CancerPatient Networks, and in Correlation - European Network for Social Inclusion and Health.

He is a member of European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL), international NLP trainer association (INLPTA) and some other national organizations. In 2014 he wrote a book about his fight against hepatitis C with the title "336 days of Hope". He speaks and understands Slovenian, Croatian/Bosnian/Serbian, English and German.

Prof. Francesco Saverio Mennini, University of Rome Tor Vergata

Prof. Francesco Saverio Mennini, is presently Professor for Health Economics and Political Economics at University of Rome "Tor Vergata" (both at the Faculty of Economics and Science). He is also Professor for Health Economics at University of Rome "La Sapienza", Faculty of Statistics. Formerly, he has led a career as a researcher in the field of Health Economics and Industrial Economics, at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" and the National Research Council.

His main contributions have dealt with welfare policies, health system analysis, health technology assessment and pharmaco-economics, and pharmaceutical economics. Prof. Mennini has been the scientific coordinator of the Master in Health Economics at University of Rome "Tor Vergata" for several years; he has been a scientific coordinator and member of the Regional Observatory for the HTA, from 2003 to 2006. Prof. Mennini is the chair of the Scientific Committee of the European Conference on Health Economics (ECHE). Prof. Mennini is author of numerous publications, national and international, of Health economics and Economic Evaluation.

Carlos Moedas, Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science

Carlos Moedas has been Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science since 2014. Prior to that, Mr Moedas has worked as Secretary of State to the Prime Minister of Portugal from 2011 until 2014 and Member of the Portuguese Parliament in 2011. From 2010 until 2011 he worked as Senior Economic Advisor of the Portuguese Social Democratic Party (PSD). In 2008 he founded the Crimson Investment Management and worked as Managing Director and Member of the Executive Committee Board of Aguirre Newman from 2004 until 2008. From 2002 until 2004 he worked as Consultant on mergers and acquisitions, Deutsche Bank and Eurohypo Investment Bank and he was Investment Banking Associate at Goldman Sachs from 2000 until 2002. From 1993 until 1998 he worked as Engineer and Project Manager at Suez Group. Mr Moedas is of Portuguese Nationality. He earned a Degree in civil engineering at the Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa, Portugal, and an MBA at the Harvard Business School, US

Alojz Peterle, Member of the European Parliament, Slovenia

Alojz Peterle is a Member of the European Parliament for the European People's Party (EPP) since 2004, the same year as Slovenia became an EU Member State.

In May 1990 Mr Peterle became the first democratically elected Prime Minister of Slovenia after DEMOS coalition, which was composed of six pro-democracy parties, won the parliamentary elections. Previously, in 1990, he was elected chairman of the newly founded Slovenian Christian Democratic party (SKD). His government introduced major democratic and economic structural reforms and most importantly conducted the country to become an independent sovereign state on 25th June 1991.

Being appointed Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Peterle held the position of Minister of Foreign Affairs (1993-1994). He was the Foreign Affairs Minister again in 2000. He was the Vice-President of the European Union of Christian Democrats (1996-1999), Chair of the European Affairs Committee in the

National Assembly (1997-2004), Member of the Presidium of the European Convention on the Future of Europe (2002-2003) and Vice-President of the EPP (2006–2009).

Since being elected an MEP, Mr Peterle has been a Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and a substitute Member of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. He is a Co-chair of the ENVI Health Working Group and the President of the “Members against Cancer” group (MAC). In the previous legislature, he was also a Vice-Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee.

As an active promoter of fight against cancer, in particular as the chair of the informal all-party forum “Members against Cancer”, Mr Peterle has devoted considerable efforts to raising the political awareness of fighting and preventing cancer all across Europe, following his own personal experience with the disease.

Mr Peterle received a number of prestigious awards: the Golden Order of Freedom of the Republic of Slovenia, Alois Mock Europa Ring, Ordine piano, the European Voice’s “European of the Year” (2003), golden medal from the Luxembourg Robert Schuman foundations, “MériteEuropéen” (2004), the Bulgarian APOZ Award for his contribution in the fight against cancer (2009), the Robert Schuman Medal for advancing the cause of peace, the construction of Europe and human values (2014). He was selected three times as the best MEP in the field of health (MEP Awards 2008, 2014 and 2015).

Dr. Homie Razavi, Center for Disease Analysis, United States of America

Dr. Homie Razavi is the founder and managing director at the Center for Disease Analysis (CDA) in Louisville CO, USA, an organization specializing in studying complex and poorly understood diseases.

CDA’s goal is to study and publish data to help educate stakeholders and support decision-making in different countries. Since 2008, Homie has led a team of epidemiologists and modellers to quantify epidemiology of hepatitis C virus and forecast the future impact of HCV disease burden. They have analysed HCV disease burden in over seventy countries and have helped countries develop national strategies.

His team has been responsible for the development of a number of mathematical models currently used by countries around the world to develop intervention strategies for HCV and HBV: HCV disease progression; HCV transmission; HCV cost effectiveness; HBV vertical transmission; HBV disease progression/treatment. In addition, his team is currently developing the Polaris Observatory, which will collect and report HCV, HBV and HDV epidemiology, disease burden and treatment rate annually for all countries. He has a broad background, which includes basic research, commercial development, portfolio management, and decision analysis. He is also a fellow in the Decision Professional Society.

Prof. Vlad Ratziu, Université Pierre et Marie Curie Hôpital Pitié Salpêtrière

Professor of Hepatology, Hôpital Pitié Salpêtrière and Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France
Vlad Ratziu is Professor of Hepatology at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie and the Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière Medical School in Paris, France. After completing his medical training at the Université Paris Descartes, he completed a 2-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Liver Center of the University of California in San Francisco, USA, and went on to earn a doctoral degree from the Université Paris Diderot for his work on the pathophysiology of viral and metabolic liver fibrosis.

Professor Ratziu’s main research interests are in the field of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD); the mechanisms, risk factors, and progression of liver fibrosis in viral and metabolic diseases; and the treatment of viral hepatitis and hepatocellular carcinoma. He has participated in phase I, II, and III studies of nonalcoholic steatohepatitis and has published more than 200 papers in top-tier specialty journals.

He is the Coordinator of the Fatty Liver Inhibition of Progression (FLIP) consortium, a programme funded by the European 7th Framework Programme (FP7) to study the mechanisms of progression of liver disease in NAFLD in the largest European cohort of patients with NAFLD and to identify potential preventive and therapeutic strategies. He has served as Associate Editor for the Journal of Hepatology and Clinics and Research in Hepatology and Gastroenterology and also as a member of the Editorial Board of Hepatology and the Journal of Hepatology.