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Dear candidates for the European elections

I address you today as the current president of the European Committee for Homeopathy, ECH, looking ahead to the upcoming European elections to remind you of some crucial points you may like to have in mind for your possible term.

ECH is a European umbrella organisation of 40 medical homeopathic associations, in 25 European countries, representing around 45 000 medical doctors with an additional qualification in homeopathy.

Homeopathy is the second most practised complementary medicine. In Europe, homeopathy is practised in 40 out of 42 European countries. 100 million EU citizens, some 29% of the EU's population, use homeopathic medicines in their day-to-day healthcare<sup>1</sup>.

It is increasingly recognised that homeopathy can greatly contribute to public health policies because:

- Homeopathy helps reduce the need of high-impact medical interventions and long –term conventional prescription drug use.
- Homeopathy helps reduce the need of antibiotics, thus reducing the problem of antimicrobial resistance.
- Homeopathy is characterised by a high patient satisfaction, increased quality of life, and reduction of absenteeism.
- Homeopathy is a low-cost treatment and helps reduce the need for high-cost interventions
- Homeopathy is a safe treatment with hardly any adverse effects.
- There is evidence for homeopathy's effectiveness and cost-effectiveness.
- Homeopathy is aimed at restoring the patient's own natural systems for fighting disease is therefore highly relevant in chronic disease management.

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<https://www.hri-research.org/resources/homeopathy-the-debate/essentialevidence/use-of-homeopathy-across-the-world/>

High quality homeopathic care warrants a full medical qualification, as well as a high quality training and qualification in homeopathy. Thus homeopathy is provided within a safe medical context and within a broader care plan, which includes, as a must the knowledge of conventional medical diagnosis, prognosis, and treatments. Homeopathy can often be an alternative to conventional therapies, at times it is a complement to other approaches, and at times it is not indicated like any specific medical method.

The Directive 2001/83 EC which has been transposed by all EU Member States is a regulatory framework that guaranties the safety, quality and correct labelling of homeopathic products. This defence barrier must be protected for the benefit or European patients, and to tackle health inequalities among the continent.

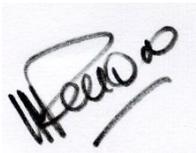
In spite of these regulations the homeopathic practice is threatened in several European countries by misleading information and unbalanced reports.

European patients have repeatedly demonstrated their attachment to their right for free choice of medicine according the European Charter of Patients' Rights, and to their free and safe access to homeopathic healthcare in a medical context.

What do you envision to meet these expectations ?

On behalf of the European medical doctors with an additionnal qualification in homeopathy I very much look forward to your feedback in this regards, for the sake of the European patients' rights and safety.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Renoux', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr H el ene Renoux

President of the European Committee for Homeopathy