

22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF  
PHYSICIANS

11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2015

Tirana, Albania

**Country Report  
(ALBANIA)**

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PRESIDENT

ORDER OF PHYSICIANS OF ALBANIA

(OPA)



## **22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF PHYSICIANS**

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Last months of **2014** (i):

- ▶ Ministry of Health was working hardly for the implementation of new reforms in health care system;
- ▶ OPA was involved actively in sustaining government in its work, only in professional aspects to change health care towards improving quality of service.



## **22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF PHYSICIANS**

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Last months of **2014** (ii):

On September New laws for professional orders were approved.

- ▶ Separation of dentists from OPA;
- ▶ Reconfirmation of the OPA as an independent, not political, self regulated body of medical profession, mission and functions and the space between factors and actors that operate in our health care system;
- ▶ Precising of some rules about structures, duties, obligations, ect;
- ▶ Entry of the new law coincided with the new elections of the central and regional structures of OPA and there were necessary changes in internal bylaw based on the new law.



## 22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF PHYSICIANS

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Last months of **2014** (iii):

Meanwhile we were working with:

- ▶ Professional standards;
- ▶ CME was in last year of the cycle of program with credits;

Suddenly in the end of 2014, the Government opened a great discussion in public and media about medical staff abilities.

There was a dominant wrong prediction that our medical

staff is not well qualified and without the required level of

professional abilities.

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### **2015 (i):**

In the beginning of 2015 was proposed a general testing of knowledge by a special exam for all doctors

and nurses that are working in public sector;

Looking at the score the credits for doctors (the need

was 150 credits 2010-2014);

0 credits – declare vacant the workplace

Less than 150 credits – an exam within 6 months, if it's

not passed – suspension of the contract of employment.

# 22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN CHAMBERS OF PHYSICIANS

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## 2015 (ii)

- ▶ All this, had a bad impact, especially in doctor-patient relations;
- ▶ For some people was a big dilemma “to whom I can trust my health care?”



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February – April **2015**:

New elections in the OPA (i):

- ▶ Not in a good atmosphere;
- ▶ Lack of communication between OPA-Ministry of Health;
- ▶ With a great interest from doctors' community and many directors of health care institutions (taking part as observers).



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New elections in the OPA (ii):

During elections appeared two intentional tendencies:

- ▶ Politicization of our structures and activities;
- ▶ Syndical (trade union) requests in our activities. (actually in Albania, no Trade Union activity in health care system)

We strongly insisted in our attitude explaining:

- The Law;
- The content and importance of our mission;
- Saving of our fundamental features.





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New elections in the OPA (iii):

The General assembly of OPA:

- ▶ Election of National Council;
- ▶ Election of new President

With the strong influence by the Ministry of Health, was suggested its own candidate, independently for it were three

obstacles:

- ▶ Political status;
- ▶ Administrative position;
- ▶ No contribution in OPA.



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New elections in the OPA (iv):

As a surprise for ALL – after elections, our adversary filed a lawsuit in Administrative Court;

The judicial process continues.

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### **Post Elections (i):**

- ▶ To establish the work and all activities for the structures of OPA in National Council and all the regional ones;
- ▶ Defense of our independence and self governance;
- ▶ Helping doctors' community to save the integrity, personality all ethical aspects guaranteed by law ;
- ▶ Collaboration with all professional organizations for the same and common interest.



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Post Elections (ii):

- ▶ Defense to hard penalties towards the doctors with no good scores in CME;

Our SUGESSTION is:

Multilateral analyses of the first cycle of CME in Albania to see contributions, involvements, responsibilities for every actor in this process, underlining that not everything is responsibility of doctors.



**22<sup>th</sup> SYMPOSIUM OF THE CENTRAL AND  
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**THANK YOU**

