



Press release – please spread widely

14.02.2014

The European Professional Association for Transgender Health (EPATH) was officially launched today during the WPATH conference in Bangkok, Thailand.

The creation of EPATH fulfils a long felt need among European professionals to have a forum for exchanging knowledge and skills in transgender health care, and to promote the mental, physical and social health of transgender people in Europe. Guy T’Sjoen, a specialised endocrinologist from Belgium explains: *“We need more opportunities for exchanging scientific research and clinical experiences, and for discussing with colleagues from European countries that we never hear or see in venues at world conferences”.*

As there are many countries on the European continent where there is no transgender care at all, EPATH aims to provide a network for professionals who are isolated in their work. *“We will organise training, including mentorships and exchange our knowledge and experience regarding health care. Our overall goal is to increase the quality of life among transgender people in Europe, and to ensure transgender people’s rights for healthy development and well-being”*, says Timo O. Nieder, a specialised mental health professional from Germany.

EPATH wishes to achieve its goals through organising a three day bi-annual European conference that brings together professionals and researchers from all disciplines involved in transgender health care. The first EPATH conference will take place in Ghent, Belgium in the spring of 2015, and the second will be hosted in Belgrade, Serbia in 2017.

EPATH will collaborate with other international organisations with the same or related aims, such as the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH).

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