



European Junior Doctors

European Junior Doctors Call for Immediate Government Action on Slovenian Healthcare Crisis

Montpellier 4th of May 2024

The General Assembly of the European Junior Doctors Association (EJD) stands in solidarity with its Slovenian counterparts who are currently mobilising for the improvement of the healthcare system, better working conditions and fair and adequate remuneration that matches the level of responsibility inherent to their profession.

We fully support their actions and uphold their right to strike and protest, which are fundamental to advocating for their needs and safety in their working environment. This ongoing strike, the longest in Slovenia's history, underscores the critical systemic issues that require immediate attention. Moreover, we are deeply concerned about the negative media campaign against doctors, which threatens to erode public trust in the healthcare system and could have far-reaching systemic implications.

These issues are not isolated. They mirror the broader challenges faced across Europe, including significant workforce shortages that demand a strategic, long-term approach. It is imperative to recognize that by failing to engage into dialogue and by deteriorating conditions these shortages will only be exacerbated, threatening the overall stability and effectiveness of the Slovenian healthcare system. The unwillingness of the Slovenian government to reach a compromise not only exacerbates the ongoing healthcare crisis but also directly compromises patient safety and the delivery of care. Improved working conditions are crucial not only to retain our current healthcare workforce but to ensure the sustainability and integrity of the healthcare system itself.

We urge the Slovenian government and relevant authorities to engage in meaningful dialogue with healthcare professionals. Listening and responding to the legitimate demands of doctors is essential to resolving the current crisis. This engagement will serve as a critical step toward safeguarding the future of healthcare not only in Slovenia but across the European Union, ensuring the sustainability of our systems and the health of our populations. We call for immediate action to foster a collaborative environment where the concerns of healthcare workers are addressed with the urgency and respect they warrant.

The General Assembly of the European Junior Doctors Association

The European Junior Doctors Association (EJD) represents more than 300 000 junior doctors in Europe. We advocate for Junior Doctors' rights, the improvement of training systems and optimal patient care.

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