



GREEK ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL PRACTICE/FAMILY MEDICINE

Thessaloniki, July 08, 2015
Protocol Number: 414/08-07-2015

To: EURACT
CC: WONCA Europe Executive
ELEGEIA Executive

Dear Mr. President,

My name is Eirini Chatzopoulou, I am a Greek General Practitioner, a member of the Executive Board the Greek Association of General Practice (ELEGEIA) and the new President of the Training Committee.

Being fully aware of EURACT's history, as well as its flawless collaboration with ELEGEIA, I strongly feel that I should inform you of certain important issues that have risen with regards to ELEGEIA's National Representation to EURACT, being sure that your kind contribution will result to all respective and necessary solutions.

Currently, EURACT acknowledges Mr. Dimitrios Karanasios as ELEGEIA's National Representative. However, I have to report the following problematic areas and issues then we would like to point:

- a. Mr. Karanasios has been a candidate in the latest elections for the Executive Board of ELEGEIA, which took place in April 2015 and he did not manage to get elected. Before and after the elections, he had repeatedly insulted and defamed the President and the Executive Board of ELEGEIA by unfounded, slanderous posts on Social Media, harming the interests of ELEGEIA and General Practice in Greece. He has been asked by the Executive Board to account for his actions and in response he asked to resign from ELEGEIA and to terminate his membership.
- b. Before and after the ELEGEIA elections he used his post as National Representative of Greece in EURACT solely on behalf of his own interest. Mr. Karanasios at the end of 2014 proceeded to the deletion of 8 members from the EURACT Greek Members List, without any previous writing notice as laid down in the EURACT constitution (article 7). One of the deleted members was ELEGEIA's President, Dr. Bodosakis - Prodromos Merkouris, who was the first Greek representative in the network since the early days, when it was called

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the Leeuwenhorst Working Party! Mr. Karanasios then proceeded to the admission of new EURACT members, having as main criterion their contribution to his candidate party for the ELEGEIA elections. Some of them have nothing to do with teaching in the field of General Practice (article 5). These actions of Mr. Karanasios may be received as an attempt of him to create a division in General Practice in Greece, using EURACT as a mean, against the interest of ELEGEIA, the official Member of WONCA.

- c. Moreover after a systematic research it was discovered that Mr. Karanasios was appointed National Representative of Greece to EURACT Council without been elected via any election procedure or even providing the necessary information to all Greek members, as laid down by the constitution.

I believe that the overall behavior of Mr. Karanasios is neither fitting nor justifiable for both ELEGEIA and EURACT standards. It is of an extremely unacceptable and abusive nature that insults both WONCA's and EURACT's scientific work, as well that of ELEGEIA. In addition, it has created a serious issue concerning moral and reliability of the Greek General Practitioners, as a whole.

For the above reasons we strongly believe that Mr. Karanasios must be dismissed by the Council and moreover his membership in EURACT must be terminated, as he repeatedly acts contrary to the articles, rules or resolutions of the Association and harms the association in an unreasonable manner. It is more than obvious that no collaboration of the Association with EURACT could exist with Mr. Karanasios as National Representative.

Furthermore, as the new President of the Training Committee, I would like you to kindly brief me on the procedure with regards to my enlistment to EURACT.

Yours sincerely,

Eirini Chatzopoulou
President of the Training Committee
Greek Association of General Practitioners (ELEGEIA)

