



HOPE position on the proposal for a directive on standards of quality and safety of human organs intended for transplantation

The member organisations of HOPE, the European Hospital and Healthcare Federation, carry out organ transplants or are involved in the donation and transplantation process. In line with HOPE mission to promote improvements in the health of citizens throughout Europe, HOPE supports the European work aimed at making more, higher quality, organs available for transplant, both through the draft Directive on the quality and safety of organs and the Action Plan for improving cooperation between Member States in this field.

HOPE welcomes the draft reports by Mr. Mikolasik and Mr. Perello Rodriguez and supports their efforts to promote an early agreement with the Council on the draft Directive. In line with this, HOPE encourages MEPs to support amendments to the draft Directive which move towards a first reading agreement.

In addition, it is important that the Directive does not introduce new requirements or restrictions which might inadvertently discourage or reduce organ transplants:

- We support amendments 9 and 43 which will avoid unnecessary bureaucracy by allowing current arrangements to continue where Member States already have systems in place to ensure high standards in transplantation.
- We oppose amendments which seek to place additional restrictions on donations such as 25 and 31. Whilst we support the principle that organ donations must be voluntary and unpaid, we are concerned that these amendments could have unintended consequences, for example, by preventing pooled donations – where potential donors and recipients whose blood or tissue types are incompatible are grouped with other pairs to obtain a good match.