



EUROPEAN SPECIALIST  
NURSES ORGANISATION

# BIO BOOK

*ESNO EVENT IN THE EU PARLIAMENT*

*“Elaborating on the Role of  
Specialist Nurses and  
Advanced Level in  
European Healthcare Towards 2030”*

Brussels  
10 October 2023

MEP Mr. István Ujhelyi

Member of the European Parliament

Hungarian

European Parliament



Biography (max 250 words) MEP dr. István Ujhelyi is a Hungarian politician who has been serving as a Member of the European Parliament since 2014 in the fraction of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists & Democrats. He is the vice-chair of the Committee on Tourism and Transportation (TRAN) and substitute member of the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI). As of this year, he is also a member of ENVI's Subcommittee on Public Health, SANT. Even before the Covid-19 pandemic, he started floating the idea of a minimum standard for healthcare in the European Union, and he took part in the creation of S&D's Position Paper on the European Health Union in 2020. In 2022, together with healthcare organizations and colleagues, he launched the European Health Union Network, a roundtable between organizations and the parliament with his leadership. In addition, together with colleagues from S&D, he is actively working on the creation of a task force or a working group on Mental Health Strategy.

He holds a law degree from József Attila University in Szeged. He has been active in Hungarian politics since 1996 and he held several significant positions such as State Secretary in the Prime Minister's office in 2009-2010 and state Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development in 2006-2008.

In 2022, he established Esély Közösség - the Hungarian Community of Chance, which focuses on social democratic values and helps bringing civilians together with everyday problems - be it social or health related - and solve the issue, move forward together as a community.

## Maya MATTHEWS

Acting Director for Digital, EU4Health and Health Systems  
Modernisation

Belgium

European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety



Maya Matthews has worked in public health for the past 25 years. Since 1 October 2022, Ms Matthews is the Acting Director for Digital, EU4Health and Health Systems Modernisation as well as Head of Unit for State of health, European Semester and Health Technology Assessment at the European Commission's Health and Food

Safety Directorate -General. Ms Matthews was previously Deputy Head of Unit in the Strategy and Coordination Unit. From 2013-2016, Maya worked at the European Union's Delegation to the United Nations in Geneva where she covered health issues and relations with the World Health Organisation. Before joining the European Commission in 2008, Maya worked in Brussels for Eurohealthnet and consulted on reproductive health, HIV prevention and Tuberculosis. Maya holds a BA in Human Sciences from Oxford University and a Masters in Health Promotion Sciences from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where she also worked as a researcher from 1993-1995.

Henriette Hansen

Denmark

The South Denmark European Office (SDEO)



Henriette has a MSc in Business administration and an MA in European Studies from the College of Europe and has worked in the South Denmark European Office since 1999, providing advice and counselling within the following European areas; Regional Development, Social innovation, health, social inclusion and education.

A big part of her work has been to create ideas, build European consortia and write applications on behalf of South Danish local and regional actors, such as enterprises, local and regional authorities, university colleges and the university. On

behalf of these actors, she has also worked as EU project manager for the last 24 years, coordinating European innovation projects within the health & social care sector and the education sector.

Henriette also works as an external expert towards the European Commission in relation to the evaluation of project proposals and evaluation of interim- and final reports.

EUVECA: - [WWW.EUVECA.EU](http://WWW.EUVECA.EU)

Henriette is the co-ordinator of the EUVECA project, which has as main objective to ensure the sustainability of the health care sector through competence development. The healthcare sector is facing 6 megatrends that can only be met by continuous competency development and a focus on 21st century skills. There is a need for new types of educational programmes and more (inter)regional innovation cooperation in this area.

Mr. Pascal ROD

French

Executive Director of the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists, International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists (IFNA)



Mr. Pascal Rod is a Registered Nurse (1978) and a Registered Nurse Anesthetist (1985) in France. He is one of the founders of the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists in 1989, past President and current Executive Director. He has represented the IFNA and nurse

anesthesia specialty in different meetings and organizations, as the European Federation of Nurses, the European Specialist Nurses Organization (past President), the WHO GIEESC, the G4 Alliance for Surgery, Obstetrics, Anesthesia and Trauma care, the International Council of Nurses and the World Federation of Societies of Anesthesiologists, He is one of the representatives of IFNA into the Liaison committee with the ESAIC (European Society of Anesthesiology and Intensive care) and European Board of Anesthesiologists (EBA).

He has represented the specialist nurses at the EMA, Health Care Professional Working Party.

Alessandro Stievano, PhD, RN

Italian

European Nurse Director Organization



Alessandro Stievano is the research coordinator of the Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship of OPI Rome – Italy (the Regulatory Authority for the Nursing Professions).

The Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship in Italy is a novel project that represents a unique venture for Italy, and one of the first to be set up in Europe, in line with the positive experiences matured in this direction in advanced countries. The Centre has funded more 400 educational and research projects since its inception in 2010.

He has got post-doc programmes in clinical research at Harvard Medical School (Global Clinical Scholars Training Program) and at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health on Principles and Practice of

Clinical Research (PPCR) where he is also Teaching Assistant.

He is widely published on a national and international level, particularly on ethics and transcultural matters. His main interests in research are linked to professional and policy issues in nursing and health professions, nursing ethics and transcultural nursing. He has got appointments at University of Messina (Italy). He is a visiting scholar at Boston College (USA) and an adjunct Professor at Case Western University (USA).

He has received an Honorary Fellow ad Eundem from the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery - Royal College of Surgeons - Dublin (Ireland) in 2016, a fellowship at the American Academy of Nursing (2018) and a Fellowship at the European Academy of Nursing Science (FEANS) in 2021. He is currently the President of the Italian Transcultural Nursing Association, Vice-President of the European Nurse Directors Association and Treasurer of the European Specialist Nurses Organization. In 2022 he was endorsed as a Fellow of the Transcultural Nursing Society (USA).

Mrs Declaye Joséfine

Belgium

ESNO, Junior Policy Officer



Joséfine, a dedicated critical care nurse, thrives in the challenging environment of the intensive care unit. Beyond her nursing role, she also serves as an assistant at the Simulation Center of Liège University. Her commitment to representing and advancing the nursing profession has been unwavering, leading her to actively engage with SIZ Nursing for

several years, culminating in her recent appointment as its president.

Joséfine extends her influence beyond the national level as she assumes the role of Junior Policy Officer for the European Specialist Nurses Organisation (ESNO). In this capacity, she advocates for the fair and impactful representation of specialized nurses throughout Europe.

Joséfine's dynamic career is a testament to her dedication to healthcare and her ongoing commitment to shaping the future of nursing on both regional and European scales. Additionally, she is actively involved in the Nursing Pool program, an initiative of the ESNO Education and Scientific Committee. This program aims to voice the expertise, science, education, and experience of European Specialist Nurses by creating a portal for nurses in all specialties, fostering engagement in surveys, data collection, and networking.

Mr. ADRIANO FRIGANOVIĆ

Assistant professor

CROAT

ESNO president



Adriano Friganovic was born 14 November 1978 in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Works at University Hospital Centre Zagreb as a head nurse of Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Medicine since 2016. Has worked in the Division of Anaesthesiology and Intensive care of cardiac surgery patients since 1997., and from 2005 has worked as a head nurse. He graduated bachelor and master degree in nursing at University of Applied Health Sciences in

Zagreb, Croatia and has PhD at Medical Faculty University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Works as college professor at University of Applied Health Sciences Zagreb. He is assistant professor at Faculty of Applied Health Sciences Rijeka.

Adriano is an acting president of Croatian Nurses Society of Anaesthesia, Reanimation, Intensive Care and Transfusion, president of Croatian National Nurses Federation, president of European Specialist Nurses Organizations, past president of World Federation of Critical Care Nurses, president of Alumni of University of Applied Health Sciences and Executive board member of International Federation of Nurse Anaesthetics. He established a national online journal Shock and was a inaugural editor in chief. He is also an editorial board member for several other journals. He established Sustainable Health Equity Movement and is a member of Steering committee. He is founding member of Alpha Alpha Ghama chapter Sigma Theta Tau International.



Dr Catharina van Oostveen

Dutch

Organisation: V&VN Dutch nursing association



Dr. Catharina van Oostveen is trained as a nurse and works as an assistant professor in Nursing Practice; Organization &

Development at the Erasmus School of Health Policy & Management (ESHPM). In 2015 she obtained her PhD with the thesis 'Modelling and managing the patients' need for clinical care'. In addition to her work at ESHPM, Catharina is nursing dean at the Spaarne Gasthuis hospital. In this position she contributes to nursing (training) issues from a scientific perspective.

She is also a board member at

- V&VN, the Dutch Nursing Association [www.venvn.nl](http://www.venvn.nl)
- STZ, the Dutch association for teaching Collaborative Top educational clinical hospitals. [www.stz.nl](http://www.stz.nl)

Blerina Duka

President

Albania

President Organisation Albanian Order of Nurses



Blerina Duke is currently the President of Albania Order of Nursing (2019). Since 2007-2009 she has been the Director of the Social Center "Balashe" in Elbasan, center which deals with the rehabilitation

of persons with disabilities and the elderly. President of the District Nursing Order of Elbasan (from 2014-2018). In 2019 she was certified in Switzerland by the Global Leadership Institute (GLI) for the nurse leadership. In 2016 she take the MSc title in Nursing Science from the Catholic University Our Lady of Good Counsel, Tirana. In 2013 she completed her first masters level studies at the Catholic University Our Lady of Good Counsel, Tirana. In 2020 is PhD students in The University of Rome Tor Vergata. She is part-time Lecturer at the Aleksander Xhuvani University in Elbasan, Catholic University Our Lady of Good Counsel in Tirana and European University of Tirana.

Dr. Daniela Lehwald

Chair ICN NP/APN Network, Associate Professor

German (residing in Ireland)

International Council of Nurses (ICN) Nurse Practitioner / Advanced Practice Nurse Network



Daniela Lehwaldt, PhD MScEd BNS Cert.  
ICU & Anaesthetic Nursing RNG RNT  
SFHEA CGFNS

- Chair, International Council of Nurses (ICN) Nurse Practitioner / Advanced Practice Nurse Network
- Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, Dublin City University, Ireland.

Dr Daniela Lehwaldt is a Registered General Nurse (RGN), Registered Nurse Tutor (RNT), Senior Fellow of Advance HE (SFAHE) and Certified Global Nurse Consultant (CGFNS). She holds a Bachelor in Nursing Studies (BNS), Masters in Science in Education (MScEd) and a PhD in Nursing.

Daniela is the Chair of the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Nurse Practitioner (NP) / Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) Network. She has been part of the Network since 2011 and has held various roles and responsibilities prior to taking up the role of Chair. She was a Nurse Practitioner in Cardiothoracic Surgery before taking up her current role as Associate Professor at the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health at Dublin City University (DCU) in Ireland.

Daniela is native German and speaks both English and German languages. She has published widely on the topic of nurse education, advanced nursing and digital health education. She is President of the Subgroup 'International' at the German Network Deutsches Netzwerk APN & ANP g.e.V. Daniela is a founding member of the Ireland-Africa Alliance for Non-Communicable Diseases (IAAfNCDs). She is a Global Nurse Consultant certified by CGNFS <https://cgnc.cgfns.org/>

Daniela is a recognised speaker and she leads on international projects to harmonise NP/APN education, regulation and practice globally.

## Olga Navarro Martínez



PhD in Health and Wellbeing Technologies (Universidad Politècnica de Valencia). Nurse and educationalist. Master's Degree in School Health and master's degree in Innovation and creative use of ICT in education. Executive MBA in Entrepreneurship and Innovation (Universitat Oberta Catalunya). E-learning and digital learning expert. Lecturer and researcher. Department of Nursing, Faculty of Nursing and Podiatry, University of Valencia (Spain).

## Vanessa Ibáñez Del Valle



PhD in clinical and community nursing (University of Valencia). Mental health specialist nurse. Master's Degree in music therapy. Lecturer and researcher. Department of Nursing, Frailty Research Organized Group (FROG) and Chair of Active Ageing, Faculty of Nursing and Podiatry, University of Valencia (Spain).



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Address: ESNO: Pontanuslaan 12, 6821HR, Arnhem, Netherlands  
Website : [www.esno.org](http://www.esno.org)  
Phone: +31-6-23343086  
Mail : [secretariat@esno.org](mailto:secretariat@esno.org)