



HCV Elimination Mini Policy Summit
“Eliminating HCV in Greece”
Hosted by MEP Georgios Kyrtzos
European Parliament, 22 November 2017, A5E-3, 10:00 – 12:00

Speakers’ biographies
In order of appearance



Georgios Kyrtzos, Member of the European Parliament

Georgios Kyrtzos was born on 4 June 1952 in Greece. He received a BSc in Industrial Management (MIT) in 1975, an MSc in European Studies (LSE) in 1976 and a PhD in International Relations (LSE) in 1980.

He was Editor-in-Chief responsible for International Economic Affairs at the *Economikos Tachidromos*, a weekly financial magazine, from 1982-1996. From 1984-2002, he was a Political Analyst, Director and then Publisher of *Eleftheros Typos*, a daily newspaper. He was Director and then Publisher of *Typos tis Kiriakis*, the Sunday edition of *Eleftheros Typos* from 1988-2002. From 2003-2013, he was the Publisher and owner of *City Press*, a free daily newspaper distributed in Athens and the region of Attica. From 2008 until June 2014, he was the Publisher and owner of *Free Sunday*, a free weekly newspaper distributed in Athens, the region of Attica and Thessaloniki.

Georgios Kyrtzos was elected to the European Parliament in 2014.



Angelos Hatzakis, MD, PhD, MSc, Professor of Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Medical School, Founder and Co-Chair of Hepatitis B&C Public Policy Association

Angelos Hatzakis is the Founder of the National Retrovirus Reference Center in Athens, Greece and Founder and Co-Chair of “Hepatitis B & C Public Policy Association” in Luxembourg. He is Former President of the Hellenic Center for Disease Control & Prevention.

Angelos Hatzakis participated in many Executive Committees of private and public sector. His research interests cover epidemiology, virology, preventive medicine and Public Health of infectious diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and other oncogenic viruses with more than 290 international scientific publications and more than 13.000 citations.



George Kalamitsis, Chair of Board of Hellenic Liver Patients Association "Prometheus", President of the Committee Protecting the Rights of Recipients of Health Services, Member of Hepatitis B & C Public Policy Association

George Kalamitsis is a founding member and Chair of Board of Hellenic Liver Patients Association "Prometheus" since 2012. He focuses daily on providing support to people living with viral hepatitis and other liver diseases, on advocating for their rights, as well as on providing information related to hepatitis. He has been working extensively with all stakeholders in Greece, focusing on patients' benefits and maintains communication channels with organizations and stakeholders, on a European and International level.

In 2017, he was appointed as the President of the Committee Protecting the Rights of Recipients of Health Services, under the Greek Ministry of Health. From 2014 until 2016, he was a Board Member of World Hepatitis Alliance. Since 2016, he has been a member of the Hepatitis B & C Public Policy Association. He is also a psychologist – psychotherapist, with extensive experience in the field of NGOs that focus on socially vulnerable populations, on Public Health issues and on Harm Reduction and rehabilitation services.

**Panos Papadopoulos, Chief of Cabinet of Minister of Health
(PENDING)**



Nikolaos Manios, Member of Hellenic Parliament, Chair, Standing Committee on Social Affairs, SYRIZA - GUE/NG

Nikolaos Manios was born on 17 April 1947 in Greece. He graduated from the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1976. He then specialised in Ophthalmology at the Children's Hospital "Aghia Sophia" and at the Athens Medical Clinic.

Dr Manios was Director and Coordinator of the Ophthalmological Clinic of the Children's General Hospital in Penteli, Athens from 1996 to 2014. Between 2012 and 2015, he was Syriza's Coordinator for Public Health and Welfare.

Nikolas Manios was elected to the Hellenic Parliament for the first time in 2015 representing Syriza in the Cyclades. He has been Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Chairman of the Subcommittee on combating narcotics and Member of the Special Permanent Committee on Road Safety since 2015.



Vana Sypsa, Assistant Professor at University of Athens, School of Medicine

Vana Sypsa is Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine in the Department of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Medical Statistics of Athens University Medical School. She is Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics, Member of the Advisory Group for the National Viral Hepatitis Action Plan in Greece and Member of the Advisory Board of Polaris Observatory for Viral Hepatitis.

Vana Sypsa focuses her research on the epidemiology and mathematical modelling of hepatitis C, HIV and other infectious diseases as well as interventions among people who inject drugs. She is author or co-author of 97 papers published in peer-reviewed international journals.



Kyriakos Souliotis, Associate Professor of Health Policy, Vice Rector, University of Peloponnese Senior Associate Director, LSE Enterprise - Medical Technology Research Group

Kyriakos Souliotis is Associate Professor of Health Policy at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, at the University of Peloponnese. He also teaches courses on health policy, health economics and health care management at the Medical School of the University of Athens and the Medical School of the University of Crete. Since July 2017, he has been Senior Associate Director at the Medical Technology Research Group of the LSE Enterprise.

He was Scientific Advisor to the Social Insurance Institute (IKA) and the Ministry of Health and Welfare (2002 -2004), Member of the Board of Directors of the A'Health Care Trust of Attica (2002 -2004), Head of Human Resources Management at the Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center (2002-2006). From May 2010 to December 2011, he served as President of OPAD (Health Care Organization for Public Servants), and from May 2011 to September 2012, as Vice President of EOPYY (National Organisation for Health Care Services Provision). From June 2010 to August 2013, he was a member of the National Ethics Committee for Clinical Trials and the Steering Committee for Rare Diseases.

He has acted as a country expert on cancer at the OECD and he is currently serving as a member of the Steering Committee of PACT (The Patient Access Partnership on Equity of Access to Quality Healthcare - Brussels) and as a member of the Scientific Committee of the OIS (Osservatorio Internazionale della Salute - Rome).

Kyriakos Souliotis has extensive research experience in Greece and abroad and he has acted as the Scientific Lead / Project Manager on more than 40 research projects. He has published 25 books and more than 200 chapters in books and papers in peer-reviewed journals on health policy and economics, organization and administration of health services, economic inequalities.



George V. Papatheodoridis, President, Hellenic Association for the Study of the Liver

George Papatheodoridis is Professor in Medicine and Gastroenterology at the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Director of the Academic Gastroenterology Department of Laiko Hospital in Athens. He trained in Medicine at the Medical School of Athens University and completed his PhD thesis on “Acute on Chronic hepatitis B”. He trained in Gastroenterology at Tzaneion Hospital of Piraeus, and completed a 2-year research fellowship in Hepatology at the Royal Free Hospital of London, UK.

He has served as a member of the Scientific Committee/Governing Board of EASL and is a member of EASL and AASLD. Currently, he is President of the Hellenic Association for the Study of Liver, President of the Hellenic Foundation of Gastroenterology & Nutrition and Chair of the Scientific Committee for Viral Hepatitis at the Hellenic Center for Prevention of Diseases. He has been General Secretary of the Hellenic Society of Gastroenterology and Hellenic Association for the Study of Liver.

George V. Papatheodoridis’ main research interest has focused on viral hepatitis. He has co-authored over 250 papers. In addition, he has been Associate Editor of Liver International and has served as Editorial Board member of other international journals and as reviewer for all gastroenterology/Hepatology journals and many major internal medicine journals.



Alexis Goosdeel, Director, European Monitoring Centre for Drugs & Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

Alexis Goosdeel holds a Master’s degree in clinical psychology and a special diploma in advanced management. He joined the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs & Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) in 1999 as a project manager in EU enlargement and international relations. From 2005, he headed the agency’s Reitox and international cooperation unit. In this capacity, he played a central role in: coordinating a network of 30 national drug monitoring centres; preparing EU candidate and potential candidate countries for membership of the EMCDDA; developing cooperation with neighbouring countries to the EU; and nurturing relations with countries beyond the Union (Central Asia, Russia, Latin America).

Much of Alexis Goosdeel’s 30-year career, has been working in the field of public health at national, European and international level, developing cooperation with neighbouring countries to the EU and nurturing relations with countries beyond the European Union (Central Asia, Russia, Latin America).



Ricardo Baptista Leite, MP, MD, PhD(c), Member of Parliament, Head of Public Health, Medical Doctor, University Professor, Public Health Advocate

Ricardo Baptista Leite is the Founder and President of 'UNITE – Parliamentarians Network to End HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and Tuberculosis', a global platform of policy makers. Awarded by 'The Economist Intelligence Unit' as a 'HCV Change Maker' (2016) due to Ricardo's academic work and policy leadership in the field of hepatitis C. Since 2011, he has been a Member of the Portuguese Parliament, serving as, amongst others, a permanent member of the Parliamentary Health Committee, Chair of the all-party Parliamentary HIV/AIDS workgroup.

Ricardo Baptista Leite is Head of Public Health at the Institute of Health Sciences of Católica University of Portugal, Guest Lecturer in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology at NOVA Medical School and Coordinator of Sustainable Healthcare Unit at NOVA Information Management School. In addition, he is Senior Fellow at New Westminster College (BC, Canada) and PhD candidate in Public Health and Health Systems at Maastricht University (The Netherlands).

From 2015 to 2017, he was Deputy Mayor and City Councillor of Cascais, responsible for local health policy, academic partnerships, international relations (including economic diplomacy), youth (including Cascais European Youth Capital 2018) and employment policies.

Ricardo Baptista Leite has practised as a physician for 7 years, including a 5-year within Infectious Diseases residency program at the Western Lisbon Hospital Center. He was an intern in public health (HIV, Hepatitis and STIs) as a formal collaborator of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, based in Copenhagen.



Charles Gore, President, World Hepatitis Alliance, Chief Executive of Hepatitis C Trust

Charles Gore was diagnosed with hepatitis C in 1995 and cirrhosis in 1998. In 2000 he set up The Hepatitis C Trust together with three friends who also had hepatitis C. In 2002, he used pegylated interferon and ribavirin treatments and successfully this helped eradicate the virus from his system.

He has continued to run the Trust, working extensively with Government Departments and the National Health Service in the UK, championing the patient perspective. He was closely involved in the creation of the European Liver Patients Association and was elected its first President in 2004. In 2007, he organised a meeting with hepatitis patient organisations from around the world to agree on the need for co-ordinated action at global level. From this meeting, the decision emerged to hold an annual World Hepatitis Day and to create a new NGO, the World Hepatitis Alliance, of which Charles is the President. Because of advocacy by the Alliance and its members, WHO adopted successive viral hepatitis resolutions in 2010,

2014 and 2016, making World Hepatitis Day an official day and endorsing the first Global Health Sector Strategy on viral hepatitis with the goal of eliminating hepatitis B and C by 2030.

Charles Gore sits on many national and international advisory bodies including the WHO Director-General's Strategic and Technical Advisory Committee for Viral Hepatitis and has been a member of all the WHO guideline development groups on testing and treating viral hepatitis.