

# INVITATION – MY PAIN FEELS LIKE...



## EXHIBITION AND COCKTAIL



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, APRIL 8, ASP BUILDING -1 G, 10h00 – 19h00

MEP Petru Luhan, winner of the MEP Award for Health 2013, together with the leading European associations in the field of chronic pain (Pain Alliance Europe and European Pain Federation), kindly invite you to join them in their battle against the devastating social and economic effects of chronic pain.

In this respect, an exhibition featuring the “Pain Box” – a psychophysical experiment developed by the Montescano Pain School of Italy, will open your eyes with regards to what 1 out of 5 Europeans is experiencing on a daily basis. This will give you a chance to learn more about what is the current situation and how you can support the existing initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of people living with chronic pain.

The exhibition will end with a cocktail and the different perspectives on chronic pain expressed by the policy makers (MEP Petru Luhan), the patients (Joop van Griensven, Pain Alliance Europe), the health professionals (Prof. Giustino Varassi), the scientists (Dr. Roberto Casale) and the industry. This multi-stakeholder approach will give you a unique insight on a growing problem for the ageing Europe.

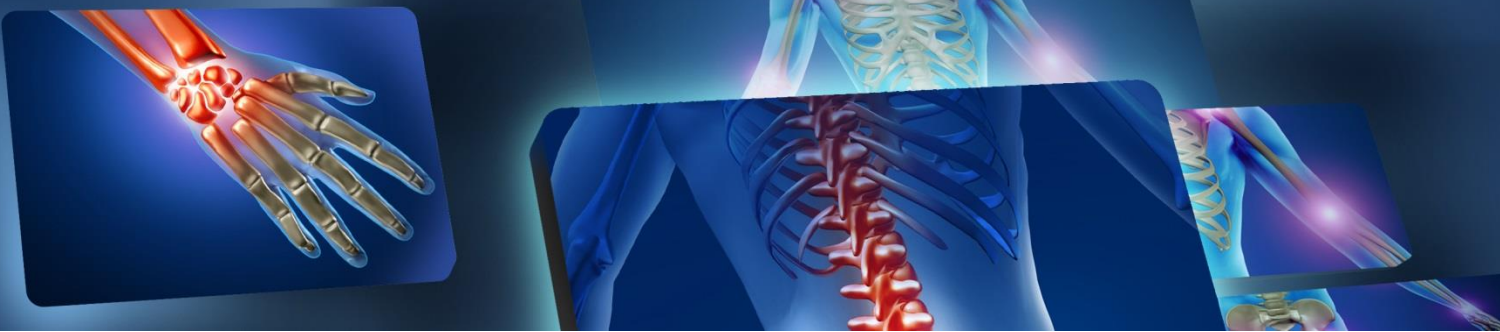
We therefore strongly encourage you to take the opportunity to experience one of Europe’s most pressing health problems, to get informed and get involved.

On the next page you will find more information about chronic pain and what to expect from the exhibition.

For any additional information, please contact Georgiana Huiban at [info@pae-eu.eu](mailto:info@pae-eu.eu).

We look forward to seeing you there!





# CHRONIC PAIN FACTSHEET

## About chronic pain

- Chronic pain affects around 20% of the adult population in Europe, yet it remains poorly managed and under-treated, affecting not only the patients, but society as a whole.
- The estimated healthcare costs and loss in productivity associated with chronic pain equal 3-10% of European economic growth or GDP.
- Chronic pain sufferers in Europe are denied many of the recognised patient rights notably access to treatment, information and new technologies

## Recent developments

- The EU Italian Presidency will put chronic pain for the first time on the EU Council Agenda (Italy is the only country in EU with a law on chronic pain treatment)
- On February 10, the PETI Committee heard petitioner Anna Kleszcz (Poland) on the introduction of uniform European procedures for the treatment of chronic pain in medical facilities. Her petition was declared admissible and will be discussed further by the ENVI Committee

## About the chronic pain exhibition

- **Pain toolbox:** The box was developed by Dr. Roberto Casale from Montescano PainSchool (Italy) and aims to demonstrate how localized neuropathic pain feels like and discuss the burden of patients suffering from this disease and their challenge to express what they feel. It already had huge success at the EFIC Congress in October 2013.
- **Pain Patient Pathway Recommendations promotion and endorsement** - developed early this year as a result of a 2 years European-wide project (18 countries, 10 Health ministries, 54 health professionals and 37 patient associations involved) and now being endorsed and promoted
- **Other materials:** videos, published researches, leaflets, quizzes, projects, patient stories and many others

## For more information, access:

[www.pae-eu.eu](http://www.pae-eu.eu)

[www.efic.org](http://www.efic.org)

[www.mypainfeelslike.com](http://www.mypainfeelslike.com)