

HOW TO INFLUENCE THE EU DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

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MALTA HEALTH NETWORK – THE PATIENT AND HEALTH POLICY

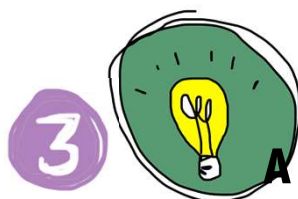
“ A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE TO
DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE ”



Outline



**Patient organisations
in the legislative process**



A few tips!

“ A STRONG PATIENTS' VOICE TO DRIVE BETTER HEALTH IN EUROPE ”

"Hard Law" Advocacy The European Policy Cycle

Meet the European institutions



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

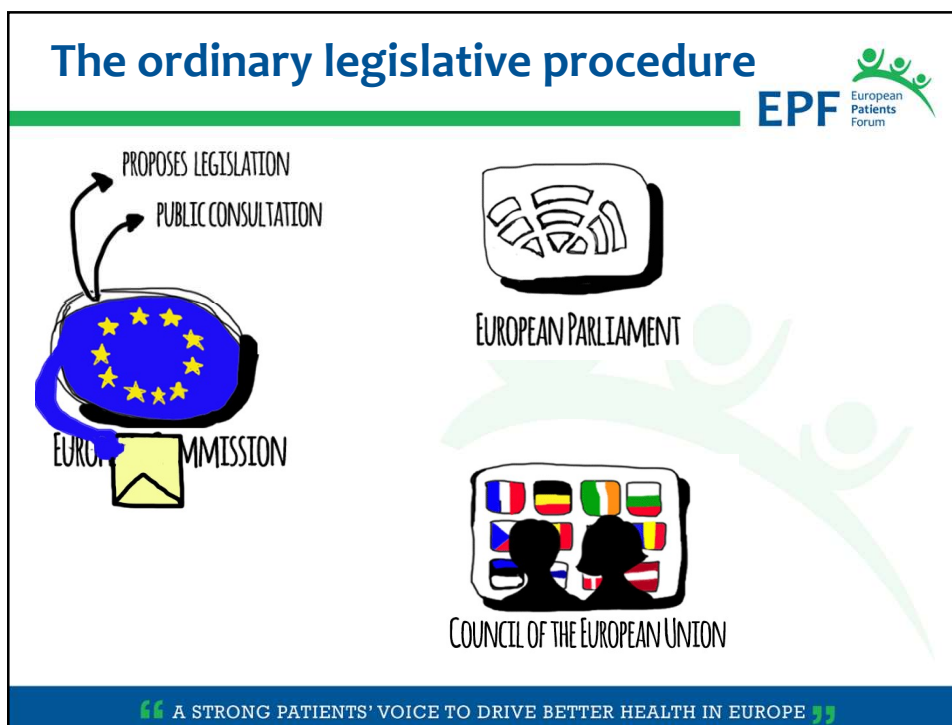
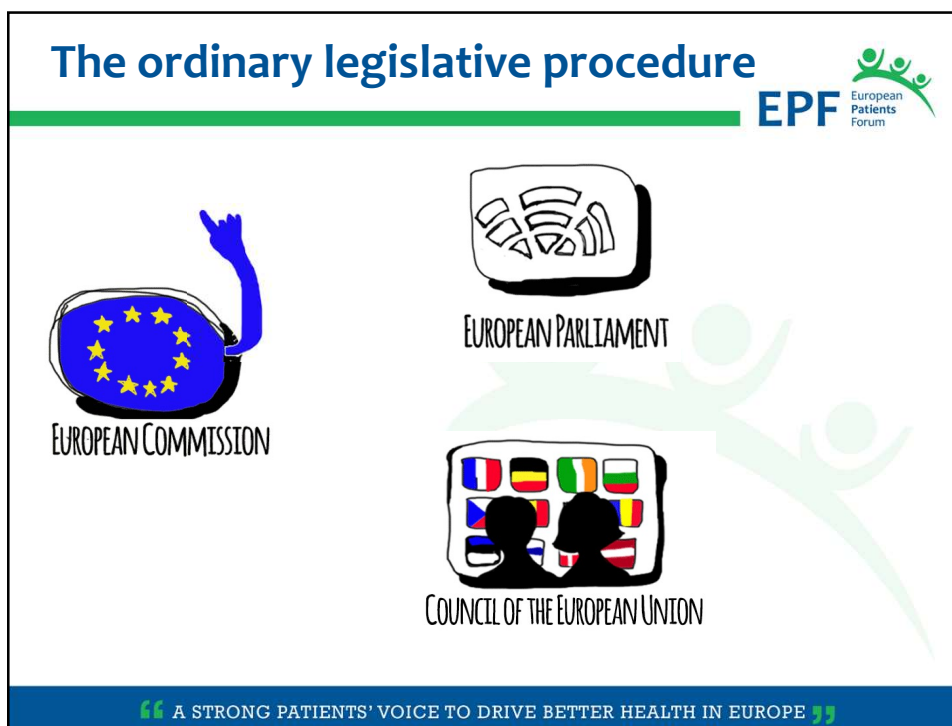


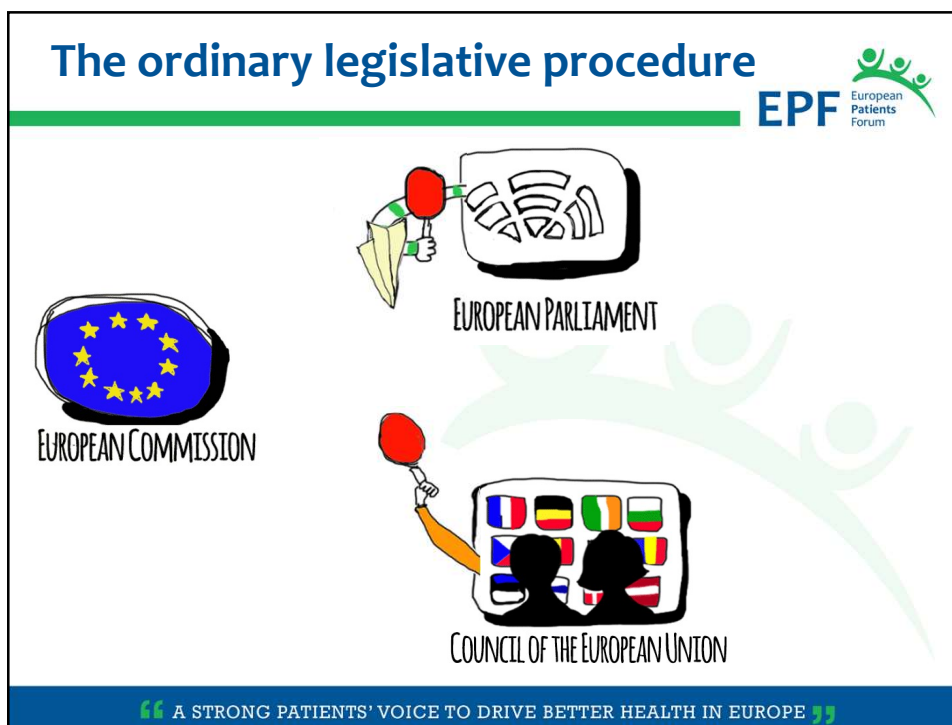
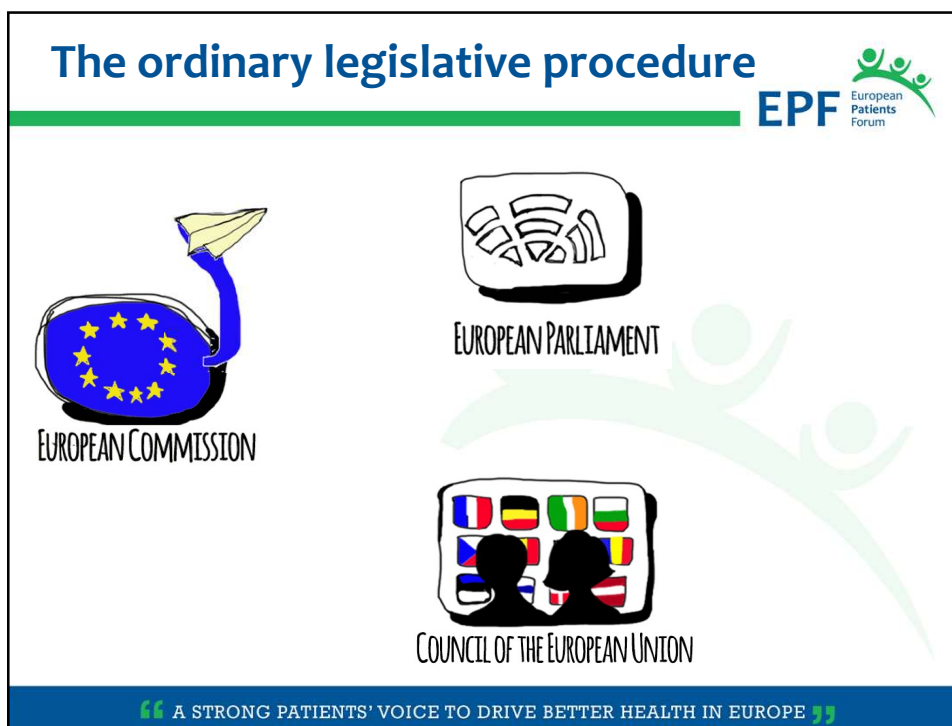
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

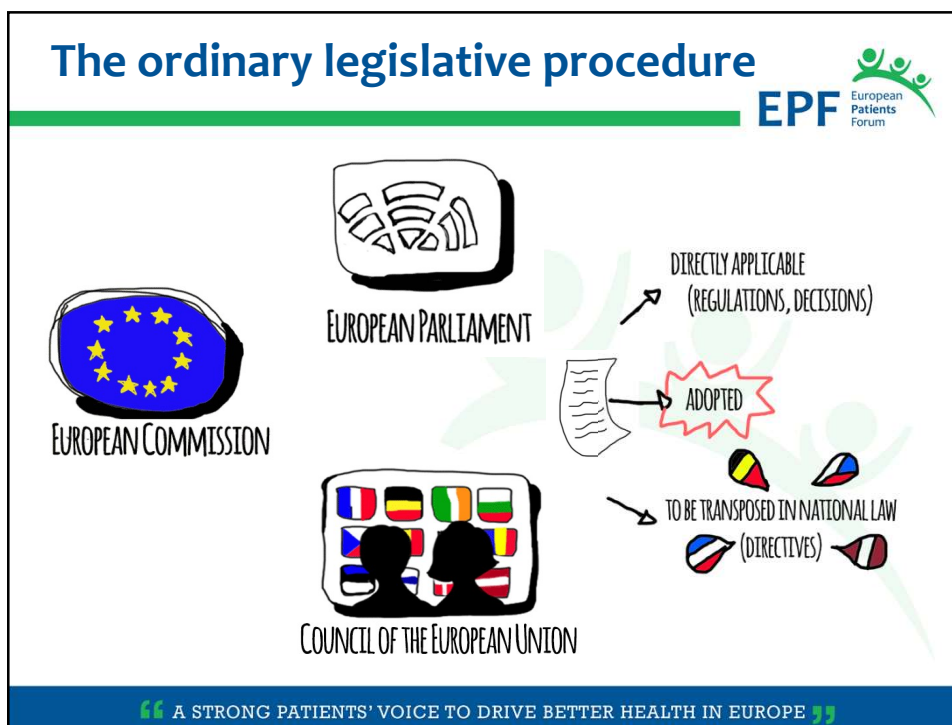
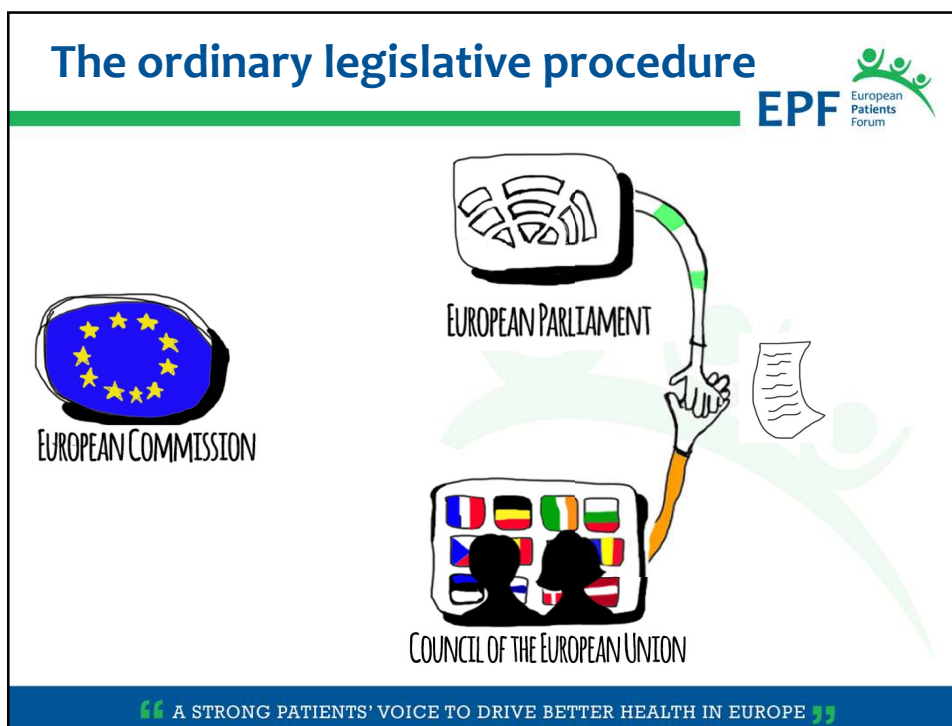


COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

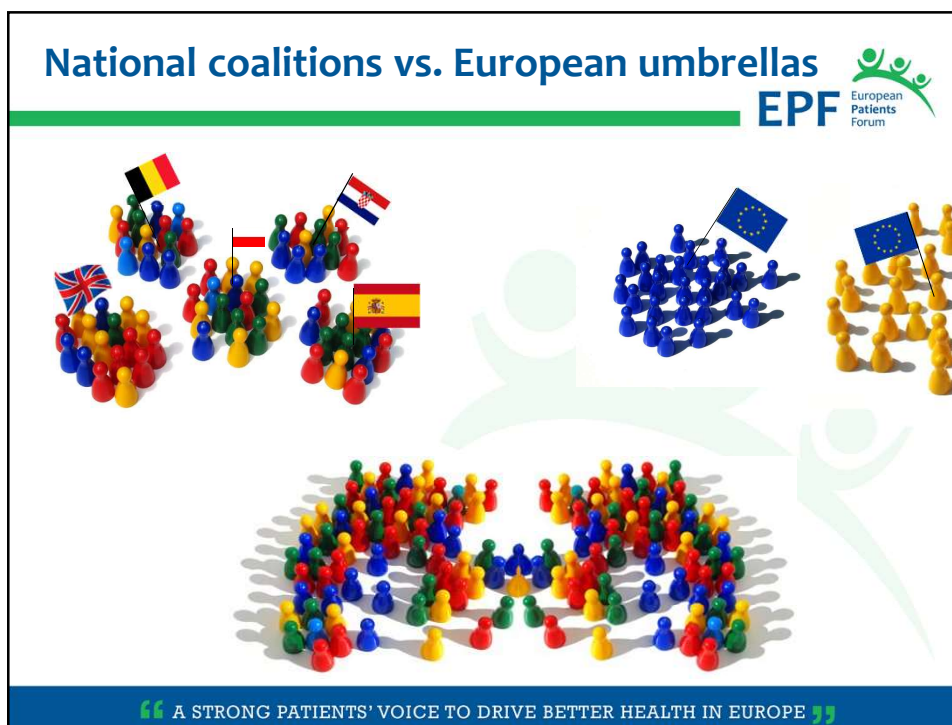
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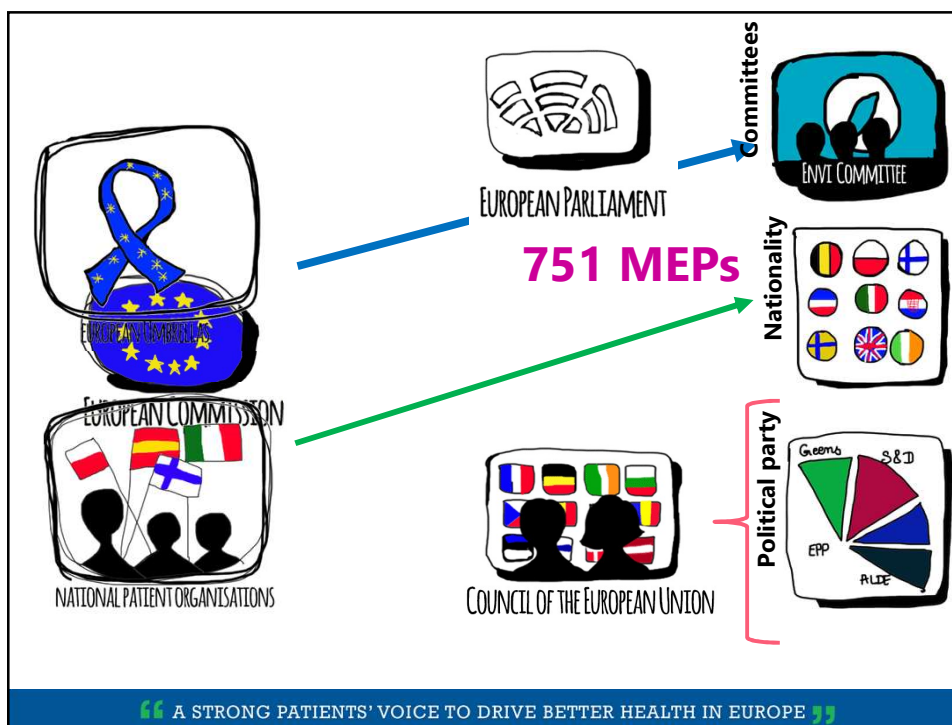
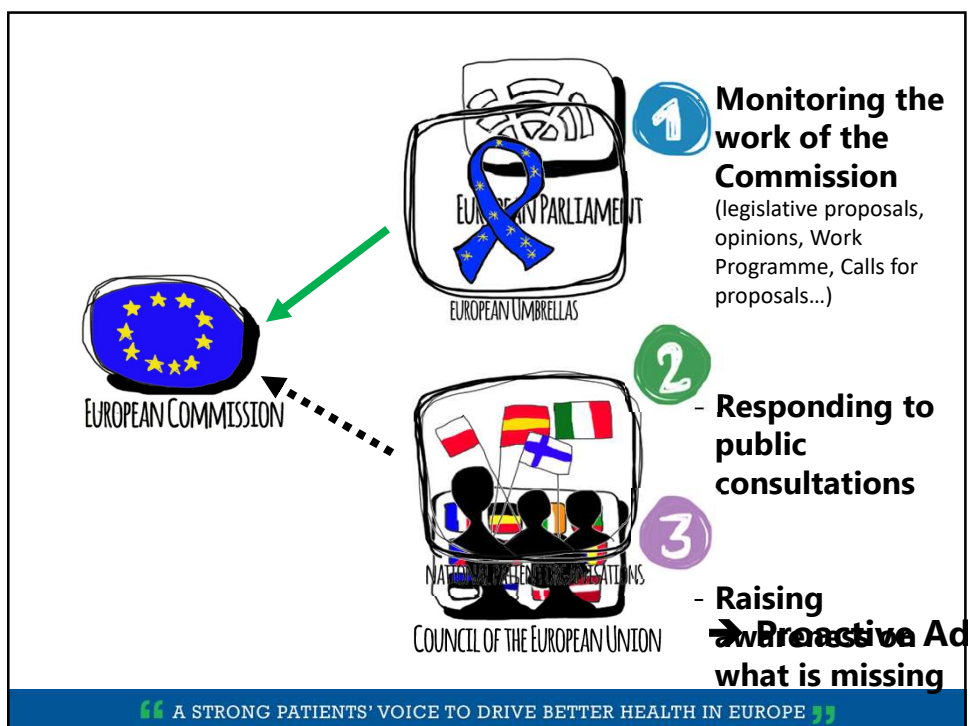


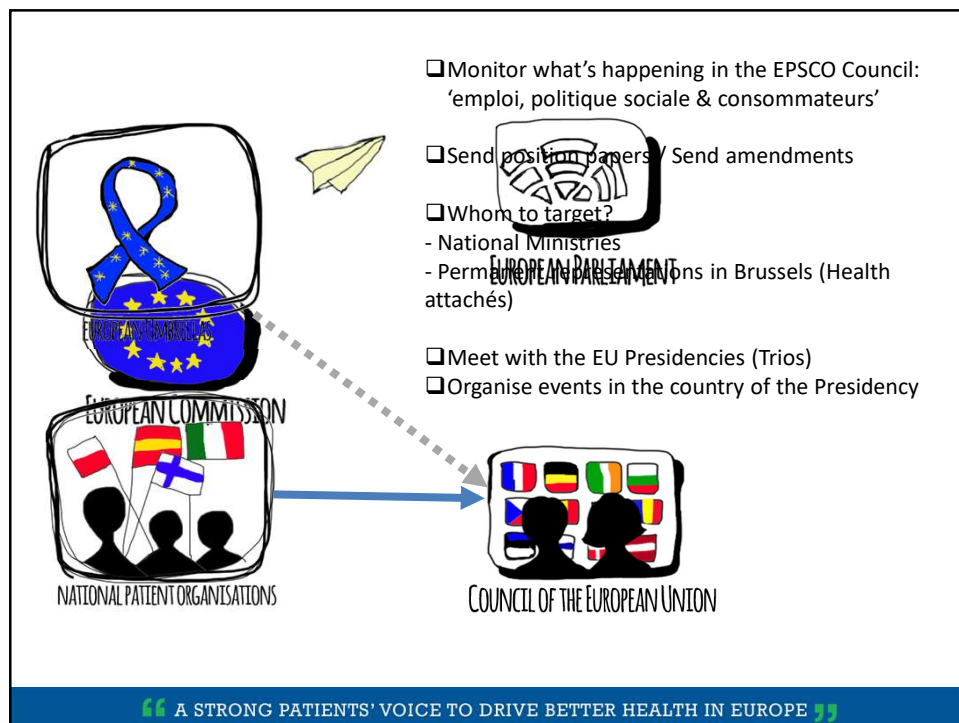
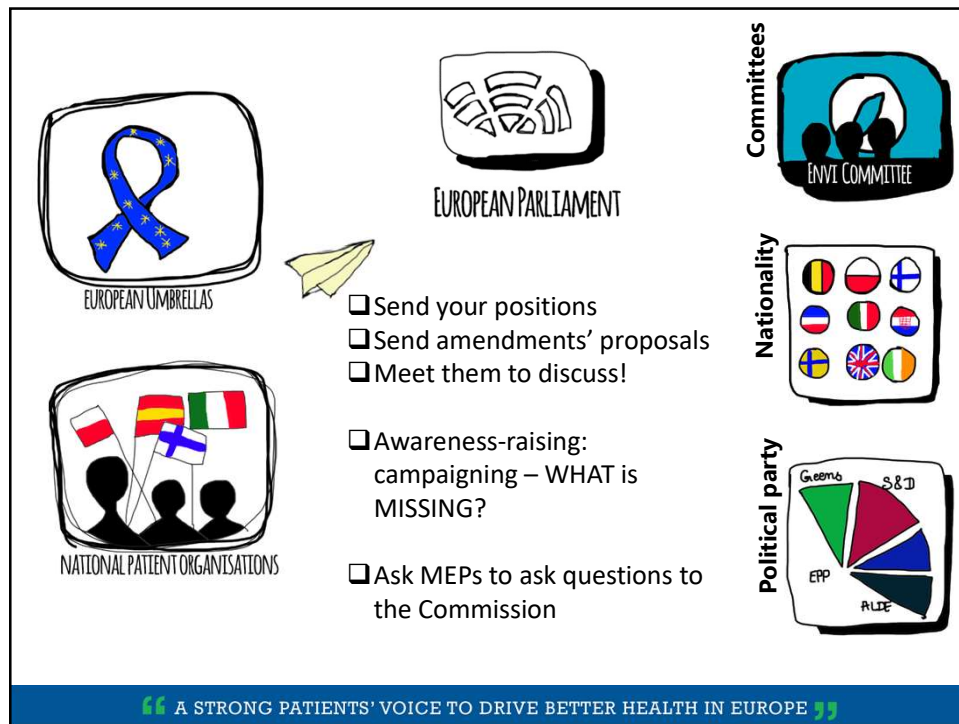




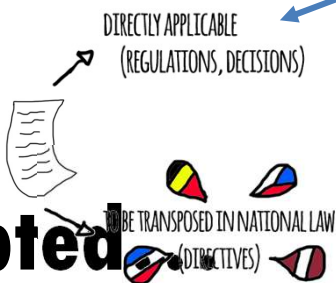
Where do Patient Organisations fit in?







Once the text is adopted



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EUROPEAN UMBRELLAS

National coalitions vs. European Umbrellas



NATIONAL PATIENT ORGANISATIONS

- **Closer to European decision-makers** (better access to the European Commission, European Parliament's Committees)
 - In a better place to **monitor the legislation at EU level**
 - **Have a better “overview”**, able to compare situations and transfer best practices whenever possible
- Influence**
- **Closer to national decision-makers** (including Council of the EU)
 - **Have a greater influence on MEPs** from their country (they are voters!)
 - **Know about national-specific situations, realities**
 - **Know about national legislation**
 - **Closer to patients**
- Knowledge**

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Example of patient Advocacy In the EU legislative cycle

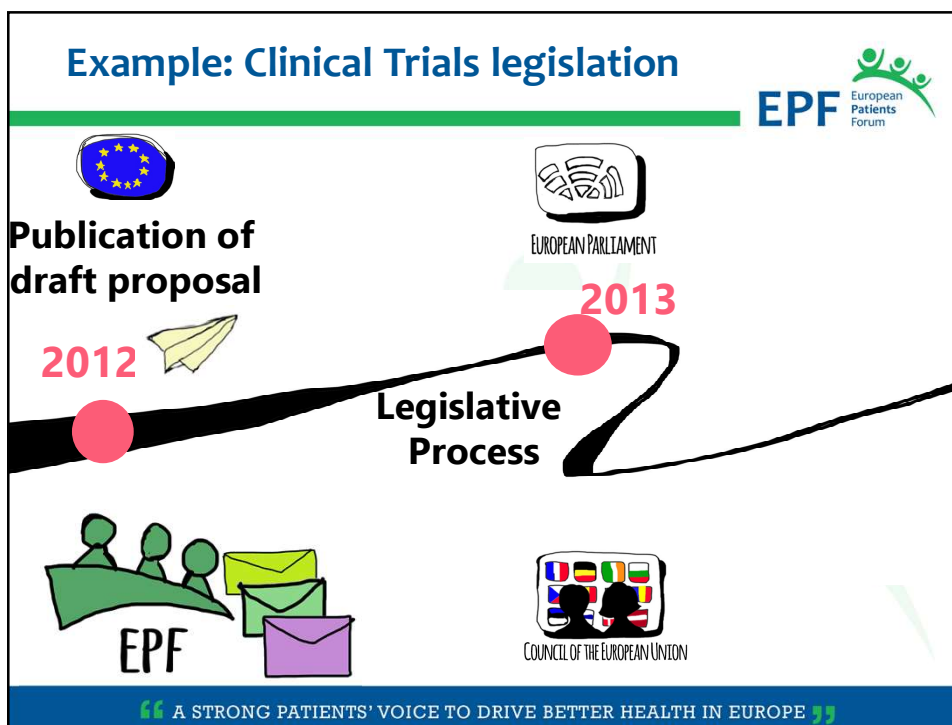
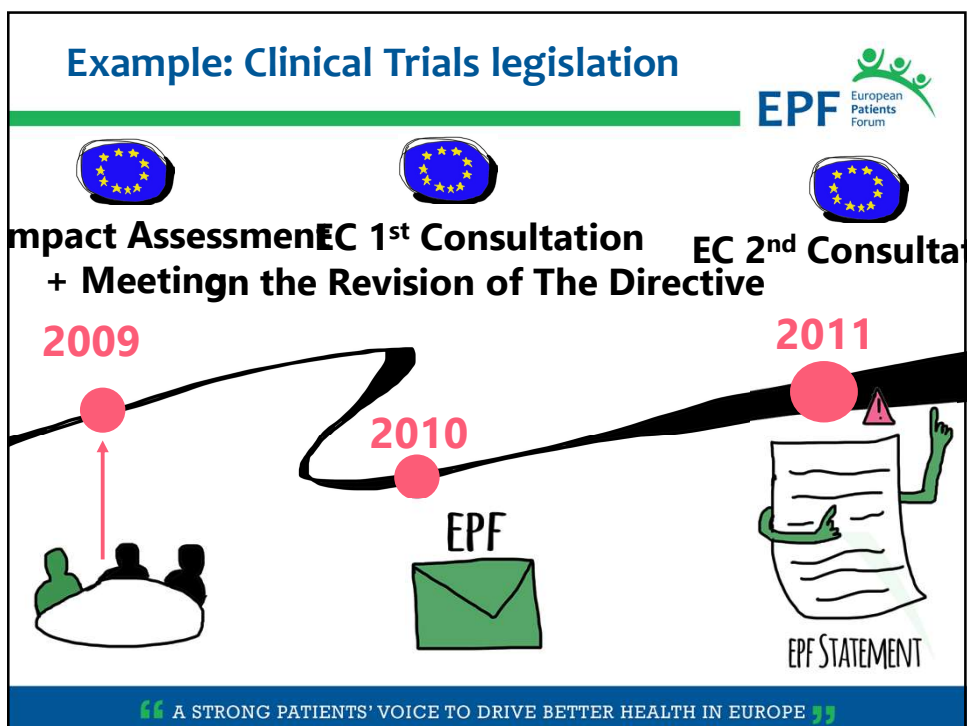
Example: Clinical Trials legislation

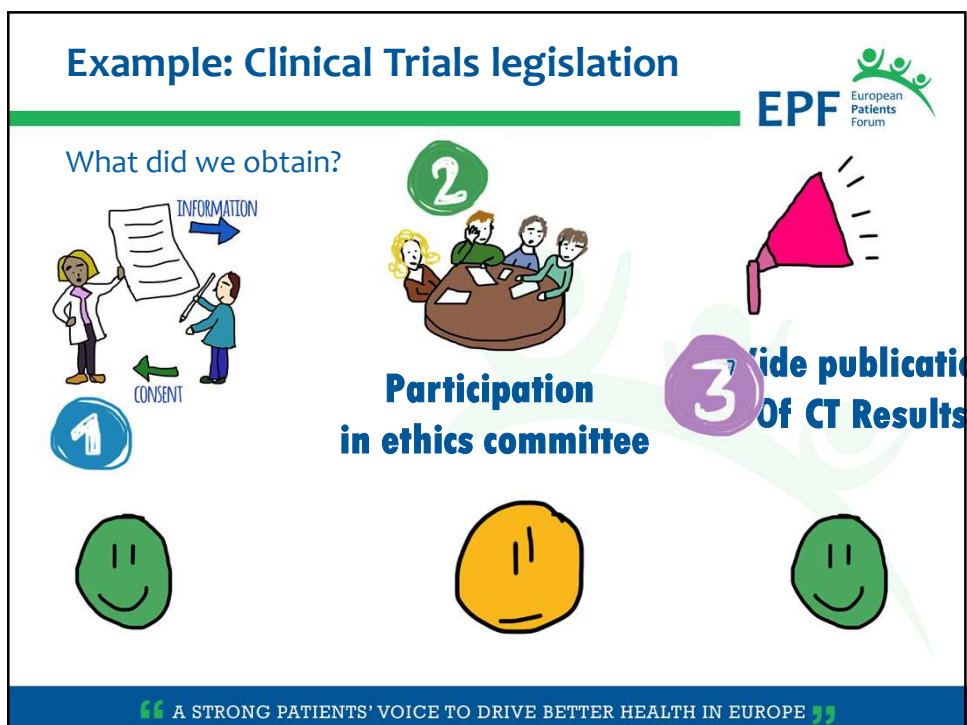
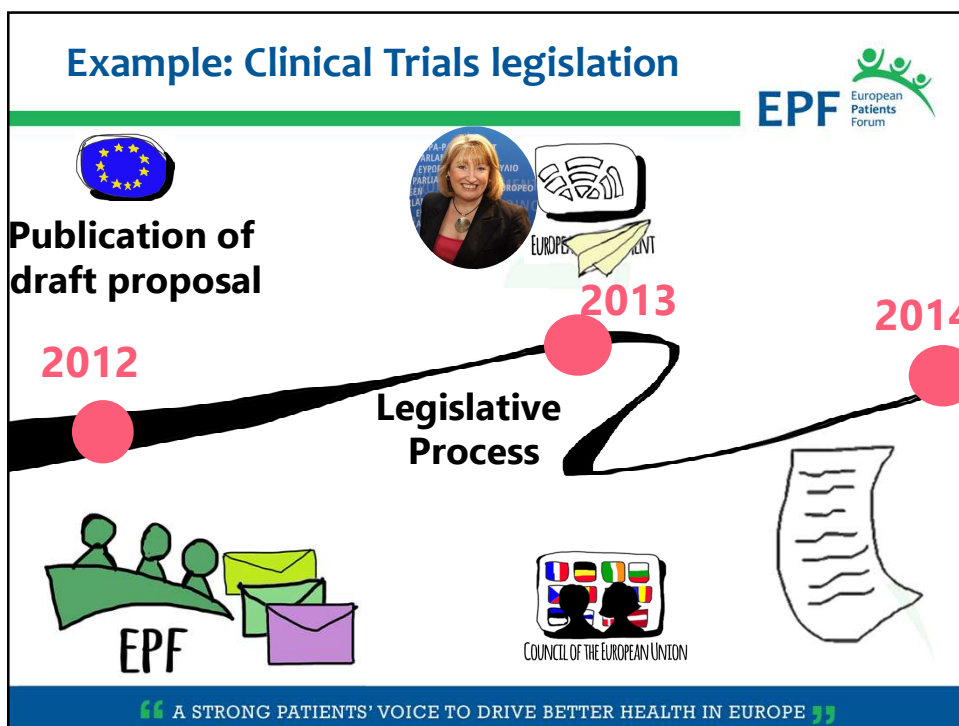


What did we want?



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"Soft Law" Advocacy

The EU & health



Article 168 TFEU: a limited competence in health:

- Responsibility for organisation of health systems and delivery of healthcare is with the Member States
- Principles of subsidiarity & proportionality
- Union action shall complement national policies



Binding legislation (regulations & directives) to harmonise Member States laws in some areas of exception, e.g. medicines, devices, cross-border healthcare:

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Soft law



Soft law & collaboration for exchange of best practices

- **Instruments at EU level:** Recommendations, Opinions, Council Conclusions, exchange of best practices
- **Non-binding legally**
- Still: demonstration effect can have a persuasive influence
- Encouraging Member States;
- An instrument when Member States can't agree on the legal instrument to use?



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EFA: Enabling air travel with medical oxygen



Problems

Some **cabin crews are inadequately trained** on how to assist passengers requiring the use of oxygen.



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Each European airline have **different Medical forms** that require **different approval periods**.

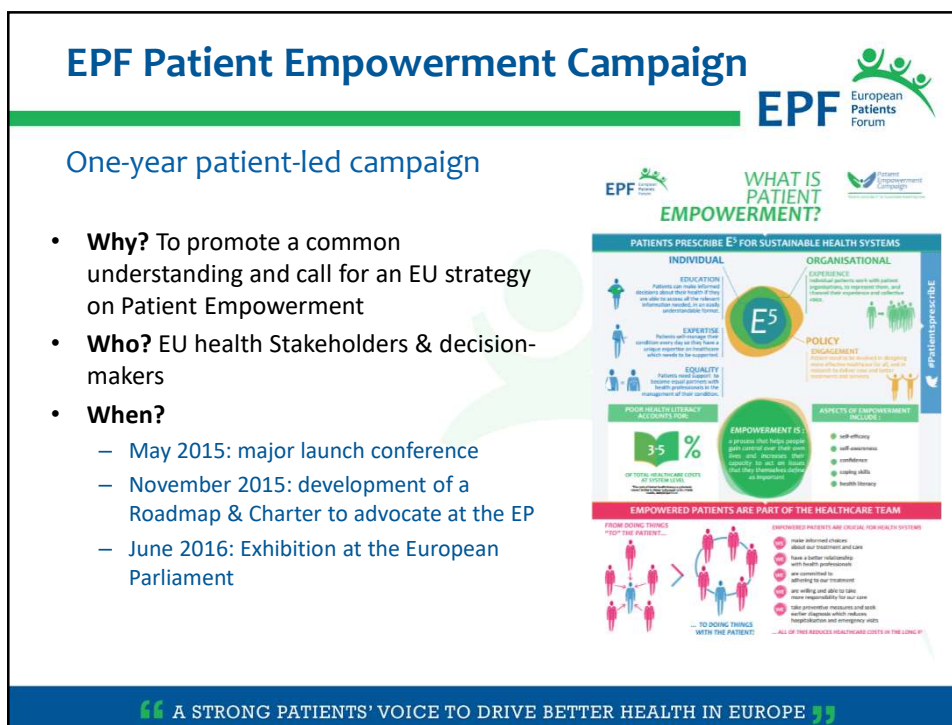
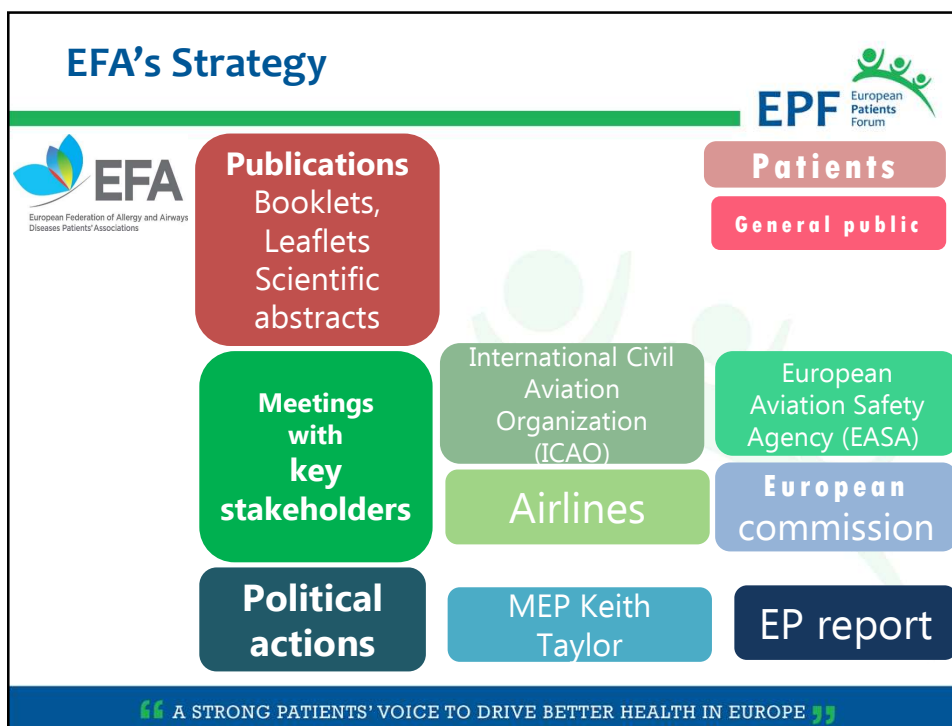


Discriminatory practices: some airlines charge for the use of medical oxygen

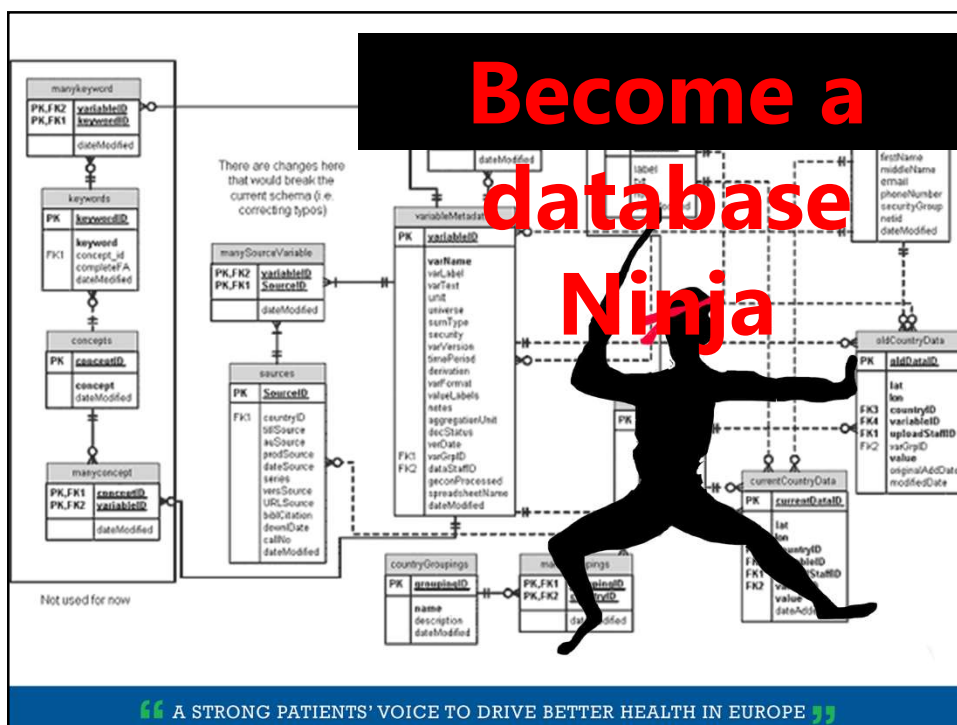
Up to 7 times the price of the same round airfare trip for a normal passenger!



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a few tips





anticipate

- ☐ Integrate Legislation timelines or input needed in your own organisation's calendar
- ☐ Monitor the Commission's websiteSSSSS
- ☐ Subscribe to newsletters, RSS Feeds
- ☐ Your network, your informers!
- ☐ THERE's NO SUCH THING AS



Consult with your members

Your Legitimacy, your Credibility

** Camille*

