

Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) Platform Annual Report

Introduction

The below report is provided to demonstrate the activities and impact of the [Societal Impact of Pain \(SIP\) platform](#). While the impact of advocacy is often difficult to quantify, due to the long-term nature of relationship building and the policy process, this report can go some way to demonstrating real impact. The report shows key activities, a written qualitative analysis, as well as some key performance metrics.

Key Policy Priorities in 2021-2022

- Cancer Pain Policy (targeting EU's Beating Cancer Plan)
- Employment and Social Integration of Pain Patients (targeting the EU Social Pillar, the Disability Strategy, and the Health and Safety Framework)
- Pain and Digital Medicine (targeting the EU Health Data Space)
- International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11)

Key Activities in 2022

- Digital Health Position Paper Launch [Event and Recommendations](#)
- [Digital Health Position Paper](#): Pain and Quality Indicators
- SIP Stakeholder Forum 2022 and [Report](#)
- Stakeholder Forum Memorandum of Understanding Expansion
- SIP Road Map Monitor [Report](#)
- Pain in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11): [A SIP Event](#)

Introduction

In the last two years, SIP has grown substantially, with the systematic involvement of scientific expert-review in the development and launch of SIP Position Papers; the development of multi-stakeholder policy events; continued collaboration with the European Union Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA); as well as the strengthening and growth of the SIP Stakeholder Forum and the SIP National Platforms, placing both at the centre of driving the policy activities and direction of SIP annually. All without losing sight of key EU health policy priorities and initiatives relevant to SIP core objectives.

Additionally, SIP has continued to expand and nurture existing, as well as new relationships with European policymakers and institutions, and the SIP Stakeholder Forum and network of sibling organisations, by going back to in person meetings, after the challenging past two years, due to the pandemic.

SIP has strengthened and grown substantially its online presence, showcasing all SIP activities and events through its different communications channels, such as [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#), as well as the SIP website news section and thematic pages, the quarterly SIP Newsletter and participation in different advocacy and awareness campaigns.

Impact of the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) Platform on Pain Policy

In 2020, the Societal Impact of Pain (SIP) Platform set bi-annual policy priorities and objectives for 2021 and 2022. We have focused the platform on achieving tangible change and influence on these policy priorities.

Following SIP's thorough work on cancer pain policy, 2022 started with the outstanding news that several SIP-inspired amendments had been included in the [Final Report](#) of the European Parliament's Special Committee on Beating Cancer (BECA). After such success, a detailed [case study](#) was put together to outline the steps undertaken to achieve such a result. EFIC is now participating in two EU4Health projects lead by

the European Cancer Organisation (ECO): INTERACT-EUROPE (Inter-speciality training programme) and SMART-CARE (cancer survivors electronic smart card) as a result of the pain focus within the Beating Cancer Plan. Additionally, SIP is part of the European Commission Beating Cancer Plan Stakeholder Group in the EU Policy Platform. Additionally, SIP has joined the thematic group 'Quality of Life' of the Stakeholder Contact Group on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan. SIP will be participating in the work of the thematic group and will provide input to the Commission on the implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the Horizon Europe Cancer Mission, in areas under the remit of the thematic group.

SIP's efforts in workplace integration and adaptation policy have led to the public recognition of our activities as 'best-practices' from EU-OSHA, and close collaboration with the Agency, including the co-creation of the Workplace Integration and Adaptation [Event and Recommendations](#) and next steps in 2021, and the participation of SIP in a parallel session at the November 2022 [EU-OSHA Summit](#) in Bilbao.

Additionally, SIP focused on [pain and digital health](#) on 2022, targeting the European Health Data Space and releasing [its Digital Health Position Paper](#): Pain and Quality Indicators. To complement the launch of the position paper, SIP organised a [multi-stakeholder policy event](#) and developed a set of [recommendations](#).

Finally, SIP focused on the International Classification of diseases (ICD-11) and as part of its activities on the topic, developed the 2022 [SIP Road Map Monitor Report](#), a thorough analysis on the status of different European countries on National Health Frameworks of Pain, Pain as a Quality Indicator, Pain Research, Pain in Employment and Pain Education. The results were officially launched at an ICD-11 related event entitled 'Pain in the International Classification of diseases: [A SIP Event](#)', where experts in the field discussed ICD-11 from different points of view. The line-up of speakers was formed by three speakers from the World Health Organization (WHO), a representative from the Portuguese Ministry of Health, a patient representative and five experts in the field showcasing different case-studies. Moreover, SIP met with the ENVI EHDS Rapporteur MEP Sokol and his office, to discuss how ICD-11 could be included in the file. The meeting was positive and successful, and SIP will remain in contact with his office in 2023.

As a result of the SIP National Platform meetings, and the 2022 SIP Stakeholder Forum meeting, and the analysis of the current and upcoming EU Policy sphere, SIP will be focusing on Pain and Digital Health, ICD-11, Mental Health and Access to treatment in 2023. However, it will remain active on other policy areas when opportunities arise.

Key Performance Metrics

The metrics below provide an insight into how SIP is performing. The metrics relate to the calendar year 2021-2022. We have selected those which we believe are most indicative of quality work and real impact.

1. [Number of Policy Papers / Positions Published: 3](#)

This refers to SIP's multistakeholder, multidisciplinary, scientifically-based policy recommendations. These are the highest value substantial activities of the project. Additionally, SIP's contributions to other organisations' policy publications, and responses to public consultations are also listed.

- SIP Position [Paper](#) on Digital Health: Pain as a Quality Indicators.
- Letter to the Editor of the European Journal of Pain on ICD-11 in relation to pain science
- SIP Road Map Monitor [Report](#).

2. [Number of Meetings with Political Stakeholders: 8](#)

This refers to meetings held in person or via web conference with political representatives;

renewing, strengthening, or establishing new relationships with key policy makers and institutions related to SIP's core objectives and positions.

- MEP Sipra PIETIKAINEN (EPP, Finland)
- MEP Cyrus ENGERER (S&D, Malta)
- MEP Tomislav Sokol (EPP, Croatia)
- MEP Susana Solis Perez (RE, Spain)
- European Commission, DG SANTE, European Reference Networks and Digital Health
- PERM REP: Portugal (Health)
- PERM REP: Czech Republic (Health)
- EU-OSHA and EU-OSHA Brussels Liaison Office

3. Number of Meetings with other Key Stakeholders Relevant to Pain Policy: 23

This refers to meetings held in person or via web conference with other influential organisations in the Brussels policy-making sphere:

- European Federation of Neurological Associations
- European Academy of Neurology
- Mental Health Europe
- European Cancer Patient Coalition
- European Cancer Organisation
- European Association of Palliative Care
- European Psychiatric Association
- European Region of World Physiotherapy
- European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
- European Patients Forum
- Active Citizens Network
- European Health Management Association
- European Connected Health Alliance
- European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities
- European Social Platform
- European Forum for Primary Care
- Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union
- European Specialist Nurses Organisation
- WONCA Europe
- European Migraine and Headache Association
- European Headache Federation
- European Brain Council
- European Public Health Association

4. Number of Subscribers to SIP Newsletter: 844 (Average unique open rate across all newsletters in 2022 is 34,5%)

This refers to the subscribers on our mailing list, indicating the 'circulation' of SIP's positions and recommendations, activities, and engagement opportunities.

5. Number of Views of SIP Position Papers Pages in 2022: 578

This refers to the views of webpages hosting SIP's Position Papers in the year 2022.

- ICD-11: 218
- Digital Health and Pain: 170
- Cancer and Pain: 119
- Employment and Pain: 53

6. Number of Registrants to SIP Events in 2022

This refers to the number of registrants to the online SIP events that took place in the year 2022.

- Digital Health Event – March 2022: 119
- SIP Stakeholder Forum – October 2022: 33
- ICD-11 Event – November 2022: 154

7. Number of Followers on SIP Social Media Channels: 3.13K (Increase of 11%)

This refers to the followers on each of our accounts, indicating the size of our audience and the strength of our voice in online discussions.

- Facebook: 598 followers
- Twitter: 1.58K followers
- LinkedIn (page): 946 followers
- LinkedIn (group): 6.899K members

Top countries:

- United Kingdom
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Italy
- Portugal
- Belgium
- Germany
- United States
- Denmark
- France
- Switzerland
- Ireland
- Malta

8. Number of SIP National Platforms in Operation: 10 + 3 in Development

This refers to the number of active platforms in existence, demonstrating national level reach and amplification of SIP positions and recommendations, and links to national policymakers and stakeholders.

- Belgium

- Ireland
- Finland
- France
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Portugal
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Sweden (Platform in development)
- UK (Platform in development)
- Poland (Platform in development)

9. Number of SIP National Platforms Meetings

This refers to meetings held by the national platforms with a public and multi-stakeholder nature.

- Spain (public meeting x2)