

SIP National Platform Call: 30th September 2026, 13:30-15:00 CET, Teams

Attendees

- **SIP Team:** Ángela Cano Palomares (SIP/EFIC), Marta Bartnicka (SIP/EFIC), Sam Kynman (EFIC/SIP), Tereza Lukesova (EFIC/SIP), Gemma Barsanti (EFIC/SIP), Liisa Jutila (PAE/SIP), Patrice Forget (EFIC/SIP), Iben Rohde (SIP/PAE), Kate Forster (SIP/PAE).
- **SIP National Platform Representatives.**

Welcome and Introductions

- Ángela Cano Palomares (**ACP**) opened the SIP National Platform Call and explained the agenda of the day.
- After that, NPs heard welcome and introductions from Patrice Forget (**PF**), SIP Chair, and Liisa Jutila (**LJ**), SIP Co-Chair and PAE Vice-President.
- **PF** thanked **LJ** and Patient Organisations for their dedication to ensuring pain research directly enhances patient well-being.
- **LJ** shared a few words about her journey with SIP and noted that this was her last SIP National Platform Call as SIP Co-Chair.
- **LJ** introduced Iben Rohde (**IR**) as the new SIP co-chair and Kate Forster (**KF**) as a new member of the SIP leadership.

SIP Updates by Priority

Marta Bartnicka (**MB**) briefly outlined SIP's 2026 priorities, as well as additional workstreams on NCDs and Prevention, Digital Health and ICD-11, and the EU-OSHA campaign.

Economic Considerations of pain & Employment

- SIP Position Paper on Employment and Economic Considerations of Pain: **Finalised**
- SIP Joint Statement on Employment and Economic Considerations of Pain: **Ongoing**
- Infographic Employment and Economic Considerations of Pain: **Finalised**
- Policy monitoring: **Finalised**
- Translation into multiple languages planned with NP support: **To be initiated**
- Policy event/roundtable discussion: **Ongoing**, planned on 10 November 2026

MB encouraged all SIP NPs to contact SIP if they are interested in translating the materials, while kindly reminding everyone that this is a voluntary process.

Gender equity and pain

- SIP Position Paper on Gender Equity and pain: **Finalised**
- SIP Joint Statement on Gender Equity and pain: **Ongoing**
- Infographic on Gender Equity and pain: **Ongoing**
- Monitor gender policies with regards to health and pain: **Ongoing**
- Translations of the SIP Position Paper on Pain and Gender Equity in Health and the Infographic: **To be initiated**

Ireland 2026

- Consultation response to the Irish Council Presidency: **Completed**
- Meeting with Marian Harkin: **Completed**
- Policy event around the Irish Presidency 2026: **Not likely**
- Council conclusions on pain: **Not likely**
- Engagement with Dr Grant Jeffrey, Director of the Workplace Health & Wellbeing Unit (Ireland's Health Service Executive (HSE)), including his participation as a speaker at the upcoming SIP event: **Completed**
- Participation in the Endometriosis Conference (Irish Council Presidency): **Ongoing**

PF encouraged to expand and continue to keep pain high on the agenda, thanking everyone for the continuous effort. **LJ** agreed with **PF**, noting Marion Harkin's support for SIP and PAE work. **LJ** suggested keeping Marion Harkin informed of future collaboration opportunities and thanked the SIP team for their hard work.

SIP National Platform Support

- Advocacy Toolkit Training roll-out: **Ongoing**
- Finalised:
 - Italy: 29 May (Rome)
 - Denmark: 17 September (Copenhagen)
- Confirmed dates:
 - Poland: 21 October
 - Sweden: 4 December
- Update of the State of Pain Policy 2026: **Ongoing**

MB reported that the *SIP Roadmap Monitor* has been renamed **State of Pain Policy 2026** to better reflect its focus on pain policies. She also kindly reminded everyone to liaise with their country's Councillor to complete the Word document containing the survey questions and return it to Gemma Barsanti (**GB**).

NCDs and Prevention

- Engagement with policymakers and Global and EU institutions on integration of pain into EU and Global NCDs prevention frameworks: **Ongoing**
- Roll-out of the SIP Preventive Healthcare Position Paper: **Ongoing**
- Leaflet based on the Preventive Healthcare Position Paper: **To be initiated**
- Translation of the SIP position paper on Preventive Healthcare and Leaflet: **Ongoing**

Digital Health and ICD-11

- Monitor the implementation of the EHDS and engage on ICD-11 related topics when and where appropriate with the EU Institutions: **Ongoing**
- Develop a publication and a joint webinar in collaboration with WHOFIC on the importance of implementing ICD-11 across Europe: **Finalised**
- Outreach to national governments on ICD-11 implementation: **To be initiated**

MB presented the publication written in response to the letter to the editor. The article emphasises the importance of implementing ICD-11 across Europe, touches upon the SIP position paper, and is fully accessible via the portal.

PF thanked everyone who participated in the development of the publication on ICD-11, and more generally in the discussions and development of concepts.

PF encouraged members to contact SIP if they find similar opportunities, to keep pain high on the agenda.

MB proposed assisting SIP National Platforms with government outreach to advance ICD-11 implementation.

ACP explained the outreach takes a lot of resources and reiterated the proposal for SIP support to SIP NPs.

EU-OSHA Campaign

- Joining the EU-OSHA new campaign “Healthy Workplaces”: **Finalised**
- Inviting EU-OSHA to next SIP NPC (National Platform Calls): **To be initiated**, more likely to happen at the beginning of 2027.
- Possible webinar on the topic of the EU-OSHA new campaign: **To be initiated**, more likely to happen at the beginning of 2027.

Other

- Advocacy Campaign for European Pain Awareness Day: **Ongoing**
- SIP NPC (National Platform Calls): **Ongoing**
- SIP NP bi-lateral calls: **Ongoing** – few more to go this year.
- SIP Policy Forum – Friday 23 October at 13:30 CEST: **Ongoing**

ACP noted the refurbishment of the MoU, explained the structure of the SIP Policy Forum meeting, mentioned its name change and the opportunity to present for the SIP NPs.

European Pain Awareness Day (EPAD)

MB presented this year’s European Pain Awareness Day (EPAD) campaign theme, “**The Hidden Cost of Pain**”, focusing on **employment and the economic considerations of pain**, and briefly presented the available resources on the EPAD webpage.

Further, she highlighted the SIP event “**Chronic Pain, Employment and Economic Competitiveness: The Hidden Cost of Pain**”, taking place on **10 November at the European Parliament**, in collaboration with MEP Romana Jerković, as well as the free EPAD-related webinars organised with partner organisations.

ACP highlighted the **20 translations of the policy brief** available as part of the EPAD Toolkit and encouraged everyone to contact SIP if they require translations of the policy brief or other campaign materials.

Advocacy Toolkit Training Roll-Out

- Update on the Advocacy Toolkit Training roll-out
- Finalised:
 - Italy: 29th May
 - Denmark: 17th September
- Confirmed and in progress: Poland (21st October) and Sweden (4th December)

Presentation on the Advocacy Toolkit Trainings in Italy on May 29 by Caterina Aurilio (CA).

CA highlighted that the training brought together a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from clinical governance, academia, patient organisations, public administration, and professional associations, reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of pain advocacy.

CA explained that the session built on Italy's long-standing experience in pain advocacy, while recognising existing legislative and clinical efforts. She also highlighted how SIP can provide a structured way to connect national advocacy work with the wider European SIP framework, offering practical tools, stronger coordination between stakeholders, and continued support at European level.

CA outlined the next steps, including identifying relevant representatives and stakeholders to establish the SIP Italian Platform.

Presentation and feedback on the Advocacy Toolkit Trainings in Denmark on September 17 by Sanne Lydø (SL) and Lars Bye Møller (LBM).

LBM presented the structure of SIP Denmark and highlighted that the training brought together a diverse range of stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, representatives of pain organisations, and influencers.

LBM noted that the presentations were well-prepared and effectively delivered, while the interactive workshop sessions proved particularly effective in engaging participants.

LBM also discussed the usage gap following Toolkit trainings, noting that while the Toolkit is often launched with significant enthusiasm, engagement can decrease over time. Without continuous reinforcement, participants may forget the training content and return to previous ways of working.

SL discussed key operational challenges to Toolkit adoption, including the administrative burden faced by smaller organisations in monitoring the policy landscape and maintaining stakeholder relationships. Volunteer-driven organisations may also experience frequent turnover, requiring them to repeatedly rebuild knowledge and skills.

LBM highlighted the challenge of sustaining long-term advocacy efforts given the slow pace of policy change, particularly when organisations need to balance advocacy activities with more immediate patient support. The discussion also addressed the need for ongoing coordination and mediation between stakeholders with different priorities and agendas.

SL thanked **ACP** and the SIP team.

ACP thanked SIP Denmark for the feedback and suggestions and asked if anyone had questions or comments.

Gunilla Göran (**GG**) thanked SIP Denmark and **CA** for their presentations and added that SIP Sweden is looking forward to the Advocacy Toolkit Training in Sweden on December 4.

SIP 2027 priorities – Survey and Discussion

ACP mentioned **MB**'s preparatory work on the EU health priorities for 2027, as well as the in-depth analysis being conducted by Gemma Barsanti (**GB**), which will be presented at the SIP Policy Forum.

ACP explained that, as SIP begins planning for 2027, NPs are invited to share their views on SIP's priorities, activities, and ways of working together. She emphasised that NP feedback is essential to shaping joint advocacy and ensuring that SIP's work reflects the needs and policy realities of different countries.

ACP therefore invited NPs to complete a short survey covering their Platform's priorities for 2026, expectations for SIP in 2027, and the types of support and collaboration that would be most valuable to them.

ACP added that the survey would also be disseminated by email, providing all NPs with an opportunity to complete it.

After that Avetis Avetysian (**AA**) shared a few slides discussing updates on SIP Armenia, and the steps being taken to establish the platform. He also added some preparatory work concerning meeting governmental officials.

PF thanked **AA** for all the efforts.

SIP Communication, Next Steps, and Closure

IR thanked **LJ** for her contributions and impact across many projects over the years. She also thanked all members and reminded them to contact PAE and SIP should they require any support.

KF thanked the members for the opportunity to represent PAE and expressed appreciation for everyone's time and collaboration.

In closing, **ACP** shared the following updates:

SIP bilateral calls

- To continue being scheduled.

SIP Newsletter – 30 October 2026

- NPs are kindly asked to send their news and updates by **20 October 2026**.

Next SIP NPC

- The meeting may be rescheduled to December. NPs are asked to keep an eye on their emails for any updates or changes.

SIP communication channels

- NPs are encouraged to follow SIP across its communication channels, including **LinkedIn and Bluesky**, and to visit the SIP website and subscribe to the newsletter.