



ECPC BOARD & AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2022

ECPC Board Candidates (alphabetic order):



1. Alin Bujan

Organization: Federatia Asociatiilor Bolnavilor de Cancer

Country: Romania

Short Biography: My name is Alin Bujan, I am a patient with a chronic condition. I am 33 years old and I have been working in the NGO field for many years. In 2009 I started collaborating with the Federation of Associations of Cancer Patients in Romania as Project Coordinator, and in parallel, starting with 2012, I coordinate the projects of the Alliance of Chronic Patients in Romania

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- Improve ECPC actions in order to prevent the incidence of cancer across Europe, by promoting Screening and awareness campaigns.
- Improving ECPC projects by offering my vast experience in coordinating projects / programs dedicated to cancer patients at European level
- Involvement at ECPC level in formulating / supporting legislative proposals to improve access to innovative therapy and non-discriminatory access to healthcare for all cancer patients in Europe





2. Evgenia Dimitrova Aleksandrova

Organization: Association of Cancer Patients (APOZ)

Country: Bulgaria

Short Biography: Evgenia Dimitrova Aleksandrova is a long-time patient advocate and consultant in the field of oncological diseases. After successful treatment of breast cancer, she founded the Association of Cancer Patients (APOZ) in 2004, of which she is still chairman.

APOZ is an organization which core values are fully relevant to the well-being of patients and its activities are dedicated to expanding the framework of care for them. The organization enriches its experience by membership in many reputable networks including UICC, ECPC, Europe Donna, Europa Uomo, INCA, Europa Colon etc., striving to transfer and introduce useful practices in Bulgaria.

Mrs. Alexandrova is a certified patients consultant, national representative of the European Coalition against Breast Cancer Europa Donna and contact person for the Cancer Mission of the Horizon Europe Framework Program 2021-2027. Author and co-author of numerous useful publications and printed publications for patients, including the Handbook for Patients with Cancer, periodically republished in the last 8 years. She is the initiator of significant and sustainable changes in cancer health policies in Bulgaria as a program for comprehensive rehabilitation of women with breast cancer VICTORIA, paid by the state, standard for non-medical care which puts psychologists and social workers as part of multidisciplinary teams in specialized hospitals for cancer treatment etc. For her work she has been awarded many prestigious prizes including Woman of the Year (Gracia 2008 magazine), Golden Heart (BTV 2003, 2010), and the 50th place in the ranking of the Capital newspaper for the 100 most influential women in Bulgaria (2012). She manages to put society's attention to the need for a National Anti Cancer Plan and she is part of the expert group in this field.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- To work for a constant focus on the needs of cancer patients in defining health policies
- To seek and offer solutions in this direction
- To work and enrich the care of cancer patients



3. Francesco De Lorenzo

Organization: Federazione Italiana delle Associazioni di Volontariato in Oncologia (FAVO)

Country: Italy

Short Biography:

Colon cancer survivor since 1997: MD, past full Professor of Biochemistry, University of Federico II, Naples;

- ECPC Past President (2016-2019) and Chair of the Scientific Committee;
- Past Member of the European Commission Expert Group on Cancer Control
- ECPC Representative of the EU Commission: Joint Action on Cancer Control, Joint Action on Rare Cancer and Joint Action on the Innovative Partnership for Action Against Cancer
- Board Member of the: European Academy of Cancer Science
- (2019 – Present), Cancer Drug Development Forum (2019-Present), of EUROCan(Member of SC), Alliance Against Cancer, Italian Oncology Research network founded in 2002 by the Ministry of Health and member of Italy's National Cancer Plan committee.
- Founder and president of AIMaC (Italian Association of Cancer Patients) (1997) and FAVO (since 2003) - Italian Federation of Cancer patients Organisations (550 members);
- Author and Co-Author of more than 50 publications on cancer research and advocacy, 6 of them on Molecular Oncology in the last 3 years.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- **Governance** – Empower and upscale a sustainable and efficient model for governance and cooperation with the ECPC Members, strictly in line with the Statute and Regulations. The Mission of the Board will be governance inspired by the democratic and solidaristic principles that characterize the voluntary organizations. The main priority will be to reach the widest possible consent among all board members with an aim to achieve unity and consensus within diversity and also to ensure that ECPC members become protagonists within the organization.
- **Policy** – The main objectives are to:
 - further support and advocate for patients' rights;
 - develop a strong engagement with the European Institutions
 - strengthen the connection with ECPC partners and stakeholders
 - help overcome the inequalities in cancer prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and survivorship care as well as the socio-economic inequalities to which people are exposed to when they receive a cancer diagnosis

The *European Parliament Challenge Cancer Intergroup*, whose Secretariat is led by ECPC, will be the main tool to leverage the initiatives that ECPC will plan and execute in order to implement the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the Mission on Cancer.

- **Research** – Increasing the active participation in European Research Projects funded by the Commission which will allow ECPC to be at the forefront of the innovative scientific development in the societal, economic and policy aspects related to the cancer treatment, care and survivorship.

Involve patients in research projects as co-researchers and strongly advocate the best partnership model between patient organisations, scientists, clinicians, politicians and industry, with the aim of





identifying important research questions, regarding quality of life and social issues for cancer patients of all ages.

- **Europe's Beating Cancer Plan Goals** - The achievement in 2022 will be:
 - The implementation of Europe's **Pharmaceutic strategy** through the revision of the Pharmaceutic legislation ensuring access to affordable medicines for all patients in Europe and addressing unmet medical needs.
 - **Cancer Survivorship Smart Card** Launch
 - The active support to the ECPC members, in each Member State, in developing their **National Cancer Plan**.





4. George Kapetanakis

Organization: Pieria Cancer Patients Association; Hellenic Cancer Federation ELLOK

Country: Greece

Short Biography: George Kapetanakis is the President of the Pieria Cancer Patients Association and Board Secretary of the Hellenic Cancer Federation (ELLOK). He is a hematological cancer survivor and this experience 12 years earlier was the catalyst to start an active engagement process with cancer patients' advocacy. When he first engaged with cancer advocacy, he realized that there was a need for a national umbrella organization. With other patients who had the same vision, he worked

consistently for the creation of the Hellenic Cancer Federation. He is an active volunteer and member of the Association of Bone Marrow Donation Volunteers, "Orama Elpidas", promoting the national campaign on raising awareness for volunteer Bone Marrow Donation. He is a member of the Cancer Committee of the Central Health Council of Greece, representing ELLOK and Cancer Patients. He is a fan of the European perspective, as the only way to effectively address the modern cancer care challenges and decrease disparities. Moreover, he believes that the collaboration of cancer patient organizations at the European level can effectively provide solutions to the serious problems that cancer patients face every day across Europe. Since his first participation in TEAM ECPC in Brussels, he has tried to highlight the value of the common European effort as the only way to provide effective cancer patients support. This perspective led him to urge other cancer associations in his country to become members of the ECPC and participate in all its activities by strengthening the voice of European cancer patients. He works in the financial industry, as a securities broker.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

This is a very critical time for ECPC. The recent General Assembly showed us that there is a lack of leadership, a lack of administration, and clear operational disorganization. The frustration of the majority of the members was obvious and the way the last Administration handled several issues was insufficient, resulting in division and reflection. This situation took place at a crucial time when the European Cancer Program had just begun and the ECPC was to play a greater role. The three main goals to which I will focus and contribute are the following:

- Improving the organization and functioning of the ECPC, restoring democratic processes and members' trust in its administration and work
- Highlighting the role and focusing on the needs of our members, priority in their empowerment, and development of stable communication links.
- Restore ECPC's reputation, improve collaboration with the scientific community, sponsors, institutions and focus on ECPC's involvement in new research project proposals and support for those in progress.



5. Georgia Orphanou

Organization: The Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF)

Country: Cyprus

Short Biography:

Georgia Orphanou: CMKtr, Marketing Director in PASYKAF. Georgia leads the policy and social marketing strategy of the Organisation that includes amongst others, the design, implementation, evaluation, communication and promotion (ATL, BTL, online) of cancer prevention and early diagnosis programs, wellbeing projects, health literacy and strategies that foster the effective empowerment of cancer patients. She is responsible for ensuring the consistency of the programs in line with the vision, the ethics and the strategic objectives of PASYKAF.

She leads the PASYKAF HPV campaign, which received the first winner EU Health Award 'Promoting vaccination in children' on 2 March 2020. The campaign is a component of the successful human papillomavirus (HPV) eradication program launched by PASYKAF in June 2010, in Cyprus. The program aims to eradicate HPV-related cancers that include cervical, vulva, vagina, penis, anus, oropharynx.

Georgia served as a member in the European Patients' Forum (EPF) Working Group on Patients' empowerment (2015 – 2018). She represents PASYKAF and The Federation of Patient Organizations of Cyprus in national and European meetings.

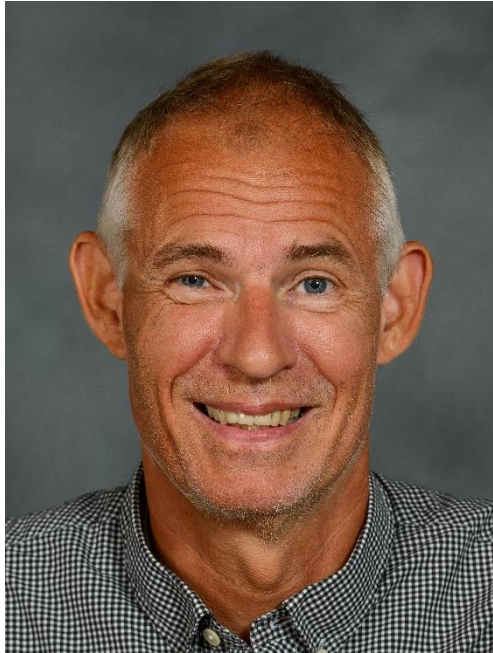
Georgia holds a BBA in Marketing and an MBA in Marketing Management and has achieved 14 years as a Chartered Marketer.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

If I'm elected I will work hard:

- to promote the interests of cancer patient associations in the European Union;
- to promote the interests of all cancer patients and their caregivers in the European Union;
- to eliminate cancer





6. **Jacob Landsmann Hansen**

Organization: Foreningen for Oplysning Om komplementær Kræftbehandling i Danmark (FOOKiD)

Country: Denmark

Short Biography:

I have served on the board of 2 different Patient organisations since 2015. latest i was one of the founding members of Fookid in 2019 and now i serve on the board. I am working mostly in the subject of repurposing drugs into cancer treatment. normally associated with lower costs. we collect information on treatment options outside of Denmark. we run a quite good and informative community for cancer patients and their loved ones.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- I would like to try to influence on a European level to look into the wealth of already existing drugs to be repurposed into cancer treatment.
- I would also invest my time in ECPC to bring the organisation back on the map without all the trouble I was unfortunate to see it first in July 2021.
- We need to restore the peace and trustworthiness of ECPC.
- I will do anything in my power to enhance the condition for Cancer patients throughout EUROPE.





7. Jana Pelouchova

Organization: Diagnóza leukemie, z.s.

Country: Czech Republic

Short Biography:

I'm a chronic myeloid leukemia patient on treatment for 20 years. For almost the same time I'm acting in patient advocacy: as founder and chair of Diagnóza leukemie patient society at national level (Czechia), as co-founder and president of Leukemia Patient Advocates Foundation, Steering Committee member of CML and CLL Advocate Networks and, active also in other blood cancer networks. I have served on ECPC Board throughout three election periods: 2010-2019, representing ECPC within Patient Advisory Committee of ECO, European Hematology Association, Rare Cancers Europe. Currently I'm involved in ESMO Patient Advocacy Workgroup and in EU research projects (ELBA, IMMUNE IMAGE Ethics Advisory Board).

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- Collaboration and capacity building with member organisations in CEE
- Providing patient expertise and knowledge in rare cancer advocacy
- Focus on disparities in cancer care





8. Maria Begona, Barragan Garcia

Organization: Spanish Group of Cancer Patients (GEPAC)

Country: Spain

Short Biography:

I am a Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma survivor and my experience with cancer led me to cancer patient advocacy first becoming member of cancer patient groups in my country Spain. In 2010, I established Gepak as an independent non-profit organization which has today 108 patient associations. Gepak and its members

cover all cancer common and rare: rare tumors, breast, head and neck, liver, pancreas, prostate, lung, kidney, skin, and melanoma. We aim to share resources and experiences and have a single voice with the health authorities. GEPAC is one of the largest Spanish patient organizations and offers psycho-oncological, social, legal, oncoesthetic and physical rehabilitation information and advice for cancer patients and their families.

My long experience in business, together with the experience of governing for more than twenty years patient organizations, as well as my previous experience on the board of Directors of Spanish Patient Forum and Lymphoma Coalition will be useful for ECPC.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- to unite ECPC members: we are ECPC members because we believe that collaboration within ECPC can help us improve cancer care and research in Europe therefore understanding the needs and priorities of each one of us will lead to more understanding, patience and solidarity.
- to learn more about European cancer policy and thus contribute to improve the cancer policy of my country: leading a national cancer patient organization and having participating in the boards of European umbrella organizations, I am familiar with cancer policy advocacy and can help the Board of ECPC in setting the cancer policy agenda and contribute in specific projects. This experience will also strengthen my national cancer policy skills.
- to ensure a friendly work climate among staff, board, and members: to this purpose personal contact, meetings and visits to the Office in Brussels are necessary to restore trust and acceptance of each other.



ECPC Audit Committee Candidates (alphabetic order):



1. Constantine Nicolaides

Organization: Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF)

Country: Cyprus

Short Biography: Following my graduation from Pancyprian Gymnasium I served my military service at the National Guard in the Office of the Commander of the anti-aircraft Artillery as the Artillery's cryptographer and was the officer in charge of the camp's education and training and the Artillery's 2nd office. I studied law at the Universities of London and Wolverhampton and obtained appropriate degrees with honours followed with a postgraduate

course for the Barrister-at-law of the Council of Legal Education in London. I lived in England for many years and worked in various departments of the British Government, such as the Department of the Environment as a legal liaison officer and the Crown Prosecution Service as a legal officer. As from November 1996 I have been practicing law with my own office in Nicosia and at the same time have been acting as a consultant to the Government of Cyprus Attorney General's office in difficult or complicated criminal cases.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial and operational management and approving European Cancer Patient Coalition budgets and end-of-year Financial Accounts. The Audit Committee can also make recommendations and suggestions to the Board and to the Secretariat on organisational, operational and strategic topics and/or issues.

Through working together, I believe we can make a difference to the lives of cancer patients.



2. Istvan Balogh

Organization: Gyermekrak Alapítvány – Children Cancer Foundation

Country: Hungary

Short Biography: My high position at the Children Cancer Foundation, which includes economic leadership as well, has provided success and confident future for the organization for over two decades. As the leader of one of the strongest and biggest non-profit in Hungary I have been managing the billions worth business of the foundation. I have responsibilities such as coordinating economic matters, planning budgets, and conducting analysis and research. My expertise, legal

knowledge about taxes and finances, and my hardworking and proactive way of thinking make me capable managing financial matters. As the president of the foundation I am responsible for making economical and financial decisions.

Thanks to my expertise I have also been on board of other organizations in Hungary and in the USA, so I have dealt with several international financial transactions as well.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board: I would be happy to grow my professional knowledge in the Audit Committee of the ECPC. I can help the successful work of the coalition with my open-minded personality, excellent strategic thinking, economical knowledge, and international connections.

Regular official controls and a recent independent financial review proved that the financial decisions I have made were correct and reasonable.



3. Maria Theodoridou

Organization: Hellenic Cancer Federation (ELLOK); EY ΖΩ
- Living Well with Cancer

Country: Greece

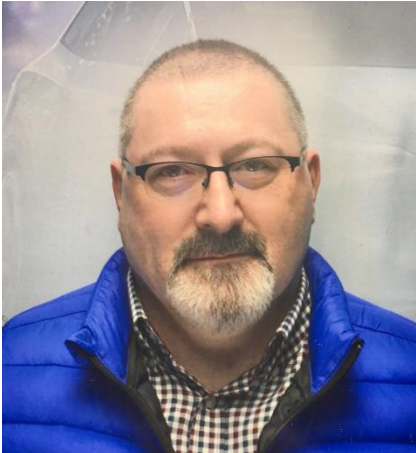
Short Biography: Maria is member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Cancer Federation (ELLOK) and Deputy Chair of “EY ΖΩ - Living Well with Cancer”, a non-profit organization supporting patients suffering from neoplastic disease in Heraklion, Crete.

Maria is an Electrical Engineer of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece and holds a M.A.Sc. in Computer Science from the University of Toronto, Canada. Since 1986 she has been working as a Research and Development Engineer at the Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas.

Her experience with cancer started with her mother's ovarian cancer in 2006, her father's NHL in 2009 and her own breast cancer in 2012. In 2020 she lost her partner (an active biologist in the Precision Medicine Network in Greece) to esophageal cancer. She is determined and committed to assure that all patients have access to timely cancer diagnosis, treatment, care, psycho-social rehabilitation and reintegration into social life and employment. Cancer supportive care, care for terminally ill patients and support of the cancer patients' families and caregivers, survivorship and rehabilitation are issues of prime importance both for ELLOK and Maria personally.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board: ECPC went through a difficult situation the last year and some of it's practices have been strongly questioned. I would like to ensure that all financial procedures and reporting is done in the best possible way and that accounting policies and principles follow the organisation's statute and the law.





4. Vasile Ianovici

Organization: Federatia Asociatiilor Bolnavilor de Cancer

Country: Romania

Short Biography:

- Since 2010-member in directory board of ABC Suceava
 - Since 2014-Censor for Romanian Cancer Federation
 - since 2015-co-founder and vice-president of MIELOPRO
- 2019- 2022-Board member of ECPC

Patient with CML (chronic myeloid leukaemia),my main purpose is medical and humanitarian, I serve and promote the main cancer patients interests.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- I will continue to support actions taken in the interests of cancer patients.
- I will make sure, given my economic and management skills, that all decisions, all ECPC projects, will meet the legal implementation framework, and I will also provide support and advice in this area.
- I will try, as I did within the ECPC board, to be a factor of balance and collaboration among all those involved in the patient's advocacy.



5. Roberto Persio

Organization: Associazione Italiana Laringectomizzati (AILAR)

Country: Italy

Short Biography: I am a programme manager working on infrastructure mega projects for a global infrastructure player in Italy, dealing with the design, appraisal and delivery process, with an eye on sustainability, resilience and innovation. Civil engineer, I am currently enrolled as part time student in the MSc course in Major Programme Management at University of Oxford.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board: Since my fight with a rare cancer beginning 2009, I have dedicated my time and energy with progressively increasing commitment and responsibility to AILAR, an Italian

charity that supports oncological patients in their therapeutic journey and advocates for their quality of life, firstly as a member, then serving in the national board of directors (since 2011), and as president of the Rome and Lazio regional chapter (since 2015). Together with other AILAR volunteers, I am committed to improving care for oncological patients.



6. Suryakanta Acharya

Organization: PAY-W Clinic

Country: India

Short Biography: I am Dr Suryakanta Acharya, Radiation Oncologist from India. I work as an oncologist in clinic, do academics (peer review, publication) and supervise advocacy work of my PAY-W Clinic. The CSO has presence in 7 countries which provides cancer & palliative care services free of cost. Preventive and de-addiction services are offered through collaboration with other not-for-profit CSO/NGO.

I am the founder of PAY-W Clinic which is a not-for-profit entity & associate member of ECPC since 2021. As a founder of the organization, I had handled the registration (legal) and finances, in fact everything for the entity.

Goals for my term on the ECPC Board:

- Understand financial and operational parts of ECPC and make suggestions for optimal management.
- Suggesting strategic topics concerning the work of ECPC.
- Contribute to overall progress of ECPC.