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**“Paediatrics building bridges across Europe” – The 8th EUROPAEDIATRICS Congress in
Bucharest, Romania, May 13-16, 2017**

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The European Paediatric Association and Union of National European Paediatric Societies and Associations (EPA-UNEPSA), the umbrella organisation of the 49 national paediatric member societies from across Europe, invites paediatricians and other professional involved in child health to attend the 8th. EUROPAEDIATRICS Congress, jointly co-hosted by the Romanian Paediatric Society (<http://www.europaediatrics2017.org>). The congress will be held on June 7 to 10, 2017 in Romania's capital and its largest community, the historic and dynamic city of Bucharest. The congress language is English.

The programme of EUROPAEDIATRICS 2017 follows the motto "*Paediatrics building bridges across Europe*". After more than a quarter of a century has passed since the iron curtain between the East and the West of Europe has come down, EUROPAEDIATRICS 2017 will explore similarities and differences in current challenges and approaches to child health across Europe. We will also address the contributions of paediatric medicine and of paediatricians towards unifying standards across Europe, and to improving health, development and opportunities for children regardless of their origin and nationality. The EUROPAEDIATRICS congress is held every second year and serves as the central meeting point of general paediatricians and paediatric subspecialists both from ambulatory and hospital care from across Europe and the world. The scientific program is developed in close collaboration with several paediatric subspecialty societies, including the European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN), the International Advanced Paediatric Life Support Working Group (APLS), the Paediatric Assembly, European Respiratory Society (ERS), the Paediatric Section, European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) and others, as well as the European Young Paediatricians Association (EURYPA) that aims to support the efforts of the new generations of young European paediatricians up to 40 years of age and aims to provide them with the necessary tools useful to be achieve their personal professional endeavours. We build on the critical analysis of paediatric conferences in Europe, and the needs of our paediatric colleagues (1, 2). We will review recent developments in diagnostic and therapeutic approaches and their practical application. Information is shared in plenary sessions with keynote lectures provided by internationally renowned leading experts, in parallel symposia, debate sessions,

and in smaller workshops. Latest guidelines relevant for paediatric practice are presented. Interactive and hands-on workshops will enable the sharing of good practice, where leaders in their fields report on their experience and approaches to managing important paediatric disorders. Current developments in research on child health care and child health care services will also be discussed. Oral and poster presentations of submitted abstracts provide an opportunity to learn about latest results on issues related to the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and to discuss with the investigators. On Wednesday June 7th., interactive postgraduate training workshops in smaller groups will be held to enhance practical skills. Delegates can obtain continuing medical education (CME) credits. Please visit our website to obtain continuous and latest updates on the programme:

<http://www.europaediatrics2017.org>

The congress will be held at the International Conference Center in the gargantuan Romanian Palace of the Parliament – formerly called the House of the People, which is known as the second largest building worldwide after the Pentagon. The grand neoclassical building in the centre of Bucharest with its opulent decorations provides for an unforgettable experience and excellent conditions for the congress.

The bustling and rapidly changing metropolis of Bucharest is known for the beautiful banks of the Dambovitza river, its tree-lined broad boulevards, grand classical buildings from the late 19th century, and its tradition for extravagant social life which earned the city its nickname "*Little Paris*". Virtual bridges are abound between the still very visible traces of communism and a rapidly developing market economy, between the modern concepts of Western Europe and the traditions of the Balkans and Middle East, and between a multilingual, cosmopolitan young and a sometimes rather traditional old generation. There are endless attractions for visitors, including great museums, amazing Orthodox churches from the 17th- and 18th-century, charming art nouveau villas, beautiful parks, trendy cafes and restaurants, and numerous cultural activities and events. Come and join us for an unforgettable experience at the EUROPAEDIATRICS 2017 congress at Bucharest!

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