

Further to the EU Commission's green paper on Health Workforce in Europe, I Maurice Fitzgerald, Shanbally, Ringaskiddy, County Cork, make the following submission.

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Challenges faced by Member States:

Smoking and the consumption of Tobacco generally is the number one cause of cancer in Europe and throughout the world. Numerous and grave health warnings exist on cigarette packets, but are ignored or not taken seriously enough, causing chronic illness in the general population in the EU.

The EU has a responsibility to change Tobacco laws to stop the spread of cancer for those who are chronically addicted to nicotine and the myriad of health problems it causes. The cost of cancer treatment is rising as is the drain on the Health services in Europe who treat smoking related illnesses and direct smoking illness such as lung cancer.

The sooner the EU commission accepts the great risk posed by Tobacco products, the better it will be able to protect citizens in Europe. It is hypocritical on the one hand to label Tobacco products as harmful and fatal, and continue to licence the sale and distribution of these products.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Fitzgerald, Shanbally, Rep of Ireland

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