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Comments by the European Commission on the 2021 Joint Statements

"Health as a fundamental value. Towards an inclusive and equitable pharmaceutical strategy for the EU", led by the Interest Group on Supranational Biolaw from the European Association of Health Law proposes.

The calls for action and general priorities are very relevant set to the pharmaceutical strategy.

Big word of thanks and gratitude to the thematic network leaders and contributors because their Joint Statement is a huge piece of work which synthesizes many different points of view. This work can be considered as a successful example where public dialogue can interact and enriches health policy.

In that sense, this Joint Statement is very useful and timely considering the implementation of the pharmaceutical strategy and the upcoming revision of the general pharmaceutical legislation which will come as a package in the end of the year together with proposals for revision of the rules on medicines for rare diseases and for children.

Health policy is very complex; objectives may be contradictive sometimes. In the pharmaceutical strategy, we had this dipole on the one hand of measures inspiring innovation in the different fields such as manufacturing, research and on the other ensuring that medicines reach the patient and stay on the market.

The recommendations listed in the Joint Statement are very much in line with the general objectives in the EU pharmaceutical strategy: data, access, market, going towards unmet needs, etc.

DG SANTE remains available to continue this dialogue during and after the implementation of these actions.