

# EUROPEAN MEDICAL ORGANISATIONS



**18 December 2008**

## **Joint Press release**

The European Medical Organisations welcome the vote of European Parliament on the Cercas Report on the amendment of Directive 2003/88/EC and express their gratitude to the MEPs who have taken the specific concerns of the medical profession into account.

The 2 million physicians, represented by 400 delegates from all over Europe, who gathered in front of the European Parliament 15 December to demonstrate their determination to defend their rights and working conditions, thank the MEPs for their support and the understanding that the main concern of physicians is the safety of their patients.

Therefore, European Medical Organisations mainly claim that

- time spent on call by doctors has to be considered part of their working hours;
- compensatory rest is to be taken following periods of time spent on duty.

The medical profession celebrates the victory of democracy of the European Institutions and congratulate the European Parliament for having rectified the wrong move taken by the Council.

The European Medical Organisations remain vigilant during the conciliation phase but trust that Parliament will reinforce its stand.