

Attn: Mr Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón
President of the Government of Spain

Brussels, 20 July 2022

Dear Mr. President,

The European Network for Smoking Prevention (ENSP) currently has 80 members distributed throughout the World Health Organization European region. Six of them come from Spain (<https://ensp.network/full-member/>), and they have always been very active keeping us updated on the tobacco control progress made in the country you preside.

According to the news spread by different mass-media the Spanish Comprehensive Smoking Prevention Plan 2021-2025 has been stalled. This Plan, developed by the Ministry of Health of the Government that you chair, was agreed upon with the main Spanish scientific societies, and it was an opportunity to place once again Spain in the leading group in tobacco control in Europe, as it was when the 2005 and 2010 laws were implemented under the presidency of Mr. Rodríguez-Zapatero.

Bearing in mind that in Spain is a social and political consensus in favor of these measures, and that the promulgation and development of this Plan would hardly entail an additional cost, resulting in an increase in life expectancy and quality of life of the Spanish population, the ENSP Board that I chair encourages you to carry out your original plans for the defense of the interests of those most vulnerable of your citizens against tobacco consumption, the most paradigmatic of the so-called commercial determinants of health.

Thanking you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Florin Dumitru MIHALTAN

ENSP President

