



Wallonie

Strasbourg, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2010

**Invitation to the AER Conference on Health Inequalities: "It's all about accessibility!"  
& Plenary Session of AER Social Policy and Public Health Committee (2)  
Brussels, 7-8 October 2010**

Dear President,  
Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the **AER Conference on health inequalities** to be held in **Brussels (B)** on **7<sup>th</sup> October 2010** at the premises of the Walloon region (B). This Conference will aim at identifying adequate and efficient means to reduce health inequalities from an accessibility perspective.

As various reports from the European Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO) demonstrate, large health inequalities persist between and within regions and countries in Europe. This issue needs to be urgently addressed: not only are the differences in the health status of European citizens unfair, but these inequalities also represent considerable avoidable costs for public health systems. While the economic crisis continues to bite, immediate action is required at the political level.

Looking at health inequalities successively through the lens of gender, age or medical desertification issues, participants will be able to learn more about the broad and complex issue of health inequalities, to exchange best practices from their regions and to elaborate innovative solutions to help bridging the gap between the health status of European citizens.

Following this conference, AER Social Policy and Public Health Committee (2) will hold its **Fall plenary session** on **8<sup>th</sup> October 2010**, an opportunity for you to learn about the latest developments in health and social policy and about the member regions' activities within our networks. Members will also adopt proposals for the new Committee President and Vice-President at the occasion of this meeting.

A draft agenda, some practical information and a registration form for this event are available here: <http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social/2010/healthinequalitiesfall2010.html>. Please return your completed registration form by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the latest, in order to allow for the optimal organisation of this event. Should you require any further information, please contact the Committee Secretariat ([c.bulot@aer.eu](mailto:c.bulot@ aer.eu); +33 368 46 00 87).

We look forward to welcoming you in Brussels.

Sincerely,

Constantin Ostaficiuc  
AER Committee 2 President  
President, Timis County (RO)