

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

of the French Medical Council



ORDRE NATIONAL DES MEDECINS
Conseil National de l'Ordre

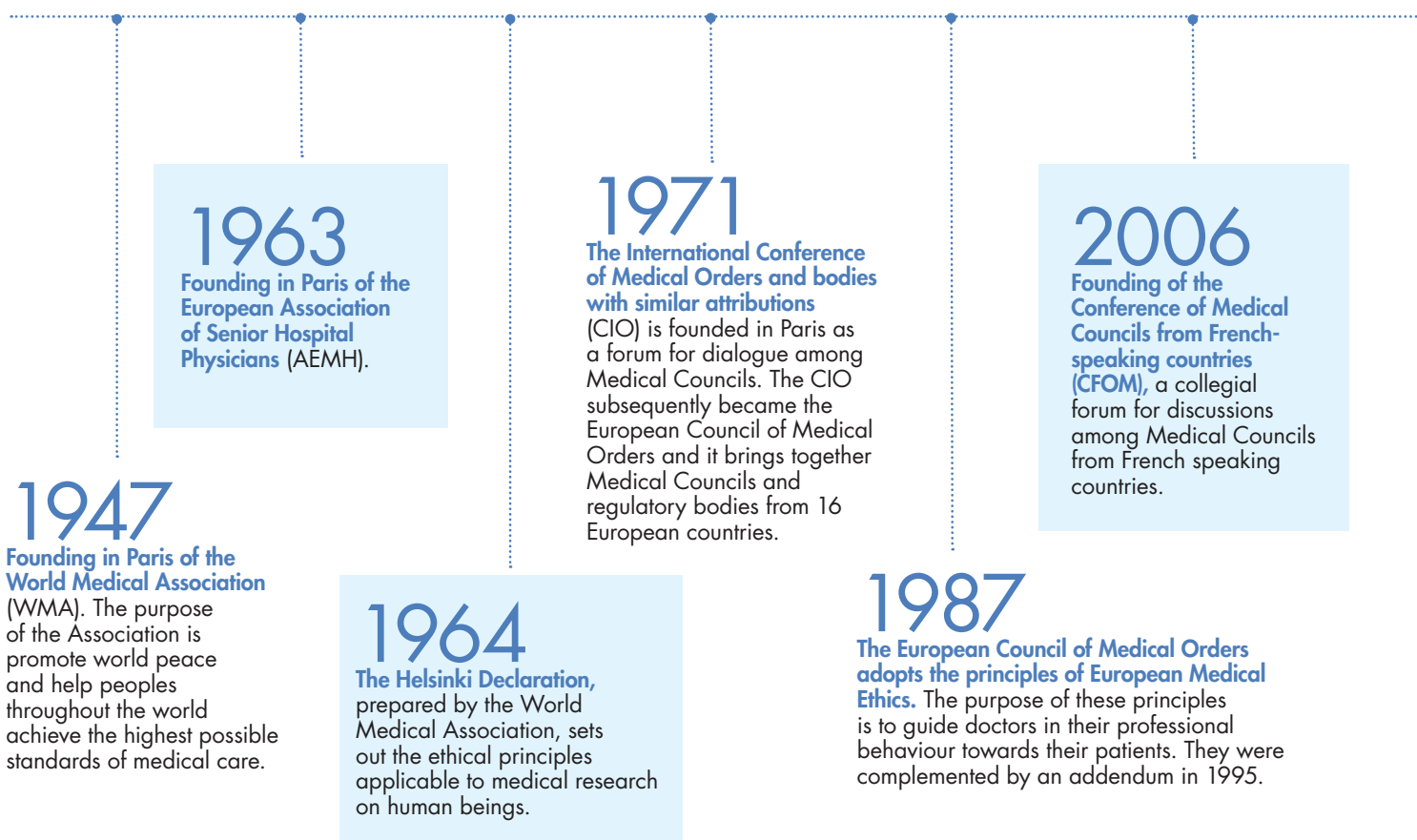
THE SAME COMMITMENT,



DR. PATRICK BOUET
President of the French
Medical Council

For several decades, the French Medical Council has built up close links with organisations representing doctors worldwide. Nowadays, this European and international commitment is more important than ever. Through these relations with our counterparts, the French Medical Council acts as the voice of French doctors to strongly defend and promote the values of our medical ethics. As a result, these exchanges allow the French Medical Council to anticipate and better adapt to the changes of medical practice in France, while preserving the quality of the doctor-patient relationship.

KEY DATES



THE SAME ETHICAL IDEAL

Human rights, patients' rights, professional independence, informed consent... The fundamental principles of medical ethics are universal and know no boundaries. In 1947, two years after the end of the Second World War, doctors from 27 countries united to set up the World Medical Association. In Europe, as early as 1971, doctors came together under the European Council of Medical Orders. The fruitful discussions that took place over a number of years culminated in the adoption of the European Charter of Medical Ethics in Kos (Greece) in 2011. While it is clear that the application of ethical principles to medical practice is determined by national

legislation, the duty of the French Medical Council is to recall that Hippocrates was the first to draft a universal set of ethics and that it is binding on all doctors, whatever their culture. Defending the interests of doctors and their patients also requires political action.

In 2008, the Delegation for European and International Affairs of the French Medical Council decided to open an office in Brussels, at the heart of the European institutions. This new step is strategic at a time when national health policies are increasingly being shaped at European level. The French Medical Council is determined to raise the principles of medical ethics centered on respect for human beings.

2008

Opening of the French Medical Council (CNOM) representative office in Brussels, at the heart of the European Institutions. Since 2011, this office has been shared with the Spanish, Italian and Portuguese Medical Councils so as to facilitate co-ordinated action at European level.

2009

Signing of a mutual recognition arrangement between the CNOM, the French Ministry for Health and Social affairs and the College des Médecins du Québec, to facilitate the practice of medicine in Quebec by French doctors and vice-versa.

2011

The European Council of Medical Orders adopts the European Charter of Medical Ethics in Kos (Greece) in June. This charter updates the principles of European Medical Ethics of 1987.

2010

Founding of the European Network of Medical Competent Authorities (ENMCA). This network has been established with the European Commission to prepare a report on the application of European Directive 2005/36/CE on the recognition of professional qualifications. The Network is currently focusing its efforts on medical mobility within the EU.

2012

The French Medical Council becomes an official member of the World Medical Association to promote the French conception of medical ethics. The French Medical Association was previously French member of the WMA.

REACHING OUT TO EUROPE AND THE WORLD

Within the French Medical Council,
the Delegation for European and International Affairs
promotes the values enshrined in medical ethics
in Europe and throughout the world.



A DEDICATED GROUP: THE DAEI

The French Medical Council has set up a special delegation for European and International Affairs so that it can work effectively with other European and international bodies. The DAEI represents the interests and values of the French medical profession in the service of patients. The delegation is made up of the Presidents of the Council's four sections (ethics, professional practice, medical training and competence, public health and medical demography) or their representatives, and meets once a month in Paris to shape the Council's international policy.



AT THE CENTRE OF THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

The DAEI draws on the expertise of the French Medical Council four sections and works through its representative office in Brussels. The role of this office is to be a link between the Council and the European Institutions. It monitors

European legislation on health issues, proposes an analysis of its possible impact on medical practice and organises meetings to convey the Council's view to European policy makers (MEPs, member of the Commission, experts, etc.). In addition, the Brussels office acts as the secretariat of the European Council of Medical Orders. Finally, it coordinates the work of the European Network of Competent Medical Authorities with its British and German counterparts.



NATURAL PARTNERS IN EUROPE

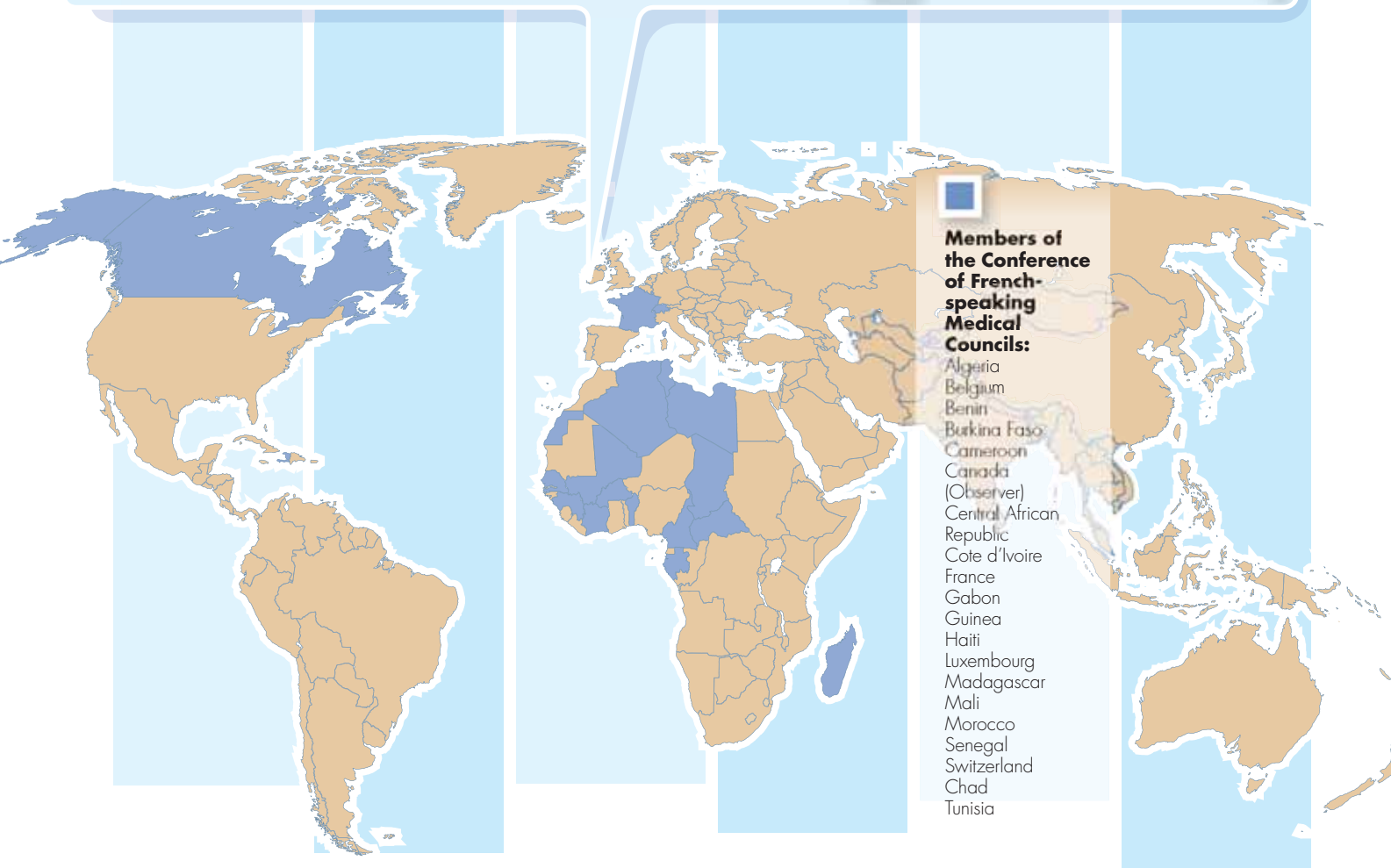
The DAEI has established strong links with Medical Councils and similar bodies from other European countries. Through the sharing of experience, the organisation of joint working groups, co-operation on specific topics like the European Observatory of Medical Demography, the supervision of medical mobility or ethical issues of all kinds, there are many opportunities for lively and fruitful discussions. This process

has led to ever closer relations between Medical Councils in Europe over a number of years.



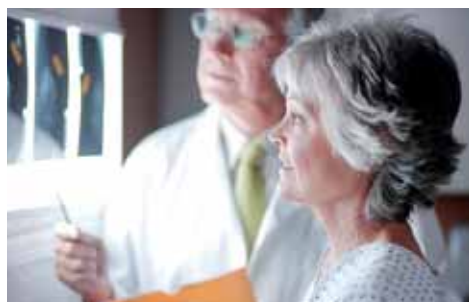
MULTILATERAL RELATIONS IN EUROPE AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

The French Medical Council is represented in several organisations and networks of doctors in Europe (see list and contact details on p. 8). It therefore participates in the work of a number of international organisations. In particular, the French Medical Council is a member of the World Medical Association Council, an organisation that represents three million doctors on five continents. Finally, the French Medical Council acts as the secretariat to the Conference of French-speaking Medical Councils.



A UNIVERSAL SET OF ETHICS

The European and international policy of the French Medical Council is to defend a universal set of ethical principles, based on the fundamental values of solidarity, equal access to care and patient protection.



EQUAL ACCESS TO CARE

Helping people to attain the highest possible level of health care, regardless of race, religion, political opinions or background is the overriding thrust of the numerous motions adopted by the World Medical Association Council. It also inspires the French Medical Council's commitment to promote high quality medical care throughout the French-speaking world through its contribution to the Conference of French-speaking Medical Councils.



PATIENT TRUST AND MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY

Integrity, dignity and independence, confidentiality, trust, these are the principles enshrined in the European Charter of Medical Ethics adopted by the European Council of Medical Orders. The medical profession in Europe is thus committed to professional behaviour that is fully compliant with these principles.



THE PROTECTION OF THE MOST VULNERABLE

The international commitment of the French Medical Council focuses particularly on the most vulnerable members of our societies: fighting global scourges, promoting public health, reducing social and cultural inequalities, fighting the most serious cross-border threats, supporting doctors in difficulty in areas of conflict.



QUALITY AND SAFETY OF MEDICAL TREATMENT

Promoting the quality and safety of medical treatment is a key challenge, both in Europe and throughout the world. The DAEL is active in the area of recognition of professional qualifications and the precise definition of medical specialities in Europe, defends a high standard of medical competence of European doctors, including adequate language skills, promotes continuing medical education and supports meaningful research on complementary and alternative medicines.



FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

Within the European Network of Medical Competent Authorities (ENMCA) member states are determined to ensure that the recognition of professional qualifications does not reduce the quality of medical care nor jeopardise patients' safety. In this connection the Network is calling for an early warning system so that each member state is informed of the professional record of doctors who

wish to practice in another member state. The aim is to guarantee the principle of free movement while strengthening the mutual trust between competent authorities. In parallel, in 2010, the CEOM founded the European Observatory of Medical Demography in order to analyse the movement of doctors within the European Union.

HOW TO CONTACT US



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relations_internationales](http://www.conseil-national.medecin/relations_internationales)

OUR PARTNERS

IN EUROPE...

CEOM – European Council
of Medical Orders

www.ceom-ecmo.eu

AEMH – European Association
of Senior Hospital Physicians

www.aemh.org

ENMCA – European Network
of Medical Competent Authorities

www.enmca.eu

HPCB – Health Professionals
Crossing Borders

www.hpcb.eu

There are seven other European
associations representing the medical
profession:

CPME (Standing Committee of

European Doctors), **EANA** (European
Working Group of Practitioners and
Specialists in Free Practice), **EMSA**
(European Medical Students' Association),
FEMS (European Federation of
Salaried Doctors), **UEMO** (European
Union of General Practitioners),
UEMS (European Union of Medical
Specialists), **EJD** (European Junior
Doctors).

They all have a common website:

www.edomusmedica.eu

IN THE WORLD...

WMA – World Medical Association

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CIB, bâtiment A

01210 Ferney-Voltaire

France

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CFOM – Conference of French-speaking
Medical Councils

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