

TO FAMILY DOCTORS

From: Dr Katarzyna Nessler, President of Vasco da Gama Movement and
Prof. Mehmet Ungan, President of Wonca Europe

Subject: Regarding the emergence of COVID-19

SAFETY. You are a vital support for your communities, saving lives and helping people to cope with the fear of Covid-19. However, no hero is invincible. You deserve to have safe working conditions. Your health and safety must be protected – this is non-negotiable.

BRAVERY. This is an unprecedented crisis, but GPs, residents and other healthcare professionals have stepped up with an inspirational sense of duty. We salute and support all of you in this battle, putting your responsibility to your patients first, often leaving loved ones at home. Your bravery and self-sacrifice are not unnoticed – we see you.

PROFESSIONALISM. This is a new situation for all of us, but we have the knowledge and skills, through our training and experience as family doctors, to adapt to this new challenge. Treatment strategies must be in line with evidence-based medicine, taken from reliable sources.

EMPATHY. We are afraid but so are our patients. Try to understand each other. We may have different perspectives, but this situation is hard for everyone, for our patients, our colleagues, and our leaders.



SOLIDARITY. Helping hands are needed more than ever. We must be in solidarity with other healthcare professionals. Don't stay isolated, seek help and help others in return. Time is of the essence. We will grow through this challenge and emerge stronger together. Our sustainability depends on our unity.

GRATITUDE. No words can describe what we are experiencing. This message is to thank you deeply and to celebrate your inspirational commitment in these challenging times.

Stay strong. Stay safe. Take care of each other.

Dr Katarzyna Nessler

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President of Vasco da Gama Movement (VdGM)
European Young Doctors Movement of
The World Family Doctors Organisation (WONCA)

Prof. Mehmet Ungan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Ungan".

President of Wonca Europe