



Annual Impact Report

2025



Foreword

In 2025, our **Community** achieved significant milestones, most notably the adoption of two landmark World Health Assembly Resolutions on skin diseases and lung health—both supported by EFA’s advocacy work. These resolutions firmly position respiratory and skin diseases within global health priorities and pave the way for concrete actions that will improve the lives of millions of patients across Europe.

Throughout the year, we continued amplifying the voice of patients with allergies, asthma, COPD and atopic eczema.

Our **#KeepBreathing** campaign reached new visibility, in particular through the European Health Forum Gastein, where we convened a high-level discussion on the future of lung health in Europe—bringing together policymakers, researchers, civil society, and patient leaders. We also proudly launched the **first European Respiratory Patient Academy**, cocreated with all European level respiratory patient groups, to build sustainable and empowered patient leadership.

Under our **Care programme**, we began the year by bringing the urgent need to improve COPD standards of care directly into the European Parliament with the launch of the report **“Raising the Standards of Care for COPD in Europe.”**

This culminated in a dedicated discussion at the European Parliament Health Committee on COPD and lung health later in spring. Throughout 2025, we then mobilised our Community around key international health days, not only to raise awareness but also to provide practical resources co-created with our members—including the new **Travel with Oxygen** toolkit for COPD patients, updated asthma materials on **AboutAsthma.org**, and the **Community of Practice on lung health in schools** within the EU funded Lung Health for Life project.

We were also proud to see strong member involvement in co-designing **#BreakTheInvisibleBurden**, the first Europe-wide campaign on atopic eczema, to be launched at the European Parliament in early 2026.

On the policy front, through policy workshops with members and involvement in EC agencies and stakeholder groups, the voice of patients with allergy, atopic eczema, asthma and COPD was heard in key policy consultations and meetings on research, HTA, MDR, critical medicines and more.



Marcia Podestà
EFA President

Foreword

Our **Prevention** work continued to ensure that patients' experiences inform the policies shaping their daily lives. We contributed to debates on Precautionary Allergen Labelling, tobacco control, chemical safety, and indoor air quality, bringing these priorities to key regulatory and expert fora. We highlighted the importance of allergen labelling thresholds at the **Codex Alimentarius Commission**, and shared patient centered insights on PAL developments at relevant events.

As leaders of the **European Lung Health Group** we coordinated a joint statement for World No Tobacco Day, where we called for stronger protection of young people from nicotine and tobacco. We also shared evidence on the health impacts of indoor air pollution through the EC IDEAL Cluster project, reinforcing the urgency of prevention driven policy.

Climate change continued to be part of our agenda in 2025, as its impact on respiratory and allergy patients grows more evident each year. Our Vice President Karoly Illy represented EFA at the **2nd Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health**, ensuring patient needs remained central in high level global discussions. We also contributed to the **EAACI Guidelines on the Impact of Green Spaces**, supporting evidence-based approaches to environmental prevention of allergy and asthma.

Throughout the year, we brought patient perspectives to leading conferences and expert groups working at the intersection of climate and health. We also contributed to the evidence-based approaches to environmental prevention of allergy and asthma. In all of these, partnership with other patient groups, public health and healthcare professional organisations and unwavering support from corporate partners has been the cornerstone.

I am particularly happy that we work more increasingly hand in hand with our members, who are EFA, this is the change I am most proud of. Thank you to all members and partners, we look forward to strengthening these partnerships even more.

Marcia Podestà
EFA President



Organisation

Annual General Meeting 2025

- 38 EFA members from 29 organisations and 22 countries attended the AGM. 85% of them reported being somewhat to very engaged in the community, mentioning among the top reasons: networking amongst member associations, working groups, policy advocacy and public awareness.
- 4 members shared their best practice projects on Nature Health (Finnish Allergy, Skin & Asthma Federation), How fit are your lungs? - Lung function testing (Austria Lung Union), COPD Writing in Pink (Respiriamo Insieme, Italy), Small Victories (Atopic Dermatitis Association Slovenia).
- 1 member (Allergy UK) shared their successful Youth Engagement Group and how to recruit and engage youth representatives/ advocates and why this is so important.
- Accounts and activities of 2024 were approved, as well as 2025 workplan and budget and new vice president and 2 new board members were elected by members saying goodbye and thank you to Armando Ruiz, Vice President Christine Strous, Board Member and Celine Demoulin, Treasurer.

Board



Marcia Podestà
President



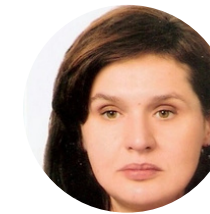
Károly Illy
Vice President



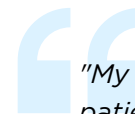
Fríða Rún Þórðardóttir
Secretary



Simone Miles
Treasurer



Anna Andrałojć
Board Member



"My first year as Vice-President confirmed how essential EFA is in ensuring that patients' lived experiences shape policies that affect their daily lives. I saw EFA's added value in how it connects national organisations, amplifying their concerns at European level while also giving them tools and insights to strengthen their work nationally."

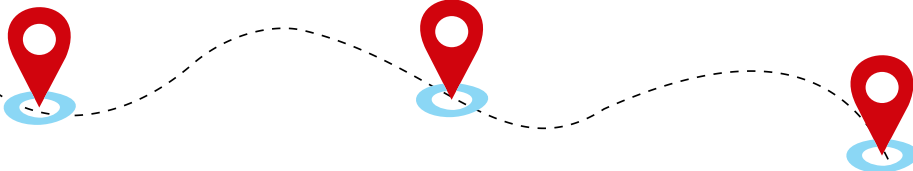
Károly Illy
EFA Vice President

Governance

- In 2025 the Board worked with a lawyer specialised in not-for-profit law in Belgium on EFA statutes, approved in 2021, to update them to current legal framework and to enable the best governance. This will lead in 2026 EFA to become a fully Belgian non-profit organisation.
- Established new financial mandate policy and internal procedure for approval and processing expenditure.
- Certified auditors report confirmed responsible financial management.

HR

EFA Office team was strengthened with an Office Manager to deal with admin, logistics and governance support freeing other experts for their core job, and with a Project Officer to strengthen project implementation



Finances

The year ended with a **56.538 euros surplus**.

4% of income (57.500 euro) was used to directly support members mobilising patient communities and advocating for a common EFA cause in their countries.

Thanks to new and more inclusive membership fee structure, based on income of the member, decided by the AGM, unexpectedly more income was received from membership.

EFA increased income for our collaborative work, such as AGM and Community Meeting and members working groups in our community, care and prevention programmes with **60.000**.

We gained significant support for a brand-new patient advocates training impact initiative, **European Respiratory Patient Academy** following the example of the cancer patient organisations.

Multiannual projects to develop a patient led advocacy tool, Barometer on Access to Care and Support for COPD patients, Keep Breathing project mobilising for a European Lung Health Plan and Atopic Eczema Skin Needs project with an EFA advocacy campaign to break the burden for patients gained great support

Income from partnership projects from the EU research programmes developing **patient involvement** in research impacting them remained stable

EFA income and expenditure were balanced, and saved income was deferred to 2026 to support activities.

Relevant documents

- [Auditor's statement](#)
- [Income and expenditure](#)
- [Financial statement](#)
- [Transparency and acknowledgements](#)



Serving my first year on the EFA Board as Treasurer has given me valuable insight into EFA's governance, financial management, strategic priorities, and cross-European collaboration. This experience has deepened my understanding of the organisation's financial responsibilities, opportunities, and challenges, and has reinforced the importance of strong stewardship in supporting our shared mission.

I have been particularly encouraged by the constructive and respectful discussion that takes place within the Board. Every member brings thoughtful challenge, openness, and commitment, creating a robust and healthy governance culture. This collaborative approach ensures that our decisions are grounded in integrity, transparency, and a genuine focus on strengthening EFA for the benefit of the patient communities we serve.

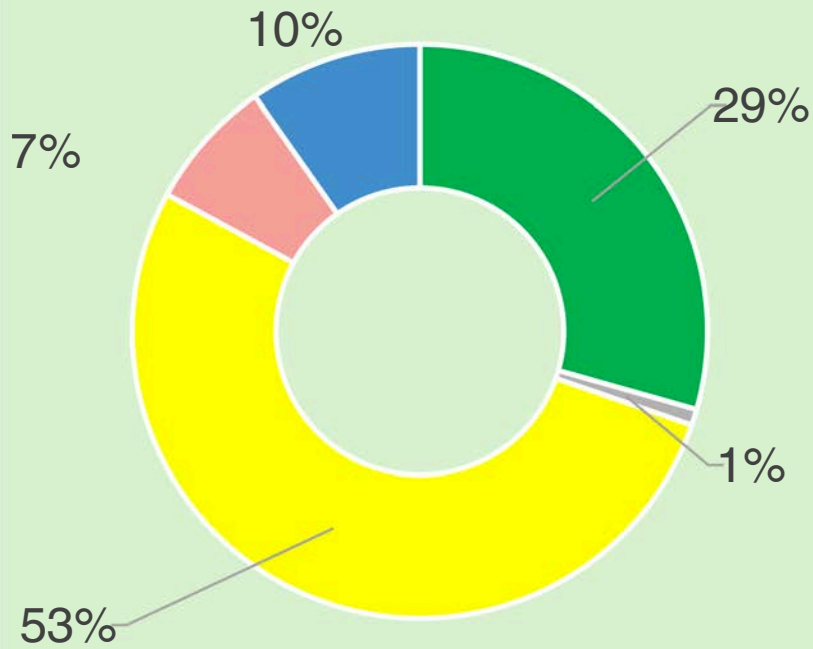
It has been a privilege to contribute to this work, and I look forward to continuing to support EFA's financial sustainability and strategic development in the year ahead.

Simone Miles
EFA Treasurer





Total Income
1.538.275 €



Core Funding

Membership fees

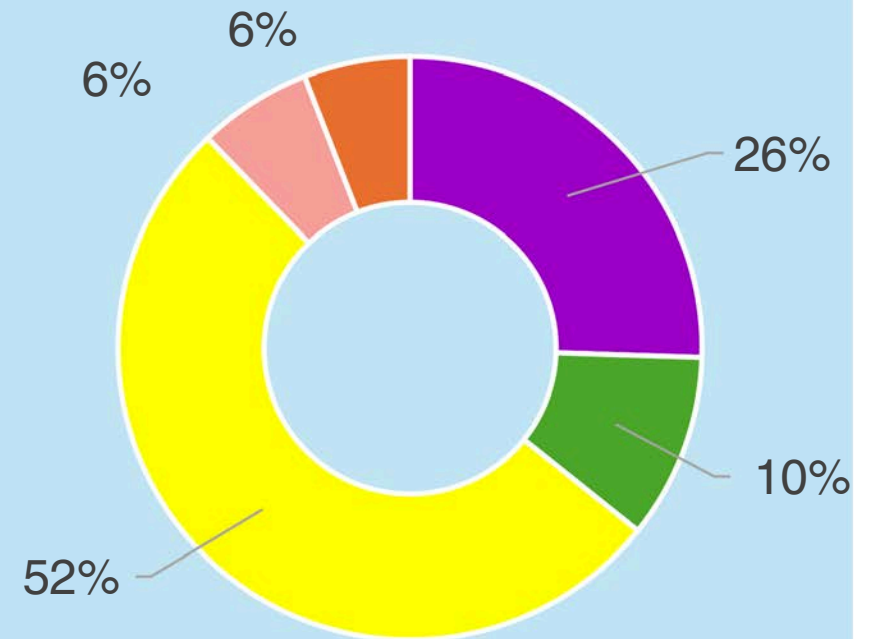
EFA Projects

EU Projects

Other



Total Expenditures
1.474.316 €



Governance

Staff

Activities

EFA Projects

EU Projects

Community

Proramme Goal: EFA becomes a membership-based Community, empowering collaboration, peer support and mutual sharing of resources and best practices. The community is based on mutual understanding of expectation and commitment to better serve the interests of people with Allergy, asthma and COPD in Europe.

Membership

3

New members joined EFA: Luxembourg Allergy Network, AADA Spain, Allergissima Switzerland.

4

Active working groups (Asthma and Allergy, COPD, Atopic Eczema and Food Allergy), with the participation of 9 to 16 EFA members each, which represents an increase of 50% in member participation.

26

Working Group meetings were held, including 1 in-person meeting for each working group during the Community Meeting in March 2025.

13

New internal monthly newsletter 'Community Calling' created and shared with EFA members with an average unique open rate of 37%.

Communications in figures



50

News articles published on the EFA website



35,400+

EFA website views



11

Newsletters sent

to 950 recipients



Social Media impressions

86,900



3,250+

Followers on
Social Media



Partnerships

Continued membership in the **EU Healthy Air Coalition (EUHAC)** as part of the broader civil society community working on air quality and health at the EU level. Activities included:

- Participation in 11 monthly coalition meetings
- Attended as speaker EUHAC event at the EP (January), where the EFA then Vice-President Christine Strous brought the personal perspectives across EFA of patients with allergy, asthma and COPD.
- Co-signing 4 advocacy letters to key stakeholders, including to the European Commission (EC) president, on timely matters related to air quality and health.
- Participation in 2 meetings with key policymakers from DG SANTE and the cabinet of the Commissioner for Environment.
- Contribution to the Coalition's growth strategy.



EU4Health Civil Society Alliance (CSA)

- Participation in 4 quarterly meetings of the alliance.
- Contributing and co-signing 5 advocacy initiatives (open letters, joint statements) on key timely issues around EU funding to health and the role of health civil society.

EADV

- Joined EADV Patient Advocacy Taskforce.
- Co-presented with dermatologist at the EADV congress special workshop on AI and social media reliability on care advice with messages from members of EFA Atopic Eczema working group.
- Gained EADV President participation as speaker into European Parliament event to follow January 2026

ERS

- Collaborated in the European Lung Health group for EU advocacy
- Spoke at the ERS conference on collaborative work at the EU4Health programme project Lung Health4Life and presented COPD Beyond Care report and project
- New Board Member from Poland co-presented EFA and her own organization in ELF Patient Advisory Committee and contributed to ERS-ELF campaign to combat misinformation on science

EAACI

- Participated in the EAACI Patient Advisory Committee and held meeting with EAACI leadership on collaboration

GAAPP

- Presented EFA respiratory projects at GAAPP conference for 120 global patient representatives.

Global Skin

- Co-organised the World Atopic Eczema Day campaign with Global Skin.
- Participated in Global Skin World Skin Health Alliance and presented EFA's work at the WHO Europe.

GA²LEN

- EFA president spoke at the 3rd Global Forum on Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy (GAFA 2025). EFA and its members led discussions on different topics, from strengthening anaphylaxis response in schools, calling for clearer precautionary allergen labelling as well as the standardisation of food allergens, to the path forward for improving food allergen use in Oral Food Challenges and for therapeutic applications.

Corporate partners

- We welcomed **2 new corporate partners**, who support our work, which makes **15 partners in total**.
- Participated in over **20 disease specific, and general patient advisory groups** and brought community perspectives to relevant resources by our partners to make them relevant addressing the priorities of the community.
- Presented at conference to 100 healthcare professionals on our community stand on prevention of respiratory infections and the role we expect for the doctors.
- Brought the patient voice into World Health Assembly Side-event on the WHA Lung Health Resolution.
- EFA acknowledges and thanks the following sustainable corporate partners: Ammirall, AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Chiesi Farmaceutici, DBV Technologies, GSK, Incyte, Menarini, MSD, Novartis, OM Pharma, Pfizer, Regeneron, Roche, Sanofi.



Policy

➤ Brought the World Health Assembly Resolutions on Lung Health and Skin Diseases to the 75th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark. **EFA led the submission of a written statement to ask for the implementation of the World Health Assembly resolutions on lung health and skin diseases**, linked to a WHO European Strategy on Child and Adolescent Health. Drawing attention, and the need to act on the burden of asthma and atopic eczema for young people. The statement was one of the most supported, and was endorsed by 9 other European civil society organisations and invited to be delivered also orally in the Plenary. We held 3 private meetings with other meeting attendees, including with youth representatives and the Italian country delegation.



➤ The current EU long-term budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), is coming to an end in 2027. On 7 May, **EFA submitted responses to two of the EC's public consultations on the future of EU funding.**

- [EU funding for civil protection, preparedness and response to crises, and](#)
- [EU funding for cross-border education, training and solidarity, young people, media, culture, creative sectors, values, and civil society](#)

In both consultations, EFA called for urgent prioritisation of health preparedness, emergency response and long-term support for health civil society organisations.

➤ In April 2025, **we responded to the [EC's call for evidence for a Strategy for European Life Sciences](#)**, which includes the health and environment sectors. EFA called for meaningful patient involvement in research agenda setting, ethics and advisory boards and transparent communication on how patient input shapes outcomes.



Projects *KeepBreathing*



Project goal: Maintain and enhance the respiratory community's joint advocacy efforts towards the European Union and World Health Organisation Europe through the European Lung Health Group (ELHG) and the multiyear #KeepBreathing advocacy campaign.



Organised **high-level session “Breathing Together for Change” at the leading EU health policy conference (European Health Forum Gastein)**, bringing together policymakers, researchers, civil society and patient representatives to discuss how Europe can strengthen prevention, improve early diagnosis and ensure better care for people living with respiratory diseases.



Held **spirometry booth at the European Health Forum Gastein** in collaboration with EFA member from Austria Lungenunion, where more than 130 participants tested their lung function and learned the importance of early detection and prevention.



In-person meeting of the European Lung Health Group (ELHG) at ERS congress to mark two years of cooperation under the #KeepBreathing campaign to share updates and discuss how to keep building stronger EU-level action for respiratory health.



With support from EFA, the European Parliament health committee (SANT) Chair, **MEP Adam Jarubas published a Parliamentary question to the EC on the topic of increasing awareness of EU infectious disease monitoring tools**. The EC responded and based on this response, we supported MEP Jarubas in addressing the ECDC for further information on their planned actions to promote these tools. This was a successful exercise which engaged the EC, the European Parliament and the ECDC on an issue which impacts respiratory patients EU wide.



Joint Open Letter with members of the European Lung Health Group sent to the EU Permanent Delegation to the WHO **calling on the EU to support the first-ever resolution on lung health** which was then adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2025.



➤ EFA recruited 2 new members for the MEP Lung Health Group which has now 15 members.

➤ A second **High Level Forum on Lung Health**, involving European policy makers and NGOs, has been prepared and is due to take place in early 2026. A venue has been booked, a programme has been detailed and speakers from across stakeholders identified, invited, and briefed. The preparations have been assisted by discussions within the European Lung Health Group under the Keep Breathing project.

➤ In context of our event reinstating the MEP Lung Health Group, we held 5 meetings with MEPs and presented the BREATHE Vision and the COPD project. These included meetings with the Chair of the Parliamentary Committee for public health and safety (SANT), MEP Adam Jarubas (EPP / Poland), MEPs Nicolás González Casares (S&D / Spain), Catarina Martins (Portugal / The Left), Romana Jerković (S&D / HR) and Matjaž Nemeč (S&D / Slovenia). Following our meeting, Matjaž Nemeč joined the MEP Lung Health Group.



KeepBreathing project funders: Boehringer-Ingelheim, OM Pharma, AstraZeneca, Roche, Chiesi and Sanofi-Regeneron Alliance

EUPATI training



Project goal: Representation of allergy and airways diseases in the EUPATI Alumni Community is increased, amplifying patients' voices in medicines research and development.

3 EFA Member Representatives (Álvaro García, Veerle Duchateau and Kim Winqvist) completed the **EUPATI Patient Expert Training Programme.**



European Respiratory Patient Academy



Project goal: Strengthen patient advocacy across respiratory diseases, to build sustainable advocacy leadership within the respiratory community.

- Established the first ever European Respiratory Patient Academy, co-developed with a Steering Committee featuring all European level respiratory patient groups (7 leading patient organisations in total).



- First training for patient advocates was held in Prague. 42 patient advocates (15 EFA members) from 23 countries and 9 respiratory areas learned side by side as a community from experts, sharing experiences, supporting each other and working together for better respiratory health across Europe. This included two preparatory online webinars and a 4-day in-person training.



- 8 EFA corporate partners joined to support the Academy making it the most widely supported EFA project ever.



I thought I was a small fish in a big ocean, but now I see the diversity of respiratory diseases and the value of working together.

Trainee

I realised how important advocacy is and that I need to be braver and take this role more actively.

Trainee



21% average learning increase across the themes

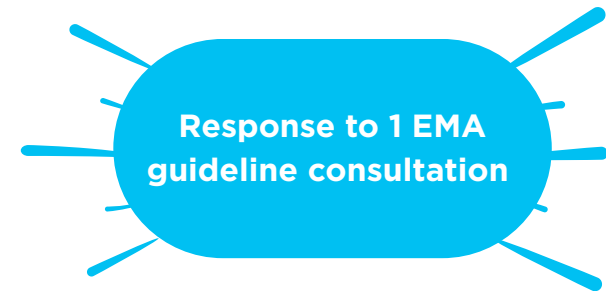
96% felt better prepared and more confident in their advocacy role

100% rated the content positively; 80% gave the highest rating

Care

Programme Goal: Increase patient involvement and centrality in European policies affecting the management and care of allergy and airways diseases.

Policy



Healthcare systems and HTA

- By approaching numerous MEPs, EFA requested a **European Parliament SANT Committee hearing on COPD**. In June, it was announced that there would be a SANT Committee exchange of views on **COPD and lung health**. Together with an ERS representative, EFA Vice President, **Karoly Illy**, spoke about our key policy asks for lung health for the EU, referring to our **COPD report recommendations and our Keep Breathing recommendations**.
- EFA reapplied and was accepted into the **EC's Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Stakeholder Network**. We participated in the two HTA stakeholder network meetings that took place in 2025. Discussions focused on the implementation of the HTA Regulation.
- Questions posed by EFA from the floor on true patient engagement in the second of these **HTA Stakeholder Network meetings** were picked up by other contributors and highlighted in the summary speech at the end of the event.
- EFA [marked](#) the kick off of the implementation of the EU HTA Regulation in January.
- In June, EFA [published](#) an analysis of the **WHO Europe - ERS report on Chronic Respiratory Diseases (CRD)**. We welcomed this step in the WHO's efforts to work more on CRDs.



Medicines, EMA and CMA

EFA organised three CARE policy workshops:

➤ EU Critical Medicines Act (June)

EFA Members workshop on the statement-based public consultation on the draft regulation on the **EU Critical Medicines Act**, where we gathered key feedback on our asks for the EC.

Participants included: AAA Bosnia and Herzegovina, Deutscher Allergie- und Asthmabund (DAAB), Longfonds, Norges Astma- og Allergiforbund.

The EU Critical Medicines Act was published in December 2025.

➤ EMA PED reflection paper for community positions for EC consultations (December)

EFA Members workshop on the EMA draft **Reflection Paper on Patient Experience DATA (PED)**.

Participants included: Deutsche Allergie- und Asthmabund (DAAB), Food Allergy Italia, Federación Española de Asociaciones de Pacientes Alérgicos y con Enfermedades Respiratorias (FENEAR), Österreichische Lungenunion, AEPNAA, Drustvo AD.

➤ EU Biotech Act (October)

EFA Members workshop on the public consultation on the draft regulation on the **EU Biotech Act**.

Participants included: Food Allergy Italia, Astma og ofnæmisfélag Íslands (AO), Österreichische Lungenunion, Polska Federacja Stowarzyszeń Chorych na Astmę i Choroby Alergiczne i Przewlekłe Obturacyjne Choroby Płuc, AAA Bosnia and Herzegovina, Deutscher Allergie- und Asthmabund (DAAB), Astma en Allergie Koepel, Federación Española de Asociaciones de Pacientes Alérgicos y con Enfermedades Respiratorias (FENEAR).

The EU Biotech Act was published in December 2025.

EFA responded to each consultation based on the feedback received during the workshops

- EFA continued to be an active participant in the **European Patient Forum's Task Force on Medicine Shortages and Universal Access Working Group**.
- EFA was also invited as speaker to **EPF annual congress** on environmental sustainability of medicines.
- EFA reapplied to be member of the **EMA's Patient and consumer working party (PCWP)** and was accepted. We participated in 4 PCWP meetings and changed representatives from former EFA colleague Isabel Proano to EFA Vice President, Karoly Illy and EFA Policy Officer for Health and Care, Anna Murdock.
- In January, EFA analysed the **2024 review of the Union List of Critical Medicines** and published an article on this.
- In April an EFA colleague completed the **EMA annual training for PCWP/HCPWP** representatives, building EFA's capacity in EMA patient engagement.
- In May, EFA published an article on **the new EMA rules on conflict of interest** (EFA has responded to the consultation in November 2024).
- EFA provided input on **1** medicine review.



- In November, EFA was invited to present at the **EMA public webinar on medicine shortages**. EFA President, Marcia Podesta, presented examples which impact the respiratory and allergy patient community, for example the ongoing shortage salbutamol across Europe.
- In January, EFA responded to the **European Medicines Agency's (EMA) consultation** on a concept note to develop new guidelines aimed at ensuring **therapeutic equivalence between nasal medicinal products**.
- **EFA engaged in 4 scientific advice procedures**
 - September – Atopic dermatitis - 1 EFA member
 - September – Chronic allergic rhinitis - 1 EFA member
 - October - Allergic reactions type I, including anaphylaxis - 1 EFA member
 - October – Atopic dermatitis - 1 member
- **EFA responded to 6 medicines EC consultations:**
 - In February, EFA responded to the **EC's** public consultation on the proposal for an **EU Critical Medicines Act**
 - In May, responded the **EC DG HERA's call** for evidence on the EU's Strategy to support **medical countermeasures (MCM) against public health threats**.
 - In May, EFA responded to **the public consultation on EU Stockpiling Strategy**
 - In July, EFA responded to the public consultation on the **EU Critical Medicines Act**, based on input from our workshop.
 - In September, EFA responded to the EC's call for evidence on **the EU Cardiovascular Health Plan**.
 - In November, EFA responded to the EC's **public consultation on the EU Biotech Act**.



Medical devices

- **EFA Members workshop on the public consultation on the call for evidence on the Medical device regulation** with 4 participating members.
- In March, EFA submitted its [response to the EC's call for evidence on the evaluation of the Medical Device Regulation \(MDR\)](#).
- In October, EFA responded to the [EC's call for evidence for targeted revision of the EU rules for medical devices and in vitro diagnostics](#).

Disease prevention

- EFA continued to be member of the **Vaccines Europe respiratory infections steering committee**.
- EFA engaged on **EU Respi day** through attending Vaccine Europe's European Parliament event and making an intervention.
- Participated in **5 disease prevention consultations**.

HERA

- EFA participated in 2 European Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (DG HERA) Civil Society Forum meetings. At the **HERA Civil Society Forum meeting** in December EFA's contribution to expand the work on prevention to include broader health issues of climate change beyond infectious diseases was supported by many leading to a reshaping of the working groups to include such considerations as increased chronic respiratory infections.

Digital health

- EFA participated in 2 eHealth Stakeholder Group (eHSG) meetings
- In March, EFA marked the European Health Data Space (EHDS) entering into force

EFA Projects

COPD Beyond care



Project goal: Improving the quality of life of people with COPD, as well as access to treatment, care, and adequate support.

Launch of the new report **“Raising the Bar for Better Standards of Care for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)”** with an event at the European Parliament, supported by the participation of **three leading MEPs from the EP SANT and EP ENVI Committees:** Romana Jerković (S&D/Croatia), Tilly Metz (Greens/Luxembourg) and András Kulja (EPP/Hungary).

The event led, a few months later, to a [SANT Committee exchange of views](#) on ‘Lung health and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)’.

85 participants

5 EFA members had one-to-one meetings with MEPs to support **COPD and lung health.**

7,500+ impressions on social media



“COPD patients cannot afford another decade of inaction. We need EU policies that prioritise early detection, better care, and prevention.”

MEP Romana Jerković

COPD Beyond Care project funders: AstraZeneca, Roche, Sanofi Regeneron Alliance, Chiesi

Presentation of the **COPD Beyond Care Report** at the **ERS conference.**



Launch of the **new travel with oxygen toolkit and network of 5 National Contact Points on World COPD Day**, in collaboration with the EFA COPD members to help COPD patients travel more confidently and safely across Europe. Participating **National Contact Points** in 2025 included EFA members organisations from France, Germany, Iceland, Italy and Spain. The toolkit includes a pre-travel checklist, template emails, answers to the most frequently asked questions, contacts of the national contact points and links to relevant national resources.

40,000+ impressions on social media

300+ views on the travel with oxygen webpage

70 downloads of the travel with oxygen checklist and template letters.

Atopic Eczema Skin Matters

Project goal: Foster more alignment for atopic eczema advocacy in Europe through a co-created campaign, World Atopic Eczema Day and European level advocacy.

- Coordination and promotion of the **World Atopic Eczema Day** campaign in collaboration with Global Skin to amplify the voices of those living with atopic eczema under the theme **“Our Skin, Our Journey”**. The campaign helped shine a spotlight on the **#AtopicEczemaJourney**, capturing the lived experiences of patients, both as individuals and as a community, inviting to recognise the emotional and physical rollercoaster of living with atopic eczema.



7 EFA members directly supported

88,600+ online views

8M reach for #AtopicEczemaDay and #AtopicEczemaJourney

190,000+ people reached online and offline

With ‘Our Skin, Our Journey’ we want to bring forward the daily struggles, but also the positive experiences of patients, caregivers, patient organisations and healthcare professionals, coming together as a community to demand better access to the care and support they need to better cope with their atopic eczema journey”.

Marcia Podestà
EFA President

- Co-presented with dermatologist at the **EADV congress** in Paris bringing EFA community perspective on the role of artificial intelligence in providing treatment and care advice for **Atopic Eczema patients**.

- Preparation of the new Europe-wide advocacy campaign **#BreakTheInvisibleBurden** launched in January 2026 and its launch event. Co-development (one co-creation workshop and regular follow-up meetings) with our **Atopic Eczema Community** of the objectives, policy priorities, narrative, key messages, visual identity and advocacy materials for the campaign (including infographics, template letters, and social media cards). Support to 9 EFA members for the implementation of the campaign at national level.

Atopic Eczema Skin Matter project funders: Sanofi-Regeneron Alliance, Almirall, Pfizer, Incyte

About Asthma

Project goal: Increase asthma health literacy and awareness in Europe

World Asthma Day: Workshop organised with **8 EFA members**, and representatives of **GINA and GAAPP** in the lead up to **World Asthma Day** to discuss the global theme and how this could be adapted to the European level. Following the workshop, campaign co-creation with EFA members in the two weeks preceding World Asthma Day, sharing their asks and translating their messages into their national languages.

5,500+ impressions on social media for World Asthma Day

[AboutAsthma website](#) updated with new **“Resources”** section and feedback feature.

35 new resources relevant for asthma patients from 13 EFA members

93% of respondents found the content helpful

WITH THE RIGHT CARE, ASTHMA WON'T HOLD YOU BACK
World Asthma Day 2025

"Asthma is not an obstacle if it can be treated! We will give you **tips for your everyday life with asthma.**" – Finnish Allergy, Skin, and Asthma Federation

Join allergia.fi for #AsthmaWeek



***** EFA Community #AboutAsthma
Asthma care begins with diagnosis

"We call for **faster diagnosis and better follow-up** for all asthma patients in Denmark to ensure **timely and effective care.**" – Asthma-Allergy Denmark



ADEQUATE TREATMENT FOR ALL
World Asthma Day 2025

"Ensure adequate treatment for all asthma patients in Bosnia and Herzegovina. **Early diagnosis and consistent management are key** to preventing asthma-related complications" – AAA Association, Bosnia & Herzegovina



APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FOR ALL
World Asthma Day 2025

"Ensure people with asthma in Europe have **access to anti-inflammatory reliever therapy with ICS-formoterol!**" – Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA)



#ABOUTASTHMA *****
Education #AboutAsthma saves lives

Asthma is a chronic disease affecting 4 million in France.

"Educating public on early diagnosis and consistent management improves patient care." – Fédération Française des Associations et Amicales de Malades Insuffisants Respiratoires (FFAAIR), France



ASTHMA HAS A HUGE IMPACT ON YOUR LIFE
World Asthma Day 2025

"We call for greater awareness of the impact of asthma, support for coping with the condition, **early diagnosis, effective treatment, and proper inhaler use** to improve quality of life." – Longfonds, the Netherlands



***** #AboutAsthma
ASTHMA CARE STARTS WITH INFORMED PATIENTS
World Asthma Day 2025

"Patient education platforms and specialist support are essential to deliver **personalised asthma care.** Following guidelines leads to better, consistent asthma management for every patient." – Respiriamo Insieme, Italy



***** #AboutAsthma
VIVRE AVEC DE L'ASTHME

Apprenez comment gérer vos symptômes et devenez un expert de votre santé

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WORLD ASTHMA DAY 2025

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NEW RESOURCES!

EU funded projects

Lung Health for Life



Project goal: Manage the Community of Practice of the Lung Health of Life Project by building a knowledge network, sharing best practices, providing feedback on the materials developed in the project, and strengthening skills and competencies within the network through peer learning and collaboration.

- **New Community of Practice (CoP) on lung health in school** launched with EFA as leader, counting **49 members** to advise the project and increase its impact. The CoP was launched through a kick-off meeting in February joined by **38 members**.
- Specific feedback provided by the **CoP** through **3 ad hoc consultations** on the materials developed within the project.
- **2 Annual General CoP meetings** held in 2025, with 14 and 20 members participating.

- **1 in-person meeting during the Annual General Meeting in Amsterdam.** 6 members of the Lung Health CoP participated in the annual meeting at the **ERS Congress**.
- Presented the **CoP at the ERS congress** as a model to increase impact of research.



A screenshot of a virtual meeting interface. At the top, a green banner reads 'Meet the LungHealth4Life project Community of Practice!'. Below this is a grid of 20 video thumbnails showing participants. At the bottom, a white box contains the text 'To learn more, visit LungHealth4Life.eu or scan the QR code:' followed by a QR code. The Lung Health 4Life logo and the European Union logo with the text 'Co-funded by the European Union' are visible at the bottom of the interface.



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

This project is co-funded under the EU4Health Programme 2021-2027 under grant agreement no. 101160880. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Health and Digital Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

TOLIFE



Project goal: Improving the quality of life of patients living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

- EFA led **the Patient Advisory Group (PAG)** which has a consultative role across multiple work packages. Members advise on the design of clinical trials and digital tools. They review study protocols, patient information forms, and recruitment materials, ensuring they are clear and meaningful.



- Participation of the Patient Advisory Group at the project's **Annual General meeting in Bologna (7-8 Oct) and project's workshop**, offering real-time feedback and sharing patients' lived experience with the entire consortium.
- The PAG is composed of **COPD patients and patient representatives, from the existing EFA COPD working group** consisting of 12 national member associations across 11 countries.
- PAG feedback provided for the **TOLIFE review meeting with the EC.**



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3TR



Project goal: 3TR aims to provide fundamental new insights into the mechanisms of response and non-response to treatment in seven auto-immune, inflammatory and allergic diseases, including Asthma and COPD.

- **3TR in person Respiratory Patient Advisory Group (PAG)** meeting at ERS Congress Amsterdam.
- **3TR Respiratory PAG meeting online** - 18 June 2025.
- Participation in **3TR scientific congress** in Brussels - 11 June 2025.



This project has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking (JU) under grant agreement No 831434. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and EFPIA.

ImmUniverse



Project goal: Contribute to the improvement of the diagnostic and therapeutic options for patients living with Atopic dermatitis.

Participation in the ImmUniverse Annual Progress Meeting 2025: **Bringing atopic eczema patients voices in research.**



This project has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking (JU) under grant agreement No. 853995 with EU Horizon 2020 research and EFPIA support.

Prevention

Programme goal: EFA influences the commercial determinants in consumer products authorised in Europe that (can) impact allergy and respiratory health.

Policy

Food, EFSA, Codex

- Response to the **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Annual Strategy survey** calling EFSA to provide scientific guidance on the application of **Precautionary Allergen Labelling**; and participation in 8th annual EFSA Stakeholder Forum meeting, discussing the need for early engagement with consumer with food allergy in the development of innovative products.
- Drafting of statement in support of Dutch policy on **PAL**, also submitted to the EC.
- Participation as speakers in **Affidia Journal webinar** and **Annual General Assembly of the European Spice Association (ESA)** addressing key developments around PAL and policy pathways that protect patients with food allergies.
- Contribution to a **World Allergy Organisation** consensus paper on the use and practice of PAL.
- Response to consultations by the **UN Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL)**
 - 2 of them on the issue of **food labelling in emergencies** stressing that emergency measures should not affect health and safety requirements; and for clear risk communication towards all affected communities at times of emergency.
 - 1 of them on the development of **PAL guidelines**. Based on feedback provided by members over a workshop, our response continued bringing forward the need for harmonised PAL rules in Europe and globally, and for separate allergen statements.
- Outreach to 3 countries (USA, Australia, New Zealand) proposing 'free-from' claims (meaning guarantees on product packaging stating a specific substance or ingredient is entirely absent) as future work for Codex.
- Participation and chairing workshop in high-level annual conference, **the Global Forum on Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy (GA2FA)**.

Tobacco

- ▶ Participation in **Copenhagen Institute for Future Studies (CIFS)** preparatory work on a report on nicotine products and respiratory health.
- ▶ Led the publication of a **European Lung Health Group** joint statement, on the occasion of **World No Tobacco Day**, calling for stricter laws to protect young people from tobacco and nicotine products.



The European Lung Health Group stands firmly behind the objective of reaching a smoke-free generation by 2040, as we continue campaigning for stringent EU-level tobacco and nicotine regulations to reduce preventable deaths.

Chemicals, PARC

Participation in annual meeting of the Stakeholder Forum of the **Partnership for the Assessment of Chemicals (PARC)**. The EFA representative was our Polish member Prof. Artur Badyda.

Indoor air quality

Contribution to **EU public consultation on a European Affordable Housing Plan**, calling for healthy housing and inserting the perspective of indoor air quality.

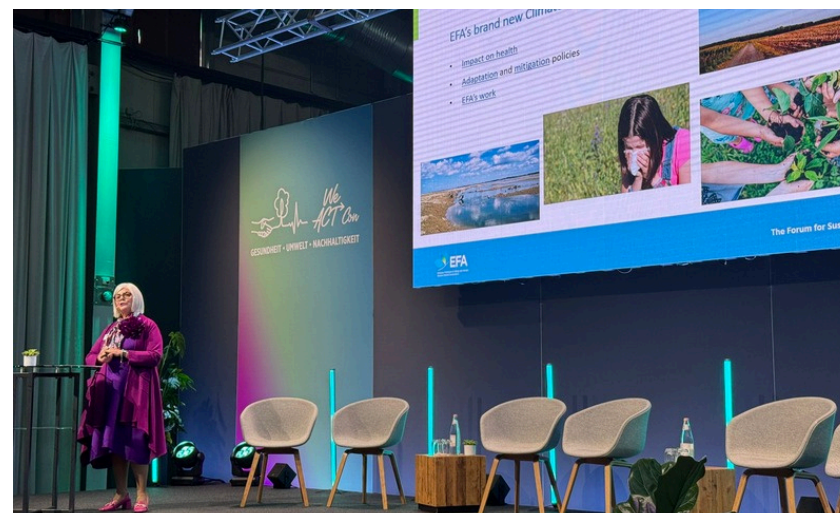
Participation as speaker at **webinar of IDEAL Cluster project**, focusing on the impact of **indoor air pollution** on respiratory health.

Climate change

- Participation in the **2nd Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health in Cartagena, Colombia**, represented by Vice-President Karoly Illy. Karoly was speaker at a panel exploring air quality alerts and indices.
- **Co-signed Global Call for Clean Air Action**, alongside millions of organisations/ individuals from the health community urging for action against air pollution.
- Participation in **EU call for evidence on a European Action Plan on Climate Resilience and Risk Management**.
- Attended the **5th EU Clean Air Forum in Bonn, Germany**, discussing current trends and legislative developments in the area of air quality.



- Invited and participated as speaker in **high-level conference WeACT**, addressing the health impact of climate change with a focus on chronic respiratory diseases.



- Contribution to **key EAACI Guidelines on the Impact of Green Spaces for the Prevention of Allergy and Asthma**. Acknowledgement to 6 EFA members who provided critical input, and EFA Senior Policy Advisor who was among the co-authors; and on **Environmental Science for Allergy and Asthma, focusing on the impact of pollen exposure on respiratory allergy**.
- Submitted response to the survey on a **WHO Research Agenda for Action on Climate and Health (REACH)**, bringing the perspective of EFA patients on future research needs.

EU funded projects

SynAir-G



Project goal: SynAir-G aims to reveal and quantify synergistic interactions between different pollutants affecting health in indoor air, focusing on the school setting.

➤ Awareness raising **on LinkedIn** of indoor air quality:

90 new followers (338 followers in total)

19,706 impressions

742 reactions

➤ Joined **3 campaigns to raise awareness of indoor air quality and its health effects**, especially for vulnerable groups like children (World Health Day 7 Apr, World Environment Day 5 Jun, International Day for Clean Air for Blue skies 7 Sept).

➤ **4 Newsletters sent**, 2 internal and 2 external:

54% average open rate for the internal newsletter, sent to nearly 90 recipients

40% average open rate for the external newsletter, sent to nearly 190 recipients



➤ Participation in project **AGM in Berlin 6-7 October**.

➤ Provided input in **SynAir-G White Paper** on a roadmap to Improve **Indoor Air Quality for Children**.

IDEAL cluster

➤ Preparation of second **Joint Policy Brief in WG1** with 12 meetings held.

➤ Participation in webinars of partners: **EDIAQI 21/2**, **KHealthInAir 4/7**

➤ Management of **IDEAL Cluster social media** accounts for **4 months**

17 posts on LinkedIn and **4** on X

5,721 impressions on LinkedIn and **344** on X

454 engagements on LinkedIn and **39** on X



SynAir-G is funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement No 101057271. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HADEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Thank you

EFA acknowledges and warmly thanks our Board of volunteers, EFA member delegates, and expert patients, who unwaveringly contribute to EFA's daily work. They all build a community that strives for Europe as a region where allergy, asthma and COPD patients have the right to the best quality of care, participate in decisions concerning their health and have a safe environment.

EFA thanks sincerely our sustainable corporate partners who have made our work possible in 2025 and the public funders for their trust on our patient expertise.

EFA extends its deepest gratitude to the many organisations that embrace our vision and mission and that collaborate with us daily to defend the interests of allergy, asthma, and COPD patients in Europe.

