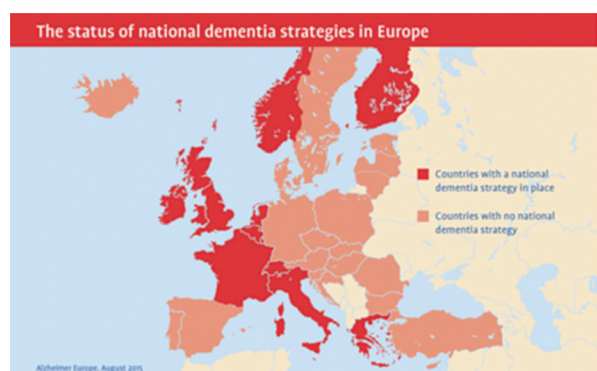


Help make real change happen for people living with dementia – sign the Glasgow Declaration!

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Alzheimer Europe (AE) is an NGO and has been raising awareness of all forms of dementia since 1996. It operates a common European platform through cooperation among its 36 members, which are all active Alzheimer organisations in Europe.



Does your country have a national dementia strategy?



In 2014, at the annual conference in Glasgow, AE and its members adopted the Glasgow Declaration, a policy statement that calls for the creation of a European Dementia Strategy and national strategies in every country in Europe. The signatories also call upon world leaders to recognise dementia as a public health priority and to develop a global action plan on dementia.

The campaign was launched on 19 February 2015 with the aim of collecting 10,000 individual signatures before the closing date on 30 December 2015, when results will be presented at the

European Parliament. AE has three target audiences: individuals, policymakers and organisations. Individuals may sign up online via a simple form, available in several different European languages.

Jean Georges, Executive Director of Alzheimer Europe, said: 'In Europe, there are many good examples of collaborative initiatives on dementia. The time has come now to bring these initiatives together under a comprehensive European strategy. The new Commission President should appoint a Commission official to coordinate all ongoing EU initiatives and link them with global developments by the G7, G20 or the World Health Organisation. AE is primarily a lobbying organisation that promotes dementia awareness, care and research within the EU institutions. This effort includes the European Alzheimer's Alliance – a group of more than 100 MEPs in the European Parliament which aims to make dementia a public health priority.

In 2006, AE and its members adopted the Paris Declaration which outlined a European plan to combat dementia. Two years later, AE participated in the French EU Presidency conference on dementia and also supported the European Parliament's declaration on dementia that was signed by 465 MEPs. As a result, the European Commission passed its 2009 Alzheimer Initiative, leading to the creation of funding instruments that still operate today. These include the Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND), the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), the ALCOVE Joint EU Action and Horizon 2020, which is the newest funding programme. AE is an active participant in many projects funded by these bodies and will also take part in the 2nd Joint EU Action on dementia, launched in 2015.

AE invites all the readers of this journal to sign the Glasgow Declaration before the end of December 2015, to help make dementia a European priority. Thank you for your support!



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