

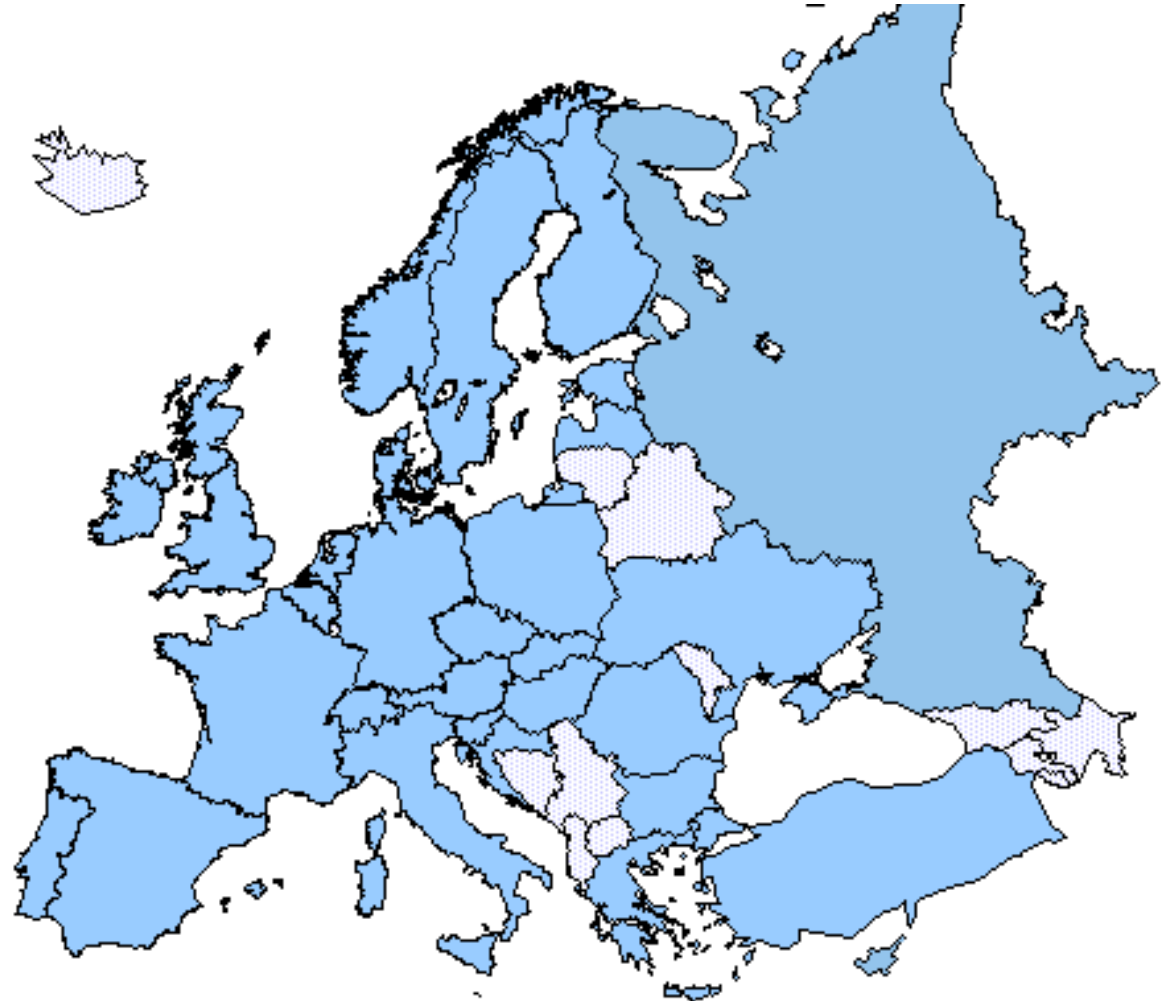


EFOMP – Overview of actions and initiatives on radiation protection, with emphasis on ALARA

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- Introduction**
- EFOMP – A Short Introduction**
- EFOMP – Education and Training Activities**
- EFOMP - Communication Strategy**
- Conclusions**



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➤ Introduction

The ultimate goal of any healthcare facility is to deliver high quality, safe and patient oriented medical care.

We all know that this ultimate goal can be very difficult to fulfil for each and every patient as there is a large variety of hazards that may hinder its fulfilment.

In order to appreciate the importance of ionising radiation as used for healthcare in both diagnosis and therapy, and also its relative contribution to the overall hazards in the healthcare environment, the types of hazards present as well as the adverse events they may invoke should be taken into consideration.

This is to emphasise the relevance of radiation protection as an indispensable component of safety culture and the increasing need over the last few years to develop a Medical ALARA Culture within the healthcare environment.



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➤ Introduction

In order for the Clinical Medical Physicist to be able to fulfil his traditional role of radiation protection champion in the medical arena, EFOMP is of the view that the Education and Training of the Medical Physicist must be of the highest possible level.

This will ensure the safety of the patient, healthcare professionals and the public during the use of ionising radiation for medical exposures.

This presentation will give a brief overview of the activities of EFOMP in the Education and Training of the Medical Physicist with particular emphasis on his/her role, responsibilities and competence in Radiation Protection within the healthcare environment.



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➤ EFOMP – A Short Introduction

EFOMP is the:

European Federation of Organisations for Medical Physics.

EFOMP was founded in 1980. The current membership covers 34 national organisations and 1 affiliated national organisation which together represent more than 6000 physicists in the field of Medical Physics.

All EFOMP actions are based on its constitution, which also defines the structure of the organisation.

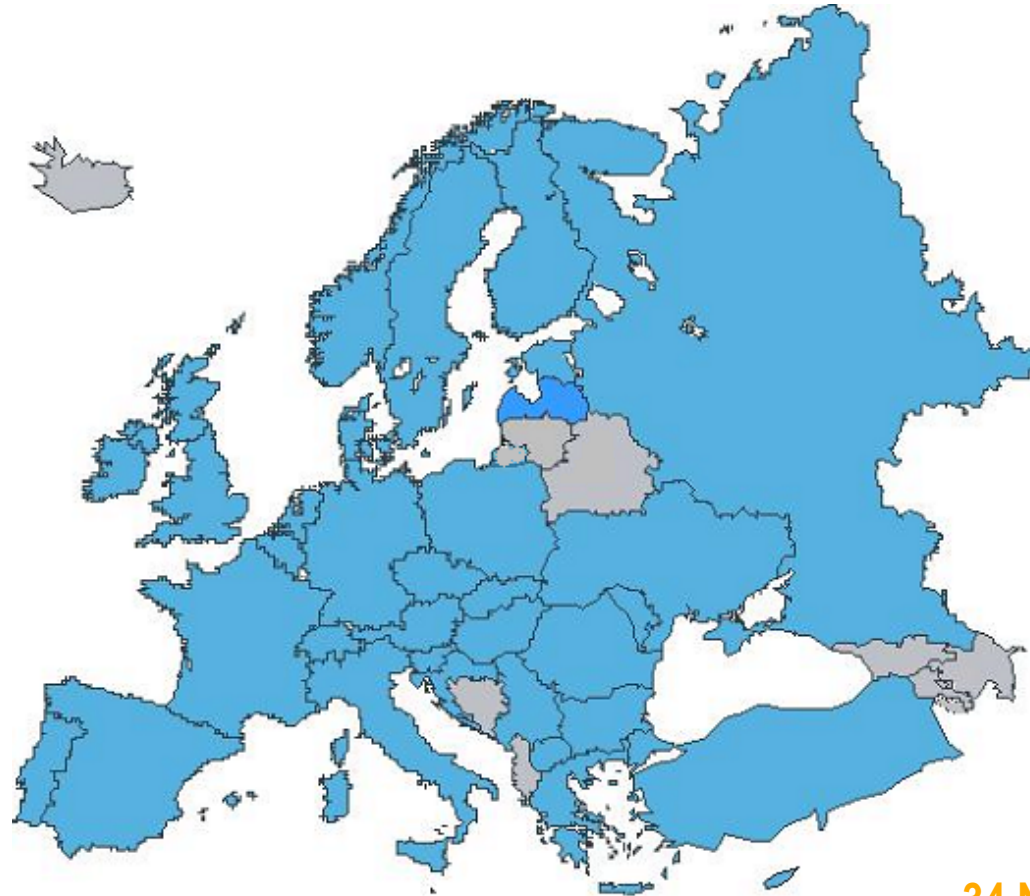
The constitution and other relevant information can be found at the EFOMP Website (www.efomp.org).



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Current EFOMP Membership

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Eire
Estonia
Finland
France
FYRO Macedonia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Italy
Latvia
Malta
Moldova
Netherlands



Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
Serbia and Montenegro
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Israel

34 NMOs



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➤ EFOMP – A Short Introduction

Missing European Union Countries

- Lithuania – trying to set up an Umbrella Organisation**
- Luxembourg – currently has only 8 Medical Physicists**

EFOMP can be considered the vehicle for harmonising Medical Physics in the European Union Member States.



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➤ EFOMP – A Short Introduction

Mission and Objectives, 1980

- **Proposing guidelines** for education, training and accreditation programmes
- **Making recommendations** on the appropriate general responsibilities...
- **Encouraging the formation of organisations** for Medical Physics where such organisations do not exist



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➤ EFOMP – A Short Introduction

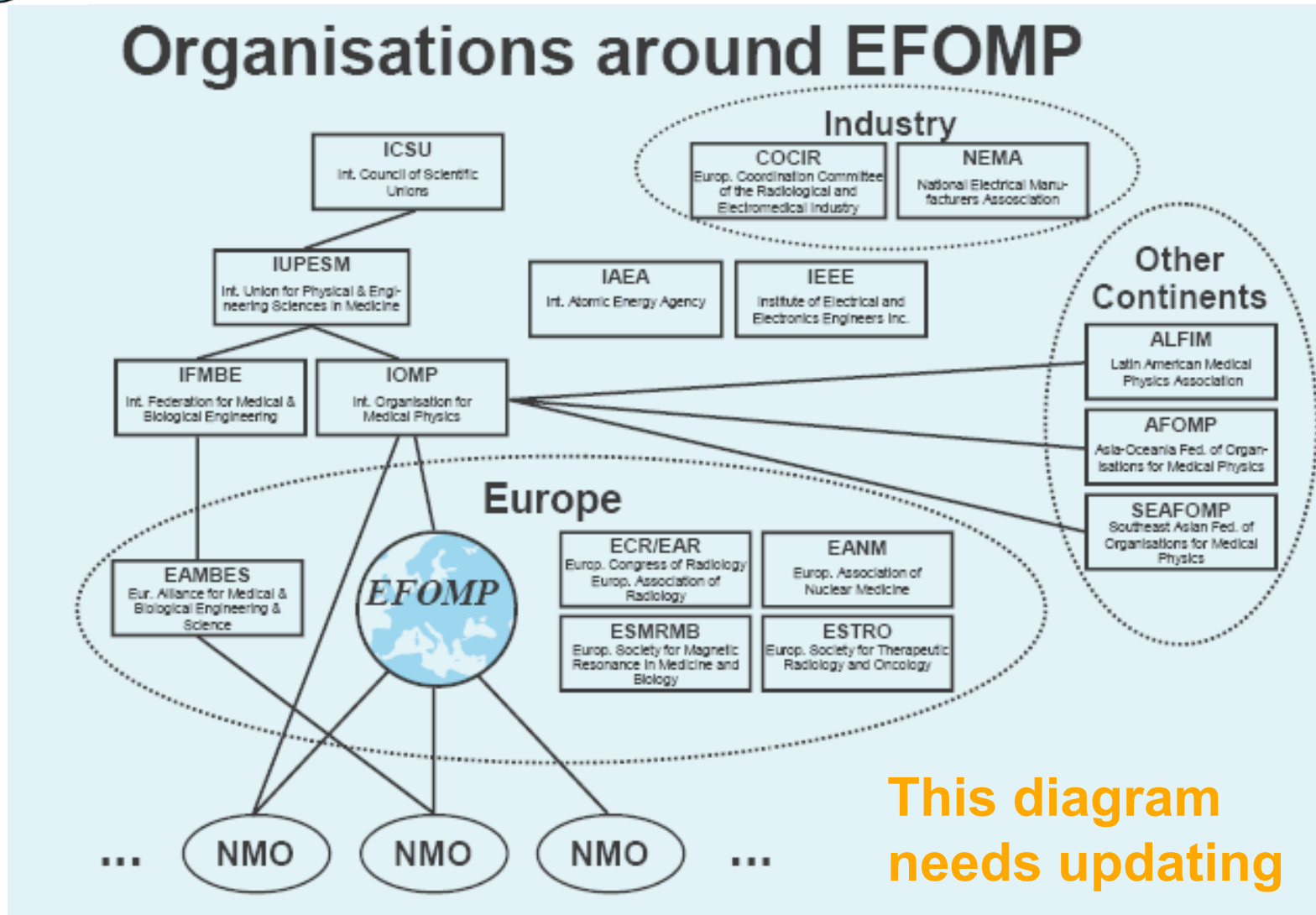
Mission and Objectives, today

- Policy Statements
- Registration Scheme
- Continuous Professional Development – CPD
- Collaboration with other organisations

EU, ESTRO, ESR, EANM, ESMRMB, EIBIR, IAEA, WHO, IOMP, IFMBE,
IUPESM, ICSU,



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➤ EFOMP – Education and Training Activities

The Education and Training aims and Objectives of EFOMP are advanced through the work of its Education and Training (E&T) Committee.

The E&T Committee is responsible for encouraging National Member Organisations to facilitate attainment of competence and excellence in the application of physical sciences to medicine. It is also responsible for coordinating across the National Member Organisations the establishment and maintenance of the means of recognition of competence and excellence of those working as medical physicists.



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➤ EFOMP – Education and Training Activities

The education activities include:

- The organisation of courses, seminars, workshops and conferences
These are usually co-organised with National Member Organisations, European and International Organisations.

□ The European School of Medical Physics - ESMP

The ESMP is organised in collaboration with the European Scientific Institute – ESI and it takes place every year in October and November at Archamps, France.

In 2009 a sixth week was added specific to Radiation Protection and Dosimetry.

□ The European Network of Medical Physics Schools- ENMPS

EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF MEDICAL PHYSICS Twelfth Session October 15 - November 24, 2009 ARCHAMPS, FRANCE

The School is organised each Autumn in Archamps at 1 Km from Geneva, on the French-Swiss border. It offers quality training in aspects of Medical Physics, from Medical Imaging to Radio- and Brachy- Therapy.

Eligibility :
Physica graduate recently or soon to be qualified as medical physicist (Qualified Medical Physicist as defined by EFOMP) or fiscal working in an environment of biomedical research.

Medical Imaging -1 Imaging Principles, Radiology, Ultrasound 15 - 20 Oct. 2009 Supervisors : Prof. C. Cochard (CREATIS, Lyon-F) Dr. A. Noel (Centre A. Vautrin, Nancy-F)		4 - Physics of Modern Radiotherapy 5 - 10 Nov. 2009 Supervisors : Prof. S. Webb (London-UK) Prof. U. Delfino (Heidelberg-D)
Medical Imaging -2 Nuclear Medicine Magnetic Resonance 22 - 27 Oct. 2009 Supervisors : Prof. R. Ott (London-UK) Prof. J. Alger (UCLA-USA)		5 - Brachytherapy 12 - 17 Nov. 2009 Supervisors : Dr. L.Lamm (Lund-S) Dr. G. Marinello (Paris-F)
Medical Computing -3 29 Oct. - 3 Nov. 2009 Supervisors : Dr. L. Bidaut (TMC-Houston-USA) Dr. M. Maire (LAPP, Annecy-le-V., F)		6 - Radioprotection 19 - 24 Nov. 2009 Supervisors : Dr. S. Christofides (Nicosia-CY) Dr. Pawel Kukulowicz (Kielce-PL)

The medical imaging courses are proposed as a comprehensive two-week programme. Priority will be given to participants registering at least for both weeks.
Several bursaries will be available, mainly for Eastern Europe students, but not for travel costs.

A collaboration between :

EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE with participation of ESI, CERN, and Institut de physique de l'Université de Savoie, Conseil Général de Savoie, and cecid.

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF ORGANISATIONS for MEDICAL PHYSICS

DEAD LINE FOR REGISTRATION : JUNE 15, 2009 - THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IS LIMITED
ESMP Secretariat : European Scientific Institute, Site of Archamps, F-74164 ARCHAMPS
On the WEB : <http://www.cur-archamps.fr/esl> - e-mail : info@esl.cur-archamps.fr



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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy

Communication and debating provides the means for a formal method of interactive and representational argument.

By developing a Communication strategy, EFOMP is hoping to approach all the key stakeholders with interest in medical physics with the intention to present its policies, create an atmosphere of awareness and at the same time understand the stakeholder's anxieties and needs.

Therefore recently the efforts of EFOMP have been mainly in the participation in European and International projects that aim to establish guidelines related to the optimisation of radiation protection in the medical use of ionising radiation, through which the roles, responsibilities, competences and professional status of the Medical Physicist can be recognised.



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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy

The active involvement of EFOMP in European and International projects that deal or include the roles, responsibilities and competences of the medical physicist is helping all stakeholders involved in the use of ionising radiation in medicine, to understand the necessity and usefulness of the medical physicist in ensuring the safety of the patient, workers and the public within the healthcare environment.

Below follows a snap shot of the projects in which EFOMP currently participates.



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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy

The MPE Project

Guidelines on Medical Physics Expert

More information on this project will be presented tomorrow .



<http://portal.ucm.es/web/medical-physics-expert-project/inicio>



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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy The EMAN Project

European Medical ALARA
Network



<http://www.eman-network.eu/>

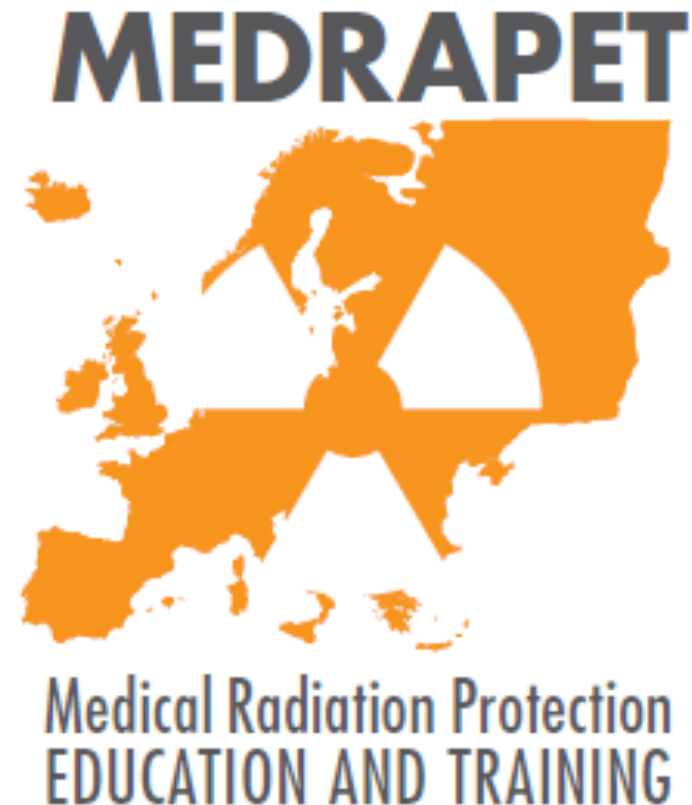


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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy The MEDRAPET Project

Study on the Implementation of the Medical Exposure Directive's Requirements on Radiation Protection Training of Medical Professionals in the European Union

<http://www.medrapet.eu/>





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➤ EFOMP - Communication Strategy

IAEA Interregional Technical Cooperation Project
INT/6/054 “Strengthening Medical Physics in
Radiation Medicine”.



The objective of this project is to promote the recognition of medical physics in radiation medicine and to harmonize educational material in order to ensure safe and effective diagnosis and treatment of patients.

Ahmed Meghzifene

Project Technical Officer

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Division of Human Health

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

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DMRP Website: <http://www-naweb.iaea.org/nahu/dmrp/default.asp>



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➤ Conclusions

For an effective Medical ALARA Culture, the efforts of various categories of personnel engaged in the medical use of ionising radiation must be coordinated and integrated, preferably by promoting teamwork.

Every individual must be aware of their individual and corporate responsibilities through a formal assignment of duties.

To ensure that this is effective, Medical ALARA Culture must fit in with, and be complementary to, medical practice rather than being regarded as an external requirement.

It should be remembered that a Medical ALARA Culture is part of the wider Safety Culture in the healthcare environment.

An “Integrated Risk Management System” is an essential key component for a successful enterprise-wide Quality Management System.