



EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

The advocate of medical specialists

UEMS Public Health – Sante Publique

31.8.2025

President
Prof. Kristiina Patja
(Finland)

Treasurer
Dr. Giorgi
Pkhakadze
(Georgia)

Subject: Letter of Support for the Establishment of a Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) in Disaster Medicine

Dear Dr. Roberta Petrino,

On behalf of the Section of Public Health, I am writing to express full support for the creation of a **Multidisciplinary Joint Committee (MJC) in Disaster Medicine** within UEMS.

In recent years, it has become increasingly clear that Europe faces complex crises that extend well beyond the scope of any single medical specialty emerging needs for collaboration between e.g. emergency physicians, intensivists, infectious disease specialists, public health experts, and many other disciplines. Likewise, the impacts of climate change—including extreme weather events, emerging infectious threats, and mass-casualty situations—continue to challenge our healthcare systems and demand coordinated medical expertise. These realities demonstrate that disaster medicine must be recognized not only as a component of emergency medicine but as a multidisciplinary field requiring **structured, harmonized, and cross-specialty collaboration**.

We firmly support that the establishment of an MJC in Disaster Medicine under the auspices of UEMS will:

- Provide a platform to integrate diverse specialties in preparedness, response, and mitigation of disasters.
- Provide a platform to support adaptation of health systems for acute and long-term crises and thus increasing the resilience of societies.
- Strengthen cooperation with European institutions and scientific societies to foster harmonization and innovation.
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For these reasons, we strongly encourage the UEMS Council to approve the creation of the **Multidisciplinary Joint Committee in Disaster Medicine**.

Yours sincerely,

Kristiina Patja
President of UEMS Public Health – Sante Publique

Dr. Giorgi Pkhakadze
Treasurer of UEMS Public Health – Sante Publique