



## Cannabis Europe

Cannabis has been an integral part of medicine for centuries. However, Western countries have come to prohibit or limit cannabis use. Yet, as the medical use of cannabis gains ground, European regulation needs to develop in order to support the needs of patients for access to safe, high-quality cannabis-derived medicines.

Europe is forecasted to become a leading market for medical cannabis, with a market value of around €55.2bn in Europe over the next 10 years<sup>1</sup>. As therapeutic applications are developing, patients and public policy knowledge remain incomplete or flawed, owing to societal misperception and deep-rooted beliefs.

Against this background, **Cannabis Europe** is an advocacy group, comprising scientific organisations, academia, industry and NGOs, which aims to ensure patient access to high quality, safe, cannabis derived medicine and demonstrate the benefits it brings to patients towards European policy-makers.

The regulatory framework around cannabis use in medical applications is currently fragmented across European Member States. In this regard, **Cannabis Europe** fosters an open and transparent dialogue with policy-makers and society with a view to harmonising the use of cannabis derived medicines throughout Europe.

**Cannabis Europe**'s mission is threefold:

1. To ensure European patients have fair access to consistent, high-quality, cannabis derived medicines;
2. To engage all European stakeholders, including patients, in long-lasting dialogues; and
3. To promote a better understanding of the medical uses of cannabis through clear, science-based and transparent information.

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<sup>1</sup> The European Cannabis Report, July 2018

## **Cannabis Europe's core activities**

Cannabis Europe organises and undertakes the following activities in order to achieve an EU-wide harmonised legislative framework:

### **1) Education & Communication:**

- We produce information on the nature of medical cannabis.
- We promote and aim to increase the stakeholders' understanding of the use of cannabis in medical applications.
- We conduct and publicise quantitative and qualitative research on the medical uses of cannabis.

### **2) Advocacy:**

- We undertake public affairs activities, e.g. representing and sustaining a dialogue with institutions and regulatory bodies at European, international and national levels.
- We assist national associations and members in building long-lasting networks with the European Commission, Members of the European Parliament and national government officials.

## **Cannabis Europe's Member services:**

Cannabis Europe offers its members an unprecedented chance to:

1. We provide opportunities for members across Europe to meet, exchange information and ideas and discuss current issues and upcoming challenges regarding the development of medical applications of cannabis.
2. We provide regular updates on regulatory and policy developments and events through e.g. monthly newsletters, as well as instant updates on key developments.
3. We advise members on opportunities in the area of EU-funded projects and help them identify potential research partners and opportunities in the framework of Horizon Europe, the future EU research and innovation programme, which should include calls for project proposals for developing medical cannabis applications.

## **Benefits of joining Cannabis Europe**

Cannabis Europe offers its members an unprecedented chance to:

1. Contribute to raising awareness about the medical cannabis value chain towards policymakers, patients and the public;
2. Represent the interest of the medical cannabis value chain towards a variety of stakeholders; and
3. Be part of an EU-wide network that acknowledges and informs about the benefits, the economics and the medical uses of cannabis.

## **Interested in joining Cannabis Europe?**

If you are interested in joining Cannabis Europe, or would like to receive additional information, please contact the Secretariat at [info@cannabiseurope.org](mailto:info@cannabiseurope.org).