

Brussels, 22 October 2010

Jaroslaw J. Fedorowski Professor of Leon Kozminski University Warsaw, Poland

Dear Mr Fedorowski,

We were very honoured to have you with us at the HOPE Board of Governors in Ljubljana on 18 October 2010. Your active participation and your appropriate comments gave to Governors and Slovenian officials an opportunity to discover the Polish hospital and healthcare system. Indeed, this was the first time a Polish representative joined our meetings.

As you know, Poland remains the only European Union member state still not represented in our association. This is a pity since HOPE as the leading organisation in the hospital sector provides a strong representation at EU level. It provides access to information on future regulations, directives, on policies. HOPE is organising a real dialogue with the EU institutions. HOPE has the five factors for exerting influence: the size of the interest group; the nature of the health issues is at the core of the interest of European citizens; the timeliness of the issues (since in many aspects it is the beginning), the network, abilities and social skills of the individuals leading the organisation; and the appropriate communication.

HOPE is recognised as a credible partner in the EU, engaged with the EU institutions and larger healthcare community. This fact is all the more important with the EU increasingly interfering in the organisation and financing of healthcare systems. By joining us, Polish hospitals would then be able to contribute to shaping the positions and be involved in key strategic European projects and initiatives.

We would be very grateful if you could continue your work to organize membership in Poland. The Board expressed its full support for your actions in that regard. You already have the support of three significant hospital associations; this should help considerably.

Yours sincerely

Dr. John M. Cachia President