



Advancing European Medical Students' Professional Development through Health Policy and Governance Internship Opportunities

The European Medical Students' Association (EMSA), in collaboration with other organisations, such as the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) and the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), is proud to offer unique internship opportunities for European medical students. These internships are designed to provide medical students and recent medical graduates with hands-on experience in areas such as health policy, advocacy, administration, and educational development, thereby supporting the medical profession at a European level and allowing for personal growth and professional development in an international environment. They also offer an opportunity to build networks between future medical professionals and policy-makers, which benefits not only the students' personally, but also EMSA, and all the European medical students it represents, as well as the medical and academic community overall.

As European Medical Organisations (EMOs), we hereby provide the formal endorsement of these distinct, non-clinical and non-research internship opportunities, so as to highlight the critical complementary role they play in the holistic development of future healthcare decision-makers. By providing this endorsement, we do not only aim to affirm the value of these internships, but also to encourage academic institutions in supporting students in pursuing these opportunities.

This statement serves as an appeal to our partners and the wider medical and academic community to recognize the importance of these internships and support medical students' participation in such programmes during their studies by permitting study leave (gap-years/gap-semester). These opportunities are pivotal in equipping the next generation of medical professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate and influence the health policy landscape.

With the support of European Medical Organisations, EMSA is dedicated to continue facilitating and growing the provision of these critical learning opportunities, to ensure a future where the healthcare sector is led by well-informed and skilled professionals.

This statement was unanimously endorsed at the European Medical Organisations' (EMOs) Presidents' and Executive Members' Meeting, held on June 21st, 2024, in Brussels, Belgium, by the representatives of the following EMOs:

- AEMH (European Association of Senior Hospital Physicians)
- CEOM (European Council of Medical Orders)
- CPME (Standing Committee of European Doctors)
- EJD (European Junior Doctors Association)
- EMSA (European Medical Students' Association)
- FEMS (European Federation of Salaried Doctors)
- UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialists)
- UEMO (European Union of General Practitioners / Family Physicians)

This statement was further endorsed on ____^{st/nd/rd}/th, 2026 in ____, by the Executive Committee of:

- AMSE (Association of Medical Schools in Europe)