

In the context of the World Health Day

Thursday 7 April 2016

FIRST EUROPEAN DAY OF ACTION AGAINST THE COMMERCIALISATION OF HEALTH CARE and social welfare

In Europe and around the world health is increasingly seen as a commodity.

Concerning the funding level and mechanisms of health and social care, social security and public funding are thus increasingly weakened. On the other hand private insurance companies and private equity funds demand to be able to invest in the health market.

Regarding the provision of care, commercial operators gain in weight compared to public or not-for-profit providers (e.g. in elderly care, laboratory services, ...).

National and European legislation and policies (austerity measures, economic governance, procurement, ...) and the trade policy of the EU (free trade agreements such as the TTIP, TISA, CETA) weaken the health systems and present important threats for our health, the standards in health care, but also for the environment, the agriculture, etc, which in turn directly affects our health.



More concretely, we have throughout Europe evidence for a number of impacts of the trends and developments sketched out above:

- a deterioration of the quality of care
- an access to health care increasingly limited, especially for the most vulnerable
- the deteriorating of working conditions for those in the health workforce
- a deterioration of health determinants (poverty, pollution, education, employment, housing ...)
- a two-tier health care (longer waiting lists, higher co-payments by patients, different types of equipment for different categories of patients ...)

We have enough of these developments!

Let's participate and engage in the actions organised on 7 April 2016,
in order to stop mechanisms of health care commercialisation and their consequences.