

# International Welfare

## FVG INFORMA



REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA

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## Cooperation agreement between Friuli Venezia Giulia and Albania

A **protocol agreement** was signed on 21 October **between Albania and Friuli Venezia Giulia for technical and scientific cooperation in the field of healthcare**. The agreement was signed in Trieste by the Regional Councilor for Healthcare, Social and Health Integration and Social Policy, Vladimir Kotic, and the Albanian Minister for Health, Petrit Vasili. Two phases are envisaged: the first aims to define and organize strategic actions, the second identifies specific collaboration activities. A workgroup will be set up to implement the agreement, for the purpose of assessing progress, prospects and priorities, drafting proposals and projects on

issues of mutual interest. Fields of action include scientific and technological research; quality enhancement in healthcare in Albania using telemedicine; social welfare and health care; medical, nurse, and technical training both in clinical and laboratory activities. The two medical institutions IRCCS Burlo Garofalo and CRO of Aviano will play a fundamental role in the implementation of the agreement. The former will provide continuing medical education and support in neonatology,

medically assisted procreation, epidural birth, social odontostomatology, and onco-hematology. The latter will also provide training and will make its equipment available for collaboration in medical oncology, surgery, radiology, and diagnostic imaging . Lastly, INFORMEST will contribute significantly in the context of the agreement by providing technical assistance and guidance.

## Seniorenmesse Alpe Adria in Klagenfurt

On **19-21 November 2010 Klagenfurt will host the Seniorenmesse Alpe Adria Fair**. This event is devoted to the elderly as part of a wider three-event programme (Family in Action, Healthy Living, Customs of Carinthia). In the space for 50+ visitors

stands will provide information on nutrition, wellbeing, travel, nursing homes and other institutes for the elderly, legislation and welfare. On 19 November, from 9.30 to 13.30, a **symposium** will address the issue **"The Elderly and the Future"**,

where Carinthia, Friuli Venezia Giulia and Veneto will debate issues concerning welfare , disability, and the health of the elderly.

### In the spotlight:

The annual report by the World Health Organization will be released soon. More information on *The World Health Report 2010 - Health systems financing: the path to universal coverage* is available online at <http://www.who.int/whr/2010/en/index.html>

## FP7 – ICT Work Programme 2011-2012

*“The ICT challenge for Health and Ageing Well under the FP7 - ICT Work Programme promotes sustainable high-quality healthcare”*

The **work programme 2011-2012 on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)** under the *Cooperation* section of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) is now available on the website of the European Commission. The ICT section aims to strengthen the competitiveness of European enterprises and to meet social and economic needs more

effectively. It is designed to address three key areas:

- Productivity and innovation
- Improving public services
- Advancing science and technology.

Priorities of the Work Programme include **Challenge 5: ICT for Health, Ageing well, Inclusion and Governance**, to promote research in ICT for

sustainable high quality healthcare, ageing, social and economic inclusion.

For more information and to download the Work Programme visit: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/>

## Open Calls: FP7

The deadline for call 7 FP7 – ICT concerning Work Programme 2011 on Information and Communication Technologies (see above) is 18 January 2011. Lines of action include Healthcare, Active Ageing, Inclusion, and Governance.

All the information and documents are available on : <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/d>

[/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call\\_id=376&act\\_code=ICT&ID\\_ACTIVITY=3](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/d/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call_id=376&act_code=ICT&ID_ACTIVITY=3)

Concerning FP7, other calls are open on social and health-related issues.

As regards Health, the Call *FP7 Health 2011 single stage* deadline ends on 10 November 2010. For more information: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/h>

[health/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/health/home_en.html)

As regards Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities, the 2011 Call ends on 2 February 2011.

All the information and documents are available on: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ss/h/home\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ss/h/home_en.html)

## European Events

The network SIRG – *Social Inclusion Regional Group* has organized a conference on 16 November in Brussels entitled **“The Individual First – Local Innovative Actions for Quality Social Services and Decent Housing”**, that will be

hosted by the Liaison Agency Flanders.

A **symposium on “eHealth in Europe’s Regions: Acting for Citizens’ Health”** will also be held in Brussels on **22-23 November 2010**, organized jointly by AER –

Assembly of European Regions, EUREGHA and EHTEL. For more information and to subscribe to the conference visit <http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social/2010/ehealthjointsymposium.html>

## European Networks: CORAL

A new initiative was presented at the Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) Programme Forum last 16 September in Odense. The collaboration project between AAL and the Assembly of European Regions concerns European Network "Community of Regions for Assisted Living - CORAL". The joint project aims to achieve macro-objectives in the fields of Ambient Assisted Living, innovation

and social inclusion policy.

These include:

- Assessment of specific regional contexts
- Development of joint policies through regional benchmarking and the definition of shared standards
- Development of innovative policies (and their integration in business-oriented policies)
- Development of innovative solutions in line with the new joint policies
- Definition of technological innovations in products and services
- Meeting ethical and far-reaching social challenges concerning the use of ICT in healthcare.

## Italian Liver Foundation: ongoing international projects

Ongoing projects by the Italian Liver Foundation refer to three main areas: 1. the study of liver diseases, like hepatic steatosis and liver cancer; 2. the study of neurological damage caused by bilirubin in newborns; 3. research on new liver cryopreservation methods, to extend donor liver preservation and increase chances for transplant. The first area includes in particular: "**Fatty Liver: Inhibition of progression**", a project carried out by Italian and international basic science and clinical researchers that aims to study and prevent Non- alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease and to find suitable treatment for patients suffering from this disease; and "**Cancer stem cells in Hepatocarcinoma**", an international project in partnership with the University of Indonesia and the Eichmann Institute of Molecular Biology of Jakarta. In its earlier phase, the project required the purification, cell culture and characterization of

cancer stem cells starting from commercial cell lines. The process was then applied to liver biopsies in adult and pediatric patients suffering from hepatocarcinoma. The second area includes project "**Neurological damage mechanisms caused by bilirubin and relevance to newborn encephalopathy**", that aims to study cell mechanisms behind damage caused by bilirubin in order to find measures to protect the brain against UCB damage; project "**Creation of a Mouse Phenotyping Center for the study of human diseases in FVG**" that entailed the creation, through gene-targeting technologies, of a mutated UGT1 for analysis of bilirubin-induced neurological damage; lastly, "**New diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for the Crigler-Najjar Syndrome Type I**", proposing a new approach for early diagnosis of bilirubin-induced encephalopathy and a corrective long-term therapy of the gene defect. Area 3

includes ongoing project "**Clinical application of hepatic cryobiology - Argentina**", based on the continuing collaboration with the Cryocenter of Rosario, a project on gene alteration induced by cryopreservation; and the **study**, in partnership with Universidad Favaloro of Buenos Aires, of the application in animal liver transplant models of **cryopreservation techniques** for future application on human beings. For more information: [www.fegato.it](http://www.fegato.it)

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