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### Belgium “Europa and Care Institutions: What’s in it For You?”

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"Europa and care institutions: What's in it for you?" was the thought-provoking title of a conference organised by Zorgnet Vlaanderen, the Federation of Flemish Private Care Institutions. Held in January of this year, the main topic was "what can Europe mean to daily management of care institutions?"

The goal of the conference was to highlight the three opportunities of the EU internal market for directors of hospitals and other healthcare institutions:

1. The employment of foreign care personnel;
2. The treatment of foreign patients; and
3. Applying for EU funding (structural funds, loans from the European Investment Bank).

As well as the traditional presentations, attendees were treated to documentaries featuring Zorgnet Vlaanderen members. During the short videos, members talked about their experiences in recruiting foreign personnel and treating foreign patients, providing a list of "do's" and "don'ts".

Speakers included Jonathan Watson (on structural funds) and Chris Blades from the European Investment Bank. Representatives from the key European organisations also shared their views on the topic including our Secretary General, Willy Heuschen, Pascal Garel (HOPE) and Willy Palm (European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies).

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