



European Academy of Paediatrics
Paediatric Section of U.E.M.S (European Union of Medical Specialists)



Last week, young doctors and other medical professionals in Poland have gone on [hunger strike](#) over healthcare accessibility and funding, and poor pay and conditions. The strike is taking place at the Warsaw Medical University's Paediatric Hospital. Since then, thousands of medical professionals in Poland have shown their solidarity and the junior doctors have received [the full support of the World Medical Association](#).

The [European Junior Doctors](#), which represents over 300.000 junior doctors from all over Europe, [voiced the concerns of a paediatric resident at the Warsaw Medical University](#), who wrote that healthcare spending in Poland is currently the lowest in Europe and that „a healthcare spending rise would ultimately lead to better prophylaxis of diseases, the acquisition of better equipment, and in short – promote the general health of the Polish people“. In addition, residents in Poland roughly earn half of the average Polish wage, there is a shortage of medical staff and they work at conditions in which health care professionals are overworked. He wrote: „wage increases should be substantial and affect all healthcare groups“.

We as members of Young EAP, the network of paediatric residents within the [European Academy of Paediatrics](#) (EAP), wish to express our full support for our Polish colleagues in their effort to promote the standards for their patients. EAP President Professor Stiris said: „EAP fully supports Young EAP in this expression of solidarity“. Like the WMA, we urge the Polish Prime Minister to step in and negotiate an acceptable solution.