

John Dalli
Member of the European Commission

Brussels,

Dear Mr. de Lorenzo
Dear Mr. Kerr,

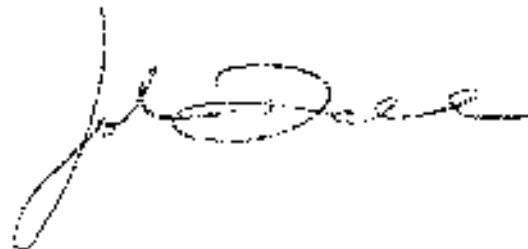
Thank you for your letter of 1 September to the President of the European Commission, who has asked me to reply on his behalf.

I am grateful for your important observations about the upcoming United Nations declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases, which the Commission will take into account in its work on this matter. I take this opportunity to stress that I fully share your concern about the impact that cancer and other chronic diseases have on citizens' lives and on society as a whole.

The Commission has been working actively with all the EU Member States to ensure a strong EU input to the United Nations declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases. The declaration to be adopted next week will inevitably represent a compromise agreement between all the countries of the United Nations worldwide.

I have had the pleasure to meet the European Cancer Patient Coalition several times and very much look forward to meeting you sometime in the near future. I would also encourage you to continue the good co-operation with the European Partnership Against Cancer, where all Member States are represented.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Francesco de Lorenzo
Mr. David Kerr
European Cancer Patient Coalition
26 rue de la Loi,
1040 Brussels, Belgium