



## MISSION STATEMENT

### **Professor Hans-Georg Kress**

*President of the European Federation of IASP® Chapters (EFIC®) and Chairman of CHANGE PAIN®*

For almost three years, the CHANGE PAIN® Initiative has been successfully working to enhance the understanding of the needs of patients with severe chronic pain and to develop solutions in order to improve pain management. I

personally support this initiative as president of EFIC® and chair of the international CHANGE PAIN® Advisory Board because I believe that it is very important to improve chronic pain management.

The three objectives of the CHANGE PAIN® initiative (research, publish, educate) are very close to what EFIC® wants to achieve: In order to generate insights into unmet medical needs and to understand physicians' and patients' perspectives it is crucial to conduct research. The CHANGE PAIN® group shares the results and findings of their research with the medical community in scientific publications and the CHANGE PAIN® News & Reviews Journal. Education of healthcare professionals is crucial in order to increase knowledge of pain mechanisms and other relevant aspects in pain management. Therefore, the comprehensive educational programme PAIN EDUCATION has been developed based on the insights resulting from our discussions at the CHANGE PAIN® Advisory Board which can be accessed via [www.change-pain.com](http://www.change-pain.com). The PAIN EDUCATION CME modules are all accredited by the Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS).

In the course of the last three years, we have been able to contribute to an improved management of chronic pain through several projects. More than 250,000 CHANGE PAIN Scales have been distributed in order to enhance communication between physicians and their patients. More than 6,000 healthcare professionals have completed the PAIN EDUCATION modules and almost 4,000 physicians from across Europe have replied to the physician survey. The results of the survey have helped to identify areas for action. Additionally, in more than 20 international plus numerous local publications the findings of the international CHANGE PAIN® Advisory Board have been presented.

What we have achieved so far is very impressive. However, the 21 international experts from the CHANGE PAIN® Advisory Board will continue to identify areas for action. With the help of all experts supporting the CHANGE PAIN® Initiative, their scientific knowledge and their extensive experience, we will build on the high quality of work that has been finalised in the past and contribute to further improvements in pain management in the future.