



**European  
Diabetes Forum**

South Center Titanium  
Marcel Broodthaers square 8/5  
1060 Brussels – Belgium  
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**Invitation to launch event:  
Increasing productivity, competitiveness and resilience by tackling the interplay between  
obesity and diabetes  
June 24 15.00-18.00 European Parliament, Brussels**

Brussels, May 16, 2025

Dear Members of the Belgian Diabetes Forum,

We are writing to you as Member of the European Parliament and Coordinator for the Greens/EFA group in the SANT Committee and as Chair of the [European Diabetes Forum](http://www.eudf.org) (EUDF). EUDF brings together all key stakeholders in diabetes in Europe, so that we can stand united in achieving a common goal: improving outcomes for people with diabetes in Europe. We represent the interests of the 32 million people living with diabetes in Europe and their loved ones.

EUDF recently started a working group on the interplay between diabetes and obesity with disease experts, researchers, people with lived experience and industry. At this event we will present our recommendations and proposed solutions in the European Parliament to policymakers.

Diabetes and obesity are ongoing epidemics putting major stress on health systems and must be tackled urgently. If effective action is not taken, the number of people with diabetes in the EU is expected to rise from 32 million today to 55 million by 2050. By 2050, the prevalence of obesity is forecast to rise 32.9% in Central Europe and 46.6% in Western Europe. Diabetes and obesity in the EU currently cost around 240 billion euros annually in healthcare spending and productivity losses. Most of these costs can be avoided through effective prevention and care. Investment in diabetes and obesity prevention, diagnosis and care can yield huge returns for healthcare systems and economies, all while saving lives and improving quality of life.

We invite you to participate in this launch event.

The event will take place on June 24 from 15.00 to 18.00 in the European Parliament in Brussels, with the following agenda:





## European Diabetes Forum

**Increasing productivity, competitiveness and resilience by tackling the interplay between obesity and diabetes.**

**Welcome and opening statement 15.00-15.20**

- MEP Prof. Ignazio R. Marino, Greens/EFA Coordinator SANT Committee
- Mr. Olivér Várhelyi, European Commissioner for Health and Animal Welfare
- MEP Adam Jarubas, Chair SANT Committee European Parliament

**Translating research into diabetes and obesity policy actions 15.20-15.35**

- EUDF recommendations, Prof. Jean-François Gautier, Head of Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology, Lariboisière Hospital, Paris Cité University, France

**Round Table chaired by Prof. Stefano Del Prato, chair EUDF 15.35-16.20**

- Prof. Graziano Onder, Scientific Coordinator JACARDI, ISS, Rome, Italy
- Ms. Vicki Mooney, Perspective from person living with T2D & Obesity
- Prof. Eugenia Vlachou, Scientific Coordinator of Specialty Diabetes Care and Education in MSc Management of Chronic Diseases, University of West Attica, Athens, Greece
- Prof. Jean-François Gautier, Head of Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology, Lariboisière Hospital, Paris Cité University, France

**MEP panel discussion chaired by MEP Marino 16.20-16.50**

- MEP Vytenis Andriukaitis, S&D Coordinator SANT Committee European Parliament
- MEP Veronica Cifrová Ostrihoňová, Renew Member SANT Committee European Parliament
- MEP Romana Jerković, S&D Member SANT Committee European Parliament
- MEP Tomas Sokol, EPP Coordinator SANT Committee European Parliament

**Conclusion and Call to action 16.50-17.00**

- MEP Prof. Ignazio R. Marino, Greens/EFA Coordinator SANT Committee

**Networking Reception 17.00-18.00**

We hope you will accept our invitation. Please confirm your presence by filling out the registration form accessible via this [link](#).

Thank you for your consideration and we remain at your disposal should you have any questions.

With sincere regards,

MEP Prof. Ignazio R. Marino

Prof. Stefano Del Prato, Chair EUDF

