## **EDITORIAL**

## One health

## Victor Purcărea

Life, freedom, and pursuit of happiness are mentioned in the Declaration of Independence and engraved in the quote "think big, you can do anything" that defines the American spirit. Health is the element without which (sine qua non) obtaining all these would not be possible, and which is essential in the longevity and quality of life. Health is a priceless good in the economic and social development and in supporting the economies and powerful democracies, both at the individual and at the population level. Moreover, health is important for the security and prosperity of the nation. "We hope that, during the elections for the Congress, in 2018, the candidates will first think about the American citizens, thus relaunching the American tradition "think big, you can do anything", by applying the spirit of the winner in the reform of the authentic healthcare services", affirmed the famous professor Eliot Sorel (Senior Scholar Healthcare Innovation & Policy Research, GWU School of Medicine & School of Public Health and Founder Conflict Management Section WPA) in his article "Health: its importance in Life, Freedom and Pursuit of Happiness", which was published online on April, 14 2017.

Health of people represents a priority both for the European Union. The EU's main objective regarding the public health is the improvement of the health state of the population and the prevention of the diseases. This objective is mentioned in article 168 of the Treaty regarding the Functioning of the European Union (the Treaty of Lisbon), which also offers

examples of activities which the EU cannot undertake in order to achieve the objectives. Among these, the following can be mentioned: controlling epidemics,



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studying their causes and their prevention. EU also supports drugs abuse control, as well as the efforts of the member states in the fight against smoking and of excessive alcohol consumption. Another objective is the increase in the degree of complementarity of the healthcare services in the border areas.

The remarkable progress of healthcare doubled by better life conditions continuously lead to a raise in the life expectancy of the people everywhere worldwide.

In contrast to this positive evolution, the diseases threatening the health of the people keep on developing, diversifying and, implicitly, the expenses and the effort to preserve an appropriate state of health continually raise and use a huge amount of resources that are hardly sustained.

In this context, a new global medical concept, "One Health", started being organized worldwide, at the same time trying to find the causes for the evolution of the diseases and their spreading, looking to recommend the adequate solutions in the fields in which the human health is more and more assaulted.

Among the accomplishments in this field, the International Center for Food Chain and Networks

Research – **FoodNetCenter Bonn**, founded in 2006 in the University of Bonn, can be reminded. The center's main objectives are the following: interdisciplinarity, contribution to the evolution of the university profile, research, and development.

Moreover, it has three *Focus Groups*, which are base units for the organizational structure, fully integrated in the University: *Food Waste*, "One Health" and *Responsible system innovation*. The main common problem of all the three Focus Groups is the fact that the food request will double until 2050 and, the interdisciplinary groups of interest could try to solve the problem by contributing to a responsible and solid production, processing, and food consumption.

The University of Bonn (the International Center for Food Chain and Networks Research – FoodNetCenter Bonn) has involved from the beginning in founding, in 2015, the Education and Qualification Alliance – *EQA*, which acts at the level of the network by supporting the knowledge suppliers, the standardization and certification organisms in promoting quality, food safety, sustainable development, social and corporate responsibility and, "*One Health*", only one Health for People, animals and the Environment, represents the new global concept that reunites preoccupations of the specialists in all the fields that threaten health, including Food, Nutrition and Occupation, with two main action directions: Primary Prevention of Life and Life Post-Therapy.

From the initiative, giftedness, and generosity of some important personalities in the social, cultural, and scientific life, the Association "ONE HEALTH-New Medical Concept" Romania was founded in Romania in May 2015, being an associated member of the *Federation* of the *European Academies of Medicine* (FEAM) (www.onehealth.ro).

In our country, as well as in others, the "One Health" concept implies the summing of the efforts and the achievements that Human Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Environment Medicine, Food and Nutrition Medicine, Occupational Medicine, Compared Medicine (zoonoses and compared oncology) record with the Primary prevention of life, promoted as a major vector, together with their application in medicine, while

desiring a strong health state with costs as low as possible.

The objectives of the activity are the following: creating a national network of research and development and implementation in the field of One Health, which is internationally affiliated; promoting developing scientific research projects; establishing professional and organizational relationships with research-development education structures; educating the people who work in the field of compared medicine, food safety, environment medicine and bioeconomy, as well as cooperation in the scientific academic field; organizing events and activities that would favor the exchange of scientific ideas in the field of compared medicine, food safety, environment medicine and bioeconomy; implementing new scientific guidelines of the involvement of "life environment" in the "one health"human medicine-veterinary medicine-environment medicine relationship, in order to achieve the concept of eco-prevention and eco-therapy in the initiative of developing the strategy of primary prevention of diseases in humans and animals; promoting postgraduate education in the field of compared medicine and stimulating the activity of technological transfer in the field of compared medicine.

In order to achieve these goals, an efficient and continuous implementation and international recognition, the Association founded departments on specialties such as Department of Management, Bioeconomy and Law; Department of Compared Medicine; Department of Human Medicine; Department of Veterinary Medicine; Department of Environment Medicine; Department of Food Safety; Department of Zoonoses; Department Pharmaceutical Production and Biological Drugs; Department of Scientific Research; Department of Education; Department of Non-Conventional Therapies; Department of Compared Oncology; Department of Radiology in Medicine; Department of Phytopathology and Department of Accreditation.

ONE HEALTH New Medical Concept Association has already organized its first prestigious scientific meeting, One Health National Conference 2017, in Târgu-Mureş, with the support of the University of

Medicine and Pharmacy in Târgu-Mureş, the Academy of Medical Sciences in Romania, Spiru Haret University, Mureş County Council, College of Physicians in Romania and Romanian College of Veterinarians, the President of Honor being Andre Laurent Parodi – Academy of Medicine in France, and, the executive presidents being Acad. Nicolae Manolescu - President of OHNMC Romania, Prof. Leonard Azamfirei, MD, PhD - Rector of Târgu-Mures University of Medicine and Pharmacy and Prof. Irinel Popescu, MD, PhD - President of the Academy of Medical Sciences in Romania. Next year, the Association will also organize "ONE HEALTH - 2<sup>nd</sup> European Inter-regional Conference, 5-8 September 2018, under the high patronage of the Government of Romania. The organizers of the event will be Spiru Haret University, Bucharest; ONE HEALTH - New medical concept Romania and the University of Veterinary Medicine Hungary – Budapest. The area of interest will be the following: Environmental medicine; Antimicrobial resistance; Comparative medicine; Food safety and nutrition medicine; Comparative oncology and Zoonoses. The Presidents of Honor will be Prof. George GRIFFIN, MD, PhD, President of the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) and Member of the British Academy of Medicine; Prof. Bernard CHARPENTIER, MD, PhD, Past President of the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) and Member of the French Academy of Medicine, Prof. André-Laurent PARODI, DVM, PhD, Honorary President of the French Academy of Medicine and Honorary Director of Alfort National Veterinary School, France, Prof. René CARLSON, DVM, PhD, Past President of the World Veterinary Association AVMA and Director of International Affairs, and the Executive presidents will be Prof. Nicolae MANOLESCU, DVM, PhD, Correspondent Member of the Romanian Academy, Correspondent Member of the French Academy of Medicine and President of the Romanian One Health New Medical Concept Association; Prof. Stefan CONSTANTINESCU, MD, PhD, Correspondent Member of the Romanian Academy, Professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, Vice President of the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM) and Vice President of the Romanian One Health New Medical Concept Association; Prof. Peter SOTONYI, MVD, PhD, Rector of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Budapest, Hungary; Assoc. Prof. Aurelian A. BONDREA, PhD, Rector of Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania; Cheryl STROUD, MD, PhD, Executive Director of One Health Commission, and Prof. Florian POPA, MD, PhD.