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c/c Doc.JUDr. Ivan Gašparovič, CSc.  
Kancelária prezidenta republiky  
By e-mail: informacie@prezident.sk

Honourable Prime Minister,

It is with great concern we observe the latest developments in the Slovak Health Care System. Inappropriate working conditions, non-observation of the European Working Time Directive and a grossly unfair remuneration scale are only some of the many complaints that have been brought up by our colleagues and their organizations. The significant emigration of physicians from your country gives proof to those claims.

We strongly support the free movement of health professionals, but we also demand that working conditions and the dignity of health care must be maintained in each country. For a respected and wealthy country like Slovakia this should be a task that should be easily achieved and a matter of pride.

Caring for patients, curing and preventing diseases, alleviating symptoms, comforting the dying and those suffering ill-health require a high degree of trust with the patients and with the doctors. It appears that this requirement has been profoundly disturbed in your country, and this seems to be due to your current policy.

Representing the global community of physicians, we urge you to recognise these concerns, to engage in a constructive dialogue with the organizations of physicians in your country and make a change to your directions which could have worsening impact of the health of your Nation and her citizens.

The people of Slovakia, the patients in your country, and your physicians deserve better.

Respectfully

Dr. José Luiz Gomes do Amaral  
President

Dr. Mukesh Halkerwal AO  
Chairman of Council