

*To: -Minister of Health, Mr. Ksanthos  
Central Administration Office Minister of Health*

*Athens 07/07/2017*

Dear Minister,

we are sending you this letter on the occasion of the signing of the Joint Ministerial Decision between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Justice on the "transfer of cannabis and its resin from Table A to Table B of Law 349/2006 (Government Gazette 103 A ), as amended and in force with Law 4139/2013". We welcome this development, which we consider to be a necessary first step in legalizing the medical use of cannabis.

Additionally, we would like to ask for formal information on the next steps of the Ministry of Health on this issue. We emphasize the need to establish an integrated and effective model for the medical use of cannabis, taking into account: (a) tailor-made needs and the promotion of patients' rights; (b) the need to develop a plan to boost domestic production avoiding the inherent risks of a market dominated by large multinational corporations and international investment funds; and (c) the need for responsible information and training of health professionals and the certification of doctors for the right to prescribe.

Finally, we would like to inform you of the initiative of our collaborating organizations for the establishment and coordination of the "Hellenic Observatory on Medical Use of Cannabis". This is a partnership that looks forward to facilitating and strengthening partnerships and consultation with relevant Ministries, while offering voice and strength to involved groups of patients, scientists and other stakeholders. We look forward to a fruitful and productive collaboration with you and with all the relevant actors in the field, having as a primary concern the direct, unhindered and legitimate access of patients to quality hemp for medical use.

Yours sincerely,

The co-signatories:

"DIOGENIS - Drug Policy Dialogue" [www.diogenis.info](http://www.diogenis.info)

"Eleutherian Association of Dependence" (ELEYSYNA) »<http://elefsyna.org/>

"HELIOSPORI - Network for Social and Political Ecology" <http://iliosporoi.net/>

"MAMAKA - MAMAs for Kannabe (MAMMAKA)" Association <https://www.facebook.com/groups/farmakeftikikannavi/>

"Butterfly Effect Cooperative" Network for Social Health <http://thebutterflyeffectcooperative.org/>