

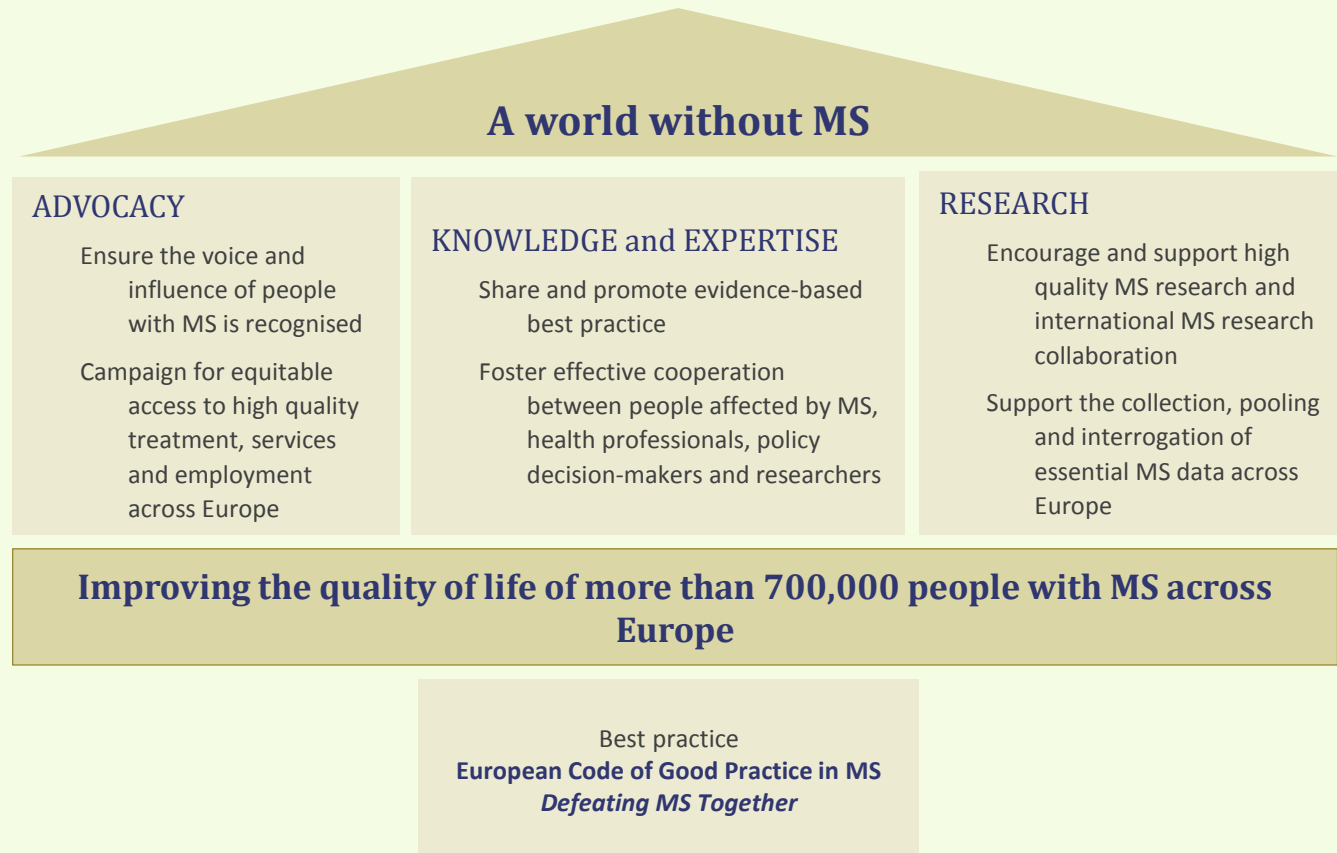
European MS Platform

The European Employment Pact

Maggie Alexander
Chief Executive of EMSP

Maggie Alexander, Chief Executive, EMSP

What is EMSP's mission?



Maggie Alexander, Chief Executive, EMSP

Current situation

MS Facts

- 700,000 people in Europe have MS
- 70% diagnosed during prime working years
- 9 million people with neuro-degenerative diseases
- € 800 billion = cost of brain conditions in Europe

€ 1,5 million per minute*

are being spent on brain conditions in Europe



* European Brain Council, Cost of Brain Diseases in Europe, 2010

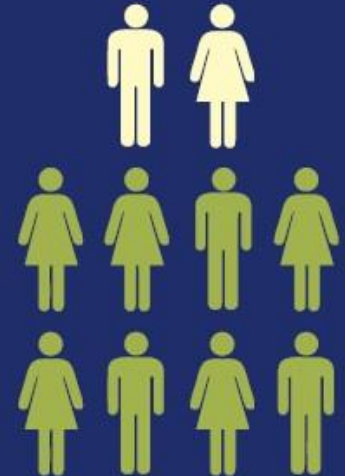
65% of the 1300 respondents to our young people with MS survey said they are currently employed or doing voluntary work ...

... but 80% usually stop working within 15 years of the onset of the disease



EUROPEAN
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
PLATFORM

Activity in the workplace for young people with MS



8 out of 10 stop working*

* Work Foundation, Ready to Work?, 2011

A need for change

- People with MS lose an average of 18 working years, assuming a retirement age of 60.
- The annual costs of MS may vary from £12,000 for those with low disability scores to £60,000 for those with severe disability stage. One estimate suggests that MS costs UK society about £2.3 billion per year. In Europe **700,000 people with MS= approximate figure of €25 billion**
- **People with MS who are working report being healthier and more socially active than those unemployed**

The Power of Psycho-Social Model

- People with the same condition, similar employers, same race, age and gender – but some return to work – others do not
- What people say early in a period of illness about their return to work will influence if they return – regardless of the interventions they receive
- What medical staff say about return to work, what family and friends say and the response of their employer will together determine whether someone returns to work

Paving the Path to Participation

This project aims to promote policy change that will support maximum participation of people with MS in the labour market in Europe.

Pact

PPP relies on a multi-stakeholder network in its efforts to promote a **European Employment Pact**. People with MS, employers, health-care providers and policy-makers are all taking part.

Action

- **Implement Pact** in employment policy and best practice.
- **Support businesses** to create solutions for people to stay in or return to work.
- **Persuade policy-makers** and national authorities to adapt policies for flexible working.

Maggie Alexander, Chief Executive, EMSP



Breaking down the barriers
**Access to employment and the
economics of brain health**

An event
hosted by
Rosa Estaras

To register, please contact Andreea Antonovici,
andreea.antonovici@emsp.org

Tuesday, March 24, 2015 | 09:00 - 11:00

European Parliament, Brussels

The event is organised in partnership with the European Multiple Sclerosis Platform

Time is now

“Access to decent work through changes in policy, workplace and social education transforms lives. People can escape the vicious circle of social exclusion, marginalisation and poverty.” **ILO, 2014**

Support

- **Disability Management:** *The process in the workplace designed to facilitate the employment of persons with a disability through a coordinated effort and taking into account individual needs, work environment, enterprise needs and legal responsibilities.*
- **EU Commission Breaking Down Barriers**
http://ec.europa.eu/news/justice/101115_en.htm
- **Employment & Social Affairs for national funding**
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1082&langId=en>
- **International Labour Organisation**
<http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/skills-knowledge-and-employability/disability-and-work/lang--en/index.htm>



The Employment Pact



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Practical Steps

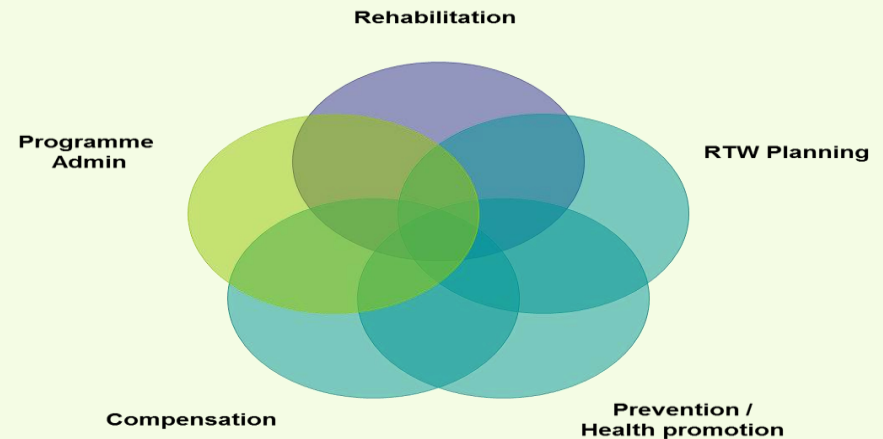
- ✓ Employment Policies
- ✓ Recruitment
- ✓ Equal opportunities and proactive employment
- ✓ Training and awareness in the workforce
- ✓ The Working Environment
- ✓ Due process
- ✓ Monitoring



What do we want to achieve?

The role of the Employment Pact in the Workplace

- Catalyst for positive change
- See the ability
- Rally all of the community- we are all affected
- Prepare for the future
- Real action so people with MS can return to work
- Show the societal benefits of holding onto talent
- Business case for workc, capable young people



Thank you

- For more information:
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