



## European Health Forum Gastein breaks all records

- **The most significant health policy event in the EU**
- **For the first time more than 600 attendees**
- **Numerous high-ranking politicians as guests**
- **Programme extended by COCIR congress**

The 8<sup>th</sup> European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG) is breaking all records: for the first time more than 600 experts from the fields of policy, administration, medicine, sciences as well as pharmaceutical and medical technology enterprises are taking part in the event, which takes place every year alternately in Bad Gastein and Bad Hofgastein. This means a solid 20 percent increase in attendance compared to last year.

“The boom is attributed on the one hand to the fact that the European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG) has increasingly established itself as the leading health policy event in the European Union. On the other hand, it is also evident that health and the maintenance and improvement of health systems have become a dominant theme in European policy,” says EHFG President Günther Leiner.

In addition to the number of participants, the concentration of prominent guests is also impressive. The attendance of 20 ministers and undersecretaries has made the EHFG a kind of “inofficial EU summit”. “In the Gasteinertal solutions to the most important problems and challenges for European health systems can be discussed and prepared on a broad basis by experts from all fields,” says Leiner. “For long-term changes in health policy and administration the EHFG has therefore acquired great significance.”

The EHFG’s agenda will be extended a fourth day this year by a “satellite event”, the congress of the European Coordination Committee of the Radiological and Electromedical Industry (COCIR). The specific issues being discussed at the COCIR congress are economic opportunities through investment in health infrastructure in the new EU member states in Central and Eastern Europe.

The EHFG has been a virtual success for the Gasteinertal as well: approximately 1600 additional overnight stays in the generally slower fall season have led to full capacities in the hotels of Bad Gastein and Bad Hofgastein.

### **Further information**

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