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The Society of European Affairs Professionals (SEAP), of which EuSalt is a member, has elaborated its position in favour of 'a mandatory Transparency Register that will help create a level-playing field across the profession and will put transparency at the heart of EU decision-making. This cannot come at the cost of the freedom to access policy makers and should not impose additional administrative burdens on registrants', however.

In this respect, the register should be reformed to include:

- An effective system to motivate all organisations influencing EU decision-making to sign up to the EU Transparency Register,
- Coverage of all EU institutions involved in the political decision-making, including the Council, and

- A robust system with better official definitions, monitoring procedures and sanctions that encourages registrants to provide accurate information.

EuSalt is supportive of the SEAP position and has contributed to the consultation along those lines.

Deadline for contributions: 1st June 2016.

Changes at SEAP

On 21st March, SEAP announced upcoming changes to its secretariat and structure. The association will hire a Director General. His/her mission will be to be the voice of EU affairs professionals, proactively advocate for SEAP members, and enlarge membership.

In addition, non-for-profit associations should be better involved in SEAP's work and committees, including the events committee or the policy and conduct committee.

IGN Symposium – Iodine & Pregnancy



The Iodine Global Network organised a symposium in London on 17th March.

Speakers outlined iodine deficiency in the EU and consequent issues for public health, as well as advocacy and data gaps. For now, the proportion of mild to moderate iodine deficiency in the UK and EU populations is not clear. This leads to a lack of political leadership

to inform citizens. The EU Thyroid Project aims at mapping European iodine status to prove the prevention needs and effectiveness when possible.

Participants further exchanged on the latest research findings and potential public health awareness raising campaigns. They concluded that this issue should be reflected in European health policy agenda through a solid and coordinated advocacy through the IGN.