

Date:	09-09-2021	Document:	F21-045 EN
Title:	Application for FEMS membership		
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.../09/2021

FEMS Permanent Secretariat
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Dear Dr. Joao de Deus
FEMS President

I am writing on behalf of **Turkish Cypriot Physicians Union (TCPU)**, who is currently an ‘‘Observer’’ of FEMS and with this letter would like to officially apply to become a member of your Federation.

As a result of its initial application, TCPU was accepted into FEMS as an Observer in June 2018. Given the time period of 2 years as stated in Article 14 of your Articles of Association has passed, TCPU would like to apply for its Observer status to be changed and granted a Member status.

As your Articles of Association convey, TCPU firmly believes that it satisfies all necessary requirements for it to become a member of your Federation, especially those set out in Article 2 and 3 respectively.

TCPU was established in 1977 and it currently has 345 (328 medical doctors and 17 dentists) members. It represents all medical doctors and dentists who are currently working for the government in Northern Cyprus. It is currently the only representative union of medical doctors and dentists working in public hospitals in Northern Cyprus. Its overall objective is to facilitate the improvement and protection of its members’ legitimate material and moral interests, which it has been doing so far via its competency to negotiate for regulations and/or collective agreements in Northern Cyprus.

The main objectives and operation areas of TCPU are set out below:

- 1- to gather, organize and provide solidarity amongst all doctors in Northern Cyprus working for the government,

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- 2- to protect the best interest of its members against their employer/government and take any necessary action in doing so,
- 3- to take any step necessary to preserve, protect and improve the working conditions, working hours, safety, salary/wages, compensation, other benefits and overall well being of its members,
- 4- to offer support and guidance to its members in general and also with regards to any problems that might arise whilst application of their services (ie. Professional medical liability and risk) with legal, financial and psychological support/help,
- 5- to negotiate with the government on matters relating to its members' rights in order to improve incumbent law and regulations and/or pass new law and regulations and/or to make agreements/protocols with the government to ameliorate and protect the interest of its members,
- 6- to propose changes, draft bills, legal and regulative reforms via negotiation with government and to work towards implementing these with regards to better provision of healthcare and/or the rights of its members,
- 7- to organize strikes in line with the best interest of its members and objective,
- 8- to work towards a better provision of medical and health care services and/or policies to the public and to take necessary steps in doing so ie. Drafting opinions, negotiations.

In the light of the above set out objectives of TCPU, it can clearly be seen that its main operation areas, objectives and perspective are in line with those of FEMS's. Moreover we strongly believe that experiences, opinions and principals of FEMS will guide us all the way through in our struggle.

To conclude, TCPU believes that all doctors around Europe must unite and defend doctors' rights in solidarity. FEMS is such an organization that accommodates this objective and thus TCPU would be highly honoured if reaches the opportunity to become an official/permanent member of such an organization.

Best Regards

Dr. Arif Ersoy
(TCPU Secretary General)