



Françoise Meunier

MD, PhD, FRCP (UK)



Membership

- The Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine (ARMB)
- The European Academy of Cancer Sciences (EACS) Science Policy Committee
- Survivorship and quality of life network of the European Cancer Organisation (ECO)
- The Scientific Committee of the European Cancer Patients Coalition (ECPC)

Awards

- Award for lifetime contribution to oncology – Pezcoller Foundation, Italy (2009)
- Lifetime achievement award – European Society for Medical Oncology (2012)

Biography

Françoise Meunier served as EORTC Director General (1991 – 2015) and oversaw the growth of the EORTC into a world-class cancer clinical research infrastructure. She remained active until November 9, 2018, as EORTC Director of Special Projects where she was a driving force behind a number of activities such as cancer survivorship initiatives. She is a member of the Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine since 2006. In 2007, she was conferred the title of Baroness by His Majesty, The King Albert II of Belgium.

In 2009, she received the Pezcoller Foundation award as a recognition for her contribution to oncology. She is a Fellow of the European Academy of Cancer Sciences (EACS). Since 2014, she is a board member of “Centre Scientifique de Monaco”. From 2015 until 2021, she was Vice-President of FEAM (Federation of European Academies of Medicine) and was a Board Member of the Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe (2015-2018). In 2015, she received (2015) the degree of Doctor of Medical Science (Honoris Causa) by the Queen’s University of Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK. From 2017 to December 2020, Prof. Meunier was a Member of the Scientific Panel for Health (SPH) of the European Commission.

Prof. Meunier has been an active participant in cancer-related events throughout the past years, notably taking part in several summits of the European Cancer Organisation (ECO) to discuss her cancer survivorship activities. She is a member of the Scientific Committee of the European Cancer Patients Coalition (ECPC). In 2020, her collaboration with the ECPC, saw her project on the Right to be Forgotten for Cancer Survivors take a new dimension through its recognition within the Beating Cancer Plan and the Cancer Mission report. Since March 2021, Prof. Meunier is a member of the Steering Committee of Survivorship and Quality of life of ECO.

During several webinars on the Right to be Forgotten, Prof. Meunier renewed her calls for the formalisation of a European Cancer Survivors Day, and the organisation of an annual event dedicated to cancer survivorship. She also expressed the need to develop a harmonised legal framework to deal with discrimination faced by former cancer patients, once declared cured by their oncologists. She also advocates for the creation of an implementation network to benefit from the expertise gathered by the 6 EU Member States who have already implemented the Right to be Forgotten.

