



4 March 2015

Dear Sir or Madam,

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to attend the following breakfast seminar organised by the Smoke Free Partnership (SFP):

## Smokefree policies in Europe: Are we there yet?

14 April 2015 | 08:15 – 10:30am | Rue de l'Industrie 24, 1000 Brussels

With a keynote speech by European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Vytenis Andriukaitis, this breakfast seminar celebrates the launch of the updated SFP Smokefree Map and promises to provide a platform to discuss whether smokefree policies in the EU are honouring national commitments made under the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the 2009 Council Recommendation on Smokefree Environments.

The seminar will particularly focus on addressing the following questions:

- What is the current status of smoking bans across the EU?
- What are the barriers to introducing comprehensive smokefree legislation at Member State level?
- What can we, as national and European policymakers and civil society, do to help?

Smokefree policies have come a long way in the past few years in the EU with all Member States having introduced some form of legislation by 2012. However, only a few countries operate comprehensive, well-implemented smoking bans despite second hand smoke being a WHO-recognised carcinogen which kills over 70,000 people annually in the EU alone. With the impending implementation deadline of the 2014 Tobacco Products Directive in May 2016 acting as a catalyst in many European countries, the debate concerning the importance of smokefree policies has reopened and the role of policymakers and civil society is more vital than ever in securing a smokefree Europe.

Beginning with a keynote speech from Health Commissioner Vytenis and a clear introduction into the current status of smoking bans across Europe by Jennifer Burch from SFP, short presentations will be made by Dr Heide Weishaar and Dr Sofia Ravara, both European experts, concerning the lessons learnt from the adoption of the 2009 Council Recommendation and the impact of the partial smoking ban in Portugal respectively. The seminar will close with a question and answer session moderated by SFP Director, Florence Berteletti, and designed to draw conclusions and recommendations answering the questions above.

If you would like to attend the event, please register using the following link by 27<sup>th</sup> March:  
<http://my.smokefreepartnership.eu/civCRM/event/info?reset=1&id=29>



For further information, please view our [Events](#) page or contact us by email at [info@smokefreepartnership.eu](mailto:info@smokefreepartnership.eu) or by phone on +32 (0) 2 430 73 59.

We hope to see you on the 14<sup>th</sup> April.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'F. Berteletti', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Florence Berteletti  
Director, Smoke Free Partnership