

CANDIDATE FOR THE POST OF CHAIR OF THE DEMOCRACY, SOCIAL COHESION GLOBAL CHALLENGES COMMITTEE

(Election 29 June 2017)



Presentation

Name:	Thierry Mathieu
Date of birth:	21/11/1957
Nationality:	French
Working languages:	French
Position in the INGO:	President
Full title and acronym of the INGO :	International Association for Research in Hospital Hygiene (IARHH)
Year your INGO was granted participatory status:	1986

Motivation

I am currently Vice-Chair of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee, a Public Health Inspector and very active in civil society. The INGO that I represent and chair was granted consultative, and then participatory, status by the Council of Europe 40 years ago.

The last three years have been eventful and productive, in view of the variety of contributions made and the ties we have established with the other pillars of the Council. In particular, we intervened during the COP21 and we were behind a recommendation by the Conference on the care and the fundamental rights of older persons, many points of which were taken up in a Parliamentary Assembly document.

The challenges which await the Conference and in particular the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee are enormous so as to:

- tackle global problems: migration, climate change, health care;
- safeguard democracy, which is under threat in several CoE countries, by pursuing our activities (guidelines, the Open Government Partnership, and so on);
- reinforce social cohesion, which is being weakened by cultural, social and geographical divisions.

The INGOs' diversity is an opportunity for developing inputs in line with the policy directions taken by the Secretary General and the Conference of INGOs and in conjunction with the other pillars and committees.

Your differences and expertise are a tremendous opportunity for rising to this challenge. I am convinced that, together, we will succeed.