Dear friends,

Recently (7 November 2018) RtDE was invited by Josep-Maria Terricabras MEP (Greens/EFA) and Isabel Alonso, president DMD-Catalonia and Hilde Vautmans MEP (ALDE)to take part in a conference to promote the Right to Die in Europe.

*‘What can be done at European level and in Municipalities’.*

We already knew Hilde Vautmans because she made it possible to introduce us in European Parliament (EP) at our biannual meeting in Wemmel last year.

In Spain and in Portugal there are developments to get a legal right to die in dignity.

In Spain with the new government the societies have a good prospect to have a law passed in the near future.

In my session I met again Nina Sankari from Poland with a very pessimistic view on the situation in her country concerning human rights, the church hierarchy rules the government and neo-Nazi’s from al over Europe demonstrate in streets of Warsaw.

Bruna da Cruz, DMD-Portugal, was sorry to say the law was defeated by 4 votes.

Jacinta de Roeck, Leif-Antwerp gave a view on the situation in Belgium and the counselling of people with a death wish.

Jean-Luc Romero-Michel ADMD-F gave a view on the French situation.

Isabel Alonso, DMD-Cat showed lucid optimistic views on their progress in Spain.

I myself pleaded for more cohesion in Europe concerning the knowledge on how to gain our goal.

After a short break we continued to listen to examples of what happens when municipalities join our efforts.

‘The role of the municipalities on the right to die’, introduced by Concepció Canut, Bureau member of DMD-Cat.

Marta Felip, mayor of Figueres,

Núria Marín, councillor of Lleida,

Berta Vida, councillor of La Seu d’ Urgell,

And Vincent van Quickenborne, mayor of Kortrijk,

gave an overview on the possibilities to talk in their council and involve the population in the discussion on arranging matters among themselves socially and even on dignified dying.

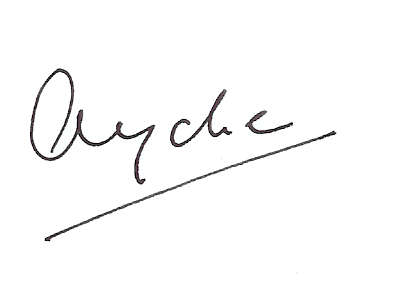
Former Catalan Minister of Health Toni Comín pleaded for the freedom of choice for all people.

Unfortunately, Isabel Alonso Dávila, on behalf of AFDMD-Spain, had no time to present the *“Institutional declaration of European cities for the right to die with dignity”.*

You will find this declaration in the attachment. It will be widely distributed in EP and in municipalities.

It was a well organized meeting where we again could present in European Parliament where we stand for!

Best wishes to you all,



Aycke O. A. Smook MD, retired surgion-oncologist, SCEN-arts

President Right to Die Europe (RtDE)

We are an INGO at the Council of Europe (CoE)

Transvaal 13 Bergen aan Zee, the Netherlands

P: +31725896110 M: +31625068058

[aycke@oasmook.nl](mailto:aycke@oasmook.nl) [rtde.eu@ziggo.nl](mailto:rtde.eu@ziggo.nl)

