Dear Colleague,

As the President of the European Pharmacology, I like to introduce myself to all members of the National Societies’ Executive Committees and to start a monthly-based correspondence through this “Letter from the President”.

The new EPHAR Executive Committee (that you can meet entering the EPHAR website) brings new hopes, new plans, new energy to European Pharmacology. It is in this spirit that the work of the new Executive Committee for 2012-2014 mandate is being executed. This term of office is going to be busy enough, and to carry on its wings a lot of activities and (hopefully) a handful of achievements.

There are important activities planned for the next few months. First, we are trying to create a data-base of e-mail addresses of all pharmacologists in Europe. This is a major goal that will improve the communication route between EPHAR and the National Societies and will contribute to build the political “body” of European Pharmacology.
Another issue I like to introduce is related to EPHAR finances. It is known that fees paid by regular members, i.e. National Societies represent the base for the EPHAR budget. However, I understand that institutional members are also willing to contribute to the EPHAR activity. Thus, I will propose a change in our Statute (to be approved in the next General Assembly) that will allow the introduction of “corporate” members. In the meantime, we will accept free donations from public or private Institutions given to support educational and scientific activities of EPHAR.

On Wednesday September 19, together with the EPHAR President-elect, Prof. Thomas Griesbacher, I have taken part in the International Conference organized by the Hungarian Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology to celebrate the 50th anniversary of this Society. This was really an exciting experience that provided me with the clear idea of the high value of Hungarian Pharmacology.

Next meeting of the Executive Committee is to be held in Catania, beginning of December.

I will keep you informed on further decisions and important issues of the EPHAR.

Prof. Filippo Drago