

Worldwide Campaign: Cannabis for Therapeutic Purposes is a Human Right

Rüthen: An international consortium of medical cannabis organisations are demanding that humans, regardless of state or allegiance and without qualification, be able to use cannabis therapeutically. In a joint declaration, the organisations from Europe and North America refer to Article 3 of the Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations in 1948. The declaration is the beginning of a worldwide campaign on the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes.

The declaration was published in six languages on a dedicated Web site (www.medical-cannabis-declaration.org), and it states: “Every medical doctor has the right to treat his or her patients with cannabinoids and cannabis products according to the rules of good medical care” and “every patient has the right to access cannabis and cannabinoids for medical treatment supervised by a medical doctor, regardless of social status, standard of living or financial means.”

“The declaration is based on overwhelming scientific evidence. It takes a strong stance against the prejudices and untruthfulness of lawmakers, other political players and ‘experts’ with limited medical knowledge on the issue,” says Franjo Grotenhermen, MD, Executive Director of the International Association for Cannabinoid Medicines (Germany).

It is the aim of the declaration to generate worldwide support and allow organizations around the globe to adopt a more definitive position. “The joint declaration and related Web site form the nucleus of a worldwide movement regarding the human right to use cannabis for therapeutic purposes,” adds Al Byrne of Patients Out of Time (USA). The declaration is the product of knowledgeable experts from multiple countries who are working to challenge anti-cannabis forces.

Initial signatories :

- American Cannabis Nurses Association (ACNA), USA
- Americans for Safe Access (ASA), USA
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Cannabis als Medizin (ACM), Germany
- Associazione per la Cannabis Terapeutica (ACT), Italy
- International Association for Cannabinoid Medicines (IACM), International
- Norsk Forening for Cannabinoidmedisin (NFCM), Norway
- Patients Out of Time (POT), USA
- Schweizer Arbeitsgruppe für Cannabinoide in der Medizin (SACM), Switzerland
- Selbsthilfenetzwerk Cannabis Medizin (SCM), Germany
- Society of Cannabis Clinicians (SCC), USA
- Union Francophone pour les Cannabinoïdes en Médecine (UFCM), France and Luxembourg

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