

## Letter of Support

To: prof. MUDr. Vlastimil Válek, CSc., MBA, EBIR, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health, Ministry of Health, Palackého náměstí 375/4, Praha 2 - Nové Město, 12800

To: Scientific Council of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Health, Palackého náměstí 375/4, Praha 2 - Nové Město, 12800

To: Mgr. Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková, Government Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, nábreží Edvarda Beneše 4, Praha 1, 11801

19 October 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the **European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA)**, we would like to warmly congratulate the Czech Republic for developing a comprehensive and future-proof *Strategy for the Development of Respectful Care for Mothers and Children in Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Postpartum Period*.

This Strategy represents an important step forward in aligning maternity services with internationally recognised principles of **woman-centred, midwife-led, human-rights based care**, while ensuring safe and effective collaboration across the whole maternity team.

EFNNMA recognises respectful maternity care as a cornerstone of high-quality health systems. In view of reaching optimal maternity and neonatal care across the European region we work closely with the WHO Europe promoting the same principles for all member states' health systems. It is encouraging to hear the advancement that Czech Republic has made in developing this strategy. We therefore support the direction of this Strategy and encourage all stakeholders to work together towards its successful implementation, for the benefit of women, babies, families, and society.

Yours sincerely,

Mervi Jokinen



President EFNNMA

On behalf of the European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA)

***The European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations (EFNNMA) is the voice of nursing and midwifery within WHO European Region. Working in partnership and strategically with WHO and other key stakeholders we aim to influence health policy, improve the quality of health services and the health of people across the 53 Member States of the Region. We are passionate advocates of the central and unique contribution that Nurses and Midwives make to individual and population health and well-being across Europe and are committed to ensuring both professions are supported to deliver excellence in their practice.***