

## Enhancing public health, life science innovation and competitiveness in Europe.

*Closing remarks by Ida Sofie Jensen, CEO of Lif, at the joint conference between Lif and the Royal Danish Embassy in Warsaw marts 24<sup>th</sup> 2025.*

[The spoken word applies]

Dear Ministers, dear ambassadors, ladies and gentlemen.

- Europe is right now navigating in a very challenging global landscape. Some of the challenges are not new but have worsened, and others have entered very recently. We are talking about security and armament in a scale and pace that we haven't seen for generations, and we are talking about changing trade conditions by introducing tariffs after more than 20 years of free trade and globalization, where wealth and prosperity have grown in Europe.
- This new landscape requires a strong commitment and clear ambitions for Europe. Key to this effort is increasing competitiveness, creating robustness when it comes to supply chains and improving public health.
- Innovative prevention and treatments are vital for addressing the demographic change and with that the rising prevalence of chronic diseases and increasing demand for healthcare supply.
- This goal demands dedicated research, innovation, and medical advancements within Europe. The EU must ensure equal access to these innovations, continually enhancing quality, efficacy, and treatment outcomes.
- Europe must also be prepared for future technologies in personalized medicine and advanced therapies. Digital solutions, and AI, new regulatory frameworks and data infrastructures will support access to these advancements.
- The life science industry is critical not only for public health but also for Europe's economy. Unfortunately, only 22% of global innovative pharmaceuticals come from Europe, compared to 47% from the US - 25 years ago it was the opposite. Europe's share of global clinical trials has halved over the past decade, while China's has more than tripled.

- The Draghi report identifies several factors contributing to the lack of competitiveness. We are talking about lower private and public R&D investment, a weaker innovation ecosystem, complex regulatory environment and slower uptake of innovative treatments.
- Regaining Europe's competitiveness requires fostering a dynamic and innovative industrial landscape with innovation-friendly regulations, high productivity, investments, and robust public-private partnerships.
- In 2024, Denmark launched a new life science strategy focusing on the whole eco-system including patient needs and establishing a framework to meet these needs.
- The strategy emphasizes the synergy between the public and private sectors and the connection between a strong industrial and research ecosystem and a robust healthcare system.
- A forthcoming European Life Science strategy should encapsulate the interests of patients, healthcare systems, society, and Europe's robustness and economic growth.
- The EU needs to prioritize investments in life science research, development, and innovation, facilitate health data sharing, and encourage clinical research within the EU.
- Enhanced collaboration across countries and sectors are crucial to promote shared knowledge and beneficial solutions for better health.
- After today's debate, I am very confident, because as we say, "every cloud has a silver lining" and today I have experienced a strong commitment to jointly create the ambitions, solutions and partnerships as the way forward for health and life science in Europe.
- Many thanks for your participation today. A special thanks to the ministers and the ambassador for your valuable attendance.
- Thank you also to the lineup of high-level speakers of our two panels. I truly believe the discussions were inspiring for how we can make Europe great again within life science.
- Thank you to Bogi to lead us during the discussion so professional. And to the end – thank you very much to our partner at the Royal Danish embassy for collaboration on organizing this event.
- Now we are hosting a reception where you will have the opportunity to meet and share perspectives and views.