



Attendance Report

Meeting with MEPs



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**WP4 / T4.1 : Meetings with
PolicyMakers**

On 10 October 2024, the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) met with Cypriot Member of the European Parliament (MEP) Georgios Georgiou at its headquarters in Cyprus. TIF representatives led by Dr Androulla Eleftheriou (TIF Executive Director) were Dr Michael Angastiniotis (TIF Medical Advisor), Mrs Lily Cannon (TIF Deputy Director), Mrs Katia Pelides (TIF Educational Programme Senior Officer) and Ms Danae Louca (TIF Project Officer), who engaged in a fruitful discussion on pressing issues concerning the accessibility of innovative treatments for patients with thalassaemia in Cyprus and across Europe.

During the meeting, TIF outlined its pivotal role in advocating for the needs of the thalassaemia community while promoting Cyprus's globally recognised and successful prevention and management program. The discussion highlighted the challenges faced by patients, particularly in countries with limited expertise or resources, and explored potential strategies for improving access to innovative therapies across the European Union.

Key topics discussed included:

- The need for strengthened EU policies and directives supporting multi-disciplinary approaches to thalassaemia treatment, including greater resilience in healthcare systems and equitable access to innovative therapies.
- TIF emphasised its ongoing advocacy efforts at the European level, including through its participation in networks like TRANSFORM and its engagement with the Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the EU.

The meeting concluded with MEP Georgiou expressing his commitment to supporting initiatives that enhance the lives of thalassaemia patients and promoting policies that align with TIF's mission.



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