

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

The Last decades have brought many changes in the system of nursing education, not only in Europe, but all over the world. Transferring education to higher education institutions (HEIs), and giving nursing students the possibility of obtaining a Bachelor Degree in Nursing, were widely debated in the nursing community of every country which decided to introduce these changes. It was a special challenge for Eastern and Central Europe, where the new path of nursing education changed diametrically. Now, the majority of European Union Member States follow the requirements of the amended EU Directive (2013/55/EU) as well as the outcomes of the Bologna Process.

Of course, we might ask whether this transformation has been good or bad for nursing as a practical and scientific discipline. One may answer that for nursing as a science it has brought many positive results, leading to rapid development. But what about everyday clinical practice, especially at the patient's bedside? To this question, a very clear answer is provided in the *Lancet* by Aiken et al. (2014): "An increased emphasis on bachelor education for nurses could reduce preventable hospital deaths". The research results show that there is a correlation between the level of nurses' education, the quality of nursing care and patient outcomes, which indicates that the direction taken in the scope of nursing educational development is the right one. Nevertheless, we are aware that there is still much work to do in this area, which is why research, debates and confrontations of different aspects of nurses' education and clinical training.

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