

László Kristóffy

Head of Cabinet

Cabinet of Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi

European Commission

Brussels

Amsterdam, 16th July 2026

Dear Mr Kristóffy,

On behalf of **FH Europe Foundation (FHEF)**, the **European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS)** and the **Lp(a) International Taskforce (ITF)**, we warmly congratulate you and the European Commission on the first **EU Screening Week** initiative. We were pleased to learn about this initiative through the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH), in which we are partners, and through the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), our partner in the EU4Health co-funded PERFECTO project, a JACARDI Action Grant.

Following the recognition of **familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH)** and **elevated lipoprotein(a) [Lp(a)] in the EU Safe Hearts Plan**, as well as the reference to the EU (co-)funded **PERFECTO** and **FH-EARLY** projects, which we are the coordinator of and a partner in, respectively, we are now turning to you with our commitment to support you and the Commission with the EU Screening Week initiative and the wider implementation of the Safe Hearts Plan across the Member States.

This project is strongly aligned with our longstanding work on prevention, screening and early detection, starting with the first-ever EU Public Health Best Practice on FH paediatric screening, accepted by the Commission in 2020. It is also timely, since **on 24 September**, the global community will observe international **FH Awareness Day**, with activities across Europe and beyond promoting the earlier identification of FH and bridging with **World Heart Day on 29 September** by promoting joint awareness and detection of cholesterol, elevated Lp(a), high triglycerides, other lipid disorders and CVD risk factors. Together, FH Awareness Day and World Heart Day create a valuable opportunity to connect and amplify existing initiatives under a coherent European framework.

Our organisations bring complementary scientific, clinical, policy and patient expertise. EAS, with its ca. 6,000 members, including national societies, connects leading researchers and clinicians; FHEF represents more than 40 patient organisations and a growing network of patient ambassadors; and the Lp(a) International Taskforce provides global leadership on elevated Lp(a), encompassing research, clinical practice, health economics, innovation and lived experience. This collaboration is further strengthened by the EAS FH Studies Collaboration—the **global registry** spanning 70 countries and involving more than 80 lead investigators.

We would be pleased to support EU Screening Week by mobilising national societies, clinicians, researchers, lipid clinics, patient organisations and patient ambassadors, and by contributing local screening activities across the Member States, evidence-based communications, registry expertise, and policy and implementation support.

Building on your past support for the first Lp(a) Global Summit in Brussels in March 2025 and our meeting with Commissioner Várhelyi last September in his office, **we would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with the Commissioner** to discuss how our organisations can contribute most effectively to EU Screening Week and the wider implementation of the EU Safe Hearts Plan across Member States, translating it into concrete benefits for families, communities and governments across Europe.

With respect,

Magdalena Daccord
CEO
FH Europe Foundation**Prof. Joanna Lane**
Chair
FH Europe Foundation**Prof. Børge G. Nordestgaard**
President
European Atherosclerosis Society**Prof. Florian Kronenberg**
Chair
Lp(a) International Task Force**Prof. Kausik Ray**
Principal Investigator and Lead
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