

Council of Europe activities

on Food Contact Materials

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European Directorate for the Quality of
Medicines & HealthCare (**EDQM**)

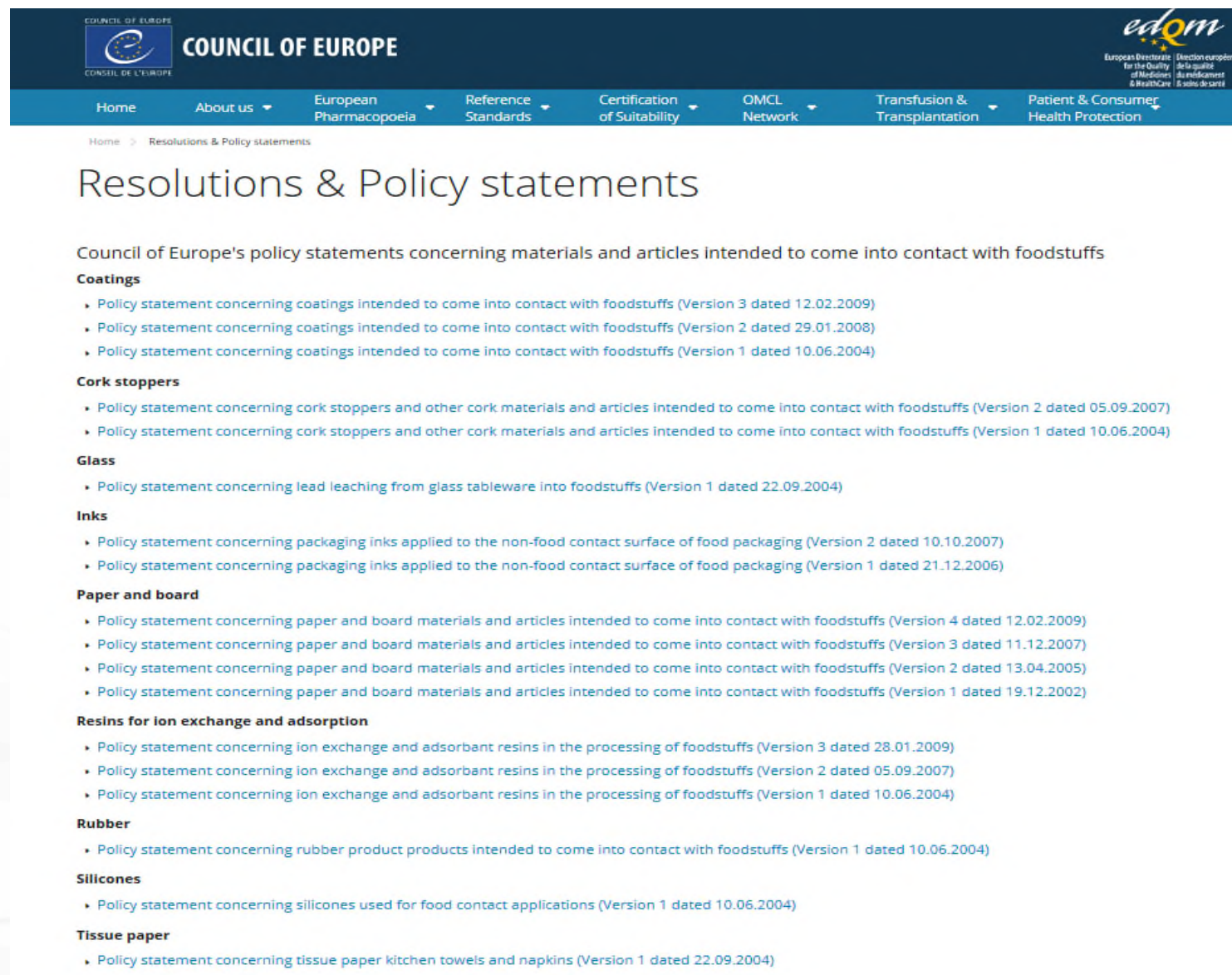
History

1959: Partial Agreement (18 Member States) in the Social and **Public Health** Field.

2007: Memorandum of Understanding between EU & CoE to intensify cooperation, with the aim of:

- implementing common strategies and programmes
- ensuring legal coherence
- searching for added value
- making better use of existing resources
- avoiding duplication
- fostering synergy

2008: The Council of Europe Committee of Ministers decided to dissolve the Partial Agreement and to transfer the activities related to cosmetics and food contact materials to the EDQM.



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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Resolutions & Policy statements

Council of Europe's policy statements concerning materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs

Coatings

- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 12.02.2009)
- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 29.01.2008)
- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

Cork stoppers

- Policy statement concerning cork stoppers and other cork materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 05.09.2007)
- Policy statement concerning cork stoppers and other cork materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

Glass

- Policy statement concerning lead leaching from glass tableware into foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 22.09.2004)

Inks

- Policy statement concerning packaging inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging (Version 2 dated 10.10.2007)
- Policy statement concerning packaging inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging (Version 1 dated 21.12.2006)

Paper and board

- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 4 dated 12.02.2009)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 11.12.2007)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 13.04.2005)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 19.12.2002)

Resins for ion exchange and adsorption

- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 28.01.2009)
- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 05.09.2007)
- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

Rubber

- Policy statement concerning rubber product products intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

Silicones

- Policy statement concerning silicones used for food contact applications (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

Tissue paper

- Policy statement concerning tissue paper kitchen towels and napkins (Version 1 dated 22.09.2004)

Member States & Observers
European Pharmacopoeia Convention

38 Member States & the EU
(Republic of Moldova in 2017)

29 Observers (India & Japan in 2016)*

(*) Map from 2017 – Uzbekistan became 30th Observer in March 2018

The European Pharmacopoeia...



- 1964: Convention on the elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia to promote free movement of medicines in Europe
- 1975: mandatory status for all EC/EEA member states via EC pharmaceutical legislation
- 1994: creation of the European Network of Official Medicines Control Laboratories (OMCL) (contract between EU and the Secretariat of *Ph. Eur.*)
- 1994: certification procedure for substances for pharmaceutical use (referred to in the EU pharmaceutical legislation)

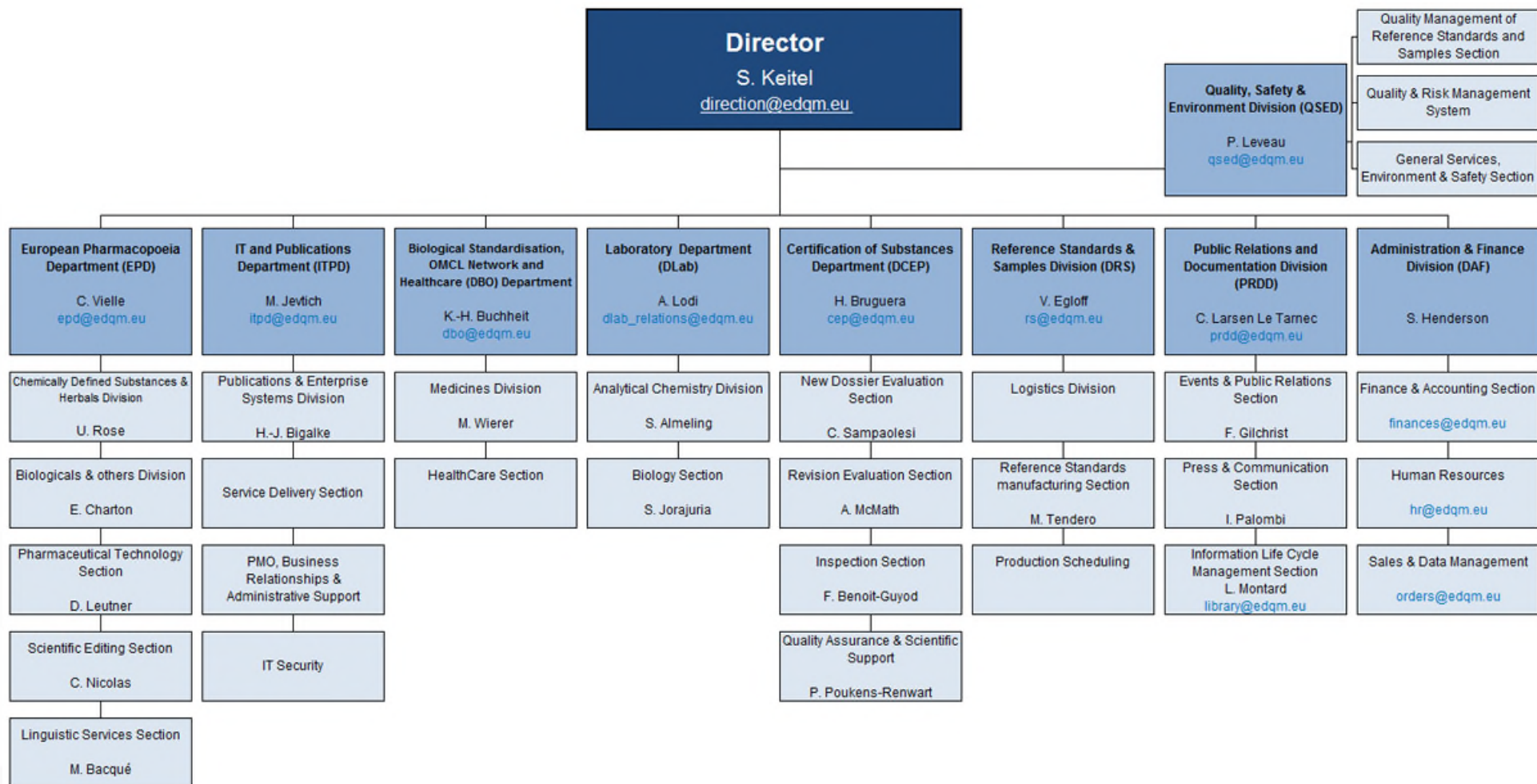
... and the EDQM

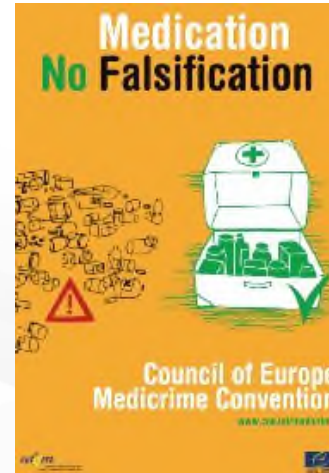


- 1996: change of name to EDQM
- 2007: transfer of healthcare activities – blood transfusion & organ transplantation
- 2008: transfer of pharmaceuticals/pharmaceutical care activities
- **2009: transfer of cosmetics & food contact material activities**
- 2010: OCCL Network setup (today 44 laboratories from 26 European + third countries)



Organizational Chart: EDQM





BIOLOGICAL STANDARDISATION, OMCL NETWORK & HEALTHCARE (DBO)



HealthCare Activities: Technical Guides Resolutions & Recommendations

- **Steering Committees and experts** develop guides to ensure quality and good practices & protect consumers, e.g.
 - Preparation, use and quality assurance of blood components
 - **Metals & alloys used in food contact materials**
 - Safe cosmetics for young children
 - Hydrogen peroxide in cosmetic products
 - Safer tattooing: overview of current knowledge and challenges of toxicological assessment
- **Council of Europe Recommendations and Resolutions:**

Adopted by the [Committee of Ministers](#):

“ ... Recommends to the governments of member States Parties to the Convention that they adopt legislative and other measures ...”



Food contact materials and articles

New Steering Committee (2018)

Committee for food contact materials and articles (Partial Agreement) (CD-P-MCA) *

Members: delegates from the 38 countries of the Pharmacopoeia Convention (26 countries have appointed representatives in 2018)

Participants: representatives from member states or observers, European Union, EFSA

Observers: representatives from non-member states

*ToR adopted by the Committee of Ministers

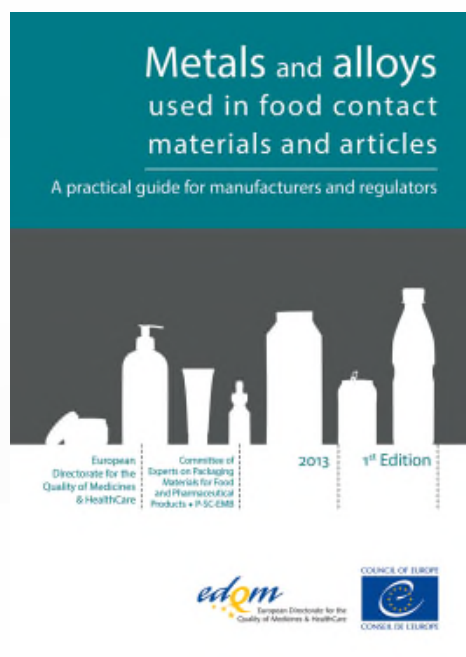
Working Methods

- Committee supported by the Secretariat¹
- Assigned rapporteurs (members or participants of the Committee)
- Plenary sessions: 2 times a year, in Strasbourg
- *Ad hoc* working groups: flexible in time and place; \pm 1-2 times a year

¹ Susanne Bahrke, Eugenia Dessipri (seconded from GCSL, Greece)

Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles

Resolution adopted by all 37 member states in 2013



1st Edition

Assists national policy-makers to adopt legislative and other measures aimed at reducing health risks arising from consumer exposure to certain metal ions released into food from the contact with metals and alloys.

- covers general provisions and recommendations
- provides technical information on specific release limits (SRLs) for metals and
- provides analytical guidance for release testing of food contact materials and articles made from metals and alloys.

- The electronic version of the Guide can be [downloaded for FREE online](#)

Activities for the 2nd Edition

- Revision of SRLs where new data are available
- Editorial changes to improve presentation
- Reference to JRC guidelines for all migration conditions (time/T) – closer collaboration with JRC for the revised kitchenware guidelines
- Revision of the envelope volume calculations
- Update references where needed

Resolution for FCM

- **Scope:** all FCM under Regulation (EC) 1935/2004 **for which there are no specific measures** at the EU level
- **General principles:** best practices to ensure quality and safety
 - DoC/supporting documentation
 - Principles for the intentional use of substances
- Technical guides per material group to cover specific issues (scope, lists, testing issues)

Technical Guides

- Paper and Board
- Coatings
- Ion exchange resins
- Cork
- Enamels (pending on the scope of EU legislation for ceramics)
- Printing inks (analytical issues)

Links / Contact

<https://www.edqm.eu/en>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/presentation-edqm>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/consumer-health-activities-latest-developments>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/faq-helpdesk-patient-consumer>

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