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"Failing to prepare is preparing to fail"

by John F. Ryan, European Commission Acting Director for Public Health, Head of Unit Crisis Management and Preparedness in Health

Two years ago, Decision 1082/2013/EU on serious cross-border threats to health was adopted, with the requirement that a report on its implementation be given to the European Parliament and the Council by November 2015, and every three years after that.

The first such report, adopted 7 December 2015, outlines both strengths and weaknesses, but in general found that implementing the Decision "had improved health security in the EU and the protection of the Union's citizens from communicable diseases and other biological, chemical and environmental events."

The Decision requires Member States to [...]

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