

## FRENCH HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

### Historical development

1893 – 1905: government passed social laws -> public aid for poor people

1928: national health insurance system

1945: state social protection system

### Basic principles

#### Solidarity

Everyone supports each other

#### Universality

Right of getting healthcare for everyone

#### Responsibility

Organization and controlling

→ fair, safe, open

### Structures of the healthcare system: Financing

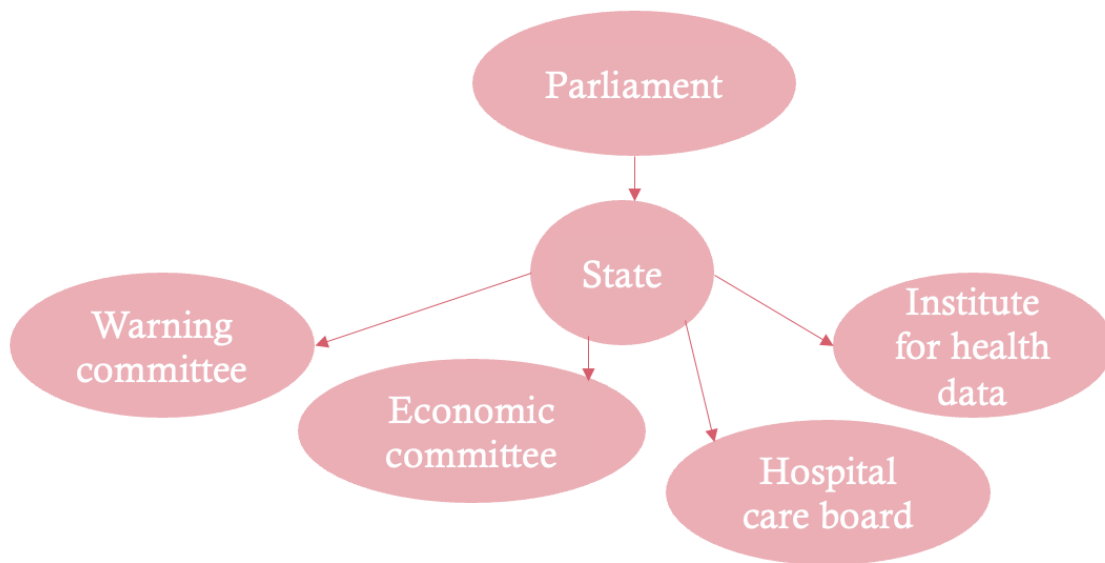
- Health insurance pays 70% of the price for a service  
Pay the rest on your own
- Exceptions:  
Private supplementary insurance  
Chronic illness
- Patients pay a fee for every visit to the doctor
- Medicine: 0,50€ for each pack

2025: 11,9% of the gross domestic product

### Political structure of the French healthcare system

This chart shows the structure and organization of the French healthcare system. It explains the different institutions and their roles in managing and financing public health insurance.

- At the center of the system is the Parliament:  
It makes laws about how to finance health insurance and sets the spending limits.
- The state puts these decisions into actions. It makes sure there is a balance between the different insurance systems and that all people have equal access to healthcare.
- On the left side, the warning committee: It warns the parliament, the government, and the health insurance when the national spending limit is being exceeded.
- The economic committee for medical products sets the prices for medicines.
- The hospital care board is responsible for planning and financing hospital treatments.
- The institute for health data checks the quality of health information and helps improve the system.



### Essential vocabulary

state social protection system -> Staatliches Sozialschutzsystem

private supplementary insurance -> Private Zusatzversicherung

gross domestic product -> Bruttoinlandsprodukt

### Discussion questions

- Have you ever had to receive medical treatment in France?
- What differences do you notice compared to the German healthcare system?
- Do you know any criticism of the French healthcare system?