

\*\*\*\*\*

## Summer 2023 ASPHER Newsletter



*Image: Ireland - Loop Head Peninsula, Robert Otok*

### Table of Contents

[MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT](#)

[ASPHER DEANS' & DIRECTORS' RETREAT 2023](#)

[ASPHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS](#)

[2023 ASPHER AWARDS](#)

[REPORTING FROM WCPH 2023 - ROME](#)

[ASPHER NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM UPDATES INCLUDING ASSETS 2023](#)

[CLIMATE AND HEALTH](#)

**ASPHER-WHO TASK FORCE ON PROFESSIONALISING THE PH WORKFORCE**  
**ASPHER PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES (FORMERLY COVID-19) TASK FORCE**  
**ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS**

[Ulrich Laaser receives the WPHFA Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in GH](#)  
[This Is Public Health \(TIPH\) Global Grants](#)  
[Syllabi collection on Diversity in Public Health: Hands-on material for teaching](#)  
[DisQo Antidiscrimination & Health Equality Final Statement](#)  
[EuroNet MRPH Spring Meeting including ASPHER-led Climate and Health Workshop](#)  
[International Conference on Strategic Litigation and Public Health](#)  
[SEEEPHI Project News – Israel Public Health Conference and Publication](#)  
[The New Public Health – Fourth Edition](#)  
[EUPHA and ASPHER action concerning the proposal to amend the Israeli Basic Law](#)

**MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS**

[Lugano Summer School in Public Health, 21-26 August, Lugano and online](#)  
[Online course: Use of Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence systems](#)  
[SItI 2023: National Conference of Extraordinary PH, 12-14 October, Cernobbio, Como](#)  
[13th Conference 'MY CAREER – QUO VADIS': Healthcare professionals at the centre of digital transformation in healthcare, 24 November, Ljubljana and online](#)  
[Call for Papers: Health Disparities: The Emerging Trends and Pressing Challenges](#)  
[Swiss School of Public Health \(SSPH+\) News](#)  
[Seminar: Academic collaboration with Ukraine despite the war](#)  
[V Summer School in Public Mental Health](#)

**PARTNER NEWS**

[PHIRI 3 Years Anniversary Conference, 22 September, Brussels and online](#)  
[The European Observatory's Silver Jubilee](#)  
[16th European Public Health \(EPH\) Conference, 8-11 November, Dublin](#)  
[ECDC Public Health Training Newsletter](#)

**OPPORTUNITIES**

[University of Nicosia Medical School Vacancy:](#)  
[Faculty Position in Clinical Population and/or Public Health Sciences](#)  
[ECDC Engagement of remunerated independent external experts](#)

**Share the ASPHER newsletter!**

.....

## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

We apologise for the delay in sending this newsletter, but hope it will still reach you in good time to enjoy over the summer. We will also still get another short newsletter sent to you in August dedicated to the Deans' & Directors' Retreat. **If you haven't done so yet, [be sure to register to join us in Dublin for the Retreat](#) from 31 August - 02 September! Once you have registered, [take advantage of discounted rates on nearby hotels](#) - act fast as these will only remain available until 10 August!**

ASPHER is in a celebratory mood with this edition. Reporting back from the [ASPHER General Assembly](#) in Rome, we congratulate our [President-elect Henrique Barros](#) and [new board member, Andi Mabhala](#) as well as [Nadav Davidovitch who was re-elected for a second term](#). We say goodbye to [immediate past-President John Middleton](#) and [Carl Lopes](#) who step down from the Executive Board, but we are assured both will continue to stay active in the Association - [read more in the highlights from the GA](#). ASPHER also welcomed [four new Members](#) at the General Assembly (2 regular and 2 associate) - it is great to see the Association growing!

We are thrilled to announce the [winners of 2023 ASPHER Awards](#), with [Professor Anders Foldspang bestowed with our highest honours of the 2023 Andrija Stampar Medal!](#) The [2023 Research Excellence Award has been given to Mohamud Sheek Hussein](#), UAEU and the [Teaching & Practice Excellence Award recipient is the University College Dublin](#). And we are looking forward to a bright future for our five [Early Career Excellence Awardees](#): Lorenzo Blandi, Paula Meireles, Flavia Pennisi, Lisa Wandschneider, and Brian Wong. Congratulations to all our deserving winners! We can all look forward to celebrating with them at the [2023 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat](#) in Dublin!

The [World Congress on Public Health](#) was a tremendous success and also provides much to celebrate. While in Rome, ASPHER and the other six regional associations formally signed the [Global Network for Academic Public Health \(GNAPH\) Constitution](#). Also in Rome, ASPHER past-President and Stampar Medalist [Ulrich Laaser was recognised by the World Federation of Public Health Associations \(WFPHA\) for outstanding contributions with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Global Health](#).

Meanwhile, [This Is Public Health \(TIPH\) 2023 Global Awards](#) were announced. Members of ASPHER's network received five of the twelve grants. Congrats to Andalusian School of Public Health (EASP), Spain, Medical University of Gdansk, Department of Public Health and Social Medicine, Poland, University of Belgrade, School of Public Health and Health Management, University College Dublin, School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, and Associate Member, National Institute of Public Health, School of Public Health, Mexico!

There has been much going on to move forward the ASPHER agenda and to advocate for Public Health.

- In Rome, ASPHER partnered with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) on a [Manifesto for Public Health Advocacy](#).
- The next generation platform brought together the [ASSETS Mentoring Summer School](#) programme in Brussels this July.
- On Diversity, thanks to the efforts of ASPHER Fellow Lisa Wandschneider and colleagues, we have a new [Syllabi collection on Diversity and Public Health](#); and ASPHER is a signatory to the [DisQo Antidiscrimination & Health Equality Statement](#).
- The ASPHER Covid-19 Task Force is broadening its scope, becoming now the [Public Health Emergencies Task Force](#).
- The [ASPHER-WHO Professionalisation of the Public Health Workforce Task Force](#) met recently and also brings us an update about a new Competency Framework for Global Nursing Leadership.
- ASPHER's [SEEEPHI project](#) has much to report with many activities at the Israel Public Health Conference in Haifa in June and a new publication.

- Members of the Task Force on War put together a recent [seminar on academic collaboration with Ukraine](#).
- And our [Climate and Health](#) leads have been busy with a session at WCPH growing partnerships with other organisations. They also came together with the [ASPHER Core Curriculum Programme at the EuroNet MRPH Spring Meeting](#) setting up a Climate Health Workshop for EuroNet MRPH contributions to the ASPHER-WHO CCP.

Speaking of the ASPHER Core Curriculum Programme - the CCP will be a major highlight of the [2023 Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Dublin](#)! [Be sure to register](#) to be there!

We also have news from Members and Partners and opportunities that are not to be missed! Be sure to let Lore know at [lore.leighton@aspher.org](mailto:lore.leighton@aspher.org) if you have anything to include next time.

Huzzah!

ASPHER Secretariat

## ASPHER DEANS' & DIRECTORS' RETREAT 2023

**With the summer progressing, we hope you are looking ahead to the [ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Dublin](#) from 31 August to 02 September to cap off your holidays and kick off the academic year!**

During the recent 17th World Congress on Public Health (WCPH), held in Roma, Italy, the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science team led by Prof Mary Codd highlighted the forthcoming ASPHER Deans' and Directors' Retreat to be held in UCD in August/September 2023. For more information on the retreat which is open to all SPHPSS staff members please visit: <https://www.dublin2023.aspher.org/>

The detailed final programme will reach you in a special newsletter supplement by 15 August dedicated to the retreat, but here is a peak at the planning:



### Day 1 - Thursday, 31 August

Day 1 will focus on the ASPHER Core Curriculum Programme which will include presentations on the proposed complete draft and selected domains of the updated ASPHER Core Curriculum. This will be followed by discussions on the relevance of the updated core curriculum in specific contexts such as:

- Training at different levels/for different groups;
- Accreditation of public health programmes;
- WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework;
- Public Health Workforce professionalisation
- The Global Network for Academic Public Health.

The Annual ASPHER DDR Gala Dinner



## Day 2 - Friday, 01 September

On day 2, the morning will be devoted to ASPHER's vision for enhancing membership policy and engagement, as well as profiling Schools of Public Health across the European region and facilitating interaction and collaboration between Members.

In the afternoon we will consider what is the 'new normal' in a world confronted by populism, mis- and dis-information, climate change, political upheavals and conflict and how public health must respond through education and training to prepare the workforce to confront these challenges. Andrija Štampar medallists and other distinguished retreat participants will be given the opportunity to contribute with their viewpoints.

## Day 3 - Saturday, 02 September: UCD MPH40

ASPHER member school delegates are most welcome to join the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science and UCD MPH Alumni in celebrating 40 years of the Master of Public Health Programme at University College Dublin.

[If you haven't yet, be sure to register for the Retreat here!](#)



---

## ASPHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS



As President of ASPHER and as co-Chair of the World Congress on Public Health, I was grateful to welcome so many ASPHER delegates to Rome for the ASPHER General Assembly and the Congress. I was pleased with how well it worked out to integrate the GA with the Congress allowing ASPHER members to participate in such an important international forum for public health, allowing academic public health to contribute in an impactful way. Please enjoy some highlights below and thank you to all for joining us in Italy.

Yours sincerely,  
Carlo Signorelli, ASPHER President

**ASPHER was pleased to meet in person with 70 delegates to the ASPHER General Assembly in Rome. We hope it was an opportunity to get back in touch with the office and the ASPHER community and that you also made the most of the time to take part in the Congress.**

## Henrique Barros elected next president of ASPHER



We congratulate Prof Henrique Barros from ISPUP, University of Porto, ASPHER's new President-elect. Henrique is well known to all at ASPHER, having previously served in the ASPHER Executive Board and also at APHEA Board of Accreditation. He is a member of the Portuguese Medical Academy and the Sciences Academy of Lisbon. He was given by the Ministry of Health the Gold Medal for distinguished services and by the city of Porto he was attributed the Gold Medal for Merit.

**Learn more about Henrique Barros from his [bio here](#).**

Henrique writes that he plans to be faithful to the ASPHER decades work towards promoting the training and the education of the European Public Health workforce, defending the values of high-quality teaching, research and service to the communities across Europe. ASPHER vision and mission are an international example remaining relevant particularly in times of emerging crisis, with new challenges for the understanding and the organisation of health and health services. Read his [manifesto for ASPHER Presidency here](#).

Henrique will serve as vice-President over the next year and take the reins as President at the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Porto in June 2024.

## ASPHER Executive Board elections

Elections for two seats were held for the ASPHER Executive Board.

### **Nadav Davidovitch re-elected to the Executive Board**

Prof Nadav Davidovitch of Ben Gurion University of the Negev was re-elected for a second term to the ASPHER Executive Board.

Over his previous term, Nadav has been involved in several ASPHER initiatives, among them: Covid-19 Task Force, SEEePHI ERASMUS+ capacity building project, Updating core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology (UCCAIDE), as well as representing ASPHER in other activities including collaboration with APHEA, ECDC, WHO-Europe, EUPHA and the promotion of collaboration within the middle east context.



He plans to continue these activities and to deepen ASPHER engagement with health inequities, with special attention to the role of climate change.

Read [Nadav Davidovitch's bio](#) here and his [Executive Board manifesto](#) here.

### **Mzwandile (Andi) Mabhala elected to the Executive Board**



Prof Andi Mabhala was elected to the ASPHER Executive Board.

Andi brings his sociocultural background as a South African and 26 years of experience as a public health specialist, academician and researcher to ASPHER. With his commitment to research and teaching social justice as a foundation for public health strategy to tackle health inequalities, he brings a global outlook to public health education with a 22 year track record of curriculum development and decolonisation of curricula.

Read [Andi Mabhala's bio](#) here and his [Executive Board manifesto](#) here.

## **Thank you for their service: John Middleton and Carla Lopes**

### **John Middleton steps down as ASPHER Vice-President**

Professor John Middleton stepped down from his position on the ASPHER Executive Board as ASPHER Vice-President. ASPHER is extremely grateful to John for his long service to the Association as a member of the Executive Board and for his terms as ASPHER President and Vice-President. During his tenure in office, he saw ASPHER through to good financial standing and better governance with revised statutes and bylaws.

John will be continuing his good service to ASPHER and to academic public health as co-Chair of the ASPHER Honours Platform and as the next President of the Global Network for Academic Public Health.



### **Carla Lopes steps down from the ASPHER Executive Board**



ASPHER Executive Board Member Carla Lopes from University of Porto stepped down from the Executive Board after her term of successful service bridging for Henrique Barros's representation.

During her term she took on the duties as ASPHER Treasurer putting in new regular reporting and auditing procedures.

We thank Carla warmly for her time and dedication. Carla will continue to work with ASPHER on developing the doctorate-level and research agenda of the Association.

## New ASPHER Members

We are very happy to see the Association continuing to grow and were pleased to vote on new members of the ASPHER community in Rome. Please give a warm welcome to our new members!

**RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, School of Population Health**, Ireland (Member). **Palacky University Olomouc, Faculty of Health Sciences**, Czech Republic (Member). **Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health**, India (Associate Member). **Universidade Amílcar Cabral**, **German University Institute “Wilhelm von Humboldt”**, Guinea-Bissau (Associate Member).

.....

## 2023 ASPHER AWARDS

We are thrilled to announce the 2023 ASPHER Awards! We congratulate all the very deserving awardees and look forward to celebrating together in Dublin on 31 August at the Deans' & Directors' Retreat Gala Dinner!

### Andrija Stampar Medal



**Anders Foldspang, Denmark**  
**ASPHER Andrija Štampar Medallist, 2023**

Professor Anders Foldspang is professor emeritus at the Department of Public Health at Aarhus University, Denmark. During his career, he led a large number of public health education programmes, held expert positions in the Nordic region, was active in the Nordic Federation for Medical Education, was a member of the board of ASPHER and was President of ASPHER in 2006-2007.

Anders Foldspang was chair of the medical student movement at Aarhus University, Denmark, and member of the university's Medical Faculty Council and its Medical Study Board in the early 1970's. After medical graduation and PhD and DMSc defence (on the theme of: multivariate prediction of the outcome of vocational and social rehabilitation), he taught medical sociology/epidemiology to medical students and courses in basic epidemiologic and biostatistical methodology for PhD students of all medical specialties. In 1994, he founded the MPH course in Aarhus and was its lead until he in 2010 became Dean of the Nordic School of Public Health, Gothenburg. In 2011 he returned to Aarhus University, since 2018 as an emeritus professor.

From 2006-2018, Anders Foldspang spearheaded and chaired the ASPHER Core Competency Programme, building and editing ASPHER's European List of Core Competences for the Public Health Professional, since 2008 together with Chris Birt and, later, Robert Otok. Backed by ASPHER's membership, it gave substantial support to demonstrate what a public health



professional should know and be able to do, within all major parts of the public health discipline. The 2011 edition was endorsed by all European WHO member states as the basis for public health education and further editions were published in 2016 and in 2018. The fact that it continues to be used today is a tribute to his lasting and sustainable contribution to public health teaching and practice.

In 2005 Anders Foldspang together with ASPHER Director Thierry Louvet started ASPHER's European MPH Programme. He was the first editor of ASPHER's 40<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary books (2006, 2016). In 2013 he initiated ASPHER's Honours Committee and was its first lead during four years. In recent times, he continues to actively engage in the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force and published on the role of European Schools and University Departments of Public Health in the response to COVID.

During many years he was socio-medical advisor within the municipality and later research consultant at the Rehabilitation and Research Center for Torture Victims (RCT), Copenhagen. Following initial work together with colleague Svend Sabroe, on mapping the history of disability assessment since the viking ages, his research has focused mainly on population and clinical epidemiology and health services research, including the use of multiple logistic regression within a number of themes. In 2018 Professor Foldspang was awarded an honorary fellowship of the UK Faculty of Public Health. His publication record is commendable with a Google Scholar h-index of 37, and i10-index of 65 and over 5,000 citations, thus demonstrating national and international visibility within and outside the scientific community.

Prof Foldspang has received several outstanding distinctions including: Knight of the Royal Danish Order of the Dannebrog @; Honorary Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom (Honor FFPH); and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (FRCPE).

In 2020 Anders Foldspang published a 68 page book for 4-8 year old children concerning a flying birthday cake '[Lagkagebogen](#)' (The Birthday Cake Book). Text and illustrations by himself.

Photo credit: Barbara Katzin

## Research Excellence Award

### **Mohamud Sheek Hussein**

**United United Arab Emirates University, UAE**

Professor Sheek-Hussein is an esteemed physician, academic, and researcher in the field of public health. Dr. Sheek-Hussein continues to inspire and empower the next generation of public health professionals as a professor at the Institute of Public Health at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at UAE University in Al Ain.

Recognizing the pressing importance of epidemiology, Dr. Sheek-Hussein dedicated himself to pursuing a career in medicine. He obtained his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Parma School of Medicine; master's degree in



public health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York, USA; Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the University of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine; and doctorate in Public Health from the University of Texas, School of Public Health Houston. His extensive career spans 35 years in the field of public health as a practitioner and academic. Dr. Sheek-Hussein was the Assistant Director and Head of Disease Control and Prevention, Epidemiology, and Public Health Services of the Preventive Medicine Department of Al Ain Medical District. He is a visiting Professor at Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and Loma Linda University, School of Public Health in the USA. He is a well-known researcher focusing on infectious disease control.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he actively contributed to the National COVID-19 Research Task Force established by the Department of Health and Abu Dhabi Public Health Center. He coordinated and co-authored epidemiological studies and developed recommendations for COVID-19 screening for students in close contact with confirmed cases. Dr. Sheek-Hussein is an active member of the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force. Thanks to Dr. Sheek-Hussein, many ASPHER Statements were translated into Arabic and distributed to the public health network in the region.

## Teaching & Practice Excellence Award



### **School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science (SPHPSS) University College Dublin, Ireland**

The [UCD SPHPSS](#) has a long tradition of public health teaching to undergraduate and graduate students in medicine, public health, occupational safety and health, food safety, physiotherapy, dietetics and nutrition, and sports science. This multidisciplinary nature of School contributes to the focus of the School, its staff and its programmes on advancing health equity, embracing diversity of its faculty and its students and striving for integrity in teaching, research and other activities. The Master of Public Health (MPH) programme, established in 1983, evolved from a Diploma in Public Health offered at UCD since the early 1900s. It has an extensive international footprint with alumni in over 40 countries and is a member of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Consortium, Europubhealth+.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, UCD SPHPSS established the first COVID-19 contact tracing centre (CTC) in Ireland, in conjunction with the national Health Services Executive and

colleagues engaged with seminal work on many other aspects of COVID-19. The UCD SPHPSS is active in health promotion and protection, including 'Healthy UCD', a university initiative linked to the 'Healthy Ireland' framework of the Department of Health to improve the health and wellbeing of the population. Research activities at SPHSS span all disciplines represented at the School. The UCD SPHPSS is also a leader in supporting researchers outside of the School with the Centre for Support and Training in Analysis and Research (CSTAR).

Members of the UCD SPHPSS have been actively engaged in collaborative work with ASPHER, contributing to the ASPHER Working Group on Doctoral Programmes and Research Capacities, and to the 5th Edition of the ASPHER European List of Core Competencies for the Public Health Professionals. With representation on the ASPHER Executive Board since 2019, the UCD SPHPSS led on a joint ECDC/ASPHER project to update core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology in Europe. The ASPHER Core Curriculum Programme is currently under review led by the UCD SPHPSS Associate Dean for Public Health assisted by a UCD-based ASPHER Fellow.

## Early Career Excellence Awards



**Lorenzo Blandi, Researcher**  
**School of Public Health**  
**University of Pavia, Italy**

Dr. Lorenzo Blandi is one of the most promising young Italian public health professionals. Engaged in activities within the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive medicine and Public Health (SItI) he has always shown seriousness and passion as well as uncommon leadership qualities for his age.

In 2021-22 he was involved in coordinating the curriculum framework and development of the ToT module of ASPHER's VAX-Train project commissioned by ECDC. He is author of 13 scientific publications (h-index=9) and has a commitment to and passion for public health topics.



**Paula Meireles, Researcher and Invited Assistant Professor**  
**Institute of Public Health - ISPUP**  
**University of Porto, Portugal**

Paula Meireles got her Master's in Public Health and her PhD in Public Health in 2020 from the University of Porto (U.Porto). She spent 1-month in academic mobility (Feb. 2019) at the Georgetown University Medical Center. In 2020, she was hired as a Junior PhD Researcher to work at the ISPUP's Epidemiology Research Unit (EPIUnit).

Her experience in Public Health and Epidemiology research, including in community-based and participatory research, is centered in The Lisbon Cohort of Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) (since 2013) and in the Community-based Screening Network (since 2015). She is

engaged in research with many international collaborations and worked with ASPHER in the development of a vaccine hesitancy training module for the ECDC commissioned VAX-Train project.

National and international recognition of her scientific expertise is also shown in her participation in scientific advisory activities and she is an Invited Assistant Professor of the Medical School, University of Porto and is often invited to lecture. She supervised or co-supervised eight Master's students (4 completed) and one resident in Public Health. She currently supervises four doctoral students. In 2023, she was reelected to a second three-year term as a board member of the Associação Portuguesa de Epidemiologia (APE).



**Flavia Pennisi, Public Health Resident**  
**Faculty of Medicine and Surgery**  
**School of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine**  
**Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele (UniSR), Italy**

Dr. Flavia Pennisi, despite her very young age, has shown great interest and passion for public health issues.

During the pandemic she was one of the vaccinating doctors at the hub of the San Raffaele Hospital in Milan (which administered a total of 350,000 vaccine doses); she participated in several scientific publications including one on public health training, collaborated on a project on the implementation of the health service in Saudi Arabia and she was tutor of a management training course for clinical doctors in the Lombardy Region in 2021. Flavia is author of 10 scientific publications (h-index=4). Above all, as a Resident, Dr. Flavia Pennisi shows enthusiasm and passion for public health.



**Lisa Wandschneider, PhD**  
**Faculty of Public Health**  
**University of Bielefeld, Germany**

Dr Lisa Wandschneider received her PhD from University of Bielefeld. While studying for her doctorate, she worked with ASPHER as an Associate Fellow, progressing the Association's agenda in the areas of 'Diversity and Public Health' and 'Conflict and Public Health'. During her Fellowship, Lisa so-establishing and coordinating an international working group on diversity and public health developing a [syllabi collection to advance public health education on diversity](#); supported the ASPHER Task Force on Public Health and War co-coordination and moderating two editions of an online seminar series on public health in times of war. Lisa Contributed to the pan-European Thematic Network DisQo on anti-discrimination & health equity led by the European Public Health Alliance. Lisa has had responsibility for supervising master thesis students at Bielefeld University. She is passionate about topics of diversity and inclusion, anti-racism, peace promotion and health equity and contributes to the dialogue in these areas at academic conferences, journals and workshops at the European level.





**Brian Wong, Researcher**  
**University of Maastricht, Netherlands**

Brian Wong is a global public health expert, and multidisciplinary researcher interested in ageing and life course, digital health, global health governance, immunisation/vaccination policy, and youth engagement. He sits on the Steering Committees for the EUPHA Digital Health Section and the WHO Youth Council, Chair the Board of Trustees for UK Model WHO, and is a member of the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force. He acts as a Regional Youth Champion for the GHFutures2030 Commission. He was the 2023 WCPH Young WFPHA research lead.

As a young scholar Brian already has an impressive CV, being engaged in many activities both on local and global scale. Brian did and continues to do impressive work with ASPHER as part of COVID-19 Task Force and the Digital Public Health working group demonstrating independence, hard work, enthusiasm and energy.

Brian co-authored a Lancet Commission report on "Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing up in a digital world" and numerous other articles related to digital public health, meaningful youth engagement, and human resources for health. He has published in high-impact journals and presented work in conferences and global forums.

## REPORTING FROM WCPH 2023 – ROME



The World Congress on Public Health in Rome was a smashing success and we were pleased to see ASPHER and the Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) take on a prominent role in this key event. This included ASPHER sessions on key topics for public health education, such as climate and health, war and peace, Covid-19, vaccine hesitancy, core competencies, health equity through social justice, and a Plenary on Skills and Capacity for Health Improvement: Growing the Global Public Health Workforce. Meanwhile GNAPH tackled issues

on academic public health with sessions addressing global collaboration, ethics, innovations, and capacity building & professionalization.

At two WCPH sessions, ASPHER helped launch and sign two key documents: A Manifesto Advancing the Public Health Advocacy; and the GNAPH Consitution. Read more about these here below.

**ASPHER must thank our Intern and native Roman, Arianna Maviglia from University of Maastricht for being such a tremendous help with logistics and the ASPHER booth! Indeed the booth was a real hub of activity and collaboration amongst multiple partners with GNAPH, EPHA, EuroNetMRPH, and UCD for #ASPHER2023!**

For photo highlights of the event see the [photo gallery](#).

## ASPHER – EPHA Session: Advancing the Glocal Public Health Advocacy



On 03 May, In partnership, ASPHER and the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) held a session on Advancing the Glocal Public Health Advocacy. It was standing room only to attend the session and the numbers of participants lining up to sign the Manifesto underscored the importance of coming together to advocate for stronger public health.

Considering the gravity of the current moment, ASPHER and EPHA issued a call for action for systematic cooperation and collaboration of all who support Public Health's core values rooted in scientific evidence-based knowledge, inter-disciplinarity and inter-sectorality, respect and compassion for diversity, solidarity and inclusivity.

**Five actions are preconditions for success in order to advance public health universally and advocate for the common good:**

- I. Putting people and the planet front and centre must be the first of all public health considerations and interventions.
- II. Quality, evidence-based science should be the foundation of public health interventions and training of public health professionals to make the greatest impact over the shortest time.

III. Trust in science needs to be proactively restored, and bad faith actors and misinformation actively rebutted.

IV. Active working partnerships must be nurtured such that all Public Health communities - from experts and policy makers, over training and education programmes, to civil society and the public - collaborate as one, in an action-orientated and proactive manner, with specific and actionable commitments.

V. Sufficient investment is critical to ensure that this collaboration is impactful, robust and sustainable. Specific constituencies that need proactive support include: national public health institutes; public health training and education programmes; civil society organisations including those of marginalised or discriminated groups; local authority leaders and city mayors; legislators and parliamentarians; young public health activists; and public health professionals.

**[Download and sign the Manifesto Advancing the Glocal Public Health Advocacy.](#)**

**[Listen to a podcast about the Manifesto](#) with ASPHER President Carlo Signorelli, EPHA President Alice Chapman-Hatchett, ASPHER Young Professionals Programme Coordinator Ines Siepmann, and ASPHER Director Robert Otok.**

## GNAPH Constitution signing



The Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) partnered with ASPHER for the World Congress on Public Health in Rome, May 2-6, 2023. GNAPH co-organised five sessions during the Congress including the GNAPH Constitution signing which officially brings together The seven regional associations that makeup GNAPH: ASPHER, Alianza Latinoamericana de Salud Global (ALASAG), [Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health \(APACPH\)](#), [Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa \(ASPHA\)](#), [Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health \(ASPPH\)](#), [Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia \(CAPHIA\)](#), and [South East Asia Public Health Education Institutions Network \(SEAPHEIN\)](#).

**Immediate ASPHER past-President and GNAPH President-elect John Middleton signed the constitution on behalf of ASPHER. [The GNAPH official website is now available here.](#)**

.....



# ASPHER NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM UPDATES

## ASSETS 2023 ASPHER Mentoring Summer School



**ASPHER and ASSETS co-Directors Jose M Martin Moreno, Selma Šogorić and John Middleton enjoyed welcoming the [2023 ASSETS](#) Mentoring Summer School class to ASPHER Headquarters in Brussels from 03-06 July.**

It was the first full ASSETS course after the past few years of pandemic conditions and we had a [great programme](#) with guest mentors from several partner organisations including WHO's Monika Kosinska, Milka Sokolović & Frazer Goodwin from EPHA, IOM's Elena Val, European Health Forum Gastein's Dorli Kahr-Gottlieb and Young Gastein's Mari Pollari, and Josep Figueras from the European Observatory.

Many ASPHER member's lent their expertise with ASSETS Faculty member Kasia Czabanowska joining together with Selma for a pre-event zoom on transformational leadership. The ASPHER Executive Board was in town at the same time providing the opportunity for addresses to the ASSETS mentees on specific topic areas by ASPHER President Carlo Signerlli on law and public health; ASPHER President-elect Henrique Barros on the future of public health research; and EB Member Oliver Razum on War and public health.

It was also terrific to catch up with ASSETS alums Naomi Nathan, Charles Hamilton, Elnaz Nouri and Tobias Weitzel who updated on their work experiences.

**Thanks to all the participants who came to Brussels. You are ASSETS!**

.....



## CLIMATE AND HEALTH

*“The IPCC has concluded that acting on climate is not being restricted by a lack of scientific knowledge or technological options, but by politics and fossil fuel interests” - Prof Peter Strachan ([Climate Twitter](#))*

Climate Twitter has been active across the globe, reporting record temperatures and floods across the globe. Wildfires Europe has closed motorways in France, and agricultural impacts across Western Europe. The “[scary](#)” is a term being used more and more by scientists to describe the rapid regional changes, emphasizing that the extreme impacts people are facing now, are going to get a lot worse. This topic continues to play an emotional and personal toll on our activities in the climate-health agenda, and we recognize the importance of discussing climate anxiety among colleagues and students.



It's been a busy few weeks with many events going on. WCPH 2023 saw a great turnout at the morning Workshop: *What does the future of public health need to know about climate-health?*

Our audience engaged in Slido, answering questions about what topic do we want to add into our curriculum? The discussion revolved around the issues on communication, and also defining exactly how CAN and how SHOULD we teach climate change in public health training and development. We thank John Middleton and Ines Siepmann for supporting the event as our moderators, and Laurent Chambaud, Mary Codd, and Karl Conyard for sharing their experiences.

Following this event, ASPHER is now involved with many different organisations in order to develop a large public health consortium on this topic: ASPHER is a new member of the European Observatory on climate change and Health, and develops alliances with many other partners: GCCHE, IANPHI, EPHA, EuroNet MRPH (read more about the recent EuroNet meeting [here](#)). Our goal is to take part and influence the different political events that will be held in the next months/year, with a special attention to the next COP in November 2023 in Dubai.

We are also fully involved in the revision of ASPHER core curriculum in public health with thanks to Prof Mary Codd of UCD School of Public Health and ASPHER Fellow Karl Conyard. Climate change and environmental health will be a major part of this revisited curriculum which will be discussed at the end of August in Dublin.

Finally, a permanent group on this topic is now settled within ASPHER to share our views, develop initiatives and common projects. A special thanks to ASPHER Fellow Tara Chen who dedicates a huge effort to this endeavour.

ASPHER Climate leads Laurent and Tara also joined the EuroNet MRPH Spring Meeting: Health In A Changing World: Climate change and the environmental emergency: from prevention to consequences from 21-23 June. [Read more about that here below.](#)

We also want to share that ASPHER YP, Constanta Cravet is leading a chapter in the [The POP Movement](#) on ASPHER activities, highlighting the role of youth and young professionals in shaping their education in the topics of climate health.

**Our Climate-Health Working Group is getting started with monthly meetings to open the doors for collaboration on these topics. If you have interest to get involved and join the group, please do not hesitate to reach out to Tara at [tara.chen@aspher.org](mailto:tara.chen@aspher.org)!**

.....

## ASPHER-WHO TASK FORCE ON PROFESSIONALISING THE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE

It was a great pleasure to meet several members of the ASPHER-WHO Task Force on Professionalising the Public Health Workforce (PPHW-TF) at WCPH in Rome for some interesting sessions on Public Health Workforce and Public Health Ethics. Many young professionals were also in attendance and it was good to see their interest in the workforce topics. Following up on the Congress, the PPHW-TF met on 20 June with Kasia Czabanowska leading and Dr Elke Jakubowski welcomed as representative from WHO-Europe. ASPHER worked with Dr Jakubowski in the past on the EPHO 7 agenda (assuring a competent public health workforce) following the adoption of the WHO-Europe European Action Plan (EAP) for Strengthening Public Health Services and Capacity back in 2012 – we are pleased to be able to collaborate again on the PHW professionalisation.

## Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework

ASPHER PPHW-TF lead, Kasia Czabanowska would like to share with the ASPHER community a newly developed Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework. Although it has nursing in its name, it can be a great resource for Public Health leaders as well.

It has been a meticulous and collaborative effort over the past 18 months, and we are delighted to share the link to the [Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework webpage](#). The webpage introduces the project and then takes the viewer to the page to download the Framework.



Translations are in process and will be made available as soon as we have them. We also expect we will revise the web page as we receive feedback.

.....

## ASPHER PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES TASK FORCE

### The Covid-19 Task Force becomes the PH Emergencies Task Force

On 05 May, WHO declared an [end to COVID-19 as a global health emergency](#). Already before the WHO announcement, the ASPHER Covid-19 Task Force had begun to consider other health emergencies of concern such as Hepatitis cases in children and Mpox outbreaks and was considering how best to continue the TF going forward as the World emerges from the acute pandemic emergency, including in our workshop presented at WFPHA congress in Rome: From national to international/global health Policy Making: Lessons learned from ASPHER's COVID-19 Task Force The Covid-19 Task Force has thus rebranded itself as the Public Health Emergencies (PHE) Task Force.

The PHE-TF is still very rooted in the origins of its formation under Covid-19 and continues to consider the lessons that can and must be learned from the pandemic - from issues of human rights, to social inequalities, regulatory issues such as proper ventilation in public spaces, masks use and vaccination policies - to name a few. While at the same time, members are focussing on the future and preparedness for threats that are on the horizon, such as pandemic influenza.

The TF will continue its interdisciplinary work, fostering collaboration and trust being built as a flexible, bottom-up organisation with strong emphasis on involving young professionals.

**The PHE-TF meets weekly at 09:30 CET, Thursdays chaired by Executive Board Member Nadav Davidovitch, Ben Gurion University of the Negev. All ASPHER members are welcome to join - contact [office@aspher.org](mailto:office@aspher.org) if you wish to participate.**

### Further reading on PH emergencies:

Allen D, Barry JM, Bridgeland J, et al (Covid Crisis Group). Lessons from the COVID War: An Investigative Report. Public Affairs. April 2023. ISBN-13: 9781541703803.

URL: <https://www.hachettebookgroup.com/titles/covid-crisis-group/lessons-from-the-covid-war/9781541703803/?lens=publicaffairs>

Cuypers M, Koks-Leensen MCJ, Schalk BWM, Bakker-van Gijssel EJ, Leusink GL, Naaldenberg J. All-cause and cause-specific mortality among people with and without intellectual disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Netherlands: a population-based cohort study. The Lancet Public Health. 2023;8(5):E356-E363.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667\(23\)00062-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-2667(23)00062-2)

Jones JH, O'Connell H. Pandemonium: Power, Politics and Ireland's Pandemic. Gill Books. April 2022. ISBN: 9780717193981.

URL: <https://www.gillbooks.ie/politics-current-affairs/politics-current-affairs/pandemonium>

## ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

### Ulrich Laaser receives the WFPHA Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Global Health



**Former ASPHER President (1994-1995) and Andrija Stampar Medalist (2008), Prof Ulrich Laaser (photo left) was recognized by the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) for outstanding contributions with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Global Health.** The program aims to acknowledge and honour individuals and organizations that have made significant achievements in promoting health, preventing diseases and injuries, and ensuring safe and healthy conditions for people around the world. This year, the WFPHA presented a series of awards during the [17th World Congress on Public Health \(WCPH\)](#), held in Rome, Italy, on May 02 to 06, 2023.

The [WFPHA stated](#) that Prof Ulrich Laaser is a renowned public health professional who has made extraordinary contributions to the WFPHA in improving global health, including its member organisations. Prof Laaser has spent his career advocating for health equity, social justice, and the rights of marginalised communities worldwide. His pioneering work has left a significant impact on the public health community, and his legacy continues to inspire future generations of public health professionals. His work, and that of the other awardees, is a testament to the power of public health and serves as an inspiration to all of us to continue working towards a healthier world.

[Read Professor Ulrich Laaser's Acceptance Speech here.](#)



## This Is Public Health (TIPH) Global Grants

The second cohort of TIPH Global awards grants to 12 academic public health institutions from 10 countries. The proposed projects are diverse and timely, focusing on issues including human illness – cancer, malnutrition, infectious disease, and antimicrobial resistance – societal challenges such as tobacco use among youth, civil conflict and migration, and climate change, as well as topics relevant to the development of public health as a field, like career guidance, public health competencies, capacity-building, and enhancing trust in the field and its experts. Using a range of innovative and engaging techniques, including social media, cinema, workshops, panel discussions, student competitions, and more, the grantees will seek to educate, train, and empower their communities. We look forward to the year ahead and following their progress.



**ASPHER is proud to have five 2023 TIPH Global Grant winners in our network!**

### Andalusian School of Public Health (EASP), Spain



**Escuela Andaluza  
de Salud Pública**

*Bridging a gap for action on antimicrobial resistance: Raising awareness and educating on antimicrobial resistance in a local health care setting*

The “Proyecto Multirresistencias” initiative led by master students at the Andalusian School of Public Health aims to tackle the global threat of growing antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through building an educational intervention. To achieve this purpose, an innovative Open Virtual Platform will be created targeting more than 200 first-year medical residents in the two main hospitals of Granada, Spain, as well as the patients assisting those centers. The project will provide a unique educational experience to key actors at a local level and empower the health service users via effective communication strategies concerning AMR.

### Medical University of Gdansk, Poland

#### Faculty of Health Sciences – Department of Public Health and Social Medicine



*Everyday life in the face of war – as a current public health hazard*

Our main goal is to raise the awareness about widely understood migration problem in the context of public health and enhance the visibility and understanding of this issue in Poland and other countries. The expected outcomes will be as follows: (1) Increased awareness about migration problems and hardships of everyday life of immigrants among society. (2) Better understanding of immigrants and their points of view. (3) Expanding cooperation in its Polish, European and global dimension, in the area of raising still-important public health migration issue, also spreading the message about it and sharing stories and good practices.

## University of Belgrade, Serbia

### Faculty of Medicine, Center – School of Public Health and Health Management



#### Public Health Cinema – PHC

The Belgrade School of Public Health and Health Management leads the Public Health Cinema project (PHC). The project organizes open-air movie screenings followed by expert panel discussions to address youth health concerns. These events also serve as an avenue for sharing health promotion materials and connecting young people with public health institutions and their resources. Our goal is to provide high-quality health information on common youth health topics using a less formal approach that engages with the community. Thoughtfully selected movies focus on mental health, sexual and reproductive health, and healthy lifestyles.

## University College Dublin, Ireland

### School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science



#### *Towards harmonising education in Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology in master-level public health programmes in Ireland: Value of an ECDC Self-Assessment Tool*

This project addresses education in applied infectious disease epidemiology (AIDE) in masters-level public health programmes in Ireland. The aim of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in updating core competencies in AIDE (2022) was to harmonise expertise across centres to create more effective preventive and control measures for future outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics of infectious diseases. A self-assessment tool developed by ECDC based on

the updated competency framework will be utilised to establish current competencies of master-level public health graduates, establish what could be improved upon and how programmes might share specific expertise for the benefit of all.

## National Institute of Public Health, Mexico

### School of Public Health, Mexico



#### *Shortening diagnosis and treatment intervals for breast cancer patients: Strategy, put yourself in my shoes*

Women in low-resource settings continue to face significant obstacles to receiving timely, effective, and high-quality breast cancer care. Patient navigation is a strategy that has been widely used to shorten care times successfully in the United States since 1990. The aim of this study is to map the steps from when a woman arrives at the Siglo XXI Oncology Hospital with a possible breast cancer diagnosis until she receives the histopathological diagnosis and starts treatment according to the clinical

stage and to propose and implement a patient navigation strategy to facilitate patient flow within optimally defined timelines.

## Syllabi collection on Diversity in Public Health: Hands-on material for teaching

In advocating for the improvement of public health education in Europe, ASPHER fully endorses the need to bring diversity more into the focus of teaching. ASPHER therefore developed a policy on diversity competence to be an element of the ASPHER 2025 strategy. This approach goes beyond the notion of cultural diversity as ASPHER envisages an intersectional, holistic notion to reflect on multiple dimensions of diversity that affect the health of populations (Wandschneider et al., 2020).

The overall aim of the syllabi is to help establish a teaching program encouraging the reconsideration of normativities within public health while highlighting the intersectionalities between different markers of diversity. The teaching programme adopts a transformative learning approach to contribute to higher sensitivity toward diversity and simultaneously higher standards of European public health education and training (Wandschneider et al., 2020).

**In a nutshell, these syllabi provide hands-on material for people engaged in public health education on health inequities, social injustices and diversity.**

The syllabi enable students to:

- identify mechanisms of privilege and oppression related to social identities,
- determine awareness of one's own social identities and their relevance in the public health landscape,
- learn how to determine biases within public health structures (and oneself),
- address and change biases in their practices to ultimately reduce health inequities.

The syllabi can potentially strengthen the capacities of future public health professionals to acknowledge the relevance of social identities and how to respond effectively to contribute to health equity (Wandschneider et al., 2021).

[Download the Diversity Syllabi here.](#)



### Syllabi collection on diversity and intersectionality in public health

Lisa Wandschneider, Diana Podar, Lorena Wetzel, Hanna Luetke Lanfer, Olena Skrypnikova, Oliver Razum, Suzanne Selig, Yudit Namer  
Contact: [y.namer@utwente.nl](mailto:y.namer@utwente.nl)

The open-access syllabi collection (co-developed with ASPHER):

- Highlights intersectionalities between different markers of diversity and health inequities
- Developed through a participatory, iterative process guided by transformative teaching pedagogy
- Provides hands-on educational material on health inequities, social injustices and diversity
- Flexible, hands-on materials can be used in multiple ways and contexts (e.g., as single sessions or as a whole course outline)
- Facilitates reflection on complexities of health inequalities in public health research, teaching, promotion, advocacy and activism

You can access the open access syllabi collection here:



#### Development process



## DisQo Antidiscrimination & Health Equality Final Statement



The DisQo Health Policy Platform Network final Antidiscrimination & Health Equality Statement was submitted to DG Sante on 23 May 2023.

47 organisations and 3 Members of the European Parliament across sectors, including ASPHER, have signed the statement calling for stronger action against racism and discrimination to achieve health equity.

The statement, describing 5 key priority areas to address racism and discrimination for increasing equity in health, is the outcome of an extensive participatory process with online meetings and multiple rounds of revisions to ensure that it reflects the position of the network, and not that of the main authors. Each priority states our commitments as endorsers of the statement and identifies areas where we feel the European Commission can take increased action and/or a leadership role.

This milestone marks by no means the end of the journey. The Network is glad to inform you that DisQo will continue as a Stakeholder Network on the EU Health Policy Platform, and that we are keen to continue this path together with you.

**The DisQo Joint Statement can be found in pdf on the [DisQo webpage](#) together with the DisQo webinars and the presentation of the statement at the EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting in Luxembourg on 19 April.**

**[Download the DisQo statement here.](#)**

## EuroNet MRPH Spring Meeting

### HEALTH IN A CHANGING WORLD

#### **Climate change and the environmental emergency: from prevention to consequences**

This year, more than 230 participants from Portugal, Italy, Spain, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, United Kingdoms, Croatia and Turkey participated in the [EuroNet Spring meeting in Genova](#) from the 21st to 23rd June 2023.

EuroNet MRPH (European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health) organised a Conference for Residents in Public Health from all around Europe, with the aim of discussing Climate Change and Environmental Emergencies from prevention to consequences. Were invited to international speakers and organised interactive workshops about the main topic of Health in a Changing World, as was the title of the Conference.





**The EuroNet team thanks all the participants and speakers in the involvement of this event, with a particular mention to ASPHER for their crucial support, and invite all to the EuroNet Winter Meeting 2023 that will be held as a Pre-Conference with EUPHANxt in the 16th European Public Health Conference in Dublin.**

### **CLIMATE HEALTH WORKSHOP:**

#### **Contribution from the ASPHER-WHO Core Curriculum Programme**

During the recent Euronet MRPH (European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health) Spring Meeting: “Health in a Changing World”, the ASPHER-WHO CCP Fellow co-led a workshop with over 30 public health medicine residents from across the European region.

The PH medical residents in attendance had the opportunity to break into groups and review the climate health-specific curricular elements collated by the ASPHER-WHO CCP. In-depth discussion and levels of agreement on components, gaps and how and where novel components should be delivered yielded interesting findings.

ASPHER efforts to increase climate crisis awareness and preparedness of public health professionals were profiled in a keynote speech from Prof Laurent Chambaud, supplemented by contribution from Tara Chen, ASPHER Fellow on Climate Health.

The session included a profile of the ASPHER-WHO CCP by Karl Conyard, ASPHER-WHO CCP Fellow and Prof Ianis Delpla of EHESP who gave examples of how SPHs can act to be part of the solution. The session was moderated by Dr. Ambrogio Cerri and Dr. Chiara Cadeddu.

### **International Conference on Strategic Litigation and Public Health**

The International Conference on Strategic Litigation and Public Health was held on 15-16th June in person at the University of Liverpool and online. The conference was organised by the University of Liverpool, Faculty of Public Health, EUPHA Law and public health, O'Neill Institute for National and Global health law, ASPHER and other partners. ASPHER Immediate Past-President John Middleton opened the event.

The conference adopted an interdisciplinary viewpoint, with participants from multiple disciplines and backgrounds exploring how to ensure that public health practitioners and lawyers are well equipped to work with each other to support effective litigation strategies, and

the role and importance of social mobilisation in pursuing the urgent reforms required to promote healthier environments.

[Download the conference brochure here.](#)

## SEEEPHI Project News - Israel PH Conference and Publication

### Israel Public Health Conference, 11 June 2023, Haifa

**ASPHER office was on mission with other SEEEPHI EU Partners to Israel in June for the annual Israeli Public Health Conference hosted at University of Haifa on 11 June.**

We had the chance to catch up first with Ted Tulchinsky in Jerusalem and discuss plans to put together a case study on micronutrient supplementation issues for SEEEPHI's problem based learning simulations and consider how we may follow up on the work after SEEEPHI wraps up in 2024.

SEEEPHI activities were a major highlight of the conference. ASPHER Director, Robert Otok opened the event, welcoming the over 300 conference delegates. A special SEEEPHI session was held

with Israel partners explaining the work of all of the project to a full room followed up by reflections from SEEEPHI external evaluator Paul Barach. And Kasia Czabanowska, from Maastricht University ran a series of workshops demonstrating problem based learning in action. The conference was also the venue for a career fair for students from SEEEPHI partner



schools including a proof of concept demonstration of Work Package 4's online platform to connect employers, educational offers and working public health professionals.



SEEEPHI partners met on the day following the conference where Kasia Czabanowska led a session on the importance of teaching leadership in public health. And all partners discussed planning and administrative issues for the final year of SEEEPHI.

## SEEEPHI Publication: Simulation as a key training method for inculcating public health leadership skills: a mixed methods study



Successful management of public health challenges requires developing and nurturing leadership competencies. The study results deriving from SEEEPHI Work Package 5 on leadership training indicate that students strengthened their interpersonal communication skills and learned about the importance of listening to the opinions of others before formulating their positions. Four themes emerged from 16 in-depth interviews, according to Kolb's experimental learning cycle. Students emphasized the effectiveness of experiential learning versus traditional classroom learning. The simulation scenarios were felt to realistically convey critical issues regarding leadership,

decision-making, and teamwork challenges. They effectively conveyed the importance of building a culture of conducting substantive and respectful discussions. Simulation is a powerful pedagogical training tool for public health leadership competencies that should be integrated in all public health leadership training programs.

Dopelt K, Shevach I, Vardimon OE, et al. Simulation as a key training method for inculcating public health leadership skills: a mixed methods study. *Frontiers in Public Health*. 2023;11

URL: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2023.1202598>

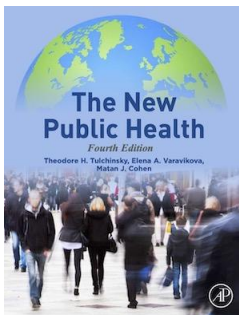


## The New Public Health – Fourth Edition

The fourth edition of the textbook 'The New Public Health' from respected authors Theodore H. Tulchinsky, Elena A. Varavikova, and Matan J. Cohen has been published.

The New Public Health has established itself as a solid textbook throughout the world. Translated into 7 languages, this work distinguishes itself from other public health textbooks, which are either highly locally oriented or, if international, lack the specificity of local issues relevant to students' understanding of applied public health in their own setting.

Fully revised, the fourth edition of The New Public Health, Fourth Edition provides a unified approach to public health appropriate for graduate students and advanced undergraduate students especially for courses in MPH, community health, preventive medicine, community health education programs, community health nursing programs. It is also a valuable resource for health professionals requiring an overview of public health.



[Read the Preface to the New Public Health, Fourth Edition, 2023 - trial by fire and moving forward and the Forward by Foreword by Dr Peter J. Hotez here.](#)

[Read a review by Jeffrey Levett of the New Public Health \(NPH4\) here.](#)

**Instructors may request a copy of NPH4 for adoption for a course or for a review by first opening an account on [Elsevier Educate](#) and then going to [this link to request a gratis copy](#).**

## EUPHA and ASPHER action concerning the proposal to amend the Israeli Basic Law

On 12 July, the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) and ASPHER submitted a joint letter to the Prime Minister of Israel, the Israel Minister of Health and the Israel Medical Association expressing continued concerns about the proposal to amend the Israeli Basic Law and its repercussions for public health.

Since its formation, the state of Israel has provided an exemplar for other countries, implementing a high-quality health system providing universal coverage. Its public health community, in particular, has made major contributions to our understanding of the determinants of health and how to respond to them. However, as in all countries, this is not always easy. The association has documented, in its letter to you, examples of where it was necessary to use the Israeli courts to ensure the implementation of health-promoting policies. While we recognise that this may not always be a comfortable situation for governments, having such a mechanism is an important safeguard to ensure the health of the public as well autonomy and professionalism in medicine.

[Read the full letter here.](#)

.....



## MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

### Lugano Summer School in Public Health

**21-26 August, Lugano and online**

We aim to reduce the gap between public health theory and practice. Based in Switzerland, facilitators, and participants from all over the world come together each year to exchange knowledge, experience, research and know-how, build networks and improve public health capacity and impact globally.



This year our programme takes place both online and on-site in Lugano and a few hub locations around the world. See the course and plenary programme to learn more about options for participation in Lugano or online. We hope you will join us for our 32nd year of mutual learning for change. This year from 21-26 August!

Who is it for? Professionals and managers of health administrations, hospitals, NGOs, and other health services and facilities, policy-makers, healthcare providers, and students.

[Learn more and register for courses here.](#)

### Online course: Use of Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence systems

**1 July - 1 October (Registration open until 22 September)**



**PRESIDENZA  
FORMAZIONE**

Within the framework of the 2020 Italian Presidency of the G20, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) has promoted an innovative project called “Public Health Workforce Training Laboratorium”. The Laboratorium project aimed at increasing the training of the

Public Health Workforce to better face current and potential future health challenges. A prototype e-Learning course based on competence-oriented active learning – Problem Based Learning was designed on: *Use of Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence systems with a particular focus on event-based surveillance for pandemic preparedness and early warning.*

The course includes different approaches on EI with the participation of the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) and the Italian Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS)..

Course aims are:

- to widen knowledge, skills and attitudes of public health professionals on the fundamental principles of the epidemic intelligence, with a specific focus on event-based surveillance as a tool to enhance preparedness and early warning;

- to strengthen competencies on EI, piloting a common international training approach, understanding the added value of EI in their national context.

The course is aimed at professionals engaged in public health functions – mainly intended for professionals in charge of designing/resourcing the development of PH Intelligence capacity.

[For more details about the course download the programme here.](#)

**Applicants need to register at <https://www.eduiss.it>**

(A registration guide is available at <https://www.eduiss.it/mod/page/view.php?id=557>).

## SItI 2023: National Conference of Extraordinary Public Health

**12-14 October, Cernobbio, Como, Italy**

The SItI 2023 National Conference (in Italian) will take place from 12-14 October in Cernobbio. The topics in the call for abstracts are the following: Primary care; Prevention departments; Epidemiology and prevention of infectious diseases; Epidemiology and prevention of non-infectious diseases; Vaccines and vaccination policies; Hospital-community integration; Environmental hygiene; Hospital hygiene and technology; Food and nutrition; Miscellaneous.



[See the SItI 2023 website to learn more and register.](#)

## 13th Conference 'MY CAREER – QUO VADIS': Healthcare professionals at the centre of digital transformation in health care

**24 November, Ljubljana, Slovenia and online**



**Fakulteta za zdravstvo**  
**Angele Boškin**

Healthcare professionals (HCPs) are the core of Digital Transformation in Healthcare. The digital transformation of health is dramatically requesting the use of digital technology in European healthcare systems. HCPs are core in accelerating the digital transformation of health. The EU Joint Action on Health Workforce Planning and Forecasting states digital skills are an important future skill for healthcare workers. Healthcare professionals will require knowledge on how to transfer their health-related skills to the new digitalized healthcare paradigm.

At the conference we will point out: the importance of digitalization at healthcare; digital competences of healthcare professionals – needs analysis in international perspective; organisational analysis of digital transformation; promotion of the digital transformation among healthcare professionals: policy recommendations.

The conference will also serve as a platform for the final conference of the [DELIVER](#) (Digital Educational programme Involving hEalth pROfessionals) project, which aspires to enhance the digital skills of HCPs by supporting the digital transformation of health within European regions.



**There is no registration fee, but we kindly ask that you register [here](#) by 1st September 2023.**

## Call for Papers:

### Health Disparities: The Emerging Trends and Pressing Challenges

**Guest Editor: Prof Keren Dopelt, Department of Public Health, Ashkelon Academic College, Ashkelon, Israel. Deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 March 2024.**

Health disparities have a profound influence on communities and individuals, shaping their overall health, wellbeing, and social dynamics. Health disparities are often deeply rooted in societal inequities related to factors such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, education, and access to resources. While it is true that there have been increasing efforts to address health disparities in recent years, the persistence and complexity of these disparities present ongoing challenges. Continued research, data collection, and evaluation are essential to inform effective strategies and monitor progress in reducing health disparities.

The aim of this Special Issue of the [European Journal of Investigation in Health, Psychology and Education](#) is to raise awareness about the existence, magnitude, and impact of health disparities within specific populations or across various dimensions such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, or geographic location, to explore and deepen the understanding of the determinants of health disparities and to inform and influence policy development and healthcare practice.

[Download the call flyer here.](#)

## Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) News

### Swiss Public Health Conference 2023

**12-13 September, AGORA (Fondation ISREC), Lausanne**

At the Swiss Public Health Conference 2023, scientists and experts from the field will discuss multidisciplinary approaches, the use of digital media and how research results can be implemented to promote healthy behaviour in the population. At the same time, the possibilities to contribute to a healthy society will be highlighted and discussed from a political perspective.



Click [here](#) for the program overview.

Click [here](#) to register.

## SSPH+ Honorary Fellows

Ursula Zybach and Olivier Guilloid have been honoured with the title of SSPH+ Honorary Fellow for their contribution to public health in Switzerland. The ceremony took place during the evening event of the [SSPH+ Faculty Meeting](#) on 20 June in Allschwil (at Swiss TPH).

Read more [here](#).

## Feministischer Streik - Feminist Strike

14 June, marked the occasion of "[Feministischer Streik](#)". SSPH+ is proud to shine the spot-light on the women of the SSPH+ network and to highlight their accomplishments and contributions to public health in Switzerland. As of 2022, of our 250 faculty members, 97 are women and of the 370 active students of the SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus, 233 of these are females.

The last year alone has seen fantastic developments from the women of the SSPH+ community. Notably, in 2022, Yvonne Willems Cavalli and Ilona Kickbusch were honoured as [SSPH+ Honorary Fellows](#), for their exceptional career and achievements in the field of public health (see more information [here](#)). In the same year, SSPH+ Faculty member Nicole Probst-Hensch, Head of Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Swiss TPH was awarded the esteemed [Science of the Year Award](#) by the City of Basel for her "pioneering achievements in research". Moreover, PhD students, Shreya Shrikhande and Alexandra Bürgler won the prestigious [SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk](#) (SFT) competition of 2022 (watch their SFT's [here](#)) and Benedetta Armocida won the [SSPH+ Award for best published PhD article in public health](#) (read the article [here](#)). Representing women in research are our exclusively female [Editors-in-Chief](#) of the Open Access Journal [Public Health Reviews](#), Katarzyna Czabanowska, Raquel Lucas and Sarah Mantwill.

## Seminar: Academic collaboration with Ukraine despite the war



**On 13 June, the Institute of Public Health, Jagiellonian University Medical College in Krakow organised a hybrid seminar on academic collaboration with Ukraine.**

This seminar was organised in the framework of the following cooperation agreements:

- Jagiellonian University Medical College (JUMC) and EHESP French School of Public Health – including financial support received from EHESP for developing international cooperation on public issues related to the ongoing war in Ukraine, in light of the



situation created by the Russian invasion which has become a source of major concern within Europe and notably in the higher education sector;

- JUMC and National University of Ostroh Academy;
- JUMC, EHESP, and School of Public Health Management of the Republic of Moldova;
- JUMC and Gdansk Medical University.

[Download the seminar programme here.](#)

## V Summer School in Public Mental Health

**The V Summer School in Public Mental Health course took place from the 22nd to the 26th of May, at ICBAS, Porto addressing the theme: “Facing the global crisis: preparing the next lessons from the pandemic and the war – Disasters, wars, and climate change from a Public Mental Health perspective”**

The course was organised by the European Public Health Association (EUPHA), in collaboration with Instituto de Saúde Pública da Universidade do Porto (ISPUP), Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar ([ICBAS](#)), University of Hochschule Emden/Leer ([Hs-Emden-Leer](#)), ASPHER, and the Mental Health Association of South-Eastern Europe ([MHASEE](#)).

The course taught content related to Public Mental Health, particularly in the context of disasters, natural disasters, and climate change, focusing on their effects on the mental health of populations. It explored content related to the mechanisms of action and programs for promoting mental health in adverse contexts, as well as range about the most appropriate research methodology for scientific production on the explored topic, including critical analysis of scientific articles and the development of systematic reviews and meta-analyses on the subject. A group of trainees from the Republic of Moldova took the opportunity of the Summer School to develop skills related to the reform of the Moldovan mental health system.

[The summer school programme is available here.](#)

---

## PARTNER NEWS

### PHIRI 3 Years Anniversary Conference

**September 22, Brussels and online**

We are pleased to invite you to the PHIRI 3 Years Anniversary Conference, taking place on Friday 22nd of September between 9.00 - 12.45 CET.

PHIRI, the Population Health Information Research Infrastructure, is implementing a research infrastructure to facilitate and generate the best available evidence for research on health and well-being of populations as impacted by COVID-19.



PHIRI has been running for three years bringing together key experts in health information across Europe from 41 organisations. At our anniversary event, the following key topics will be discussed that are at the core of PHIRI's activities.

1. Powerful Tools to Boost the Reuse of Health Data:  
FAIR catalogues and federated architecture
2. Strengthening the European Health Workforce
3. Building Stronger Health Systems
4. Building Collective Intelligence: Rapid Exchange Forum

As we are celebrating its three years anniversary, PHIRI invites all its consortium partners and national and international stakeholders to this event in Brussels.

[Find out more about the event and register to be there online or in person.](#)

## The European Observatory's Silver Jubilee

[The European Observatory is celebrating 25 years!](#) Throughout 2023 the Observatory will take several opportunities to look back at their work and, importantly, look at the challenges and opportunities in the 25 years ahead.



**Upcoming Silver Jubilee events include:**

[Health Systems – the next 25 years: How do we harness innovation to improve performance?](#)

21 September, Brussels and online

[European Health Forum Gastein: Observatory silver jubilee event.](#)

26-29 September, Bad Hofgastein and online

[European Public Health Conference: Observatory silver jubilee event.](#)

8-11 November, Dublin

**Join the conversation on social media using #OBS25**

## 16th European Public Health (EPH) CONFERENCE

**8-11 November, Dublin**

EPH 2023 is scheduled to deliver a content rich-agenda, and we invite you to join us and be part of the discussion. Advocating the theme '**Our Food, Our Health, Our Earth: A Sustainable Future for Humanity**', the conference explores links between the science and practice of public health driving public sector initiatives, placing health and wellness at the forefront of policy debate and industry collaboration.



[Learn more and register here.](#)

## ECDC Public Health Training Newsletter

The ECDC Summer 2023 Public Health Training Newsletter is available.

[Download and read it here!](#)

---

## OPPORTUNITIES

### University of Nicosia Medical School Vacancy: Faculty Position in Clinical Population and/or Public Health Sciences



UNIVERSITY MEDICAL  
of NICOSIA SCHOOL

The Department of Primary Care and Population Health of the University of Nicosia Medical School is seeking highly motivated and enthusiastic faculty members committed to student-centred learning and high-quality research.

**We are currently inviting applications for a full-time Faculty Position in Clinical Population and/or Public Health Sciences at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.**

Qualifications Required:

- MD/PhD (or MD by Research) or PhD Degree in related field
- Experience in undergraduate or graduate level teaching in Public Health and/or Epidemiology or related subjects
- Research experience and peer-reviewed publication record relevant to the desired rank
- Evidence of leadership or leadership potential in Public Health and/or Epidemiology research corresponding to stage of career

Responsibilities:

- Teach and assess in the areas of Public Health, Research Methodology and/or Epidemiology in departmental programmes
- Design innovative learning activities and foster learning opportunities for students
- Conduct research in areas of interest and contribute to scholarly publications
- Fulfil administrative duties related to academic programs and departmental needs
- Engage in community outreach activities to promote the School's mission

[Download a PDF version of the full vacancy announcement here](#) or visit the website: [Career Opportunities – UNIC | University of Nicosia Medical School](#)

Please send your complete application to [hr@med.unic.ac.cy](mailto:hr@med.unic.ac.cy) by Thursday, 31st August 2023.

## ECDC Engagement of remunerated independent external experts

ECDC requires the input of independent external expertise to fulfil its mandate and to deliver its work programme. Hence, ECDC may engage both remunerated and non-remunerated external experts. The selection of external experts aims to complement ECDC's scientific expertise and to assist ECDC with expert advice on specific tasks. ECDC's external experts contribute to the scientific decision-making in the EU with their scientific input. Tasks requiring external expertise include contribution to ad hoc panels, working groups and committees as well as the provision of opinions or advice on other technical matters (e.g. Rapid Risk Assessments) or meetings (e.g. country visits or seminars)



### **Applications are currently open for the following expert profiles:**

- Disease-specific surveillance, prevention, and control
- Public health areas for country support
- Infectious disease public health training specialist
- Expert to contribute to strengthening Africa CDC capacities
- Expert public health emergency preparedness and response capacities and capabilities

[See more information and apply here.](#)

---

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

---

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)  
ASPHER Brussels | T: +31 (0) 433 884 398 | S: [aspheerskype](#) | E: [office@aspher.org](mailto:office@aspher.org)