
July-August 2022 ASPHER Newsletter



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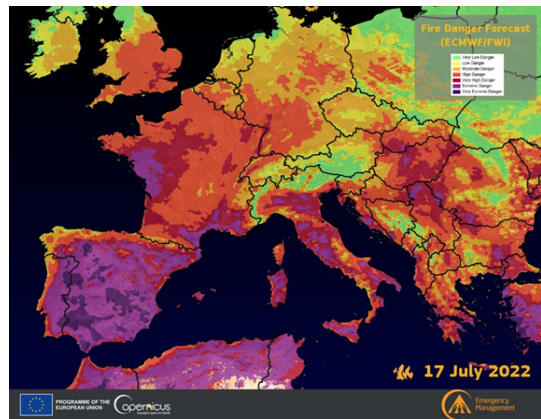
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

President's summer message - PART 1

Europe's hottest news

This is a time of year when people generally are looking forward to a break, a period of reflection and relaxation. It is the summer, hot, long days give us a chance to be outside, to throw off our clothing, dip our heads in some clear sea or river water, and soak up the copious supplies of Vitamin D which will fortify our bones and bodies, in preparation for the winter. It is no different for us, in the world of academic public health. However, this year, more than any other perhaps, public health is once again the party-pooper. Europe and the world again face the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, war, pestilence, famine, and death, and it is our job to be the soothsayers, the harbingers, not of doom perhaps, but of very serious, even existential threats.



Covid-19 carrying on unchallenged

The COVID pandemic continues, with the newest subvariants of the Omicron wreaking havoc, and many wealthy vaccinated nations following the UK lead and ignore it completely. Monkeypox is following close behind; we are [slow to learn from our COVID pandemic experience](#), as we face down this latest zoonosis with pandemic potential. The World Health Organization has just announced [monkeypox as a global health threat](#). The COVID position, European and global is set out in the accompanying blog, [COVID-19 carrying on unchallenged](#).

Climate breakdown and heatwave

Climate emergency has been with us in the northern hemisphere since the spring. It is only now it is here big time in Europe, that we sit up and notice. Tara Chen and I reflect on [Europe's hottest week](#) in a separate ASPHER blog in this newsletter. On July 7th, ASPHER launched the next stage of its EU Health policy platform partnership network on climate change and health

education. My presentation on ASPHER's ambitions for this work can be found [here](#). I was also pleased to share a [similar presentation](#) with colleagues from the World Committee for Life-Long Learning, a partner of UNESCO, at the Parisienne Cite des Metiers. This was an opportunity to bring together the communities of adult education and science with a public and global health agenda. Thanks to Prof Henrique Lopes, from Catolica University Lisbon, for driving this important work.

Climate breakdown, the cost of living and good housekeeping

To the climate change deniers, breaking our habit of fossil fuel use should still be something you want to do, because it's good housekeeping. The immediate and obvious problems of gasoline addiction are now the increasing cost of food and the cost of living. Renewables and carbon-free goods and services out compete oil and are the clear way to go. The more we can liberate ourselves from fossil fuels the less we are under the political cosh of major producers whoever they are. It makes good sense for our pockets and our planet, to insulate, conserve, live lightly, and generate renewably and as close to home as you can.

Brexit

June 23rd marked the six years anniversary of the United Kingdom vote to leave the European Union. In the years after that we have seen the destruction of British democracy, the further impoverishment of the poorest people, who voted for Brexit, cost of living rises greater, and average earnings less than any seen in European Union countries. We have seen the erosion of environmental standards in our agriculture, air, land, and [water management](#). And we are seeing [a new threat to UK Human rights](#). In the meantime, we have also seen the UK continue its trajectory towards 'Singapore-on-Thames', a paradise for billionaires, but very few else. You can read my thought on this [in blog 4](#).

**Word on the street in Italy is that
Brexit Britain's wheels are coming off**
Boris Johnson's rotten regime has not covered itself in glory



By Michael Day
June 16, 2022 3:56 pm (Updated June 17, 2022 8:54 am)



The weak performance of UK exports and a surge in imports highlight the economic effects of Brexit © Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

The end of an era in British politics?

We have seen our parliamentary democracy debased by the Boris Johnson regime. The clown prince of British politics has finally fallen, but not before the climate of criminal deception in politics has become the established way business is done. His ludicrous, heartless claims to getting all the 'big calls right on Covid' are a sham, and his [overall record on health appalling](#).

Global Britain is now at best, a country to be amused by, a subject of ridicule and derision. At worst, it is a country which can no longer be trusted to hold to international law, let alone expand and improve it. It is dangerous and deluded, dreaming after imagined colonial glories and pretending the government is working. The actions of the Johnson regime over its short life have been callous, cruel, careless, and uncaring, and corrupt. Johnson may eventually have been forced to resign, as minister after minister could no longer live with the volume and magnitude of his lies, but they had been willing to support him until the recent vote of confidence, and if it suited them to keep their positions of power, influence, and self-advancement. It is a culture of greed and selfishness, led from the top, but we cannot expect any less duplicity, competence, honesty, and [care from the successors](#).

In the UK, a procession of major disasters has arrived-ambulances on level 4 black alert across the country, heatwave, great fires of London. [Gridlock Dover](#) is just the latest major incident. All of these have been passing by alongside the dreadful comedy of the Conservative party [looking to elect a new leader](#), and therefore a new head of state. A danse-macabre has been playing out with the candidates each trying to outdo each other in the awfulness of their claims Rishi Sunak former chancellor of the exchequer, flew back to Britain from the USA in December 2020 to prevent a new lockdown, [saving Christmas and the economy](#) and leading to a peak of more than 1700 deaths a week in the Omicron wave. Liz Truss current foreign secretary confesses she was wrong to campaign to [stay in the European Union in 2016](#). All the candidates were luke-warm in [their commitment to net zero](#).

War in Ukraine

The Russian onslaught in Ukraine continues. Depending on whose sources you look to, Russia is looking to [expand its offensive and its objectives](#); or Ukraine has gained a tactical advantage with [its new consignment of HIMARS missiles](#) from the USA, and [Russia is about to run out of steam](#). Sadly, for our Ukrainian colleagues, whatever the situation, it is now less prominent on our TV screens. Europe continues to field the extraordinary burden of refugees; the world continues to face starvation as the grain supplies it relies on from Ukraine and Russia are held up or destroyed. For a moment, there was cause for some optimism as a [deal was agreed for the export of Ukrainian grain](#). To get to this, meant negotiation, diplomacy, was happening. Then just to remind us of the reality, there was [a cruise missile attack on Odesa](#). The war grinds on.



Geopolitical health

Brexit, the Ukraine conflict, the rise of populism, the corruption of democracy, global inequalities, the rise of oligarchs and the super-rich are all inter-connected; they are all part of the same geopolitical landscape. It is a landscape which the public health community is inadequately aware of and poorly prepared for. The overwhelming geopolitical forces at play are anti-science, anti-equality, anti-health, and anti-human rights, and they lead us to war, climate disaster, environmental squalor and enforced migration and slavery.

We need a stronger grasp on the geopolitical world, as ASPHER intern Tessa-Maria Brake [discovered in her interviews](#) with public health colleagues in Brussels during her internship. We need to understand the world of [‘The Sovereign Individual’](#), [Disaster capitalism](#), [surveillance capitalism](#), religious fundamentalism, [commercial determinants of health](#) and the subversion of science by the [‘Merchants of Doubt’](#). These are mindsets and political environments we inadequately explore. It is clear the public health community needs to understand more the role of surveillance capitalism as a force subverting consumer expectations and behaviour, adding to the [disinformation of anti-vaxxers, creating a climate for war](#), but also [undermining how electorates](#) think, feel and vote.

Geopolitics and human rights

Human rights, as a public health issue, have also never been more important. The awful decision of the American Supreme Court to overthrow the Roe vs Wade ruling on a woman’s right to abortion is an issue for everyone, not just for Americans. ASPHER supports the statement made by EUPHA, [‘Reproductive rights are human rights’](#) following the Roe V Wade judgement. Around the world, fundamentalist actions will be organising further to take away women’s reproductive rights. Already we can see how it works. [Humanists UK](#) Association have drawn attention to the deletion of a passage on abortion and reproductive rights in a recent international statement on the Freedom of Religion or Belief, [drafted by the British Government](#), from a conference on 5-6th July 2022. [Governments of Denmark and Norway](#), have protested the deletions of the text they signed up to, as has the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, Ahmed Shaheed. ‘Claims that freedom of religion or belief can be invoked to deny women and girls the exercise and enjoyment of their sexual and reproductive health rights have no foundation in human rights. Rather, such claims must be rejected as representing intolerant and patriarchal attitudes that deny the equal rights of men and women to freedom of religion or belief. Such claims especially ignore that freedom of religion or belief also guarantees to women the right to bodily autonomy and conscientious choice.’ It begins to make sense that the UK government doesn’t want to stay with the European Convention of Human Rights. We must all be prepared to support the rights and freedoms of women and girls, despite the apparent backward step of Roe v Wade. We need to commit to all human rights. Full stop.

Geopolitics and corruption

Corruption has long been recognised as a destructive force in health care provision, but state corruption that keeps people in states of poor health is spoken about and condemned much less. I was shocked to find my country featuring less favourably than I would have imagined in a

presentation on corruption by ASPHER young professional, Alejandro Gonzalo-Aquines. He has now summarised his findings in [an ASPHER blog](#).



Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) in European Union countries and the UK. The darker the colour, the better performance

We are beginning to understand the [corrupt influence of Russian money](#) on the City of London and the Conservative party. [Londongrad](#) has been the playground for Russian money in the years of austerity Britain. Russian money has bolstered the personal and [party coffers of the ruling Conservatives](#) and [potentially compromised policy makers](#). And it has undermined the actions and accountability of [our former Foreign Secretary](#) and soon to be ex-Prime minister Johnson.

Questions remain about whether Johnson's actions criminally compromised national security. This can be discussed in the press in [Germany](#), Italy, or Cyprus, but only rarely in mainstream media [in the UK](#). And was Britain, and Johnson [played by Russia, to Brexit?](#)

In conclusion

The spring and summer have continued to be a busy time for ASPHER. For once, I am not going to repeat the actions we have made on your behalf - you can find these well set out by our wonderful Secretariat, Robert, Lore and Tatiana in this newsletter. Thank you to all the Secretariat for your help and support over these recent months. Thanks to everyone for reading. Have a nice break.



President's summer message - PART 2: COVID-19 carrying on unchallenged



Figure 1 Pressure outside UK hospital, week of July 14th – Ambulances backed up as COVID, heatwave and general summer emergencies take off.

We are again seeing the take-off of new subvariants of the Omicron family, B.A.4 and 5 and B.A.2.75. Waves of B.A.5 may have reached their peak in Portugal, Malta, UK and South Africa. B.A.5 is [rising vertically in Japan](#), and sharply in Australia and New Zealand. It is also the dominant [sub variant in the USA](#). Thus far vaccines remain effective against the new sub-variants. Pressures on health care services are widespread, compounded by Europe's heat wave. ASPHER's position on the current state of the pandemic in Europe is shown in the box. You can find more from ASPHER in our weekly [Covid-19 situation reporting](#).

Box 1 : [ASPHER weekly situation report for COVID-19. July 18th 2022](#)

The WHO weekly epidemiological update on COVID-19 highlights that the number of new weekly cases increased globally for the fifth consecutive week, a 6% increase compared to the previous week. The number of new weekly deaths was similar to the previous week.

The ECDC country overview report highlights those cases among people aged 65 years and over increased in 22 of the 24 countries, corresponding to a 23% increase, and has reached 78.2% of the pandemic maximum across the EU/EEA. The increasing transmission among older age groups is starting to translate into increased rates of severe disease. In 12 countries increasing trends in hospital or ICU admissions and occupancy rates are increasing. The 14-day COVID-19 death rate has been stable for five weeks. Increasing trends in the COVID-19 death rate were observed in seven countries.

The IHME projections indicate a decline in daily estimated infections by mid-September. They also project high or extreme stress on hospital and ICU beds in Estonia, France, Latvia, and Romania between July and September 2022.

UK Freedom Day- July 19th 2022

July 19th was the first anniversary of the UK's 'Freedom Day', when virtually all protections against Covid-19 were lifted. Many governments followed the UK lead and threw away all protections against COVID-19. As a result, the pandemic has continued without any efforts to control it. UK commentators have taken the moment to reflect on the [terrible handling of the pandemic](#). The mantra of the conservative government, and particularly those apologists for outgoing Prime-minister Johnson's record, is 'He got the big calls right'. A claim challenged by the health community without exception, and exemplified in Stephen Reicher's tweet Figure 2.

Stephen Reicher @ReicherStephen

Got all the big calls right? Tragically, there are far too many people no longer here to say No!

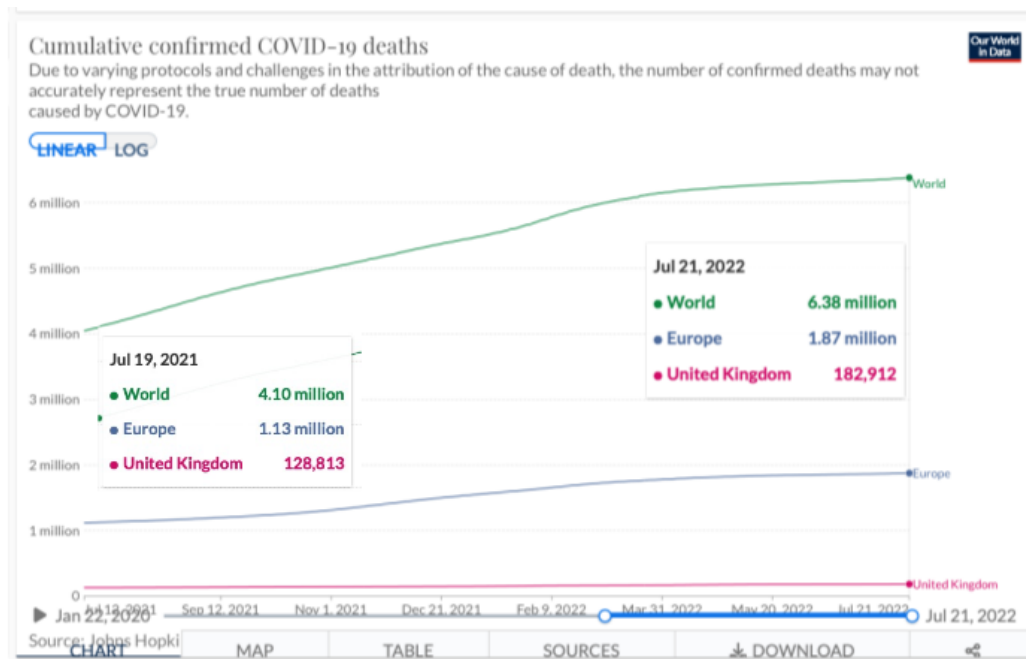
Vincent Rajkumar @VincentRK · 11 Jul
After >2 years of COVID, this is where we are. @FT

Cumulative deaths attributed to Covid-19 in US, UK, European Union, South Korea, Japan and Australia
Cumulative deaths (per 100k)

Source: Financial Times analysis of data from Johns Hopkins CSSE, World Health Organization, UK Government coronavirus dashboard, Government of Peru, Public Health France, Israeli Health Ministry, Slovenian Ministry of Health, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare and the Swedish Public Health Agency.
Data updated June 23 2022 7.04pm BST. Interactive version: ft.com/covid19

Since Freedom Day, the UK has had nearly 18 million extra cases of COVID-19 and 54000 deaths (Figure 3).

Figure 3



The UK's Independent SAGE have proposed [a seven-point plan](#) for addressing the continuing pandemic (Box 2). This will have resonance for many countries. [New Zealand](#) has already implemented similar measures as it continues to lead global action on the pandemic.

Box 2.

1. Clear and consistent messaging concerning covid risk and risk mitigation, reinforced by public statements by those in positions of authority;
2. Increased efforts to promote vaccine uptake, among all age groups, and with particular emphasis on groups among whom uptake has been low, in particular ethnic minority communities. This should be coupled with a clear long term plan to address waning immunity and immune escape by new variants;
3. Installing and/or upgrading ventilation/air filtration in all public buildings, with schools an urgent priority over the summer holidays⁷;
4. Provision of free lateral flow tests to enable everyone to follow existing public health guidelines;
5. Financial and other support for all workers to self-isolate if infected;
6. Systematic promotion of the use of FFP2/FFP3 masks in indoor public spaces and public transport when infection rates are high;
7. Increased support for the equitable global provision of vaccines and anti-virals.

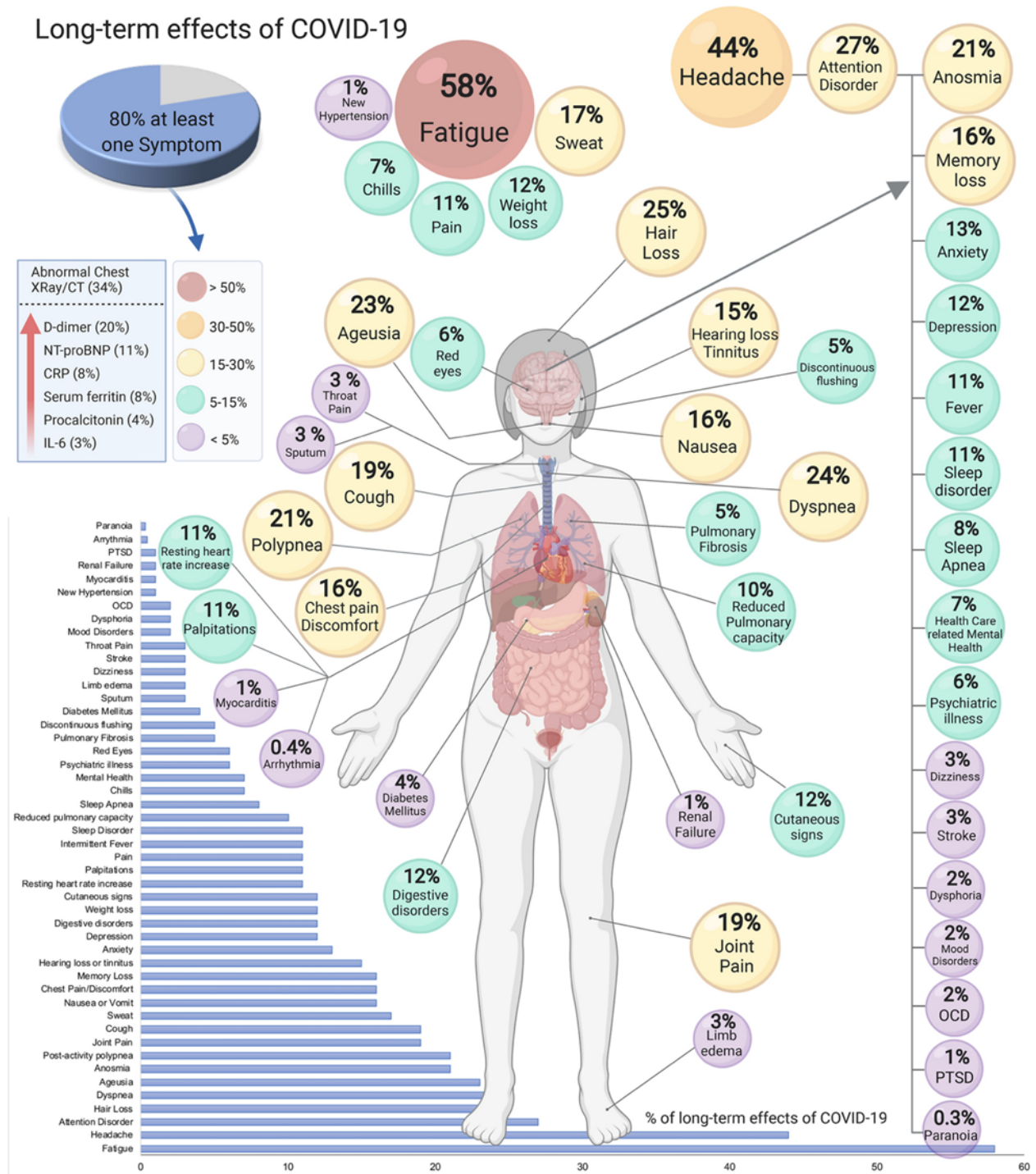
If implemented, these measures will make it possible for people to make informed decisions that will reduce the risk of illness to them, their families, and the communities in which they live and work. By reducing infections they will also reduce the disruption to the lives of individuals and society.

[Masking](#) remains a key component of any strategy (Figure 4).



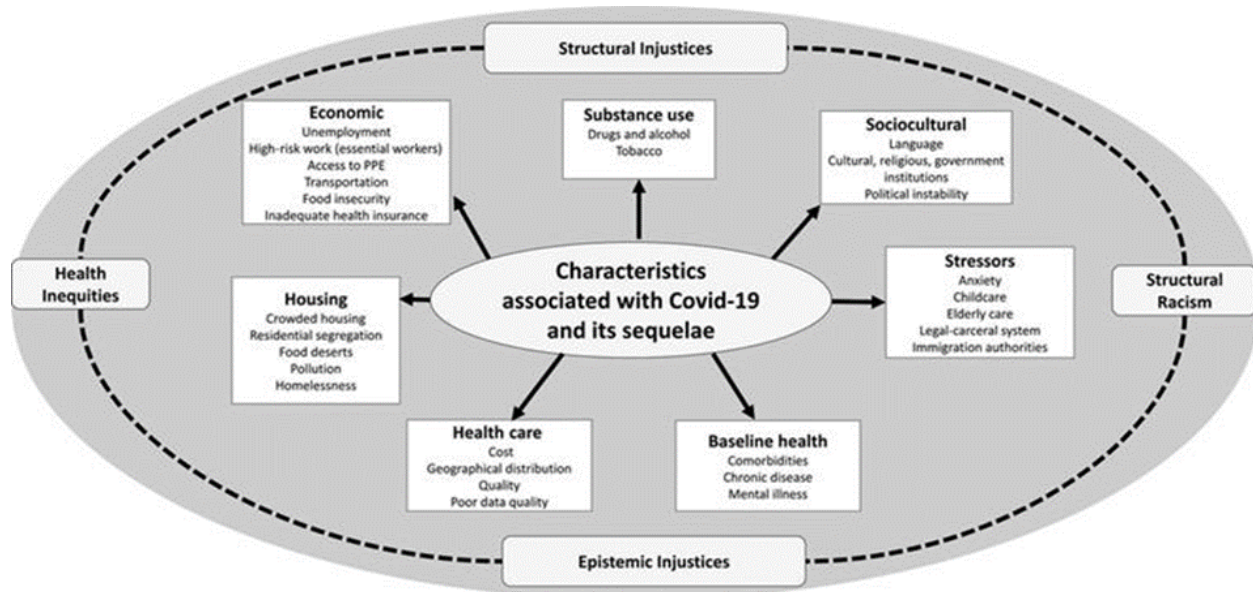
The evidence on [ventilation continues to mount](#) and the fight for clean indoor air is the public health revolution of the 21st century, certainly ignored and neglected in my country. University authorities will also find it [gives a learning advantage](#). Evidence for the long term damage caused by [Covid-19 also grows](#). COVID-19 is a multi-system disease, affecting many target organs, and mental health (see Figure 5 from [Lopes-Leon and colleagues](#)).

Figure 5



As [Flavia Beccia and ASPHER colleagues](#) explain in their recent paper on long Covid and inequalities, long Covid also impacts unequally on the economy, poorer social groups and vulnerable people (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Relationship Between Structural Inequalities and COVID-19, from: Berger Z, Altiery DE Jesus V, Assoumou SA, Greenhalgh T. Long COVID and Health Inequities: The Role of Primary Care. *Milbank Q.* 2021;99(2):519-541. doi:10.1111/1468-0009.12505



Bitter-sweet success of vaccination

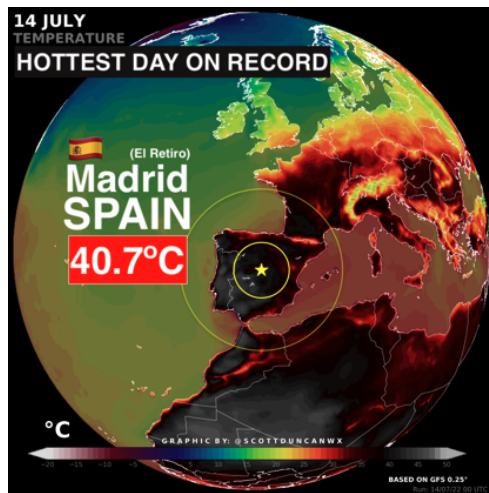
A [major study published June 23rd 2022](#), suggests vaccination has prevented around 14 million deaths worldwide. This figure rose to 19 million where the prevention was modelled on excess mortality. This is a major confirmation of the benefits of vaccination against COVID-19 and should be a reason for great celebration. However, in low-income countries an additional 45% of deaths could have been averted had the 20% vaccination coverage target set by COVAX been met by each country, and an additional 111% of deaths could have been averted had the 40% target set by WHO been met by each country by the end of 2021. This is a failure by the wealthy countries of the global community and should be a cause of continuing shame for all of us.

Failure to manage the pandemic continues to cause major disruption to economies, [to international travel](#), and [to essential public services](#). While we continue to accept repeat infection and fail to control new virus infections, we will continue to see disruption to economies. The burden of morbidity will rise and we will again be badly unprepared for winter. [ECDC and WHO have launched new guidance](#) for respiratory illness and vaccination strategies for the winter 2022. As a member of the ECDC Advisory Forum, on behalf of ASPHER, I have been party to the preparation of the ECDC report. ASPHER's winter planning statement will follow this month. Have a great summer! But be prepared for winter!

John Middleton, President ASPHER,
July 23rd, 2022

President's summer message - PART 3: Groundhog Day: Climate emergency is with us again

Europe's hottest week



[Climate emergency has arrived in Europe](#), with this week seeing record breaking temperatures. An [extensive twitter thread by Politico EU environment correspondent, Karl Mathiesen](#) provides an awesome, more wide ranging and dynamic view of the heatwave crisis in Europe. Spain, Portugal, and France have been badly affected by extreme heat, [with fires raging](#), 360 heat-related deaths recorded in Spain on July 16th and 238 deaths in Portugal between 7-13th July. 14000 people have been evacuated from the French Region of Gironde. There are extreme weather and fire warnings in Italy, Greece, and Morocco. The Meteorological Office for the United Kingdom, has issued [its first red warning for 40-degree temperatures](#). This is the first

time the warning has been issued and reflects the expectation of the highest ever recorded temperature in the UK, passing the record of 38.7 degrees set [in Cambridge in 2019](#). The [Fire Information for Resource Management Systems](#), by NASA shows the planet on fire from Australia to Siberia, the Amazon to Alaska (Figure 1).

Figure 1.



The signs of climate disaster have been building in the northern hemisphere since the spring. In [India and Pakistan](#), extreme heatwaves saw temperatures hit more than 45°C in May, disrupting their already strained healthcare systems due to ongoing confirmed cases of COVID-19. [Spain and Portugal](#) also experienced temperatures breaking 40°C in May, with a [second heatwave hitting Spain](#) in June. We have been hit, like the [metaphorical frog in the slowly boiling water](#), failing to recognise the deadly change in our surroundings.

Climate breakdown: the main culprit

The root cause of these high temperatures is climate change, but land use changes, vegetation change, irrigation, air pollution, and other changes also drive local and regional trends in heatwaves. The cost of extreme weather events is disproportionately borne by [the world's poorest people](#). Unexpected temperature spikes impact on our individual health with surges in hospital admissions from heat related illness. In many parts of the world, [there is literally nowhere to hide from the heat](#), millions of people, particularly in South Asia, work outdoors where there are [few ways to find relief](#).

High temperatures are reducing crop yields, causing critical food shortages. [India reported an expected loss of >500 kg of wheat per hectare of its April's yield due to higher than usual temperatures](#). Disruption to food supplies has already been compounded by the conflict in Ukraine. The [2022 Global Report on Food Crises](#) estimates that about 180 million people across the world will face severe food insecurity from conflicts, weather extremes, and pre-existing and [COVID-19 related economic shocks](#). The [existing strategies we have for food](#) are becoming increasingly irrelevant as climate change continues to cause upheaval to fragile agri-food system.

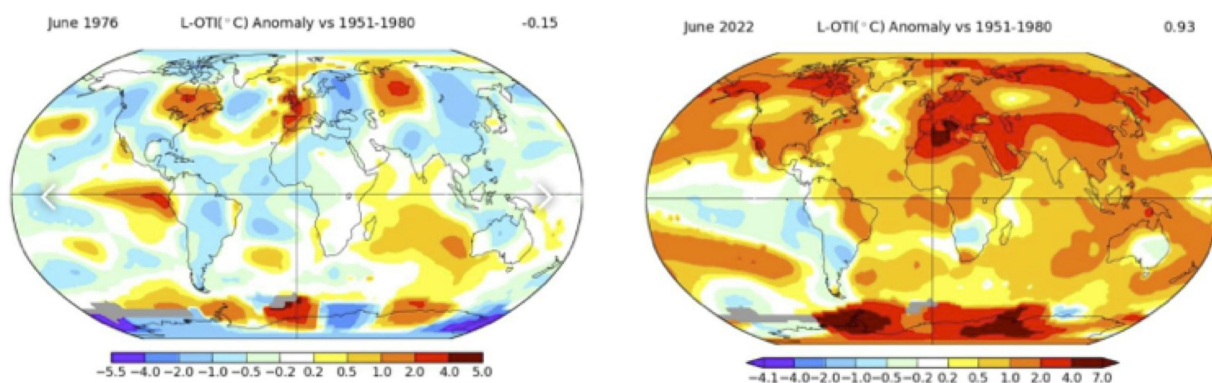
A role for the public health and health services community

The new heat extremes require the public health and health service community to adapt and respond, to mitigate and prevent.

Adapt and respond

In this week of extreme heat, the public health and health service role in response to major disaster is the most immediate and obvious. Local [heatwave plans](#) have been activated in the UK. Many European countries have registers to protect the vulnerable enshrined in their plans, among them, France, after their 2003 national disaster, and Belgium. The City of Rennes provides [an example](#). In the UK, some see advice on protection for individuals as obvious or facile; 'it is the summer' they say. TV pundit and climate sceptic Jeremy Clarkson has attracted ridicule for [twitter comments on summer in the south of France](#). Nostalgic talk about 'how we survived the heatwave of 1976' has been countered by [NASA global heat anomaly maps](#) showing just how much the world has heated up since then (Figure 2).

Figure 2.



Is 'common sense' common? Advising individuals to close windows and curtains during the daytime and throw them open at night is not intuitive for everyone in the UK. Belgian fire fighters are allowed to wear shorts when the temperature exceeds 28 degrees; sensible-obvious? We should all eat cold and watery food. And sip water. And avoid alcohol. But do we?



politico.eu

Western Europe tries to limit heat wave death toll

Free air conditioned spaces and bans on outdoor events are among the measures being planned.

EL PAÍS
@el_pais

● AMPLIACIÓN | El trabajador, de 60 años, se desplomó cuando estaba limpiando una calle a las cinco y media de la tarde. El hombre tenía una temperatura corporal de 41,6 grados cuando lo atendieron



elpais.com

For health systems and other public services, the heat presents complex and compounding challenges. In France, [nuclear power stations require river water](#) to keep them cool – but the river water is over-heating, leading to a need to reduce power generation, adding to costs for power generation. In the UK NHS the pressure on ambulance services brought about by the latest Omicron COVID wave is extending the time [sick people are exposed to extreme heat in ambulance queues](#). Power outages, melting of transport infrastructure and impacts of extreme heat on essential workers all need to be planned for and mitigated. [Public authorities with air-conditioned spaces](#), like libraries and community centres are being encouraged to stay open longer hours sadly, in the UK many of such community facilities have already been closed through austerity cuts. Public authorities also need to protect the health of their staff – a street cleaner who died in Madrid this week had a [body temperature of 41 degrees](#).

Mitigate and prevent

Adaptation and response are necessary in the face of the immediate threat-but they are not the long-term answer. The [recent IPCC report](#) shows that limiting global warming to 1.5°C is virtually impossible unless there are immediate, dramatic changes. Climate emergency will not be tackled unless there are fundamental reductions in burning fossil fuels. There needs to be a renewed commitment to global [reductions beyond the levels agreed in Glasgow](#).

Beyond international commitments by governments, health services and public health systems must play their part reducing emissions and climate impacts; if health services were a country, they would be the [fifth biggest producer of carbon emissions](#). Health services are major uses of energy, in buildings management and transport, and major carbon emitters through prescribing and clinical reagents. Anaesthetic gases are important greenhouse gases. The [UK NHS commitments to net zero carbon](#) are a beacon for what all health systems should be aiming for. Public health and health services are also important advocates for climate change policies with the public and patients they meet, and in their roles in wider public advocacy. Health professionals need to be better prepared and informed for this vital role.

Global health challenges require multidisciplinary efforts if they are to be successful; this public health problem needs the [insights of climate science, international law, economics, and political science](#), in addition to the traditional health sciences. The EU Health Policy Platform Climate-Health Working group, led by ASPHER, has recently called for climate-health education to be included as a priority in public health and health competencies for academic institutions and continuing education of health professionals. Schools of public health can use [the curriculum ASPHER](#) has adapted from the Global Consortium for Climate Change and Health Education.

COP26 in Glasgow allowed the world to drift backwards on climate action. Candidates for the next prime-minister of the UK have no plans to tackle climate breakdown or even immediate consequences of the heatwave.



Cartoon from the Times of London, July 18th 2022.

The outgoing nominal 'caretaker' prime-minister Boris Johnson held a party instead of attending the Cabinet Office, '[COBR](#)' emergency planning meeting on Saturday – no change there – and no 'care taken'. The best policy decisions being taken by European governments at present, are win-win policies addressing the cost-of-living crisis, addressing the heatwave, reducing fossil fuel use in the face of increasing scarcity and cost due to the Russian

blockade, and protecting our populations against the continuing threat of COVID. Working from home is a policy that hits them all.

[Spain](#) has made the costs of short public transport journeys free and will extend this to longer journeys in the autumn. France and Germany have reduced the costs of public transport. France has re-nationalised its [Electricite De France](#) and restricted cost increases to the consumer to 4%. Ironically, its British customers are now subsidising the French ones, [paying the full 64% premium on their energy](#). In many countries in Europe, there has been widespread expansion of the supply of [domestic heat pumps](#) providing renewable energy.

Spain: Short and medium distance trains will be free this autumn, thanks to a windfall tax



Most train journeys in Spain will be free from September. - Copyright: Milan Markovic/Getty Images

The smashing of heatwave records is now a re-occurring Groundhog Day. We drew attention to this last year, [in a BMJ opinion piece](#), and in my summer newsletter blog, '[Welcome to the climate crisis season](#)'. We should be concerned that heatwaves are becoming more frequent, happening earlier and earlier each year, with higher temperatures every time. Meaningful climate action is needed now to protect the planet and the health of future generations.

Tara Chen, ASPHER Fellow: tara.chen@aspher.org

Professor John Middleton, ASPHER President: john.middleton@aspher.org

President's summer message - PART 4: Brexit is bad for your health

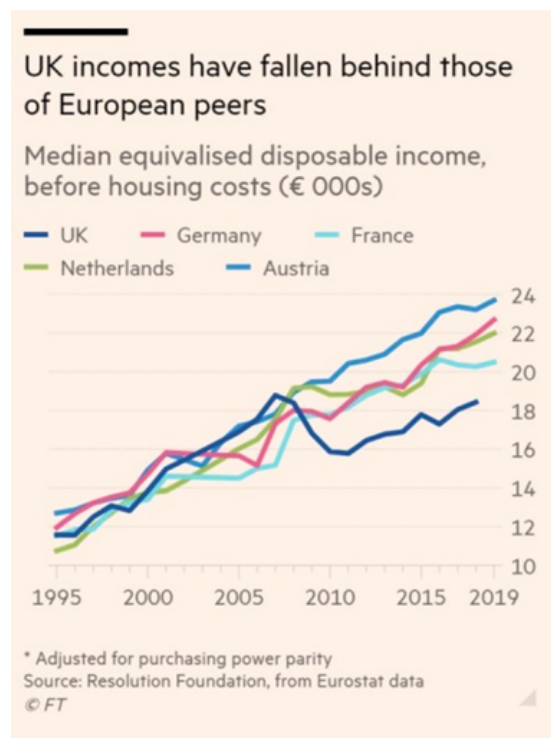


June 23rd marked the six years anniversary of the United Kingdom vote to leave the European Union. In June 2016, the UK Faculty of Public Health was one of the few members of the Academy of the Medical Royal Colleges, to make a [public statement on the benefits](#) to public health from staying in the European Union. It is timely for us to revisit that statement. We argued that the European Union was above all, a force for peace and of major importance to us for its economic benefits. We reflected on protections, for employment rights, for the environment, for human rights and trade. We reflected on the benefits to our health and social care services, for agriculture and work in other key sectors of the economy.

Did anyone really expect war to ignite again in Europe? Was anyone aware of the tangled web of Russian interference in Brexit and the role of corruption in big data management to subvert elections, for Brexit, Trump and more subsequently? All the dire 'Project Fear' predictions for the British economy are coming to pass.

In the years after the Brexit vote, we have seen the destruction of British democracy, the further impoverishment of the poorest people, who voted for Brexit, cost of living rises greater, and [average earnings £8800 less than those in France and Germany](#). Incomes have fallen behind those of European peers and GDP per capita has grown less strongly than European counterparts.

Income inequality in the UK is now the highest in Europe. This widening of inequality between rich and poor, comes as the austerity policies of the

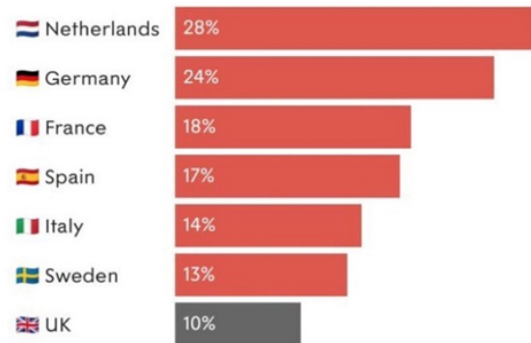


2010s reduced the spending power of the very poorest, notably women in the north of England, at a time when [life expectancy went down for these people](#). Despite policies allegedly aiming to ‘level up’ conditions in the north of England, the government has postponed publication of an inequalities (‘disparities’) strategy and the [gap between north and south has widened](#). In the meantime, we have also seen the UK continue its trajectory towards ‘[Singapore-on-Thames](#)’; UK has expanded its number of billionaires, and their collective wealth has risen [by £253 billion in the last five years](#). The haemorrhage of wealth, from poor to rich is visible, palpable, you can taste the inequality. We are a land of Ferraris and food banks.

According to the OECD, cost of living increases in the UK have not been higher than European union counterparts [for the last year to May](#). (Figure 4) different factors explain the wide range of inflation across 23 countries. However, although holding a mid-table position, Brexit explains a large portion of UK inflation, [perhaps as much as 80%](#), given the price of imports, the cost of transport given [massive hold ups at major ports](#), and the shortage of labour driving up wages.

The sick man of Europe

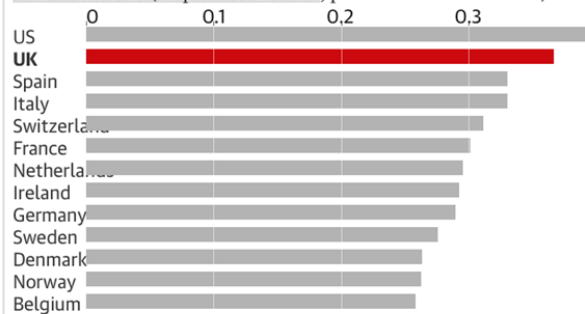
GDP per capita (USD) growth, 2015-22



Source: IMF

Income inequality in the UK is higher than all other large European countries

Gini coefficient (disposable income, post-taxes and transfers)



Guardian graphic | Source: Resolution Foundation. Note: selected OECD countries, 2018

Inflation (CPIH) – UK and 22 EU countries

Total annual growth rate (%) to May 2022, or latest available

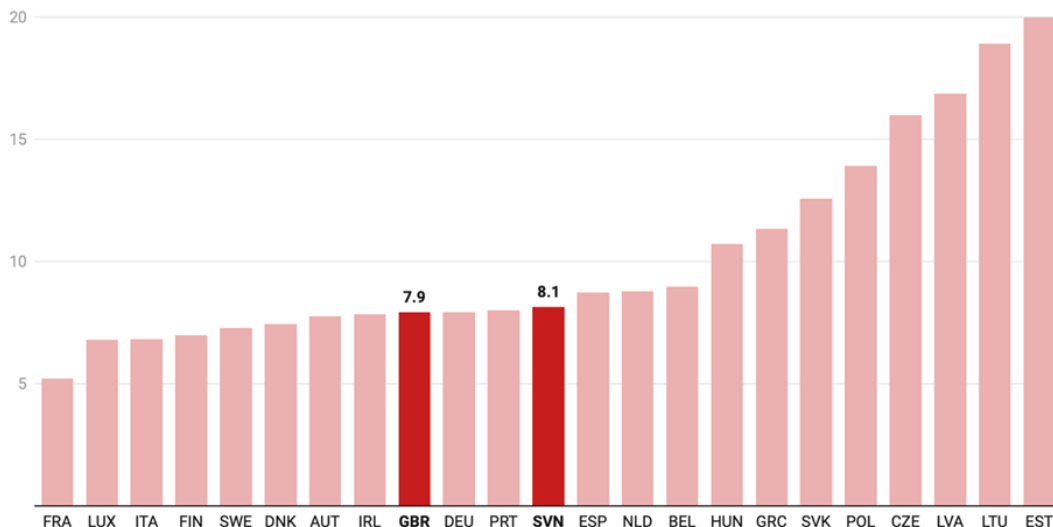


Chart: Erin Santillo • Source: OECD • Created with Datawrapper

Former Sainsbury supermarket chain boss [says 40% of all produce](#) is imported from the EU and inflation 'took off with Brexit'. The Resolution foundation report, [The Big Brexit](#) says Brexit is making the cost of living worse in the UK. Exporting from Britain is becoming more difficult and the [balance of payments deficit](#) is becoming greater. (Figure below: FT, June 30th 2022)

Pressure mounts on sterling as trade figures drop to worst level on record

● Imports leap and exports fall ● Trend hinges on single market exit ● Record higher-rate taxpayers

CHRIS GILES AND NICK PETERSON — LONDON
JASMINE CAMERON-CHULESHE — MADRID

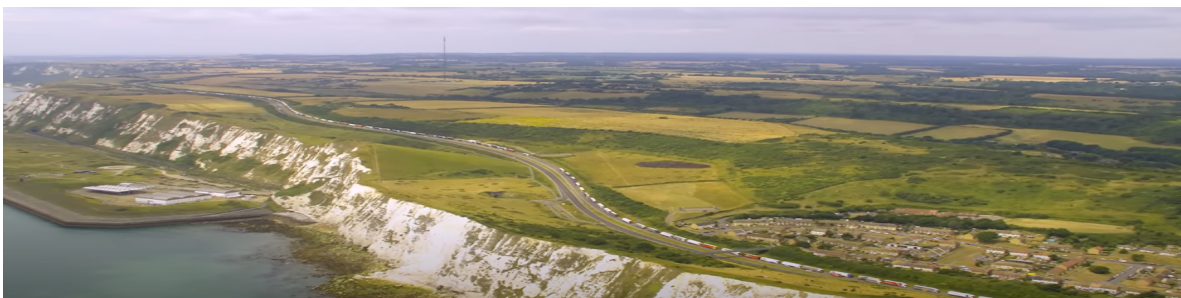
The UK's trade performance fell to its worst level this year since records began, heaping more pressure on sterling in international currency markets. The current account deficit was calculated at 8.3 per cent of gross domestic product in the first quarter of 2022, a deterioration from an average of 2.6 per cent across all of 2021. It was the worst figure on record since quarterly balance of payments data were first published in 1955. The weak performance of exports and a surge in imports highlight the economic effects of Brexit. The figures tally with academic studies showing a decline in exports since 2021, when the UK left the EU single market and new border controls were introduced. The Office for National Statistics warned that the figures for the first quarter of the year were "subject to higher levels of uncertainty than normal", adding that it had developed a new system based on customs records to increase accuracy. Even when relatively volatile goods such as gold and other precious metals were excluded, the current account deficit still rose from an average of 2.4 per cent of GDP in 2021 to 7.1 per cent in the first quarter of this year. The ONS said it was investigating the big rise in imports it had recorded, along with foreign direct investment, and advised caution on interpreting the quality of the data. Paul Dales, chief economist at Capital Economics, said the most noteworthy element in the figures was a 4.4 per cent fall in real exports and a 10.4 per cent leap in real imports. "At the start of this year, the ONS started to measure imports between the UK and the EU in a slightly different way [resulting in a] large step change upwards," he said, adding that the figures were "really hard to interpret". Samuel Tombs, chief UK economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said the UK's dependence on "external finance" that stemmed from the large current account deficit had seen sterling "depreciating sharply" as global investors "collectively assumed risky assets". The pound, which was stable in currency markets yesterday, has lost more than 10 per cent of its value against the US dollar over the past year while remaining broadly stable against the euro. Meanwhile, chancellor Rishi Sunak's freezing of all income tax thresholds for four years has led to a record number of people paying higher rates this financial year. Figures from HM Revenue & Customs show that in 2022-23, 6.1mn people will pay either the 40 per cent higher rate, charged on incomes over £50,270, or the 45 per cent additional rate on incomes over £150,000 – the highest number of people ever. When Boris Johnson became prime minister in 2019, 4.5mn people paid tax at these higher rates. The number paying the additional rate has risen about 50 per cent between the 2019-20 tax year before the pandemic and 2022-23, climbing from 421,000 to 629,000. Sir Steve Webb, a partner at financial advisers Lane Clark & Peacock, said the changes reflected tax policy decisions rather than a surge in the numbers of people with very high-paying jobs. "Faying higher rate tax used to be reserved for the very wealthiest but this has changed very dramatically in recent years," he said. **Brexit damage page 2**
Drivers of high inflation page 3
Federica Cocco page 22

The current account deficit has risen from an average of 2.4% of GDP in 2021 to 7.1%

All the Trade and Cooperation agreement rules for monitoring and controlling imports and exports, between the [UK and EU have not yet been implemented](#).

So we could yet experience even worsening conditions. Agriculture has been sold out in a succession of derisory trade deals with Australia, New Zealand and Japan, all made by PM-hopeful Liz Truss. Nobody, least of all, [New Zealand](#) is quite sure why she is so proud of these deals which are so damaging to British farmers.

We have witnessed the debacle of new trailer parks and truckstops since the winter of 2020, even before Brexit kicked in. The terrible conditions experienced by truck drivers are now being extended to holiday makers and private vehicle drivers. This weekend has been the first time when it has been possible to [test capacity of the Port of Dover](#) to handle the new requirements of the Brexit border - and it has been found disastrously wanting, [an insanitary nightmare](#), and a massive [inconvenience for thousands of people](#). It was [predicted](#), and plans were not funded by the British Government. A succession of ignorant, incompetent and dangerous statements by British ministers has been captured by the ever brilliant [Led By Donkeys](#). Now they are pursuing a juvenile blame game instead of constructively working with French colleagues to fix it. (Figure below: Trucks tail back, above the White Cliffs of Dover)



The British government's new bill to overturn the Northern Ireland protocol is just another example of the present leadership's willingness to renege on international deals and adds to the distrust of my country. It also jeopardises the Good Friday Agreement and brings into question continuing British involvement in the [Horizon research programme](#). Ironically, it is a case of 'if it ain't broke don't fix it', as Northern Ireland is the only growing economy in the UK outside London, with the benefits it [enjoys from trade with the EU](#).

We have also seen the erosion of environmental standards in our agriculture, air, land, [and water management](#).

The culture of greed and self-advancement that Johnson leaves behind was led from the top, but we cannot expect any less duplicity, competence, honesty and care from the successors. Most optimistically perhaps, as Jonathon Friedland observes, [everything tainted by Johnson lies needs to be undone, that includes Brexit](#).

Another Brexit consequence is [a new threat to UK Human rights](#). The UK government doesn't want to stay with the European Convention of Human Rights, which is a tragedy, given the UK involvement in its establishment after the Second World War, to protect all our rights. What was it for:

- The ECHR rights:
1. Respect human rights
 2. Right to life
 3. Prohibition of torture
 4. Prohibition of slavery
 5. Right to liberty and security
 6. Right to a fair trial
 7. No punishment without law
 8. Right to respect for private and family life
 9. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion
 10. Freedom of expression
 11. Freedom of assembly and association
 12. Right to marry
 13. Right to effective remedy (if your rights are violated)
 14. Prohibition of discrimination



And it is the more ironic given Johnson's love of Churchill and apparent commitment to the ECHR back in 2016. When you look to the implications of *Roe v Wade*, you can see where it is going ([please see my summary blog](#)).

We can hope for better times and better collaboration with the European Union, but we cannot exactly be optimistic that this will happen anytime soon. Happy holidays.

John Middleton, President ASPHER,
July 25th, 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat would like to thank everyone who participated in the [ASPHER General Assembly](#) on 7 June. We were pleased to welcome 90 delegates from across our membership and were thrilled to accept 10 new Full and Associate Members. Your participation keeps the Association functioning and growing!

We are now turning our attention to the [Deans' & Directors' Retreat](#) in Sofia, Bulgaria from 14-16 October where we are looking forward to reuniting and revitalizing our work with you. Be sure to register and submit abstracts for Deans' and Parallel sessions. [ASPHER awards](#) will also be announced at the Retreat, so don't forget to send your nominations by the end of the summer!

Aside from the Deans' Retreat, we are also looking ahead to other major Public Health events. ASPHER will participate in and lead several sessions at the [EPH Conference in Berlin](#) in November. Be sure to let us know if you are involved in any sessions or presentations so we can add it to the "ASPHER schedule for EPH Berlin 2022" in the October issue of the newsletter. ASPHER is also co-organising the [World Congress on Public Health 2023 in Rome](#) with the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItI). We are thrilled to have the chance to bring the schools' agenda to the World stage along with increasing the opportunities for ASPHER and our Members to participate in the event. Stay tuned for more to come on WCPH2023!

Our [Next Generation Platform](#) has been vitally contributing to the ASPHER agenda, with a [YPP & ASSETS joint in person meeting](#) earlier this month. We are welcoming a [new Fellow, Karl Conyard](#), who will assist Prof Mary Codd with the 6th edition update of ASPHER Core Competencies. Meanwhile, the final version of the [joint statement on Climate and Health](#) has been published thanks to the hard work of Fellows Rana Orhan and Tara Chen in cooperation with EUHPP. Fellow Lisa Wandschneider, with the assistance of Emma Schlegel has been collecting your responses to the [Survey on Diversity and Intersectionality](#) – if you and your colleagues haven't responded yet there is still time until the 29th of July! Intern Tessa Brake has wrapped up her time at ASPHER Headquarters, be sure to read her blog about [Public Health's role in geopolitical grievances](#). We also congratulate our recent [Young Researchers' Forum participants and winners](#) and update you on the work of the 2021 Forum winner, Alejandro Gonzalez-Aquines with his blog on [corruption in health systems during Covid-19](#).

ASPHER Task Forces on [Covid-19](#), [Public Health & War](#) and PHW Professionalisation are continuing their work over the summer. They all need able bodies and minds to contribute to their work – contact us if a representative from your programme would like to get involved.

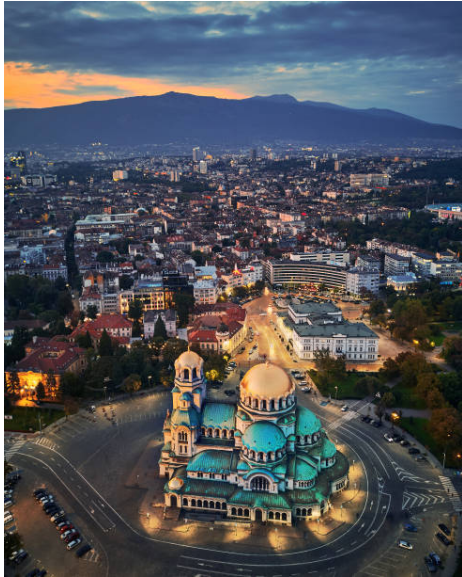
Of course, don't miss out on the news and events from [Members](#) and [Partners](#)! We have compiled an extensive list of [recent member publications](#) to fill your summer reading along with the [President's messages](#), and are sharing several opportunities to respond to calls for papers with your own work. Enjoy your summer!

Please don't forget to share your news, publications, comments & suggestions with Lore at lore.leighton@aspher.org to be included in the next regular issue of the [newsletter](#) and on the ASPHER website [activity log](#).

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ASPHER DEANS' & DIRECTORS' RETREAT: REGISTRATION AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The 2022 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat is planned for Sofia, Bulgaria from Friday 14 - Sunday 16 October.



It was great to meet with many of you at the ASPHER General Assembly on 7 June to attend to ASPHER business and to welcome 10 new members! It is terrific to see the Association growing. We were also pleased to re-elect Mary Codd, University College Dublin, Ireland and Oliver Razum, Bielefeld University, Germany for their second terms on the ASPHER Executive Board and to introduce you to co-opted members Polychronis Kostoulas, Thessaly University, Greece and Ines Siepmann, ASPHER YPP Coordinator. [A draft of the GA minutes is available here.](#)

We are very much looking forward to seeing old and new members alike in person at the ASPHER Deans' & Directors Retreat to reunite and revitalise! We have an exciting programme in store with plenty of opportunities to meet and discuss the challenges of running public

health schools and programmes in the current context, updating core curriculum and competencies to improve training offers at all educational levels, public health workforce development and professionalisation, climate change, diversity and digital transformation, as well as time for socializing and networking.

Answer our call for abstracts and be considered for an ASPHER Award!

We are putting out a call for abstracts to propose interventions in three areas:

1. Short proposals to address specific challenges faced by our members. For example, but not limited to organisational changes in schools of public health; ongoing challenges of education and training with Covid; war context (i.e., updating curriculum, integration of war refugees/training continuity); you name it.
2. Presentations of member school/programme good practices in the following areas: (a) undergraduate programmes; (b) PhD-DrPH/doctoral programmes & research capacities; (c) specialist training & continuing professional development.
3. Presentations of member school/programme good practices in the following areas: (a) climate and health education; (b) diversity & intersectionality; (c) big data & modelling for public health decision-making.

As an added incentive, if your abstract meets the criteria of one of the ASPHER Awards, we will put you or your programme into consideration to receive a 2022 Award! For more information, see the call for award nominations [here](#).

Please send your abstract proposals by 4 September to sofia2022@aspher.org. Abstracts do not need to follow a formal format, but should clearly outline the idea proposed.

Register now to join us in Sofia!

Registration is now open for the Deans' & Directors' Retreat. Registration is 200 EUR and covers all conference activities and meals (sightseeing on Sunday is not included).

CALL FOR ASPHER AWARD NOMINATIONS

ASPHER has updated our awards policy and is launching a call for nominations! We will keep the signature **Andrija Štampar Medal** and the ASPHER Good Practice award has been updated with new criteria - now becoming the **ASPHER Teaching & Practice Excellence Award**. Additionally we have two new awards: **ASPHER Research Excellence Award** and **ASPHER Early Career Excellence Award**. Keep reading for more details and nominate your colleagues and peers for one of the four ASPHER awards listed below!



Andrija Štampar Medal

The Andrija Štampar Medal recognizes outstanding lifetime achievements in the public health teaching, research or practices of an esteemed individual within the public health community. Nominees do not need to be a current or past faculty member of an ASPHER member school.

ASPHER Teaching & Practice Excellence Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in public health teaching and practice of a School of Public Health within the ASPHER community. It is given to an ASPHER member school or ASPHER-member programme of public health.

ASPHER Research Excellence Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in public health research. It is given annually to an individual – on behalf of their research team – primarily affiliated with an ASPHER member school.

ASPHER Early Career Excellence Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in the field of teaching, research, or practice of early career individuals. It is given annually to a maximum of five individuals that are primarily affiliated with an ASPHER member school. Early career positions considered for this award include up to associate professors.

Download the full Award call and criteria here. Send us your nomination/nominations by Monday 5 September accompanied by a short endorsement letter to robert.otok@aspher.org.

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ASPHER NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM UPDATES

ASPHER Young Professionals Programme & ASSETS Meeting

Brussels, 7-8 July 2022



ASPHER Young Professionals Programme & ASSETS Meeting 7-9 July 2022



ASPHER had the pleasure of hosting the ASPHER Young Professionals (YPs) Programme and ASSETS Meeting in person at our Brussels Headquarters on 7 and 8 July 2022.

The event was joined by ten participants from our next generation platform, including three ASPHER Fellows, six YPs and one ASPHER Intern. The participants were accompanied by faculty mentors: ASPHER President John Middleton, UK; ASSETS Director Jose Martin Moreno, University of Valencia, Spain; and current and former ASPHER Executive Board Members Laurent Chambaud, EHESP School of Public Health, France; Mary Codd, University College Dublin, Ireland; Oliver Razum, Bielefeld University, Germany; and Mirjana Kujundžić Tiljak Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, Croatia.

The objective of the event was to bring together the next generation for networking, strategic direction setting as well as research training and feedback. The agenda included an ASSETS meeting on Friday morning which allowed the participants to present challenges in their work and receive mentoring feedback from the senior faculty. Three of the ASPHER fellowship agendas were featured in [Climate & Health](#), [Diversity & Intersectionality](#), and [Core Curriculum & Competencies](#). In addition, the ASPHER Digital Health Task Force kick-off was planned; the YP Programme strategy session took place; and, of course, there was plenty of time to socialize and network!

See the [full agenda](#) of the event!

New ASPHER Fellow Karl Conyard



Karl F. Conyard, BSc.BHS; MPH & FRSPH from University College Dublin, Ireland will be joining the ASPHER team as an ASPHER Fellow. He originally trained as an Auxiliary Nurse (later developing his role into Healthcare Assistant); following his time as a HCA Karl completed a BSc. in Health and Society at DCU. He then completed his Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at UCD. Karl is a qualified National Officer of Statistics via the Central Statistics Office (CSO) in Ireland. Karl is also a fellow member of the Royal Society for Public Health (UK) and has been a public health advisor for HCA and Carers Ireland (2018 - June 2020). Karl is also a fellow of the

Royal Statistical Society UK and an Affiliate Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Karl's research interests include infectious disease epidemiology, oncological survival, biostatistics, healthcare provision and stress.

Karl was instrumental in the ASPHER [UCCAIDE project](#) for ECDC, Updating Core Competencies in Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology and will continue working with ASPHER Executive Board Member Mary Cood to make the 6th edition update to the [ASPHER Core Competencies](#). They have launched the project this month and expect to complete it for September 2023 to be rolled out at the 2023 Deans' & Directors Retreat in Dublin. The public health landscape is ever changing and the core competencies need to be reviewed regularly to remain current and relevant for future requirements. The project aims to also identify the core curriculum needed to support the [ASPHER-WHO competency framework](#). Member schools will be called on to consult their curricula and areas of speciality as well as for review and comment.

'Is Public Health able to play a role in addressing geopolitical grievances?' by Tessa-Marie Brake



During her internship at the ASPHER's office in Brussels, Tessa-Marie Brake from the University of Bielefeld, has done research on the broad field of geopolitical health. She conducted a literature review and interviews with different stakeholders on the topic of geopolitical health in the context of the Public Health profession.

In her first blog post for ASPHER website, Tessa outlines the main objectives of her research conducted during her time at ASPHER office and provides a summary of her main findings from the interviews with public health experts from the European Commission, the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, the International Organisation for Migration, Maastricht University and pharmaceutical industry.

Read the full blog post [here](#).

Climate and Health Agenda

ASPHER Joint Statement on Climate and Health - Final version

In the past few months, the thematic network for the EU Policy Platform on “Climate action through public health education and training” has been working on a one-voice joint statement of European stakeholders.

Thank you for all your support throughout the process from the brainstorming to endorsement period. We are happy to share the final copy of the Joint Statement “[Moving towards the right to ‘health for all’ by training the public health and wider health workforce on climate change and health](#)” for your distribution. The final version of the statement was presented on May 5th at the EU Health Policy Platform.

We received comments from DG SANTE, DG CLIMA, and the European Environment Agency that highlighted and acknowledged:

- *The Joint Statement is well-substantiated and timely, clearly stating the urgency for action in both adaptation and mitigation of climate change in the health sector, with the focus on education and training.*
- *It provides a clear emphasis on the need to integrate climate change and the one health concept into the education and training of health professionals*
- *Raising awareness among the health professionals about climate change impacts on human health emerges as an important objective for the European Climate and Health Observatory*
- *The overall emphasis on ‘health for all’ and equity aspects is very much in line with the principles of the EU climate policy framework and the approach taken by the European Climate and Health Observatory*
- *We found the list of supporting organisations impressive and we like the emphasis on training and education on ‘climate health’ for public health and healthcare professionals, and the concrete actions proposed in this respect*
- *We very much hope that the finalisation of the Joint Statement is the beginning of a new way of working on training and education of professionals and we hope that this collaboration will continue and create synergy with the European Climate and Health Observatory*
- *Finally, we would like to congratulate and thank ASPHER and all organisations participating in the drafting/endorsement of the Joint Statement*

The joint statement has been the first successful attempt to involve the stakeholder community around this topic with the aim at creating synergy with existing policies. We are grateful for your contributions and we are excited to share the launch of the statement.

[Download the statement here.](#)

Continue to stay updated through the [EU Health Policy Platform!](#) If you have not registered, our thematic network has shifted to an Exchange Network. You can join us at any time to network with others in the network. If you have any questions, please reach out to ASPHER Fellows Tara Chen (tara.chen@aspher.org) or Rana Orhan (rana.orhan@aspher.org).

ASPHER Climate-Health Networking Event

On 7 July ASPHER and ASPHER Fellows, Rana Orhan and Tara Chen organised an in-person Climate and Health Networking event at the ASPHER headquarters in Brussels. The event's focus was to build on the [Climate and Health Education joint statement](#) and explore next collaborative steps. The event took place in the framework of the 2022 [ASSETS Meeting](#).

Further Climate and Health reading

Alsamara I M, Beinert S F, de Jong J C, Klappe M J B, Marewski V S, Orhan R. IMPACT: Ideal Measures for Participation and Awareness of Climate Change: Stronger Together Citizen participation in achieving the European Green Deal in the Meuse-Rhine Euroregion, South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH), 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5603>

Blog: Corruption in Health Systems Undermines Countries' Response to Shocks: What Can We Learn from the Covid-19 Pandemic?

ASPHER 2021 Young Researcher Forum winner Alejandro Gonzalez-Aquines, recently published a blog of his work on aspher.org on Corruption in health systems and what has been learned from Covid-19. It is utterly relevant that strategies aimed at improving the health system's performance include plans on how to prevent and identify corruption, particularly during the early stages of the shock. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed humanity in many ways; there should also be a change in how we view corruption and recognise that addressing it will foster better-prepared health systems, leading to healthier societies. [Read Alejandro's blog here](#).

Congratulations to 2022 Young Researchers' Forum Winners

ASPHER is pleased to announce the winning presentations of the 2022 Young Researchers' Forum which was held in Bled, Slovenia and online hosted by Angela Boskin Faculty of Health Care during the 15th International Conference: Digitalization and Education in Health Sciences.



The **Best Presentation** was awarded to **Dennis Wienand**, from University of Vienna, Austria. He presented his work on:

Estimating the Public Health Impact of Excess Physical Comorbidities Associated with Mental Health Disorders in Europe: Structured Review, Meta-Analysis and Population-Level Extrapolation of Existing Epidemiological Evidence.

High Commendations were given to **Philippa White**, Department of Public Health, Cork, Ireland for her presentation on:

Highly Lethal Methods of Self-Harm: An Analysis of Hospital-Treated Attempted Hanging and Drowning in Ireland, 2007-2019.



High Commendations were given to the UNCOVER Team, USHER Institute, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom for their dynamic group presentation of their work:

What is the Impact of COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies on the Mental Health of Post-Secondary School Students?



We congratulate and thank all the YRF participants for making it an interesting, informative and enjoyable event!

Great thanks also go to the local team at Angela Boskin Faculty of Health Care and to the YRF Jury: John Middleton, ASPHER Presiden; Leah Okenwa-Emegwa, Swedish Red Cross University; Nadav Davidovitch, Ben Gurion University of the Negev; and Ines Siepmann, ASPHER Young Professionals Coordinator.

Stay tuned for the next edition of ASPHER Young Researchers' Forum!

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ASPHER COVID-19 TASK FORCE

How are inequalities in health from Long COVID being exacerbated and what are the strategic implications for more equitable support for those with enduring clinical sequelae of infection?

“COVID-19 posed unparalleled challenges to healthcare systems and public health, and to societal functions as a whole. While the pandemic may appear to be less severe in 2022, nevertheless the burden of Long COVID has grown and draws attention to addressing its long-term consequences. The clinical impacts have been amplified and multiplied by social factors, the structural and organisational fragility of the response to acute infection and the underestimation of the long-term consequences for individual and population health and wellbeing. That is the case with inequalities, since the association between ethnicity and health inequity in acute COVID-19 has been extensively explored, while the association of such inequalities with Long COVID has received less attention. However, it appears that Long COVID is also exacerbating ethnic, economic and health inequalities in affected patients, similar to what has already been found for acute COVID19.”

To learn more about the scope of the Long COVID and the relationship between epidemiology and inequalities from higher levels of exposure read the [full article here](#).

Monkeypox: Did we learn the lesson from COVID-19?

“Monkeypox (MPXV) is endemic in central-Africa. The Democratic Republic of Congo is one of the countries that have been hit harder by MPXV, with 1284 confirmed cases and 58 deaths between January the 1st and May the 8th 2022. Similarly, Nigeria recorded 512 confirmed cases between 2017 and 2021.

Until the recent past, MPXV had been contained to the aforementioned areas, although there have been occasionally travel-related cases. More recently global public health attention has been drawn to the outbreak of several non-travel related MPXV cases in different high-income countries.

The rapid growth of MPXV contagion in Europe and North America has raised concern but was this situation as unpredictable as it seems?”

Read the full paper on MPXV [here](#).

COVID-19 Task Force Country Situation Reporting

For the past year, the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force has been producing weekly [European country situation reports](#). The reports take a snapshot of what is happening in terms of the pandemic across regions of Europe and how governments are responding. It has proved most useful in Task Force discussions to stimulate conversation and timely response on the most pressing issues arising from the pandemic.

ASPHER Associate Fellow [Rok Hrzic](#) has taken over responsibility for the weekly reports streamlining the content. [Don't miss the latest report and check in for updates each week here.](#)

ECDC and EMA update recommendations on additional booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines

As of 11 July, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the European Medicines Agency (EMA) are recommending that second booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines be considered for people between 60 and 79 years old and people with medical conditions putting them at high risk of severe disease. The ASPHER Covid-19 Task Force endorses this recommendation.

[Read the press release here.](#)

Further COVID-19 Reading

Boas H, Davidovitch N. Into the “New Normal”: The Ethical and Analytical Challenge Facing Public Health Post-COVID-19. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2022, 19(14), 8385.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19148385>

Buchtova M, Malinakova K, Novak L, Janu A, Husek V, Van Dijk J P, Tavel P. The Associations of Experiencing the COVID-19 Pandemic With Religiosity and Spirituality: A Cross-Sectional Study in Czech Adults. *International Journal of Public Health*, Volume 67, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1604712>

Eick D, Aubert O, Dempsey K, Ozawa M, Van Eerd E, Neicun J. The COVID-19 pandemic and the right to health of people who use drugs. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5605>

Genovese C, La Fauci V, Di Pietro A, Trimarchi G, Odone A, et al. COVID-19: opinions and behavior of Italian general population during the first epidemic phase. *Acta Biomed [Internet]*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23750/abm.v93i3.12262>

Jagusiewicz A, Uteh C O, Götz J-P, Robertz J, Zijlman M A, Siepman I. Centralized vaccine procurement in the post-COVID-19 European Union. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5599>

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5602>

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckac035>

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ASPHER TASK FORCE ON WAR

In response to the war on Ukraine, [ASPHER issued a statement condemning the war](#) and outlining potential roles of ASPHER members. Translating this vision, ASPHER has strategically convened a [Task Force on War](#). The Task Force focuses on three key areas: 1) Scientific advice; 2) Neighboring countries and refugee context; 3) Training and broader academic context.

The Task Force on War needs you! That Task Force meets regularly and has an ambitious agenda. If you or your colleagues are interested to join please contact ASPHER Secretariat.

Academic agreements supporting continuity of training in the emergency context of the Ukrainian crisis

Krakow-Rennes-Chisinau Trilateral Agreement

A trilateral agreement about scientific, academic, cultural cooperation and development was signed at the end of June by Jagiellonian University Medical College (JUMC) in Krakow, Poland, the School of Public Health Management (SPHM) of the Republic of Moldova in Chisinau, and the EHESP School of Public Health in Rennes. The three institutions aim to foster and facilitate exchange of staff and students for teaching and research purposes, including lectures, seminars, conferences, preparing joint publications, as well as developing various forms of exchange and mobilities, like internships or practical placements aiming to provide a proper response to the emerging challenges due to the war in Ukraine.

These three academic institutions are joining their efforts to address the challenges for societies, scholars, researchers and students, which are resulting from the very unstable situation in Europe and the whole world. They hope that the recently signed agreement will serve as a platform for new joint projects and research funding initiatives.

Krakow-Rennes Bilateral Agreement



The Institute of Public Health of the Jagiellonian University Medical College (JUMC) in Krakow, Poland, and the EHESP School of Public Health in Rennes, France, institutional partners since 2005, signed a new agreement on 20 July in Krakow, to support Ukrainian refugee students and researchers by financial and operational modalities of collaboration.

The cooperation between these two institutions will consist of a support programme to facilitate the integration of Ukrainian refugee students wishing to study public health at the IPH in Krakow, including the possibility of taking modules or doing internships at the EHESP. Academicians from Ukrainian higher education institutions, including also refugees, will benefit from this, particularly if they wish to initiate or continue their scientific research related to public health problems at the IPH in Krakow, or make short stays at the EHESP in Rennes.

It will be possible, for master degree or doctor degree students from the EHESP, to do internships at the IPH in Krakow in order to participate in training or research activities on topics related to the war situation in Ukraine and public health or refugees' health problems.

Financial support will be provided to Ukrainian students or researchers who have refugee status to help them continue their studies or scientific research in public health.

Global Alliance on War, Conflict & Health

ASPHER has joined the Global Alliance on War, Conflict & Health as an institutional member.



The official launch of the [Alliance](#) took place on July 1, 2022, with ASPHER TF Member Samer Jabbour, American University of Beirut as Chair of Steering Group. The launch included presentations from the President of the American University of Beirut, the Minister of Health of the Central African Republic, the Regional Director of the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean Region, in addition to the Alliance Chairs, Executive Directors and Alliance members.

The Alliance is a global community aiming to strengthen action on war and conflict as threats to health, and to uphold justice and accountability as the foundations for peace and health. It brings together researchers, academics, practitioners and advocates who work to prevent war and promote sustainable peace; mitigate the effects of war and conflict on health; and support health rebuilding during and after conflict. Through research, collaboration, capacity building and advocacy, the Alliance seeks to advance this field of scholarship and practice, provide leadership, promote equitable partnerships, and amplify the voice of those most affected by war and conflict.

Read their [call to action!](#)

Further Reading on Public Health and War

Butenop J, Brake T, Mauder S, Razum O. *Health Situation in Ukraine Before Onset of War and Its Relevance for Health Care for Ukrainian Refugees in Germany: Literature Review, Risk Analysis, and Priority Setting*. Gesundheitswesen. 15 July 2022. [In German]

URL: <https://www.thieme-connect.de/products/ejournals/abstract/10.1055/a-1876-2423>

Orcutt M, Shortall C, Walpole S, Abbara A, Garry S, Issa R (Eds.), Zumla A, Abubakar I (Senior Eds.). *Handbook of Refugee Health*. CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. 2022

URL: <https://www.book2look.com/book/8hqc59wyDv>

ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

ASPHER Survey:

Diversity and Intersectionality in Public Health Education

We are delighted to invite you to participate in an online survey about your perceptions of and experiences with diversity and intersectionality in public health education.

The concepts of diversity and intersectionality are increasingly recognised to understand health inequalities. Despite the growing evidence base, there is a gap in translating research

into education. An ASPHER working group developed teaching syllabi to promote the inclusion of diversity and intersectionality in public health education. To inform the syllabi implementation, we are conducting this survey.

We aim to explore the current status of diversity and intersectionality in public health education in European schools of public health. We are interested in the experiences and perceptions on this topic. The study population includes people who actively engage in public health education.

You can access the survey here: <https://utfragen.uni-bielefeld.de/index.php/441477?lang=en>

We kindly invite you to share this survey with your staff and colleagues at your school of public health. We are looking forward to your participation. We thank you in advance for your time and support to advance ASPHER's mission on diversity.

The survey has been extended until 29 July 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Emma at emma.schlegel@uni-bielefeld.de.

15th European Public Health Conference 2022



EUROPEAN
PUBLIC
HEALTH
CONFERENCE

**Strengthening health systems: improving population health
and being prepared for the unexpected**

hub27, Berlin, Germany, 9-12 November 2022

ASPHER is excited to participate in the 15th EPH Conference in Berlin, which will be the first EPH Conference since Marseille 2019 to take place live and in person from 9 – 12 November. We will be involved in several sessions, listed here. Please be sure to send us information about sessions you are participating in so we can feature them across the ASPHER network.

PL.5. Plenary 5: Sustaining high quality care: interprofessional training for our clinical and public health workforce

<https://ephconference.eu/app/programme/programme.php?d=4>

Preconference: EUPHA Health Technology Assessment Section, ASPHER and ASPHER Working Group on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare EEHE

<https://ephconference.eu/pre-conference-317>

2.L. Workshop: Public Health Institution and Academia's role in building capacity for Health Impact Assessment

<https://ephconference.eu/app/programme/programme.php?d=2>

10.E. Round table: Climate emergency, health and equity education: policy and practice recommendations for Europe

<https://ephconference.eu/app/programme/programme.php?d=4>

10.P. Round table: Public health of the future: innovations in surveillance, communication and knowledge translation

<https://ephconference.eu/app/programme/programme.php?d=4>

11.B. Round table: From Science to Policy Making: Lessons learned from ASPHER's COVID-19 Task Force

<https://ephconference.eu/app/programme/programme.php?d=4>

17th World Congress on Public Health 2023



In May 2023, over 3.000 public health professionals and researchers, policymakers, and students will convene in Rome, Italy, for the 17th World Congress on Public Health, a momentous event organised by the World Federation of Public Health Associations

(WFPHA) in association with the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItI) and the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER).

The theme of the Congress – **A World in Turmoil: Opportunities to Focus on the Public's Health** – reflects our commitment, as the global health community, to work together in and outside of our respective fields to promote health equity and to build a more sustainable and just future.

Important Dates

Registration Open And Early Bird Offer: 9 May 2022 - 9 December 2022

Call For Abstracts Open: 1 September 2022 - 9 December 2022

Call for Abstracts

Submissions are sought on topics aligned with the WCPH2023 International Congress Council.

Online submissions will open on the 1st September 2022. Follow [this link](#) for more information and any new updates. [Download the WCPH2023 flyer here](#).

ASPHER Working Group on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare in Europe (EEHE Working Group)

EEHE Webinar Series:

Value-based healthcare

Wednesday 14 September 2022 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Health Technology Assessment

Wednesday 14 December 2022 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Evaluation of antenatal care

Wednesday 15 March 2023 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Contact: For participation and further information about the EEHE Webinar Series, please contact: Milena Pavlova, e-mail: m.pavlova@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

OMI seminar on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare

OMI seminar in partnership with UM and ASPHER is offered to professionals who want to understand the basics of economic evaluation and its application to health technology assessment and decision making. The following are the dates of the past and upcoming seminars:

November 26, 2020

Recording of the OMIinar can be accessed [here](#)

October 9-15, 2022

<https://www.openmedicalinstitute.org/seminars/>

April 2-8, 2023

<https://www.openmedicalinstitute.org/seminars/>

For further information about the EEHE Working Group and its activities, please [read here](#).

4th CONFERENCE-DEBATE: Health Education Challenges of the 21st Century

On 22 June, ASPHER President John Middleton, and ASPHER Members Henrique Lopes, Catholic University of Portugal and Ewelina Chawlowska, Medical University Poznan, Poland participated in the 4th Conference-Debate on Health Education Challenges of the 21st Century at City of Sciences and Industry of Paris La Villette.

Henrique Lopes opened the event with a presentation on the current context and the urgent need for lifelong training in the field of health. John Middleton discussed climate change as a high risk factor for health in the decades to come. Ewelina Chawlowska introduced a highly successful hands-on training program to highlight the importance of health education for refugees and lifelong learning for health and social workers working with refugees.

The event was recorded - [watch the video here](#) (In French and English).

[See the full event programme here.](#)

Member Database and Social Media Accounts

The ASPHER Secretariat continues to improve its infrastructure to serve members better. Currently we are working on updating the member database and linking members' social media handles to their dedicated pages on ASPHER website. The Secretariat encourages all members to set up social media accounts (if you have not done so yet) and send us relevant details so we may link up with you and amplify your communications. We also encourage members to take advantage of the ASPHER blog if you have any items or reporting from your country or institution that you wish to share in more detail.

The Secretariat will ensure to screen ASPHER members' social media accounts on a regular basis for any news which can be published in the monthly newsletters and shared within the

network. Therefore, share the handles of your social media accounts with the Secretariat, if you have not done so already or follow us on social media platforms. If you are posting content, which might be of interest for the ASPHER community, feel free to tag us on Twitter: @ASPHERoffice and LinkedIn: @ASPHER.

You are always welcome to share your news, publications, comments & suggestions with Lore at lore.leighton@aspher.org to be included in the next regular issue of the newsletter and on the ASPHER website activity log.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Professor Kevin Fenton CBE is appointed as President of the Faculty of Public Health

As of 1 July 2022 Professor Kevin Fenton CBE began his three-year term of office as President of the Faculty of Public Health. Professor Fenton took up the office of Faculty President having held a variety of public health executive leadership roles and is currently the Regional Director for London, Office for Health Improvement & Disparities and Regional Director of Public Health for NHS London. He is also the Statutory Health Advisor to the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority. Professor Fenton is the Government's Chief Advisor on HIV and is overseeing the implementation of the new HIV Action Plan with an ambition to eliminate HIV transmission in England by 2030.



In his welcome message, Professor Fenton stated his clear commitment to supporting a high quality and inclusive UK public health workforce and focusing on the development of a cross-system leadership role for public health professionals by engaging with actors from healthcare, business, education and academia.

The full welcome message from FPH President Professor Kevin Fenton is [available here](#).

Dr. Eva Schernhammer receives the ERC Advanced Grant

Dr. Eva Schernhammer, Head of the Department of Epidemiology at **MedUni Vienna's Center for Public Health (Austria)**, has been awarded a renowned "Advanced Grant" from the European Research Council (ERC).

In the next five years, the ERC Advanced project "CLOCKrisk" aims to further research the adverse health consequences of a disrupted circadian clock, with a step in the same direction of assessing the individual risk ("personalised medicine").

[Learn more here](#).

NAWA Grant Award for the Medical University of Gdańsk

Congratulations to the **Medical University of Gdańsk (Poland)** for receiving the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA) grant for their project 'Public health education and the challenges of the pandemic'!

The project aims to build capacity to help improve public health education by developing new content and teaching methods learned from the COVID-19 pandemic. The goals of the project are: (a) Develop common didactic offer, including in the field of epidemic management, leadership in public health, public health research, problem based learning and hybrid teaching methods; (b) Develop existing cooperation between partners and build capacity.

The goals will be achieved through common practices and training modules in thematic areas, through training seminars, exchange of academic staff between partners.

Expected results: 5 thematic teaching methods, handouts and teaching materials for teaching public health, 2 classroom seminars, 10 online services, 10 study visits.

Project consortium and roles of individuals partners:

Medical University of Gdańsk, POLAND – project lead/coordinator

Maastricht University, NETHERLANDS - Problem Based Learning methodology and adaptation to labour market (leadership, career counseling, professionalisation)

EHESP School of Public Health, FRANCE - Climate & Health

Andrija Stampar School of Public Health, CROATIA - Digital Health & Big Data

ISPUP University of Porto, PORTUGAL - training in research within the chosen thematic areas

IPH Jagiellonian University Medical College, POLAND - lessons learned from Covid-19

FPH Climate & Health Conference

Date: 22 September 2022, 9:00 (GMT+1)

Location: Online

The Faculty of Public Health (UK) is organising an online [climate and health conference](#) on 22 September 2022. The conference will include inspiring speakers from across the globe as well as abstract presentations from public health professionals in the UK. The [registration for the conference is now open](#).

Call for abstracts: Abstract submissions should describe initiatives addressing matters related to climate change, environmental protection and sustainability at a local, regional, or national level. Submissions should detail the background, objectives, methods, results and conclusions within the 300 word count limit. Abstracts can include several authors, but the first author and presenter should be a public health registrar, practitioner or consultant in the UK. **The deadline for abstract submission is 31 July 2022 and submissions can be made [via this portal](#).**

EuroPubHealth+ and EHESP School of Public Health Graduation



ASPHER congratulates the 2022 [EuroPubHealth+ European Master of Public Health](#) and [EHESP Master of Public Health](#) graduates.

The graduation ceremony capped off the 5th edition of EHESP's International Week in Rennes, France from 4 to 8 July 2022.

PhD Program in Public Health at Al-Quds University, East Jerusalem

The **School of Public Health at Al-Quds University** has launched a [PhD program in public health](#) in the academic year 2021-2022.

The doctoral program contributes to enhancing Al-Quds University-School of Public Health role in improving the health status of the population by graduating highly qualified multidisciplinary health professionals who are able to conduct high-quality research and synthesize knowledge in the field of public health. Also, the program aims to graduate component professionals in academia, research, policy making and leadership who can lead change in health system analysis and development at policy and programing levels.

The PhD degree is open for professionals from relevant disciplines holding master degree in public health and is awarded after successful completion of all the study courses stipulated through a four-year program. The program consists of 48 credit hours, provided through interactive learning approaches built on adult learning principles and requires intensive work, in-depth analysis and active engagement.

The program courses are categorized into three main themes: (a) Core courses: 18 credit hours; (b) Elective courses: 12 credit hours for Public Health; (c) Dissertation: 18 credit hours.

Graduates can find careers teaching at universities, and directing and organizing research programs at academic institutions. Employment opportunities are also available in governmental and nonprofit organizations, helping develop public health programs and policies, and leading research projects aimed at improving public health on a local, national, and global scale.

Article collection: One Health, Environmental Health, Global Health, and Inclusive Governance: What can we do?

An integral element of the One Health concept is the critical importance of addressing the effects of the devastating environmental imbalance of today. This is a major task for our generation and our children, with very limited time left to avoid a planetary catastrophe, aspects of which are already visible. Worldwide, and in many regions and individual countries, current economic, social, and environmental policies are too dangerous and unsustainable. The future state of the environment is, in short, central to One Health's aspirations. In order to

achieve significant One Health breakthroughs, there must be diminishing global economic and social disparities between countries and within countries. Underserved populations, even in most developed countries, are substantial in numbers. Their lot has to be improved if we want to follow a civil discourse, both within countries and between them, and at global levels.

Read the full editorial by Ulrich Laaser, Vesna Bjegovic-Mikanovic, Richard Seifman, Flavia Senkubuge and Zeljka Stamenkovic and the *Frontiers in Public Health* [article collection here](#).

Selected ASPHER Member Publications

Alsamara I M, Beinert S F, de Jong J C, Klappe M J B, Marewski V S, Orhan R. IMPACT: Ideal Measures for Participation and Awareness of Climate Change: Stronger Together Citizen participation in achieving the European Green Deal in the Meuse–Rhine Euroregion, *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5603>

Arditi C, Peytremann-Bridevaux I. Quality of Cancer Care in Switzerland: Going Beyond Traditional Quality Indicators by Collecting Patient-Reported Experiences of Cancer Care. *Public Health Rev*, 17 May 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1604813>

Felsing R, Groman E. Price Policy and Taxation as Effective Strategies for Tobacco Control. *Frontiers in Public Health*, Volume 10, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2022.851740>

Gobianidze M, Hammond J, Jürgens K, Reisser K, Kalaitzi V. Advancing the diversity and inclusion agenda in healthcare organizations: The case of German university hospitals. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5600>

Kurtz B, Hennenberg D N, Supke L, Nguyen T Y C. Professionalize European Public Health Workforce: The need for a Minimum Dataset and Skills Passport. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5601>

Michel J, Murugasampillay S, Sauter TC, Tanner M. Teleeducation: Pandemic Proofing Global Education. *Int J Public Health*, 24 May 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1604872>

Namer Y, Drüke F, Razum O. Transformative Encounters: A Narrative Review of Involving People Living With HIV/AIDS in Public Health Teaching. *Public Health Rev*, 22 June 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1604570>

Rasmussen LG, Nielsen RO, Kallestrup P, Hawkins J, Ryom K. Study design of ‘Move More’: Development and feasibility of a social-prescribing intervention to increase physical activity among inactive Danes. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*. June 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F14034948221098929>

Ribeiro AI, Gullón P, Murray ET. Neighbourhood Influences on Population Health: Time to Unpack the Black Box. *Public Health Rev*, 08 June 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1605053>

Tamminen A C M, Duport G, Atienza Serrano R, Babich S M. Increasing fruit and vegetable consumption in Ireland. South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH), 2022.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5604>

PARTNER NEWS & EVENTS

New EUPHA Executive Director

As of July 1st, Dr Marieke Verschuuren is the new EUPHA's Executive Director. Marieke has been on the EUPHA's Executive Council as Secretary in the past 3,5 years, and is founder and active member of the EUPHA Public health monitoring and reporting section. She has a strong track record in public health, including advocating the right to health for all at Wemos, working as an independent public health consultant, leading the public health foresight study 2018 at the National Institute for Public Health and Environment in the Netherlands, and as technical officer at WHO Regional Office for Europe.



From left to right: Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, Dr Iveta Nagyova (EUPHA president), Dr Marieke Verschuuren.

Dineke Zeegers Paget hands over the directorship after 25 years of leading the EUPHA organization. She will continue to be part of the EUPHA office team as strategic advisor.

ASPHER has very much enjoyed working with Dineke and we wish her all the best in her new role within EUPHA. We look forward to continuing our close collaboration with EUPHA and its new director, Marieke Verschuuren.

BeWell Project Launch



The ERASMUS+ BeWell 'blueprint alliance for a future health workforce strategy on digital & green skills' project launched on 14 July. It brings together a large consortium of partners from across 11 countries. Over the next four years, the project aims to bring together all healthcare stakeholders supporting and committed to the development, implementation and upscaling of the strategy on upskilling and reskilling of the European Health Workforce.

Several ASPHER Partners are directly involved. ASPHER will be following the work closely to ensure there is strong reference to public health and to synergize our actions.

[Follow the BeWell project on Twitter here.](#)

Nutri-Score Petition

A group of scientists, experts and citizens have launched a [petition](#) to defend the Nutri-Score labeling against lobbies that try to distort Nutri-Score and prevent it from becoming mandatory in Europe. The petition asks that ‘the European Parliament adopt Nutri-Score as the mandatory front-of-pack label for Europe in 2023, taking into consideration its scientific background and its demonstrated interest in terms of public health; and that manufacturers who today refuse to display Nutri-Score, to respond to consumer demand for a true nutritional transparency on composition of foods, and immediately display (even if it is not yet mandatory) the Nutri-Score on their products.’

To read the full text of the petition, which is available in French, English, Spanish and Italian, and to sign it, please visit [this website](#). The organisers of this initiative have created a video, which explains the objectives of the Nutri-Score and how to use it. The video is available in [French](#), with [English](#) and [Spanish](#) subtitles.

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OPPORTUNITIES

Vacancy: Director of Academic Programmes, School of Population Health, RCSI, Dublin

The School of Population Health, [RCSI University of Medical and Health Sciences](#), Dublin has an exciting opportunity to be centrally involved in transforming education and research in population health.

As part of the establishment phase of the new School of Population Health, RCSI now seeks applicants with significant experience in developing and leading postgraduate programmes, ideally in population health disciplines (e.g. epidemiology, biostatistics, health services and health policy, health psychology, behavioural science and health promotion, etc.) motivated to deliver on this highly innovative and forward-thinking educational initiative. The post holder will have the academic, interpersonal and programme development skills to create and manage a major growth strategy.



The **Director of Academic Programmes** will play a central role as part of the senior leadership of the School of Population Health and is responsible for the design, development, accreditation and implementation of new programmes, as part of the School's strategic development plan. The post holder reports directly to the Head of School and works with academic and professional staff to market research, develop and lead new flagship academic programmes in population health for RCSI.

The closing date for applications is 9 September 2022.

Further information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Call for Papers: COVID-19 and the Governmental PHW: Adaptation, Response, and Recovery to Staffing a Global Pandemic

The special issue of IJERPH invites submissions of papers characterising how across the globe the governmental public health workforce adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as how the pandemic has impacted the workforce. New research papers, practice reports, brief reports, reviews, and conference papers are welcome to this issue.

The call is open for submissions until 31 August 2022. The manuscripts should be submitted [online](#). For more information, please visit the [journal's webpage](#).

Call for Papers: Transformative Public Health Education

Public Health Reviews, invites high quality Reviews and Policy Briefs on “[Transformational Public Health Education - building resilience and preparedness to post COVID-19 future](#)”.

The call is open for submission until October 31, 2022. The articles will be published shortly after acceptance in the online special issue. Please submit the full manuscript [online](#).

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

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