



Manifesto for the ASPHER Executive Board Elections 2018: Carlo Signorelli, MD, MSc, PhD

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The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) has a long standing tradition of promoting the role of public health across Europe by enhancing and supporting the action of the most important Public Health Schools in order to improve education and training of public health professionals for both practice and research.

A lot has been done, in recent years, to strengthen ASPHER's role in the European public health scientific and institutional networks, this including the co-organization of the annual European Public Health Conference, which in 2018 gets to its 11th edition.

ASPHER's future action needs to build on what the Association has successfully achieved so far but also take into account the new challenges that public health is facing in training, research, practice and policy. In particular, the focus should lie on:

- **Guaranteeing ASPHER a greater and more solid financial sustainability** through i) implementing new for-profit models and formats for ASPHER events and conferences (as done by other scientific associations), and ii) renegotiating in a more profitable asset the ASPHER contract with its official Journal (Public Health Reviews);
- **Expanding ASPHER members' community** both establishing wider contacts with extra European realities, and favoring the inclusion of small public health schools (or particular situation of network-like structures) which cannot afford current ASPHER membership fees. Scoping the feasibility to reform the current ASPHER membership policy might help to achieve this objective;
- **Broadening the ASPHER training potential** taking full advantage of the available extended network of public health experts affiliated to the different schools of Public Health, also considering distance learning formulas; in particular by taking advantage of some already ongoing efforts such as the Public Health Training Academy aiming to develop a Europe-wide CPD scheme for public health workforce;
- **Promoting ASPHER visibility** within its affiliated schools of Public Health through effective and low-cost promotion campaigns on social networks and during key public health events;
- **Supporting an active role of ASPHER in 2020** at the 16th World Congress of Public Health (WCPH) which will be organized in Rome, jointly with the 13th European Public Health Conference.