

September-October 2022
ASPHER Newsletter



Image: Sveta Sofia, Alexandrov Boulevard, Sofia, Bulgaria. Credit: Pixabay

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The reign has ended



It has been an honour to have been your President over the past 3 years. ASPHER has been part of a global effort to improve and protect the health of the people we serve and protect the planet. It is three years since we last met together [in Erice, Sicily](#), But I believe we have been together more strongly, more intently, and more effectively than at any other time in our history.

The COVID era

The pandemic of COVID-19 has come between us, almost for the entirety of my Presidency. It has been a disaster and a tragedy. To date there have been 621 million confirmed cases, and [6.5 million known deaths worldwide](#). ASPHER responded early in the pandemic, with our [COVID-19 task force](#). We have held [over 100 meetings](#) and have published more than 120 papers. COVID-19 has impacted on our health. It has also damaged our economies, our education, and our environments. Our responses, as societies have allowed inequality to grow to even more unacceptable levels, between rich and poor, between minorities and between men and women, and against people with disability, vulnerability, and gender differences, within and between countries. The pandemic has affected us all, as professionals, [making demands on us in our institutions](#), in our teaching practices, and in our care and support for colleagues and students. And it has made demands on all of us in our personal lives. Many of us have experienced loss, of family, friends, colleagues. Many have suffered personally from Covid and other illnesses. I salute a public health community which has climbed to the summit of selfless public service. [Thank you](#).

For a profession which exists for the protection of the health of the public, we should not forget, nor neglect the fact that we are all members of that public too. [ASPHER is mourning the loss of our Board member Carla Nunes](#). I invite you to pause to reflect on how you, your families, friends, and colleagues have been personally affected through the pandemic. We must look after our own health and the health of those around us – no-one else will.

ASPHER business accelerated

Before the pandemic, ASPHER had enjoyed years of what I would describe as ‘comfortable progress’. There were great and important tools for ASPHER members in many areas of our work. But many of our ambitions took years to come to fruition; people delighted in telling me about things that happened 20 years previous. We were weak on implementation, in my view. We were also reliant on a few committed enthusiasts, rather than making full use of the great reservoir of expertise in our schools, in all parts of the European Region. We did not have the climate of partnership needed to make things happen. We did not have a culture of unity. The European public health community appeared riven with minor tensions, pointless divisions and individual differences which threatened our reputation and limited our progress towards a strengthened, vibrant, professional service, capable of improving and protecting the public’s health. We have begun to address the relationship issues and strengthen our partnerships. There are too many forces, in geopolitics, and the disinformation era, for us to be distracted by arguments amongst ourselves. We stand together or we fall, apart.

The intensity of the pandemic has accelerated our ability to make progress on the major core business we are involved in. Digital conferencing has been propelled forward enabling us to meet quickly and more representatively with colleagues local and global.

Driven by member interests – the young professional agenda

Our commitments to the [young professional agenda](#) have borne dividends as early career colleagues have been enabled to play a strong and active part in ASPHER business. They have presented at conferences and symposia, published in a range of journals and blogs, and been part of the developing governance of ASPHER. We welcomed Ines Siepmann as the first ASPHER young professional board representative. We have created the honorary position of ASPHER Associate Fellow, and welcomed Rok Hrzic, Lisa Wandschneider and Karen Dopelt as the first of this group. We also have ASPHER Fellows, Tara Chen and Rana Orhan, who sit with the ASPHER secretariat. Our commitments to the early career professionals have also enabled us to shift the age profile of ASPHER membership, creating a better balance of youth and experience. They also give us a greater representativeness of ethnicity, diversity, and global outlook.

Driven by member interests – task forces and expert panels

Colleagues have come together because they wanted to address shared problems, [the pandemic](#), and the [war on Ukraine](#). We have thrown our collective efforts into revised competencies for [applied infectious disease epidemiology](#) and vaccine training, and on the [climate change and health education curriculum](#). ASPHER has begun to implement the work of my predecessor, Kasia Czabanowska, published jointly with WHO Europe, [on competencies for the public health workforce](#), and [the professionalisation road map](#). Mary Codd has taken on the mantle of curriculum and competence development with ASPHER Associate Fellow, Karl

Konyard. We thank Anders Foldspang, Chris Birt and many others for their efforts building our [core competencies and curriculum to the 5th edition](#), a greatly valued guide to schools of public health.

ASPHER members as corporate citizens – practicing what they teach

I was particularly keen to develop our corporate citizen agenda, so that we as schools ‘practice what we preach’. We have moved this forward on the climate change and diversity and inclusion agendas. We still have more work to do on these, and on the social involvement agenda for our schools. Rana Orhan and Tara Chen have been the engine for our efforts on climate change – what schools are doing and how ASPHER should reduce its carbon footprint. Most recently their work on the [European Health Policy Platform](#) has given us a prominent stage for our work, and really requires us to be carbon exemplars! We still need a travel policy! I am grateful to Lisa Wandschneider, Yudit Namer and Oliver Razum for their leadership on [diversity and intersectionality](#).

Long term ASPHER projects, moving forward – APHEA

We have moved forward the work of [APHEA, the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation](#). APHEA was a child of ASPHER from early in its development, but has now embraced a more global outlook. We have built revised statutes, robust new governance and finance, active Boards of Directors and Accreditation and a stronger pool of reviewers. The Member lead organisations for APHEA are ASPHER and IANPHI, the International Association of National Public Health Institutes. APHEA is a unique and treasured asset to public health education. Reviewed schools appreciate the strong elements of peer review, the critical, and expert, friendly approach an APHEA assessment brings. APHEA adapted diligently, skilfully and pragmatically to the limitations imposed by the pandemic. I am grateful to Chris Potter, Selena Gray and Suzanne Babich for their work as Chairs of the Board of Accreditation, and to Julien Goodman for his tireless efforts as Director.

Long term ASPHER projects, moving forward – Public Health Reviews

We also transferred ownership of the ASPHER journal, [Public Health Reviews](#) to the Swiss School of Public Health. This has enabled a new relationship with a dedicated editorial team at the Swiss School and Frontiers publishing. This has freed our secretariat from non-core business and freed ASPHER from financial liabilities. We continue to benefit from the collaboration with *Public Health Reviews* and have used the journal extensively over recent years for ASPHER statements. Most recently we have published two statements on planning for [coming winter threat](#), and specifically on [planning for COVID](#). We strongly urge our members to use the journal, submit papers, propose themed editions and contribute to Associate Editor functions. I thank Anke Berger, Nino Kuenzli and Raquel Lucas, for their commitment to this exciting and developing project. We thank Ted Tulchinsky and Lore Leighton for their part in setting up and leading the journal in its early life.

Strengthening partnerships – for European health

I describe our European partnership development in the [latest European Journal of Public Health](#). I am grateful to Dineke Zeegers and Marieke Verschuuren, Walter Ricciardi and Iveta Nagyova of EUPHA, for their [commitment to our shared agenda](#). We are continuing to develop

our partnerships with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), with EuroHealthNet, and with IANPHI, and we thank Milka Sokolovic and Sascha Marschang, Caroline Costongs, and Anne-Catherine Viso and Duncan Selbie for their continued support and cooperation. We have been recognised as an official Non-State Actor able to attend and address the European Regional meeting of WHO. Hans Kluge and Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat have been towers of strength, in their work for European public health and as allies for ASPHER. We thank them for their professionalism and friendship. Nadav Davidovitch, ASPHER Board member, addressed the [WHO Euro Regional meeting in Tel Aviv recently](#).

Strengthening partnerships – for global health

We are European focussed, with a global outlook. The new [Global Network for Academic Public Health \(GNAPH\)](#) is now firmly established and I thank Laura Magaña and Dorothy Biberman for their vision and commitment to making this happen. My counterparts in our sister organisations across the globe have also committed strongly to this work, enabling us to position the actions and needs of [schools of public health firmly on the global health agenda](#). We are working with WHO Headquarters, preparing [briefing documents for the World Health Assembly](#), and the International Negotiating Committee for the new Global Pandemic Preparedness Treaty. We thank Jim Campbell, Director of Health Workforce WHO Geneva, for his great leadership of this work.

We are also building a strong relationship with the [World Federation of Public Health Associations](#). We built a strong [shared statement on vaccine equity](#), influential in [global health channels](#), although still with much more to be done. Particularly nice work from [Alison McCallum](#) and [colleagues there!](#) Most recently ASPHER on behalf of GNAPH, is a partner in planning and delivering the [World Congress on Public Health](#) to be held in Rome, May 2–6, 2023. If you only go to one meeting in person in 2023 – make it this one! We thank Bettina Borisch, Walter Ricciardi, Luis De Eugenio De Souza for their solidarity and hard work!

A spectre is haunting Europe

Pandemics have always brought social upheaval, for better sometimes, for worse often... We need to build better national and international public health systems of protection, applying equally and fairly across the globe. And we need to build back societies which will be healthier, fairer, productive, and sustainable. A spectre is haunting Europe, the spectre of fascism. But we cannot go back to the era of austerity, nationalism, and greed. It is our responsibility, and our dangerous and difficult task, to ensure we learn the lessons of history and [plan for an outbreak of health](#).

With thanks

It has been a great honour and a privilege to serve ASPHER over these difficult years. I will continue to serve as Vice President, and as Chair of the Honours platform. I look forward to continuing work with incoming President Carlo Signorelli. I am grateful for the constant and energetic support I have received from Carlo and from my colleagues in the ASPHER executive. I thank also the COVID-19 task force and I would like to also thank my predecessor, Kasia Czabanowska for enabling effective continuity to our ASPHER strategy and her continuing involvement In ASPHER business. I owe a great debt of gratitude also to Jose Martin-Moreno for his wise counsel, his unerringly support to me personally, and in his capacity as co-chair of the

Honours Committee. Most of all, I must thank the ASPHER secretariat. Robert Otok is a tower of strength in the cause of ASPHER. I am extremely grateful to you Robert, for making things happen in my Presidency. I thank also, Lore Leighton, and Tatiana Caftea.

I was reminded recently of the phrase '[culture eats strategy for breakfast](#)'. In my [first statement to the ASPHER membership](#) I said, 'We will seek to be inclusive, authoritative, evidence-based, pragmatic, supportive, friendly, and we will have fun.' I will let you be the judge of how much of those we have been able to achieve...

John Middleton

President of ASPHER, May 26th 2019 - October 14th 2022

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

The ASPHER Secretariat is thrilled to be reconnecting in person with many members at the [ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat](#) this week in Sofia, Bulgaria! We look forward to also having those of you who are unable to travel join us online. An outline of the programme is listed here in the newsletter and the [detailed version can be accessed online](#). Much appreciation goes out to local organisers at Faculty of Public Health, Medical University Sofia and especially Retreat Chair and ASPHER Executive Board member Karolina Lyubomirova!

The Sofia Retreat will be important to the life of the ASPHER organisation hosting the transfer of the ASPHER Presidency from John Middleton to Carlo Signorelli. John has seen the Association through a difficult time period, contributing to ASPHER's financial stability, governance, partnership and global stature, and growing our membership. He did so while functioning for most of his term under the constraints of the Covid pandemic, making ASPHER a major voice for schools of public health in pandemic response through the Covid-19 Task Force. John will continue working with ASPHER as immediate past-President and as co-Chair of the Honours platform. The ASPHER Secretariat warmly thanks John for his devoted and consistent service. We also look forward to Prof Carlo Signorelli's upcoming term. Carlo is not new to us as a long time member of the Executive Board and has already brought ASPHER in as a partner to the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SIIt) for the [2023 World Congress on Public Health](#) in Rome. We expect this to be an exciting time period for the Association!

As already mentioned, we will also see a [change in leadership for the ASPHER Honours platform](#) with John Middleton along with 2020 Štampar medalist Selma Šogorić taking over as co-Chairs from Prof Jose Martin-Moreno and Prof Kasia Czabonawska. We thank Jose and Kasia for their loyal service to ASPHER and to this vital element of the Association.

If that wasn't already enough, ASPHER will be celebrating our new award winners in Sofia! First and foremost with [Laurent Chambaud who is honoured with this year's prestigious Andrija Štampar Medal](#). We also are delighted to announce the [Institute of Public Health, Jagiellonian University as the Teaching & Practice Excellence Award](#) winner; [Nadav Davidovitch for the Research Excellence Award](#); and [Keren Dopelt and Rok Hrzic who will both receive the Early Career Excellence Award](#). Congratulations to all the 2022 award winners! Your dedication and excellence in public health is truly inspiring!

The [European Public Health \(EPH\) Conference](#) will be held in Berlin only a few short weeks after the Sofia Deans' & Directors' Retreat and we are also preparing for that event. ASPHER will be involved in several sessions and will be back onsite with the ASPHER booth. Be sure to let us know if you will be presenting at EPH so that we can add you to our programme of ASPHER highlights for the next newsletter. Also let us know if you would be interested in sharing some of the space at the ASPHER booth.

One of the signature events that is returning to EPH this year is the [ASPHER Young Researchers' Forum](#). Please be sure to share the call for abstracts with your students, postdocs, recent graduates and junior faculty. Don't let them miss out on this great opportunity to present their work, connect with other young researchers and faculty mentors.

There has been plenty of usual business ongoing at ASPHER with the [intake of the 2022 cohort to our Young Professionals Programme](#), work from our ASPHER [Interns](#) and [Fellows](#), important statements on the upcoming Winter from the [Covid-19 Task Force](#), a new seminar series from the [Task Force on War](#), and a recent partners meeting and publication from the ERASMUS+ [SEEEPHI project](#).

On a more somber note, ASPHER Secretariat regrets to inform you of the [death of ASPHER Executive Board Member Carla Nunes](#), Dean of the National School of Public Health, NOVA University, Lisbon. Carla was a dynamic member of the ASPHER and broader public health community and she will be dearly missed.

In partner news, we would like to highlight that ASPHER has been granted [Non-State Actor status with the WHO Regional Office for Europe](#) and ASPHER Executive Board Member Nadav Davidovitch made a communication on public health professionalisation at the recent WHO European Regional Committee Meeting in Tel Aviv. We are also pleased that [EPHA is running a thematic network on anti-racism and anti-discrimination to reduce health inequity](#) with the EU Health Policy Platform. ASPHER will be actively involved with the initiative and subsequent joint statement.

There is also much more to read from both [Members](#) and [Partners](#) – so don't miss their news and events as well as upcoming [opportunities](#).

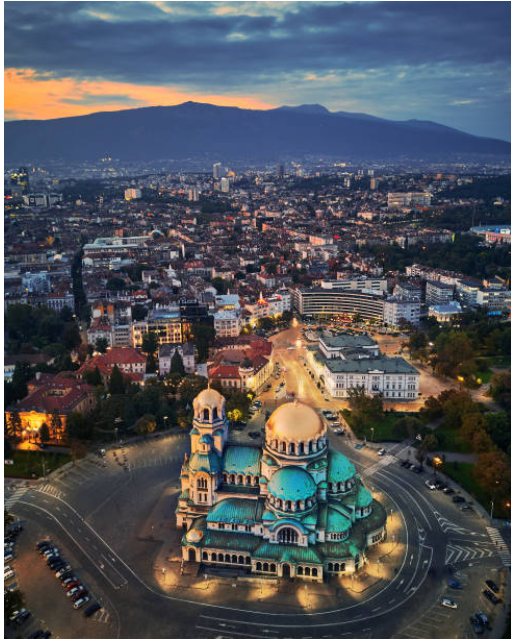
Good travels and see you in Sofia, Bulgaria!
ASPHER Secretariat

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 - SOFIA 2022

Friday 14 - Sunday 16 October 2022



We are very excited to see old and new members alike in person at the [ASPHER Deans' & Directors Retreat from 14-16 October in Sofia, Bulgaria](#) 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.

[See the full Retreat programme here!](#)

Summary of the Retreat programme (note that all times given are in local Bulgarian time):

Friday 14 October

09:30 – 11:00 Opening Ceremony & ASPHER Presidency Handover

Welcome addresses

Luchezar Traykov, Rector – Medical University of Sofia

Jordanka Fandukova, Mayor of Sofia

Bulgaria Assen Medjidiev, Minister of Health

Rumen Radev, President of Bulgaria

Keynote address

Dean Tzekomir Vodenicharov, Medical University of Sofia

ASPHER presidency handover

John Middleton & Carlo Signorelli

Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat, WHO Regional Office for Europe

Laura Magaña, Global Network for Academic Public Health

Bettina Borisch, World Federation of Public Health Associations

11:30 – 13:00 Plenary: Public Health Workforce Professionalisation

14:30 – 16:00 Parallel Sessions: Workshops

Undergraduate programmes

Doctoral programmes and research capacities

Specialist training and continuing professional development

16:30 – 18:00 Plenary: Deans' Session hosted by Schools of Public Health in Bulgaria

19:30 – 23:00 ASPHER 2022 Awards Ceremony & Festive dinner

Saturday 15 October

09:00 – 10:00 ASPHER Task Force Session: COVID-19

10:15 – 11:15 ASPHER Task Force Session: War/Geopolitical Health

11:30 – 13:00 Plenary: Follow up Deans' Session

14:00 – 16:30 An Interactive Workshop: Defining Core Curricula to support the attainment of Core Competencies by Public Health Professionals

Including group work in thematic areas: **Climate and Health; Diversity and Intersectionality; Big Data and Modelling for Public Health Decision-Making** and more.

17:00 – 17:30 Closing session

20:00 – 23:00 Folk dinner

Sunday 16 October

Sightseeing social programme: Plovdiv and Sofia options

ASPHER 2022 AWARDS

We are pleased to congratulate all the 2022 ASPHER award recipients! We will present and celebrate the awards during the Retreat in Sofia, with additional recognition at EPH in Berlin.

Andrija Štampar Medal



Laurent CHAMBAUD, immediate past Director, École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique (EHESP), Rennes and Paris, FRANCE

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.

Dr. Laurent Chambaud is the former Dean of EHESP French School of Public Health. Prof Chambaud is a public health physician and former advisor to Ms. Marisol Touraine, the Minister of Social Affairs and Health. He began his career in the service of maternal and child health in 1979. Then he was trained as a medical inspector of public health at the National School of Public Health in 1988. In 1996, Prof Chambaud was appointed national expert seconded to the European Commission and the project coordinator for the establishment of the National Institute of Health Surveillance (INVS). After passing the General Inspectorate of Social Affairs from 2006 to 2010, Prof Chambaud was appointed director of the Public Health Regional Health Agency of Ile-de-France, and joined the cabinet of Ms. Marisol Touraine.

Prof Laurent Chambaud has a long and recognized career in public health with responsibilities in different countries, intense work in research and training of public health professionals -

reflected in leading one of the great international schools. He has a humanist vision of public health and, in particular, has contributed persistent and consistent work on behalf of ASPHER and APHEA. Laurent shares his experience and enthusiasm with the most diverse members of the public health community, promoting bridges between institutions and people. He most recently brokered agreements of scholarship exchange supporting continuity of training in the emergency context of the Ukrainian war. He consolidates a style of leadership that has enormously benefited everyone at ASPHER.

ASPHER Teaching & Practice Excellence Award



The Institute of Public Health, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

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.

The Institute of Public Health (IPH) of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow has a leading position among the higher education public health institutions in Poland and the Central & Eastern European region. Being part of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Medical College (Collegium Medicum), IPH strives to provide the highest quality teaching and scientific research in the area of public health for over 30 years. Bachelor's and master's degree courses in Public Health are offered, as well as Health Care Management, and various forms of postgraduate education, including courses in Management of Health Care Facilities. For many years, IPH study in Public Health has been ranked in the first position in the nation-wide ranking of higher education in Poland.

IPH concentrates on public health and health care system problems which are important from the standpoint of Europe and the whole planet, seen from the perspective of Poland and Europe. IPH understands that taking an innovative and creative approach in education and practice helps to overcome various kinds of obstacles (political, societal, or teaching-related) within challenging settings.

This has been translated into gradually building the consciousness of public health issues within both internal and external environments, starting from the local academic environment, the peers in the same faculty and university, and the local community, especially through high schools, in continuous efforts to develop public health as a science and field of concentration for higher education studies in the increasingly competitive academic setting.



ASPHER Research Excellence Award



Nadav DAVIDOVITCH, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, Israel

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.

Prof Davidovitch has been running multiple research ventures that address issues important to public health: access to quality health services and health promotion, always anchoring it in equity, diversity, leaving-no-one-behind and solidarity. His research spans into the One Health Approach, ethics, human rights. He has received multiple research grants in the areas of inequities, public-private relations in health systems, social determinants for health and access of services, health promotion and beyond. Through the COVID-19 pandemic Nadav ran research funded by the Israeli National Health Research Institute on human rights, together with law, justice and ethics experts from Tel Aviv University.

Nadav is the Head of the School of Public Health in Ben Gurion University in Israel and a highly respected researcher and expert. Nadav has been called multiple times to provide his input to Parliamentary Commissions, Committees and to civil society organizations. Prof Davidovitch is a sought after interviewee by the media in Israel, Europe and beyond. Nadav has joined civil society organizations and the authorities aiming to close the health gaps in Israel and focuses on the Bedouin community and other marginalized groups.

Prof Nadav Davidovitch is a humane, excellent, unique researcher in public health. He is driven by the set of norms of values that Public Health is anchored in. He has nurtured, guided, taught and brought to the front stage many generations of public health workers and made impact through linking research with policy.

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.

Keren DOPELT, Ashkelon Academic College, Ashkelon, Israel

Keren Dopelt, Ph.D., is a senior lecturer and the head of the Ethics Committee in the department of Public Health at Ashkelon Academic College where she is also teaching and advising undergraduate public health students with a strong emphasis on health inequities.

Keren is also a Research Associate at Ben Gurion University School of Public Health and the Center for Health Policy Research in the



Negev, and the coordinator of the "Health Forum of the Negev" at the faculty of Health Sciences, Ben Gurion University. She was the main initiator of the health leadership course at BGU, leading the course last spring, introducing new syllabus and advanced PBL and simulations methodologies.

Keren is an ASPHER Associate Fellow focussed on a variety of issues, including social responsibility of public health practitioners and in the last 2 years on SEEPHI Erasmus capacity building project and the main force moving forward the health leadership work package, she is also the advisor of 3 master students working on this topic.

More broadly Keren is working on health inequities in Israel, influencing policies both on the regional level in the Negev and national level. She has vast experience in implementing and evaluating health promotion programs in the community with a strong focus on reducing health inequalities. She is the co-founder of the annual Conferences for Health Equity in the Negev. Dr. Dopelt has published about 20 papers in leading journals.

Rok HRZIC, University of Maastricht, Maastricht, Netherlands

Rok Hrzic is a physician by training and holds MSc degrees in Epidemiology and in Governance and Leadership in European Public Health from Maastricht University. He has experience with novel data sources and analysis methods in public health, in particular utilizing hospital information systems and insurance claims datasets in the area of rare diseases, and indicators of population health and health system performance. He is an affiliated doctoral student with the International Max Planck Research School on Population, Health and Data Science, pursuing a thesis on determinants of mortality convergence in the European Union.



As an ASPHER Associate Fellow, Rok has been an amazing resource to the ASPHER Covid-19 Task Force, leading the [weekly countries survey situation report](#), including revising it according to the dynamic situation. He has also contributed to several important Task Force statements and leading the panel submission for the EPH conference on COVID 19 workforce activities and lessons. In his activities with ASPHER, Rok consistently displays leadership, maturity and independence.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR THE ASPHER YOUNG RESEARCHERS FORUM - BERLIN 2022

ASPHER is pleased to announce the Young Researchers' Forum (YRF) to be held in Berlin on Wednesday 09 November 2022.

We are thrilled that 2022 sees a return of the YRF to its traditional in-person format as a part of pre-conferences of the annual European Public Health Conference (EPH) organised by ASPHER in partnership with EUPHA.

The 2022 YRF will be held on 09 November from 13:30-17:00 CET in Berlin with a networking lunch starting at 12:30.

The YRF is meant for postgraduate students (MPH, MSc, MRes, PhD, etc) and early career researchers from any field of public health, as well as their supervisors. It has been specifically designed to provide you with the opportunity to present your work in a friendly, supportive forum and to receive feedback from mentors and peers.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is Sunday 16 October 2022.

We ask that you circulate this opportunity to students, postdocs, recent graduates and junior faculty at your institution so that we may make the 2022 YRF at Berlin a success!

Abstracts may be up to 500 words and should be of performed original research including at least preliminary results.

Please send abstract submissions to youngresearchersforum@aspher.org.

EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE - BERLIN 2022

Below is a list of ASPHER activities at the upcoming EPH Conference in Berlin from 9-12 November. Please send a message to Lore at lore.leighton@aspher.org if anyone from your programme is participating at EPH so we can include them in the ASPHER highlights for EPH in the next newsletter!

9th November, 13:30 - 17:00 - **Young Researchers' Forum**

10th November, 10:30 - 11:30 - **Workshop: Public Health Institution and Academia's role in building capacity for Health Impact Assessment.**

12th November, 10:30 - 11:30 - **Plenary 5: Sustaining high quality care: interprofessional training for our clinical and public health workforce**

12th November, 11:40 - 12:40 - **Round table: Climate emergency, health and equity education: policy and practice recommendations for Europe**

12th November, 11:40 - 12:40 - **Round table: Public health of the future: innovations in surveillance, communication and knowledge translation**

12th November, 13:50 - 14:50 - **Round table: From Science to Policy Making: Lessons learned from ASPHER's COVID-19 Task Force**

ASPHER is happy to be back onsite with the ASPHER Booth. **If your school would be interested in sharing space at the booth, let us know at office@aspher.org.**

Find more [information about the conference](#) and do not forget to register [here](#).

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ASPHER NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM UPDATES

Young Professionals Programme 2022 Intake



On 26-27 September, the ASPHER Young Professionals Programme (YPP) welcomed its new cohort of young professionals. Fourteen new YPs have joined the group, which aims to build a community of public health students and professionals early in their career and incorporate them within the ASPHER network. The programme does this by building a network within the YPs that is maintained through regular meetings and provides a medium for advice, feedback, and collaboration as well as incorporating YPs into active ASPHER public health activities reports and research to provide opportunities to gain relevant experience. Now in its third year, members of the YPP come from all over the world and are engaged with over a dozen ASPHER member schools.

During the first day of the intake, ASPHER YPP member and Recruitment Officer Luis Beltran, along with John, Robert, and Ines welcomed the new YPs, introduced the history of ASPHER and discussed the goals of the programme. During the second day, ASPHER members Mary Codd, Nadav Davidovitch and Jose Martin-Moreno kindly shared information about their projects and work with young professionals, while the YPs formally introduced themselves and their learning goals. Not to be forgotten, the new cohort also had a virtual social event on Monday evening, which involved singing, jeopardy, and a lot of ice-breaking laughter.

We look forward to continuing our rich collaborations with ASPHER members and increasing the capacity of the YPP to support ASPHER projects! **Please don't hesitate to reach out to Ines (isiemann97@gmail.com) with any opportunities for YP engagement.**

Publications from ASPHER Intern Costase Ndayishimiye

ASPHER Intern, Costase Ndayishimiye of Jagiellonian University, together with Profs. John Middleton and Henrique Lopes has authored two important papers in the context of COVID-19:

The first paper investigates the relationships between COVID-19 and hospital infrastructure capacity adaptation and capacity planning worldwide. We discuss the strategies to prepare and plan for future outbreaks capable of overwhelming hospital infrastructure quickly and widely. These can be classified into short-term (repurposing medical and non-medical buildings, remote adjustments, and establishment of de novo structures) and long-term (architectural and engineering modifications, hospital networks, and digital approaches).

Citation: Ndayishimiye C, Sowada C, Dyjach P, Stasiak A, Middleton J, Lopes H, et al. Associations between the COVID-19 Pandemic and Hospital Infrastructure Adaptation and Planning—A Scoping Review. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2022;19(13):8195.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19138195>

The second paper compiled information concerning digital health technologies (DHTs) evolution to support the primary health care (PHC) sector during COVID-19 and lessons for the future of PHC. We found that DHTs have the potential to solve some of the problems that plagued us even prior to COVID-19. Therefore, we use a forward-looking viewpoint to further stimulate the use of evidence based DHT, making it more inclusive, educative, and satisfying to people's needs, both under normal conditions and during outbreaks. Finally, we call for more research with narrowed research questions, with a particular emphasis on quality assurance in the use of DHTs; technical aspects (standards for digital health tools, infrastructure, and platforms); and financial perspectives (payment for digital health services and adoption incentives).

Citation: Ndayishimiye C, Lopes H, Middleton J. A Systematic Scoping Review of Digital Health Technologies During COVID-19: A New Normal in Primary Health Care Delivery [Internet]. *Research Square*; 2022.

DOI: <http://europepmc.org/abstract/PPR/PPR520390>

Climate-Health Fellows Tara Chen & Rana Orhan



A [recent article from the Guardian](#) shows the climate crisis has driven the world to the brink of five disastrous climate tipping points (when a temperature threshold is passed, leading to unstoppable change in a climate system). One example is the collapse of a key current in the north Atlantic (the Gulf Stream); which could lead to disruptions in rain weather, and more extreme weather in Europe and higher sea levels on US East Coast. As we continue to learn more evidence; all eyes begin to focus on COP27 (held in Egypt from 6-18 November 2022). If you are engaged with the COP27, we would love to hear from you!

Please fill this form (<https://forms.gle/XM16EeXv3oJfJgH9>) out regarding your plans as we would like to connect and support those plans!

We are also excited to launch ASPHER's Climate-Health Page to highlight our activities (<https://www.aspher.org/asphera-climate-action-through-public-health-education-training.html>)! You can find a summary of our activities, education resources on climate change and health for public health education, and upcoming events, presentations and courses that can support your planetary health learning. ASPHER continues to be a leader in climate-health action in public health education through knowledge sharing activities. ASPHER presented at the [Faculty of Public Health's first climate-change conference](#) in a poster presentation on September 22nd; and the conference focused on various lessons and initiative's from the speciality registrars to further understand the role of public health professionals in climate-action. We are also working hard on preparations for the upcoming ASPHER Dean's and Directors Retreat through a virtual roundtable, and the Roundtable on the climate emergency, and Plenary 5 session at the European Public Health Conference in Berlin. We will be hosting an informal gathering of ASPHER's Climate-Health Working Group at the EPH Conference - stay tuned!

Upcoming Climate-Health Events:

- International Network on Children's Health, Environment and Safety: E-Waste and Children WEBINAR. 29 Sept 2022. 15:00 -16:30 CET. ([Zoom LINK](#))
- Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education: [Climate Change Disability and Rehabilitation WORKSHOP](#). 29 Sept-20 Oct, 2022. 18:00 CEST.
- North South Public Health Conference. [Healthy Planet, Healthy People](#). CONFERENCE. 30 Nov. 10 AM-16:00 BST.
- [The Lancet Countdown: Health and Climate Change in Europe](#). Thursday 27th October, 11.00-13.00 CEST

ASPHER YP, Brian Wong appointed to WHO Youth Council

ASPHER congratulates ASPHER Young Professional, Brian Wong on his appointment to the inaugural WHO Youth Council as a rep of [Global Health Futures 2030](#) to shape meaningful youth engagement in high level global health decision-making.

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ASPHER COVID-19 TASK FORCE

ASPHER Statement:

Facing the Fourth Winter of the COVID-19 Pandemic

“The coming winter is the fourth since the COVID-19 pandemic started in late 2019. The rapidity with which novel variants of the virus are emerging and eroding the effectiveness of established tools for the detection, prevention, and treatment of the illness poses an ongoing challenge to healthcare systems, on top of emerging threats such as the MPVX and polio as well as preparations for seasonal influenza, all within the context of pandemic fatigue both for the general public and health workforce. At the same time, policymakers worldwide now possess the experience necessary to stage effective and equitable responses to the pandemic. In this statement, we reflect on the key lessons for managing the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the context of multiple intersecting global threats.”

To read the [full article](#), please see the citation below:

Hrzic R, Davidovitch N, Barros H, Lopes H, Moreno Jose M M, Mason-Jones A J, McCallum A, Reid J, Reintjes R, Sheek-Hussein M, Simon J, Li Han Wong B, Leighton L, Otok R, Middleton J, ASPHER. ASPHER Statement: Facing the Fourth Winter of the COVID-19 Pandemic, *Public Health Reviews*, Vol. 43, 2022

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1605395>

ASPHER Statement: Planning for Winter 2022-23

“The Covid-19 pandemic has shown European governments were not properly prepared for such a public health emergency affecting all our countries and with deep health, social and economic consequences. Public health and other essential public services had been depleted through years of austerity. This winter the world faces a series of existential threats which require leadership and action from our public health community, advising and supporting national and international efforts to protect and maintain the health of people and the planet.”

To read the [full article](#), please see the citation below:

Middleton J, Davidovitch N, Barros H, Lopes H, Moreno Jose M M, Mason-Jones A J, McCallum A, Reid J, Reintjes R, Sheek-Hussein M, Simon J, Li Han Wong B, Leighton L, Otok R, ASPHER. ASPHER Statement: Planning for Winter 2022-23, *Public Health Reviews*, Vol.43, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1605394>

Weekly Covid-19 Country Situation Reports

The ASPHER Covid-19 Task force continues to publish weekly Covid-19 Situation Reports. The reports are currently authored by ASPHER Young Professional Rok Hrzic, Maastricht University and ASPHER Covid-19 TF Chair Nadav Davidovitch, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

In addition to an evolving set of data published to get the most realistic picture of Covid-19 across the European Region, the reports now also provide highlighted articles on important developments. [Download the situation reports here.](#)

Further COVID-19 Reading

Chen Y, Ingram C, Downey V, Roe M, Drummond A, Sripaiboonkij P, Buckley C, Alvarez E, Perrotta C, Buggy C. *Employee Mental Health During COVID-19 Adaptation: Observations of Occupational Safety and Health/Human Resource Professionals in Ireland*. *International Journal of Public Health*, Vol 67, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1604720>

Emery N, Dugerdil A, Flahault A. *Infodemics in an Era of Pandemics*. *International Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 67, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1605209>

Ilic A, Roser K, Sommer G, Baenziger J, Mitter V R, Mader L, Dyntar D, Michel G. *COVID-19 Information-Seeking, Health Literacy, and Worry and Anxiety During the Early Stage of the Pandemic in Switzerland: A Cross-Sectional Study*. *International Journal of Public Health*, Vol 67, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1604717>

Sachs D J, Abdool Karim S S, Akinin L, Allen J, Brosbøl K, Colombo F, et al. *The Lancet Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic*. *The Lancet Commissions*, Vol. 400, Issues 10359, pp.1224-1280, 2022.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)01585-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)01585-9)

ASPHER TASK FORCE ON WAR

Seminar Series (Part II): Public Health in Times of War

Wednesdays from 18:00 to 19:00 CET, Zoom



War in Europe was widely perceived as a problem of the past. Consequently, European Schools Public Health have taught little about war and its consequences for population health. This has changed with Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the accompanying war crimes against civilians.

In this second edition of the seminar series, we invite you to learn from and continue the exchange with international lecturers to resume filling gaps in public health curricula which have become obvious since the start of Russia's war. When relating to the situation in Ukraine and its neighbours, and when assessing health risks, lecturers will draw explicit parallels to relevant public health challenges in other world regions, but also to relevant non-war settings.

The seminar series is organised by Bielefeld School of Public Health and the PH-LENS research group, in association with ASPHER. **The lectures will take place on Wednesdays 18:00-19:00 hrs CET by Zoom. Students of all ASPHER member schools are invited to participate.**

Oct 19: **Attacks on Hospitals in the Russia-Ukraine War during the First Phase of the Invasion**
Volodymyr Lotushko, Ukrainian Healthcare Center, Ukraine

Oct 26: **Conceptualising public health as a moral third**
Dr Yudit Namer, School of Public Health, Bielefeld University, Germany

Nov 2: **An international law perspective on war with special focus on the war of aggression against Ukraine and attacks on public health infrastructure**
Prof Dr Angelika Siehr, Faculty of Law, Bielefeld University, Germany

Nov 16: **Resilience and hope to overcome war experiences**
Prof Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Canada

Nov 30: **Public Health and Militarism**
Prof Dr John Middleton, Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region

To participate, please register in advance via this link:
https://uni-bielefeld.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IUVk3idXT8-GZgxIYgGOdw

ASPHER Statement:

5+5+5 Points for Improving Food Security in the Context of the Russia-Ukraine War. An Opportunity Arising From the Disaster?

“The situation triggered by the war initiated by Russia in Ukraine, in addition to the widely known impacts that it has directly on the affected populations, has consequences that affect to almost the entire world population.”

The ASPHER Statement on food security in the context of War in Ukraine is now published in Public Health Reviews, which can be accessed by following this [link](#). Read the full statement and the proposed education and public policies actions.

Citation: Lopes H, Martin-Moreno J. ASPHER Statement: 5 + 5 + 5 Points for Improving Food Security in the Context of the Russia-Ukraine War. An Opportunity Arising From the Disaster? *Public Health Rev*, 21 September 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1605321>

Further Reading on Public Health and War

Amzat J, Razum O. The War in Europe Viewed From the South: A Global Health Concern. *International Journal of Public Health*, Vol 67, 2022
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1605184>

McKee M, Nagyova I. When the guns fall silent... Priorities for health in post-war Ukraine. *European Journal of Public Health*, Vol 32, 2022.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckac090>

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ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

Reflections on 3 years as President of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)

EUPHA colleagues gave ASPHER President John Middleton the floor to reflect on his term as ASPHER President and on what the public health community has achieved in the past three years in a recent edition of the European Journal of Public Health.

“The World is confronted with the COVID-19 pandemic and new infectious risks, armed organised violence, mass migration, extremes of heat and climatic conditions, appalling economic inequalities between rich and poor and between and within countries, and corporate over-exploitation creating addictions and cause non-communicable disease epidemics across the globe. All these threats require a stronger public health profession and stronger public health systems and services, from local to global. We need a vibrant multidisciplinary public health workforce, and we need new partnerships with disciplines with greater knowledge than ourselves—climate scientists, ecologists, economists, theologians, investigative journalists, political scientists and international lawyers. We need a united public health community if the health of people and the planet is to improve.” **Read the full article [here](#).**

ASPHER Honours' platform handover of co-Chairs

ASPHER Honours' platform co-Chairs, Prof Jose Martin-Moreno (ASPHER past-President 2000-2001 and Štampar Medalist 2013) and Prof Kasia Czabanowska (ASPHER past-President 2018-2019) are stepping down in accordance with ASPHER bylaws/statutes.

They will handover their positions to the succeeding co-Chairs at the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Sofia, Bulgaria on 14-16 October 2022. Prof Kasia Czabanowska will be replaced by Prof John Middleton, who will then be immediate past-President.

With the unanimous agreement of the Honours' platform and the approval of the ASPHER Executive Board, Prof Selma Šogorić (Štampar Medalist 2020, and Professor at the Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, Croatia) will replace Prof Jose Martin-Moreno.

On behalf of himself and his co-Chair, Prof Martin-Moreno writes that it has been a real privilege to work with ASPHER from this platform. They are proud to have colleagues they admire, and above all to foster the spirit of mentoring for young professionals. Moreover, they wish to make use of this opportunity to thank the Honours' platform wholeheartedly for its continued support to ASPHER's work.

WHO Regional Committee Meeting

ASPHER is pleased to have been granted Non-State Actor (NSA) status with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. ASPHER Board Member, Nadav Davidovitch attended the recent WHO European Regional Committee meeting from 12-14 September in Tel Aviv, Israel.

Nadav made a statement during the meeting side event on Health Workforce on the ASPHER coordinated ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education project, SEEPEHI and the collaborative work of WHO Europe and ASPHER in the area of public health workforce professionalisation. **Read the statement to the WHO Regional Committee [here](#).**

SEEPEHI Project Partners Meeting and New Publication



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Sharing European Educational Experience in Public Health for Israel (SEEPEHI) ERASMUS+ Capacity Building Project partners and evaluation committee members met from 19–22 September in Krakow, Poland. It was the first in person partners meeting with all consortium members represented since the start of the project in 2020. We were generously hosted by the Institute of Public Health at Jagiellonian University.

It was a productive meeting and allowed partners to connect the dots between different work packages in ways that haven't been possible before in online meetings. It will set up the consortium well to make a real difference for capacity building of the public health workforce in Israel as we move into the final year of the project in 2023!

SEEPEHI is also reporting back on the work of the first year of the project with a series of expected publications. The first of these is now available in the journal *Frontiers in Public Health* on the results from the survey with public health employers in Israel: 'Emerging lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic about the decisive competencies needed for the public health workforce: A qualitative study'. Be sure to follow these updates to see how SEEPEHI practices could apply to your country context.

Bashkin O, Otok R, Leighton L, Czabanowska K, Barach P, Davidovitch N, Dopelt K, Duplaga M, Okenwa Emegwa L, MacLeod F, Neumark Y, Raz MP, Tulchinsky T, Mor Z. Emerging lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic about the decisive competencies needed for the public health workforce: A qualitative study. *Front Public Health*. 2022 Sep 2;10:990353.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2022>



ASPHER EHEE Working Group Webinar Series

ASPHER Working Group on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare in Europe Webinar Series:

Wednesday 14 December 2022, 14.00-15.30 CET: **Health Technology Assessment**

Wednesday 15 March 2023, 14.00-15.30 CET: **Evaluation of antenatal care**

For participation and further information about the ASPHER EHEE Working Group Webinar Series, please contact Milena Pavlova at m.pavlova@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

Member Database and Social Media Accounts

The ASPHER Secretariat continues to improve its online 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.

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MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Obituary:

Carla Nunes, National School of Public Health, NOVA University, Lisbon

With deep sadness, we inform of the passing of ASPHER Executive Board Member, Professor Carla Nunes, Full Professor and former Dean of the National School of Public Health at the NOVA University of Lisbon (ENSP-NOVA).

Professor Carla was a professional of excellence in Public Health, namely in biostatistics and epidemiology. She contributed generously to teaching and research in Public Health and the development of affective bonds in the ENSP-NOVA Community. Professor Carla had a strong commitment to a genuinely multi-disciplinary public health. She was a unique example of work and dedication to the School and a person to whom her entire community recognizes extraordinary human characteristics. Professor Carla made a valuable contribution to the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic in Portugal, for which she was awarded, in 2022, as Commander of the Order of Merit.



Professor Carla is deeply missed among colleagues, students, and friends. She is a great loss to public health, in Portugal, in Europe and in general.

The Direction of the National School of Public Health and ASPHER address our deepest sympathies and profound condolences to the family of Professor Carla Nunes.

For more about Professor Carla Nunes see:

<https://www.unl.pt/en/news/nova/nova-university-lisbon-mourns-death-former-director-national-school-public-health>

Leadership Changes in ASPHER Member Programmes in 2022

Academy for Public Health in Düsseldorf (Germany)



Since February 2022, **Prof. Dr. Dagmar Starke** has taken over the provisional management of the Academy for Public Health (AÖGW). Dr. Dagmar Starke is a qualified teacher. She studied educational science, sociology and psychology at the Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf and received her doctorate in the field of stress research. Dagmar Starke has been at the AÖGW since 2010, initially as a consultant for epidemiology and health reporting as well as health promotion/prevention, since October 2019 as technical coordinator and deputy head. Since 2013 she has also been a lecturer in the health promotion master's

program at the University of Applied Sciences in Coburg. In 2019 she was appointed honorary professor for applied epidemiology and community health promotion. From 2005 to 2010, Dagmar Starke was a consultant for basic health policy issues at the North Rhine Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians.

University of Wolverhampton (United Kingdom)

In March 2022, **Prof. Farzad Amirabdollahian** became the Head of the School of Public Health studies as well as Associate Dean for the Faculty of Education, Health and Wellbeing at the University of Wolverhampton.



His previous roles throughout the last decade have included Deputy and Assistant Head of the School, and Head of Nutrition and Biosciences within the School of Health Sciences, Liverpool Hope University, while before that he held various academic positions at Liverpool Hope University, Coventry University, University of Hertfordshire, and London Metropolitan University, as well as working as a health promotion officer and teacher within the public and private sectors. He is a trustee, director, and elected member of the Council, and the Chair of the Certification Committee of the professional accreditation body, the Association for Nutrition. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health, Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, Fellow of the Institute of Food Sciences and Technology, a Chartered Scientist, and a Registered Nutritionist with expertise in Public Health.

Faculty of Public Health (United Kingdom)

In July 2022, **Prof. Kevin Fenton** took up the office of Faculty of Public Health President having held a variety of public health executive leadership roles such as 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.



Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health (Netherlands)



As of September 2022, **Prof. Dr. Brigit Toebes**, Professor of Health Law in International Perspective, started as the new scientific director of the Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health.

Brigit Toebes is also a professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Groningen. She has more than 25 years of experience in international and national health law. Her work focuses on, among other things, the reduction of unhealthy lifestyles (smoking and unhealthy eating), the fight against infectious diseases and the role of the law in reducing health inequalities. Brigit is one of the founders of the Groningen

Center for Health Law, which houses researchers from Law and Medical Sciences and researches interdisciplinary health (law) issues. She is also a member of the Health Council, an independent scientific advisory body to the government and Parliament. She is also president of the Dutch Association for Health Law.

ASPHER welcomes and looks forward to further collaborations with both long-standing and new leadership. If your school or programme had recent leadership changes, please do let us know.

3rd Annual UNCOVER Online Conference



Tuesday 8 November| 14:00-17:00 (United Kingdom)

Keynote Speaker Professor Mark Woolhouse, Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
[Register for Day One with Zoom Webinar](#)

Wednesday 9 November| 09:30-12:30 (United Kingdom)

Keynote Speaker Dr Neil Anderson, Programme Director, Conservation Medicine MVetSci and One Health MSc programmes
[Register for Day Two with Zoom Webinar](#)

This year's conference will explore what we have learned from the past two and a half years of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how those lessons can help us to prepare more effectively for the challenges of the future. Each of the conference days will focus on an important theme - Day 1 on Infectious Diseases and Pandemic Preparedness, and Day 2 on Emerging health challenges: climate change, loss of biodiversity and disease emergence.

Please note if you wish to attend both days you will need to register for both days.

For full information about the conference please see the [UNCOVER website](#).

Seminar Series by SKAPE

The Centre for Science, Knowledge and Policy at Edinburgh (SKAPE) brings together academic researchers across a range of disciplines, as well as policy practitioners, to examine the relationships and intersections between different types of science and knowledges on policy.



SKAPE recently hosted two exciting events: On Wednesday, 28 September, they began their 2022/2023 seminar series by welcoming Isabel Fletcher (University of Edinburgh) to discuss 'How to collaborate in a crisis: lessons from the development of the Scottish COVID-19 wastewater testing programme'. On Thursday, 6 October, they hosted the first roundtable in their COVID-19 Roundtable Discussion series, entitled 'Asking questions about lockdowns'.

[Learn more about their upcoming webinars](#), including the next Round Table on Covid-19 on **The Status of Evidence in Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions on 24 November**.

The 30th Anniversary of the Maastricht Treaty



On 28-29 September, [Maastricht University](#) and [Studio Europa Maastricht](#) held an interdisciplinary academic conference commemorating a paramount milestone of European collaboration - the Maastricht Treaty.

Signed by twelve countries in Maastricht on 7 February 1992, the Treaty on European Union reshaped Europe's socioeconomic landscape on a continental scale. This seminal agreement laid the foundations for the continuation of historically unprecedented peace and was built on the idea that fostering economic and monetary cooperation would translate into welfare and shared prosperity among the citizens of Europe.

The conference's objective was to facilitate critical, but constructive, academic dialogue on the Maastricht Treaty's legacy in the following areas: Decision-making and legal considerations; Re-examining convergence and homogeneity; Solidarity and identity; Peace, security and criminology; Social and trade affairs; Democracy, populism and authoritarianism; Democratisation, politicisation and citizenship; Union of digital innovation and the digital Euro; Wages, prices and European enterprises; Fiscal sovereignty challenges and recent developments.

Please see the [full programme](#) of the conference and the [book of abstracts](#).

Selected ASPHER Member Publications

de Jong N, van Rosmalen P, Brancaccio MT, Bleijlevens MHC, Verbeek H, Peeters IGP. *Flipped Classroom Formats in a Problem-Based Learning Course: Experiences of First-Year Bachelor European Public Health Students*. *Public Health Reviews*. 2022:43.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1604795>

Dugerdil A, Sponagel L, Babington-Ashaye A, Flahault A. *Rethinking International University Ranking Systems in the Context of Academic Public Health*. *Int J Public Health*. 2022: 67.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1605252>

Naum A, Toçi E, Toçi D, Burazeri G, van Kessel R, Czabanowska K. Correlates of level of satisfaction among primary health care workers in Albania. *South Eastern European Journal of Public Health (SEEJPH)*, 2022, 18(1).

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-5346>

Zielke J, Strong J, Ahmed F, Miani C, Namer Y, Storey S, Razum O. Towards gender-transformative SRHR: a statement in reply to EUPHA and offer of a working definition. *European Journal of Public Health*, 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckac102>

PARTNER NEWS & EVENTS

DisQo: Tackling health inequalities through anti-discrimination policy mainstreaming

A new pan-European Thematic Network – DisQo – aims to address the impact of structural racism and discrimination on physical and mental health inequalities, an issue that so far has gained little attention in the public health domain.



DisQo brings together stakeholders across policy domains to facilitate dialogue and best practice sharing among them, and to provide support and incentives to the European Commission and national policymakers to advance the work on anti-racism and anti-discrimination to reduce the health inequity gap.

The network has been initiated and is led by the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), and currently comprises 24 organisations. The ambition is to expand the network, to organise a series of webinars on the topic, and to jointly develop a Joint Statement within six to nine months, summarising the common position and providing policy recommendations.

Prof Amanda Mason Jones, University of York attended the internal kickoff event of the DisQo network on Friday, 7 October. ASPHER Fellow Lisa Wandschneider, University of Bielefeld will be acting as an ASPHER focal point in the Network, with involvement of ASPHER YPs Ines Siepmann and Luis Beltran Galindo.

For questions and/or requests to join the network, please contact raymond.gemen@epha.org

Thematic Networks are temporary networks of stakeholder organisations created in the [EU Health Policy Platform](#), which is hosted by the European Commission, DG Sante.

The Lancet Countdown: Health and Climate Change in Europe

On Thursday 27th October, 11.00-13.00 CEST will take place the virtual launch of the first Lancet Countdown in Europe indicator report.



The Lancet Countdown: Health and Climate Change in Europe is tracking the connections between public health and climate change across Europe. The Lancet Countdown in Europe is established as a research collaboration in 2021 whose mission is to monitor health and climate change in the region. Building on the work of the global Lancet Countdown and other regions, it will leverage on the wealth of data and cross disciplinary expertise in Europe, to develop high-resolution Europe-specific indicators that explore in further depth aspects of particular relevance to the region.

The link to connect to the virtual event will be posted on [this website](#) shortly. Stay tuned!

Scientific Papers on Nutri-Score

The Italian Competition and Market Authority (AGCM), also known as Antitrust, decided on August 1st 2022, to ban Carrefour and other retailers from displaying Nutri-Score on Italian products with PDO or PGI sold in Italy pretexting that Nutri-Score is misleading to consumers. Scientists reacted to the argument used by AGCM stating that 'Nutri-Score is misleading for consumers' which, in fact, is not based on any scientific evidence. Recently there were 12 scientific papers published on this topic, which can be accessed on the Nutri-Score blog:

[Five recent scientific papers published in peer-reviewed journals concerning Nutri-Score \(march-july 2022\)](#)

[Seven new scientific papers published in August 2022 in peer-reviewed journals concerning Nutri-Score](#)

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OPPORTUNITIES

IJPH & PHR Journal Editing in Health Sciences: Online course starting soon!

International Journal of Public Health ([IJPH](#)) and Public Health Reviews (PHR) are independent non-profit society journals with global scopes owned by the [Swiss School of Public Health](#). They are ranking Q1 among public health journals and publish open access.

Their online course "[Journal Editing in Health Sciences](#)" prepares early career researchers for the associate editor role in health science journals. The 1-ECTS course includes 3 online slots (October 28, November 10 and November 25 2022, all 1-5pm CET).

The Young Researchers Editorial ([YRE](#)) series of the IJPH (IF 2021 5.1) is led by PhD students ([YRE Editorial Board](#)) and publishes editorials written by PhD students. Read recent YRE [here](#).

The next course begins very soon. Please note that full attendance on the 3 afternoons is mandatory; the course works only, if all attend.

Advanced PhD Students from all ASPHER member schools are eligible to receive the special discounted rate of 30 CHF! [Download the flyer here](#).

Register by 14 October 2022 at <https://www.conftool.com/ssph-phd-courses2022/>

Job offer at the Department of Public Health, Health Services Research and Health Technology Assessment - UMIT Tirol

Deadline for the applications: 14 October 2022



The Department of Public Health, Health Services Research and Health Technology Assessment of the UMIT Tirol University is seeking people with research experience in the broad area of Public Health/Epidemiology. The full job advert and description can be found at this web address: www.umat-tirol.at/stellenangebote

More information about the Department of Public Health can be found at this web address: www.umat-tirol.at/dph

World Congress on Public Health Grants

Deadline for grant application: 15 November 2022

The 17th World Congress of Public Health Grant is designed to give motivated attendees who require financial assistance an opportunity to join the World



Congress. The grant is fundamentally need-based, and eligibility criteria for consideration fall into the following categories:

- Attendees with low earnings and from low to low-middle income countries (as determined by World Bank country classifications) or
- Full-time students with no financial income (unemployed)

Depending on the applicant's ranking in both need and merit of the financial support, the grant will cover either:

- Full cost of both registration to the 17th World Health Congress on Public Health as well as accommodation costs for the duration of the Congress (a maximum of 4 nights, from May 2nd, 2023, to May 6th, 2023), or
- Registration fee to the Congress only

Any additional fees (i.e for pre-conferences, Congress dinner) will not be covered.

Eligibility Requirements for Grant:

- Applicants should be either a delegate with low earnings from a lower or lower-middle income country (World Bank country classifications), or a full-time student of a maximum age of 26 years old with no financial income (unemployed);
- Applicants must have submitted an abstract for oral/poster presentations; abstracts must be submitted online by December 9th 2022;
- Attendance at the World Congress must not be supported by industry. The committee reserves the right to rescind grants to awardees whose abstracts and/or attendance are supported by industry;
- Good command of the English language is mandatory

Deadline for scholarship application is 15 November 2022.

For additional information and application process, please see [here](#).

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