
January-February 2023 ASPHER Newsletter



Image: Whirling Dervishes (source: Pixabay)

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Share the ASPHER newsletter!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

My dear friends and colleagues. It is my honour and pleasure to invite you to attend the [17th World Congress on Public Health](#) in Rome, Italy from 02-06 May 2023. After a delay of this event due to Covid-19 pandemic, we are delighted to finally be able to host the Congress in Europe and in Italy.

The WCPH coinciding with my ASPHER Presidency presented the opportunity to bring ASPHER as a Partner to the Congress with the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItI). This partnership brings prominence to the Association on a global scale while also providing opportunities for our members to attend the event at a discounted rate and to gain visibility through ASPHER organised sessions.

ASPHER together with the Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) will host five sessions during WCPH. Each of these sessions will demonstrate the purpose and impacts of academic public health and schools' associations around the Globe. The five sessions will focus on: (1) Global collaboration in academic public health and GNAPH (including signing of the GNAPH constitution); (2) Ethics and academic public health; (3) Innovations in academic public health – where do we go next?; (4) Capacity building and professionalization of the public health workforce – Part 1 (global agenda); and (5) Capacity building and professionalization of the public health workforce – Part 2 (regional initiatives).

ASPHER is also co-organising a session on Advancing the Global Public Health Advocacy along with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) to advance public health advocacy built on

evidence-based best practices and raising awareness at all levels - bridging the ASPHER and EPHA represented communities.

In addition, ASPHER will assist WFPHA to organise a next generation/young professionals forum for the afternoon of Friday 06 May and we hope ASPHER members will encourage and support students, post-docs and junior faculty to attend the forum and the Congress.

I was pleased to learn that ASPHER workshop submissions from the Covid-19 Task Force, Climate and Health, Diversity and Public Health Education, and from the ASPHER-led UCCAIDE Project were accepted to the programme. I have also heard back from several of you whose work was accepted – be sure to inform the Secretariat so they can include you in the ASPHER schedule for the Congress.

And while at the Congress, be sure also to stop by the ASPHER booth in the exhibition hall. We will have early registration sign up and information there for the 2023 Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Dublin. There are always possibilities for you to share part of the booth or drop off materials from your school for added visibility - contact ASPHER office at office@aspher.org to see what could work best.

Finally, but not least of all, the [ASPHER General Assembly](#) will be held in the context of the WCPH on 03 May for the first time again in person since 2019 in Erice. I look forward to a productive meeting with ASPHER member delegates there to take part in this critical event to guide the life of the Association. And if you wish to be more involved – don't miss the calls to stand for Executive Board elections or to be my successor as ASPHER President.

Carlo Signorelli
President, ASPHER

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT



ASPHER Secretariat, joined by ASPHER President Carlo Signorelli and ASPHER Executive Board Member Mary Codd, ASPHER Fellow Karl Conyard and Milan University Vita Salute San Raffaele Resident Flavia Pennisi is dispatching our January-February 2023 newsletter to you from University College Dublin, Ireland where we are holding a site visit ahead of the [2023 Deans' & Directors' Retreat](#). **The Retreat promises to be a great event, so mark your calendars for 31 August - 03 September!**

We apologise that this newsletter arrives with slight delay, but you can see from this large volume that it has been a very

full start to the New Year with much [ASPHER activity](#), as well as [Member](#) and [Partner](#) news and [opportunities](#).

First and foremost, as we approach the upcoming [ASPHER General Assembly](#) in Rome on 03 May in the context of the [World Congress on Public Health](#), we wish to draw your attention to important [ASPHER Calls](#) for candidates to stand for ASPHER Presidential election, ASPHER Executive Board election, and to host the next ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat. We are also calling for your [nominations for ASPHER awards](#) including: the Andrija Stampar Medalist; Research Excellence Award; Teaching & Practice Excellence Award; and Early Career Excellence Awards.

ASPHER continues work on key agenda areas with vice-President John Middleton and former President Kasia Czabanowska attending the [second steering committee meeting of the WHO Roadmap to Professionalizing the Public Health and Emergency Workforce](#) globally. We are pleased to announce new partnerships for our [climate agenda](#), and we are continuing actions from our task forces, and updates and publications from ongoing and recent [projects](#). ASPHER office has a great group of [new interns](#) to assist and enrich the Association work in the coming months. We also have continuing input and support from our ASPHER Fellows and are [calling for a new Fellow on Inequalities](#) – if you know someone who could be interested let us know!

We must recognize that the year has not started out as an easy one for many in the European Region and the [ASPHER Task Force on War has reflected extensively about one year of war in Ukraine](#). We also bring you [news from Israel](#) which is seeing the future of public health under threat in the country due to a constitutional crisis and plans to abolish judicial review of government decisions. ASPHER office has also been in touch with Koç University, our member in Turkey after the terrible earthquake and many aftershocks. We expect to say more about that situation in our next newsletter, but for now we recommend to you the [acaps report profiling earthquake-affected areas in Turkey and Syria](#).

As always, please stay in touch if you are interested in any of the ASPHER calls, task forces or other activities and let Lore know at lore.leighton@aspher.org about what you and your programme is up to so it can be included in the next newsletter!

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](#).

ASPHER CALLS

Call for ASPHER Presidency Nominations

ASPHER will hold elections for the Association's Presidency at the General Assembly this year. The newly elected ASPHER President serves for a total of 4 years. The first year acting as Vice-President under the current ASPHER President, Prof Carlo Signorelli. This is followed by a 2-year term as President with the possibility to stand for one re-election for an additional 2 years. A final year is then served as Vice-President.

Each candidate requires nomination and a seconder and will be voted on at the ASPHER General Assembly. Send us your proposal for nominations for the most outstanding individuals to stand for the ASPHER Presidency!

Send your nominations for the ASPHER Presidency to Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org by midnight 02 April 2023.

Call for ASPHER Executive Board Nominations

ASPHER will have two available seats on the Executive Board this year. Each candidate requires nomination and a seconder and will be voted on at the ASPHER General Assembly. Send us your proposal for nominations for the best amongst you to guide ASPHER into the future!

Send your nominations for ASPHER Executive Board to Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org by midnight 02 April 2023.

Call to host the ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat

After the past few years of restricted travel, we are happy to be getting used to meeting again with our members in person! We had an excellent time last autumn in Sofia, Bulgaria and we look forward to the [Retreat in Dublin from 31 August - 03 September 2023!](#) But where will we go from there?

ASPHER is looking for candidate schools for our upcoming Retreats. Is your school interested to host the 2024 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat or beyond? Take the opportunity to raise the profile of your school in the ASPHER community - **let us know by midnight 02 April 2023 at office@aspher.org.**

Call for ASPHER Award Nominations

ASPHER is launching a call for 2023 award nominations! Keep reading for more details and nominate your colleagues and peers for one of the four ASPHER awards listed below!

Send us your nomination/s accompanied by a short endorsement letter to office@aspher.org by midnight 14 May 2023.

[Download the full Award call and criteria here.](#)

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.

Nominations should include a description of the nominee's outstanding contributions in:



- Demonstrating leadership in advancing health equity, member-focus, diversity, integrity, corporate-citizenship, Europe-centred global outlook and/or meaningful work (ASPHER core values) in the fields of academic public health research, teaching and practice.
- Demonstrating national and/or international visibility of the accomplishments within and outside scientific community.
- Lasting, equitable and sustainable contributions in advancing public health teaching, community-building, implementation and research.

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.

Nominations should include a description of the nominee's outstanding contributions in:

- Demonstrating leadership in advancing health equity, member-focus, diversity, integrity, corporate-citizenship, Europe-centred global outlook and/or meaningful work (ASPHER core values) in the field of academic public health research.
- Outstanding exemplary and documented scholarly accomplishments in the form of a notable record of success.
- Innovative research advancing the research mission of the field of public health and improving the health of communities they serve.
- Demonstrating national and/or international visibility of the accomplishments.

ASPHER Teaching & Practice Excellence Award

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

Nominations should include a description of the nominated SPH outstanding contributions in:

- Demonstrating leadership in advancing health equity, member-focus, diversity, integrity, corporate-citizenship, Europe-centred global outlook and/or meaningful work (ASPHER core values) in the field of academic public health teaching or practice.
- Documented engagement beyond the immediate School of Public Health (SPH), e.g. through collaborative work with several SPHs (within the ASPHER community).
- Demonstrating national and/or international visibility of the institution.
- Innovative, creative efforts in education or practice to overcome obstacles (e.g. political, societal, teaching-related) in challenging settings.

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 assistant/associate professors.

Nominations should include a description of the nominee's outstanding contributions in:

- Demonstrating leadership in advancing health equity, member-focus, diversity, integrity, corporate-citizenship, Europe-centred global outlook and/or meaningful work (ASPHER core values) in the field of academic public health teaching, research or practice.
- Outstanding exemplary and documented scholarly accomplishments in form of a notable record of success.
- Innovative research, teaching or practice advancing the mission of the field of public health and improving the health of communities they serve.

ASPHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT WCPH2023 - ROME

ASPHER General Assembly

03 May 2023, Rome, Italy

The ASPHER General Assembly will be held in Rome, Italy on 03 June 2023 (morning) in the context of the World Congress on Public Health 2023. This will be the first in person GA since 2019 and an important one with elections for ASPHER President and Executive Board. We hope to have a good representation from ASPHER members there while also taking part in the biggest Public Health event of the year!

World Congress on Public Health 2023

02-06 May 2023, Rome, Italy

ASPHER is proud to partner with the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SItI) for the [17th World Congress on Public Health](#) to be held in Rome from 02-06 May 2023.

Over 3,000 public health professionals and researchers, policymakers, and students will convene for the momentous event.

This World Congress on Public Health will be an opportunity to foster collaboration and co-creation of a vision informed by our professional knowledge and that of the communities we serve.



Jointly organised by



Empowering communities and becoming more responsive to them will lie at the heart of any attempt to move forward, to safeguard and nurture a world in need of healing and protection. [Watch the WCPH promotional invitation video.](#)

[Register for the 2023 WCPH here.](#)

ASPHER members are eligible to register for the event at a reduced rate.

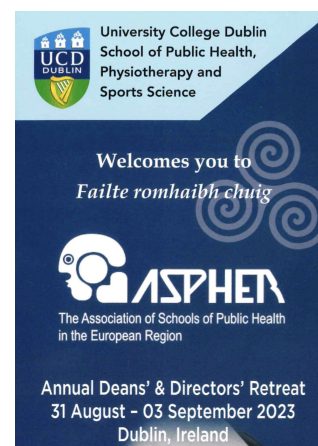
SAVE THE DATE!

ASPHER DEANS & DIRECTORS RETREAT 2023

31 August - 03 September 2023, Dublin

Be sure to save the dates for the 2023 ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Dublin! We will be hosted by University College Dublin School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sport Science from 31 August - 03 September. The event will include 40 year anniversary celebrations of the UCD MPH Programme on 02 September.

[Download a copy of the Retreat brochure here to learn more.](#)



ASPHER NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM UPDATES

Announcing ASSETS 2023 ASPHER Mentoring Summer School

Monday-Thursday 03-06 July, Brussels

The Andrija Stampar Summer Educational & Tutoring School (ASSETS) offers an exclusive educational mentoring programme tailored to initiate fruitful learning experiences. ASSETS seeks to strengthen public health professionals in their field of expertise and professional identity through the concept of career mentoring from distinguished and recognized experts in the field of public health.

Instead of a classical school with multiple lectures, each participant brings a schematic idea, about a practical experience, project, thesis or career challenge within the public health and/or health system scope that can be presented in class in front of the experts and their peers. These presentations thus create the input of the subsequent real-world problem based mentoring session.

Ambitious early career public health professionals (whether from academia/junior faculty and advanced students, or graduates in city/regional administration, national civil service, private sector or others) who wish to attain confidence and career guidance in the field of public health are encouraged to apply.

The core faculty for the ASSETS 2023 include: Prof Jose M Martin-Moreno, ASSETS Director, University of Valencia, Preventive Medicine and Public Health and INCLIVA, Spain; Prof John Middleton, ASPHER vice-President, Honorary Professor of Public Health at Wolverhampton University, UK; and Prof Selma Šogoric, Andrija Štampar School of Public Health, Croatia

Top experts from Brussels and Maastricht will be invited to share their own experiences in lectures and workshops and enrich the event.

Fees (with discount to ASPHER members) include the ASSETS 2023 programme & material, pre-event contact and coaching, welcome reception (Monday), festive dinner (Wednesday), and lunches (2). Travel and accommodation are not included

Reply by the end of March to office@apher.org if you are interested.

Call for ASPHER-EUPHA Fellow on inequalities

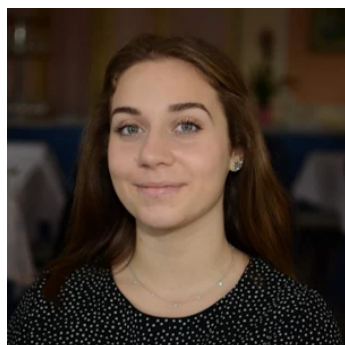
ASPHER, in partnership with EUPHA under their operating grant internship scheme, is offering a joint fellowship with the opportunity to spend time in Brussels/Utrecht this spring. We are seeking a highly motivated individual committed to work in the area of inequalities.

Contact office@aspher.org to express your interest.

ASPHER Interns

With the new year ASPHER is happy to welcome the first of our new cohort of interns for 2023. They will be reporting back to you in future newsletters as they progress on their work.

Sofia Lombatti, Maastricht University



Sofia is a third-year bachelor's student of European Public Health at Maastricht University. She is currently doing her internship at ASPHER under the supervision of Prof Nadav Davidovitch to gain knowledge on the broad field of vaccine hesitancy, especially among pregnant women. The topic of her bachelor thesis is "Vaccine hesitancy as a threat to pregnant women and infants – a systematic literature review." The unique opportunity to join the ASPHER community will help expand her expertise in the field of public health research.

She is passionate about public health and healthcare management. She has chosen to pursue a career in healthcare management, focusing on leadership for her master's degree. She likes to travel in her free time, as she speaks Italian, English, German, and Chinese.

Sebastian Levesque, Jagiellonian University

Sebastian Levesque, is a Canadian/Australian studying in the Europubhealth+ Global Health joint master's at the Jagiellonian University with a specialisation in Governance and Health Economics. In his first year of his master's program, he studied at the University College of

Dublin. He studied his undergraduate at the University of Adelaide and the National University of Singapore in Pharmacology and Genetics before working in the Clinical trial industry for three years. During the pandemic, he respecialised to public health to combine his interests of geopolitics, and culture, with his pre-existing medical sciences background. At ASPHER, he will be creating a statement with the wonderful Prof. John Middleton on Geopolitical health broadly. He will be working remotely in Kraków, however he would love the chance to meet colleagues should they venture to beautiful Poland!



Tshebua Kalonji, Maastricht University

Tshebua Kalonji is an Austrian citizen originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Born in Düsseldorf, Germany, she now resides in Waterloo, Belgium.



She is in her third year of Bachelor of European Public Health at Maastricht University, Netherlands and is currently working on her bachelor thesis. During her placement at ASPHER she will be working with Prof Davidovitch on “Mask Mandates” and she is now outlining a timeline on the evolution of mask mandates in the UK, the Netherlands and France.

Tshebua plays piano and received a diploma for her secondary school studies in music theory. During her free time she enjoys film photography and video editing. She speaks French and English, and is learning German and Lingala.

She looks forward to meeting and working with the ASPHER community.

CLIMATE AND HEALTH

2023 begins with an exciting start as Climate-Health Fellow Tara Chen and Climate Change Lead Laurent Chambaud continue to work on transitioning into their new roles, and planning for the new year.



European
Climate and Health
Observatory

There are some exciting new partnerships in the works. The first of which has just been confirmed with ASPHER officially joining the [European Climate and Health Observatory](#). The Observatory aims to

become the authoritative source of actionable knowledge on the past, current and projected climate change risks to health at all life stages and in all settings, as well as on policies and actions addressing them. [Read about the long term strategic objectives of the Climate and Health Observatory here.](#)

We'll keep you informed of other partnerships and announcements that will be made later in the year. ASPHER's climate-health team will also be presenting at the World Congress of

Public Health, and invites others who may want to help coordinate a workshop session on climate-health to link with Tara at tara.chen@aspher.org. We are also looking for members to be involved with [Global Public Health Week](#) on Tuesday, April 4: Tackling the Climate Crisis. Let us know if you have an idea on how to be a climate optimist!

New Resources that may be of interest:

- Free Certificate-based Course: [Pan American Climate Resilient Health Systems](#)
- [One Sustainable Health For All](#)

Please continue to reach out to Tara at tara.chen@aspher.org to share ideas for 2023 ASPHER Climate-Health activities!

ASPHER TASK FORCE ON WAR

The ASPHER Task Force on War convened in March 2022 in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Check back to the [Task Force on War homepage](#) for updates.

ASPHER and the ASPHER Task Force on War reflect on one year of Russia’s War on Ukraine

It has been a year since the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 brought violence to Europe on a scale not seen since the Second World War. The overall toll of dead and wounded, as well as the scale of the refugee crisis caused by this war, is stunning – see Table 1.

Table 1. Human losses and refugee crisis in numbers – the first anniversary of starting the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia (source: Business Insider: <https://www.businessinsider.com/ukraine-war-in-numbers-year-russia-invasion-deaths-aid-tanks-2023-2?IR=T>.)

The dead and wounded		
Human losses	Number	Source of information
Russian troops killed	40,000 to 60,000	UK Defense Ministry
Russian casualties, or troops killed or wounded in action	up to 200,000	UK Defense Ministry
Ukrainian troops killed	up to 13,000	Ukraine official in December 22
Ukrainian casualties, or troops killed or wounded in action	over 100,000	General Milley estimate in January 23
Civilians killed	at least 8,006	the UN

Civilians injured	at least 13,287	the UN
Ukrainian children killed	461, with 927 wounded and 345 missing	Children of War
Notable Russians who have suspiciously died since the war started	at least two dozen	The Atlantic
Civilians killed in the Kyiv region including Bucha	more than 1,700 civilians were killed in the Kyiv region, including about 700 in Bucha	the Ukrainian Prosecutor General's Office, on February 22
Refugees and those who have fled or been taken		
Ukrainian refugees	8 million	UNHCR
Ukrainians displaced within the country	5.9 million	UNHCR
Ukrainian children forcibly abducted to Russia	At least 6,000 (estimate 1.), up to 14,000 (estimate 2.)	estimate 1.: Conflict Observatory estimate 2.: Kyiv
Russians who have fled the country	at least 500,000	The Washington Post

After twelve months of open war (the conflict actually started much earlier, in 2014 - but in a form which has been then called a hybrid war) the number of suspected war crimes committed by Russia's military has amounted to 65,000, according to the [Ukraine's Prosecutor General](#) and the [EU Justice Commissioner](#). The cost of damage to the Ukraine's economy and infrastructure exceeds \$700 billion, per Ukrainian [Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal](#). The Russian military aggression is directed not only at military targets. It intentionally targets civilians and civilian infrastructure, especially critical facilities (e.g. electricity grid). Moreover, it also intentionally aims to destroy Ukraine's cultural heritage determining the nation's distinctiveness and identity (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUgRbY1k1YI>).

However, the devastations brought by the Russian invasion has been met by the gradually increasing support provided by many foreign states to Ukraine. When measured in financial terms, the total amount of aid, including humanitarian, financial, and military, has amounted to \$76.8 billion from the USA (the [Kiel Institute for the World Economy](#)), and \$58.2 billion from the European Union (the [Kiel Institute](#)).

At the start of the aggression, in ASPHER's Statement on the War Against Ukraine: [The Role of Europe's Schools of Public Health in Times of War](#), ASPHER warned of the devastating impacts of war on the health of populations, and reminded the Russian military of their obligation to the [United Nations' Humanitarian Law and WHO Resolution on Attacks on Health Care](#). The resolution aims at ensuring that essential life-saving health services, including public health, are provided to emergency-affected populations unhindered by any form of violence or obstruction. However, in the year that has followed, violence against the Ukrainian health care system has been a prominent feature of Russia's unlawful conduct targeting civilian infrastructure.



Russia's targeting of Ukraine's health care system has been [documented in a joint report](#) from eyeWitness to Atrocities (eyeWitness), Insecurity Insight, the Media Initiative for Human Rights (MIHR), Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), and the Ukrainian Healthcare Center (UHC) - counting a total of 707 attacks on Ukraine's health care system from the start of the conflict through 31 December 2022. In its [health needs assessment](#), WHO found that half of health care seekers in Ukraine faced at least one barrier to care. But despite the attacks and the logistical challenges, WHO's assessment recognized that the country's health system remains resilient and that overall access to some level of health services is still high. Of those who sought care, 95% reported having received primary care services and up to 90% had access to health services for chronic conditions. Moreover, 93% had access to a family doctor.

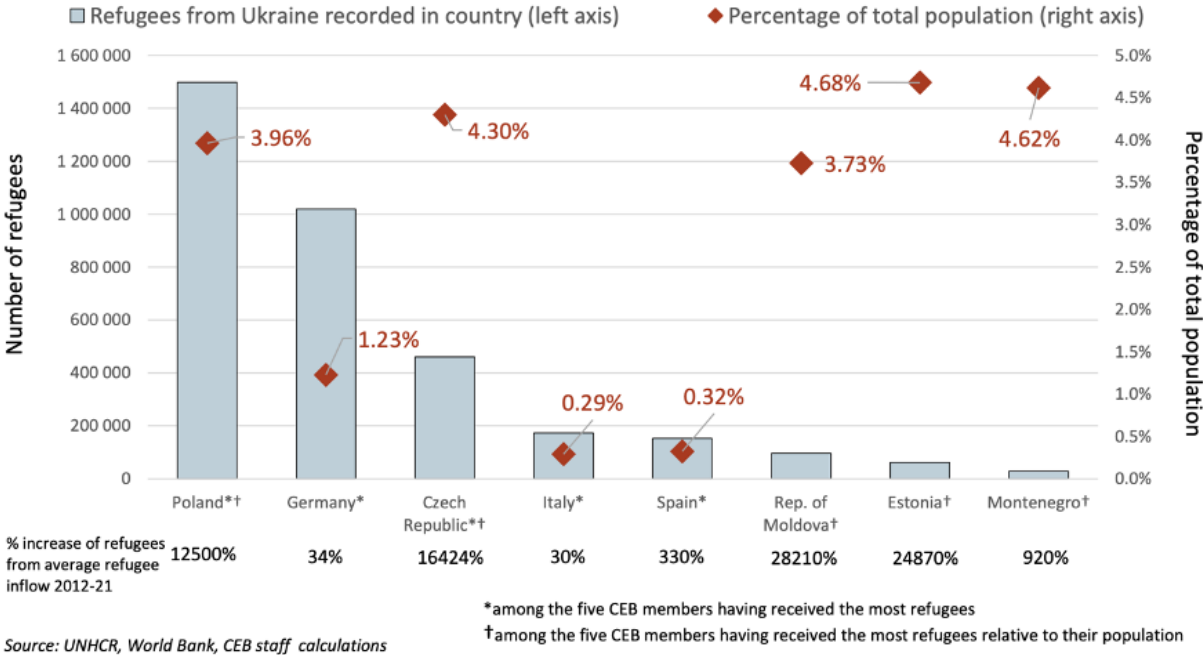
Meanwhile, the war and its consequences are taking a heavy toll on Ukrainians' mental health with [WHO estimating](#) that nearly 10 million Ukrainians may be suffering from diagnoseable mental health conditions and a [poll of Ukraine's Ministry of Health](#) finding that more than 70% of people said they were very stressed or nervous. Ukraine's First Lady, Olena Zelenska, has championed the cause of mental health with an initiative to create the All-Ukrainian Mental Health Programme. The government - together with more than 200 partners on the ground - has rapidly stepped up [investments in, and delivery of, mental health and psychosocial support](#), both on the national and, most importantly, local or community level.

Figure 1. Ukraine Refugee Situation in the European Union (source: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/migration-management/migration-management-welcoming-refugees-ukraine_en)



Mass displacements of 6 million people have taken place within Ukraine as well as movement out of the country of nearly 8 million refugees fleeing – over 4 million have filed for Temporary Protection in the EU (Figure 1, see also Table 1). Europe as a whole has responded to the needs of these people with unparalleled and historic support. As can be seen in Figure 2, the influx of the Ukrainian war refugees must have created the significant challenges for the host countries in Europe. This has changed their demographic characteristics on a scale, and in a tempo, which were unimaginable before the current war’s nightmare has begun. As so far, apparently the European nations have stood up to that great challenge, and let’s hope that this will continue until the just peace prevails in Ukraine.

Figure 2. The distribution of the Ukrainian war refugees across the European countries (source: https://coebank.org/media/documents/Integration_of_Refugees_Fleeing_the_Invasion_of_Ukraine.pdf).



Refugees from Ukraine need both general and specialised healthcare, increasing the demand on host countries’ already-stretched systems. Low vaccination rates, high levels of infectious diseases and war-related injuries among refugees have placed new pressures on host country systems, still strained due to the Covid-19 pandemic. While healthcare systems have worked to respond to some of the concerns (e.g. a vaccination roll-out strategy), other issues, such as a shortage of healthcare workers and mental healthcare professionals, are being addressed to respond to refugees’ healthcare needs. European solidarity has helped mobilise collective responses to bolster health systems in countries with the largest inflows with EU countries hosting fewer people fleeing the war in Ukraine allowing for the transfer of patients to their less strained healthcare facilities. This has been most acutely helpful in relieving the pressure on the over-exerted Polish healthcare system. Moreover, countries are exploring new policies and measures to help strengthen health systems – such as incorporating refugees with healthcare professional backgrounds into host country systems.

https://coebank.org/media/documents/Integration_of_Refugees_Fleeing_the_Invasion_of_Ukraine.pdf).

ASPHER and our members have responded as well, heeding the call in the ASPHER statement for five-fold action: (1) Discovery and dissemination of facts; (2) Diplomacy, mediation, and conflict transformation; (3) Solidarity and support; (4) Use of health-related superordinate goals; and (5) Dissent and non-cooperation with institutions that are associated with rights violations.

To support these goals, ASPHER established the Task Force on War focusing on three key areas: 1) Scientific advisement; 2) Neighboring countries and refugee context; 3) Training and broader academic context. The work of the Task Force including special conferences, webinar series on Public health in times of war, and publications can be found [here](#). ASPHER member schools - 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 - have also signed the agreements strengthening their collaboration and supporting continuity of training in the emergency context of the Ukrainian crisis with financial support, education exchange and placements for Ukrainian students and researchers (<https://www.aspher.org/download/1182/aspher-newsletter-july-august-2022.pdf>; <https://izp.wnz.cm.uj.edu.pl/en/aktualnosci/a-bilateral-agreement-between-public-health-institutions-from-poland-and-france-in-the-emergency-context-of-the-war-in-ukraine/> ; and <https://izp.wnz.cm.uj.edu.pl/en/aktualnosci/public-health-academic-institutions-from-poland-moldova-and-france-tighten-their-academic-cooperation-in-reaction-to-war-in-europe/>).



Photo caption: Laurent Chambaud, former Head of École des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique (EHESP), France; Tomasz Grodzicki, Vice-Rector of the Jagiellonian University for Medical College (JUMC); and Dorota Kłyś, Vice-Bursar of the Jagiellonian University for Medical College (JUMC), sign a bilateral agreement on 20 July 2022 in Krakow, to support Ukrainian refugee students and researchers by financial and operational modalities of collaboration

Due to the just started war (one month after its onset), the agenda of the Annual meeting of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), an organization which closely cooperates with ASPHER, was modified in order to include the topics related to war on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. [The voice from Europe, including directly from Ukraine, was heard on a forum of hundreds of American public health academicians](#). This coincided with the closing of the first edition of the campaign aiming to spread awareness of public health in academia and among societies, called This Is Public Health GLOBAL.

Later, three months after the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian war, another important international conference was organized under the auspices of ASPHER in Gdansk, Poland by Gdansk Medical University with hybrid form of participation. During this meeting, public health academic community members from Ukraine were able to provide their first-hand testimonies on the atrocities of war, and describe their efforts to cope with hardships of everyday life (full recording can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SV0IS3grpUw&t=15636s>).



Photo caption: Professor Tetiana Yurochko, Head of the School of Public Health, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy addresses the International Conference at Gdansk Medical University in Gdansk, Poland on 20 May 2022.

As the follow-up of this conference, the whole issue of the Polish scientific journal “Public Health and Governance” (Zdrowie Publiczne i Zarządzanie), 2022, Volume 20, Issue 1 was dedicated to war in Ukraine with its impacts and consequences (available for download at: <https://www.ejournals.eu/Zdrowie-Publiczne-i-Zarzadzanie/2022/Tom-20-zeszyt-1/>).

The mobilization of the academic environment in reaction to the war in Europe, its dynamics and tempo, as well as the kind of reactions to war’s consequences and impacts, went in parallel with the reactions and actions undertaken by the many European states’ societies. This was dependent in much degree on the actual geographical proximity to the war area, historical and

geopolitical considerations, formerly existing exposition to foreign influences in the globalized world, level and quality of information on the current situation in the eastern part of the European continent, international economic ties, and many other factors. Nevertheless, the level of humanitarian support provided to the suffering Ukrainian citizens and refugees by the European nations was unprecedented. Its scale turned out to be huge and difficult to imagine before the 24th of February 2022.

Sadly, it is difficult to predict how long this military conflict will last. Until 2022, the majority of Ukrainians didn't believe that any full-scale military aggression on their country would be possible. All peace-loving humans, including first of all the Ukrainian civilians suffering every day from war situation hardships, and the Ukrainian refugees who are spread now among foreign countries throughout Europe and elsewhere, away from their homes, hope for the best, and hope for that happening soon. The realistic hopes should be for a durable and just peace, not a pause in a war allowing the aggressor state to gather strength with aim to hit even harder, more comfortably and with more "effective" and destructive weapons - thus continuing the unseen for decades policy of changing state borders by force, and revitalizing the worst memories and experiences of the turbulent history of the European continent. In a globalized world, not only public health professionals continuously learn, but the dictatorships do so as well. A success of aggression and forceful way of conduct adopted in one site of our small planet, could be repeated with high probability somewhere else soon, as well.

The full-scale invasion of Ukraine a year ago represents a disturbing escalation of Russian tactics used in countries in the region. Even now, we are witnessing Russia's attempt to destabilise other countries, [extending hybrid warfare](#) to the Balkans and especially to Moldova. Despite [severe economic hardships created by its opposition to Russia](#) and other collateral damage, Moldova has remained strong with its [parliament issuing a declaration condemning Russia for the war on Ukraine](#). As an international community, it is imperative that we join forces to support Ukraine in its efforts to defend its territorial integrity.

ASPHER is deeply worried about a further escalation of the war and the possible use of weapons of mass destruction. As public health professionals, we realize that we may not be able to provide care for all the victims of even a limited use of nuclear weapons (Lopes, H., Middleton, J., & Razum, O. (2022). Preparing for what we abhor: an obligation of public health professionals. *The Lancet*, 399(10342), 2187. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)00889-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)00889-3)). ASPHER calls on Russia to abstain from using such weapons or threatening their use, and re-enter negotiations of reducing nuclear weapons.

It should be mentioned that ASPHER has backed up the [call from Hans Kluge of WHO Europe](#), that after a year of tremendous courage by the people of Ukraine, this is not the time to let fatigue win. Schools of Public Health and ASPHER must continue to stand in solidarity with Ukraine and its health workforce promoting "healthy and peaceful societies" based on the values of social accountability and health equity - reinforcing sustainable response, strengthening local capacities with sensitivity to local communities' needs including mental health. ASPHER will be taking time to reflect on how it can be stronger for the future and we welcome input from our members on concrete actions we may support.

And finally and most emphatically; ASPHER calls on Russia to cease attacks on Ukrainian civilians, civilian infrastructure including healthcare facilities and workers, end the aggression, and withdraw completely from Ukraine.

Global Alliance on War, Conflict & Health - website, registration and webinars



The Global Alliance on War, Conflict & Health is excited to announce the launch of their new [website](#) and membership [registration](#) pages.

Joining the alliance is free and there are two types of membership: (1) Institutional Membership – if you are signing up on behalf of your institution, please use this option; and (2) Individual Membership – if you are signing up as an individual and your institution is not already a member of the Alliance, please use this option

The Alliance will be holding a series of webinars across 2023. This will cover a range of topics from war crimes, to conflicts in Ukraine and Africa, to the use of the media for conflict analysis. The first of these webinars will be held in March and details will follow shortly. We greatly look forward to your participation in this webinar series. If you have any ideas for future webinars, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us.

ASPHER is an Institutional Member of the Global Alliance on War, Conflict & Health.

Further reading on Public Health and War

Insecurity Insight, Physicians for Human Rights. Destruction and Devastation: One Year of Russia's Assault on Ukraine's Health Care System. 21 February 2023.

<https://phr.org/our-work/resources/russias-assault-on-ukraines-health-care-system/>

Statement - Ukraine 1 year on: this is not the time to let fatigue win: Statement by Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe.

<https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/17-02-2023-statement---ukraine-1-year-on--this-is-not-the-time-to-let-fatigue-win>

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ASPHER TASK FORCE ON PROFESSIONALISING THE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE

Progress on the WHO Public Health and Emergency Roadmap

One of ASPHER's most important areas of work is as a partner in the steering group of the [WHO Public Health and Emergency Roadmap](#). This is a major body of work to increase national workforce capacity to implement essential public health functions, including emergency preparedness and response.

The Road Map was launched at the World Health Assembly in May 2022. The [action plan](#) for the road map followed in October 2023. These were described in an [ASPHER members blog in](#)

[November 2022](#). The steering group met for the second time in London, February 27th and 28th 2023. The group now has representatives covering many international health agencies and over 130 countries in all the WHO regions.



Photo caption: WHO Steering group at Senate House, University of London, February 27th 2023

Work is progressing at pace on five workstrands:

1. **Essential Public Health Functions:** defining subfunctions of the updated 12 WHO Essential Public Health Functions published in 2021.
2. **Competency-based education:** an extensive library has been compiled of major references on competencies, curriculae, credentialling and professionalisation, across the globe.
3. **Mapping and measurement of occupations.** There is strong consensus on the need for major global and regional health bodies, the International Labour Organization and national governments and ministries of health to recognise public health as a profession and to define disciplines within public health. This work is progressing with urgency to enable us to encourage investment in public health skills.
4. **The communications strategy** is developing tools and resources to brief politicians and decision makers at global and national levels, and support the public health community in advocacy for a properly resourced and skilled workforce.
5. **A global developments and partnerships strand** focussed on discussion of the call for proposals from the [Pandemic Fund](#).

Check out the Pandemic Fund!

[The Pandemic Fund](#) is administered by the World Bank and opened its first calls for proposals on March 3rd. It invites proposals from [Eligible Countries](#), [Regional Entities](#) and [Implementing Entities](#). The submission portal will open in early March and will be closed on May 19, 2023.

Eligible countries are those who can receive financing from the [International Development Association \(IDA\)](#) and the [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development \(IBRD\)](#). Some of our members are in eligible countries (see box 1). It may also be that other members may have professional links with eligible countries and may be able to assist through the technical delivery of projects, particularly in relation to training and capacity building. We encourage members to have a look. If you are in an eligible country, find out if your ministry is bidding. Get involved!

Box 1: Eligible Countries

European Region eligible countries with ASPHER Members: Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Eligible countries outside the European Region with ASPHER Associate Members: Guinea-Bissau, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia.

There may be an opportunity for ASPHER and the Global Network of Academic Public Health to play a part in supporting the delivery of this vital programme. This would be a practical action supporting the [GNAPH statement in 2021](#): 'Global Governance for Improved Human, Animal, and Planetary Health: The Essential Role of Schools and Programs of Public Health'.

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ASPHER COVID-19 TASK FORCE

The ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force meets weekly. Keep updated on the latest at the [COVID-19 Task Force homepage](#).

Monkeypox: A Current Emergency Global Health Threat

ASPHER Covid-19 Task Force Member, Mohamud Sheek-Hussein of United Arab Emirates University recently [presented about Monkeypox \(MPXV\)](#) to the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force on 26 January 2023. He followed up with a [blog](#) at aspher.org noting that our world has a delicate balance between animals, the environment, and humans. We need a new path for global public health policy and action on social and ecological factors reflecting the need for a "one globe, one health approach" to address those risks and reduce the impact of the MPXV or a future pandemic.

[You can read an in depth review from Prof Sheek-Hussein and his colleagues here.](#)

Sheek-Hussein M, Alsuwaidi AR, Davies EA, Abu-Zidan FM. Monkeypox: A current emergency global health threat. Turkish Journal of Emergency Medicine. 2023, Volume 23, Issue 1.
URL: <https://turkjemergmed.com/full-text/821>

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 Reading on COVID-19

Fadda M, Melotto M, Caiata-Zufferey M, et al. Joys or Sorrows of Parenting During the COVID-19 Lockdown: A Scoping Review. Public Health Reviews. 2023;43.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1605263>

Kuhlmann E, Brînzac MG, Czabanowska K, Falkenbach M, Ungureanu M-I, Valiotis G, Zapata T, Martin-Moreno JM. Violence against healthcare workers is a political problem and a public health issue: a call to action. European Journal of Public Health, 2023;33(1):4-5.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckac180>

Wilson N, McDaid S, Wieber F, Lindert J. European public mental health responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. European Journal of Public Health, 2023;33(1):87-92.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/ckac169>

ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

ASPHER Projects

UCCAIDE publication: Core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology: a framework for countries in Europe

ECDC and the ASPHER project consortium on Updating Core Competencies in Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (UCCAIDE) have published an article documenting the process to update the core competencies for public health epidemiologists working in communicable disease surveillance, outbreak investigation and emergency response in the EU originally published by ECDC in 2009. The work was commissioned by ECDC and carried out by ASPHER.



Based on this work, ECDC is supporting countries through several different mechanisms to use the framework.

[Read the publication *Core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology: a framework for countries in Europe* here.](#)

Plymoth A, Codd MB, Barry J, Boncan A, Bosman A, Conyard KF, Czabanowska K, Davidovitch N, Filipe R, Gonzalez L, Leighton L, Middleton J, Ndirangu M, Otok R, Reid J, Reintjes R, Shickle D, Syed S, Wall P, Pommier J. Core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology: a framework for countries in Europe. *Euro Surveill.* 2023;28(6):pii=2200517.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2023.28.6.2200517>

VxTrain Training of Trainers to promote vaccine acceptance

The first 'training of trainers' course from the ASPHER consortium VxTrain project commissioned by ECDC was held in Bucharest from December 7-9, 2022, on communication strategies to promote vaccine acceptance and uptake. Thirty-two participants from 11 countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) took part in the interactive, two and a half day training. The aim was for participants to cascade the learnings by developing adapted trainings for their own countries.

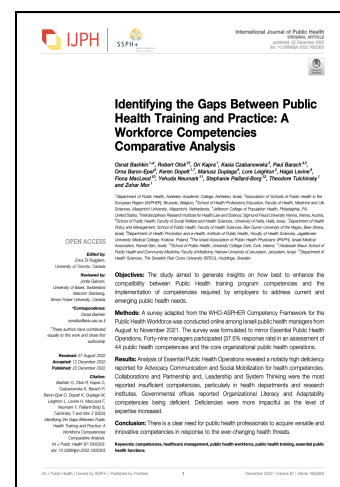
The training was opened with remarks by the Romanian Minister of Health, Dr Alexandru Rafila, and the ECDC Director, Dr Andrea Ammon. The course was facilitated by four ECDC experts: Jeanine Pommier, Andrea Wuerz, John Kinsman, and Stefania De Angelis and two external facilitators from the ASPHER Consortium: Judith Mueller, professor in epidemiology at the EHESP French School of Public Health, and Ana Rita Goes, assistant professor in health promotion at the NOVA National School of Public Health, Lisbon.

The training was centred on the use of motivational interviewing tools that place service users as well as their needs and concerns at the centre of the discussion. ECDC will be following up in 2023 with webinars at which the participants will be able to share their experiences, successes, and lessons learned.

SEEEPHI Publication and Brussels Partner Meeting

SEEEPHI Publication: Identifying the Gaps Between PH Training and Practice: A Workforce Competencies Comparative Analysis

In the paper '[Identifying the Gaps Between Public Health Training and Practice: A Workforce Competencies Comparative Analysis](#)', the Sharing European Educational Experience in Public Health for Israel (SEEEPHI) has published insights from the preliminary project work on competencies required by employers to address current and emerging public health needs. A survey adapted from the WHO-ASPHER Competency Framework for the Public Health



Workforce was conducted online among Israeli public health managers from August to November 2021. The survey analysis found a clear need for public health professionals to acquire versatile and innovative competencies in response to the ever-changing health threats.

Bashkin O, Otok R, Kapra O, Czabanowska K, Barach P, Baron-Epel O, Dopelt K, Duplaga M, Leighton L, Levine H, MacLeod F, Neumark Y, Paillard-Borg S, Tulchinsky T, Mor Z. Identifying the Gaps Between Public Health Training and Practice: A Workforce Competencies Comparative Analysis. *International Journal of Public Health*. 2022:67.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/ijph.2022.1605303>

SEEEPHI Partners Meeting

SEEEPHI Partners met at ASPHER Headquarters in Brussels from January 31 - February 2 to go over interim project reporting and plan for a busy final year. Highlights included a presentation from Dr Ziva Stahl, Israel MoH and Ashkelon Academic College on '*Integration of Bedouin students in AAC and their unique health challenges*' and meetings with our Project Officer from EACEA and the Israel Council for Higher Education join us online. We were grateful to also have external evaluator Dr Paul Barach with us to provide his valuable feedback.



There will be plenty of opportunities to inform you of SEEEPHI progress with dissemination events planned at the Israel Association of Public Health Physicians Conference in June, ASPHER Retreat in September and EPH in November!

Consequences of Regime Change and Legal System Reform on Public Health in Israel

In response to the constitutional crisis and plans to abolish judicial review of governmental decisions in Israel under the guise of legal system reform, a position paper was submitted to the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee by ZU-LAT Equality and Human Rights. It presents the possible effects of this reform as it pertains to the authority of government

ministries' legal counsels and of the Supreme Court as the counterbalance to government decisions, and how upsetting this balance will endanger public health.

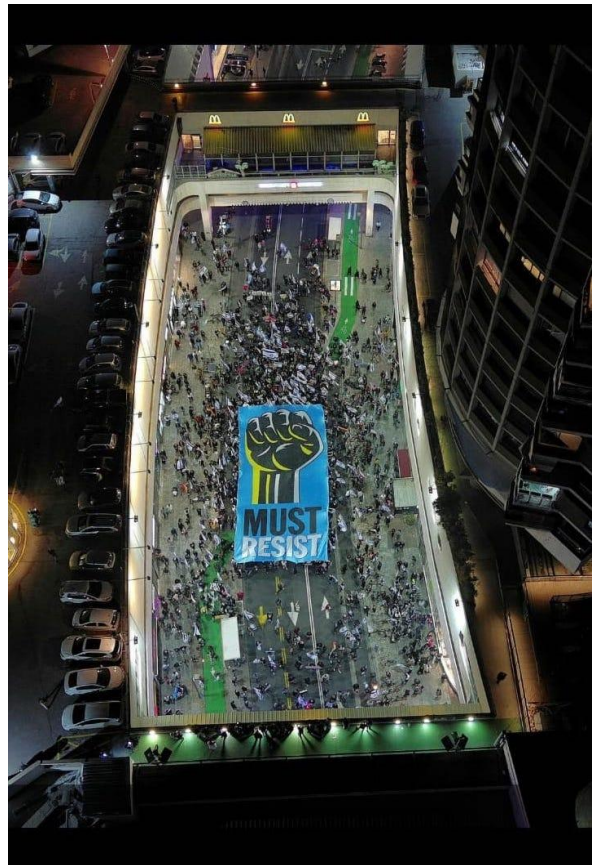
This specifically concerns Israel, Israeli Public Health and Israel's citizens, but is also part of broader worrying trends across the European Region and the globe in governmental accountability to the people. ASPHER therefore supports the efforts of ZU-LAT and our members in Israel in their challenge to the proposed 'reforms'.

Here follows an excerpt of the ZU-LAT position paper. [Read and download the full version here.](#)

Where public health is concerned, the role of the state is to provide the basic conditions that enable its citizens a healthy life, from potable water and control of infectious diseases to housing and food security. This responsibility is based on the assumption that these conditions require collective action that the elected government implements through policy.

To ensure the advancement and preservation of the general population's health, it is of utmost importance that a government's decisions should enjoy the public's trust. To this end, these decisions must be implemented proportionately in terms of the violation of individual and collective freedoms and as equitably as possible among different populations. This is especially important in a diverse society like Israel's.

We hereby express our great concern and deep fear that the reform in the legal system currently on the agenda will fundamentally change the mechanism of checks and balances between the judicial, legislative, and executive branches of government, and will also impact on the field of health.



It is our professional and moral duty to warn of the dangers posed to public health by the reform in its current form. Therefore, in this position paper we will present the possible impact of this reform as it pertains to the authority of government ministries' legal counsels and of the Supreme Court as the counterbalance to government decisions, and how upsetting this balance will endanger public health.

News from *Public Health Reviews*

“I do not have time” – is this the end of peer review? PHR's editors-in-chief, Raquel Lucas, Kasia Czabanowska and Sarah Mantwill, have co-authored an [editorial](#) on the peer review crisis in the health sciences.

ASPHER has been partnering with the Swiss School of Public Health since 2020 to edit [Public Health Reviews](#) (PHR). The journal publishes reviews of all formats and policy briefs. First authors from low- and middle-income countries can apply for a [Globequity APC waiver](#), funded by [swissuniversities](#) until 2024.

Please note the [open Calls in PHR](#)! Researchers interested in launching a Call in PHR may contact the Managing Editor at anke.berger@swisstph.ch.

PHR will receive its first Impact Factor in June 2023. The current CiteScore (2021) is 9.6.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

ISPUP recognised as WHO Collaborating Centre

ASPHER congratulates the [Instituto de Saúde Pública da Universidade do Porto \(ISPUP\)](#) for their official recognition as a WHO Collaborating Centre on Behavioral and Social Determinants of Noncommunicable Diseases.

Become a member of the Collegium Prometricum Coalition

ASPHER Member [Collegium Prometricum](#) invites cooperation in the project European MBA in Healthcare 95% online.



Collegium Prometricum
THE BUSINESS SCHOOL FOR HEALTHCARE

Partnership opportunities:

1. European Executive MBA in Healthcare 95% online (real time webinars delivered by more than 50 lecturers representing more than 30 countries)
2. MBA Study Tours (experts meetings on campuses of European universities and hospitals)
3. Research and Development projects in the field of healthcare management.

Collegium Prometricum (The Coalition of European Business Schools and Public Health Schools) is launching the “European Executive MBA in Healthcare 95% online” with the participation of more than 50 lecturers from over 30 European countries. The possibility of inviting so many experts representing so many healthcare and academic institutions from all over Europe is facilitated by the innovative 95% online formula (real-time webinars supported by online teaching methodology).

The programme is addressed to healthcare professionals, managers and officials and its uniqueness is related to the great emphasis on the exchange of experiences between representatives of individual countries, institutions and companies.

Through our MBA programme, we hope to strengthen the European healthcare system by creating an important platform for sharing experiences for an innovative and creative future of healthcare.

We will be happy to schedule a meeting to discuss cooperation possibilities – please reach out to Sylwia Miezio: sm@prometricum.eu. For questions about the MBA programme and registration, please contact our office: mba@prometricum.eu.

Professor Kasia Czabonawska Inaugural Lecture

On 3 February, past ASPHER President Katarzyna (Kasia) Czabanowska gave her inaugural lecture titled ‘Public Health Workforce Development – working differently means learning and leading differently’ at Maastricht University.

She shared her personal story on why her chair in Public Health Leadership and Workforce Development was established and what it comprises including research, education and development. More specifically, the lecture focussed on the meaning of public health leadership and importance of developing public health leaders driven by values of social justice, inclusion and equity, who are able to address effectively the challenges affecting health and well-being of societies and individuals. She discussed how and why the public health workforce needs to be developed, supported and recognized, and what has been done so far in this area. Further, she addressed how most recent health challenges contribute to changing the way public health professionals work, lead and learn with conclusions looking into the future through the lens of public health leadership talents.

[Watch the recorded lecture here.](#)

Public Health and Care Research Leadership Programme



PUBLIC HEALTH AND CARE RESEARCH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

TWO YEAR PROGRAMME
START JULY 2023 IN CAMBRIDGE

TARGET GROUP
POST-DOC RESEARCHERS, WITH A MINIMUM OF 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE, WHO HAVE THE AMBITION TO IMPROVE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO BECOME LEADING RESEARCHERS

LEARNING GOALS

- BEING ABLE TO LEAD YOURSELF AND OTHERS
- DEVELOPING AN ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET AND CREATIVITY
- BUILDING EFFECTIVE TEAMS AND SKILLS TO NAVIGATE THE NETWORK
- KNOWING HOW TO LEAD CHANGE

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS:

- INDIVIDUAL COACHING
- MODULES
- MUTUAL LEARNING GROUPS

DO YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION? GO TO WWW.RESEARCHSCHOOLCARE.NL

The public health and care research leadership programme is designed to support future leaders in the field of public health and care research to become excellent leaders with a mission.

The 2-year programme starting in July 2023 consists of 4 modules (Two 2,5 day modules per year). All sessions have a highly interactive character and work through experiential learning with elements of theory.

[Download the Programme flyer.](#)

[Download a slideshow about the Programme.](#)

[Visit the Programme website.](#)

Epidemiology symposium: Causality to Get Population Health Science Right

Lausanne, Switzerland and online, 29 March 2023

Fan of DAGs? Curious to learn more about causal inference in population health sciences? Would you like to discuss your research with experts in causal inference methods? The [#PopHealthLab](#) of University of Fribourg and the [Chair of Biostatistics](#) at EPFL, with support from the [Swiss School of Public Health \(SSPH+\)](#), are delighted to announce the symposium Causality to Get Population Health Science Right on March 29, 2023.

This will be an excellent opportunity for PhD students and researchers to learn more about causal inference and to network with experienced researchers in the field. In addition to the talks, students will have the opportunity to present a poster and receive constructive feedback from senior researchers. The two best posters will be awarded 500 CHF.

[Download the symposium flyer here.](#)

If you would like to participate in the symposium (on site or virtually) and present your poster (on site), [register here](#). For inquiries, you may send an email to pophealthlab@unifr.ch.

International Week 2023 and X International Scientific Conference

16-20 May 2023: International Week, Powiślański University, Kwidzyn, Poland

19 May 2023: X International Conference, Powiślański University, Kwidzyn, Poland



INTERNATIONAL WEEK'23
ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

Be one of 50 participants and register [here](#)

GAIN INSIGHT AND EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

INTERNATIONALISATION
CULTURAL DIVERSITY

REGISTRATION

16-20 MAY

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Erasmus+



X International Scientific Conference
"Faces of Prosperity"

Register and become a speaker at current issues related to well-being.

19 May, 2023

9.00 AM - 2.00 PM

MORE INFORMATION
<https://konferencja.kwidzyn.edu.pl/index.php>

Organisator

Registration

<https://konferencja.kwidzyn.edu.pl/index.php/rej1>

Contact:
konferencje@psw.kwidzyn.edu.pl

Areas

- Health Sciences
- Economic Sciences
- Social Sciences

Spend a week at Powiślański University in Kwidzyn, Poland, during International Week '23, which will also include the X International Scientific Conference, V International Student Conference as well as 5th International Higher Education Fair. Don't miss your chance, apply!

We would be very glad to host your staff at our university for the International Week '23 from 16-20th of May. Main topic areas of the X Conference: Social assistance - opportunities and threats; Economic development and eco-development; The principle of human and social capital in economic development; Combating civilisation diseases, consequences of pharmacological treatment of civilisation diseases

[Download the X International Conference flyer.](#)

[Register for the X International Conference here.](#)

[Register for the international week here.](#)

For more information visit the [website](#) or contact: internationaloffice@psw.kwidzyn.edu.pl and konferencja@psw.kwidzyn.edu.pl.

Invitation to the SMDM 18th Biennial European Conference 2023

21-23 May 2023 Berlin, Germany

It is our great pleasure to invite you to the 18th Biennial European Conference of the Society of Medical Decision Making, which will be held in Berlin, Germany on 21-23 May, 2023 and sponsored by UMIT Tirol.



With the theme “Linking Research to Evidence-Based Action for Patients, Providers and Policy Decision Makers,” SMDM 2023 European Conference will offer the latest updates in medical decision making and cover novel research of various methodologies tailored to the entire interprofessional SMDM community.

[Learn more about the conference here.](#)

16th international scientific conference: A new healthcare era and digital journey

08 June 2023 Bled, Slovenia

The 16th international scientific conference emphasizes the importance of integration and cooperation, mutual upgrading and adaptation to new digital and social reality in healthcare. Today we have a new era that requires optimal functioning of both spheres. Therefore, the core of the 16th ABFHC international scientific conference is to find steps that offer effective ways of dealing with modern challenges, effective preventive ways, and strategies and tools for even more effective development of healthcare professions.



A new
healthcare era
and digital
journey

Hotel Astoria Bled
8 June 2023

The purpose is to present the digital and psycho-social context of everyday life and work in the field of health care: presentation of good practices in the context of the digital field, presentation of prevention and management activities in the field of chronic diseases and mental health, and presentation of content and knowledge necessary for successful healthcare. The aim is to contribute to the creation of healthcare workforce who will be able to address modern and future challenges.

[Learn more here.](#)

Global Public Health and Sports Studies Summer School

19-30 June, University College Dublin, Ireland

The Global Public Health and Sports Studies Summer School at University College Dublin will appeal to undergraduate students interested in global public health and/or sports and health-related areas. It will consist of two modules, "Sustainable Advancements in Global Public Health" and "Sports Studies", and students are welcome to choose either one or both of them.



Via a series of lectures, innovative practical workshops and interactive group learning activities, students will be guided through the most recent research and teachings from a global health and sports and performance perspective, delivered by a team of world-class researchers, teachers and clinical experts.

In addition to learning activities, students will be given the opportunity to try out Gaelic games, take a stadium tour of Croke Park (Ireland's largest sporting arena) and browse in the Gaelic Athletics Association (GAA) museum. They will learn about sustainable food practices at Airfield Estate, Dublin's only urban working farm and gardens and they will visit Glendalough, the beautiful 'valley of the two lakes' and home to one of the most important monastic sites in Ireland.

The cost per module is €1,500 which includes tuition, social and cultural events. Accommodation is available on-campus on a first come first served basis for an additional cost. The deadline for applications is 31 March 2023 and we are [accepting applications now](#).

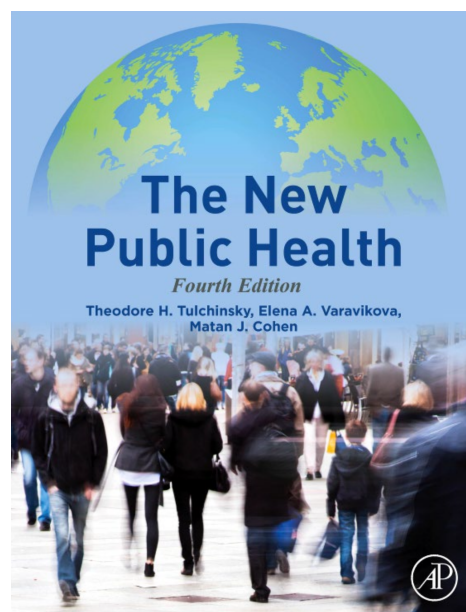
Further details can be found at www.ucd.ie/phpss/about/summerschool/ or [download the brochure](#). If you have any questions, please email sphpss.summerschool@ucd.ie.

The New Public Health – Fourth Edition

The fourth edition of the textbook 'The New Public Health' from respected authors Theodore H. Tulchinsky, Elena A. Varavikova, and Matan J. Cohen will be published in April 2023.

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

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



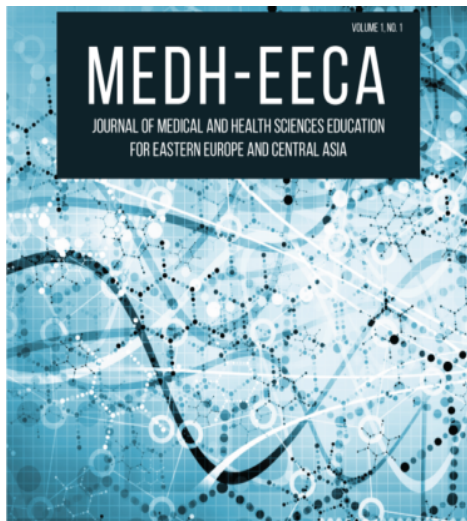
[Download the book flyer for more details.](#)

[Click here to purchase a copy of the print or e-book.](#)

Use discount code BIOMED30 for 30% off and free shipping.

LSMU launches *The Journal of Medical and Health Sciences Education for Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

The Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LSMU) has launched [The Journal of Medical and Health Sciences Education for Eastern Europe and Central Asia](#) in collaboration with an international network of several countries and coordinated by prof. Linas Sumskas.



MEDH-EECA, ISSN 2783-6797 is an annual, peer-reviewed, international general research and practice journal.

The purpose of the MED-EECA is to advance knowledge and disseminate research findings that are directly relevant to the practice of health science education, including multiple fields of medical, public health, nursing, and pharmaceutical training. The journal publishes scholarly papers on all aspects of health science education including:

peer review evaluation and case studies; institutional accreditation and training programme accreditation related materials; the theory, practice and policies relating to management, improvement of quality in medical and

other health sciences education; new initiatives and models in learning and teaching that impact on quality and standards; links between quality assurance and employability of health care staff; evaluation of the impact of quality procedures at national level; theoretical and practical analyses of quality and quality initiatives in health science training; comparative studies between institutions or countries, etc.

In particular, the journal specifically aims to become a platform available for Eastern European and Central Asian countries to share the new ideas and demonstrate rapid and significant advancements in reforming the training of human resources for healthcare.

Original articles with scientific investigations and systematic literature reviews are welcomed from professionals of other health related fields on issues that have a direct impact on the area of staff training and strengthen evidence-based practice. Letters to the editor with commentaries on published papers or research and clinical issues, as well as short communications, will be taken into consideration and not left unanswered. This journal also provides space for announcements and an international calendar for professional conferences in the area of training of health care professionals.

[Read the MEDH-EECA journal here.](#)

PARTNER NEWS

Global Public Health Week

03-07 April 2023

During Global Public Health Week (GPHW), the WFPHA brings together institutions, communities, and public health actors from around the world to recognize the contributions of public health and its workforce. This annual event engenders discussion on the best practices and missing gaps fundamental to disease prevention and the promotion of health and wellbeing.

The second edition of GPHW commences on 3rd April 2023, with the theme “Building a More Equitable, Sustainable, and Resilient Health System”. It will be a hybrid event, combining face to face and digital gatherings worldwide.

In addition to the week’s theme, each day will focus on a specific theme:

Monday, 3 April:

Preparing Public Health Professionals & Associations for the New Challenges

Tuesday, 4 April:

Tackling the Climate Crisis

Wednesday, 5 April:

Empowering Our Communities – Protecting Minorities & the Most Vulnerable

Thursday, 6 April:

Making Health a Human Right

Friday, 7 April:

A World in Turmoil: A Discussion to Be Continued

Get Involved by hosting an event! Submissions are due by 1st March 2023 using this [link](#).

Keep up to date with all the activities and news relating to GPHW by following #GPHW & #GPHW2023 on social media.

For more information visit the [GPHW site](#) or email secretariat@wfpha.org

European Public Health Week

22-26 May 2023

Preparations for the [European Public Health Week 2023](#) are in full swing. Have you marked your calendars yet? It takes place from May 22-26. The overarching theme is 'Global issues, local actions'. Each day will have its own theme.

- [Monday May 22 - Mental health for all](#)
- [Tuesday May 23 - Diversity in health](#)
- [Wednesday May 24 - Access to care](#)
- [Thursday May 25 - Prevention and control of chronic diseases](#)
- [Friday May 26 - Global health emergencies and response](#)



Get involved in the EUPHW2023! What role will you have in the coming EUPHW? Are you going to be [an event host](#)? You can also help us by spreading the word of the EUPHW [as disseminator](#). Or are you going to join some of the events as a participant?

If you need help in setting up your event, please contact euphacommunications@eupha.org.

LSE Health Annual Lecture: The New Normal: a dual track approach to health strategy and policy



In the London School of Economics (LSE) Health's Annual Lecture on 13 February, Hans Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe discussed a dual track approach to health strategy and policy. Three years of COVID-19 have exposed the fault lines in health systems across the WHO European Region and globally. The pandemic has also driven home the gross inequities that impact access to health within societies and between countries. As we embark on the 4th year of what the UN Secretary-General has labelled the worst global crisis since World War Two, it's clear that governments and health partners need a new approach to strengthening health systems overall. Dr Kluge avers that a dual track approach to health strategy and policy must be our new normal. Countries must prepare for the health emergencies that lie ahead, arriving faster than ever before, while, at the same time, investing in essential, everyday health services. This approach addresses this range of health challenges, requiring political commitment at the highest levels, grassroots efforts to strengthen primary health care, innovations in health such as digital health and the adoption of disciplines such as behavioural and cultural insights.

[Watch a recording of the lecture here.](#)

Webinar: Making Health for All Policies

Health for All Policies can make a powerful contribution to sustainable development. This is achieved by targeted investment in health and health systems, which not only improves population health but can also produce co-benefits for other sectors. Investment in health and health systems helps other sectors achieve their specific goals. Health for All Policies does not ask other sectors what they can do for health rather what health can do to help other sectors. The potential for cooperation is long ranging from greening healthcare, financial protection against poverty, the promotion of gender equality, or investment in health systems for economic growth.

So what are the big health- and co-benefits? How can we support intersectoral action? What are the ways of making Health for All Policies? How can health co-benefits support progress towards SDGs? Join us to find out!

[Watch a recording of the webinar here.](#)

7th World Forum: Health Education for All. Today and Tomorrow



Under the patronage of Madam Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the European Council and H.E. Mister Marc Baréty, Ambassador of France in Egypt, The World Forum for LifeLong Learning is intended to be a space-time conducive to the development of collective intelligence in the service of the search for innovative avenues.

At the collective level: what can we learn from this period of health crisis? What does the decline of the planet teach us? Above all, how can humans learn to get out of the current situation to live tomorrow in as good health as possible, for as long as they can live?

How to change the paradigm in favour of prevention? How to make health a public good? What transformations must the systems - education, care, training for health professions, international organisations (WHO, NGOs, etc.) and national organisations (Ministries of Health) undertake? The Forum will be followed by very precise, concrete recommendations, and a Declaration. Stay tuned to the [7th World Forum webpage](#) or contact forum-cma@usenghor.org for these important outcomes.

LEPH2023 Conference

21-24 May, Umea, Sweden

The European Conference on Law Enforcement and Public Health ([LEPH2023](#)) is the first regional European conference exploring the complex and

diverse intersections of law enforcement and public health, involving practitioners, policy makers and researchers from these and other related sectors. It carries on the international LEPH conference series, with an opportunity to focus on key regional issues.

LEPH2023 Europe will provide a major opportunity to further develop our understanding of the intersections between police and other law enforcement personnel and those individuals and organisations delivering public health programs in the community, and how to strengthen and sustain them. The key theme for LEPH2023 Europe is 'Together towards resilient communities', building on previous LEPH conferences which have described and analysed the issues, examined a huge range of actual and possible responses globally, and stressed the importance of collaborative leadership in policy and practice.



As with all LEPH conferences, the Conference Program will be heavily weighted towards promoting collaborative action – in practice, research, policy development and in the integration of these three elements.

ASPHER is a Partner to LEPH2023 with immediate past-President John Middleton and Robert Otok serving on the Program Committee.

Learn more from the [LEPH2023 conference website](#) and [register here](#). Early registration rates apply until 28 March.

Conference: Prevention Research 2023

14-15 November, Edinburgh, UK



The conference on Prevention Research will be a unique opportunity for researchers and policy stakeholders to come together to share and discuss the latest research on preventing non-communicable disease and reducing inequalities across the UK. Abstracts will be accepted for oral presentations, symposia and workshops. [Sign up to register your interest](#) and receive updates on the programme and submission deadlines.

BeWell Project Newsletter

The [BeWell project](#) has published its first newsletter. ASPHER is an advisor to BeWell.



BeWell project will contribute to the transformation of healthcare, fostering a sustainable, fair, and resilient ecosystem, with a clear blueprint for sectoral cooperation. Our goal is to form a sustainable alliance and address the skill needs of the health workforce, mobilising and engaging key stakeholders from all European health ecosystems, identify skills gaps, and develop a strategy to be implemented at local, regional, national, and ultimately at European level through the Pact for Skills.

[Read and subscribe to the BeWell newsletter here.](#)

PHIRI Project Newsletter and Rapid Exchange Forum

[Subscribe to the PHIRI newsletter](#) to keep up to date on PHIRI upcoming PHIRI activities and events. And check out the materials available from the PHIRI Rapid Exchange Forum. [Minutes and presentations from Rapid Exchange Forums are available here.](#)



EuroHealthNet announces new President



European partnership for
health, equity & wellbeing

The EuroHealthNet Partnership [elected Prof Dr Martin Dietrich](#), the Acting Director of the German Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA), as its new President. Dr Sumina Azam of Public Health Wales and Pia Sundell from the Finnish Federation for Social Affairs and Health were elected Vice Presidents.

The new [EuroHealthNet Executive Board](#) looks forward to working with Prof. Dietrich, and continuing to guide the EuroHealthNet Partnership to adopt and advocate for more 'resilient' health and social care systems, which are better able to adapt to change and sustain health and wellbeing for people and planet

The Executive Board will work with the [EuroHealthNet team](#) to take forward the [Strategic Development Plan](#) until 2026.

Nutri-Score in Europe

While the European Commission made a commitment as part of its «Farm to Fork» strategy to propose a unique and mandatory front-of-pack nutritional labelling for all of Europe before the end of 2022, lobbies struck back to attack the Nutri-Score and avoid its adoption at the EU level. Today we realize that Nutri-Score is really threatened!

Joint pressure from food companies opposed to Nutri-Score and agricultural sectors (especially cheese and processed meat sectors and their European representation, the powerful agricultural union COPA-COGECA), and the involvement of various political parties, governments and politicians close to the lobbies seem to be bearing fruit at the European Commission level.

Despite scientific studies that validate the Nutri-Score algorithm and demonstrate its effectiveness, despite the recent EC Joint Research Center report, the favourable results of the public consultation launched by the EC, the support from consumer associations (including BEUC) and its official adoption in 7 countries (France, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg, Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland), the recent statements of EC officials suggest that the EC could yield to pressure from agri-food lobbies.

Scientists and health professionals are mobilising to support the implementation of Nutri-Score in Europe. The objective of this Group aims to defend science and public health against lobbies and to remind the EC that Nutri-Score has been the subject of numerous studies following a rigorous scientific process justifying its adoption.

See the [joint letter to the EC from the European Heart Network \(EHN\), the European Public Health Alliance \(EPHA\) and the European Bureau of Consumer Unions \(BEUC\) on the future front-of-pack nutrition label for Europe here](#).



If you agree to join the Group of EU scientists and health professionals supporting the implementation of Nutri-Score in Europe contact [Serge Hercberg](#).

IJPH Call for Papers: Science to foster WHO air quality guidelines values



The International Journal of Public Health (IJPH) – an open access non-profit society journal of the Swiss School of Public Health, Impact Factor (2021) 5.1 – has launched a Call for papers: Science to foster WHO air quality guidelines values

The World Health Organization (WHO) released new Global Air Quality Guidelines (AQG) in 2021. These AQG reflect the large impacts that air pollution has on global health. They are based on comprehensive syntheses of the overwhelming body of evidence that has accumulated over the past two decades, demonstrating that health effects of air pollution are serious and can affect nearly all organ systems of the human body. Importantly, recent studies consistently show that the adverse health effects of air pollution are not only limited to high exposures but can be observed all the way down to very low concentration levels, with no observable thresholds below which exposure can be considered safe.

We welcome original research, reviews or commentaries on the health effects of air pollution that foster the translation of research to policy and action. We particularly encourage submissions of research from low- and middle-income countries that are most heavily affected by air pollution and typically understudied. Investigations in marginalized communities in high-income countries for evidence based clean air policy and action will be of major interest too.

Guest Editor: Hanna Boogaard PhD, Health Effects Institute, Boston, USA

Editor: Nino Künzli, PhD, MD, MPH, Swiss School of Public Health, Zurich, Switzerland

[Learn more about the call for papers here](#).

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OPPORTUNITIES

Join Europubhealth+ as a visiting professor



At the end of each academic year in June-July, the consortium invites international visiting professors to join the teaching team of the [Europubhealth+ integration module](#) at the EHESP School of Public Health in Rennes (France). Selected professors are awarded an Erasmus Mundus grant to cover the costs of their 4-week participation in the programme, entitled “Building innovative and sustainable solutions to global health challenges”.

By joining Europubhealth+, visiting professors get to share their experience through lectures and tutoring of a diverse group of international students; compare their vision of public health teaching with Europubhealth+ practices and bring new ideas to the Consortium; as well as enlarge their professional network to collaborate on new projects in their public health areas of interest.

Applications for the 2024 edition (from 10 June to 05 July 2024) are open until 31 March 2023.

[Learn more here.](#)

EPHA Traineeships



European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) is a change agent – Europe’s leading NGO alliance advocating for better health. We bring together the public health community to provide thought leadership and enable change; to build public health capacity to deliver equitable solutions to European public

health challenges, such as air pollution, more affordable medicines, and the need for health-enabling food systems, to improve health and reduce health inequalities. As a member-led organisation made up of public health NGOs, patient groups, health professionals and disease groups, we work with relevant policy and decision makers to strengthen the voice of public health in Europe.

EPHA’s internship programme was introduced last year with the aim to streamline trainees’ recruitment process with four opportunities this spring:

- [Climate Change and Health Traineeship](#) (application deadline 19th of March)
- [Access to Medicines and Healthcare Traineeship](#) (application deadline 19th of March)
- **Healthy environments and NCDs Traineeship** (TBA - [stay tuned here](#))
- **Communications Traineeship** (TBA - [stay tuned here](#))

EuroHealthNet Vacancy



EuroHealthNet is the European Partnership for health, equity, and wellbeing. It consists of over 60 bodies from European countries responsible for public health and health promotion in Europe. From our office in Brussels, we coordinate policy, advocacy, research and capacity building activities

which help address health inequalities and positively affect the determinants of health. EuroHealthNet's activities take place across three complementary platforms covering policy, practice and research.

The successful candidate will be part of [EuroHealthNet's](#) Research Platform, whose main objective is to identify and promote evidence-based approaches to improving health, equity and wellbeing, principally as part of pan-European research projects funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe programme. Many of these projects focus on environmental health, developing new understanding and evidence to help address the threats of climate change and environmental degradation in ways that promote health and reduce health inequalities.

The Research Officer will support EuroHealthNet's participation in two Horizon Europe projects: RESONATE and FEAST, under the guidance and supervision of senior staff.

[Learn more and apply here](#) by 29 March 2023.

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

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