

WINTER 2019 Newsletter



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues, Dear ASPHER Members,

We have all swiftly made it to year 2019 with our busy agendas, deadlines, projects and mission to advance public health education and training. We are happy to share the winter edition of the ASPHER Newsletter with you. It is already the second edition, nicely put together for you in a new format by Lore Leighton, who has now joined the ASPHER Secretariat. We are looking forward to the Deans' and Directors' Retreat in Erice, Italy, which assumes a slightly different shape, giving more opportunities to our members, by engaging you to share your achievements, practices and concerns with the ASPHER community in various thematic sessions and panels. We know that our schools of public health are doing a great job of developing public health professionals who can effectively address complex health challenges through fantastic public health programmes and curricula at all levels. We want to know what you do and what you are proud of. ASPHER's Good Practice Award for excellence in public health training and education is an opportunity for you and for all of us to share good practice. We encourage you to apply.

With my warm spring wishes to all members and collaborating partners,

Kasia Czabanowska
ASPHER President

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

With this newsletter we are saying goodbye to the winter season and advancing through 2019. ASPHER is expecting some exciting developments and challenges ahead of us in the coming months, such as the handover of the presidency and transition between 2020 and 2025 strategic agendas providing for the key context.

We are sending this issue after visiting the ECDC to discuss furthering our collaboration (read more on this in the ASPHER Partners and Beyond section of this newsletter). Updates on the relevant planning will follow in the next newsletter!

This issue will help you to prepare for the Erice retreat. We count on our members' active participation in the key membership event of the Association. You may also find out more about past events and activities via flash reports as well as learn about the upcoming ones – engage! Also, don't miss ASPHER calls and some important communications from our partners that we carefully selected for you.

ASPHER would also like to give a warm welcome to our new intern, Naomi Limaro Nathan who has joined the ASPHER office in Brussels until mid-June. Naomi Limaro is a trained medical doctor and a second year, European Public Health Masters' Student, specializing in governance of health systems in transition at the Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. She is enthusiastic about her new role with ASPHER and looks forward to this learning experience. ASPHER

members will learn more about her project and experience from the internship in the next newsletter.

Please enjoy this edition of the ASPHER newsletter and don't forget to share your news with lore.leighton@aspher.org to be included in the next issue or on the ASPHER website activity log. Finally, as you see we are experimenting with a new format of the ASPHER newsletter. Thus, we would appreciate any comments and/or suggestions for improvements for us to consider - let us know!

Greetings from Brussels!

2019 ASPHER DEANS' AND DIRECTORS' RETREAT



Pictured: Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture, Erice

Register!

This year's retreat will be held at the [Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture](#), an institution established in 1962 and born in the heart of the Frontiers of Science. The Centre venue is made up of four restored monasteries that provide space for scientific conferences and courses with lecture halls and living quarters for guests.

You can register through the [Deans' and Directors' Retreat webpage](#), which is also where you will find all Retreat updates and information. Registration fees for the Retreat include full board accommodation on site, transport to and from the airport, and the full Retreat social programme.

Spaces are limited so don't forget to Register for the 2019 Deans' and Directors Retreat! We are already at over 100 registrations with a limit of 150. Also, early bird registration rates will apply only through Friday 29 March.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask! We look forward to seeing you from 26th-29th May in beautiful Erice, Italy.

Programme Schedule

See below for the Retreat Programme schedule at a glance. The full draft schedule is available at www.aspher.org.

	SUNDAY 26 MAY	MONDAY 27 MAY	TUESDAY 28 MAY	WEDNESDAY 29 MAY		
09:00	ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE AIRPORTS OF PALERMO AND TRAPANI / TRANSFER TO THE E. MAJORANA CENTRE	PLENARY 1 PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT & PROFESSIONALISATION Co-chairs: K CZABANOWSKA, R SILIQUINI	PLENARY 3 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Co-chairs: L CHAMBAUD, N KÜNZLI, F DONATO	SIGHTSEEING OF PALERMO (OPTIONAL)		
09:30						
10:00		PARALLEL 1 SESSION FOR THE ITALIAN SCHOOLS Co-chairs: I ANGELILLO, S. CASTALDI	PARALLEL 2 LAW AND PUBLIC HEALTH Co-chairs: D SPRUMONT, K CZABANOWSKA		PARALLEL 5 ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE Co-chairs: H BARROS, S BRUSAFERRO	PARALLEL 6 DIGITAL HEALTH Co-chairs: K LYUBOMIROVA, G PRIVITERA
10:30						
11:00		ASPHER GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019	PLENARY 2 THE NEW ERA OF VACCINOLOGY Co-chairs: N AZZOPARDI-MUCAT, F VITALE		PARALLEL 3 SHORT COMMUNICATIONS Co-chairs: D VUIKOVIC, M P. FANTINI	PLENARY 4 PRECISION PUBLIC HEALTH Co-chairs: M ZEEGERS, P VILLARI
11:30						
12:00			LUNCH		LUNCH	DEPARTURE OF PARTICIPANTS FROM THE AIRPORTS OF PALERMO AND TRAPANI / TRANSFER FROM THE E. MAJORANA CENTRE
12:30						
13:00			CONT. PLENARY 2 (DISCUSSION)		PLENARY 5 SPHS CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE UHC AGENDA Co-chairs: J MIDDLETON, W RICCIARDI	
13:30						
14:00	PARALLEL 4 SHORT COMMUNICATIONS Co-chairs: A CASUCCIO, P BORELLA		CLOSING SESSION			
14:30						
15:00	<i>ASPHER WORKING GROUPS (AND OTHER CLOSED MEETINGS)</i>	<i>ASPHER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (CLOSED)</i>				
15:30						
16:00	WELCOME RECEPTION	DINNER	FESTIVE DINNER			
16:30						
17:00	OPENING SESSION					
17:30						
18:00	WELCOME RECEPTION	DINNER	FESTIVE DINNER			
18:30						
19:00	WELCOME RECEPTION	DINNER	FESTIVE DINNER			
19:30						
20:00	WELCOME RECEPTION	DINNER	FESTIVE DINNER			
EVENING						



ASPHER 2020 - Advancing and Evaluating the Agenda

ASPHER will be putting together a working meeting to be held during the Retreat in Erice to discuss the final stage of implementation of the ASPHER 2020 Agenda, initiate its evaluation and start devising the new strategy 2025. The meeting will allow ASPHER Members to get engaged in the process. Send a message to robert.otok@aspher.org if you are interested in joining the meeting. We hope you will take this opportunity to get involved as we head into the crucial period of the Association's development.

11th EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

Report from Ljubljana, Slovenia



Pictured: Dragon Bridge and Ljubljana Castle

Coalition of Partners and Public Health Workforce Professionalisation

The 3rd meeting of the [WHO Coalition of Partners](#) was held back to back, prior to the conference. The meeting included representatives from countries throughout the European Region and was used among other things to disseminate information on key documents put together as a joint action between WHO Europe, ASPHER and APHEA working toward the professionalisation of the public health workforce.

ASPHER President, Professor Katarzyna Czabanowska, has now been added as a member of the Core Team of the WHO Coalition of Partners.

Young Researchers' Forum

The 11th edition of the Young Researchers' Forum was held in Ljubljana, on 28 November 2018, prior to the European Public Health Conference, supported by the Swiss School of Public Health+ and the European Public Health Association (EUPHA).

About thirty young researchers, representing various European countries were at the forum to present their research and also engage with fellow young researchers. The forum was chaired by Professor Vesna Bjegovic-Mikanovic, ASPHER Past President from the University of Belgrade. ASPHER President – Professor Katarzyna Czabanowska, from Maastricht University, gave the opening remarks. The judges group, led by Professor Bjegovic-Mikanovic, included Dame Professor Anne Johnson, 2018 Andrija Stampar Medallist, Professor Karolina Lyubomirova, from the ASPHER Executive Board, and Professor Anders Foldspang, from the ASPHER Honours Committee.

We had brilliant presentations from our young researchers, they shared their research methodologies, practices, experiences, learnt from one another and were also advised by the judges. Dame Professor Anne Johnson gave the closing remarks.

The winners of the oral presentation were: Joseph Muwonge Junior, from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden who took the first prize for his oral presentation on “Prevalence and clinical-related correlates of suicidal behaviour in Rwandan young adults: Data from a population based, cross-sectional study”; Ana Henriques, from the University of Porto, Portugal came in second for oral presentations with “Social inequalities and quality of life among older people: the mediating role of social support”; and Julia Nadine Doetsch, from the University of Porto, Portugal took the poster presentation prize with her work on “Neoliberal Policy Impact on Health Care Provision for Parents of Very Preterm Born Infants in Portugal: A Quality Analysis on Perceived Care.”



We congratulate all the presenters and winners. We look forward to the next Young Researchers' Forum in Marseille, France.

Mig-H Training Dissemination Workshop

A Dissemination workshop was held for the EU-funded service “Development of specific training modules for health professionals, law enforcement officers and trainers, on migrants' and refugees' health, addressing communicable diseases and mental health problems” ([MIG-H Training](#)). The project was implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and ASPHER.

MIG-H Training developed and piloted training modules for health professionals and law enforcement officers in touch with migrants and refugees, specifically targeted at closing knowledge gaps in the fields of communicable diseases and mental health issues. Pilot trainings were implemented in Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia and Spain over the summer 2018.

IOM's Dominik Zenner was quoted as saying “today we presented new training materials on migration health, adaptable to local contexts; they are useless if they collect dust on a shelf. The real dissemination work to benefit migrants starts now.”

The MIG-H Training Dissemination Workshop Syllabus is available from the [ASPHER repository](#). Training materials developed for the project are freely available on [EU Health Policy Platform's Agora Network](#).



For instructions on how to use Agora and find the material, follow the link [here](#).

Andrija Štampar Medalist, Professor Dame Anne Johnson

[Professor Dame Anne Johnson](#), Professor of Epidemiology and Director of the Centre of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at University College London was awarded the prestigious 2018 Andrija Štampar Medal for excellence in the field of public Health. She gave her Keynote speech on Core Capacities to Address the Threat of Communicable Diseases.

In the Laudatio for Dame Professor Anne Johnson, Kasia Czabanowska, ASPHER President, emphasised numerous scientific achievements of Professor Johnson including seminal discoveries in behavioural and biological transmission dynamics and prevention of HIV, sexually transmitted and other infections, including influenza; internationally leading work across disciplines, countries, geographies and histories; and ability to translate her world-leading research into public health benefit, through engagement with policymakers, practitioners and independent advice to funders and government.

Czabanowska stressed the leadership of Dame Professor Anne Johnson, which is reflected in her engagement in developing other professionals through mentorship, supporting more junior colleagues to navigate through academic careers, cultivating male and female mentors helping them to understand the hierarchy, and addressing barriers.

"Science is a tough road but exciting, you need to have your own idea all the way but there are many paths to success" as Dame Professor Johnson states "you just need to choose your own".

Professor Dame Johnson was on hand to speak to the next generation of public health professionals at the Young Researchers' Forum.

She also participated in the EUPHA, ASPHER, WFPHA Roundtable on Women Leaders in Public Health along with ASPHER President, Professor Katarzyna Czabanowska, University Maastricht; Professor Anna Odone, University Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan; and Professor Bettina Borisch, World Federation of Public Health Associations.



ASPHER NEWS

Salzburg Seminar: Public Health Law

Scott Burris and Katarzyna Czabanowska, ASPHER President, co-directed the Salzburg [Seminar on Public Health Law](#) from 18-24 November 2018. The seminar was a collaborative effort between the [Open Medical Institute](#) (OMI), Maastricht University and ASPHER. Material from the seminar may contribute to ASPHER's plans to develop a strong continuing professional development (CPD) programme for Europe's public health workforce via the Association's Public Health Training Academy project.

Speakers included Suzanne Babich, DrPH, MS Associate Dean of Global Health Professor of Health Policy and Management, Director - Doctoral Program in Global Health Leadership (DrPH) Indiana University Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health, IN USA; Scott Burris, JD, AB Professor of Law and Public Health, Director - Center for Public Health Law Research Temple University, PA USA; Katarzyna Czabanowska, Dr. habil. Associate Professor Maastricht University, The Netherlands; Tobias D. Gantner, MD, PhD, MBA, LLM HealthCare Futurists GmbH Founder & CEO, Director of the European Center for Patient Centric Innovation and Medical Entrepreneurship, Strategic Advisor European Connected Health Alliance Cologne Germany; Farhang Tahzib, MD Senior Public Health Physician and Leader, Founding Chair of the UK Faculty of Public Health Ethics Committee, Fellow and Member of the Faculty Board, United Kingdom; David Townend, Prof., Dr., FRSA Department of Health, Ethics and Society, Maastricht

University, The Netherlands; and Genc Burazeri, MD, PhD Professor of Epidemiology and Research Methods, Department of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine University of Medicine, Tirana, Albania.



The programme included keynotes on “5 Essential Public Health Law Services” and “The Future of Public Health Law.” Topics included analysis of Global Public Health Policies; the Role of Stakeholders; Enforcing and Defending Legal Solutions; and the Role of Leadership in Introducing and Defending Legal Solutions; Public Health Ethics; and EU Health Law. There were Group Work Sessions held throughout the week and a Workshop on How to Develop a Case.

Salzburg Seminar: Human Rights and Patient Care

Judith W. Overall and Robert Otok, ASPHER Director, co-directed an Open Medical Institute (OMI) and ASPHER seminar on [Human Rights in Patient Care](#) (HRPC) from 25 Nov-1 Dec 2018. The seminar was linked to the ASPHER HRPC programme, which ASPHER has proudly been a continuing part of. We look forward to taking part in further developments in HRPC - look for updates to be made available via health-rights.org.

Speakers included Judith W. Overall JD, MS, MEd, consultant; Tamar Ezer, BA, JD, LLM Associate Director, Practitioner-in-Residence, Human Rights Clinic and Lecturer in Law University of Miami School of Law, USA; David Larios, Professor National School of Public Health, Madrid, Spain; John Kennedy, Purple States LLC Black Mountain, NC USA; Maya Peled-Raz, MPH, LLB, PhD Lecturer University of Haifa School of Public Health, Israel; and Dainius Puras, MD UN Special Rapporteur, Vilnius, Lithuania.

The seminar included an overview of HRPC; panel discussion, presentations and group work on Production of HRPC Practitioner Guides; presentation of video and digital resources; examples of HRPC with training of Lawyers, Health Care Providers, Public Health Managers, Patients and Patient Representative; and discussion of papers published in the [HRPC collection](#) in ASPHER's journal, *Public Health Reviews*.



Undergraduate Education: Maastricht University Visit to AAC

An agreement between Ashkelon Academic College (AAC), Israel and Maastricht University, Netherlands to exchange visits by senior faculty members was funded by the Israeli Council of Higher Education (MALAG). The first step was a visit by senior Maastricht faculty members from the Faculty of Health Sciences to AAC in November 2018. The delegation included Professor Jascha de Nooijer, Professor Kasia Czabanowska, Mr Robert Otok and Ms Lore Leighton for The Association of Schools of Public Health of the European Region (ASPHER). Israeli participants included Professor Ted Tulchinsky, Dr Zohar Mor, Dr Osnat Bashkin, Dr Yael Ram, Professor Yehuda Neumark from the Hebrew University, Professor Orna Baron-Epel from Haifa University, Professor Nadav Davidovich and Dr Keren Dopelt from Ben Gurion University, Ms Dina Dallero and Ms Deena Tsameret from Erasmus Jerusalem.

The visit included meetings with faculty of AAC School of Health Professions. Selected students from [AAC's Bachelor in Public Health programme](#) presented their ongoing and planned research projects. The group planned to visit Bedouin villages in the Negev and Barzilai Hospital, however, due to a security emergency of rockets from Gaza the plan had to be cancelled. Instead, the group

visited south Tel Aviv where many migrants live. They toured a maternal and child health clinic and a primary health care clinic, which caters to undocumented migrants.



Opportunities for further exchange between EU and Israeli SPHs were discussed and a delegation from AAC is expected to come to Maastricht in September 2019.

Joint Action on Health Information (InfAct)

ASPHER is joining EUPHA as an external evaluator for the [InfAct Joint Action on Health Information](#). InfAct is a 36 months project funded by the European Commission. It builds on the [BRIDGE Health project](#) and other initiatives in health information. The project was launched in March 2018. It includes 40 partners in 28 EU and associated countries.

Through country collaboration, InfAct streamlines health information activities across Europe. It builds towards a sustainable and solid infrastructure on EU health information and strengthens its core elements based on capacity building, health information tools and political support.

The goal of InfAct is to strengthen national and EU health information systems by:

1. Establishing a sustainable research infrastructure to support population health and health system performance assessment,
2. Strengthening European health information and knowledge bases, as well as health information research capacities to reduce health information inequalities,
3. Supporting health information interoperability and innovative health information tools and data sources.

Amongst other plans, InfAct aims to develop a flagship training programme to improve Member State capacities in population health and health system performance analysis and monitoring. Read more about InfAct's mission and vision [here](#). Please contact Robert Otok, robert.otok@aspher.org, if you are interested in learning more about this agenda.

CALLS FOR ASPHER MEMBERS

Vacancies on the ASPHER Executive Board

Do you want to be directly involved in the running and executive decisions of ASPHER? Two vacancies are opening up this year on the ASPHER Executive Board. We are looking for hard-working, dedicated faculty from our Member Schools to apply to join the board.

Send your CV, including short bio and motivation for joining the Executive Board to Robert Otok, robert.otok@aspher.org, by noon on Friday 26 April. Voting for new Executive Board Members will take place during the ASPHER General Assembly meeting in Erice on 26 May.

Andrija Stampar Medal Nominations

Nominations are now open for the Andrija Stampar Medal for excellence in the field of Public Health. Nominations will be considered by the ASPHER Executive Board and this year's Medallist will be announced during the Erice Retreat. The awardee will be invited to join the ASPHER co-led plenary session during this year's European Public Health Conference when the Andrija Stampar Medal Ceremony will also take place.

Learn more about Andrija Stampar Award and previous Medalists [here](#).

Please contact Robert Otok, robert.otok@aspher.org, with a short bio of your nominee for a distinguished person deserving of this prestigious award by noon, 18 April.

ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Award for excellence in public health training and education

At the end of 2017, ASPHER proudly presented the ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Award, an initiative of the 2017-2019 presidential agenda.

This yearly award, in which all ASPHER members are invited to participate, will showcase the best master programmes and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses offered by members of the Association. Three main characteristics of the programmes and courses will be assessed: impact, internationalisation, and innovation. These characteristics will be assessed by a panel of independent experts. The first award in 2018 went to the French School of Public Health, Ecole des Hautes Études en Santé Publique (EHESP).

The aim of the award is to promote excellence in public health education and training across Europe by encouraging ASPHER member schools to share their best practices and success stories. In this vein, please take a moment to answer the submission form that the Secretariat has prepared to this effect.

Access the online submission form [here](#). The deadline for submissions is noon, 18 April 2019. Please do not wait until the last moment to submit your best programmes and courses!

The award ceremonies will take place during the annual ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreats, when a trophy will be offered to the winners. As such, the 2019 ceremony will take place during the Retreat in Erice, from 26-29 May. Please do not forget to register for the Retreat as well!

If you have any questions or encounter any issues with the submission form, please contact Lore at lore.leighton@aspher.org. We look forward to receiving your submissions!

ASPHER survey mapping profiles of major PH core competences in European schools and departments of public health

ASPHER is currently conducting a short survey, to map profiles of major PH core competencies in European schools and departments of public health. The survey aims to provide a systematised overview in terms of main categories of public health core competencies, focusing on strengths and arranged according to:

1. ASPHER's European List of Core Competencies for the Public Health Professional, and:
2. WHO Europe's list of Essential Public Health Operations (EPHOs).

The survey should take only 5-10 minutes to complete and will be helpful for updating the ASPHER website and other Association operations. We would appreciate it very much if you could take a few minutes of your time before 28th March 2019 to contribute your answers to the [survey](#).

Updating the ASPHER Website and School Profiles

We are working to update and improve ASPHER's website to serve you better. One of our goals is to include profiles for each of our member schools in the [ASPHER Directory](#). This can include background on the school as well as the programmes offered.

We are calling on you to provide a profile, ideally both in English and your local country language. You may register to receive administrator permissions to update your school's page directly or you can send your school's profile and related materials to lore.leighton@ashper.org.

We will be updating member competency profiles with this information as well your answers to the [Core Competences Survey](#) mentioned above.

Additionally, ASPHER's website contains a [document repository](#) where we can add documents including: your school's brochure; courses and programmes; education and training materials; as well as other material.

We also welcome all suggestions for how we can put ASPHER's site to better use for your school, faculty and students!

Public Health Reviews – Join the Editorial Board

As ASPHER's Society Journal, *Public Health Reviews* is looking for ways to best serve the ASPHER community. We are looking for candidates from member schools who would like to join

the Journal's Editorial Board. Help shape the direction of the journal to meet the needs of the ASPHER community and the field of Public Health in Europe.

We hope that by keeping the Journal open access the articles can serve as a resource for your schools and your students. But we also want to be a repository for state of the art initiatives in education and training and to showcase research from ASPHER member schools. To this end, we have an ongoing open collection devoted to [Public Health Education and Workforce Training](#). If your school has a novel programme or new approach, we invite you to submit your work for [publication](#).

Additionally, we are currently looking for review papers on the topics of: food, nutrition and micronutrients; vaccination and infectious disease; public health law; and migration and training.

Please contact Lore Leighton, lore.leighton@aspher.org, with any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 ASPPH Annual Meeting

The Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASSPH) will hold their [Annual Meeting](#) from 20-22 March in Arlington, Virginia, USA. The Annual Meeting is the premier professional development and networking event for academic public health professionals and partners and features programming relevant to academic public health, global health, current public health concerns, and the future of these fields, including an Undergraduate Public Health and Global Health Education Summit on 20 March. During the meeting, ASPHER and ASPPH will have a number of meetings to synergize our efforts within the public health workforce professionalisation agenda, including ASPPH's This is Public Health (TIPH) Campaign, and ASPHER's European professionalisation work with WHO and the Coalition of Partners.

Specific ASPHER highlights, include:

The global engagement and partnership advisory committee meeting on Thursday morning. It will be a core platform for the joint agenda and strategy planning with key members from ASPPH and others.

ASPHER Director, Robert will speak at the Migration Concurrent Session, the EU and broader European Region migration context and efforts within the European public health community to address migrant health. He will present ASPHER's work with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other partners on MIG-H and TRAIN4M&H as well as other coordinated efforts with the EC and WHO.

ASPHER Executive Board Member, Carlo Signorelli will meet with international partners over dinner on Thursday evening to discuss Rome 2020, 16th World Congress on Public Health related planning. He will be encouraging schools of public health to take part in a strong and concerted action, taking stock of all the exciting developments and collaborations currently taking place.

The intention will be to place the public health training and schools context high on the agenda of this key event next year.

European NPHI Directors' Meeting

Since 2006, IANPHI has supported a [European NPHI Directors' Meeting](#). These meetings, hosted by member national public health institutes provide opportunities for directors to gather and exchange information, discuss health topics of interest to the region, and network to build and strengthen partnerships between NPHIs.

The 2019 Meeting will be hosted by the National Agency for Public Health of the Republic of Moldova from 8-9 April 2019 in Chisinau. For more information visit the meeting [website](#).

Joint IANPHI-WHO Technical Meeting: Establishing national public health institutes through mergers?

The International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI) and the World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe will hold a joint technical meeting addressing: *Establishing national public health institutes through mergers – where are we now?* The meeting will be held from 9-10 April, in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. This event is to be held within the context of the Coalition of Partners initiative to strengthen public health services and capacities in the European Region.

Last year WHO-IANPHI successfully held a [technical seminar in Warsaw, Poland in April 2018](#), with participation from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine. Belgium, France, Norway and Sweden shared their experiences of their recent mergers to establish their national institutes.

This year, WHO-IANPHI, are convening a follow-up technical seminar where Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine can reflect together on the last year of strengthening their national institutes and share their learning with other countries, including Croatia and Scotland. Experts from countries that have gone through the process, such as Belgium, France, Norway and UK will again be on hand to lend support. The focus of this technical meeting will be around strengthening and developing the public health workforce. It will also follow up on the current status of establishing the National Public Health Institutes (NPHI), and provide case-based strategies in strengthening the capacity of merged NPHIs. Kasia Czabanowska will be participating in the meeting in her capacity as WHO temporary adviser.

Train 4M&H dissemination workshop

Following the MIG-H event in Ljubljana, ASPHER is continuing its participation in [migration health training actions](#) with TRAIN4M&H. A dissemination workshop for the project will be held in Brussels on 25 June. Look for further details and final dates to be announced at www.aspher.org. As part of its role in the action, ASPHER will host a web platform with training material developed as a result of both projects. It will be set up as a dynamic online environment and reference point for up-to-date training resources on migration and health. The online

platform will serve to disseminate MIG-H/TRAIN4M&H among all ASPHER members, but will also allow you and other contributors to upload and share your relevant content based on international, country and local experience and actions. We expect that the platform will contribute to the development of the Public Health Training Academy as a Europe-wide continuing professional development (CPD) scheme for the public health workforce. ASPHER plans to utilise it as a model for training content related to other projects, such as Human Rights in Patient Care (HRPC) and the InfAct Joint Action.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, email robert.otok@aspher.org.

4th V4 Public Health Conference

Six years after the success of the 1st V4 Public Health Conference that was initiated by the Slovak Public Health Association and held in Kosice, Slovakia, in 2013, the 4th V4 Public Health Conference will be hosted by Hungarian Association of Public Health Training and Research Institutions (HAPHI) in Debrecen, April 25-26, 2019.

The V4 countries have common history, common challenges, common public health problems and have to find common solutions together. HAPHI invites public health experts, trainers, researchers, students and policy/decision makers from the V4 countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland), but also encourage international scholars, all public health specialists, medical practitioners with interest in public health services, as well as health policy makers from other countries to join them.

ASPHER's President, Kasia Czabanowska will be amongst the [keynote speakers](#) at the V4 event, along with Zsuzsanna Jakab, Regional Director of the WHO Europe; Martin McKee, Past President of EUPHA; Dineke Zeegers, Executive Director of EUPHA; and others.

The conference is organized by the Hungarian Association of Public Health Training and Research Institutions (HAPHI) in collaboration with the Faculty of Public Health of the University of Debrecen; the Czech Society of Social Medicine and Health Care Management; the Polish Society of Public Health and the Slovak Public Health Association (SAVEZ). The conference is held under the auspices of Dr. László Papp, the Mayor of the City of Debrecen. For more information see the V4 Public Health Conference [website](#).

The 5th International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health



The 5th International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health, [LEPH2019](#), will be held from 21-23 October 2019 in Edinburgh, Scotland under the overarching theme of Collaborative Leadership.

These international Conferences bring together police, prosecutors and other law enforcement personnel, public health researchers and practitioners working on the widest range of issues, and local government representatives; they marry the latest research with innovative and

collaborative practice, at operational, managerial and policy levels. Amongst other topics, one of this year's major themes is Law Enforcement and Public Health education, Including LEPH PhDs.

ASPHER's incoming President, John Middleton will be delivering the EUPHA sponsored lecture on public health and law enforcement entitled, "If public health problems are multidisciplinary - why do we train for them separately?" He is keen to hear from Schools of public health in the European Region who have been active in joint training initiatives and education on these issues so he can use these as examples of good practice in his presentation. If you would like your work to be highlighted please contact John on johnmiddleton@phonecoop.coop.

You are invited to participate in the LEPH2019 Conference by submitting an Abstract to deliver an oral or poster presentation or a Marketplace of Ideas Session Proposal to convene a panel, workshop or other interactive session.

Abstracts and proposal ideas must be submitted by 12 April 2019. Find out more about submitting [here](#).

The Scottish Institute of Policing Research and Edinburgh Napier University are working together to plan a PhD day with half a day of presentations by PhD students from a range of disciplines, and half a day of training and workshops. If there are interested PhD students in your programme, we ask that you pass this information along to them.

12th European Public Health Conference, Marseille

This year's EPH Conference will be held in Marseille, France from 20-23 November 2019. The theme is "Building Bridges for Solidarity and Public Health". Plenary sessions are organized around the following themes:

Building bridges for migration in a planetary context.

Solidarity for public health – integrating poverty, conflict and other threats to health.

Building bridges between professions.

New roles for public health practice.

Building global bridges between public health communities.

The call for abstracts is now open until 1 May 2019. Conference registration opens 1 April 2019. For more information see the conference [website](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ASPHER MEMBERS

Executive Course on Health Risk Strategies and Communication (RISC) in the European Union

From 16-17 May, Maastricht University will be holding an Executive Course on Health Risk Strategies and Communication (RISC) in the European Union at its Brussels Campus.

This course has been developed for those that work within a think-tank, a European institution, an NGO or in the private sector; and have to assess and then communicate about risks within their own institution or wish to acquire the skills to do so in the future. Participants will examine questions related to risk governance together with other professionals working on risks in the health sector in the heart of the European Union, at Maastricht University Campus Brussels. Scholars from different disciplines, reaching from psychology and neuro-sciences to business and economics channel their expertise together with highly experienced professionals. More information and registration are available at the course [website](#).

Two-day Postgraduate Course on Health Technology Assessment

Maastricht University is organizing a two-day post-academic course Health Technology Assessment (HTA) on the 27 and 28 June in Maastricht. This course focuses on economic evaluation studies, that provide insight into the efficiency and sustainability of healthcare.

Due to a number of developments, there is a growing need for knowledge about efficiency in healthcare, such as rising healthcare expenditure, expensive medicines, increasingly complex healthcare demand, and the threat of scarcity on the healthcare labor market. In addition, new interventions are often more effective, but they are associated with higher costs than existing care. The question that arises is how much society is willing to pay to achieve extra health benefits. But also whether we provide the right care by the right person at the right place. The use of HTA / economic evaluation studies provides insight into this and can make an essential contribution to more efficient healthcare and the (further) development and prioritization of (new) treatments within healthcare. Research into this type of information is increasingly central to the various grant providers, f.i. European Calls.

This HTA course provides insight into the basic principles of economic evaluation studies and will focus in particular on aspects that are important in research into efficiency, so that after the course participants are able to - in addition to research into the effectiveness of the intervention - also have an economic set up an evaluation study. This intensive course will be given in English and is suitable for every scientist without any prior knowledge in this field. Within the course, lectures are alternated with interactive teaching methods. During the course there is also the opportunity to look at the possibilities for economic evaluation studies within the research of the participants. For more information and to register see the course [website](#).

ISPUP Newsletter

The most recent newsletter from the Institute of Public Health, University of Porto is available [online](#). It includes the latest news, available positions, short courses and seminars.

2018 ASPHER member publications in *Public Health Reviews*:

Higher education as a platform for capacity building to address violence against women and promote gender equality: the Swedish example, by Leah Okenwa-Emgwa and Eva von Strauss. [Full text here](#).

Incitement, genocide, genocidal terror, and the upstream role of indoctrination: can epidemiologic models predict and prevent? by Elihu D. Richter, Dror Kris Markus and Casey Tait. [Full text here.](#)

Migrants' and refugees' health: towards an agenda of solutions, by Stephen A. Matlin, Anneliese Depoux, Stefanie Schütte, Antoine Flahault and Luciano Saso. [Full text here.](#)

Screening and treatment of hypertension in older adults: less is more? By Daniela Anker, Brigitte Santos-Eggimann, Valérie Santschi, Cinzia Del Giovane, Christina Wolfson, Sven Streit, Nicolas Rodondi and Arnaud Chiolero. [Full text here.](#)

Participation in lung cancer screening programs: are there gender and social differences? A systematic review, by Stefanie Schütte, Damien Dietrich, Xavier Montet and Antoine Flahault. [Full text here.](#)

Developing the public health workforce: training and recognizing specialists in public health from backgrounds other than medicine: experience in the UK, by Selena F. Gray and David Evans. [Full text here.](#)

Is blended learning and problem-based learning course design suited to develop future public health leaders? An explorative European study, by Karen D. Könings, Nynke de Jong, Christa Lohrmann, Linas Sumskas, Tony Smith, Stephen J. O'Connor, Ingrid A. E. Spanjers, Jeroen J. G. Van Merriënboer and Katarzyna Czabanowska. [Full text here.](#)

A multi-faceted pandemic: a review of the state of knowledge on the Zika virus, by Anneliese Depoux, Aline Philibert, Serge Rabier, Henri-Jean Philippe, Arnaud Fontanet and Antoine Flahault. [Full text here.](#)

Brief assessments and screening for geriatric conditions in older primary care patients: a pragmatic approach, by Laurence Seematter-Bagnoud and Christophe Büla. [Full text here.](#)

How do accountability problems lead to maternal health inequities? A review of qualitative literature from Indian public sector, by Mukesh Hamal, Marjolein Dieleman, Vincent De Brouwere and Tjard de Cock Buning. [Full text here.](#)

Personalized cancer screening: helping primary care rise to the challenge, by Kevin Selby, Gillian Bartlett-Esquillant and Jacques Cornuz. [Full text here.](#)

ASPHER PARTNERS AND BEYOND

ECDC/ASPHER Catalogue of Courses

In March 2016, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and ASPHER agreed to collaborate in the training of public health professionals in competencies for prevention and control of communicable diseases. The collaboration between ECDC and ASPHER facilitates the connections between academia and the public health institutes, translating the collaboration at the EU level to the national level in particular in the area of serious cross border threats to health.

A [Catalogue of Courses on Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases](#) based on a 2018 survey of ASPHER members has now been published by ECDC. The collection of the training offer and competences by European Schools of Public Health is essential and therefore complements the ECDC training offer. The aim of the present catalogue is to map the strengths of the schools and academic departments of public health members of ASPHER regarding their resources and competencies in the area of communicable disease prevention and control, and their current offer of training activities in that area of knowledge.

For more about the collaboration, see the [2018 ASPHER/ECDC Meeting Report](#).

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control - Vacancy

Head of Section Business Solutions

Are you an experienced public health informatician? Join us to further develop ECDC's IT solutions for EU level surveillance and risk assessment.

We are looking for a professional with experience in digitalisation in the public health sector, with strong experience in project management, procurement and IT portfolio management.

The job holder will serve as the main interface between the ICT Unit and the business units, delivering innovative approaches for retrieving healthcare data and transforming them into information for public health action.

Deadline: 26 March 2019

For further information see the ECDC recruitment [announcement](#).

EuroHealthNet & Coalition of Partners Call for Case Studies

EuroHealthNet, in collaboration with WHO Europe Office and IUHPE and in support to the WHO Coalition of Partners, is developing a Guide for Financing Health Promoting Services. The guide will be a tool for health planners and policymakers to develop health promoting services that benefit health and wellbeing for all, presented through a range of cross-sectoral case studies. The innovative aspect of the guide is its focus to new financial measures and on ways how to use available funds and untapped resources to improve health equity.

EuroHealthNet would use inspiring case studies of innovatively funded health enhancing programmes, services, or actions for this guide.

For more details, download the Concept Note [here](#). You can also contact Lina Papartyte for more information on the project at l.papartyte@eurohealthnet.eu.

European Public Health Week

The European Public Health Association (EUPHA) is organising the [European Public Health Week](#) from 13-17 May 2019. The event is centered on celebrating health populations with plans for five thematic days.

Join EUPHA in raising awareness of public health and celebrating healthy populations! During the European Public Health Week they will have events and activities all over Europe dedicated to important public health themes.

Whether you are a health professional, a health organisation or an interested citizen, let's spread the word about our efforts for healthy populations in Europe. To celebrate healthy populations we need the whole population to be healthy, leaving no-one behind. More information on how to submit your event and find out other ways to get involved using this [link](#)!

Check out the themes for each day below;

- Mon 13 May - Becoming, being and remaining physically active
- Tue 14 May - Healthy environments
- Wed 15 May - Care 4 care
- Thu 16 May - Sustainable and healthy diets
- Fri 17 May - Youth mental health

ASPHER Secretariat would like to engage with our members during this week, should you have ongoing trainings/workshops related to the themes, do send it to us to share via our channels. We would also like to engage your students, alumni, who are interested in sharing stories, videos etc about their public health journey.

Please contact Naomi: naomi.nathan@aspher.org, for more information, if you are interested in participating.



Partner Organizations

Don't forget to visit our partner organizations' websites and newsletters to see what they are up to! [EUPHA](#), [EPHA](#), [EPH Conference](#), [ASPPH](#), [IANPHI](#), [EuroNet](#).

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
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