
April-May 2021 ASPHER Newsletter



Pictured: Statue commemorating the 30th anniversary of the eradication of smallpox, World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland. Source: [Thorkild Tylleskar](#), Wikipedia Commons

Table of Contents:

[MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT](#)

[MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT](#)

[ASPHER COVID-19 TASK FORCE](#)

[Public Health Erosion](#)

[Vaccination Subgroup](#)

[ASPHER COVID-19 Situation Reporting for Europe](#)

[Call to join the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#)

[Nobody's Safe Until We're All Safe](#)

[COVID-19 Publication Opportunities](#)

ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

[ASPHER 2021 General Assembly](#)

[Call to Join the ASPHER Executive Board](#)

[Call for ASPHER Award Nominations](#)

[ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat](#)

[ASPHER at European Public Health Week](#)

[ASPHER Fellowship: Climate Action and Health](#)

[Message from the Young Professionals Programme Coordinator](#)

[TIPH Global Grant Program Awardees](#)

[ECDC training in the area of vaccination and vaccine hesitancy for PHC professionals](#)

[ASPHER and EUPHA unite for strong leadership for public health](#)

[Blog: The Art of Health by Professor John Middleton](#)

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

[Webinar: Unleashing the Power of Law to Promote Better Health for All](#)

[Course: Journal Editing in Health Sciences](#)

[Short Courses: Statistics & epidemiology; Qualitative research methods; and How to publish your work](#)

[National School of Public Health, Mexico celebrates 100 years](#)

[COVID-19 Pandemic & Public Health: International Online Conference - School of Public Health, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences](#)

[Institute of Public Health, United Arab Emirates University Newsletter](#)

[Selected ASPHER Member Publications](#)

PARTNER NEWS AND EVENTS

[IANPHI Strategic Vision 2021-2025 Presentation](#)

[Launch Event of the European population Health Information Portal](#)

[Culture, Health and Wellbeing International Conference: Inequality | Power | Sustainability](#)

[4th CoP meeting to strengthen public health capacities in Slovakia](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

[ISPUP PhD Studentships](#)

[PHR Call for papers on Transformational Public Health Education: Building resilience and preparedness to post COVID-19 future](#)

[PHR Call for papers on COVID-19: Guidance From Research For Policy And Practice](#)

[IJPH Call for papers: The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health](#)

[Call for Papers: Handbook of Human and Planetary Health](#)

[Share the ASPHER newsletter!](#)

.....

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Bridge for Peace

This month, I am not reviewing the state of the pandemic across Europe. You can find [great summaries every week](#) of the current state in your country and sub-region on the [ASPHER COVID-19 web pages](#). You will also find in this bulletin the incredible outpouring of papers and conference presentations made by colleagues and myself on behalf of ASPHER over the last month. I commend these to you.

I will instead reflect on the further explosion of violence in Israel-Palestine.

ASPHER is a membership organisation and we greatly value colleagues in schools of public health in Palestine and Israel. We admire your professionalism, your expertise, your knowledge; we enjoy your friendship and comradeship; we admire your courage, fortitude and leadership in these hard times and we respect all your rights to live freely and equally under the law. We know that you have in the past sought to work harmoniously together in the interests of health and peace and ASPHER will support you in all your further efforts.

ASPHER strongly condemns violence against unarmed civilians, irrespective of who the parties are from and from whom the violence originates. ASPHER's statement in 2016, [‘Is war a man-made public health problem?’](#) still holds true. It was made in response to rights abuses in Turkey, but it applies equally now in Israel-Palestine.

‘Wars and armed conflicts have devastating consequences for the physical and mental health of all people involved, for the social life within and surrounding the war-affected regions, and for the health of the environment. Wars destroy health infrastructure, undoing years of health advancement, and severely compromise health systems’ capacity to respond to the direct and indirect health consequences of fighting. Millions of people have been internally displaced or forced to flee their countries because of armed conflict. Forced migration creates further physical and mental health problems during transit, in enforced encampment, and because of restricted entitlement to health care in countries hosting refugees. The disastrous effects might last for generations to come. In short, war is a man-made public health problem.’

The indirect negative health effects of this conflict also further compound the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we call for public health communities to continue sharing the responsibility of [equitable vaccine distribution across regions](#). Public health professionals from Israel and from the international community - continue to [call on the Israeli government for](#) COVID-19 vaccines to be supplied without condition or reservation to Palestinians. The foundation for this call is moral, humanitarian and for the benefit of the whole region.

President’s personal view

In the depths of the Cold War, my colleague and friend David Josephs, a fervent anti-nuclear war campaigner said “compared to preventing nuclear war, immunisation and preventing smoking are just ‘rearranging the deckchairs on the Titanic’”. Many will feel

ASPHER's calls to the [Israeli government to vaccinate Palestinians](#) is in that category – the 'band aid for a broken leg'. Although I understand that sentiment, it is also the case that failure to vaccinate Palestinians, has been, to quote one Israeli colleague, 'another opportunity engendering anger and resentment'. This is particularly the case when Israel has been [exporting surplus vaccine](#) to other nations, buying influence through [vaccine diplomacy](#). The Israeli government has also failed to heed ASPHER and Israeli Physicians for Human Rights calls for [fair and equal treatment of Palestinians during the pandemic](#).



Pictured: Guerrillas in El Salvador participating in immunisation campaign. From [Health as a Bridge for Peace: PAHO's experience](#), The Lancet

I still hold the view I held in the Cold War era, that '[Health Promotion is Peace promotion](#)'. The World Health Organisation describes [peace as an essential prerequisite for health](#). In its [landmark reports on global violence and public health](#), WHO describes every level at which violence damages health, from child abuse, through domestic abuse through racial harassment and inter-community violence, to international conflict. The causes are understandable and therefore preventable; a public health approach to understanding and preventing violence is vital.

Some national public health bodies have put forward statements on the role of public health services in preventing violence – among them the [American Public Health Association](#) and the [UK Faculty of Public Health](#). In the UK, there have been calls for a public health approach to [knife crime](#) and [preventing violent extremism](#). There are roles for public health professionals in the epidemiology of violence, the [life course approach to violence](#) and a public mental health approach. There is a community development role in conflict mediation and resolution.

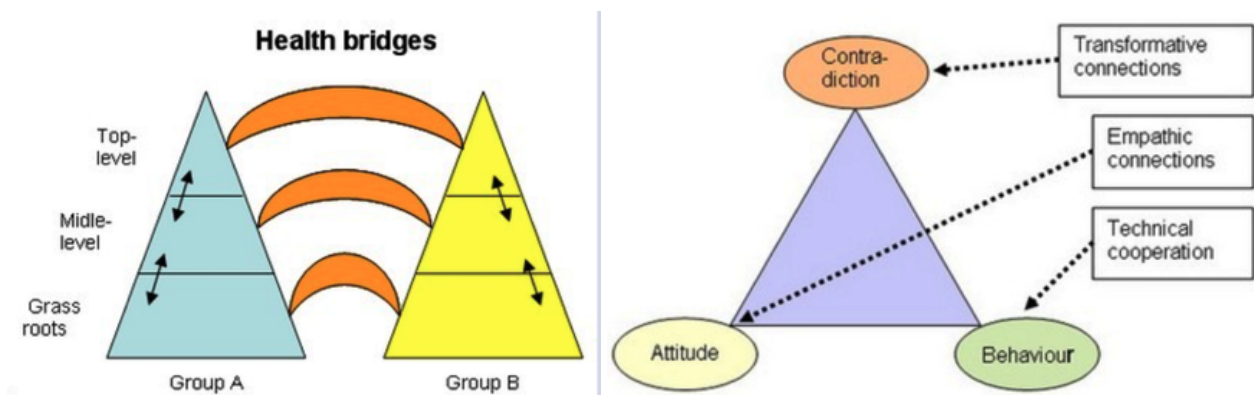


Figure: Medical Peace work

We in public health have in many cases, set our priorities in terms of [major causes of death](#) – heart disease, strokes and cancer have been major preoccupations. Violence is lower

down the causes of death globally, but it rises with years of life lost and it rises with the unmeasured impact on generation after generation. The impacts in terms of mental ill-health and spiritual ill-health are measured – surveys exist about human feelings of bitterness, inter-community hatred, distrust, desire for revenge and retribution but they are marginal in their use in public health fields. We should all embrace the growing interdisciplinary science on [adverse childhood experiences](#) – there is growing evidence of how these affect physical and mental health throughout life, ruining life chances for millions of children, ‘[incubated in terror](#)’. The experience of COVID-19 is one giant adverse childhood experience. Now in the Israel-Palestine conflict it only adds to the brutalised experience of [children growing up on both sides of the divide](#).

In our ethical codes, we are required to be experts at what we do – working as conscientiously and to the best of our knowledge and ability, counting and monitoring the causes of disease and disability in our communities and advocating for effective treatments and public policies to protect and improve health. Our ethical codes also require us to act selflessly, to be courageous in our stand against injustice and in our advocacy for better health. The history of public health is a history of battles against exploitation and injustice, the abuses by the powerful against the rest of the population, be it in the fight against [infectious disease, against aggressors in conflict](#), or against [commercial exploitation](#).

We cannot ignore the [political determinants of health](#). Power may be pursued for its own sake sometimes without the motive of profit or material benefit. It is harder for the public health community to consider ourselves knowledgeable and able to stand up against this – being told it is outside our remit and understanding – but understand we must and we must be prepared to bring people together, to be a bridge for peace. We must forge alliances with [international lawyers and political scientists](#) and with organisations skilled in mediation and collaboration. We must try to understand the core motivations of those in power and how they work against the interests of health and fairness. We must call on the [body of international learning on conflict resolution](#) and apply all its principles to [bringing conflicting parties together](#).



Pictured: An Arab and Jewish woman stand by a sign that reads “women wage peace” in Hebrew, Arabic, and English. From: [On a bridge near Abu Gosh, Arabs and Jews showed me a better way](#)

It is the role of the [international health community to promote peace](#), through its actions to protect and improve health. We must be respectful of all human life, and champions of human rights. We must reject violence and call for others to reject it

also. The action of the [international health community](#) creates the conditions for better

health through which material inequalities and injustices can be reduced. People can re-learn to trust and connect. They can enjoy their full potential to live healthy and rewarding lives and the future of people and planet can be secured.

The final article of the [Alma-Ata declaration](#) still holds true and is worth repeating. ‘An acceptable level of health for all the people of the world ... can be attained through a fuller and better use of the world's resources, a considerable part of which is now spent on armaments and military conflicts. A genuine policy of independence, peace, détente, and disarmament could and should release additional resources that could well be devoted to peaceful aims and in particular to the acceleration of social and economic development of which primary health care, as an essential part, should be allotted its proper share.’

Professor John Middleton
President, ASPHER

.....

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT

ASPHER Secretariat hopes you will appreciate this edition of the ASPHER newsletter. It is quite rich in content with exciting news from the Next Generation and Global Collaborations – two of the enabling areas of the ASPHER 2025 Agenda.

From the Next Generation, we bring you an update from [Rana Orhan, ASPHER's 2021 Fellow](#) working on Climate Action and Health. She has been working on adapting the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education (GCCHE)'s competencies to the European context. She will present the work this [Thursday during European Public Health Week](#). She also has a new publication in the form of an ASPHER Statement Towards Carbon Neutrality stemming from her time as ASPHER Intern.

Meanwhile, [Ines Siepmann reports on the ASPHER Young Professionals](#) group which will be **calling for applications for a new intake from 4 June – 1 July 2021. Let your student and alumni networks know about the opportunity!** ASPHER YPs have been integral to several of the items reported this and every month including: the [ASPHER Public Health Erosion Statement](#), [COVID-19 Vaccination subgroup publications](#), and [Covid-19 Weekly Situation Reporting](#).

On the Global Collaboration front, the Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) has announced the [2021 TIPH Global Awards](#). We congratulate all the winners including five ASPHER Members! Collaboration is necessary within Europe as well, leading [ASPHER and EUPHA to unite for strong Public Health leadership](#). Don't miss out on our [joint EUPHW event this Friday!](#)

We trust that you have already marked your calendars for the [ASPHER General Assembly Friday 4 June 2021 from 14:00-17:00 CEST](#) via Zoom. We will have plenty of business to attend to and we hope you are already reviewing the changes proposed to ASPHER's

Statutes. We **will have three open seats for the ASPHER Executive Board**, please submit **nominations by Friday 28 May and help us to steer ASPHER's future direction!** This is also the last chance to [nominate candidates for the Andrija Stampar and Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Awards](#).

ASPHER is excited to have just signed a contract for a project [developing vaccination and vaccine hesitancy training for ECDC](#). Our other ECDC project Updating Core Competencies for Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (UCCAIDE) is entering its final phase – you will hear more on that in upcoming newsletters. And the ERASMUS+ SEEEPFI project has begun work. If you want to learn more about SEEEPFI and applying EU tools locally, please join us at the EUPHW round table this Wednesday.

The newsletter also contains the latest work from ASPHER's COVID-19 task force as well as [ASPHER Member](#) and [Partner](#) news and events. Be sure you don't miss out on [opportunities](#) including several open calls for papers. Please enjoy!

Best wishes,
Robert Otok and Lore Leighton

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 COVID-19 TASK FORCE

All [ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#) materials are freely available at asper.org. Please be sure to take advantage of their work in your schools and disseminate them widely.

Public Health Erosion

ASPHER Statement: The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region Statement on the Erosion of Public Health Systems

Public health (PH) systems are required to improve and protect the health of the people they serve. Over the past few decades, PH systems have eroded to the point where they cannot properly develop their four key functions—financing, provision, stewardship, and resource generation—which allow essential PH operations to be carried out.

PH has suffered from major cuts in funding due to economic crises and government austerity policies. The financial crisis of 2008–9 and a rapidly aging global population have seen governments make efforts to reduce expenses and increase cost-effectiveness; the health sector in particular was an unfortunate target for such cuts. While in the 2000s, PH expenditure across the EU steadily increased, the reverse occurred when governments decreased health spending, resulting in increased out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures, weakened PH services, and exacerbated health inequalities globally.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the weaknesses of international and national health systems. As countries build back better, defining PH system needs, research agendas, and reinforcing international collaboration should be at the forefront. Moving forward, governments must prioritize PH and design long-term strategies aimed at strengthening health promotion and emergency preparedness measures to build sustainable health systems which make health for all a reality.

[The ASPHER Statement on Public Health Erosion has now been published here.](#)

[An expanded statement can be found on ASPHER's website here.](#)

Wong BLH, Delgrange M, Nathan NL, Luévano CD, Martin-Moreno JM, Otok R, Tulchinsky TH, Middleton JD. The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region Statement on the Erosion of Public Health Systems. *Public Health Rev*, 29 April 2021.

DOI: <https://www.ssph-journal.org/articles/10.3389/phrs.2021.1604112/full>

Vaccination Subgroup

ASPHER Statement: Toward ‘Vaccine Internationalism’: The Need for an Equitable and Coordinated Global Vaccination Approach to Effectively Combat COVID-19

The prompt achievement of (vaccine-derived) herd immunity worldwide should be the core aim of all COVID-19 vaccination programmes, as it would thereby minimize viral

transmission both between and within countries. Failure to address underlying structural and systemic inequalities in the acquisition and delivery of vaccinations is a fundamental ethical and moral concern. Additionally, there is a strategic imperative with pragmatic consequences in ensuring other vital goals of comprehensive global vaccination. These include: supporting sustainable economic development; allowing international travel/movement; and restoring adequate, accessible health and social care systems for all populations worldwide.



Pictured: Les Vaccinations. Poster from the Historical Archives of the French School of Public Health (EHESP)

No region/nation will truly be free of the pandemic until all nations are free of it. Until an international consensus has been reached and a coordinated operational strategy has been adopted, the virus will find new vulnerable populations and continue to spread. Vaccine internationalism requires measured calm heads, diplomacy, and generous visionary leadership. Our aim above everything else as a global community needs to be defeating the virus first.

[Read the full ASPHER Statement on Vaccine Internationalism now published here.](#)

Wong B, Green M, Reid J, Martin-Moreno J, Davidovitch N, Chambaud L, Leighton L, Sheek-Hussein M, Dhonkal R, Otok R, Middleton J. Toward 'Vaccine Internationalism': The Need for an Equitable and Coordinated Global Vaccination Approach to Effectively Combat COVID-19. *Int J Public Health*. 2021;66:30.

URL: <https://www.ssph-journal.org/articles/10.3389/ijph.2021.1604077>

Editorial: COVID-19 vaccines: a game of power jabs

Vaccine diplomacy has proven its potential in humanitarian settings, particularly in mediating conflicts and even bringing about [ceasefires amid vaccination campaigns](#). The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted just how political vaccination is and its potential to be used as an [“instrument of foreign policy.”](#) Governments advocated for global cooperation and equitable access during the vaccine development process. Unfortunately, today's world is far from being one in which countries are waiting their turn for doses and sharing them as they are produced.

In his [latest book](#), Peter Hotez makes a bold call to promote vaccine diplomacy to prevent diseases as well as promote peace and cooperation among countries. Diplomacy must also be used to convey the concept that we need global immunisation approaches, leaving no country or individual behind, if we are to get the disease under control and prevent the emergence of new variants which may threaten the progress achieved thus far. In fact, if we are to reach the herd immunity levels necessary for defeating this virus. In efforts to “build back better” from covid-19 and “return to normal”, we can—and must—rely on vaccine diplomacy to address this new world order in disease and global health.

[Read the full editorial on Vaccine Diplomacy here.](#)

Wong BLH, Delgrange D, Martin-Moreno JM, Green MS, Middleton J. Covid-19 vaccines: a game of power jabs. BMJ Opinion. 16-04-2021.

URL: <https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2021/04/16/covid-19-vaccines-a-game-of-power-jabs/>

COVID-19 HSRM Cross-Country Analysis and Webinar: What Strategies Are Countries Using To Get COVID-19 Vaccines To People In Hard-to-reach Groups?

Webinar: 8 June 2021, 12:00-13:00 CEST

With limited COVID-19 vaccine supplies available during the first quarter of 2021, countries across Europe were faced with the difficult task of determining which demographic groups to prioritise for vaccination.

Most countries globally have opted to protect the population groups who are most vulnerable to severe cases and death from COVID-19, namely older populations and those who experience high rates of exposure (i.e. health and social care workers). In the next phase of the vaccine rollout, governments must choose whether or not to continue vaccinating those most at risk of severe disease and death (i.e. individuals with comorbidities) or those most prone to spreading the virus (i.e. essential workers). The fraught ethics of these vaccine prioritisation decisions are further complicated by the disproportionate burden of COVID-19 on Europe's [hard-to-reach populations](#), such as homeless, migrant, and travelling populations.

It is thus crucial that governments go beyond acknowledging the needs of hard-to-reach populations and instead prepare to act. This entails decreasing barriers to vaccination information and distribution through [methods](#) such as providing information in multiple languages; providing non-technology reliant information; collaborating with community leaders and groups who already engage with hard-to-reach populations to facilitate trust; and creating more mobile and flexible options for vaccine delivery and administration. The need to develop these strategies grows more immediate as Europe enters a third wave and simultaneously strengthens its vaccine response to include additional priority groups.

[Read the full COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor Cross-Country Analysis here.](#)

ASPHER Young Professionals and authors of the analysis, Ines Siepmann and Shelby Fisher will be participating in a webinar on Country's COVID-19 Vaccination Strategies for Hard-to-Reach Groups as part of the HSRM Webinar Series on the COVID-19 Response. Ines will give the Keynote and Shelby will serve as a Panelist. The webinar will be held June 8th, from 12:00-13:00 CEST. [Be sure to check back to the HSRM Webinar Series page for more details to come.](#)

Siepmann I, Fisher S, Wong BLH, Martin-Moreno JM. What Strategies Are Countries Using To Get COVID-19 Vaccines To People In Hard-to-reach Groups? COVID-19 HSRP Cross-Country Analysis. 04-05-2021.

URL:

<https://analysis.covid19healthsystem.org/index.php/2021/05/04/how-have-additional-government-measures-differed-in-response-to-the-recent-emergence-of-variants-of-concern-2/>

ASPHER COVID-19 Situation Reporting for Europe

The COVID-19 pandemic has entered its second year since the time WHO declared the coronavirus outbreak as a global pandemic on 11th March 2020. From the experiences of initial lockdown, countries have learned to develop strategies to sustain economic stability by imposing strict regulations instead of complete lockdown. Continuing the non-pharmacological interventions alongside vaccine rollout, some countries have significantly reduced the number of deaths and the infection rate (UK, Spain, Israel, Portugal). A few countries in individual European sub-regions have started easing lockdown restrictions (UK, Bulgaria, Hungary, Estonia, Israel, Portugal, France, Denmark). However, some countries are still experiencing a mounting infection rate, which is a major concern (Turkey, France, Germany).

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the rapid spread of the virus in almost all countries has resulted in considerable disruption of public health at a global level. The pandemic has cost over three million lives to date (3,209,109) and the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases has surpassed billion (153,187,889).

The ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force and ASPHER Young Professionals with HAW Hamburg are putting together weekly COVID-19 situation reports for Europe. Find the reports updated every Monday at: <https://www.aspher.org/covid-19-situation-reporting.html>

Call to join the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force

The [ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force](#) is always open to new members and new ideas to help make a difference during the Pandemic. **If you or a colleague at your School is interested to join the Task Force please let Robert know at robert.otok@aspher.org.**

Nobody's Safe Until We're All Safe

ASPHER President John Middleton contributed to a video production at politics.uk.co on vaccination distribution internationally and on the topic of waiving intellectual property rights on COVID-19 vaccines. [Watch the video here.](#)

COVID-19 Publication Opportunities

Public Health Reviews is calling for papers on COVID-19: Guidance From Research For Policy And Practice. **The call is open from 20 March - 30 July 2021.**

Public Health Reviews is calling for papers on Transformational Public Health Education - building resilience and preparedness for a post COVID-19 future. **The call is open until 31 October 2021.**

The International Journal of Public Health is calling for papers on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health. **The call is open from 15 April - 31 December 2021.**

For more details about the calls see the [Opportunities](#) section of the newsletter.

ASPHER NEWS & EVENTS

ASPHER 2021 General Assembly

Friday 4 June 2021, 14:00-17:00 CEST via Zoom

The time for the ASPHER 2021 General Assembly (GA) has now been set for 14:00-17:00 CEST on Friday 4 June 2021. We will be sending updates to you in specific mailings including the agenda and how to join. Please mark your calendars and keep an eye out for ASPHER mailings.

We are reviewing ASPHER Statutes for voting at the GA. Proposals under consideration include: simple updates to the language taking modern technologies into consideration; removal of individual memberships as was already voted at the 2020 GA reflecting ASPHER as an association of institutions rather than individuals; extension of the Presidential term allowing for reelection to a second two-year term allowing presidents enough time to see through their vision and plans for the Association; and expansion of the Executive Board to 10 members allowing the 9 member elected Board to co-opt one member as needed with the intention to provide the ASPHER Young Professionals Group with representation.

ASPHER Members should have already received an email with the proposed statutes. If you haven't received them, please contact Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

Call to Join the ASPHER Executive Board

ASPHER will have three 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 Friday 28 May 2021.

Call for ASPHER Award Nominations

ASPHER is calling on our members to send your nominations for the 2021 Andrija Štampar Medal and the 2021 Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Award.

The prestigious Andrija Štampar Medal is awarded each year to a distinguished person for excellence in the field of Public Health. [See more about the award and past medalists here.](#)

The Deans' & Directors' Good Practice Award showcases the best master programmes and Continuing Professional Development courses offered by members of the Association. Three main characteristics of the programmes and courses will be assessed: impact, internationalisation, and innovation. [See more about the award and past winners here.](#)

Please send your nominations to Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org by Friday 28 May!

ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions, the ASPHER Executive Board has taken the decision to hold the 2021 Deans' & Directors' Retreat electronically.

The virtual **ASPHER Deans' & Directors' Retreat will be held Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 September 2021.** The programme is under discussion and details will be presented at the General Assembly. If you have ideas for the Retreat, please share them with Robert at robert.otok@aspher.org.

Please mark your calendars!

ASPHER at European Public Health Week

17-20 May 2021

We know many of our Members are hosting and participating in EUPHA's [European Public Health Week](#) events this week. We hope they are running smoothly and you are taking the opportunity to celebrate and enjoy yourselves! ASPHER will be involved in a number of sessions. Please join us!



Wednesday 19 May, 15:30-16:30 CEST:

HW193 - Transferring European Good Practices locally: SEEEPHI Project

The ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project: Sharing European Educational Experience in Public Health for Israel (SEEEPHI) will hold a round-table networking event to introduce the project and to discuss applying EU tools and best practices at the country and local level.

See: https://eupha.org/euphw_page.php?p=HW193

[Register here](#)

Thursday 20 May, 10:30-11:30 CEST:

HW113 Climate action at public health schools in the European Region webinar

What is the role of public health schools in tackling climate change? How can they take climate action and implement climate-health education? What are the successes in Europe? Find out with John Middleton (ASPHER), Kasia Czabanowska (Maastricht University), Laurent Chambaud (EHESP) and Vidmantas Vaičiulis (Lithuanian University of Health Sciences). Moderated by Rana Orhan (ASPHER). Key listener: Zoltán Massay-Kosubek (EPHA).

See: https://eupha.org/euphw_page.php?p=HW113

[Register here](#)

Friday 21 May, 12:00-12:30 CEST:

HW192 For leadership, we need for a strong and united public health workforce

EUPHA and ASPHER call for a strong and united leadership for public health and will be publishing a joint statement on this today. Other key stakeholders are invited to a webinar to reflect on the need to join forces.

[For more about the ASPHER-EUPHA Statement see below.](#)

See: https://eupha.org/euphw_page.php?p=HW192

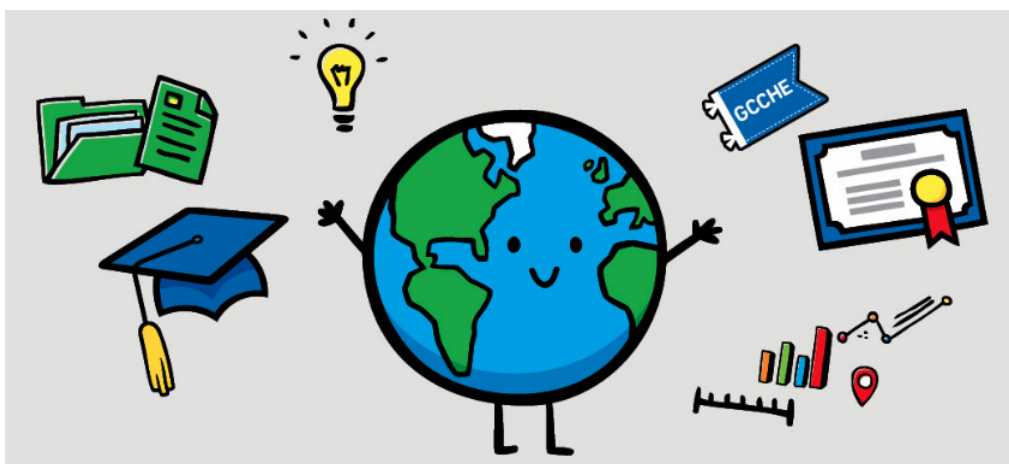
ASPHER Fellowship: Climate Action and Health



ASPHER Fellow Rana Orhan has been hard at work on issues of Climate and Health, first as an ASPHER Intern and now as our ASPHER Fellow for 2021. She fills us in here with her updates. ASPHER thanks her for her terrific and continuing work and congratulates her on her recent publication!

Since February, I have been working on ASPHER's climate and health efforts in the context of the fellowship programme. I am happy with the chance to keep contributing to our action in this utter important area of public health.

Thanks to John, Robert and many others' support, it has been an amazing journey so far. In this first quarter, we worked on the adaptation of the [Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education \(GCCHE\)'s competencies](#) to the European context. **This list will be launched at the webinar on 20 May which we are organising for the [EU Green Week](#) and the [European Public Health Week](#).** With contributions from Maastricht University, EHESP and the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, we will share the need for and experiences with implementing climate and health education. For more info and registration, please see: https://eupha.org/euphw_page.php?p=HW113



We are excited to also share that we are currently in the process of applying for a Jean Monnet Module on climate and health, with Universidade Nova de Lisboa as lead partner and many other schools supporting via the consortium. More about that will follow soon!

There is and will be much more happening. From meetings with Ministries (invited by WHO European Centre for Environment and Health) to workshops at conferences. I look forward to the General Assembly, Deans & Directors Retreat, EPH Conference and other moments to connect with you. If you have ideas for which you would like ASPHER's support, or if you feel like we should take particular action, please feel free to reach out to me any time via rana.orhan@aspher.org.

All the best,
Rana Orhan

[ASPHER statement: Towards a Carbon-Neutral Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region](#)

The ASPHER statement 'Towards a Carbon-Neutral Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region' has been published in Public Health Reviews last week. ASPHER Fellow Rana Orhan, ASPHER President Prof. John Middleton and Immediate Past President Prof. dr. Kasia Czabanowska analysed ASPHER's travel behaviour of the past years.

"The public health field has a contributing role to the detrimental impact of human behaviour on the climate and therefore human health, and holds a social responsibility

towards society. Our recommendations mean minor changes to an association's activities; however, they will have a great positive impact on the climate."

Thanks to all colleagues at the Secretariat and Board.

[The statement is available to read here.](#)

Orhan R, Middleton J, Czabanowska K. ASPHER Statement: Towards a Carbon-Neutral Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region. Public Health Rev, 06 May 2021.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2021.1604127>

Message from the Young Professionals Programme Coordinator



Hi, everyone! I'm Ines Siepmann, and I've been coordinating ASPHER's Young Professionals Programme (YPP) for just about a year now. I've loved my time with ASPHER so far, and am happy to officially introduce myself to those of you that I haven't met yet, tell you a bit about myself, and describe what exactly I - and the programme - are doing.

Who am I?

I'm a German-American student in the Europubhealth+ program. I was at the University of Sheffield last year studying for my MPH, and am currently completing the Governance and Leadership in European Public Health Master's at Maastricht University. While I'm still constantly learning new things, I've so far focused on primarily health equity and policy work, as well as good governance and leadership research. I firmly believe that young people are a

crucial tenet of the public health workforce, and that finding ways to engage with, mentor, and learn from us is necessary to strengthen public health systems' capacity and outcomes. Young people are too often tokenized or downright ignored, which serves to harm public health in the present and future - we are, after all, the future of the workforce (we're also creative, always looking for new opportunities, and can bring fresh perspectives to the field).

What am I working on?

I was recruited last spring to join ASPHER's first cohort of young professionals, and took the reins to create a more concrete strategy plan for ASPHER's engagement with young people - now the YPP. The goal of the Young Professionals Programme is to incorporate public health students and professionals early in their career with the ASPHER network. This includes engaging YPs in research projects with ASPHER members, providing networking opportunities, and introducing additional ways in which YPs can enter and understand the field of public health. The programme does this by:

- Building a network within the YPs that is maintained through regular meetings and provides a medium for advice, feedback, and future collaboration.
- Introducing YPs to ASPHER members for research collaborations and mentorship.
- Incorporating YPs into active ASPHER public health activities reports and research to provide opportunities to gain relevant experience.

What have we accomplished in our first year?

We have built a strong group of over fifteen young professionals with a diverse array of backgrounds. We have worked on over twenty ASPHER projects, including several that were YP-led or YP-only. We've shared opportunities, supported one another, and provided peer mentorship. Some highlights include our four European Observatory Health System Response Monitor briefings, a multitude of incredibly collaborative works with the inequalities and vulnerabilities and vaccines sub-groups, and the weekly COVID-19 reports.

What's next?

While I'm incredibly proud of what this group has become and accomplished in the past year, I'm also looking forward to how we can strengthen our work. We're planning some new ways to increase our bi-directional mentorship with ASPHER members, and doing some internal review to make the group as inclusive as possible.

We have a few events to watch for:

- **June 4th-July 1st: the application opens for new YPP members (there will be multiple announcements - please share with your schools!)**
- **July 19th-20th: ASSETS, which will this year include intake of the new YPP members and a variety of sessions, formal and informal, to build community - all are welcome and encouraged to attend**

TIPH Global Grant Program Awardees



GLOBAL NETWORK
FOR ACADEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH

In 2008, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) launched the social media campaign This Is Public Health® (TIPH) to raise awareness about the field of public health and the range of professions that are encompassed within the field. Over time, this campaign has gained momentum as a platform for educating students and the public and recruiting new students to study public health. In 2019, ASPPH partnered with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) to launch a pilot project focused on enhancing the visibility of public health across Europe: TIPH

Europe. The TIPH Europe project produced innovative educational campaigns and resources, as well as many just-in-time offerings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Building on the success of TIPH Europe, ASPPH is expanding this effort under the auspices of the Global Network for Academic Public Health (Global Network), with the new TIPH Global campaign. The goal of the Global Network, launched in 2020 by six regional associations that represent schools and programs of public health around the world, is to enhance academic public health worldwide through mutual learning and collaborations. The COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased awareness of the underlying issues that affect the public's health and the need to work together as a global community to combat public health threats. TIPH Global recognizes the importance of global collaboration and local action to protect the health of the public.

The Global Network, with the support of Dr. Richard and Mrs. Linda Riegelman, is pleased to announce the 20 awardees for the first TIPH Global Grant Program cohort. These institutions participated in a competitive review process and were selected to represent TIPH, their regional association, and the Global Network in this cohort. The 20 awardee institutions represent 18 countries from around the world and their projects focus on a range of public health issues from antibiotic resistance to mental health to water and sanitation hygiene. In addition to the awarded project, each institution has nominated a student to participate in the new TIPH Global Ambassador program. The Global Ambassadors will represent their institutions and promote public health in their regions and globally.

It is a great honor to announce the following ASPHER affiliated TIPH Global Grant Program Awardees and Global Ambassadors. Congratulations to all the Awardees! [Download the announcement to see the full list of Awardees here.](#)

Institute of Public Health, Jagiellonian University Medical College



Public Health Now - building on rich tradition and successes let's respond to the challenges of the future!

The primary aim of the project is to raise awareness about public health and enhance the visibility and understanding of public health issues in Poland and other European countries. To meet this aim, a set of activities will be carried out, including webinars and lectures on selected public health topics targeted at secondary school students, live meetings and podcast with alumni and experts aimed at promoting careers opportunities in public health, and an international scientific conference to discuss public health challenges and the initiatives of the Institute of Public Health FHS JU MC in Krakow.

TIPH Global Ambassador: Monika Tiahnybok, Candidate for Master of Public Health

In Polish: <http://izp.wnz.cm.uj.edu.pl/pl/strona-glowna/>

In English: <http://izp.wnz.cm.uj.edu.pl/en/main-page/>

Twitter: @IZPwKrakowie

Facebook: @InstytutZdrowiaPublicznegoUJCM

Instagram: @zdrowiepubliczneujcm

LinkedIn: Instytut Zdrowia Publicznego WNZ UJ CM

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMEIw7EoeTJddcwMzmRJhUg>

Podcast: <https://izp.wnz.cm.uj.edu.pl/pl/podkasty/>

Institute of Public Health, University of Porto



ALERGIA@PT

Overall, we aim to inspire people with allergies to make a positive change in their life by means of a social media campaign. Specifically, we intend to develop an evidence based public health allergy campaign that will focus on i) endorse health, not allergy, ii) strengthen tolerance, iii) adopt a new attitude to allergy: avoid allergens only if mandatory, iv) recognize and treat severe allergies early: prevent exacerbations, v) improve indoor air quality: stop smoking. To achieve these goals we will create, deliver and curate an engaging social content: the Alergia@PT media-based platform.

TIPH Global Ambassador: Ana Francisca Soares de Castro Mendes, Candidate for PhD in Public Health Nutrition

<https://ispup.up.pt/>

<https://twitter.com/ISPUP>

<https://www.facebook.com/ISPUP>

https://www.instagram.com/ispup_/

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ispup---instituto-de-sa%C3%BAdede-p%C3%BAblica-da-universidade-do-porto>

#ISPUP

Lithuanian University of Health Sciences



LITHUANIAN UNIVERSITY
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Public Health in Daily Life: Creating the Future Health Here and Now

The relevance of the public health (PH) profession and demand for professionals is increasing. However, popularity of PH profession has decreased in Lithuania. Keeping in mind low popularity of PH profession, we project #thisispublichealth campaign as means to increase prominence and popularity of the profession among Lithuanian citizens with a special focus on youth. The project invites to recognize and implement PH activities in daily life. We see project activities as micro-interventions aimed to help population of all ages to recognize and reflect on everyday choices and activities as relevant not only to personal, but to global PH as well.

TIPH Global Ambassador: Marija Aleksandraityté, Candidate for Bachelor in Public Health

www.lsmuni.lt

www.facebook.com/lsmuni

www.instagram.com/lsmuni

www.linkedin.com/school/lietuvos-sveikatos-moksl-universitetas

#lsmu

NOVA National School of Public Health



**National School
of Public Health**

NOVA UNIVERSITY LISBON

The Gate - Public Health Knowledge Centre

The Gate – Public Health Knowledge Centre, by NOVA National School of Public Health (NNSPH), will be a both online and physical space for the development and diffusion of science, research and innovation in Public Health, open to the community, with a programme of activities and dissemination aimed at people of all ages and literacies. With a strong digital and technological component, The Gate will develop and disseminate innovative and attractive public health programme activities and will extend NNSPH teaching and research towards the community, beyond the walls of academia, dealing with the future challenges faced by society.

TIPH Global Ambassador: Ana Marta Feliciano Moniz, Candidate for PhD in Epidemiology

www.ensp.unl.pt

https://twitter.com/ensp_unl

<https://www.facebook.com/Escola-Nacional-de-Sa%C3%BAde-P%C3%BAblica-120570044622120/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/>

Institute of Public Health and Professional Health of Karaganda Medical University



**KARAGANDA
MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY**

Capacity building in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector in schools among the students of 11-18 years old for an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic

The goal of this project is to build capacity in the WASH sector in schools among the students of 11-18 years old to transfer knowledge and develop hygiene skills, change students' attitudes towards safe water and sanitation in order to create a safe environment during the COVID-19. This project will regard the capacity building in WASH as a key element in preventing further spread and control of COVID-19 in schools. Raising students' awareness of hand washing protocols as directed by

health experts, transferring knowledge and developing skills in WASH will lead to a change in their attitudes towards safe WASH.

TIPH Global Ambassador: Aibatyr Iskazin, Candidate for Master in Public Health

<https://qmu.kz/en>

Facebook: Karaganda Medical University

ECDC training in the area of vaccination and vaccine hesitancy for primary healthcare professionals

ASPHER is pleased to announce that we were selected to develop training in the area of vaccination and vaccine hesitancy for primary healthcare professionals for the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. This bid was successful thanks to an exceptionally strong consortium of ASPHER Members from the EU and beyond.

The scientific project work will be led by a consortium of Member Schools from Italy under the direction of ASPHER President-elect Carlo Signorelli, University Vita-Salute San Raffaele and Professor Anna Odone, University of Pavia with participation from Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Rome. The Italian scientific lead will be backed up by a team of experts for curriculum development from Spanish and Portuguese member schools (ISPUP, University of Porto; NSPH and IHTM at NOVA University of Lisbon; and the Andalusian School of Public Health, Granada). An extended group of experts has been assembled from the French School of Public Health (EHESP); the Medical University of Vienna, Austria; University of Belgrade, Serbia; Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel; United Arab Emirates University, UAE; and University of Michigan at Flint, USA.

The scope of this framework contract is the development of training courses aimed to strengthen the public health capacity in Europe to respond to the challenges encountered in the area of vaccine hesitancy and communication around vaccination.

The three year project will collect and collate existing data available from recent European projects on training needs assessment for courses in vaccinology and vaccine hesitancy, including COVID-19 related vaccine hesitancy.

Comprehensive curriculum and content material for two training courses will be developed: (i) For training on vaccinology (including COVID-19 vaccine) to use as source material for the development of an e-learning course aimed to contribute to the continuing professional development of primary healthcare professionals. The content material provided will be used by ECDC to create an e-learning course that will be available on EVA, the ECDC e-learning platform; (ii) For training on “how to train PHC professionals on communicating with caregivers to address vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccination uptake”, in short: behaviour change communication about vaccine hesitancy, including COVID-19 related vaccine hesitancy. The training format will be blended, with face to face lessons and online pre-training activities as well as online post-training activities.

ASPHER and EUPHA unite for strong leadership for public health

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of public health leadership. Countries that had strong public health leadership were better able to design and implement rapid and effective responses that reduced the spread of infection, minimized the impact on lives and the economy, and engaged with the public. As we move into the second year of the pandemic, it is more important than ever that public health professionals at local, national, and international levels, working with others involved in the management of the outbreak, are equipped to assume leadership roles. This means that they must keep up to date with the rapidly changing knowledge of this disease and what works, and what does not, to control it. They must ensure that they have the skills and competencies needed to address not just the pandemic, but also the complexities of communicating information to the public, and fixing the fractures in our societies that left so many people vulnerable to the consequences of this disease. And this means that they must come together, transcending disciplinary and professional boundaries, to find solutions. Public health organisations and workforce remain the backbone of the response to pandemics and any future health threats – they must be empowered to enact effective, agile, and responsive measures.

The momentum for cooperation created by the COVID-19 crisis must continue after the pandemic subsides. Moving forward, it is of utmost importance that public health is strengthened at its core, to ensure that it can respond to pandemics and other potential future health threats. We, the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) are committed to continuing our long-standing collaboration, working to ensure that the European public health workforce stays strong, well-trained, and committed as public health leaders. ASPHER and EUPHA – recognizing that public health leadership is now more important than ever – are coming together in solidarity to emphasize the need to:

- Promote multidisciplinary approaches, taking into account the breadth and depth of the field of public health;
- Promote the exchange of practice, research, translation of knowledge, training and public policies in collaboration with stakeholders throughout Europe and the world, to increase coordination in responses not only to COVID-19 but in general; and
- Continue to engage with European and international networks to ensure better coordination.

[Download the full ASPHER - EUPHA Statement: Public health associations and schools of public health unite for strong leadership for public health.](#)

Blog: The Art of Health by Professor John Middleton

Culture is '[the way of life, especially the general customs and beliefs of a particular group of people at a particular time](#)'. How can health, care and public health services function

without an understanding of the customs and beliefs of the people we serve? There always appears to be something more important in our science and technology and little time for 'softer issues' like communication, understanding and empathy. Artists harness and express our shared beliefs and experiences, so we need them to help us deliver better health and care services. If we are to be effective in our work we must address custom and belief in a common language and through media which are accessible to all.

A great deal has been written about the science of public health, especially in these pandemic times; but much less has been written about the art of public health.

[Read the blog on The Art of Health by John Middleton for Arts & Health Southwest.](#)

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Webinar: Unleashing the Power of Law to Promote Better Health for All
Thursday 20 May 2021, 14.00-16.00 GMT (London) / 15.00-17.00 CEST (Brussels)



**FACULTY OF
PUBLIC HEALTH**

Unleashing the Power of Law to Promote Better Health for All webinar is organised by the Law and Public Health section of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) in collaboration with the ASPHER Member, UK Faculty of Public Health.

The purpose of the webinar is to consider the role and power of law to contribute to solutions to pressing health challenges through regulatory interventions and framing of effective strategies to promote and protect the public's health. The webinar will also launch the newly formed EUPHA Law and public health section

Programme and speakers:

Professor Lawrence Gostin (Georgetown University, WHO Collaborating Center on Public Health Law & Human Rights) - Legal determinants of health - leaving no one behind

Professor Amandine Garde, Law & NCD Unit, University of Liverpool - Maximising legal opportunities by better understanding legal constraints

Professor Markus Frischhut, MCI - EU Law, common values and public health & Dr Anniek de Ruijter, University of Amsterdam - Law, governance and public health in Europe

Roundtable discussion with Professor Martin McKee and the panel, chaired by Dr Farhang Tahzib. Further information is available from: ukpublichealth.ethics@gmail.com

[Free registration here.](#)

Course: Journal Editing in Health Sciences

29 October - 29 November 2021



The Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+) is offering an online course on Journal Editing in Health Sciences from 29 October 2021 - 29 November 2021.

Scientists review articles and handle manuscript peer reviews, and thus contribute to what is published in scientific journals. To support high quality peer review, they need to understand the editorial decision-making processes. This course offers theoretical background and practical training in evaluating manuscripts. Participants will learn to take responsible decisions as editors and reviewers, at all stages of peer-review.

The course is composed of interactive lectures, single studies, and supervised group work with real-world examples from an interdisciplinary public health journal. Participants will perform a wide range of hands-on exercises taking on the roles of editors-in-chief, manuscript handling editors and reviewers.

The course concentrates on the tasks and responsibilities of editors. It prepares for an appointment as associate editor. Participants will learn:

- To pre-screen, peer-review and decide on manuscripts
- To evaluate revisions and point-by-point responses
- To communicate decisions to authors and editors
- Best practice guidelines, and how to handle misconduct
- New trends in peer-review and scientific publishing
- Editorial strategies

[For more information download the course announcement here.](#)

[Register for the course by 30 September here.](#)

Short Courses: Statistics & epidemiology; Qualitative research methods; and How to publish your work

Dr Ranjit Khutan, Professor at University of Wolverhampton and Professor Stewart, Emeritus Professor at Staffordshire University are delivering a series of workshops this summer to help public health professionals develop/refresh their knowledge in key areas.

An introduction to basic statistics and epidemiology

Saturday and Sunday, 5-6 June 2021

This workshop provides a perfect introduction to basic statistics and epidemiology, including quantitative research design. It will be useful if you wish to gain a basic

understanding of these topics, or if you would like to refresh your understanding. The training is also helpful for trainee GPs, as part of your preparation for the AKT (research, statistics and epidemiology) exam.

[Get more information and enroll here.](#)

An Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis

Saturday and Sunday, 3-4 July 2021

This online workshop introduces you to qualitative research methods and analysis, exploring all stages of the process from the initial planning stages, decisions around the approach and data collection methods, ethical considerations, analysis and how to report your findings. Focussing on approaches in public health, you will also explore methods in social epidemiology, which specifically look at the social distribution and social determinants of health. This workshop will be of interest if you wish to gain a basic understanding of these topics, or if you would like to refresh your understanding.

[Get more information and enroll here.](#)

How to get your work published and improve your academic writing

Two hour seminar - several dates available: 27 May, 12 June, 21 June and 26 June.

This interactive online seminar is delivered by [Professor Antony Stewart](#) and [Dr Ranjit Khutan](#) who are experienced academics and authors. In this session we will provide you with our tips on how to get published and how to improve your academic writing to improve your success rate. We will specifically explore why you should consider publication, what is worth writing about, what you should consider before submitting and how to find journals to submit your work to. We will also share techniques and tools to help improve your academic writing.

This workshop will be of interest to you if you are studying and researching in health, social care and related areas, but will also be of interest to you if you are a practitioner in these and related fields and wish to disseminate your work to a wider audience.

[Get more information and enroll here.](#)

National School of Public Health, Mexico celebrates 100 years

ASPHER Associate Member, the National School of Public Health of Mexico at the Institute of Public Health, Mexico (INSP/ESPM) is celebrating 100 years! ASPHER President John Middleton and Past-President Kasia Czabanoska took part in the centennial anniversary celebrations along with ASPPH President Laura Magaña and others on 22 April with Reflections on the future of Public Health Education.

[A recording of the conversation is available here](#) (in Spanish).

Congratulations from ASPHER to ESPM!

COVID-19 Pandemic & Public Health: International Online Conference - SPH, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences

ASPHER Associate Member, the School of Public Health, Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences held an international online conference on 16 April 2021. ASPHER President John Middleton and ASPHER Past-President Kasia Czabanowska participated in the event. John Middleton spoke on COVID-19 and Schools of Public Health, while Kasia Czabanowska discussed Bridging gaps in public health education lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic,

[The recorded conference is available here](#) (in Mongolian).

[John Middleton's slides are available here.](#)

Institute of Public Health, United Arab Emirates University Newsletter

Associate Member United Arab Emirates University is pleased to share with us their new Institute of Public Health Newsletter. The editorial team lead by Dr. Rami Al-Rifai did a great job highlighting the most recent news. It includes details on IPH activities, their TIPH webinar series and a full page informing about activities and statements from ASPHER.

UAEU hopes you will enjoy reading it!

[Read the newsletter here.](#)

Selected ASPHER Member Publications

Orellana GLP, Kaur K, Brand H, Schröder-Bäck P. Scenario planning: An alternative approach to European Commission for combating antimicrobial resistance by 2050. SEEJPH. 2021; 10.11576/seejph-4312.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-4312>

Siepmann I, Chen T, Andelic P. How can we champion young women working in public health? SEEJPH. 2021; 10.11576/seejph-4424.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-4424>

Stamenkovic Z, Wenzel H, Jankovic J, Bjegovic-Mikanovic V. Two sides of a broken medal: Disease prevention and health promotion in schools of public health. SEEJPH. 2021; 10.11576/seejph-4420.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11576/seejph-4420>

Wong BLH, Khurana MP, Smith RD, et al. Harnessing the digital potential of the next generation of health professionals. Hum Resour Health. 2021;19:50.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12960-021-00591-2>

Ylli A, Jurgutis A, Burazeri G, Bejtja G, Artykova N, Sentell T. Preventive check-up programme for strengthening people-centred primary health care services in Albania: Case study and lessons learnt.

PARTNER NEWS AND EVENTS

IANPHI Strategic Vision 2021-2025 Presentation

26 May, 16:05-16:50 UK time

The International Association of National Public Health Institutes is pleased to announce that the new IANPHI Strategic Vision 2021-2025 will be presented during a [dedicated session](#) at Public Health England's Public Health Research and Science Conference 2021, on 26 May, 16:05-16:50 UK time.

If you wish to register for sessions of the Public Health Research and Science Conference 2021, please register [here](#).

Launch Event of the European population Health Information Portal

31 May, 13.00-14.00 CEST

Join the launch event of the European population Health Information Portal on the 31st of May, 13.00-14.00 CEST. Discover what this new portal is and how it can make your job easier.

Today it is difficult to get an overview of what kind of health data exists across Europe, what data is available and who to contact for access. If we want to reap the value of health data, we need to make it both more visible and far more accessible. This is facilitated through the Health Information Portal.

The Health Information Portal is a one-stop shop facilitating access to population health and health care data, information and expertise in Europe. Find the network, expert, data or publication you are looking for in Europe without having to search each country individually.

The Health Information Portal is building a repository function for:

- Data sources and data providers or data managers,
- Technical reports, guidelines, tools and scientific articles,
- Information on National Nodes and Research Networks,
- Health information projects within countries and across Europe,
- Training programmes in all areas of population health.

The platform is designed to be part of the Distributed Infrastructure on Population Health (DIPoH) and developed by the joint efforts of InfAct (The Joint Action on Health Information) and PHIRI (Population Health Information Research Infrastructure).

For more information on how to attend the event, contact:

PHIRI.coordination@sciensano.be

Culture, Health and Wellbeing International Conference: Inequality | Power | Sustainability

21-23 June 2021



ASPHER President John Middleton will be joining members of WHO in a panel discussion of the role of the arts in health at the 2021 Culture, Health and Wellbeing International Conference. Drawing on over 200 submissions from 20 countries, there will be 100+ live sessions and 10 country panels from around the world. CHW21 will showcase inspiring arts and health work from across the globe and encourage lively debates informed by different perspectives spanning policy, research, practice, lived experience and co-production.

Based on three key themes - Inequality | Power | Sustainability, the digital programme will provide a space for exploring individual and collective experiences and articulating a vision for the future. Designed to engage audiences from around the world with key notes in the morning, afternoon and evening and interactive sessions that take into account different time zones for presenters and audiences, tickets offer full access to the 3-day live programme, as well as access to recordings of sessions on demand between 21st-25th June.

Regular Tickets - £200 (on sale from 8th May – 7th June)

[Find out more and buy tickets here.](#)

[Read more from John Middleton on The Art of Health in his blog for Arts & Health Southwest.](#)

Fourth meeting of the Coalition of Partners to strengthen public health capacities in Slovakia

On 16 April, the 4th meeting of the coalition of partners for strengthening public health capacities in Slovakia took place, with the participation of invited experts from WHO Europe including ASPHER Past-President Kasia Czabanowska.

Experts shared their experience in the field of public health with the COVID-19 pandemic with the aim of advancing as a coalition to strengthen the public health workforce in Slovakia. Consideration was given to possible solutions and to look for answers on how to strengthen the public health workforce in the future, as well as to create a common understanding of what this knowledge means in terms of advancing the coalition of public health partners.

OPPORTUNITIES

ISPUP PhD Studentships

Applications: 26 April - 30 June 2021

The Epidemiological Research Unit from the Institute of Public Health, University of Porto (EPIUnit-ISPUP) is offering 4 PhD studentships on Public Health, funded by FCT - Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia.

Applications and supporting documents must be submitted by email to candidaturas@ispup.up.pt with the reference "EPIUnit_studentships" in the subject line.

For further information regarding the 4 PhD Studentships on Public Health visit this [link](#).

For information on applications to the Doctoral Program in Public Health (1st phase, until May 20), see the [link](#).

PHR Call for papers on Transformational Public Health Education: Building resilience and preparedness to post COVID-19 future

Editor: Katarzyna (Kasia) Czabanowska

Guest editors: Mark Avery, Sue Babich, Laura Magaña, and Mindaugas Stankunas.

The Covid-19 pandemic is confronting us with health challenges as well as social and economic disruptions across the globe and has revealed serious gaps in preparedness. The crisis strongly emphasizes that academic institutions have to rethink their public health educational models and approaches in order to embrace the critical competency areas in relation to public health emergencies. Such emergencies include among others professionalism, service to community needs, digital health and technology, research and analytical skills, sensitivity to diversity, communication and leadership.

Following the Lancet Commission on the Education of Health Professionals for the 21st Century Report in 2010, which called for the transformation of health professionals' education, many schools and departments of public health have already redesigned their

curricula in order to prepare the public health workforce for the future. The current pandemic now calls for transformational approaches to education that is based on profound personal learning and insight through engaging with public health organizations and service through real projects. Such education can better prepare public health professionals and equip them with competency that will allow them to adapt, respond, innovate and become resilient to disruptive challenges such as the current pandemic.

We invite Systematic Reviews, Meta-syntheses, other types of Reviews and Policy Briefs on:

(i) Development and advancement of theory and practice of transformative education in public health; (ii) Effectiveness of educational solutions in public health that contribute to transformative learning; (iii) Innovative educational interventions; (iv) Evidence on transformational education; and (v) New insights into any of these connected issues that can contribute to educational systems preparedness post COVID-19, but also its sustainable development for the future.

Contact: Anke Berger, Managing Editor PHR, anke.berger@swisstph.ch

PHR Call for papers on COVID-19: Guidance From Research For Policy And Practice

Editors: Sarah Mantwill, Alexander Geissler, Kaspar Wyss

Public Health Reviews invites Reviews and Policy Briefs on:

(i) How health systems can effectively respond to challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic; and (ii) How learnings of the pandemic may inform the planning and implementation of public health and healthcare policies beyond COVID-19.

Since the coronavirus outbreak, health systems are under high pressure of a magnitude never seen before on such a global simultaneous scale. Evidence on how to handle this pandemic has been limited and new issues that require specific policies and control strategies are continuously and quickly emerging. Such issues range from delays or disruptions in medical care, insufficient resources for public health and medical personal, weak communication strategies, absence of coherent testing and tracking strategies, insufficient production and supply chains for treatments and vaccines, to a systematic lack of programs that address increasing mental health issues, to name just a few. Further, new experiences and knowledge collected throughout the different stages of the pandemic are influencing health systems' current as well as future planning of healthcare with possible consequences that go beyond COVID-19. In this dynamic and uncertain context, many decision makers in policy or practice are further challenged by the quickly growing body of research that is being produced on COVID-19, its repercussions and future implications. Guidance from science on how to navigate the evidence is urgently needed. In light of this, this call collects evidence syntheses and evidence-informed options and recommendations for action to support decision makers.

We welcome Reviews and Policy Briefs that are providing evidence-informed guidance to tackle the public health challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The call accepts a wide range of Review formats that use systematic literature search. Policy Briefs should highlight the context of the issue, the area of policy, and provide options and recommendations for action and possible implementation steps.

[The Call is open for continuous submission from 20 March 2021 until 30 July 2022.](#)

IJPH Call for papers:

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health

Editors: Jutta Lindert, Ezra Susser, Franco Mascayano

The International Journal of Public Health (IJPH) invites articles regarding the COVID-19 pandemic effects on mental health.

Evidence is increasing that the COVID-19 pandemic has deleterious effects on the mental health of populations worldwide. The nature, duration, and longitudinal trajectory of such effects, however, remain largely uncharacterized. Moreover, despite the variety of published research on COVID-19 and mental health, there is still a critical lack of data from lesser-resourced countries.

Given the global nature of the pandemic, we welcome data from all countries, as well as data on cross-country and cross-cultural variations and similarities. We are interested in research on immediate and mid-term effects and trajectories. Cross-sectional and longitudinal studies, and reviews are welcome.

Studies for this call shall elucidate how contextual factors are associated with increased risk of mental conditions incidence, prevalence and trajectories. Such factors include, but are not limited to, variation in socioeconomic, sociocultural, health policy, and health system factors (e.g. Health Development Index, health care capacity, and public health measures such as social distancing and lockdowns) as well as incidence and trends in COVID-19. We also welcome research focused on specific populations, within and across countries, including a) highly exposed groups to getting infected by SARS-CoV-2 (e.g., health care staff and other frontline workers), and b) groups who have increased COVID-19 related mortality and comorbidity rates (e.g., individuals with mental disorders, the elderly). Manuscripts on interventions to mitigate mental health effects are also welcome. Finally, we look forward to receive publications addressing methodological challenges when conducting research on mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The call is open for submission of Original Articles, Systematic Reviews and other Review formats based on comprehensive systematic literature search.

[The Call is open for continuous submission from 15 April 2021 until 31 December 2021.](#)

Call for Papers: Handbook of Human and Planetary Health

In recent times, the increase in various human activities has caused a disarray in various natural systems. Such disruptions have intensified over the past decades and have caused changes on the climate, have led to the endangerment of many animals and plant species, and have led to a depletion in the quality of the air, of the water, and even of soils. More so, these changes have adversely affected human health and livelihoods across the world.

The concept of Human and Planetary Health departs from the view that whereas human activities have caused significant biophysical changes (e.g. climate change, pollution, loss of biodiversity, changes in the natural cycles, changes in land use and resource depletion), it is a mistake to believe that only the physical environment has suffered. Human health has also been negatively influenced by them. Indeed, the rapid deterioration of environmental conditions has substantially increased the burden on human health by affecting nutrition, fostering the spread of infectious disease and non-communicable diseases, increasing home displacement and conflict and affecting mental health, among others. This background serves to outline the need for a publication on Human and Planetary Health.

The Handbook on Human and Planetary Health will focus on demonstrating how planetary health may be pursued, with an emphasis on humans and on human influences, and will follow on the success of the "Encyclopedia of Sustainability in Higher Education".

The editorial team is now asking for expressions of interest, with the following details: Title of the possible contribution; one paragraph describing it; names and contact details of the authors. The deadline for abstracts is 30th May 2021. Full papers are due by 20th September 2021. The book is expected to be published in late 2021. The expressions of interest should be sent by the above deadline to: iusdrp@ls.haw-hamburg.de.

Share the ASPHER newsletter!



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
ASPHER Brussels | T: +31 (0) 433 884 398 | S: aspferskype | E: office@aspher.org