



More than 200 events confirm Europe's commitment to join forces for public health

The third edition of the European Public Health Week starts on Monday with a record number of events organised by 40 countries in 19 languages

13.05.2021 - *Media statement for immediate release*

The public health community across Europe answered the call to join forces for healthier populations, with 40 countries registering more than 200 events in 19 languages for the third edition of the European Public Health Week (EUPHW), which takes place between 17 and 21 May 2021.

Initiated by the European Public Health Association (EUPHA), co-funded under an operating grant from the European Union's Health Programme and supported by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, the initiative dedicates each day to a specific public health theme, including a kick-off webinar every morning of the week led or co-led by key European and international organisations.

Monday will focus on **'Communicating science and health'**, covering sub-themes such as infodemic management and health literacy. **'New challenges in mental health'** is the theme of Tuesday, particularly relevant as loneliness and isolation caused by COVID-19 and its mitigation efforts have aggravated mental health problems. Wednesday reminds Europeans of the importance of **'Your local community'** and the potential impact of local solutions to tackle global public health problems, such as climate change. An invitation for multiple sectors to work together to protect the ecosystem shared by animals, plants and humans inspires the theme of Thursday: **"All for one health"**. Last but not least, **'Leaving no one behind'** on Friday launches a call to reduce health inequalities that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

Activities range from local, regional and international lectures and webinars to photo competitions, launch of publications, social media campaigns, virtual exhibitions, movie screenings, online networking

gatherings and safe outdoor physical activities at a time when the pandemic still requires social distancing.

EUPHA Executive Director Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, said: "The slogan of the European Public Health Week is 'Joining forces for healthier populations', and one of our goals is to encourage collaboration among the public health community from local to European level. The fact that half of the events registered this year are organised by at least two partner institutions shows that this community is committing to our call."

EUPHA President Dr Iveta Nagyova, said: "All public health themes have equal importance, which is why this year we decided to organise five special webinars to kick off the theme for each day. We are grateful to GAMIAN Europe, the European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians and EuroHealthNet, as well as the WHO Information Network for Epidemics and WHO Europe Healthy Cities Network for organising such interesting events."

This year we have a strong representation of the Russian language in EUPHW events, being the fourth most common language after English, Bulgarian and Portuguese. The President of the Russian Society for Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases, Dr Oxana Drapkina, said: "In Russia we are actively forming the system to strengthen public health, the regions are implementing programs aimed at uniting forces of various sectors in order to create conditions for a healthy lifestyle of the population. The European Public Health Week is a large-scale platform for the exchange of experiences on the international level, representing the most relevant information to implement in practice. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that new technologies need to be developed to improve public health literacy."

For more information, visit www.eupha.org/EUPHW

ENDS



Co-funded by
the Health Programme
of the European Union

NOTES TO EDITORS

- View the full **EUPHW events calendar** at https://eupha.org/EUPHW_Search_for_an_event
- Five **featured webinars** co-hosted by EUPHA to **kick off each EUPHW theme**:
 - 17 May, 10:30-12:00 CET: "**Infodemic management: Social listening to public health action.**" - Hosted by the World Health Organization's Information Network for Epidemics (EPI-WIN). Register at <http://www.tinyurl.com/InfodemicManagement>

- 18 May, 11:00-12:30 CET: “**COVID-19 impact on people with mental health conditions and beyond**”. – Hosted with GAMIAN-Europe. View programme [here](#) and register at <http://www.tinyurl.com/EUPHAGAMIAN>
 - 19 May, 10:00-11:00 CET: “**Local spaces and places - How healthy is your city?**” - Hosted by WHO Europe Healthy Cities Network. Register at <http://www.tinyurl.com/YourHealthyCity>
 - 20 May, 10:00-11:30 CET: “**Sustainable and nutritious diets for healthier populations**”. Hosted with EFAD. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/EUPHAEFAD>
 - 21 May, 10:00-11:30 CET: “**COVID-19 and Health Inequalities: applying the lessons to deliver change**”. Hosted with EuroHealthNet. Register at <http://www.tinyurl.com/EUPHAEuroHealthNet>
- Learn all you need to know about the European Public Health Week in less than 2 minutes (video): <https://youtu.be/v94BcO5abb8>
 - Official hashtag of the Week: **#EUPHW**
 - Access the press & media dissemination kit (including visual graphics for web and social media): https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1AH_J4y2obaajKi1HYVqwjpcOEeEPbs3G?usp=sharing
 - To sign up for EUPHW updates (including daily summaries during the week), for media queries or any questions, please contact Débora Miranda at EUPHAcommunications@eupha.org.

Countries with registered EUPHW events: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Nepal, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Kosova, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, USA.

Languages of EUPHW events: English (90), Bulgarian(41), Portuguese (24), Russian (11), German (11), Greek (7), Italian (5), Hungarian (5), Georgian (4), Spanish (4), Serbian (3), Croatian (2), Albanian (1), French (1), Romanian (1), Ukrainian (1), Bosnian (1), Swedish (1), Turkish (1).

What is EUPHA?

The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations in Europe. Our network of national associations of public health represents over 23'000 public health professionals. Our mission is to facilitate and activate a strong voice of the public health network by enhancing visibility of the evidence and by strengthening the capacity of public health professionals. EUPHA contributes to the preservation and improvement of public health in the European region through capacity and knowledge building. We are committed to creating a more inclusive Europe, narrowing all health inequalities among Europeans, by facilitating, activating, and disseminating strong

evidence-based voices from the public health community and by strengthening the capacity of public health professionals to achieve evidence-based change.

EUPHA's definition of Public Health

“The science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health and well-being through the organised efforts and informed choices of society, organisations, public and private, communities and individuals, and includes the broader area of public health, health services research, health service delivery and health systems design.”



The European Public Health Week received co-funding under an operating grant from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020).