

## 15<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

### **Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected**

**hub27, Berlin, Germany**

**9 - 12 November 2022**



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## SUMMARY REPORT

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The 15<sup>th</sup> European Public Health Conference, Berlin 2022, is a collaboration of the European Association of Public Health (EUPHA), the European Public Health Conference Foundation and Berlin School of Public Health (BSPH).

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## INTRODUCTION

It has been too long since we were able to shake a hand, share a cup of coffee, stumble upon an old colleague in the hallway or make a new friend just by sitting in the back of a lecture hall. Berlin 2022 was the first EPH Conference since Marseille 2019 to take place live and in person. The spectacular hub27 Berlin venue provided us with ample opportunities for exchanging knowledge and presenting research but also for informal chatting and live networking with friends and colleagues.

The 15th European Public Health Conference was held from 9 to 12 November 2022 and was attended by 2,544 delegates from 77 countries. The conference offered them the opportunity to share their work with colleagues and learn about the state of European health from the perspective of research, policy, education and practices. The conference included 7 plenary sessions, 16 pre-conferences, 123 workshops, 53 oral sessions and 22 poster walks.

During the three conference days, delegates had the opportunity to share findings from research and experiences with innovation in all fields of public health and health services.

The theme of 15th EPH Conference was **‘Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected’**. From the COVID-19 pandemic we learned that infectious diseases know no boundaries. Although we saw the successful development of vaccines, we also learned that these vaccines have not yet been available to everyone. At Berlin 2022, we explored ways in which the public health community can rally around the principle of bringing about better population health for all. The growing health inequalities around the globe lead to a simple conclusion: Europe must take on a more active role in global health. This includes taking a stand on issues such as planetary health, climate change, environmental degradation, water and food security, migration, gender, and poverty. Europe must use its knowledge and influence to balance out market forces, expand regulatory oversight and create socially responsible systems for health, especially when it comes to the distribution of vaccines and essential medicines.

Digitalization is a key area where recent developments require us to exchange ideas and come up with new approaches. The past decades have seen significant developments in data collection and processing capacity as well as eHealth applications. We need to ensure that the vast amounts of data generated are well protected on the one hand, but also available and usable for public health interventions. We wanted the discussions at Berlin 2022 to contribute to resilient health systems, universal health coverage (UHC), a well-trained and highly qualified clinical and public health workforce, and governance structures that take a stand and shape health systems globally.

The above topics all came back in our plenary programme, organized by our conference partners:

- Strengthening health systems in Europe (Opening ceremony);
- Can people afford to pay for health care? How have countries re-designed health systems without leaving people behind? (Plenary session 1);
- Benefits and challenges of the European Health Data Space (EHDS). The creation of the EHDS is one of the priorities of the European Union expecting to bring great benefits, but how to ensure transferability and privacy protection? (Plenary session 2);
- Health systems performance assessment for policy: uses and abuses. How to benchmark and compare performance between European countries and how to measure resilience and prepare for future shocks? (plenary session 3);
- Reorienting health services: the transformational potential of health promotion. Health-promoting approaches as a vehicle for refocusing health services and strengthen integrated care and community oriented primary care. (Plenary session 4);
- Sustaining high quality care: interprofessional training for our clinical and public health workforce. Providing a balanced view on public health and healthcare interprofessional relations and training needs.(Plenary session 5).

With the help of our partners, keynote speakers and presenters, we offered an exciting programme of workshops, oral and poster presentations. Our exhibitors were there to show their latest publications,

products and services. This was taking place in an in person setting, giving delegates the possibility to share information, knowledge and innovative ideas face to face with their colleagues from Europe and across the globe.

## 1. BERLIN 2022: PROGRAMME

The European Public Health (EPH) Conference is an annual scientific conference on public health topics organised throughout Europe. The EPH Conference was initiated by the European Public Health Association - EUPHA. The main purpose of the EPH Conference is to strengthen the capacity of public health professionals, researchers and policymakers by enhancing the exchange of knowledge, policy and best practice across Europe.

### 1.1. Plenary programme

The plenary programme of the Berlin 2022 Conference consisted of seven plenary sessions including an opening and a closing session.

#### Opening Ceremony

*Thursday 10 November 2022, 11:40 – 12:40 CET*

Moderators:

- Reinhard Busse, Chair of the 15th EPH Conference

Speakers:

- Hans Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe
- Karl Lauterbach, Minister of Health, Germany (by video)
- Chikwe Ihekweazu, Director WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence

#### Plenary 1: Can people afford to pay for health care? Evidence on inequity in financial protection in Europe

*Thursday 10 November 2022, 13:50 – 14:50 CET*

Organisers: WHO Regional Office for Europe

Moderator:

- Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director of the Division of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe

Keynote speaker:

- Charles Normand, Professor of Health Policy and Management, Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland

Panellists:

- Sarah Thomson, Senior Health Financing Specialist, WHO Barcelona Office for Health Systems Financing
- Kaisa Immonen, Director of Policy, European Patients' Forum (EPF)
- Reinhard Busse, Head of the Department Health Care Management, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany; Co-Director European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- Tamás Evetovits, Head of Office, WHO Barcelona Office for Health Systems Financing

#### Plenary 2: Benefits and challenges of the European Health Data Space

*Thursday 10 November 2022, 17:40 – 18:40 CET*

Organisers: EUPHA, European Commission

Moderators:

- Iveta Nagyova, President European Public Health Association (EUPHA)
- Isabel de la Mata, Principal Adviser for Health and Crisis Management, DG SANTE, European Commission

Speakers:

- Fulvia Raffaelli, Head of the Digital Health unit, DG SANTE, European Commission
- Petronille Bogaert, President EUPHA Public health monitoring and reporting section; Head EU health information systems, Sciensano, Belgium

- Irene Schlünder, Expert EU data protection and database governance, TMF e.V., Germany
- Axelle Menu-Branthomme, Medical Expert, Health Data Hub, France
- Kaisa Immonen, Director of Policy at the European Patients' Forum (EPF)

### **Plenary 3: Health systems performance assessment for policy: uses and abuses**

*Friday 11 November 2022, 10:30 – 11:30 CET*

Organisers: European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, European Commission

Moderators:

- Isabel de la Mata, Principal Adviser for Health and Crisis Management, DG SANTE, European Commission
- Dimitra Panteli, Programme Manager, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Introductory keynote speaker:

- Reinhard Busse, Head of the Department Health Care Management, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany; Co-Director European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Panellists:

- Kenneth Grech, Co-chair EU Expert Group Health Systems Performance Assessment; Ministry of Health, Malta
- Irene Papanicolas, Professor of Health Services Policy and Practice, Brown School of Public Health, Rhode Island, USA
- Marina Karanikolos, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies; London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

### **Plenary 4: Reorienting health services: the transformational potential of health promotion**

*Friday 11 November 2022, 14:00 – 15:00 CET*

Organisers: EuroHealthNet

Moderators:

- Martin Dietrich, Acting Director, Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA), Germany
- Caroline Costongs, Director EuroHealthNet

Speakers:

- Rüdiger Krech, Director for Health Promotion, World Health Organization (by video)
- Susan Michie, Director of the Centre for Behaviour Change, University College London, United Kingdom
- Jan de Maeseneer, Chair European Commission Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health; Department of Public Health and Primary Care, Ghent University, Belgium
- Jet Bussemaker, Chair Council of Public Health & Society, Netherlands; Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, Netherlands
- Cristiano Figueiredo, USF da Baixa, Central Lisbon Health Centre Cluster; National School of Public Health, NOVA University Lisbon, Portugal

### **Plenary 5: Sustaining high quality care: interprofessional training for our clinical and public health workforce**

*Saturday 12 November 2022, 10:30 – 11:30 CET*

Organiser: Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER), European Health Management Association (EHMA)

Moderators:

- John Middleton, President ASPHER
- Tara Chen, Climate-Health Fellow, ASPHER

Keynote speakers:

- Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director of the Division of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe

- George Valiotis, Executive Director EHMA

Speakers/Panellists:

- Fatai Ogunlayi, Public Health Specialty Registrar, Health Security Agency, United Kingdom
- Laurent Chambaud, Andrija Stampar Medallist 2022, France
- Anett Ruszanov, Director of Policy and Programmes, EHMA

### **Closing Ceremony of the 15th European Public Health Conference**

*Saturday 12 November 2022, 15:00 – 15:45 CET*

Moderators:

- Reinhard Busse, Chair of the 15th EPH Conference

Speakers:

- Christian Drosten, Director, Institute of Virology, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany
- Dineke Zeegers Paget, Strategic adviser European Public Health Association (EUPHA)
- Anthony Staines, Chair of the 16th EPH Conference 2023

Awards ceremony: Best Poster Prize, Best Abstract Prize, Ferenc Bojan Award

## **1.2. Parallel programme**

The parallel programme reflected on a wide array of public health issues and ways of solving these issues at global, European, national, regional and local level. The parallel programme offered sessions of 60 minutes only.

The parallel programme of workshops and oral presentation sessions was structured in 16 thematic tracks, making it easier for delegates to follow a specific subject during the conference. The division in tracks was based on priorities in the field of public health and selected topics of the accepted abstracts (see table 1).

*Workshops, round tables, skills building seminars*

84 workshops were held, 27 round tables and 12 skills building seminars.

*Parallel sessions with oral presentations*

These 60-minute sessions consisted of 8-minute oral presentations with few minutes of discussion around a common theme. Most sessions were co-chaired by two persons. In total, 133 oral presentations were accepted for 25 sessions.

*Pitch sessions*

Pitch presentations (5-minutes) consisted of 28 sessions with in total 224 accepted presentations.

*E-poster walks*

The E-poster walks, moderated by an experienced chair person, were held concurrently with the parallel programme: twenty 60-minute walks with 15 posters. In total, there were 330 accepted E-poster presentations.

*E-poster displays*

In total, 821 E-posters without presentation were accepted. All E-posters were available for delegates to view at all times during the conference.



Table 1: Overview of the 16 thematic tracks and type of session

Track	Theme	Workshop	RT*	SBS*	Oral	Pitch
A	Strengthening health systems: improving population health	5	3	0	1	2
B	Preparing for the unexpected: lessons learned from Covid-19	5	4	0	1	1
C	European public health / Food and nutrition	6	1	1	2	1
D	Chronic diseases	8	0	0	2	1
E	Environment, climate and health	6	1	1	2	1
F	Digital health and communication	1	2	4	1	3
G	Health data, information and assessments	6	1	0	2	2
H	Health determinants and health inequalities	5	3	1	1	1
J	Health services and welfare systems	4	2	0	2	3
K	Health promotion, health literacy, behavioural insights	6	1	0	3	1
L	Health workforce, training and practice	5	4	0	0	2
M	Infectious diseases, preparedness and vaccines	5	2	0	2	2
N	Maternal, child and adolescent public health	7	0	0	2	2
O	Mental health / Migration and minority- health / LGBTQI+	6	0	0	3	2
P	Policy, politics and public health	2	3	3	1	2
Q	Public health monitoring, reporting and foresight	7	0	2	1	1

\* RT = Round table; SBS = Skills building seminar

### 1.3. Abstract and presentation prizes

Each year, the conference organisers award abstract prizes in three different categories:

The prize for the highest scoring abstract was awarded to (ex aequo):

#### **Maria Marti Castaner**

*University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark*

#### **Universal screening for postpartum depression? Inequalities and barriers among immigrant mothers**

M Marti Castaner<sup>1</sup>, C Hvidtfeldt<sup>2</sup>, JM Møller Olsen<sup>1</sup>, M Nørredam<sup>1</sup>, S Fredsted Villadsen<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Health Services Section, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>2</sup>Research Unit, Rockwool Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>3</sup>Social Medicine, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

#### **Laury Sellem**

*Sorbonne Paris Nord University, INSERM U1153, Bobigny, France*

#### **Food additive emulsifiers and cancer risk: results from the French prospective NutriNet-Santé cohort**

L Sellem<sup>1,2</sup>, B Srour<sup>1,2</sup>, E Chazelas<sup>1,2</sup>, C Debras<sup>1,2</sup>, B Chassaing<sup>2,3</sup>, I Huybrechts<sup>4</sup>, F Pierre<sup>2,5</sup>, X Coumou<sup>2,6</sup>, M Deschasaux-Tanguy<sup>1,2</sup>, M Touvier<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sorbonne Paris Nord University, INSERM U1153, Bobigny, France

<sup>2</sup>Nutrition and Cancer Research Network, Jouy-en-Josas, France

<sup>3</sup>INSERM U1016, Paris, France

<sup>4</sup>International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon, France

<sup>5</sup>Toxalim, Research Centre in Food Toxicology, Toulouse, France

<sup>6</sup>INSERM UMR-S 1124, Université de Paris, Paris, France

The Ferenc Bojan Young Investigator Award, which is awarded to the best presentation by a young public health professional, was awarded to:

**Anna Altová**

*Faculty of Science, Charles University, Praha, Czechia*

**The characteristics of women not-attending screening and their barriers to attendance in Czechia**

A Altová, M Lustigová, I Kulhánová

*Faculty of Science, Charles University, Praha, Czechia*

The prize for the best poster presentation was awarded to:

**Alessio Perilli**

*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy*

**Patient-Reported Outcome Measures for care quality assessment of a breast cancer Care Pathway**

#### 1.4. Pre-conference programme

The preconference programme (16) was held on Wednesday 9 November 2022.

See table 2 for the full programme and numbers of delegates.

#### 1.5. Lunch symposiums

Lunch symposiums were held on Thursday and Friday, 10 and 11 November 2022, during the extended lunch hours.

**Enhancing pathways for vaccine assessments and national decision-making – a driver of resilient health systems**

*Organised by Vaccines Europe*

**EU4Health Funding opportunities: grants and procurement**

*Organised by European Commission, Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA)*

**Presentation WHO Europe report: 'Health and care workforce in Europe: time to act'**

*Organised by WHO Regional Office for Europe*

**How can mRNA science shape the future of public health?**

*Organised by Moderna*

**SHARP Joint Action - strengthening capacity in preparing for the unexpected**

*Organised by SHARP Joint Action*

Table 2: Pre-conference programme and number of delegates at EPH 2022

Pre-conference	Organised by	Delegates
ECON - Microsimulation models as a health policy decision support tool	EUPHA-ECO, OECD	32
FORE - Using public health foresight to be better prepared for the future	EUPHA-FS	18
HLCA - Health Literacy and Salutogenesis in Context	EUPHA-HP, German BMBF Research Consortium HLCA, TU Munich, Bielefeld University, University of Education Freiburg, University of Duisburg-Essen, Robert Koch Institute Berlin (Germany), IUHPE-SAL-GWG, Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra (Portugal)	59
HPCC - Health Promoting Settings and Climate Change	Berlin School of Public Health, PKV Verband e. V. (Germany)	131
HSRP - Bridging primary care and public health: revisiting the priorities of practitioners in the aftermath of COVID-19	EUPHA-HSR	31
MENH - Addressing pre-existing and emerging mental health challenges in times of crisis and beyond – Strategies, approaches and practices from a European perspective	BZgA (Germany), GÖG (Austria)	50
META - What is metadata? Common standards and properties	EUPHA-PHMR, PHIRI, Sciensano (Belgium), The Norwegian Directorate of eHealth, FHI, ELIXIR - Research Infrastructure	38
MIGR - Health System Responses to Migration: From crisis mode to diversity-sensitive inclusive systems	Heidelberg University Hospital, Section for Health Equity Studies & Migration and Bielefeld University, Department for Population Medicine & HSR (Germany), EUPHA-MIG	119
NEEV - Natural experimental evaluations for public policy and health systems: recent advances and updated guidance	EUPHA-PHE, -ECO, -HSR, Medical Research Council/ National Institute of Health Research Expert Group on Natural Experimental Evaluations, MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit, University of Glasgow (United Kingdom)	33
PART - How participation strengthens health research! Current developments in Participatory Health Research in Germany, Austria and Switzerland	PartNet, PRESENT	49
PENP - Evaluating implementation of public policy for the promotion of physical activity and healthy nutrition: Why, how and what should this involve	EUPHA-PHPP, EU-Policy Evaluation Network	42

PREM - Precarious Employment – Harmonized Definition and Reporting in Public Health	Precarious Work Research Consortium, Karolinska Institute, Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Stockholm Region (Sweden)	41
REBR - Unravelling Data for Rapid Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19 (unCoVer)	Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium)	64
SSWH - Longitudinal studies on social security, work and health - defining measurements, statistical analyses and ethical issues	EUPHA-SSWH	34
WALK - Disasters, Cities and Health - A multi-disciplinary walking experience in Berlin	EUPHA-PHM, -ENV, -URB	29
YRF - Young Researchers' Forum	ASPHER, EUPHA	39

## 1.6. Late breaker session

### **The war in Ukraine - an attack on health and human rights**

*Organised by WHO Country Office in Ukraine and EPH Conference*

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 12:40-13:40

The Ukrainian people are suffering greatly from the illegal aggression by Russia, whose forces have devastated large parts of the country and committed numerous war crimes. According to United Nations reports, a total of more than 11.7 million people have left Ukraine as a result of the war, many of them seeking refuge in Poland. Colossal damage has been caused by Russian attacks on vital infrastructure, including hundreds of health facilities, and by indiscriminate shelling of urban areas. In this Late Breaker session, we heard from representatives of the Ukrainian Ministry of Health about urgent challenges to the health situation in their country, the Polish government's response to the influx of refugees and what it takes to rebuild the health infrastructure in Ukraine after the war.

Moderator:

- Iveta Nagyova, President European Public Health Association (EUPHA)

Speakers:

- Oleksandr Matskov, Ministry of Health, Ukraine
- Andrii Pashynnyi, Ministry of Health, Ukraine
- Vitalii Prykhodko, Ministry of Health, Ukraine
- Larysa Sugay, National Institute of Public Health NIH - National Research Institute, Poland
- Martin McKee, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

## 1.7. Additional meetings

Two semi-closed meetings were held on Wednesday 9 November:

- RIVER-EU project consortium meeting (full day)
- WHO Advisory Council on Innovation for Noncommunicable Diseases – afternoon meeting bringing WHO Advisory Council on NCDs together with EUPHA Sections to explore ways of best leveraging one another's capacities to control and prevent NCDs

## 1.8. Media representation

In collaboration with the Communication Department of Technical University Berlin, press invitations were sent. Press releases were issued on the Berlin 2022 Conference Statement and the presentation of the WHO health care workforce report. Media representatives included The Lancet, Politico, Euractive, Healthy Europe, Karger and independent journalists from Germany.

## 1.9. Berlin 2022 Conference Statement

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the strengths and the weaknesses of health care systems everywhere. At Berlin 2022, the public health community has attempted to answer the question how we can learn the lessons and ensure that our systems are prepared for whatever the future may hold.

Of course, we weren't the first to do this. In 2008 European governments met in Tallinn, Estonia, to agree the Tallinn Charter. This set out the importance of policies that would create a virtuous circle in which progress in 'Health systems, Health and Wealth' mutually reinforced each other. Seven years later, in 2015 world leaders committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet. In 2018 European leaders were back in Tallinn where they

committed to policies for health systems that would 'include, invest, and innovate'. Moreover, in 2021, the Pan European Commission on Health and Sustainable Development, chaired by former Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti, set out a series of recommendations to enhance preparedness in the face of future threats to health.

However, it was felt that more was needed to operationalize the recommendations in these reports, designing, implementing, and evaluating health policies that respond to the many challenges we face. In the Berlin Statement 2022, we set out a series of principles that should underpin our actions. The Berlin Statement has been signed by 15 national public health associations and institutes and several international health organisations and NGOs. Read the full Berlin 2022 Statement [here](#).

### 1.10. Exhibition

The following sponsors and exhibitors were present at the EPH Conference 2022 in Berlin:

- EPH Conference
- EUPHA
- EuroHealthNet
- European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- Health and Digital Execution Agency (HaDEA)
- European Commission
- WHO Regional Office for Europe
- EHDS2 Pilot project
- Oxford University Press
- European publishing
- Springer-Nature
- World Federation of Public Health Associations
- MDPI-IJERPH
- Moderna
- Covidence
- BlueDot
- ASPHER
- Public Health Academy, Dusseldorf

#### German Public Health Pavilion Participants:

- German Alliance for Global Health Research
- Berlin School of Public Health
- Pettenkofer School of Public Health, Munich
- Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA)
- German Public Health Association (DGPH)
- German Society for Social Medicine and Prevention (DGSMP)
- School of Public Health, Bielefeld University
- Robert Koch Institut
- University of Tübingen

### 1.11. Accreditation

The 15th European Public Health Conference, 9 – 12 November 2022, Berlin, Germany, was accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) with 26 European

CME credits (ECMEC®s). Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

Each participant can only receive the number of credits he/she is entitled to according to his/her actual participation at the event once he/she has completed the feedback form. Cf. criteria 9 and 23 of UEMS 2016.20.

The breakdown of ECMEC®s per day:

09.11.2022 - 7.00

10.11.2022 - 7.00

11.11.2022 - 7.00

12.11.2022 - 5.00

The EACCME® awards ECMEC®s on the basis of 1 ECMEC® for one hour of CME with a maximum of 8 ECMEC®s per day.

## 1.12. Social programme

### **Welcome Reception**

*Thursday 10 November, 19:00 – 20:30 CET*

The Welcome Reception was held at the conference venue hub27 Berlin. Attendance was for free.

### **Social Evening**

*Friday 11 November, 19:30 – 00:30 CET*

Celebrating the world of food at the Arminiusmarkthalle in the multicultural neighbourhood of Moabit, Berlin. This year no seated dinner or buffet was offered but a festival of world food where participants strolled past the different market stalls to put together their meals. There was plenty of room afterwards to sit down and enjoy the food while meeting colleagues and friends.

## 2. BERLIN 2022: DELEGATES

The conference was attended by public health professionals, researchers, education specialists, training professionals, students, policy makers and representatives from international and European organisations, like the European Commission, WHO Regional Office for Europe, ECDC and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. European (public) health networks and organisations actively participated in the conference programme.

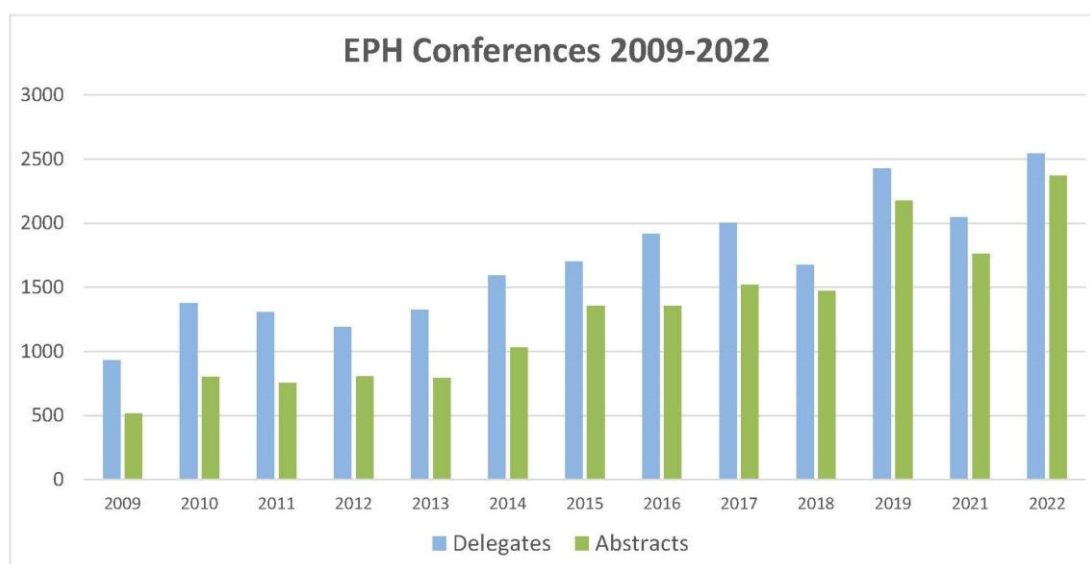
### 2.1. Number and origin of delegates

The EPH Conference registered 2,544 delegates, including pre-conference only registrations. In the past decade the number of delegates has increased steadily from 1,200 in Malta (2012) to 2,001 delegates in Stockholm (2017), 1,675 in Ljubljana (2018) and 2,429 in Marseille (2019). In 2020 the EPH Conference was an integral part of the WCPH2020. In 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the EPH Conference was organised as a virtual event, which resulted in lower numbers than for an in-person event (2,048).

Also the number of submitted abstracts has grown significantly to 2,371 in 2022 (2,185 single abstracts and 186 workshop abstracts).

The figure below shows the gradual increase in the number of registrations in the past decade.

Figure 1: Overview of conference registrations and abstract submissions 2009-2022\*



\*in 2020 the EPH Conference was an integral part of the WCPH2020.



Table 3: The number of single abstract submissions per country, Berlin 2022

Country	No.
Italy	364
Germany	261
United Kingdom	124
Sweden	105
Netherlands	92
Portugal	74
France	65
Finland	58
Belgium, Turkey	57
Norway	49
Denmark, Tunisia	48
USA	46
Austria	45
Spain	44
Switzerland	39
Ireland	38
Bulgaria	34
Brazil	32
Cyprus	31
Israel, South Korea	28
Georgia	25
Australia, Czechia	24
Poland	23
India	21
Greece	20
Croatia, Hungary, Serbia	19
Colombia	18
Kazakhstan	17
Canada	15
Slovenia	14
Armenia	13
Japan	11
Mexico, Slovakia	9
Russia	8
Taiwan, United Arab Emirates	7
Lithuania, Pakistan, Romania	6
Indonesia	5
Latvia, Uzbekistan	4
Estonia, Iran, Malta, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Vietnam	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, China, Egypt, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand	2
Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Guinea, Malaysia, Moldova, Mongolia, Qatar, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines, Tanzania, Ukraine, Zambia	1

Table 4: Overview of registrations Berlin 2022

Type of registration	No.
Full conference registrations	1734
Day registrations	172
Students, full conference	365
Pre-conference only	273
	2544

Most registrations were received from Germany (551), followed by Italy (283), United Kingdom (183) and The Netherlands (182).

Table 5: Number of registrations per country, Berlin 2022

Country	No.
Germany	551
Italy	283
United Kingdom	183
Netherlands	182
Belgium	115
Sweden	114
Finland, France	81
Portugal	73
Denmark, Switzerland	71
Spain	66
Austria	63
Norway	54
United States	48
Ireland	47
South Korea	28
Canada	25
Czechia, Israel, Poland	23
Hungary	22
Croatia	19
Greece, Serbia	17
Australia	16
Cyprus	15
Turkey	14
Ukraine	12
Bulgaria, Lithuania, Slovakia, Slovenia	11
Japan, Malta	10
Brazil, Georgia	9
New Zealand	8
Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Romania	7
Armenia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates	6
Bosnia and Herzegovina, India	5
Chile, Colombia, Estonia, Ghana, Kenya, Latvia, South Africa	3
China, Guinea, Kosovo, Pakistan, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, Tanzania	2
Albania, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Iceland, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Uganda	1

## 2.2. Participation from students

As for previous EPH Conferences, the EPH 2022 paid special attention to the participation of students. A special registration fee for this category (€ 400) was set up. In total, 365 students registered for the conference (352 for Virtual Event 2021, 390 for Marseille 2019 and 218 for Ljubljana 2018).

As part of the main conference programme, the Ferenc Bojan Young Investigators Award session was held for the highest scoring abstracts submitted by young public health professionals. In the closing ceremony of the conference, the Ferenc Bojan memorial prize, which is awarded to the best presentation by a young public health professional, was presented to *Anna Altová* from *Faculty of Science, Charles University in Praha (Czechia)* with a presentation *The characteristics of women not-attending screening and their barriers to attendance in Czechia*.

### **2.3. Participation from lower-middle and upper-middle income countries**

Special attention was paid also to public health experts from lower-middle and upper-middle income countries in the WHO European Region. Financial support to participants from these countries and presenting experts was granted by EUPHA. Support consisted of a waiver of registration fees. In total, 14 public health professionals from lower-middle and upper-middle income countries in the WHO European Region could be supported by these grants (30 in 2021, 59 in 2019, 41 in 2018).

### 3. EPH 2022: ORGANISATION

#### 3.1. Organisation of the conference

The 15<sup>th</sup> European Public Health Conference took place in Berlin, Germany from 9 to 12 November 2022. The conference was held at the hub27 in Berlin, Germany. For Berlin 2022, one large auditorium and sixteen session rooms were available. The breakout rooms varied in size. Wireless access was provided free of charge to participants throughout the conference venue.

Co-organisers of Berlin 2022 were:

- EPH Conference Foundation
- European Public Health Association (EUPHA)
- Berlin School of Public Health

*International Partners:*

- European Commission
- European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- ASPHER
- EuroHealthNet
- WHO Regional Office for Europe
- ECDC
- EHMA

The EPH Conference Foundation has supervisory authority over the management and organisation of the conference. The EPH Conference Foundation is governed by the EPH Executive Board, made up by representatives of EUPHA, appointed members and chairs of previous and upcoming EPH Conferences. The EPH Executive Board is advised by the International Conference Council (ICC), which has representation from EUPHA and collaborative partners in European public health (ASPHER, EuroHealthNet, EHMA, European Commission, ECDC, WHO Regional Office for Europe and European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies).

As with past conferences, the parallel programme was set up with the help of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) consisting of public health experts from across Europe. The ISC is responsible for the scoring of abstracts. Selection of abstracts and programme planning is done by the Executive Board with the help of the ISC and EPH Conference Office. The ISC was chaired by Prof. Dr Verena Vogt, Faculty of Economics and Management, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany.

#### 3.2. EPH Conference Office

The EPH Conference Office was responsible for the organisation of the conference, from the abstract handling process to the registration for the conference. Furthermore, the Conference Office was responsible for:

- Search for and negotiations with European partners and sponsors;
- Public relations and marketing of the conference;
- Organisation of pre-conferences and lunch symposiums.

Key staff of the Conference Office are: Marieke Verschuuren, Director; Floris Barnhoorn, Deputy Director; Robert Klarecki, Conference Officer; Maaïke Droogers, Deputy Director EUPHA; José Velthuis, Office Manager and Ingeborg Vlug, Financial Officer. The EPH Conference Office was supported by external staff: Lydia Rink, Conference Coordinator and advisory PCO; Jessica van Diemen, Exhibition Officer. Dr

Nina Adelberger, Managing Director of the Berlin School of Public Health, provided valuable support to the Conference Office.

### **3.3. Local support**

The Berlin School of Public Health (BSPH) and the Chair of the 15<sup>th</sup> EPH Conference, Prof. Reinhard Busse, made a great effort in successfully finding the national conference partners in Germany and raising awareness for the conference resulting in an astounding number of German delegates.

The Local Support Committee provided assistance in the selection of abstracts at the preparatory meeting in June 2022.

In particular we want to thank Dr Nina Adelberger, Managing Director of the Berlin School of Public Health, for all the support to the EPH Conference.

We are grateful to Prof. Reinhard Busse, Head of the Department of Healthcare Management at the Faculty of Economics and Management, Technische Universität Berlin and Chairperson of the conference for his unwavering commitment and pleasant cooperation to make the EPH Conference 2022 a success.

## 4. BERLIN 2022: VISIBILITY

The Announcement of the EPH Conference 2022 was electronically distributed to all delegates of the 14<sup>th</sup> EPH Conference, Virtual Edition, in November 2021. A presentation of the theme was given in the closing session of EPH Conference 2021. Subsequently, the Announcement was then published on the EPH Conference web pages.

EUPHA member organisations were informed through the EUPHA Newsletters of the upcoming conference and invited to put the Announcement on their websites and use their distribution systems to inform their members.

In addition to the Announcement, other communication channels that were used to promote the 15<sup>th</sup> EPH Conference included:

- EPH Conference E-News: the monthly electronic newsletter with conference news was published from January until October.
- European Journal of Public Health: updates on EPH Conference 2022 were published every two months in the European Public Health News pages of the EJPH.
- EUPHA Newsletter: concise articles on the conference were published in the monthly electronic EUPHA Newsletter, distributed to over 30,000 readers.
- Website and Twitter: the EPH Conference website was updated regularly, accompanied by Twitter feeds to over 3,500 followers.
- Conference Newsletters: two electronic conference newsletters were distributed to all registered delegates a few weeks before the conference.
- Conference E-banners appeared on websites of partner organisations.

### 4.1 Conference App

The EPH Conference used a new version of the branded App for the Berlin 2022. The App was linked to the online programme and the open access Abstracts Supplement. The App included: Info on keynote speakers, venue map, exhibitors, partners, attendees and voting system for the best poster. The App was extensively downloaded and used during the conference.

## 5. BERLIN 2022: REACHING OUR OBJECTIVES

EPH Conference 2022 was well organised, of scientific good quality and reached the objectives it set out to achieve: 75% of the participants rated the quality of Berlin 2022 as excellent/good.

The intensive collaboration with other European health organisations is seen as positive. For Berlin 2022, a large number of European NGOs and international health organisations were involved in organising the plenary programme, pre-conferences, round table and workshop sessions.

The main purpose of the 15th EPH Conference was to strengthen the capacity of public health professionals, researchers and policymakers by enhancing the exchange of knowledge, policy and best practice across Europe. Specific objectives were:

### ***Increased knowledge of research outcomes and best practice in health for public health professionals***

EPH Conferences are known for the excellent organisation, the high number of participants and a broad programme covering relevant public health topics. Berlin 2022 was no exception to this with over 2,500 delegates, scoring high overall satisfaction by delegates and with a varied programme of plenary sessions, workshops, oral, pitch and electronic poster presentations.

Delegates came from over 77 countries from Europe and beyond. The professional background of the participants showed a balanced mix of research, policy, practice and training. The majority of the delegates (about 65%) have an academic background and this share has changed little in recent years. The absolute and relative number of delegates with a background in policy making, public health practice and education also remains the same.

The conference aimed at increasing knowledge and skills among European public health professionals. The programme of the EPH Conference 2022 was varied and nearly all sessions mixed aspects of policy, practice and research. All sessions also included presentations from different countries, thereby increasing the networking objective of the programme itself.

The publication of accepted abstracts in the open access Abstract Supplement to the *European Journal of Public Health* added to the objective of increased exchange and dissemination of knowledge.

### ***Increased knowledge and awareness of European public health policies and strategies***

Over the years, the collaboration with the international European health organisations (European Commission, WHO Regional Office for Europe, ECDC, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies) has broadened. In many workshops and round tables, representatives from European health organisations were present and participated in discussions.

### ***Closer collaboration among European public health networks, organisations and schools***

Collaboration among European (public) health organisations takes place in the International Conference Council (ICC). The ICC has an advisory role toward the EPH Conference Executive Board and has representation from EUPHA, ASPHER, EuroHealthNet, EHMA, European Commission, ECDC, WHO Regional Office for Europe and European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. Members of the ICC have become partner of the conference for specific activities or have taken responsibility for organising a plenary session, pre-conferences and workshops.

As in previous years, the conference hosted EUPHA's Governing Board thereby increasing the attendance of national public health associations and offering them a platform to share national

experiences. Furthermore, the possibility to combine the European public health conferences with meetings of other European NGOs, organisations, networks and schools of public health, increases the aim of collaboration. Over the years, we have seen an increase in the collaboration, as the organisers actively invite other networks to their activities.

At the EPH Conference 2022, all EUPHA Sections (theme-specific networks) and EUPHAnxt held their annual meetings to discuss future activities and collaboration. EUPHA continues to actively support existing networks and assist in the setting up of new networks. ASPHER and EUPHA successfully organised the Young Researchers' Forum (YRF) again. The YRF is meant for postgraduate students (MPH, MSc, MRes, PhD, etc) and early career researchers and offering them the opportunity to present their work in a friendly, supportive forum and receiving feedback from mentors and peers.



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASPHER - Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region  
 BSPH – Berlin School of Public Health, Germany  
 BZgA – Federal Centre for Health Education, Germany  
 DG SANTE – Directorate-General Health and Food Safety, European Commission  
 EC – European Commission  
 ECDC – European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control  
 EHMA – European Health Management Association  
 EPH Conference – European Public Health Conference  
 EPHA - European Public Health Alliance  
 EU – European Union  
 EUPHA – European Public Health Association  
 EUPHA-CAPH – EUPHA Child and adolescent public health section  
 EUPHA-CHR – EUPHA Chronic diseases section  
 EUPHA-DH – EUPHA Digital health section  
 EUPHA-ENV – EUPHA Environment and health section  
 EUPHA-ETH – EUPHA Ethics in public health section  
 EUPHA-FN – EUPHA Food and nutrition section  
 EUPHA-FS – EUPHA Foresight section  
 EUPHA-HIA – EUPHA Health impact assessment section  
 EUPHA-HP – EUPHA Health promotion section  
 EUPHA-HSR – EUPHA Health services research section  
 EUPHA-HTA – EUPHA Health technology assessment section  
 EUPHA-HWR – EUPHA Health workforce research section  
 EUPHA-IDC – EUPHA Infectious diseases control section  
 EUPHA-INJ – EUPHA Injury prevention and safety promotion section  
 EUPHA-MIG – EUPHA Migrant and ethnic minority health section  
 EUPHA-OH – EUPHA Oral health section  
 EUPHA-LAW - EUPHA Law and public health section  
 EUPHA-ECO – EUPHA Public health economics section  
 EUPHA-EPI – EUPHA Public health epidemiology section  
 EUPHA-PHG – EUPHA Public health genomics section  
 EUPHA-PHMR – EUPHA Public health monitoring and reporting  
 EUPHA-PHPP – EUPHA Public health policy and politics section  
 EUPHA-PMH – EUPHA Public mental health section  
 EUPHA-SGMH – EUPHA Sexual and gender minority health section  
 EUPHA-SSWH – EUPHA Social security, work and health section  
 EUPHA-URB – EUPHA Urban public health section  
 EUPHAnxt – EUPHA next generation network  
 GÖG – Austrian National Public Health Institute  
 HaDEA - The European Health and Digital Executive Agency  
 HLCA - Health Literacy in Childhood and Adolescence  
 IUHPE – International Union for Health Promotion and Education  
 Observatory – European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies  
 OECD – Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development  
 PHIRI – Population Health Information Research Infrastructure project  
 PKV Verband e.V. - Association of Private Health Insurance, Germany  
 unCoVer - Unravelling Data for Rapid Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19  
 WHO – World Health Organization  
 YRF – Young Researchers’ Forum