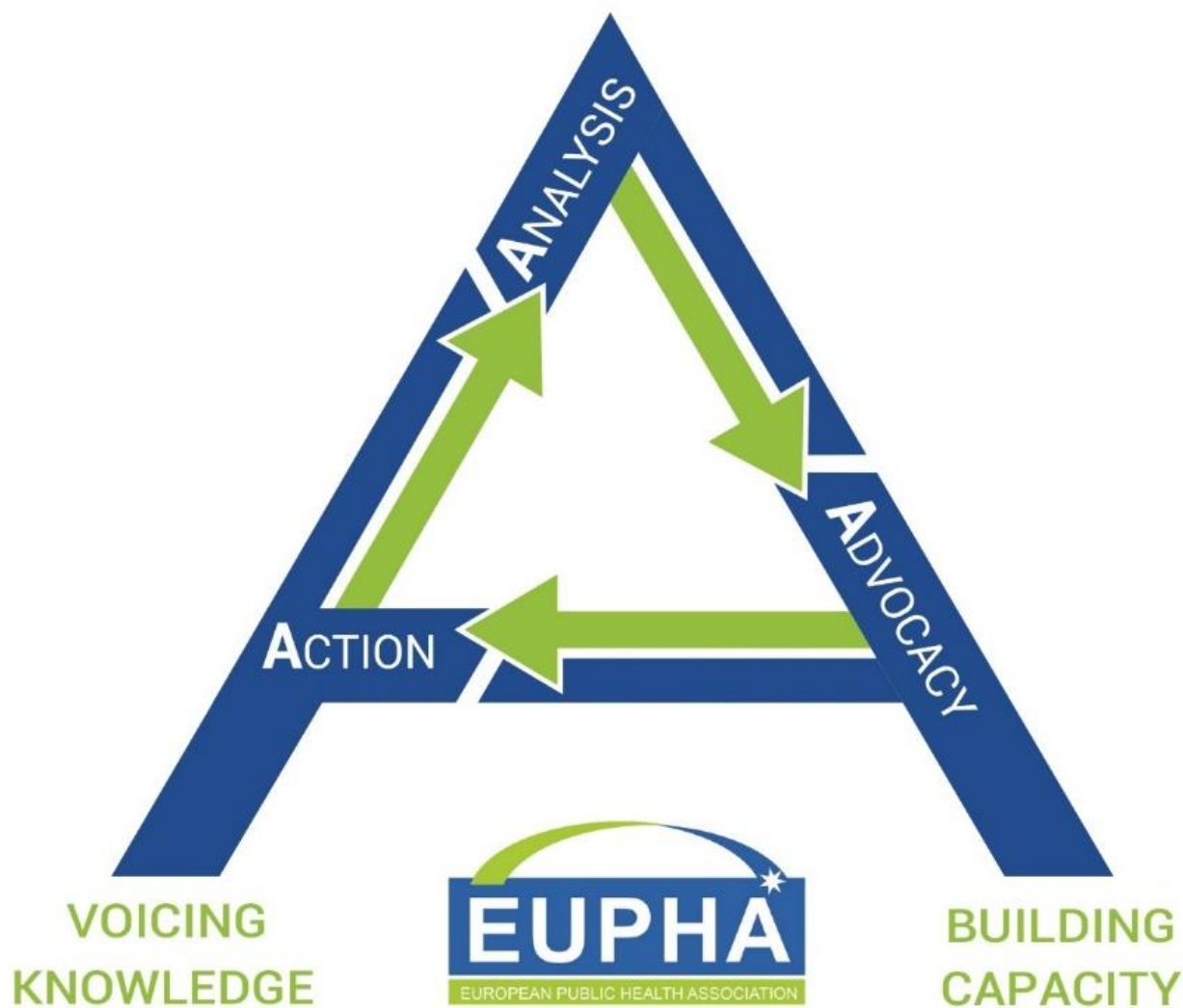


# European Public Health Association (EUPHA)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022



Co-funded by the  
European Union

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# About EUPHA

The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations in Europe. EUPHA was founded in 1992, meaning that this year we are celebrating 30 years EUPHA. EUPHA is an international, scientific organisation, bringing together around 39,000 public health professionals for information exchange and collaboration throughout Europe. We encourage a multidisciplinary approach to public health. 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 membership benefits:

- EUPHA members are included in the European-wide network of public health experts (more than 39,000 at the moment).
- EUPHA members benefit from an 80 Euro reduction on the registration fees for all European Public Health Conferences.
- EUPHA members can participate in all EUPHA activities and have access to EUPHA's resources module with capacity and skills building materials.
- EUPHA members publishing in the European Journal of Public Health can have a 20% reduction of the Open Access charges.

Interested in joining us?

- Are you a national public health association? Then join us as a full member.
- Are you an institute interested in being part of the largest public health professional network in Europe? Then join us as an institutional member.
- Are you a European or international NGO and would you like to work with EUPHA? Look into our possibilities of associate membership/partnership.
- Does your country not (yet) have a national public health association and you wish to pursue setting up one? Join our network as an individual member and we will support you in setting up a national public health association.
- Are you interested in EUPHA but not located in Europe? Look into our possibilities of global membership.

More information on membership can be found at: <https://eupha.org/join-our-network>

## Contact us

General questions:	<a href="mailto:office@eupha.org">office@eupha.org</a>
Membership:	<a href="mailto:membership@eupha.org">membership@eupha.org</a>
Projects:	<a href="mailto:projects@eupha.org">projects@eupha.org</a>
EUPHANxt:	<a href="mailto:info.euphanxt@eupha.org">info.euphanxt@eupha.org</a>
EJPH editorial office:	<a href="mailto:eiph.gph@ki.se">eiph.gph@ki.se</a>

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### Authors:

Maaïke Droogers, EUPHA Deputy director  
Marie Guichardon, EUPHA Policy Officer  
Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA Executive director

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## Summary

On behalf of the EUPHA Executive Council, it is our pleasure to present this report highlighting EUPHA's key activities in 2022. EUPHA, with the support of its members, sections, young professional network (EUPHAnxt) and partners, again engaged in a large number of activities, aimed at building capacity and strengthening the voice of public health professionals and bringing the evidence into the policymaking process.

### *The importance of public health in 2022*

2022 again was a year in which the importance of public health was very clear, although unfortunately again through a series of disasters and crises. While the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic seems to have diminished with the rise of the omicron variant, the pandemic is not over yet. At the time of writing, an autumn wave seems to be developing, and even after the experiences of the past two years, it is questionable whether governments have solid, evidence-informed scenarios in place to guide timely and well-considered responses. On top of that, health systems are still struggling to tackle the immense backlog of interventions as a result of the pandemic. An important contributor is the exhausted and under-resourced health workforce. 2022 of course also was the year in which the war in Ukraine broke out, with an immense health impact for the Ukrainian people, as well as severe consequences globally, most notably in relation to food and energy security. As always, the most vulnerable in society are hit hardest. On a positive note, the effects of the war do accelerate the energy transition, which will help limiting global warming and its consequential health effects, another important area of work for the public health community.

So, again, this was a year of very hard work for public health professionals. EUPHA has tried to support our members and the wider public health community as good as possible in this by means of our tools for enhancing the visibility of the evidence base for policymaking and our advocacy. Exactly how we did this, is described in this annual report.

### *Change of executive director*

2022 was a special year for EUPHA and for the EUPHA office, because Dineke Zeegers-Paget stepped down as executive director. Dineke has been leading EUPHA in this role for the past 25 years and has been instrumental for the impressive growth and professionalisation of the organisation. Dineke has been succeeded by Marieke Verschuuren, who took over as executive director in July. Dineke has now taken on the role of EUPHA strategic advisor and as such the EUPHA office and Executive Council can still draw on her institutional memory and expertise.

### *EUPHA's key activities*

We structure this annual report according to the 8 goals as listed in the 5-year work plan belonging to the EUPHA strategy 2020-2025:

#### **Goal 1: Support our members in their work at the national, regional and local level**

We continued to collaborate with our members. Not just for the Czech EU presidency, but also in the organisation of activities, most notably during the European Public Health Week (EUPHW). The third EUPHW took place between 23 and 26 May 2022 and was again very successful with 235 (212 in 2021) events across 32 countries.

#### **Goal 2: Consolidate and expand the partnership**

We intensified our collaboration with partners, for example with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) with our joint work on the European Commission's Health Policy Platform's Climate and Health thematic network, and with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), notably on the Food Marketing Initiative. In 2022, EUPHA's application to be part of HERA's Advisory Board was accepted. We continued our partnerships with WHO Europe, the European Commission and ECDC and EMA. Finally, we

further developed our relationship with the European Health Management Association (EHMA). Last but not least, EUPHA became an observer – for one year initially – of the Initiative for Science Europe (ISE). Also through collaborations within two new EU-funded projects that started in the autumn of 2022, EUPHA will be able to expand its network and find new partners.

### **Goal 3: Stimulate and facilitate mutual learning**

The need for continuously enhancing capacity remains a priority for EUPHA. EUPHA and its sections are organising 8 skills building sessions at the EPH conference in Berlin, thereby encouraging continuous learning for public health professionals. The EUPHA office welcomed two secondees working on in the framework of an EU-funded project to stimulate researchers' exchange in the field of personalised prevention.

### **Goal 4: Actively stimulate the younger generation to be part of the EUPHA network**

The EUPHAnxt team continued to engage the next generation of public health professionals by increasing the information exchange (i.e. newsletters and social media) and strengthening its partnerships, e.g., by participating in the 10th International Festival of Public Health organised by the University of Manchester. The existing tools of the abstract mentoring programme (now renamed to abstract tutoring programme) and the EUPHA fellows at the conference are continued. In 2022 we developed a new mentoring programme that will be implemented in 2023, aiming at connecting young professionals to established ones. The goal is to overcome the increased isolation that young professionals have experienced during COVID-19, therefore restricting meaningful networking opportunities. A final achievement for the EUPHAnxt team worth mentioning was the co-writing of the statement released in collaboration with ASPHER.

### **Goal 5: Keep health a priority on the European and national agendas**

We continued being visible at European level by being active both in written advocacy (statements, the European public health news in the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH)) as well as participating in European meetings (e.g., European Parliament's meeting on Food Marketing to Children, ONE Conference). We are engaging in more regular exchanges and meetings with some of our main Brussels-based partners, to ensure that we can have a strong joint voice, thereby increasing the impact of our advocacy (see under goal 2).

### **Goal 6: Strengthening public health research in Europe**

EUPHA remains a science-based organization, recognized as an independent and trusted voice of and for public health. The EJPH, the EPH conferences, and the EUPHA sections are essential tools here. Support to the editorial office of the EJPH is a key activity to strengthen PH research in Europe. The EJPH's impact factor increased to 4.427 in 2022 from 3.367, while the five-year impact factor increased to 4.238 from 4.011 in 2021. EUPHA congratulates Anthony Staines, Chair of the 2023 EPH Conference, for being appointed Associate Editor of the EJPH. EUPHA thanks Walter Ricciardi, former EUPHA president, for being an editor for many years. In 2022, he handed over editorship to Stefania Boccia, EUPHA Public health epidemiology section president, who we also warmly welcome to the team. This year's EPH Conference took place in Berlin, after two online editions, and reached an all-time record of abstracts submission. EUPHA sections continued to be extremely active, giving EUPHA visibility all year round. For example, sections were involved in the European Commission's Health Policy Platform Thematic Networks, co-organised a major public health conference in their dedicated field, organised skills-building webinars, provided input to public consultations and much more.

### **Goal 7: Deliver the right evidence at the right time**

By monitoring what is being discussed at European level, EUPHA managed to publish statements, reactions to public consultations, be active on social media and more, which led to more invitations to meetings to deliver the evidence at the right time at the right place (e.g., meeting with European Commissioner Kyriakides' cabinet staff on the issue of food and alcohol

labelling). The Rapid Response Team, our mechanism for delivering evidence in a short time-span, was continued and efficiently used. Our experts were interviewed on key European public health topics, such as vaccination or food and nutrition.

**Goal 8: Support implementation of the SDGs and all policies for a healthy Europe**

EUPHA has responded to numerous EU public consultations in 2022, therefore continuing to support the European Commission with the evidence base with the expertise of our sections' presidents. EUPHA engaged more largely in the issue of ONE health, notably with EUPHA Environment and Health section president Prof Marija Jevtic pursuing her activities as a Climate Pact Ambassador on behalf of EUPHA at the European Commission. Prof Jevtic also contributed to the Faculty of Public Health Climate & Health Conference in September 2022. The EUPHA working group on gender equality and women's empowerment was continued, and they organized a workshop at the EPH2022 and wrote a statement on reproductive health.

As always, we are extremely grateful with the continued support of so many willing and expert volunteers. A big thank you to our section presidents and vice presidents, the EUPHANxt coordinators and to our members, for their strategic input. And last but not least, we thank Dineke for the past 25 years of leading EUPHA!



Iveta Nagyova  
EUPHA president 2020-2022



Marieke Verschuuren  
EUPHA executive director

**EUPHA Executive Council 2022**

- Iveta Nagyova, president
- Martin McKee, past president
- Thomas Dorner, treasurer
- Peter Allebeck, editor-in-chief EJPH
- Alastair Leyland, section council
- Monica Brînzac, EUPHANxt
- Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA executive director
- Dineke Zeegers-Paget, EUPHA strategic advisor

## Goal 1: Support our members in their work at the national, regional and local level

### Advocacy in support of our members

In 2022, we continued to support our members. For the Czech Republic EU Presidency in the second half of 2022, we published an e-collection on health and healthcare for migrants and refugees, as this topic was high on the presidency's agenda. Dineke Zeegers-Paget, EUPHA executive director, was interviewed by EUPHA's French member Société Française de Santé Publique (SFSP) for an extra SFSP [newsletter](#) on the European Public Health Week (EUPHW). In this interview, Dineke introduced EUPHA and explained the aims and approach for the EUPHW.

All member representatives in the EUPHA Governing Board received regular updates on EUPHA statements and public consultations (see under Advocacy) and were asked to further disseminate or co-sign these. One of the more visible statements is the statement about the Ukrainian War, which was quickly followed by EUPHA section statements, notably the EUPHA Children and Adolescent Public Health section and the EUPHA Law and Public Health section. An overview of all EUPHA's advocacy activities can be found [here](#).

In 2022, 5 track reports from the 2021 virtual EPH conference were published. Curated by the EPH fellows, and reviewed both by section presidents and the EUPHA office, these track reports present the discussions and outcomes of the Conference's chosen tracks.

- [Mental health in 2021](#)
- [Digitalization in health in 2021](#)
- [Climate change and environment in 2021](#)
- [COVID-19 epidemiology, impact and responses in 2021](#)
- [Chronic diseases in 2021](#)

### European Public Health Week

The third [European Public Health Week](#) (EUPHW) took place between 22 and 26 May 2022, and was actively supported by the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The European Commission was active in supporting the dissemination of the EUPHW, notably on social media. The EUPHW aims to connect those who contribute to better public health across the WHO European Region, promote collaboration among the public health community, and boost EUPHA's profile and visibility. The theme and overall purpose of this annual initiative is to join forces for healthier populations. Each day of the week focused on a specific public health theme. For each theme of the EUPHW, there was an official kick-off webinar co-hosted by one of our partners and EUPHA:

- **Monday 22 May: A healthy & health literate youth**  
Official partner: Associations of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
- **Tuesday 23 May: Vaccination as a key prevention strategy**  
Official partner: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- **Wednesday 24 May: Climate Change Impacts Our Health**  
Official partner: Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)



- **Thursday 25 May: No Health Without Mental Health**  
Official partner: Gamian Europe
- **Friday 26 May: Building Resilient Health Systems**  
Official Partner: European Observatory for Health Systems and Policies

You can access the recordings of the first four kick-off events [here](#) and the recording of the Friday [here](#).

A total of 235 events and activities across 32 countries in 21 languages were organised – once again showing the tremendous interest for public health across the European Region.

### **EUPHA resources module and EUPHA webinars**

This year, we further developed the EUPHA resources module, where a collection of resources for EUPHA members is gathered, including *peer-to-peer videos*. In 2022, we also included recordings of [webinars](#) powered by EUPHA, and organized by various stakeholders and partner organisations such as the World Health Organisation, the [EUPHA Green Club](#), and Public Health Wales. These webinars are based on EPH Conference abstracts that did not score high enough to be included in the programme, but that were nonetheless of excellent quality and on which EUPHA wanted to shed light. The following webinars were organised in 2022 of which recordings were added to the resources module:

- Step Change for a Sustainable Planet toolkit – putting theory into action  
Organised by: Public Health Wales
- Scaling-up community based NCD prevention and control: focus on quality  
Organised by: SUNI-SEA consortium
- Greening the conference  
Organised by EUPHA Green club
- Inclusive and participatory policy-making: can it be measured and assessed  
Organised by: World Health Organization

### **EUPHA Brussels Gazette**

The EUPHA Brussels Gazette is sent out to the Section Council and the Governing Board. This newsletter is divided in 4 sections:

- EUPHA's meetings with EU institutions and partners
- European Institutions (European Parliament; European Council)
- Calls for evidence and public consultations
- Health NGOs news

The Brussels Gazette aims to keep them informed on what is happening regarding EU public health-related policies and activities and of EUPHA's activities in Brussels. In 2022, two editions of the Brussels Gazette were disseminated.



## EUPHA members

By October 2022, EUPHA has 85 members from 47 countries, 12 partner organisations and official relations with three European Institutions:

- 46 national associations of public health (full members)
- 28 institutional members
- 9 individual members
- 2 global members
- 13 partners
- 3 European Institutions

In our database, we have 39,000 entries of which 8,279 are EUPHA members. Full members of EUPHA are individuals who joined EUPHA through their membership in a National Public Health Association. **Green marks** new members since 2022.

### **Full members of EUPHA in 2022:**

- **Albania**  
Albanian Epidemiological Association
- **Armenia**  
Armenian Public Health Association
- **Austria**  
Austrian Public Health Association
- **Belgium**  
Belgian Association of Public Health
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Society of Social Medicine - Public Health of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
**Association of Public Health Workers in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- **Bulgaria**  
Bulgarian Public Health Association
- **Croatia**  
Croatian Public Health Association
- **Cyprus**  
**Cyprus Epidemiology and Public Health Association - CyEPHA**
- **Czechia**  
Czech Society of Social Medicine and Health Care Management
- **Denmark**  
Danish Society of Public Health
- **Estonia**  
Health Promotion Union of Estonia
- **Finland**  
Society for Social Medicine in Finland
- **France**  
French Society of Public Health
- **Germany**  
German Public Health Association  
DGPH  
German Society of Medical Sociology
- **Greece**  
Kooperationsverbund „Hochschulen für Gesundheit e. V”  
Panhellenic Union of Public Health Physicians of National Health System (PEIDY E.S.Y)
- **Hungary**  
Hungarian Association of Public Health Training and Research Institutions – NKE
- **Israel**  
Israeli Association of Public Health Physicians
- **Italy**  
Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health
- **Kazakhstan**  
Central Asian Public Health Association
- **Latvia**  
Public Health Association of Latvia
- **Lithuania**  
Lithuanian Public Health Association
- **Malta**  
Malta Association of Public Health Medicine
- **Netherlands**  
Federation for Public Health - Netherlands  
Public Health Network Netherlands – PHNed  
GGD GHOR Netherlands (Regional Public Health and medical emergency Services)
- **Norway**  
Norwegian Public Health Association

- **Poland**  
Polish Society of Public Health
- **Portugal**  
Portuguese Association for Public Health Promotion  
Portuguese Association of Public Health Doctors
- **Republic of North Macedonia**  
Macedonian Association of Social Medicine – SZSM
- **Romania**  
Romanian Public Health and Health Management Association
- **Russia**  
Russian Society for the Prevention of Noncommunicable diseases  
(*membership suspended*)
- **Serbia**  
Serbian Public Health Association
- **Slovakia**  
SAVEZ - Slovak Public Health Association
- **Slovenia**  
Slovenian Medical Society - Slovenian Preventive Medicine Society  
Chamber of Sanitary Engineers of Slovenia - Institute of Public and Environmental Health
- **Spain**  
SESPAS – Spanish Association of Public Health and Healthcare
- **Sweden**  
Swedish Association of Social Medicine
- **Switzerland**  
Swiss Society for Public Health  
Swiss Public Health Doctors - SPHD
- **Turkey**  
Turkish Public Health Association
- **United Kingdom**  
UK Faculty of Public Health  
UK Society for Social Medicine

***Institutional members of EUPHA in 2022:***

- **Belgium**  
Sciensano
- **Cyprus**  
University of Nicosia Medical School –  
Department of Primary Care and Population Health  
European University Cyprus –  
Department of Medicine and  
Department of Health Sciences
- **Finland**  
National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)
- **France**  
EHESP – School of Public Health
- **Georgia**  
School of Public Health, University of Georgia
- **Germany**  
Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA)  
NRW Centre for Health  
Fulda Public Health Centre
- **Greece**  
CSFM & HSR-PH Lab, School of Medicine, University of Crete  
Laboratory of Health and Road Safety (LaHeRS) and the Primary Health Care Unit (PHC-HMU) of the Hellenic Mediterranean University
- **Hungary**  
University of Debrecen
- **Ireland**  
Institute of Public Health
- **Italy**  
Health Services Research Laboratory-  
Department of Public Health –  
University of Siena  
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart  
Rome  
Italian Barometer Diabetes Observatory  
The Bridge Foundation
- **Luxembourg**  
Luxembourg Institute of Health
- **Netherlands**  
RIVM – Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment  
NIVEL – Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research  
Maastricht University, Department of Inter-national Health  
Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health
- **Portugal**  
NOVA National School of Public Health (NOVA NSPH)
- **Romania**  
National School of Public Health, Management and Professional Development  
Department of Public Health of the Babeş-Bolyai University

- **Russia**  
Research Institute for Healthcare  
Organization & Medical  
Management of Moscow  
Healthcare Department (NIIOZMM)  
(*membership suspended*)
- **Sweden**

Karolinska Institute, Department of  
Global Public Health

- **United Kingdom**  
University of Liverpool, Law & Non-  
Communicable Diseases Unit

**Individual members of EUPHA in 2022:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Andorra</b><br/>Mr Josep Romagosa Massana</li> <li>• <b>Cyprus</b><br/>Prof Constantinos Phellas</li> <li>• <b>Cyprus</b><br/>Miss Romana Novakovic</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Turkey</b><br/>Miss Serpil Keskin</li> <li>• <b>Ukraine</b><br/>Mr Savelyi Rudzsky</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**Global members of EUPHA in 2022:**

- **Kuwait**  
Prof Ibrahim Shady, Mansoura University, Faculty of Medicine
- **Nepal**  
Dr Ashik Banstola, Public Health Perspective

**EUPHA members from the Russian Federation**

The Executive Council has decided that the membership of the association and organization that are members of EUPHA will be suspended until the Executive Council is of the opinion that the situation in Ukraine has sufficiently improved. This means that there can be no collaborations with EUPHA at the governing and organizational level. However, individual professionals that are part of EUPHA's network through these members can still access EUPHA's resources and take part in webinars and events on a personal title. In this way, we keep on supporting individual public health professionals and thus contributing to the Russian people being able to access adequate public health services and execute their right to health.

**Goal 2: Consolidate and expand the partnership**

As a European organization, EUPHA continued to invest in strong relationships with our European partners. Yet many of the challenges that we face are global and this means that we work together with global partners as well. We take a broad view not just geographically but also in the issues we engage with, recognizing how policies in other sectors can have profound consequences for health. This means that we invest in broad alliances, including not only the 'usual public health suspects', but also partners from other disciplines and sectors.

In 2022, we continued advocating for public health with other health-minded organisations to establish deliberative collaboration in the field of public health. (See box 1 for an overview of the partners with which EUPHA signed a collaborative agreement. Please note that the network of partners that EUPHA collaborates with is broader than this list.) We also continued to collaborate through the EU4Health Civil society alliance. With this alliance we undertook joint efforts to advocate for health at the European institutions. We established a new collaboration with Initiative for Science Europe (ISE), working together for opportunities for young researchers, including collaboration with EUPHAnxt, as well as the role of learned societies on science advice to policy makers. We participated in the 4th Gago Conference on European Science Policy that was organised by ISE that took place on 13 June 2022.

## Box 1. EUPHA partners with a formal collaborative agreement

### NGO's and associations:

- ASPHER - Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region
- COTEC – Council of Occupational Therapists for European Countries
- EACH – International Association for Communication in Healthcare
- EADPH – European Association of Dental Public Health
- EFPC – European Forum for Primary Care
- EHMA – European Health Management Association
- EPA/UNESPA – European Paediatric Association/ Union of National Paediatric Societies and Associations
- ESQH – European Society for Quality in Healthcare
- GLEPHA – Global Law Enforcement and Public Health Association
- IUHPE – Europe – International Union for Health Promotion and Education – Europe
- UEMS – European Union of Medical Specialists – Section for Public Health

### European Institutions:

- ECDC - European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- EMA – European Medicines Agency
- HERA – Health Emergency Response Authority

### International partner:

- WHO/Europe – WHO Regional office for Europe

### EUPHAnxt partners:

- Global Health Next Generation Network
- EuroNet MRPH – European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health
- European Federation of Psychology Students' Association
- European Medical Students' Association
- Child Family Health International
- Irish Global Health Network Student Outreach Group
- German Network of Young Professionals in Public Health
- Swedish Organisation for Global Health
- International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF)

### Global level:

- EUPHA is a regional member of the World Federation for Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and as such an observer in the WFPHA general assembly

## Goal 3: Stimulate and facilitate mutual learning

The need for continuously enhancing capacity remains a priority for EUPHA. The exchange of knowledge is essential here and EUPHA has the tools to facilitate this. The EUPHA resources module, which was launched in 2021, provides peer-to-peer videos with EUPHA members and partners sharing their experiences with e.g., advocating for public health. The EPH conferences also are an important tool for capacity building. In 2022, the following skills building sessions were (co-)organised by EUPHA at the EPH conference:

- FORE - Skill building workshop: Using public health foresight to be better prepared for the future  
Organiser: EUPHA-FS
- 1.F. - Skills building seminar: Podcast 101  
Organiser: EUPHA-DH

- 1.P. - Skills building seminar: Taking the elevator pitch to the next level: how to convince a policymaker in less than 2 minutes  
11.A. Skills building seminar: A new framework for developing and evaluating complex interventions  
Organiser: EUPHA-EPI
- 2.F. - Skills building seminar: Health Data Pipelines: moving away from Excel to scalable, insightful and future-proof infostructure  
Organiser: EUPHA-DH
- 5.C. - Skills building seminar: Learn how to contribute to raising awareness about public health in Europe with the EUPHW  
Organiser: EUPHA
- 6.E. - Skills building seminar: 'Think global, act local'- using the Place Standard tool to support action on climate and health  
Organisers: EUPHA-HIA, EUPHA-ENV
- 6.F. - Skills building seminar: Digital health, informatics, and public health  
Organiser: EUPHA-DH
- 6.P. - Skills building seminar: Children and young people: engaging the unheard stakeholder  
Organisers: EUPHA-CAPH, EUPHAnxt

Another activity that EUPHA implemented in 2022 to stimulate the exchange of experiences and mutual learning was a 'market place': a dedicated bulletin board in the EUPHA exhibition stand during the EPH conference in November in Berlin where EUPHA members could post requests for support and/or offers for support. Several members made use of this and sought support from their peers related to for example how to involve young professionals and how to align member organisations for advocacy work. After the conference, the EUPHA office acted as a broker, linking the requesting members to other, experienced members.

## Goal 4: Actively stimulate the younger generation to be part of the EUPHA network

### EUPHAnxt

EUPHAnxt is a network for students and early career researchers, policymakers and professionals in the field of public health. EUPHAnxt is a free and open initiative that aims to collect the active contribution of students, young researchers, practitioners and policymakers interested in European public health issues, in order to sensitize and involve them into the European and multidisciplinary network of public health associations. The EUPHAnxt network currently has 3,790 subscribers (in 2021: 3,383). EUPHAnxt also has a seat in the EUPHA Executive Council to ensure that the voice of the next generation is heard when planning new activities and projects.



Monica Brînzac,  
Overall  
Coordinator



Jinane Ghattas,  
Conference  
Manager



Charlotte Myers,  
Communication  
Manager



Laura Stenz,  
Communication  
Manager

### *Partnerships*

During 2022, EUPHANxt has strengthened their existing partnerships, for example by participating in the 10<sup>th</sup> Public Health Festival organised by the University of Manchester. EUPHANxt has also been active at the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) and contributed to the manifesto for early-career researchers.

### *Activities at the European Public Health Conference 2022*

EUPHANxt has become increasingly visible at the European Public Health Conference. For the EPH2022, EUPHANxt is involved in a workshop, two round tables, one skills-building seminar, and a 'Join the network' meeting:

- 2.G. - Workshop: The development of HTA collaboration in Europe: where we are and where we are going
- 6.L. - Round table: A digital literate health workforce for a resilient future
- 8.L. - Round table: Breaking the barriers: gender equality and women empowerment in public health practice
- 1.P. - Skills building seminar: Taking the elevator pitch to the next level: how to convince a policymaker in less than 2 minutes
- EUPHANxt - Join the network

### *Activities at the European Public Health Week 2022*

For the European Public Health Week 2022, EUPHANxt has organised four events:

- Building resilient health systems through strategic planning
  - Organisers: Department of Public Health, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; CERUS, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, EUPHANxt
- Involving young people in public health
  - Organisers: EUPHANxt, EUPHA-URB, The University of Manchester - Department of Public Health, Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca
- EPH Fellowship - sharing the conference experience
  - Organiser: EUPHANxt
- Communication with patients in mental health crisis
  - Organisers: International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation European Regional Office (IPSF EuRO), EUPHANxt

### *Communications EUPHANxt:*

- Newsletters in 2022: 7
- Facebook 2022: 561 page likes, 561 followers (464 page likes and 561 followers in 2021)
- Twitter 2022: 1,515 followers (1,371 followers in 2021)
- Instagram 2022: 484 followers (288 followers in 2021)

### *Abstract mentoring programme [re-named to abstract tutoring programme]*

Following the success of the abstract mentoring/tutoring programme for Marseille 2019, this programme was continued. Young health researchers could submit their abstract to receive advice for improvement before officially submitting. In total, 28 abstracts were reviewed by 19 reviewers. This is a higher number of abstracts than in previous years (last year was 16). Of these 29 abstracts, 19 were finally submitted and 12 were accepted (63%, lower than last year (92%)). Mentors and mentees seem to make the most out of the programme, however, to increase its reach, EUPHANxt is planning to start advertising it earlier and on a monthly basis in the newsletter, and to encourage section presidents to also share the information within their networks.



### *EPH Conference Fellowship Programme*

The EPH Conference Fellowship Programme – launched in 2018 by EUPHA and EUPHAnxt – offers students and young professionals an opportunity to participate at the conference with an active role. In 2022, EUPHAnxt received 26 applications from students, young professionals and professionals from Europe and abroad. The gender balance was once again in favour of women. Eight selected fellows are given the opportunity to work alongside the EUPHAnxt and the EPH conference teams to disseminate information about the conference through various communication platforms. The fellows also get the chance to have mentoring sessions with senior public health experts. The role of the selected fellows is to follow all sessions on a specific topic of their interest and report on these sessions in the form of short interviews with the speakers. In briefing sessions with the section president from the related topic, the fellows were informed about the ins and outs of the topic. Furthermore, the fellows contribute to the daily podcast named YUPT (Yesterday's Update, Plans for Tomorrow). This YUPT is made available every morning at the start of the conference day.

### *Mentoring programme*

In 2022, a new mentoring programme has been developed, which will be launched in 2023. Following two years of very limited opportunities for meaningful networking, EUPHAnxt pushed for improving this necessary aspect of professional lives, especially to young professionals. The goal of this programme is to link students and young professionals to mentors, who are themselves established public health professionals. It will be an opportunity for experts to share career advice and research-related activities, and for mentees to get to know the European Public Health field and its stakeholders.

## **Goal 5: Keep health a priority on the European and national agendas**

In 2022 with the support of the Operating Grant as of July, EUPHA continued to engage in a vast amount of advocacy activities at European level. The members of our Executive Council - particularly Iveta Nagyova (EUPHA president), Martin McKee (EUPHA past president) - and the presidents of the EUPHA sections and EUPHA office staff have really stepped up and have been representing EUPHA, providing the evidence for EUPHA statements and done all in their powers to make EUPHA visible at European level. This has resulted in a large number of statements, an e-collection, and active participation at key meetings. Below are some highlights of our advocacy work in 2022. For a full overview of all published advocacy, please see this [webpage](#).

### **Published advocacy**

*Statements led by or co-authored by EUPHA*

#### *EUPHA-ASPHER Joint statement: Join us in prioritising the investment in the next generation*

The European Union has made 2022 the European Year of Youth, emphasising the importance of enabling the next generation to take a leading role in building a better future – greener, healthier and more inclusive. Both EUPHA and ASPHER have committed to investing in these young public health professionals, including them fully in our networks. We have made investing in the next generation a priority for both our organisations in 2022.



### The Berlin Statement 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the strengths and the weaknesses of health care systems everywhere. Between the 9th and 12th November 2022, the public health community will convene in Berlin, at the 15th European Public Health Conference, to ask how we can learn the lessons and ensure that our systems are prepared for whatever the future may hold. The Berlin Statement calls on European leaders to show bold and visionary leadership to ensure that we will truly build back better while leaving no one behind.

### EUPHA at the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

EUPHA actively participated at the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe, which took place 12-14 September 2022 in Tel Aviv, Israel. Through the WHO Framework of Engagement with non-State Actors accredited organisations, like EUPHA, can attend and participate in the Regional Committee meetings.

In total EUPHA was involved in four joint statements:

- Agenda item 4 “European regional action framework for behavioural and cultural insights for health, 2022–2027”: a joint statement led by EUPHA and EuroHealthNet and co-signed by 11 other non-state actors. Available [here](#).
- Agenda item 6 "Strengthening health emergency preparedness, response and resilience: learning the lessons and building back better": a joint statement led by EUPHA and co-signed by 10 non-state actors. Available [here](#).
- Agenda item 3 “Regional digital health action plan for the WHO European Region”, available [here](#).
- Agenda item 10 "European Framework For Action On Alcohol 2022-25", available [here](#).

Furthermore, EUPHA submitted a video statement on agenda item 6 'Strengthening health emergency preparedness, response and resilience', presented by our Executive Director Dr. Marieke Verschuuren. The video is available [here](#).

### Joint statement - Operating Grants for health NGOs

EUPHA and 14 other health organisations call on the European Commission to include Operating Grants as a financing mechanism to provide a strong foundation for the contribution of health NGOs as part of the 2023 Work Programme and beyond.

### EUPHA statement on reproductive rights are human rights

EUPHA reaffirms its position and stands in solidarity with women all over the world. We call to action our colleagues in other professional associations, in civil society, and in international and national bodies, to join their voices to ours and support women in claiming their fundamental rights and our colleagues who work to safeguard the reproductive rights of women and girls wherever they live.

### Call to protect children from the marketing of nutritionally poor food: Time for an effective regulatory framework

The EU has recognised the marketing of unhealthy food as a major public health concern for over 15 years – ever since its 2005 Obesity Prevention Green Paper. More recently, the EU has also acknowledged that the marketing of unhealthy food has significant implications for children’s rights. Together with 16 other organisations, EUPHA is convinced that legislative reforms must be driven by evidence, not by an unsubstantiated belief in self-regulation.

### *Joint Statement to the Special session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe on Ukraine*

We express our deep concern about the devastating impact of the war in Ukraine on people's physical and mental health in this joint statement with EPHA, ASPHER and WFPHA. The statement addresses the lasting impacts on healthcare and public health, and concerns about the widening of health inequalities. We welcome the resolution EUR/RCSS/CONF./2 Rev.2 that was adopted at the Special Sessions of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe on 10 May 2022.

### *Health is at stake in the Ukraine invasion*

EUPHA unreservedly condemns the invasion of Ukraine by armed forces. As a public health organisation, it notes that the invasion poses important threats to health in the immediate future and the longer term. EUPHA stands in solidarity with its member associations in countries that may also face future threats from external aggression, and especially those in the Baltic states. Two EUPHA sections also produced statements:

- [EUPHA Law and Public Health](#) statement
- [EUPHA Child and Adolescent Public Health](#) statement

### *European Public Health Week 2022 - EUPHA and partners urge governments to provide strong leadership to build back better*

The COVID-19 pandemic is showing us that a healthy population is essential. What we need now more than ever before is strong leadership in health and public health. This year's edition of the European Public Health Week brings together public health professionals and those interested in health to highlight the importance of improving health throughout the life course of all people living in Europe.

### *EHMA - EUPHA Statement on Strengthening EU's competitiveness in health*

EUPHA and EHMA welcome the study on 'EU'S PATH TO COMPETITIVENESS: How Digital, Energy and Health can lead the Way Forward' (I-Com), presented in a digital symposium on 11 January 2022 by the Institute of Competitiveness. In this statement, our organisations highlight the points that need to be taken into account if we want these initiatives to succeed.

### *Statements endorsed by EUPHA*

#### *Coalition for Vaccination issued a statement on childhood vaccination*

The Coalition for Vaccination issued a statement on childhood vaccination. In the statement European healthcare professionals underline the importance of routine vaccination. Read the statement [here](#). EUPHA is an associated organisation of this Coalition, as such EUPHA actively supports the vision of Coalition for Vaccination and shares its values.

#### *EUPHA signs letter from the health community calling for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty*

With this letter, the health community joins academics, scientists, Nobel laureates, cities, faith leaders and young people in calling for a treaty to stop fossil fuels. The health letter builds directly on the call in the Healthy Climate Prescription letter to "deliver a rapid and just transition away from fossil fuels", which EUPHA signed in September 2021.

#### *Joint call to MEPs to protect the strength of the BECA report during plenary vote*

In a joint letter initiated by the European Chronic Disease Alliance and supported by EUPHA, organisations express their continued support to the report of the special committee on

“Strengthening Europe in the fight against cancer” and ask MEPs to adopt it without compromising its content.

### **E-collection to the EJPH**

An e-collection provides an overview of the evidence on a specific public health topic. The e-collection reflects on previously published articles in the European Journal of Public Health through a newly written editorial. The editorial is written to engage policymakers and decision makers. An e-collection can be provided rather quickly (within 4-8 weeks) and is a great tool to make the evidence-base available to a wider audience. In 2022, in relation to the Czech EU Presidency (see under goal 1), EUPHA published an e-collection on health and health care for migrants and refugees. This e-collection was elaborated by our Czech member, the Czech Society of Social Medicine and Health Care Management and the EUPHA section on Migrant and ethnic minority health. For an overview of all e-collections, see [this webpage](#) on the Journal's website.

### **Advocating for public health in European meetings**

Throughout the year EUPHA had high-level meetings with both EU and WHO/Euro on variety of public health topics, including:

#### *EUPHA at the 72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe*

EUPHA had the opportunity to deliver statements at the 72st WHO Regional Committee for Europe meeting, held on 12-14 September 2022, relating to several agenda items (listed above under *statements led by or co-wrote by EUPHA*). In total, EUPHA led and endorsed 4 statements, and our Executive Director Marieke Verschuuren delivered two oral statements.

#### *EUPHA's meeting with Andrzej Rys, Director of DG SANTE Unit B*

On 19 May, our Deputy Director Maaïke Droogers and Policy Officer Marie Guichardon met with Andrzej Rys, Director of the European Commission's Directorate on Health systems, medical products and innovation, and Maya Matthews, Head of Unit B1 on Performance of national health systems. This meeting was the opportunity to present the Rapid Response Team and provide concrete examples of how EUPHA could support the Commission by providing evidence. Director Rys expressed his gratitude to the public health researchers, and encouraged all of us to continue to provide strong evidence that can support EU health policies, especially on the topics of tobacco consumption, nicotine and digital health.

#### *Meeting with WHO/Europe and Non-State Actors on the topic of NCDs and Cancer*

On 17 May, EUPHA Policy Officer Marie Guichardon attended, on behalf of EUPHA and EUPHA Chronic Diseases section, a meeting organized by the WHO representation to the EU and the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The WHO provided an update on World Health Assembly 75, presented the WHO Programme of Work in Cancer followed by the WHO EURO Programme of work in cancer, then invited NSAs to share impulse statements. EUPHA raised the issue of obesity, expressed the need to integrate social and environmental determinants of health in NCD public health policies, the need to shape public health initiatives addressing chronic disease prevention and management from a health equity lens, and highlighted the untapped opportunities for universal prevention strategies in the general population, which can address common behavioural risk factors for a number of chronic diseases.

#### *WHO/Europe NCD Advisory Council meeting*

Many EUPHA sections – represented either by the section president, vice-president, or a steering committee member – participated in the WHO/Europe NCD Advisory Council meeting

which was held on 9 November in Berlin. This meeting provided a platform to identify synergies and find opportunities to leverage the capacity of the EUPHA network to further engage in the WHO NCD agenda.

#### *EUPHA and EUPHA-LAW's meeting with Commissioner Kyriakides' cabinet staff – Food and Alcohol labelling*

Following up on EUPHA's response to the public consultation on Food and Alcohol labelling, EUPHA and the EUPHA Law and Public Health section president and vice-president met with Commissioner Kyriakides cabinet staff on 23 March 2022.

#### **EUPHA representation in European meetings and groups**

The visibility of EUPHA as a solid partner with a research background has been strengthened. EUPHA continues to build the capacity and knowledge of policy-oriented organisations and has an official seat in:

- EC eHealth Stakeholder Group (EUPHA Digital health section president Anna Odone)
- WHO Technical Advisory Group on Behavioural Insights and Sciences for Health (EUPHA president Iveta Nagyova)
- EU Expert panel on effective ways of investing in health (EUPHA past president Martin McKee)
- WFPHA General Assembly (Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA Executive Director)
- Advisory forum to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), (Aura Timen – EUPHA-IDC)
- WHO European Regional Committee meeting, as accredited non-state actor.
- European Climate Pact Ambassador (EUPHA-ENV section president, Marija Jevtic).
- EU-HTA net (health technology assessment) on Stakeholder involvement (EUPHA Health technology assessment section president Carlo Favaretti);
- EU Health Policy Platform (EUPHA policy officer Marie Guichardon and EUPHA deputy director Maaïke Droogers);
- European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) (EUPHA Health technology assessment section (EUPHA-HTA))
- Global AMR R&D Hub, an initiative to tackle the threat of resistant pathogens designed to make the use of international resources even more effective (EUPHA Infections disease control section (EUPHA-IDC))
- European Commission's Coalition of Vaccination (EUPHA Infectious diseases control section president Michael Edelstein (EUPHA-IDC))
- HERA Advisory Board (Ricardo Mexia, EUPHA Infectious Diseases Control President)
- EMA Policy Officers Group of eligible organisations (Elena Petelos, EUPHA Health technology assessment section and Maaïke Droogers, EUPHA deputy director)
- AMR Stakeholder Network (Elena Petelos, EUPHA Health technology assessment section)

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many meetings were once again held in-person. The EUPHA office staff and appointed representatives once more attended many events and raised the voice of public health professionals, including:

- EU's path to competitiveness: the way forward (then EUPHA Executive Director Dineke Zeegers Paget) – 11 January
- WHO Regional framework for 'behavioural and cultural insights - First joint meeting (EUPHA President, Iveta Nagyova) – 14 January
- WHO members state meeting - 'behavioural and cultural insights' (EUPHA President Iveta Nagyova) – 20 January

- Panel discussion: Locking in the advantages of digital innovation in healthcare delivery and public health: digitalisation as an instrument for creating resilient health systems (EUPHA Digital Health President Anna Odone) – 8 February
- European Health Union – not wishful thinking, but a reflection of Europeans' real concerns (EUPHA Policy Officer Marie Guichardon) – 21 February
- Planetary Health European Hub (EUPHA Environment and Health President Marija Jevtic) – 24 February
- Regional technical consultation on the draft Implementation framework to reduce alcohol consumption in the WHO European Region, 2022–2025. (EUPHA Deputy Director Maaïke Droogers) – 15 March
- Stakeholder meeting DigiCare4You (then EUPHA Executive Director Dineke Zeegers Paget) – 21 March
- Advancing care in non-communicable diseases and particularly, how the optimal use of biosimilar medicines (off patent biologic medicines) (EUPHA President Iveta Nagyova) – 28 April
- World Conference van de International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association – seminar (EUPHA Sexual and Gender Minorities Health President and Vice-President, Richard Branstrom, Arjan van der Star) – 2-6 May
- WHO Regional Committee for Europe Special session (EUPHA Deputy Director Maaïke Droogers) – 10 May
- The creation of national health data hubs: what lessons can be learned? (EUPHA Deputy Director Maaïke Droogers) – 11 May
- Congress of the Slovenian Preventive Medicine Section of the Slovenian Medical Society - opening address (EUPHA President Iveta Nagyova) – 12 May
- WHO Europe Stakeholder Meeting on NCDs (EUPHA Policy officer Marie Guichardon) – 17 May
- European Commission – Meeting with Andrej Rys and Maya Matthews (EUPHA Deputy Director and Policy Officer Maaïke Droogers and Marie Guichardon) – 19 May
- International Behavioural Trials Network (IBTN) 2022 conference, plenary opening (EUPHA President Iveta Nagyova) – 19 May
- Health Promotion - Is it on the Occupational Therapy agenda? (then EUPHA Executive Director Dineke Zeegers Paget) – 24 May
- ASPHER-WHO/EURO Task Force on Professionalising the Public Health Workforce (EUPHA Health Workforce Research section president Ellen Kuhlmann) – 31 May
- ONE Conference (EUPHA Policy officer Marie Guichardon) – 21-24 June
- Presentation Event Healthier Together - The EU NCD Initiative (EUPHA Chronic Diseases Steering Committee member Sarah Cuschieri) – 22 June
- Improving Health Literacy in the Community for the Next Pandemic (EUPHA Health Promotion section Vice-President Orkan Okan) – 7 July
- WHO RC72 (EUPHA President, Executive Director, Deputy Director: Iveta Nagyova, Marieke Verschuuren, Maaïke Droogers) – 11-14 September 2022
- Faculty of Public Health Climate and Health Conference (EUPHA Environment and Health section President Marija Jevtic) – 22 September
- European Health Forum Gastein (EUPHA Executive Director and Policy Officer Marieke Verschuuren and Marie Guichardon) – 26-29 September
- 2022 Biosimilar medicines conference (BIOS22) (President of the EUPHA Public Health Economics section Joao Vasco Santos) – 6-7 October
- Public Hearing: Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health draft opinion on post-COVID-19 condition (Sarah Cuschieri, EUPHA Chronic Diseases section) – 18 October 2022
- SIP Annual Stakeholder Forum (EUPHA Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion section President Maria Papadakaki) – 31 October

- 14th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (EUPHA Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion section President Maria Papadakaki) – 27-30 November
- Health Innovation Summit – reimagining health systems: green, agile and citizen-centred (EUPHA Policy Officer Marie Guichardon) – 29 November

### Website and social media

The EUPHA website continues to be an excellent visibility tool for EUPHA. Due to the increase in advocacy, the average number (January-September) of hits increased to 346,592 per month (2021: 331,592).

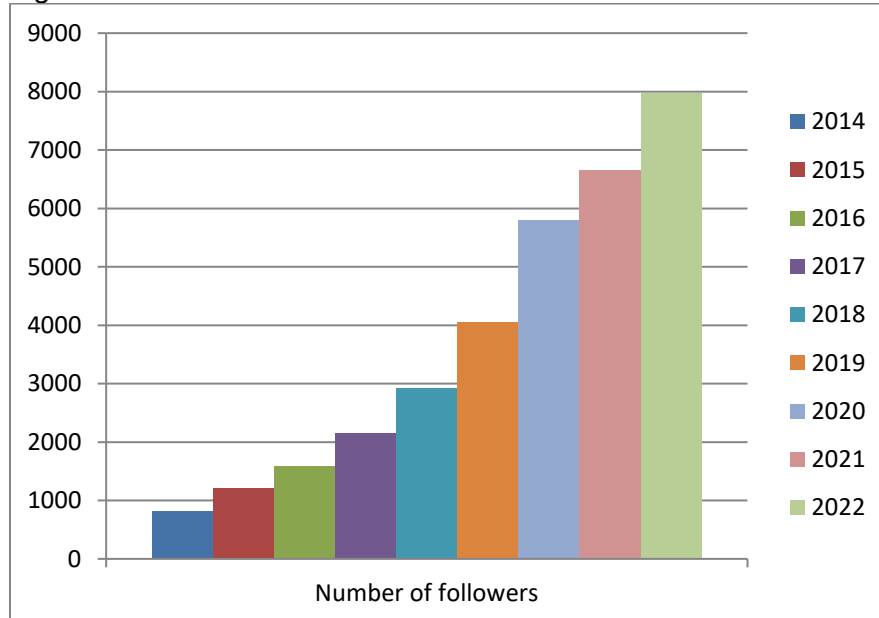
The EUPHA members resources module in the website is now active and will soon be updated with the recording of several webinars. Those webinars were organised by EPH applicants whose abstracts had a score that was just below the cut-off point for acceptance for the conference programme, but that were still of very good quality and relevant to EUPHA members.

#### Twitter



The EUPHA twitter account (@EUPHActs) is available on the EUPHA website home page and is the main social media tool for advocacy and dissemination. During the European Public Health Week and the Conference, twitter has been used intensely (#EUPHW2022 and #EUPHAatEPH2022). The number of followers has increased significantly over the years (see Figure 1). In October 2022 the @EUPHActs twitter account had 7,972 followers.

Figure 1: Overview of Twitter followers 2014-2022\*



\* All numbers represent the numbers of followers in October of the concerned year

An overview of EUPHA sections with Twitter accounts is provided below in table 1.

Table 1: EUPHA section's Twitter accounts with numbers of followers in 2021 and 2022

Name of the section	Official acronym	Twitter Account	Followers 2021	Followers 2022
Child and adolescent public health section	EUPHA-CAPH	<a href="#">@CaphEupha</a>	110	164
Digital health	EUPHA-DH	<a href="#">@euphadh</a>	300	380
Environment and Health	EUPHA-ENV	<a href="#">@EUPHA_ENV</a>	62	107
Food and Nutrition	EUPHA-FN	<a href="#">@EUPHA_FN</a>	42	57
Health Workforce Research	EUPHA-HWR	<a href="#">@EUPHA_HWR</a> )	201	244
Health Promotion	EUPHA-HP	<a href="#">@EUPHA_HPS</a>	479	525
Health technology Assessment	EUPHA-HTA	<a href="#">@EUPHA_HTA</a>	584	652
Health Services Research	EUPHA-HSR	<a href="#">@hsr_europe</a>	473	482
Infectious Disease Control	EUPHA-IDC	<a href="#">@Euphaidc</a>	651	839
Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion	EUPHA-INJ	<a href="#">@Euphainjury</a>	34	47
Law and public health	EUPHA -LAW	<a href="#">@EUPHA_LAW</a>		46*
Oral health	EUPHA-OH	<a href="#">@euphaOH</a>	143	161
Public Health Monitoring and Reporting	EUPHA-PHMR	<a href="#">@PHMRsection</a>	721	790
Public Health Policy and Politics	EUPHA-PHPP	<a href="#">@EPH_PHPPsection</a>	745	783
Sexual and Gender Minority Health	EUPHA-SGMH	<a href="#">@EUPHA_SGMH</a>	317	438
Urban Public Health	EUPHA_URB	<a href="#">@EUPHA_UPH</a>	137	166

\* Established in October 2022

All sections can be found in this [Twitter list](#).

#### *Facebook & LinkedIn*

The EUPHA Facebook and LinkedIn page aren't used as extensively as the Twitter account. However, high-level announcements are distributed via Facebook and LinkedIn and the number of followers has increased since 2021. On LinkedIn EUPHA now has 4,800 followers (2,549 followers in 2021) and on Facebook we have 3,400 followers (3,318 followers in 2021).

#### *EUPHA newsletter*

The EUPHA newsletter aims to build the knowledge of public health professionals worldwide and to increase the visibility of EUPHA as an association that builds capacity, knowledge and



policy in the field of public health, with an emphasis on the European Region. The newsletter is published monthly, free of charge and available to all those with an interest in public health.

With 30,300 subscribers in October 2022 (27,916 subscribers in October 2021) from 175 countries worldwide, the newsletter continues to be one of the most visible and highly appreciated tools of EUPHA. EUPHA actively invites members and partners to further distribute the newsletter by announcing its publication in their tools as well as encourages them to make the EUPHA newsletter available on their website. This year, we have been more active in sharing the newsletter on our social media, and encouraging more people to subscribe.

## Goal 6: Strengthening public health research in Europe

EUPHA has three very successful tools for providing the evidence base: the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH), the EUPHA sections and the European Public Health Conference (EPH).

### The European Journal of Public Health



The EJPH is a fully Open Access multidisciplinary journal in the field of public health, publishing contributions from social medicine, epidemiology, health services research, management, ethics and law, health economics, social sciences, and environmental health. The EJPH is published bimonthly. The journal provides a forum for discussion and debate of current international public health issues with a focus on the European region. The journal is also part of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

#### *Brief statistics on manuscripts*

The number of original manuscripts received have so far continued to decrease from the peak in 2020, while the percentage of manuscripts accepted for publication is increasing. The impact factor increased to 4.424 in 2022 from 3.367 in 2021 (Table 2). Although this substantial increase is partly due to a change in method for establishing the impact factor, it has still increased above some other European public health journals, so this is an important step forward. The five-year impact factor increased slightly from 4.011 to 4.238.

*Table 2: Overview of EJPH's statistics*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Jan- Aug 2022
Manuscripts received*	861	932	893	959	901	950	1047	974	1511	1058	395**
% accepted	19%	17%	21%	20%	21%	21%	21%	19%	12%	14%	24%
Manuscripts published	176	186	185	195	180	181	192	195	194***	203***	95
Impact factor	2.516	2.459	2.591	2.751	2.431	2.782	2.459	2.234	2.391	3.367	4.424

\*The number of submissions decreased substantially in 2022 as a result of the Journal flipping to Open Access mid-2021

\*\*Including original manuscripts (366), commentaries (20), editorials (6) and viewpoints (3).

\*\*\*Original manuscripts including short reports and systematic reviews

In the four issues published in 2022 so far, 95 original manuscripts, 6 editorials, and 5 commentaries were published. Each of the four issues also had a section with European public health news from EUPHA and partner organizations.

In 2022 so far (October), manuscripts have been submitted from 54 countries from all continents. The highest number of submissions with a decision were received from China (57), France (37), the United Kingdom (34), Germany (30), Italy (27), the Netherlands (26), Sweden (20), Spain (12), Denmark (18) and Finland (17). The highest number of accepted papers originated from the United Kingdom (28), Denmark (16), Finland (14), Italy (13), the Netherlands (13), Germany (12), Spain (12), France (9), Sweden (9), Ireland (8), and Portugal (8).

### *Supplements*

In 2022, one supplement related to EUPHA activities was published, i.e. the 2022 European Public Health Conference Supplement.

### *Partners*

Our partners in the organisation of the EJPH are:

- Oxford University Press, the publisher of the journal and;
- Department of Public Health Sciences at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, where the editorial office is based.

### *Editorial Board*

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### EUPHA Sections

In order for EUPHA to be able to provide the evidence in a wide array of topics, EUPHA is using thematic networks called EUPHA sections. It is therefore essential that EUPHA sections are supported in all their activities. EUPHA sections are networks on specific public health topics (see table 3). In 2022, EUPHA has a total of 26 operational sections. The sections continue to have a large interest with number of section members rising for all sections.

*Table 3: Overview of EUPHA sections' membership in 2021 and 2022*

<b>EUPHA Section</b>	<b>2021 No. of members</b>	<b>2022 No. of members</b>
Child and adolescent public health – CAPH	3036	3361
Chronic diseases – CHR	2802	3086
Digital health – DH	928	1289
Environment-related health – ENV	2278	2618
Ethics in public health – ETH	2070	2317
Food and nutrition – FN	2156	2392
Foresight – FS	205	302
Health impact assessment – HIA	2134	2378
Health promotion – HP	4486	4970
Health services research – HSR	3408	3773
Health technology assessment – HTA	1315	1507
Health Workforce Research – HWR	849	1077
Infectious diseases control – IDC	2096	2362
Injury prevention and safety promotion – INJ	1071	1177
Law and public health – LAW	498	703

<b>EUPHA Section</b>	<b>2021 No. of members</b>	<b>2022 No. of members</b>
Migrant and ethnic minority health – MIG	2187	2417
Oral health – OH	205	297
Public health economics – ECO	2297	2551
Public health epidemiology – EPI	4693	5200
Public health genomics – PHG	790	888
Public health monitoring and reporting – PHMR	2600	2928
Public health policy and politics – PHPP	4055	4474
Public mental health – PMH	2405	2778
Sexual and gender minority health – SGMH	905	1120
Social security, work and health – SSWH	1711	1885
Urban public health – URB	2089	2304

All EUPHA sections are active at the European Public Health Conference (EPH Conference) with a total of 11 pre-conferences, 58 workshops, 7 skills building seminars, 26 ‘join the network’-meetings, and 1 plenary session. Next to being active at the EPH Conference, sections have been active throughout the year, for example through sending regular newsletters and other updates, organising events during the EUPHW, and writing statements (see under goal 5). In addition, the EUPHA Public Mental Health section co-organised the In and Out Conference, aimed at finding solutions to improve mental health services in Eastern Europe and elsewhere.

This is just a selection of the activities of our sections. For a full overview of all the activities of our sections, please see our dedicated webpages for the [EUPHA sections](#).

### European Public Health Conference

Since 2013, the separate foundation ‘EPH Conference’ is responsible for the organisation of the European Public Health Conferences at the initiative of EUPHA. EUPHA still provides the main input for these conferences, and collaboration has been set up with a large number of international NGOs and international organisations, including:

- EuroHealthNet
- ASPHER
- EHMA
- EPHA
- ECDC
- European Commission
- European Observatory
- WHO Europe



## **Berlin 2022**

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

9-12 November 2022

Co-organiser: Berlin School of Public Health

Co-chairs: Reinhard Busse and Verena Vogt

A record number of 2,371 abstracts have been submitted for the European Public Health Conference (EPH Conference) 2022 in Berlin.

The conference in Berlin was attended by a record number of 2544 delegates. Countries with highest participation were Germany (550 participants), Italy (282), United Kingdom (183), Netherlands (177), Sweden (114), and Belgium (113).

## **#EUPHAatEPH2022**

EUPHA is very active at the 2022 EPH conference. Sessions (co-)organised by EUPHA:

⚡ 11 Pre-conferences

✳️ A plenary

📄 58 workshops

👤 7 Skills building seminars

🤝 29 Join the network meetings

## **Dublin 2023**

Our food, Our Health, Our Earth: A Sustainable Future for Humanity

8-11 November 2023

Chair: Anthony Staines

## **Goal 7: Deliver the right evidence at the right time**

EUPHA has several tools to deliver the right evidence at the right time. Timing is of essence, in order for the presented evidence to have an impact.

### **EJPH tools**

The e-collection published in 2022 is linked to the agenda of the Czech Presidency of the European Council (see under goal 5). Furthermore, in the EJPH editorials and viewpoints were published on current public health issues and every issue of the EJPH contained the European public health news pages with the latest updates from key European public health actors e.g., ECDC, WHO Regional Office for Europe, and the European Commission.

### **Contributing to the evidence base through European projects**

In 2022, EUPHA was involved in a number of European projects and got engaged in two new ones; one from the EU4Health programme and one from Horizon Europe (research programme). These research projects focus on a variety of public health issues and receive (co-)funding from the European Union. For a full overview of the EUPHA projects see annex 2.

### **Rapid Response Team**

In order to be able to provide the evidence-base on a large number of public health topics in a short period of time, EUPHA created the Rapid Response Team in 2019. This network of 40 public health experts mainly linked to the EUPHA sections can be contacted when a journalist or policymaker contacts EUPHA to get a response on a question related to a certain topic. This

year, the rapid response team came into action several times. Some examples of the responses since January 2022 are:

- FoodNavigator interviewed EUPHA Food and Nutrition section President Giuseppe Grosso on food and nutrition for older generations – 7 February 2022
- Politico Europe interviewed EUPHA Environment and Health section vice-president Peter van der Hazel on indoor air pollution and health – 13 May 2022
- The Global Health Editor of the Financial Times interviewed EUPHA Infectious Disease Control president Ricardo Mexia on the public's attitudes towards public health interventions – 14 July

## Goal 8: Support the implementation of the SDGs and all policies for a healthy Europe

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) make the relationships between health and its wider determinants explicit and tangible. In a globalising world, EUPHA recognises the importance of global partners. To support All Policies for a Healthy Europe (the Health in All Policies approach), EUPHA has responded to numerous public consultations in 2022. Throughout the year, the European Commission opens public consultations on various topics. Some of them are directly labelled as 'Public Health' topics, while others focus for example on market regulations (e.g. pharmaceuticals) or on food safety. Some examples of consultations that EUPHA, with the help of various EUPHA sections, responded to:

- Evaluation of the legislative framework for tobacco control – EUPHA replied to the call for evidence
- Smoke free environments – EUPHA replied to the call for evidence
- European Health Data Space – EUPHA replied to the public consultation
- Food labelling - revision of rules on information provided to consumers for alcoholic beverages – EUPHA replied to the public consultation

We continued to contribute to global public health, specifically in the collaboration with ASPHER regarding climate and health. EUPHA also engaged more largely in the issue of ONE health, notably with EUPHA Environment and Health section president Prof Marija Jevtic pursuing her activities as a Climate Pact Ambassador on behalf of EUPHA at the European Commission. Prof Jevtic also contributed to the Faculty of Public Health Climate & Health Conference in September 2022. The EUPHA Environment and Public Health section is organizing a workshop at the EPH2022 entitled *Is (Planetary) health a priority in international deals?*

## Outlook 2023 – Expanding and consolidating our tools in support of our members

In 2022, we celebrated 30 years EUPHA. In 2023, we will build on the foundations laid and all the achievements reached in that period. A particular point of attention in our work will be supporting our members through expanding the EUPHA resources module. Previously, access to the EJPH was one of our main membership benefits, but after the Journal became fully Open Access in 2021, the resources module was developed as a new benefit for EUPHA

members. In this password-protected segment of the EUPHA website, members can access skills and capacity building tools and materials. In 2023, we will engage with our members in order to develop content for the resources module that really matches our members' questions and needs.

Another specific point of attention will be to strengthen the impact of EUPHA's satellite office in Brussels. This satellite office was established just before the COVID-19 pandemic broke out. Obviously, it has been difficult to develop our presence in Brussel during the past two years. This situation has changed now that most restrictions have been lifted in the beginning of this year and in-person events are possible again. We will therefore pay specific attention to setting specific goals for the Brussels office related to collaboration with partners and active tracking of important policy dossiers, thereby increasing our visibility as well as the impact of our evidence-informed advocacy.

In autumn 2022, EUPHA intensified its presence in European projects, with an active role in two projects from the EU4Health programme, including one as a Work Package leader. This represents a unique opportunity to connect our members with the wider public health community and beyond. In 2023, we anticipate to have expanded the EUPHA team with a project officer to support us with these project related activities (recruitment process ongoing at the time of writing).

EUPHA keeps on going strong with an expanding scope of partners and activities and a consequential expansion of office staff. Although EUPHA has managed to successfully diversify its sources of income, to keep up the current level of work, new income sources would need to be secured. Currently, we receive a much valued Operating Grant from the European Commission, which runs from July 2022 - June 2023. Recently, the Commission announced that also in 2023 they intend to publish calls for proposals for Operating Grants for NGOs in their work plan. We will of course try to obtain a new Operating Grant for 2023-2024 and based on the positive results so far with these Grants, have good hopes that we will succeed. However, even if this will be successful, this does not (yet) provide a longer term perspective, as the Commission has not made clear yet what will happen after 2023. We will therefore, together with the Executive Council, look into potential new income sources to ensure financial stability for EUPHA in the future.

We are looking forward to yet another exciting year full of EUPHA activities. All this would not be possible without our members, sections, young generation, partners and the EUPHA office team, and the leadership of the Executive Council. We thank everybody for their contributions to EUPHA and hope that we may also count on you in the coming year and beyond.

Iveta Nagyova, EUPHA president

Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA executive director

*October 2022*



## Annex 1: EUPHA Advisory committees and working groups

### *EUPHA Working group on health literacy*

Newly established in 2022, the EUPHA Health literacy working group. The Working Group aims to:

- Facilitate and promote the latest research, best practice examples and measures, training and education opportunities in academic and non-academic fields, and policy action related to health literacy.
- Endorse capacity building and sustainable development of the professional field of health literacy, including further literacy concepts relevant to health, and access to and use of health information by individuals.

### *EUPHA Past Presidents Committee*

All past presidents of EUPHA become lifelong members of the Past Presidents Committee (PPC). The Executive Council can request advice from the Past Presidents Committee, and can ask individual members to represent EUPHA in official situations. The Past Presidents Committee can decide, by a majority of votes, to invite other past members of the Executive Council to become members of the Council of Past Presidents. The members of this advisory group of EUPHA are:

- Prof Peter Allebeck, Sweden
- Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Malta
- Prof Marc Brodin, France
- Prof Rainer Fehr, Germany
- Prof Louise Gunning-Schepers, Netherlands
- Prof Richard Horst Noack, Austria
- Prof Ilmo Keskimäki, Finland
- Dr Johan Lund, Norway
- Ms Heidi Lyshol, Norway
- Dr Els Maeckelberghe, Netherlands
- Prof Julian Mamo, Malta
- Prof Martin McKee, United Kingdom
- Prof Klim Mcpherson, United Kingdom
- Prof Alena Petráková, Czechia
- Prof Walter Ricciardi, Italy
- Prof Gunnar Tellnes, Norway

- Prof John-Paul Vader, Switzerland
- Dr Viviane Van Casteren, Belgium
- Prof Heiko Waller, Germany

#### *EUPHA Pillars Leads:*

For the four pillars of public health – policy, practice, research and training – EUPHA has nominated Pillar Leads to advise EUPHA. In 2021, the task description is being clarified to organise more input from our pillars:

#### **Policy:**

Dr Marleen Bekker, Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands

#### **Research:**

Prof Alastair Leyland, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom

#### **Training and education:**

Klaus D. Pluemer, Independent Public Health & Health Promotion Consultant, Germany

N.B: In 2023, the Pillar Leads and the Past Presidents Committee will be replaced by a new EUPHA advisory Group.

#### *EUPHA Good EUPHA Practice Committee*

The Good EUPHA Practice Committee (GEP) is responsible for the implementation of the Good EUPHA Practice Code for Collaboration with partners and commercial contributors. The purpose of this code is to organise the relationship between EUPHA and partners and commercial enterprises and to provide an ethical and positive approach to cooperation and partnership. To fulfil its mission and its independence, EUPHA should continue to be mainly self-sustaining. However, securing resources from external sources to fully fulfil its mission must be considered. Members of the Good EUPHA Practice Committee are:

Dr Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA Executive Director

Prof Judith de Jong, NIVEL, Netherlands

Dr Els Maeckelberghe, Wenckebach Institute for Medical Education and Training - University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands

Prof Julian Mamo, Public Health Dept, University of Malta, Malta

Prof Aura Timen, RIVM, Cib\_LCI, Netherlands

Prof John-Paul Vader, Institute for Social & Preventive Medicine, Switzerland

Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA, Netherlands

#### *EUPHA Advisory Nominations Committee*

The Advisory Nominations Committee (ANC) is an ad-hoc advisory group to the Governing Board to search for the president, the treasurer or the secretary of the Executive Council.

The ANC consists of:

- Dr Guillaume Dedet, Société Française de Santé Publique, France
- Prof Alastair Leyland, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom

- Prof Martin McKee, The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom
- Prof Nicola Nante, University of Siena, Italy
- Dr Marius-Ionut Ungureanu, Department of Public Health of the Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania
- Dr Marieke Verschuuren, EUPHA, Netherlands
- Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA, Netherlands

### *Green Club*

EUPHA has established a working group of environmental experts and environment-conscious colleagues to advise both EUPHA and the EPH Conference Foundation in their efforts to reduce the environmental impact of each conference. The Green Club is intended to advise the organisers of the annual EPH Conferences on how to decrease the impact on the environment, using the European Commission's guidelines on organising sustainable meetings and events as well as the WHO's guide for healthy and sustainable meetings as inspiration. Members of the Green Club are currently:

Dr Ivan Erzen, National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia  
 Prof Marija Jevtic, University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine, Serbia  
 Prof Julian Mamo, Public Health Dept, University of Malta, Malta  
 Dr Odile Mekel, NRW Centre for Health, Germany  
 Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA, Netherlands

### *Working Group on Serious Gaming*

This working group on serious gaming is set up within EUPHA to guide the development of a serious game for public health professionals at European level in order to support EUPHA members with skills training, including collaboration amongst public health professionals, and with those outside the traditional field of public health (e.g. urban planners, occupational therapists). There are numerous possibilities for serious games, ranging from physical board games to online videogames and escapes rooms. In 2022, the working group decided to shift its objectives, as it became clear that we did not have the internal resources to build a game ourselves. Rather, the group will organise a series of skills-building videos in collaboration with experts, to support members who would like to build their own game. This project will kick-off in Berlin 2022, with a session at the EPH Conference.

Current members of the Working Group on Serious Gaming are:

Dineke Zeegers Paget – EUPHA strategic advisor (chair)  
 Marie Guichardon – EUPHA Policy Officer (co-chair)  
 Jan Jansen – Public Health Advisor, freelance EUPHA-adviser (co-chair)  
 Iveta Nagyova – EUPHA President  
 Thomas Dorner – EUPHA Treasurer  
 Torsten Bollweg, University of Bielefeld  
 Monica Brinzac, EUPHANxt representative  
 Luis Saboga-Nunes – EUPHA Health promotion section president

### *EUPHA Working Group on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment*

On International Women's Day 2021, EUPHA announced the formation of a new Working Group on Gender Equality and on Women's Empowerment. This Working Group will focus on capturing the perspectives of all EUPHA Sections to comprehensively map the needs, the priorities and key actioning areas in European and global public health in order to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls and meet Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG5) of the United Nations. In 2022, the working group is organising a round table at the EPH Conference: *Breaking the barriers: gender equality and women empowerment in public health practice*. Together with EUPHA, the working group has also published a [statement on reproductive rights](#).

Members of the Working Group on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment are currently:

Monica Brînzac, Cluj School of Public Health, Romania

Prof Kasia Czabanowska, Maastricht University, Netherlands

Dr Lorena Dini, Charité Univesitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany

Marie Guichardon, EUPHA, Netherlands

Dr Ellen Kuhlmann, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Germany

Dr Maria Papadakaki, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

Dr Elena Petelos, CSFM & HSR-PH Lab, Faculty of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece

Ms Isabel Yordi Aguirre, Division of Country Health Policies and Systems WHO Regional Office for Europe, Italy

Dr Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA, Netherlands

## Annex 2: Projects

In 2022, EUPHA continued to be contacted by a large number of institutions and universities to be a partner in European projects. These are our current projects and projects completed in the past year.

### *PROPHET*

The PROPHET Project is one of the two projects that kicked-off in 2022. It is funded from the Horizon Europe Programme. The project aims to engage organisations and individuals to contribute to the construction of a Strategic Research Innovation Agenda (SRIA) to adopt Personalised Prevention approaches into EU health systems. The coming four years EUPHA will lead various tasks within the project and contribute to the SRIA, stakeholder forum, capacity building for health professionals, and communication and dissemination activities.



### *EHDS2 Pilot project*

The EHDS2 Pilot project is the second project joined by EUPHA in 2022. This is a project that is funded through the EU4Health Programme. It aims to set up concrete foundations for the future so-called European Health Data Space. The consortium will be developing a network of data sources platforms, called nodes, by connecting the national platforms of participating countries, and it will evaluate the feasibility, interest and the capacity to deploy such an infrastructure throughout the EU. The new infrastructure will be put to the test through concrete research use cases. The goal is to demonstrate the potential of transnational reuse of health data for research, innovation, development of regulations and policies and, ultimately, personalised healthcare. EUPHA is leading the work package on communication and dissemination.



### *ExACT: European network staff eXchange for integrAting precision health in the health Care sysTems*

ExACT started early 2019. The exchange project aims to build a community of academic and non-academic entities that generates high quality, multidisciplinary collaboration through exchanging knowledge in research and training activities on precision health. By building up on the PRECeDI Consortium it will include other relevant sectors in order to strengthen and broaden the research and training activities of the existing network and reinforce the international and intersectoral cooperation. By sharing knowledge, building synergies and expertise and encouraging an exchange of best practice among top-level institutions, it will give impetus to the translational efforts necessary to implement precision health into the EU health care systems. The ExACT project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme MSCA-RISE-2017 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE). In 2022, the exchanges via ExACT re-started, and EUPHA hosted two secondees.



### *WhoIEUGrain – A European Action on Whole Grain Partnerships*

The European Action on Whole Grain Partnership started in 2019 and aims to increase the population's whole grain consumption by transferring Danish experiences with a national Whole Grain Partnership to other European countries. The purpose of WhoIEUGrain is to promote good health through healthy diets, prevent diseases, reduce health inequalities and to establish supportive environments for healthy lifestyles by developing country-based whole grain partnerships. EUPHA conducted the external evaluation of WhoIEUGrain and it is funded by the European Union's 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Programme.

*RIVER-EU – Reducing barriers to vaccine uptake in underserved communities*

To improve equitable vaccine uptake in underserved communities, a new European research initiative has launched in 2021. RIVER-EU (“Reducing Inequalities in Vaccine uptake in the European Region – Engaging Underserved communities”) is a 5-year (2021-2026) project coordinated by the University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG) and funded by the Horizon 2020 Research Programme. Using an interdisciplinary approach, RIVER-EU will collect evidence on health system determinants of high and low vaccine uptake in eight specific contexts, which will be used to identify and/or develop interventions to reduce barriers to vaccine uptake in underserved communities and increase trust in the health system.



*Operating Grant of the European Union*

Halfway through the year, EUPHA received a one-year Operating Grant via the EU4Health programme, implemented by the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Operating grants are awarded to non-governmental bodies that pursue one or more of the specific objectives of the EU Health Programme. The Operating Grant has allowed EUPHA to further develop its tools to reach our members and influence European public health.