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## 4th PHMR Newsletter

### EUPHA Section on Public Health Monitoring and Reporting

October/November 2016

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#### News from Europe

##### State of Health in the EU

The *State of Health in the EU* initiative is a collaboration of the European Commission, the OECD, and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. The *State of Health in the EU* initiative aims to strengthen country-specific and EU-wide knowledge on health and to support member states in evidence-based policy making.

It includes (1) a new edition of the *Health at a Glance: Europe* report (see also the news item below), (2) *Country Health Profiles* for each member state, a (3) *Commission Paper* that links the results of the report and the profiles to the EU agenda and that emphasizes cross-cutting policy implications, and (4) the possibility for member states to discuss the results and potential implications and request for voluntary exchange with representatives of the EC, OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (see figure below).



Source: European Commission, DG SANTÉ, [http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/summary/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/summary/index_en.htm)

##### **More information:**

Summary: [http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/summary/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/summary/index_en.htm)

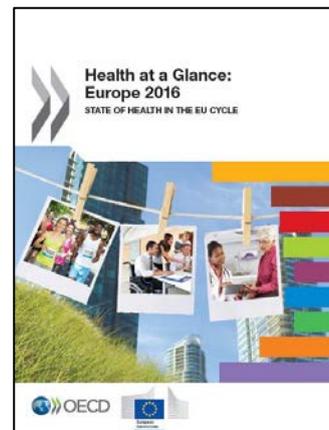
Infosheet: [http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/docs/2016\\_factsheet\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/state/docs/2016_factsheet_en.pdf)

Commissioner Andriukaitis on *State of Health in the EU*: [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health\\_food-safety/dyna/enews/enews.cfm?al\\_id=1696](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/dyna/enews/enews.cfm?al_id=1696)

## **Release of Health at a Glance: Europe 2016 – State of Health in the EU Cycle (23 November)**

By Gaetan Lafortune, OECD

The new edition of *Health at a Glance: Europe 2016 – State of Health in the EU Cycle* will be released on 23 November 2016 during a press conference in Brussels with EC Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis and OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría. This new edition, which continues to be based largely on the ECHI indicators, contains a number of new features. Two thematic chapters analyse: 1) the links between population health and labour market outcomes; and 2) the challenge of strengthening primary care systems in European countries. In addition, a new chapter on the resilience, efficiency and sustainability of health systems in Europe aligns the content of this publication more closely with the [2014 European Commission Communication on effective, accessible and resilient health systems](#).



This publication is the result of a renewed collaboration between the OECD and the EC under the broader “State of Health in the EU” cycle which is designed to support EU member states in their evidence-based policy making.

### **BRIDGE Health**

By Petronille Bogaert, BRIDGE Health, Scientific Institute of Public Health (WIV-ISP)

The BRIDGE Health project (BRIdging Information and Data Generation for Evidence-based Health policy and research), that aims to prepare the transition towards a sustainable and integrated EU health information system, was introduced by Petronille Bogaert and Herman van Oyen in the past PHMR section newsletter. In the meantime the project has delivered a Concept Paper which will be circulated in December 2016. The Concept Paper presents the BRIDGE Health analysis of the current situation and the possibilities for creating an organisational entity that could take up some of the support tasks that come with the need for strengthening the EU health information system to support research and evidence-based policy for the EU and Member States. Using multi-criteria analysis, the advantages, disadvantages and short-term feasibility were investigated.

This analysis concluded that a European Research Infrastructure Consortium on Health Information for Research and Evidence-based Policy (HIREP-ERIC) is at this time the most feasible option. This to set important steps in the right direction and fulfil some of the most important criteria for an effective organisation around the scientific underpinning of health policy and research by new and better evidence from more and better comparable data.

BRIDGE Health is working with and within DG SANTÉ’s Drafting Group of the ERIC on Health Information on the technical and scientific description of the HIREP-ERIC and the legal statutes. Some of the main results of the HIREP-ERIC will be presented on **20 April 2017**. BRIDGE Health is organising jointly with the Belgian Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment a one day strategic policy meeting entitled **“The Strategy for Health Information of the European Union”**. **SAVE THIS DATE** in your agendas as you will have the opportunity to give your feedback on the HIREP-ERIC!

**More information:** <http://www.bridge-health.eu/>

## **Update: European Health Information Survey**

By Marleen Desmedt, Eurostat

Eurostat has now disseminated six datasets based on European Health Interview (not Health Information!) Survey (EHIS) wave 2 data (wave 2 was conducted between 2013 and 2015). Please note that this first dissemination covers only 26 Member States as Italy and Ireland will provide the micro-data file later on. This is the first step in the dissemination of EHIS wave 2 data. By the end of the current year all other datasets as well as data from the two currently missing Member States, Iceland, Norway (both countries will also soon transmit the data file to Eurostat) and Turkey (file already available in Eurostat but not yet validated) will be online. The previous datasets with EHIS wave 1 data (wave 1 conducted between 2006 and 2009) are now placed under 'historical data' and will be merged with EHIS wave 2 datasets later on (whenever possible).

### **More information:**

Link: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/health/health-status-determinants/data/database>

## **European Health Forum Gastein (2016) – Workshop: Capturing Change**

By Claudia Stein, WHO Europe

A workshop organized by WHO Europe at the recent European Health Forum Gastein brought together a high-level panel to discuss the challenges and potential solutions for health information in Europe today. The panel included the minister of health of Malta, the Rt Hon Christopher Fearn, the deputy director of the Federal Research Institute of the Russian Federation, Dr Anna Korotkova, the managing director of EuroHealthNet, Ms Caroline Costongs, the Senior



Project Lead on Health Indicators of OECD, Prof Niek Klazinga and Dr Claudia Stein, Director of the Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation at the WHO Regional Office for Europe. All panel members and many participants stressed the importance of networks – national, regional and sub-regional - as an important catalyst for strengthening coordination in the area of health information. They called for increased harmonization of health information in Europe and stressed the importance of working towards a single integrated health information system for the whole WHO European Region. They also called on WHO, OECD and the European Commission to work more closely together, using the European Health Information Initiative as the platform for this collaboration.

### **More information:**

Website: <http://www.ehfg.org/detailevent1.html?eid=154>

Webcast:

<http://webcasting.streamdis.eu/Mediasite/Play/6ea8d201ccff41ddacaa78b3e5f6296d1d?catalog=4953800d-b872-4fae-b3ca-89831945cc52>

### **European Burden of Disease Network**

Information on the network can be found in the [BMJ Blog](#) written by Claudia Stein.

The European Burden of Disease Network was established under the WHO Europe's European Health Information Initiative.

### **General Data Protection Regulation [2016/679]**

The General Data Protection Regulation was agreed on in April 2016. It will take effect from May 2018. EUPHA signed a joint statement on implementing the General Data Protection Regulation. The EU-wide statement is hosted on the [Science Europe website](#), and the UK statement is on [Wellcome's](#).

#### **More information:**

<https://wellcome.ac.uk/what-we-do/our-work/our-policy-work-data-protection-regulation>

## **PHMR Section News – PHMR activities during the EPHC 2016 in Vienna**

### **Pre-conference**

#### **Strengthening health information systems through cross-country learning and collaboration**

Organizer: EUPHA section on Public Health Monitoring and Reporting (PHMR), BRIDGE Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe and OECD.

The pre-conference is organized in two half day sessions: Wednesday 9 November 2016, 13:30-17:00 and Thursday 10 November 2016, 8:30-12:15.

On Wednesday we will focus on national health information systems. We aim

- to discuss factors for strengthening health information systems and their governance.
- to improve capacities for the assessment of health information systems and the development of a health information strategy.
- to support the exchange of experiences with and knowledge about the organization and governance mechanisms of health information systems.

On Thursday components of international health information systems of the European Commission, the OECD and WHO Europe are under focus. The pre-conference ends with a presentation of the road map for the operationalization of an EU health information system and a joint discussion. We aim

- to improve knowledge about international health information systems of the European Commission, OECD, and WHO-EURO and their governance.
- to discuss (1) a EU health information strategy and its links with other international health information activities and (2) a road map to operationalize the strategic plan for EU health information.

**More information:** <https://ephconference.eu/2016-pre-conference-programme-252>

## Join the Network Meeting

### EUPHA section on Public Health Monitoring and Reporting (PHMR)

**Friday 11 November 2016, 12:45-13:55, room 0.49**

The Join the Network (JTN) meeting offers a platform for PHMR section members and others interested in PHMR issues. With this meeting, we aim to facilitate the exchange of PHMR relevant news and the identification of common interests.

This year's programme supports exchange on

- the European Burden of Disease Network (input by Henk Hilderling, RIVM),
- the morbidity statistics of Eurostat (input by Ilze Burkevica, Eurostat),
- a Figure Interpretation and Assessment Tool – Health (FIAT-Health) (input by Reinie Gerrits, RIVM),
- the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and
- potential PHMR section workshops at the EPHC 2017 in Stockholm.

**Learn more and exchange about public health monitoring and reporting in Europe  
and join us on Friday!**

## Workshops

### Round table: The impact of new and emerging technologies on population health

Thursday 10 November 2016, 13:50-14:50, room N2

Organizer: Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) and the EUPHA section on Public Health Monitoring and Reporting (PHMR)

Main messages:

- Comprehensive outlook studies are important for policy-makers to anticipate both wanted and unwanted effects of new technologies, and take appropriate policy-measures.
- In this workshop we will explore the potential impacts of new technologies, both positive and negative, their likelihood, and how they could be enhanced or diminished/prevented.

**More information:** [https://ephconference.eu/programme/popup.php?session\\_code=10](https://ephconference.eu/programme/popup.php?session_code=10)

### Skills building seminar: Health information is beautiful: tools and approaches to visualize data and health indicators

Saturday 12 November 2016, 11:10-12:40, room N2

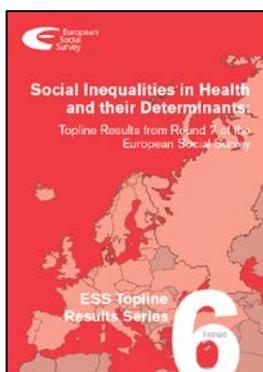
Organizer: EUPHA section on Public Health Monitoring and Reporting (PHMR)

Main messages:

- Modern health information websites offer possibilities for data retrieval, data analysis and data visualisation as well as interpretation of health data.
- Participants of this seminar will acquire knowledge about the design of health information websites, resources involved and how they can be developed according to user needs.

**More information:** [https://ephconference.eu/programme/popup.php?session\\_code=100](https://ephconference.eu/programme/popup.php?session_code=100)

## New resources



### **Social Inequalities in Health and their Determinants. Topline results from Round 7 of the European Social Survey**

European Social Survey (ESS-ERIC), 2016

[Website](#)



### **European Health Information Initiative (EHII) - Fourth meeting of the Steering Group**

WHO Europe, 2016

[Website](#)



### **Global Burden of Disease 2015**

[The Lancet](#)

[Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation](#)



### **Joint Report on Health Care and Long-Term Care Systems & Fiscal Sustainability**

EC, 2016

[Website](#)



### **European Health Information Gateway**

Health information repository of WHO Europe

WHO Europe, 2016

[Website](#)



## Fact Sheet: The European Core Health Indicators (ECHI)

EC, 2016

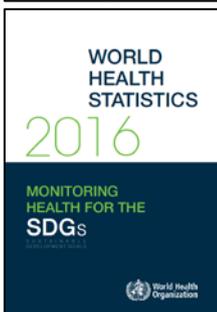
[Factsheet](#)



## Social media strategy development – A guide to using social media for public health communication

ECDC, 2016

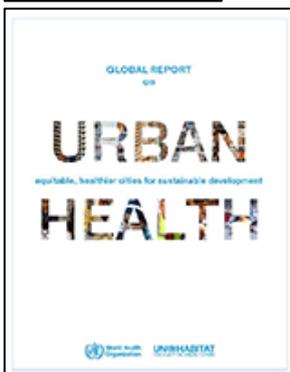
[Website](#)



## World Health Statistics 2016: Monitoring health for the SDGs

WHO, 2016

[Website](#)



## Global Report on Urban Health

WHO, 2016

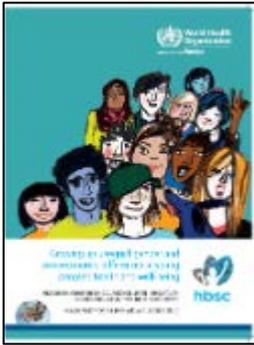
[Website](#)



## Health Policy in Your Country

OECD series

[Website](#)



**Growing up unequal: gender and socioeconomic differences in young people's health and well-being. Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study: international report from the 2013/2014 survey**

WHO Europe, 2016

[Website](#)

**Newsletter editors:**

Nicole Rosenkötter and Marja van Bon-Martens (EUPHA PHMR section)