

Report 2017 of the EUPHA Section on Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health

Debate on the economic argument

As a result of the preconference organized by the Section in Vienna in November 2016 in a partnership with the Center for Health and Migration (C-HM), a working group on the economic arguments on migrant health has been established with an international, multidisciplinary group of researchers that can continue and take lead in developing a discourse on the topic with relevance both for research and practice. One of the outcomes of this process has been a series of three viewpoint articles published in the European Journal of Public Health (August 2017, Vol 27, Issue 4) discussing the economic argument in the light of deservingness and human rights perspectives. Another outcome was a workshop arranged jointly by the EUPHA Section and the School of Public Health at the Ben Gurion University of Negev in Israel 29-30 November on economic arguments in migrant health policy making: Bridging the evidence policy gap.

The 1st World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health (MERH 2018)

The planning of the first world conference on migration, ethnicity, race and health is proceeding as a collaborative action between EUPHA and the University of Edinburgh (professor Raj Bhopal) and involving associations and organizations from other parts of the world. The Organizing Committee has been established as well as an Advisory International Committee, an international Scientific Committee and a Sponsorship Committee. The conference will take place in Edinburgh May 17-19, 2018 with academic, organisational and social aims. A program of invited keynote speakers is in place and almost 700 abstracts have been submitted for oral presentations, workshops and posters. A framework of "Friends of the Congress" has been established and a series of sponsorships have been provided. One overarching aim is to provide an opportunity to bring together people from diverse organisations and disciplinary backgrounds to focus on a common interest. At least 800 participants are expected to join the Congress from many countries around the world.

Statement on Migrant Health for the EU Health Policy Platform

The Section has commented on a draft statement on migrant health launched by IRCT and PICUM on the EU Health Policy Platform and EUPHA has endorsed the statement as one of many organizations. The Section is now in a process of drafting a comprehensive EUPHA statement to be approved by EUPHA for later distribution.

WHO collaboration

The WHO Regional Office for Europe has created a new Knowledge Hub on Health and Migration aiming at creating a collaborative forum for collecting evidence, sharing tools and knowledge, and convening all relevant stakeholders to move forward the policy agenda in this field. The Knowledge Hub has been conceived as a place of reunion for all relevant stakeholders in the field of migration and health. The EUPHA Section has become a collaborative partner in this initiative. One of the first collaborative initiatives has been the first Summer School on Refugee and Migrant Health, which took place on 10-14 July 2017 in Sicily, Italy. Allan Krasnik participated in the planning of the course and as a key-note speaker. He also participated at the WHO Regional Council Meeting in Copenhagen representing EUPHA as an observer.

General communications

The Presidency continues through the Mailman System to distribute frequent communications to the more than 1300 members of the section regarding new publications, relevant international meetings on migrant and ethnic minority health and other subjects of general interest related to the section theme. The Presidency of the Section is often invited to present issues of migrant and ethnic minority health at international and national meetings. During the last year these have included presentations at the Global Health Lab in London organized by the Lancet and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; the International Seminar "Migration and Health: what we know so far, what is lacking in our

understanding and how to move forward?" in Lisbon organized by The Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine of Universidade Nova de Lisboa, NOVA Health, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health; and the XVII Conference of The Spanish Society of Public Health and Health Administration (SESPAS) in Barcelona.

Conference on European Public Health, Stockholm 2017

The Section has decided not to organize any pre-conference on migrant health this year just a few months before the MERH Congress organized by the Section in Edinburgh. Members of the Section have reviewed many abstracts submitted for presentations at the main conference and a number of sessions with oral presentations and workshops on migrant and ethnic minority health were included in the conference.

A section meeting took place during the conference and the agenda included the planning of the Congress in 2018 and discussion of the EUPHA Statement on Migrant Health for the EU Health Policy Platform. The meeting also included election of President and Vice President of the section, since the present term of Allan Krasnik and Charles Agyemang is ending this year. They were both re-elected for another year. At the meeting 6 members of the Steering Committee of the Section were re-elected and two new members elected.

Allan Krasnik and Charles Agyemang