



## **Minutes “join the section”-meeting, 11th European Public Health Conference Ljubljana**

November 30th, 2018, 12.30-1.30pm

### **1. Introductions of attendees**

About 25 persons was attending - coming from Austria, Bosnia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the UK, and the US.

### **2. Brief introduction of the section**

A short introduction of the aim and background of the section was made.

### **3. Early-career award**

For the first time, the EUPHA-SGMH early-career price was awarded. This year's winner was **Michal Pitoňák** from the Czech Republic. The plan for this award was proposed in Stockholm last year. The award is thought to promote participation by LGBT health researchers at the annual conference and to highlight research by a next generation of public health experts, especially by those from Eastern European countries. The award consists of a waived fee for the European Public Health conference and support for expenses related to attendance.

### **4. Current activities**

A list of the six workshops organized by the section at this year's conference was presented.

### **5. Discussion of suggested future activities**

A number of suggestions were presented during the discussion.

a. It was suggested to organize more activities related to gender diversity at the next annual conference with an increased focus on health issues among trans, intersex, and gender non-conform individuals. The importance of getting more practitioners and community members involved was mentioned. It was concluded that transgender populations are often left out from discussions, especially in Eastern Europe. Getting health care practitioners working with the transgender population involved was suggested. **Amets Suess Schwend** was proposed to lead this initiative and to further explore the possibilities to organize a workshop for next year's conference.

b. Another proposed topic for next year's conference was activities relating to methodological aspects of measuring and monitoring of sexual



orientation, gender, and gender identity. There is an increased interest in this topic following current developments in e.g. Germany and Austria, relating to legal gender legislations. The section should use this momentum and organize a methodological workshop on this topic. It would also be a logical follow-up workshop after this year's session on the need for increased monitoring of the health of sexual and gender minorities. **Igor Grabovac**, with help from **Alex Müller**, was proposed to lead this initiative and to further explore the possibilities to organize a workshop for next year's conference.

c. A further idea that was brought forward is to write a statement or call to action on behalf of EUPHA. This could be done in the form of a poster or infographic. By doing so, EUPHA can demonstrate that it is actively working on the topic of sexual and gender minority health and further advocate for increased action. EUPHA has several existing channels and formats that may further facilitate this initiative. This would enable section members to translate the document/poster into local languages to further dissemination. **Michal Pitoňák** was proposed to lead this initiative.

d. Additionally, it was suggested to look into possibilities to get funding for the aforementioned initiatives by the European Commission, especially when assessing if these initiatives may be reasons for organizing a mid-year conference or preconference prior to the annual conference. More attention is needed for funding and equity of individuals from Eastern Europe. **Kristefer Stojanovski**, with help from **Massimo Mirandola**, was proposed to further lead this initiative and to explore funding opportunities within the European Commission.

e. It was suggested that the section should try to involve or collaborate with LGBT NGOs and increased participation by practitioners in upcoming conference.

#### Miscellaneous

**Michal Pitoňák** invited all to attend the 5th European Geographies of Sexualities conference in Prague in September 2019 (<https://2019.egsconference.com/>).