

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**





In 2019, EUPHA received co-funding under an operating grant from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020).

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The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations in Europe. EUPHA was founded in 1992. EUPHA is an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organisation, bringing together around 23'000 public health professionals for information exchange and collaboration throughout Europe. We encourage a multidisciplinary approach to public health. Our mission is to voice knowledge, enhance capacity, be the proactive platform for public health professionals and health services researchers and be a bridge between these professionals and policymakers.

EUPHA membership benefits:

- All EUPHA members can participate in all activities of EUPHA;
- All EUPHA members can participate in the annual scientific European Public Health Conference with a membership reduction of €80.
- All full members have direct access to the electronic version of the European Journal of Public Health and can subscribe for a hard copy subscription for a significantly reduced price;
- All full members of EUPHA are also members of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, at no additional charge.

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 read our tips on setting up a national public health association in your country.
- 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: www.eupha.org/join-our-network

Contact us:

General questions: Membership: Projects: Sections: EUPHAnxt: EJPH editorial office: office@eupha.org membership@eupha.org projects@eupha.org eupha-sections@eupha.org info.euphanxt@eupha.org eiph@phs.ki.se

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#### EUPHA 2019: another busy and productive year

On behalf of the EUPHA Executive Council, it is our pleasure to present this report highlighting key activities in 2019. In 2019, we again managed to increase our activities thanks to an operating grant from the European Commission and we are grateful for their support.

In 2019, EUPHA identified the following operational targets:

#### 1. Strengthening national public health associations

We continued to increase collaboration with our members. We offered individual support (Spain), support for the EU presidencies (Romania and Finland) and collaborated with the French Society for Public Health to organise Marseille 2019. We launched the first ever European Public Health Week where 35 countries (members and non-members) participated to celebrate healthy populations.

#### 2. Advocating for public health on the European agenda

We continued being visible at European level by producing statements, e-collections to the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH), one extra supplement and very active presence in numerous European-level meetings. EUPHA has official relations with the European Centre for Disease prevention and Control (ECDC) and WHO Regional office for Europe.

3. Representing the European voice at global level and supporting public health at global level

The European voice at global level was again continued, specifically in the collaboration with the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) and the Italian Society to organise Rome 2020, the World Congress on Public Health. EUPHA was also an active participant in the Global Vaccination Summit, organised in Brussels in September 2019.

## 4. Providing actively and accurately the evidence to make informed practice and policy decisions in the field of public health

Our two main tools were again successful. The EJPH's impact factor for 2018 slightly dropped to 2.234, but the 5 years impact factor reached the 3.0 mark (3.069) for the first time ever. The EPH Conference continues to be the meeting place in European public health and Marseille broke all the records again (most abstracts, most workshops, most delegates).

#### 5. Nurturing the expertise and knowledge on specific public health topics

The importance of our sections should not be underestimated. Again this year, our sections' presidents and vice-presidents represented EUPHA at key expert meetings. The EUPHA Public mental health section (co-)organised both the second international conference on public mental health in Israel as well as the summer school on public mental health in Lithuania. Two new sections are proposed to the Governing Board to be established: one on digital health and one on oral health. The sections also continued the collaboration with partners outside the field of public health, but involved in public health activities.

## 6. Preparing the future generation of public health professionals for their leadership role in public health

The four new EUPHAnxt coordinators have again stepped up to the challenge. The successful tools were continued. The abstract mentoring programme, where an informal analysis of submitted abstracts is given to increase the quality of the abstract, the EUPHA fellows, six young professionals who assist the EPH Conference to write daily news and track reports and the EUPHAnxt internships were all continued. The EUPHAnxt internships are set up in close collaboration with the European Solidarity Corps and EUPHA office benefitted from two interns this year.

Finally, EUPHA could not exist without the continued support of so many willing and able volunteers. The EUPHA Executive Council remains very grateful for the experienced section

presidents and vice presidents, the enthusiasm of the EUPHAnxt coordinators and the strategic input from our members and the EUPHA pillar advisors.



Natasha Azzopardi Muscat EUPHA president 2016-2020



Dineke Zeegers Paget EUPHA executive director

### EUPHA Executive Council 2019 Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, president Martin McKee, immediate past president Iveta Nagyova, president-elect and EUPHA section council Marieke Verschuuren, secretary Carlo Signorelli, treasurer Peter Allebeck, editor-in-chief EJPH Sara McQuinn, EUPHAnxt Dineke Zeegers Paget, EUPHA executive director

#### Strengthening national public health associations

In 2019, we again intensified the collaboration with our members. We collaborated with our Romanian member to produce an e-collection on AMR (antimicrobial resistance) during the Romanian presidency of the European Union. The title of the e-collection is 'Fighting antimicrobial resistance: actions taken across Europe'. This collection is accompanied with an editorial that targets decision and policy makers. EUPHA's Romanian member co-authored this editorial. To further increase the impact of this e-collection the editorial has been translated to Romanian. And we collaborated with our Finnish members during the Finnish presidency of the EU.

We also worked closely with our members in the Czechia, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia to organise the regional V4-conference in Debrecen, Hungary.

For the proposed EUPHA strategy 2020-2025, we worked closely with the member representatives in the Governing Board, asking for their input and guidance. At the March strategy brainstorming meeting, we were pleased to have representatives from the UK, Spain, Italy, Finland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands, Portugal and France.

All member representatives in the EUPHA Governing Board received regular updates on EUPHA's statements, public consultations, reports (see under Advocacy) and were asked to further disseminate or co-sign these. The most important EUPHA statement was the Marseille statement on Building bridges for solidarity and public health, which was signed by 24 EUPHA members from 18 countries.

The European Public Health WEEK was organised from 13-17 May and celebrated healthy populations in Europe. The aim was to have 10 of our members participating and we were positively surprised with 35 countries participating in 145 events throughout the week. The success of the action-based activity and the enthusiasm from our members and partners will lead to another European Public Health WEEK to be organised in 2020.

#### EUPHA members 2019

At the end of October 2019, we have 88 members from 46 countries:

- 41 National Public Health Associations from 34 countries;
- 7 individual members from 7 countries
- 26 institutional members from 16 countries
- 12 International members
- 2 global members

In our database, we have 26'767 entries of which 7'051 are EUPHA members. Full members of EUPHA are individuals who joined EUPHA through their membership in a National Public Health Association. In 2019, we had 5'354 full members.

Albanian Epidemiological Association	Macedonian Association of Social Medicine – SZSM
Armenian Public Health Association	Malta Association of Public Health Medicine
Austrian Public Health Association	Dutch Public Health Federation - NPHF
Belgian Association of Public Health	Public Health Network Netherlands - PHNed

#### Table 1: Full members of EUPHA in 2019

Society of Social Medicine - Public Health of	GGD GHOR Netherlands (Regional Public
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Health and medical emergency Services)
Bulgarian Public Health Association	Norwegian Public Health Association
Croatian Public Health Association	Polish Association of Public Health
Czech Society of Public Health and Management	Portuguese Association for Public Health
of Health Services	Promotion
Danish Society of Public Health	Portuguese Association of Public Health Doctors
Health Promotion Union of Estonia	Romanian Association for Public Health
Society for Social Medicine - Finland	Serbian Public Health Association
French Society of Public Health	SAVEZ - Slovak Public Health Association
German Society of Medical Sociology	Slovenian Medical Society - Slovenian Preventive Medicine Society
German Public Health Association DGPH	Chamber of Sanitary Engineers of Slovenia - Institute of Public and Environmental Health
Kooperationsverbund "Hochschulen für Gesundheit" e. V.	SESPAS – Spain
Hungarian Association of Public Health Training and Research Institutions - NKE	Swedish Association of Social Medicine
Israeli Association of Public Health Physicians	Swiss Society for Public Health
Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health	Turkish Public Health Association
Central Asian Public Health Association – Kazakhstan	UK Faculty of Public Health
Public Health Association of Latvia	UK Society for Social Medicine
Lithuanian Public Health Association	

Green – marks new member since 2019

#### Institutional members:

- Public Health and Reforms Center Azerbaijan
- Scientific Institute of Public Health Belgium
- Faculty of Public Health MU-Sofia Bulgaria
- University of Nicosia Medical School Department of Primary Care and Population Health Cyprus
- National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) Finland
- EHESP France
- School of Public Health, University of Georgia Georgia
- NRW Centre for Health Germany
- Fulda Public Health Centre Germany
- CSFM & HSR-PH Lab, School of Medicine, University of Crete Greece
- Health Research Board Ireland
- Institute of Public Health Ireland
- Health Services Research Laboratory-Department of Public Health University of Siena Italy
- Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Rome Italy

- Italian Barometer Diabetes Observatory Italy
- National Agency for Regional Health Services Italy
- The Bridge Foundation Italy
- Kazakhstan Medical University, Higher School of Public Health (KSPH) Kazakhstan
- Luxembourg Institute of Health Luxembourg
- RIVM The Netherlands
- Maastricht University, Department of International Health The Netherlands
- NIVEL The Netherlands
- Aletta Jacobs School of Public Health The Netherlands
- National School of Public Health, Management and Professional Development Romania
- Department of Public Health of the Babeş-Bolyai University Romania
- Karolinska Institute, Department of Public Health Sciences Sweden

#### Individual members:

Andorra
Mr Josep Romagosa Massana
Cyprus
Prof Constantinos Phellas
Kosovo
Prof Naim Jerliu
Moldova
Dr Lilia Turcan
Russia
Dr Diana Denisova
Turkey
Miss Serpil Keskin
Ukraine
Mr Saveliy Rudzsky

#### **EUPHA** partners:

- ASPHER Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region
- COTEC Council of Occupational Therapists for European Countries
- EACH European Association for Communication in Healthcare
- ESQH European Society for Quality 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, the Union of National European Paediatric Societies and Associations
- EUSPR European Society for Prevention Research
- GLEPHA Global Law Enforcement and Public Health Association
- IUHPE Europe International Union for Health Promotion and Education Europe
- UEMS Section for Public Health European Union of Medical Specialists section for public health

#### Global member:

Public Health Perspective – Nepal Mansoura University, Faculty of Medicine – Kuwait

#### Official relations with:

- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- WHO Regional Office for Europe

#### Advocating for public health on the European agenda

With the extra funding from the EU Operating grant, EUPHA continued to engage in a vast amount of advocacy activities at European level. The members of our Executive Council, particularly Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, EUPHA president, Martin McKee, EUPHA immediate past president, and Iveta Nagyova, president-elect, the presidents of the EUPHA sections, EUPHA office and several EUPHA members' representatives have really stepped up to the challenge 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 amount of statements, e-collections, reports, and active participation at key meetings. The highlights of our advocacy work in 2019:

#### European elections & keeping (public) health firmly on the European agenda

In 2019 the European elections took place. European political parties presented their manifestos, indicating their plans and priorities. EUPHA analysed these plans and to what extent health was included.

Following the announcement of the new President-elect for the European Commission, EUPHA published a joint press release on behalf of patients, medical associations, health managers and the wider European public health community.

In an open letter we congratulate Ms. Kyriakides on her appointment as Commissioner Designate for Health and highlight key threats to public health which we believe merit a strong focus in the coming years.

#### **Urban health**

To support the 'Design and Health symposium' organised in Milan, Italy from 28-31 March with the evidence base, an e-collection is published on the topic. This evidence can support decision-makers in innovative policies, strategies and tangible actions in order to face challenges that are related to urbanisation.

In the summer of 2019, EUPHA wrote a letter to the mayor of Madrid calling to maintain clean air programme. EUPHA's Spanish member raised alarm when de Madrid mayor wanted to repeal the provisions to decrease traffic and pollution emissions in the central area of Madrid.

#### **Tobacco and e-cigarettes**

EUPHA has consistently voiced its concern about the tactics being used by the tobacco industry and has issued several statements on this in 2018. Following up on last year's advocacy activities, EUPHA co-signed a letter to World Health Organization (WHO) to express concern at the attempt by the Philip Morris International-funded entity, Foundation for a Smoke Free World (FSFW), to pave the road for partnership with WHO.

EUPHA co-signed a letter to a major media outlet in Brussels urging not to have any form of tobacco advertising. Their morning update on healthcare included an ad from tobacco industry.

On World No Tobacco Day called on knowing the facts about e-cigarettes. The earlier published EUPHA Facts and Fiction on e-cigarettes is still relevant.

#### Vaccine confidence

EUPHA published a statement on 4 proposals to increase protection of the people of Europe against vaccine-preventable disease. Ahead of the Global Vaccination Summit, that took place 12 September 2019 in Brussels, Belgium, EUPHA published this short statement on vaccination, giving the public health perspective.

In support of World Immunization Week (24 - 30 April), Oxford Journals has curated a special collection of related articles, freely available for a limited time. This special collection features two articles from the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH).

#### Digital health

EUPHA organised a joint EUPHA – WHO European session at the WHO Symposium on the Future of Digital Health Systems.

EUPHA supplement to the European Journal of Public Health on digital health, titled 'Digitalization: potentials and pitfalls from a public health perspective'.

#### EUPHA participation in meetings and conferences

The visibility of EUPHA as a solid partner with a research background has been strengthened. Activities were aimed at WHO Europe and the European Commission. EUPHA continues the build the capacity and knowledge of policy-oriented organisations and has an official seat in:

- EU Expert panel on effective ways of investing in health (Martin McKee);
- WFPHA Governing Board;
- Advisory forum to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, where our representative (Aura Timen) was re-nominated;
- WHO European Regional Committee meeting, as accredited non-state actor;
- EU-HTA net (health technology assessment) on Stakeholder involvement;
- EU Health Policy Platform;
- EUPHA HTA is currently part of the European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) Stakeholders board;
- Horizon Europe Cancer mission board (EUPHA past president, Walter Ricciardi);
- <u>Global AMR R&D Hub</u>, an initiative to tackle the threat of resistant pathogens designed to make the use of international resources even more effective (EUPHA IDC);
- European Commission's Coalition of Vaccination (EUPHA IDC).

This year, we were also present at numerous conferences including the:

- 'Towards the Coalition for Vaccination' organised by the European Commission (EUPHA Infectious diseases control section president) – 4 March
- Third Forum of the EU Scientific Panel for Health (EUPHA research pillar lead, EUPHA Executive Director, EUPHA Scientific Officer) – 6 May
- CHRODIS-PLUS Conference: Tackling the challenges of chronic diseases in Europe (EUPHA president-elect and EUPHA Chronic diseases section president) – 14-15 May
- High level meeting with Ms Anne Bucher, DG Sante on current and future public health (EUPHA President and Executive Director) – 27 June
- EU research and innovation days (EUPHA research pillar advisor and scientific officer) September
- EU Health Programme Conference (EUPHA Executive director and scientific officer)

   September
- WHO Europe Regional Committee meeting (EUPHA Executive director and scientific officer) September
- National Health Workforce Accounts, a side event at the 69th WHO Regional Committee for Europe (EUPHA president) – September

• European Health Forum Gastein (EUPHA president and past president, EUPHA Scientific Officer, EUPHA Child and adolescent health section president) – October

With the extra budget from the EU operating grant, we also managed to create several new successful tools:

#### • European Public Health Week 2019

The first ever European Public Health Week (EUPHW) took place between 13 and 17 May 2019. The overall purpose of this initiative was to celebrate healthy populations while connecting those who contribute to better public health across the WHO Region for Europe.

Each day of the week focused on a specific public health theme:

- Monday 13 May Becoming, being and remaining physically active
- Tuesday 14 May Healthy environments
- Wednesday 15 May Care 4 care
- Thursday 16 May Sustainable and healthy diets
- Friday 17 May Youth mental health

A total of 145 events and activities in 35 countries were organised, including a sports day in Bulgaria, lectures on healthy and sustainable diets in Malta, Bulgaria and Slovakia, an interactive quiz discussing the importance of protecting their health and civil rights in Russia.

The initiative was co-organised by the European Commission and supported by the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

#### • 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 (24-hours is our aim), EUPHA has created the Rapid Responses Team. Based on the positive experiences of our Spanish member, SESPAS, EUPHA has installed this network of over 40 public health experts to be able to provide input within 24 hours.

#### • Increased presence in Brussels

We increased our presence in Brussels by having our scientific officer spend one week per month in Brussels at one of our partners' premises for which we are very grateful. We also increased our presence through sending our representatives (EUPHA section presidents) to a large number of meetings in Brussels.

#### • EUPHA videos

Following the launch of the EUPHA YouTube channel in 2019, a new collection of videos has been produced. In short videos (2-3 minutes), the EUPHA Executive director and scientific officer present the European Public Health news section of the European Journal of Public Health.

#### Website and social media

The EUPHA website is linked to the objectives of the EUPHA strategy and continues to be an excellent visibility tool for EUPHA. Due to the increase in advocacy, the average number of hits increased to 271,320 per month (2018: 177,815).



The EUPHA twitter account (@EUPHActs) is available on our opening page and has been extensively used for advocacy. The number of followers has increased significantly in 2019 to 4'043 (4 November). In 2018, we had 2'923 on 13 November 2018.



Figure 3: Overview of twitter followers 2014-2019 (4/11/2019)

#### **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 Europe. The newsletter is free of charge and available to all those with an interest in public health.

With 21'934 subscribers from 163 countries worldwide in 2019, the newsletter continues to be one of the most visible and highly appreciated tools of EUPHA.

Region	No. of countries	No. of subscribers		
Europe	56	19'398		
Africa	45	653		
Asia	29	927		
North America	3	540		
Oceania	7	170		
South America	23	235		

Table 2: overview of the newsletter subscriptions worldwide

EUPHA actively invites members and partners to further distribute the newsletter, announce its publication in their tools as well as encourages them to make the EUPHA newsletter available on their website.

#### JOIN US – HELP US

We continue our efforts in advocacy to become the leading voice in public health in Europe. And for this, we need your input and your help. On our website, all our advocacy actions can be found at <u>www.eupha.org/advocacy by EUPHA</u>. The website also includes tips and tricks for becoming an advocate for our members and all those interested <u>www.eupha.org/how-to-</u> <u>advocate</u>. And don't forget to contact us if you need our help or input.

## Representing the European voice at global level and supporting public health at global level

In 2019, we continued our collaboration with the World Federation of Public Health Associations. Walter Ricciardi, past president of EUPHA, is WFPHA's president-elect. He will become president of the WFPHA in 2020. Other highlights related to global public health:

- EUPHA participated in the EU organised Global summit on Vaccination in Brussels.
- In 2020, the European Public Health Conference will join the World Congress on public health, organised in Rome, Italy. The conference will be organised by the World Federation of Public Health Associations, EUPHA and the Italian Society for Hygiene and Social Medicine (SItI).
- Supplement to the European Journal of Public Health on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the European region (expected publication date February 2019).

# Providing actively and accurately the evidence to make informed practice and policy decisions in the field of public health

EUPHA has two very successful tools for providing the evidence base: the European Journal of Public Health and the European Public Health Conferences.

#### The European Journal of Public Health



The European Journal of Public Health is a 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.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 (until Sept 30)
Manuscripts received	784	861	932	893	959	901	950	1047	727
% accepted	21%	19%	17%	21%	20%	21%	21%	21%	21%
Manuscripts published	125	176	186	185	195	180	181	192	134

#### Table 3. Manuscripts received and published during 2011-September 2019

#### **Brief statistics on manuscripts**

During the past year (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019), manuscripts have been submitted from 75 countries from all continents. The highest number of submissions were received from China (94), Spain (74), Italy (73), the Netherlands (66), United Kingdom (66), Germany (55), Sweden (42), United States (34), France (31) and Portugal (31).

The highest number of accepted papers originated from the Netherlands (24), the United Kingdom (23), Spain (19), Sweden (17), Denmark (15), Finland (12), Italy (11), Belgium (9), Germany (5) and France (7).

In addition to the number of original manuscripts published (208), 9 editorials, 2 commentaries and 3 viewpoints have been published from October 2018 – August 2019. Each of the six issues also had a section with European public health news from EUPHA, WHO Europe and DG Sante.

#### Supplements

In 2019, four supplements were published:

- 1. Coimbra Health School Annual Meeting 2019
- 2. Proceedings of the 1st International Congress of Health Literacy- Paradigms and Knowledge in 'Diverse' Contexts
- 3. 12<sup>th</sup> European Public Health Conference Building bridges for solidarity and public health. Marseille, France from 20-23 November 2019.
- 4. Digitalization: potentials and pitfalls from a public health perspective.

#### Reviewers

During the past year (1st October, 2018 to 30th September 2019), 529 persons from 55 different countries have been helpful in reviewing manuscripts. Most reviewers originated from the United Kingdom (61), followed by the Netherlands (44), Sweden (43), the United States (42), Spain (40), Italy (32), and France (29).

#### **Impact factor**

The journal's impact factor decreased to 2.234 in 2019 from 2.782 in 2018, while the fiveyear impact factor increased to 3.096 in 2019 from 2.902 in 2018.

#### Partners

Our partners in the organization of the EJPH are:

- Oxford University Press, the publisher of the journal;
- Department of Public Health Sciences at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, where the editorial office is based; and
- The Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare, supporting with a grant to the editorial office.

#### Moving towards open access

An important initiative in European and other countries is the drive towards open access to scientific publications, that many research funders and research organizations have agreed on through the Plan S. EJPH is promoting open access in several ways, and EUPHA and the publisher OUP is now discussing a possible move to complete open access in the near future.

Editorial Board Editor-in-chief Peter Allebeck, Sweden

#### **Editors**

Diana Delnoij, The Netherlands Walter Ricciardi, Italy Alastair Leyland, United Kingdom

#### Managing editors

Alma Sörberg Wallin, Zakir Hossin, Megan Doheny, Constance Boissin

#### Associate editors

Róza Ádány	Hungary
Tit Albreht	Slovenia
François Alla	France
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Vasiliy V. Vlassov	Russia
Witold Zatonski	Poland

#### **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

#### Marseille 2019



The 12th European Public Health Conference 2019 'Building bridges for solidarity and public health' Chair: Yves Charpak

Over 2'100 delegates are expected here.

Rome 2020



16th World Congress on Public Health 2020 - Public health for the future of humanity: analysis, advocacy and action

12-17 October 2020

Chairs: Walter Ricciardi and Carlo Signorelli

https://wcph2020.com/index.php

#### Dublin 2021



Our food, our Health, our Earth: a sustainable future for humanity

10-13 November 2021

Dublin, Ireland

Chair: Anthony Staines

#### Nurturing the expertise and knowledge on specific public health topics

#### **EUPHA sections**

In order for EUPHA to be able to provide the evidence in a wide array of topics, EUPHA is using sections. It is therefore essential that EUPHA sections are supported in all their activities.

EUPHA sections are networks on specific public health topics. In 2019, EUPHA established two more sections: the EUPHA Digital health section and the EUPHA Oral health section. In 2019, EUPHA has a total of 24 active sections, and 2 new proposed sections, i.e. Foresight and Public health and law. And there was one section name change: Public Health Practice and Policy is now called Public Health Policy and Politics.

All EUPHA sections are active at the Marseille conference with 12 pre-conferences and 43 workshops.

Some examples of the many activities organised by our sections:

- **EUPHA-CAPH** participated in the EHFG Hackathon, held in parallel with the European Health Forum Gastein, 2-4 October. The president of EUPHA CAPH participated in one of the competing teams and was tasked to tackle vaccine hesitancy.
- **EUPHA-CHR** was co-organiser of the International Conference on Chronic Diseases "Chronic Diseases and Integrated Care: Rethinking Health and Welfare Systems" taking place 24-25 October 2019, Kosice, Slovakia.
- **EUPHA-DH** was the driving force behind the publication of a supplement to the European Journal of Public Health on digital health.
- **EUPHA-FN** Organised a pre-conference at Marseille 2019 on Road to Framework Convention on Food Systems: tackling global syndemic with food policy.
- **EUPHA-HP** contributed to the supplement to the European Journal of Public health on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals.
- **EUPHA-HWR** gave input for the side event National Health Workforce Accounts at the WHO Regional committee for Europe, held in September. Also, EUPHA and HWR published a statement 'Who cares for the health workforce? Call for action in response to the European Union parties' manifestos.'
- **EUPHA-IDC** contributed to an ECDC pandemic preparedness workshop reviewing pandemic preparedness plans of EU/EEA states, March 2019.
- **EUPHA-MIG** held an online lecture during the European Public Health Week.
- EUPHA-PHPP commissioned report "A New Political Cycle for the Health of
- European Citizens: A possible way forward for influencing, facilitating, and prioritising health policy at European Union level" by Nina Bos. And commissioned thesis report "Narrowing the gap between political science and public health. A scoping review about the relationship between populist radical right parties, political systems, welfare state policy and population health in Europe" by Chiara Rinaldi.
- **EUPHA-PMH** organised the 2nd International Public Mental Health Conference, 19 21 June 2019, Jerusalem, Israel. As well as the IV International Summer Course on Public Mental Health: "Research in public mental health and resilience" 7th-11th October, 2019, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- **EUPHA-URB** section president organised the Design and health symposium that took place 28-31 March in Milan, Italy. Ahead of this symposium the section supported the development of an e-collection on Urban design and health.

EUPHA Section	2019 No. Of
	members
Child and adolescent public health – CAPH	2305
Chronic diseases – CHR	2116
Environment-related health – ENV	1506
Ethics in public health – ETH	1569
Digital health - DH	211
Food and nutrition – FN	1612
Health impact assessment – HIA	1539
Health promotion – HP	3404
Health services research – HSR	2735
Health technology assessment – HTA	926
Health Workforce Research – HWR	385
Infectious diseases control – IDC	1489
Injury prevention and safety promotion – INJ	823
Migrant and ethnic minority health – MIG	1649
Oral health – ORH	47
Public health economics – ECO	1774
Public health epidemiology – EPI	3552
Public health genomics – PHG	587
Public health monitoring and reporting – PHMR	1872
Public health practice and policy – PHPP	3113
Public mental health – PMH	1746
Sexual and gender minority health – SGMH	487
Social security, work and health – SSH	1373
Urban public health – URB	1525

Table 4: Overview of EUPHA sections' membership

#### **EUPHA Pillars**

In 2018, the following Pillars advisors were active:

ResearchAlastair Leyland, UKPolicyMarleen Bekker, NetherlandsPracticeSilvio Brusaferro, ItalyTrainingKlaus Pluemer, Germany

The EUPHA pillars advisors are part of the EUPHA working group on the new strategy 2020-2025 and actively interact with the EUPHA sections and the Executive Council.

#### **EUPHA Working groups**

In 2016, EUPHA also installed the so-called *Green club* to advise the EPH Conferences on how to decrease the ecological footprint of each conference. In 2019, the Green Club organised a workshop to discuss with delegates how to improve the sustainability of the EPH Conferences.

In 2019, the EUPHA **working group on the new EUPHA strategy 2020-2025** met with the EUPHA Executive Council in Varenna, Italy followed by a writing group to draft the strategy. As of August, we invited our members, our section and our partners to provide input. The EUPHA Governing Board is asked to adopt the strategy. A new strategy logo was set up by the Politechnico di Milano in Italy (home of the president of our Urban public health section).

#### **European projects**

EUPHA continues 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.

#### TO-REACH: Preparing a European research programme

# transferring innovation in health systems

TO-REACH is a coordination and support action (CSA) to prepare a joint European research programme aimed at producing research evidence supporting health care services and systems to become more resilient, effective, equitable, accessible, sustainable and comprehensive (in Europe, and abroad).

In 2019, TO-REACH published its <u>strategic research agenda</u> and launched an online consultation on this agenda. The strategic research agenda aspires to address the increasing challenges faced by health systems, directed to those research areas of major relevance in the coming years.

On 3 December 2019 TO-REACH consortium is organising the event 'Innovations in Health and Social Care – Enhancing Health and Wellbeing in Europe' in collaboration with the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Academy of Finland and under the auspices of the Finnish Presidency of the European Union.

#### InfAct: Mapping European networks



InfAct is the Joint Action on Health Information. InfAct carries out a mapping exercise to identify networks of experts performing comparative research across Europe in a specific health research area or health information domain. More specifically, the project wants to identify operational or previously active international networks working in the field of population health and/or health system performance. EUPHA is coordinating and conducting the external evaluation of InfAct.

#### Operating Grant of the European Union

EUPHA has received an Operating Grant of the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA) of the European Union. Operating grants are awarded to non-governmental bodies that pursue one or more of the specific objectives of the Health Programme and are allocated for a four years period (2018-2021).

*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 intersectorial 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.

## Preparing the future generation of public health professionals for their leadership role in public health

#### 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 2,333 subscribers (in 2018: 1,938). 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.



#### **EUPHAnxt Coordinators**

#### Sara McQuinn – overall coordinator



Keitly Mensah - conference manager



Pasquale Cacciatore – communication manager



Anton Hasselgren – partnerships manager



#### Abstract mentoring programme

Following the success of the abstract mentoring programme for Ljubljana 2018, this programme was continued for 2019. Abstract submitters who were young could submit their abstract via EUPHAnxt to receive advice for improvement of the abstract before officially submitting. These 'early' abstracts were evaluated by members of the International Scientific Committee.

In 2019, 31 abstracts were submitted and reviewed by 16 reviewers, which is similar from the previous year, 2018 where 25 abstracts were reviewed by 15 reviewers. Of the 31 abstracts, 22 (71%) were finally submitted by 1 May 2019 and 18 were accepted (82%).

Table 5. Overview of abstract mentoring programme with results				
Summary	Submitted for Marseille 2019	Not Submitted	Accepted	
31 sent and reviewed	22 (71%)	9 29%	18 (82%)	

Table 5: Overview of abstract mentoring programme with results

#### EPH Conference Fellowship Programme

The EPH Conference Fellowship Programme is a new and exciting initiative launched last year by EUPHA and EUPHAnxt, which offers students and young professionals an opportunity to participate and be interactive at the conference. The selected fellows have the opportunity to work alongside the EUPHAnxt team and the EPH conference planners to disseminate information about the conference through various communication platforms. The six fellows also got the chance to have group interviews with senior public health experts and ask any questions they may have.

The role of the selected fellows involves endorsing the EPH conference and regularly notifying public health professionals on the conference's activities through a daily-journal and being very active on various social media platforms. The daily journal involves following a structured communication strategy to report 300-word articles each day on the 'daily highlights'. The fellows attend various sessions throughout the conference, network with delegates and participate in interviews.

In 2019, we received 28 applications from students and young professionals from Europe and abroad. The candidate's backgrounds were either from the medical field (42%), or from social science, public health and international relations (58%). The gender balance was in favour of females, with only 25% of applications being from males.

As a pilot, in 2018, the Fellows were chosen by EUPHAnxt based on their high scores, measured by their experience and qualifications in either public health or in communications. This year (2019), EUPHAnxt tried to balance the recruitment process, and make it fairer. We aimed to recruit half of the fellows as 'experienced', i.e. they had a strong background and professional expertise in public health. The remaining three fellows were chosen as 'less experienced', for example, they may have fewer public health qualifications, but have experience in the use of digital communication. Our goal is to provide equal opportunities for those earlier in their public health career, and to create a team that can learn from each other's strengths and weaknesses.

The six final Fellows are expected to start their mission on Tuesday 19 Nov 2019.

#### EUPHAnxt internships and the European Solidarity Corps

In 2019, the informal EUPHAnxt internship programme continued collaboration with the European Solidarity Corps (started in 2018). The European Solidarity Corps is the new European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects in their own country or abroad that benefit communities and people around Europe. In 2019, EUPHAnxt has organised two internships at EUPHA office.

The link to the European Solidarity Corps allows for some funding for the interns (accommodation, travel, per diem), making it easier for those interested to choose an international internship.

#### Partnerships

During 2019, EUPHAnxt has strengthened their partnership with the Global Health Next Generation Network through organising a joint workshop at the EPH Conference 2019. EUPHAnxt are working actively to develop new, productive partnerships with young networks/organisations across Europe, but no formal new partnerships have been agreed upon during 2019.

#### Activities at the Marseille 2019 conference

For the EPH Conference in Marseille, EUPHAnxt was involved in three workshops and organised several other activities:

- Welcome evening
- Join the network, organised on Thursday Nov. 21
- Skills building seminars: Skillscamp: from soft skills to health for all and Making the elevator pitch work: how to convince a policymaker in less than 2 minutes
- Workshop: How to Advocate Scientific Evidence to Decision-makers?
- Plenary session speaker, Friday, Nov 22
- EUPHAnxt organised a social gathering for the students and young professionals.

#### Communications EUPHAnxt:

- was present at the Global Health Exchange Conference, in Dublin City University.
- Participated in the activities of the 2019 edition of the European Public Health Week (EUPHW).
- Published 6 newsletters (including the one to be released at the end of this year, November 2019)
- Facebook: 178 likes, 187 followers.
- Twitter: 842 followers (540 in 2018)
- Social media coverage of the main tracks at EPH 2019 + specific daily newsletter drafted by the Fellows and disseminated online via the EPH app to all the delegates.

#### Outlook 2020

Next year is going to be an exciting year, as it will be the first time that EUPHA and the EPH Conference are involved in the World Congress on Public Health. The focus of EUPHA will be on showcasing public health in Europe and in European countries to the rest of the world.

EUPHA will continue its activities following the objectives set up in the EUPHA strategy 2014-2020:

- 1. Strengthening national public health associations;
- 2. Advocating for public health on the European agenda;
- 3. Representing the European voice at global level and supporting public health at global level;
- 4. Providing actively and accurately the evidence to make informed practice and policy decisions in the field of public health;
- 5. Nurturing the expertise and knowledge on specific public health topics; and
- 6. Preparing the future generation of public health professionals for their leadership role in public health.

With the help of the operating grant from the European Commission, EUPHA can both continue and intensify its activities, as well as develop new actions.

#### EUPHA 2020-2025

In 2020, we will be developing a detailed work plan to implement the new EUPHA strategy 2020-2025. We will also start implementing the new strategy.

#### Continue and celebrate our successes

We will continue our excellent work with our EUPHA sections, including the work on the ecollections of the European Journal of Public Health and the planned supplement on the Health workforce in Europe. We will continue working with our partners, expanding our partner network.

The next generation of public health professionals remains a priority to us and we will continue supporting EUPHAnxt and its network in their activities.

Together with our members, our sections, our pillars, our young generation and our partners, with the help of our colleagues at the Executive Council and the office, EUPHA continues to have a wealth of knowledge, capacity and enthusiasm that generates a strong potential to be ambitious! It is important to celebrate these successes and taking steps to ensure the sustainability of our successful tools and activities. A sustainable, strong and active network is the ultimate goal for EUPHA.