

20TH
European Health Forum
Gastein

Health in All Politics – a better future for Europe

4 – 6 OCTOBER 2017, BAD HOFGASTEIN, AUSTRIA



EUROPEAN
HEALTH FORUM
GASTEIN

EHFG 2017

The European Health Forum Gastein is the leading health policy conference in Europe. Our journey started exactly 20 years ago, but our main goal remains the same: to facilitate the establishment of a framework for advising and developing European health policy while recognising the principle of subsidiarity.

In today's interconnected world countries cannot act in isolation on the health concerns of their citizens. We are committed to enhancing European cooperation on health and health policy in innovative and sustainable ways. We invite you to join us at this special anniversary edition of the EHFG conference!



THIS YEAR'S MAIN TOPIC

Health in All Politics – a better future for Europe

While efforts to foster inter-sectoral cooperation on health have been successful at times, real challenges remain. The discussions at the 20th EHFG will aim to dig deeper, taking the technocratic concept of HiAP to the political level of policy implementation – Health in All Politics. Against a background of increasing populism and a post-truth era across Europe and beyond, the challenge to the EHFG on its twentieth anniversary is to build bridges between

the different policy areas, guided by the European values of universality, access to good quality care, equity and solidarity. Our plenary sessions this year will thus look at the politics of health in the EU and its member states, considering the past, sounding out the present, and testing the future. From the historian's perspective to today's decision-makers and tomorrow's thinkers – join us in debating the EU from a health perspective.

HIGH-LEVEL SPEAKERS 2017



**VYTENIS
ANDRIUKAITIS**

COMMISSIONER FOR
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY



**PAMELA
RENDI-WAGNER**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AUSTRIA



**ZSUZSANNA
JAKAB**

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
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**XAVIER
PRATS MONNÉ**

DIRECTOR GENERAL,
DG SANTE, EUROPEAN
COMMISSION



**ALOIS
STÖGER**

MINISTER OF SOCIAL
AFFAIRS, AUSTRIA



This anniversary edition of the 20th European Health Forum Gastein conference takes place under the patronage of:

ALEXANDER VAN DER BELLEN, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

Reasons to attend



NETWORK

Reach all your stakeholders at one time – in a stunning environment. Discuss with senior experts & get a 360° view on major topics.



THINK EUROPE

Our focus is on health policy in Europe, at all political levels. Be at the heart of European health policy-making.



INFLUENCE

Leaders from all health stakeholder groups meet & debate at Gastein.



CONTRIBUTE

Share what is new in your field. And learn more. We report to key institutions, shaping future policies.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Join the Gastein community

health professionals | healthcare providers | public health authorities | MEP | European Commission | WHO & WHO Europe | OECD | national governmental organisations | local governmental organisations | health insurers | ECDC | pharmaceutical industries | healthcare workforce associations | social services | health promotion advisers | medical associations | trade unions | ICT & health industry | health research institutes | health networks | patient associations | consumer organisations | associations of schools of public health | legal health professionals | academics & researchers | health media professionals | local authority officers & councilors | health advocates | non-governmental organisations | public health passionate | ...

EHA

European Health Award 2017

Deadline for receiving applications is 26 May 2017

With this Award, we honour initiatives aiming to improve public health or healthcare in Europe. Does your project promote cross-border cooperation and/or multi-country working? Does it address current challenges such as disparities in health status, access to services and the provision of treatment within Europe? Then apply now! The winner will be announced and the prize awarded at the EHFG conference in October 2017.

The prize money of €10,000 is sponsored by the Austrian Ministry of Health and Women's Affairs and FOPI, the Association of the Research & Development based Pharmaceutical Industry in Austria.

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EUROPEAN
HEALTH AWARD
2017



Health in All Policies

The health sector has long realised that a Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach does not equal a Health in All Politics (HiAPics) reality. HiAP is an accepted term across the European Union, addressing the realms of all determinants of health, from social affairs to the environment, from education and work to migration and integration. But HiAP is also a work in progress and has not yet become an integral part of political processes. It thus often stays where it is convenient, where it does not impact on budgets or staff resources – on paper. Increasingly, decision-makers across sectors know that health matters and have formally affirmed this knowledge on various occasions, until finally coining the term HiAP during the Finnish EU presidency in 2006.

Yet, there seems to be a lack of will to turn HiAP into a political reality that lives up to its potential. The reasons for this are unclear, and solutions thus hard to find. Is the health community not “politics-savvy” enough or do we miscommunicate evidence? Is there not only a lack of political will, but also a lack of trust in our increasingly divided societies, preventing us from focussing on what matters? Health has entered the stage of political rhetoric and been (ab)used in political debates: health arguments – often untrue or shaped for a populist discourse – are convenient subjective weapons, the now infamous pro-Brexit campaign bus being but one example.

The EHFG 2017 goes beyond Health in All Policies. We invite you to discuss how we can move forward in several concrete areas, and do so by dividing our programme in four thematic tracks. With the main theme of “Health in All Politics”, one track solely dedicated to HiAP is mandatory. It comprises sessions on local governance and incentivising health promotion in cities, empowering societies to overcome health inequalities, improving food policies, exploring the potential of workplaces to foster social inclusion, environment and health, and possible ways of mobilising the political will to move from HiAP to HiAPics.

Sessions in this track

(in alphabetical order)



MINISTERIUM
FRAUEN
GESUNDHEIT

Food systems - adding value for better health

Organised by Ministry of Health and Women's Affairs, Austria

Health literacy in all politics

Organised by Health Literacy Coalition. The Health Literacy Coalition is composed of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), the European Patients' Forum (EPF), Health Literacy Europe, Maastricht University and MSD



European Agency
for Safety and Health
at Work

Inclusive workplaces to avoid social exclusion.

Social inclusion, work and health

Organised by European Agency for Occupational Safety and Health (EU-OSHA)



World Health
Organization

Investing in healthier cities: Insuring prevention

Organised by World Health Organization

Transformative approaches for equity & resilience.

Harnessing the 2030 Agenda for health & well-being

Organised by World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Health systems

This thematic track is dedicated to health systems, increasingly under pressure across Europe and beyond. Last year's EHFG discussed some of the dominant themes such as population ageing, migration and the heightened burden of chronic diseases. While there are no easy solutions for these and other challenges, we are in many instances moving in the right direction. We are pleased to announce several sessions that will explore ways forward for European health systems to become more equitable, more inclusive and more sustainable.

This track comprises, amongst others, the discussion of governance issues such as long-term health workforce planning. How can we consider both the changing healthcare needs of individuals as well as the changing preferences of healthcare professionals? How should we deal with uncertainties and staff shortages, how can we grasp opportunities? It is more important than ever for professionals and patients (to-be) to update and improve their health literacy skills. How can we empower both to maximise their ability to cooperate? In this context, inequities and the inclusion of marginalised groups are a major concern, especially when bearing in mind our aspiration of reaching universal access to healthcare and realising everyone's right to the highest attainable standard of health. What is the potential of best-practice sharing across continents? With rising demand on healthcare systems, how can we explore innovative funding sources? Which political instruments can we employ to pay for our healthcare, while at the same time fostering an increased awareness of the need for health promotion?

The question we pose to our delegates this year: How can we make the big issues a shared responsibility, beyond the healthcare sector? We are confident that the "Gastein spirit" will inspire valuable discussions and insights on the points raised above.

Sessions in this track

(in alphabetical order)



Health inequalities: threats and opportunities

Organised by Health Promotion Administration, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan R.O.C. in cooperation with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine



Improving access to healthcare for underserved people. Nobody left behind

Organised by MSD

Informed Vaccines Registries.

Essential tools for efficient implementation of national vaccination programmes

Organised by MSD



Innovative financing for sustainable cancer care

Organised by Bristol-Myers Squibb



Power to the people: building person-centred, integrated health systems

Organised by acumen



The right health workforce - a matter of planning?

Organised by Austrian Public Health Institute - Gesundheit Österreich GmbH (GÖG) in cooperation with European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Access to medicines

A bone of contention between different stakeholders within the healthcare sector has been the pricing of medicines. At the EHFG 2017 we therefore opened several session slots to discuss this topic, giving a platform for exchange to a wide range of the voices and opinions out there. Pricing issues have been hotly debated in relation to personalised medicines and fostering R&D in areas of market failure - most notably paediatric drugs and drugs for the elderly, orphan drugs, antibiotics and vaccines. In a quest to go beyond mutual recriminations, sessions in this track will explore developments in the areas of legislation and regulation at both EU and member state level. Where have we gone wrong thus far, and how can we amend the shortcomings of the current system?

Both workshops and fora will delve into different aspects of Health Technology Assessment and value-based pricing, ranging from methodological matters to discussing the potential for collaboration across national borders. One important focus will be placed on the issues surrounding patents, intellectual property rights, and trade rules and regulations. How can public and private interests come together and make sure R&D, availability and pricing of drugs is determined by actual public health needs? These discussions cannot be undertaken without understanding the current biopharmaceutical model in the first place, how it works, and which arguments play a role when setting a price, granting reductions, and prioritising areas of research. Each of these considerations is of utmost importance against the backdrop of budget pressures and achieving sustainability of healthcare systems. There are however also some outliers to bear in mind, such as the curious case of vaccines: what happens if important medicines are available, but access is not sought? The role of (social) media in shaping public opinion is a topic of high political relevance and the health sector must also take this into account.

Sessions in this track

(in alphabetical order)



Access to vital and innovative medicines.

Addressing challenges of intellectual property rights

Organised by Main Association of Austrian Social Security Institutions in cooperation with European Social Insurance Platform (ESIP) and partners



Have a voice in the pricing debate.

A simulation and discussion on the pricing of innovative medicines

Organised by Celgene and EFPIA



Medicines: new games, new rules. Pathways to better and affordable medicines

Organised by Open Society Foundations in cooperation with European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) and European Public Health Association (EUPHA)



Vaccine hesitancy. Addressing the challenge in a 'post-factual' era

Organised by European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

Innovation, Big Data & ICT

At least one of these three buzzwords is likely to be brought up when and wherever health-care issues are being discussed. The field is evolving rapidly, and staying up to date requires revisiting our decisions - and the assumptions upon which we base them - with increased frequency. The concept of Big Data in particular is a prime example of an area where Health in All Politics seems within reach; data transcends sectoral demarcations. How can and how should we harness information gathered for non-health purposes for public-health decision making? The rapid movement of data across borders, even across continents, is a subject that triggers fundamental fears in some and the vision of endless possibilities in others. What are the rules and regulations we need to protect individual privacy while gearing up our health systems to embrace the promises that Big Data holds? What are the “minimum data requirements” when it comes to tackling waste and inefficiencies in this new era? Furthermore, new possibilities usher in new, modern challenges: we not only need to be health literate, we need to be health ICT literate. At the same time, the potential for empowering patients and optimising the interplay between all stakeholders seems vast.

But innovation is not only about the latest technology and data, innovation is also about methodological tools, concepts, processes. How can we create innovation cycles that allow health systems to become more flexible and quicker to respond, without creating a risk for current and future patients? How do we keep them accessible and equitable? What is important to remember - particularly for the discussions at this year’s EHFG – when looking at all issues through a HiaPics lens: innovation does not only happen in healthcare. And wherever innovation happens in other sectors, it is a chance to make sure that decision-makers in the respective sector only implement changes after checking a couple of boxes on the “must-have” list for a healthy future.

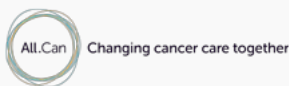
Sessions in this track

(in alphabetical order)



Early diagnosis linking Big Data - hope or nightmare?

Organised by Roche



Greater efficiency to foster innovation in cancer care.

What role can different stakeholders play?

Organised by All.Can



Innovators and Innovation - a political choice?

Organised by ERAfrica innXchange Consortium and supported by Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany



Young Forum Gastein

This EHFG-led initiative, supported by the European Commission and WHO Europe, offers young European health professionals the opportunity to develop their public health competencies, to network with senior health experts and to learn about current health developments. By becoming a member they join a truly unique enterprise. The YFG facilitates learning and networking both throughout the year and during a tailored programme at the EHFG conference.

This year's Young Forum Gastein was made possible by funding from the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

Robert Bosch **Stiftung**

[LEARN MORE](#)

ACTIVITIES

MENTORING SESSION

Almost 50 one-to-one sessions with senior experts in 2016.

SKILLS-BUILDING

Various tailored workshops throughout the year, such as moderation and public speaking or social-media for public health professionals.

POSTER EXHIBITION

Present your research results to a broader audience through the YFG poster exhibition.

MEET THE EXPERTS

The network offers many ways to meet public health experts, i.e. through career talks or by attending a workshop at one of our partner organisations.

CONTENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Contribute your expertise to the EHFG conference programme. Young Gasteiners are involved as speakers, session rapporteurs, bloggers and on our expert scientific Advisory Committee.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The call for newcomer applications for the YFG scholarship 2017 is now closed. All applicants will be informed of the outcome by the end of June 2017.



Civil society & academia

EARLY BIRD UNTIL 14 JULY

500 EUR

600 EUR

[GET TICKET](#)

This fee is applicable to full-time employees of NGOs, universities and independent research institutes.

Public sector

EARLY BIRD UNTIL 14 JULY

700 EUR

800 EUR

[GET TICKET](#)

This fee is applicable to employees of local & national governments, public administration and national public health institutes.

Standard fee

EARLY BIRD UNTIL 14 JULY

1550 EUR

1800 EUR

[GET TICKET](#)

This fee is a standard fee.

ORGANISER

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ACCOMMODATION & TRAVEL OPTIONS

To make your conference stay as comfortable as possible, we have prepared a special EHFG hotel package, with services such as the evening events (dinners) & shuttle service from/to Salzburg airport included. Our official conference carrier offers discounted flights to Salzburg and Munich.

[LEARN MORE](#)

CANCELLATION

The cancellation fee is 10 % of the total amount until 8 September 2017, then 50 % until 27 September 2017 and 100 % thereafter. Your cancellation must be submitted in writing.

SUPPORTERS 2017



CO-ORGANISER



IN COLLABORATION WITH

