

11th European Public Health Conference

Attendees Report

NOVEMBER 28th to DECEMBER 1st 2018

Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)

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Pre-Conference

JAHEE JOINT ACTION BRINGING KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE

Agenda [link](#)

Project presentation Chris Brookes

Presented the Joint Action on Health inequalities [link](#)

A few interesting concepts and projects for the Youth Ambassadors were mentioned:

- Amsterdam Healthy Weight Project [link](#)
- Interventions to reduce behavioral inequalities, HEPP [link](#)
- Health Equity Monitor [Link](#)

The **health equity status report** will be soon released in February 2019. New indicators and disaggregated data for national states across Europe will be included.

Could be of use for the ECAC policy framework.

Working packages

Monitoring health inequalities, Göran Henriksson

Data collection just started, **deliverables** are expected for mid-2021. In early 2019 they will set a state-of-the-art framework, could be of interest. There were inquiries whether the monitoring would take place at a national level or debrief at a regional and local level, but it is still unclear.

Healthy living environments, Christina Plantz

Theoretical model for the WP6 presented, along with the Diderichsen model [link](#).

An example of **Utrecht** is presented [link](#). Utrecht has included health in all policies. Presentation by Miriam Weber m.weber@utrecht.nl

Migration in health, Bernadette N. Kumar

New Lancet commission on migrants and refugee report to be launched next 5th of December. [Link](#)

Access to healthcare and related social services for those left behind, Daniel Lopez Acuna

Multiple tasks, including policy framework and developing capacity building instruments among others. Not too relevant for ECL.

Health and equity in all policies, Giuseppe Costa and Seppo Koskinen

The EOHSP 2013 report [link](#) information will be updated using the 5 I's model (Ideologies, Institutions, Interests, Identities, and Interactions). Pilot experiences of “generative welfare” are planned in local communities (Trieste, Torino and Bologna). The Finnish experience was also presented.

Conference

Thursday 29th November

1.D. Sin tax or syntax: how to promote healthy lifestyles

Agenda [link](#)

Updates on policy status

- New regulation approved in the Netherlands Nov 2018 on alcohol, tobacco and food. [Link](#)

Best practice projects to be shared

- **Mothers of Rotterdam** [link](#)
- **Healthy cities network** [link](#), the Norwegian case.
- **Implementation of a saturated fat tax**, the Danish case. Background research ([link](#)). The tax was approved during 2011-13, but unsuccessful and withdrawn. Recent studies propose that the price increase should be of at least 20% for it to be effective, though that was not the Danish case. Also, the tax isolated may not be ideal, as the demand for food is inelastic and substitution effects may obscure health benefits. The industry resistance has been carefully studied (including claiming to create social inequalities, EU lawsuits, threats to destroy job placements, and so on).
- **Sugar tax**, the Australian case [link](#). They presented the way to face the industry when claiming for freedom of choice, being the situation right now a case of domination by the industry. Their main argument is to make the healthy choice the easy choice.

Learning opportunities for the Youth Ambassadors

- Paper on freedom and public health policy [link](#)
- Alcohol Harm Paradox [link](#)
- The nanny state argument [link](#)

2.F. - The organization and financing of public health services in Europe

Agenda [link](#)

WHO along with EOHSP joined efforts to develop a report on how to implement public health services in a systematic way, as before it was done solely based on previous experiences. [Link](#)

United Kingdom's presentation

The structure of its healthcare system was presented. It is remarkable that 3 out of 7 of their public health key targets are within the scope of the ECAC.

Slovenia's presentation

Presented their close work with the WHO, not only on technical support but innovative projects.

Great speaker for the SS19: *Vesna-Kerstin Petric*, Ministry Slovenia - NCDs vesna-kerstin.petric@gov.si

Within Slovenia, they have great successes for tobacco and diet policies, but alcohol still pending. No public health school in the country, though existing discussions to establish one for Balkan countries.

Public health workforce in Europe, ASPHER

Presented the organisation struggles and advances of the workforce in Europe, both at a Brussels level (forum that hosted the vaccinations) and a WHO level ([link](#)). Interesting contact to discuss potential inclusion of the ECAC within the public health curricula.

Assuring quality of Public Health services

Inspiration for the ECAC policy framework to be developed:

- UK Public Health Outcomes Framework [link](#)
- Slovenia Health in Municipality [link](#)

3.O. - Effectiveness of preventive health programmes

Agenda [link](#)

How the Dutch survive screening implementations

The joint program for breast, cervix and CCR cancer called [SCREEN IT](#) was presented. The program is run by a public private partnership.

Up-to-date colorectal cancer screening as a determinant of participant's screening method of choice

A study conducted in Geneva (HUG) and Lausanne (CHUV) was presented. They concluded that people up-to-date on screening prefer colonoscopy, whereas non-respondents prefer faecal blood testing. In Switzerland, 10% of the price is paid by the patient.

Friday 30th November

4.I. - Infectious Diseases: outbreak, prevention, vaccination

Agenda [link](#)

Unfortunately, HPV session cancelled.

DRIVE MIM initiative presented on influenza vaccination [link](#)

5.K. - Pitch presentations: Cancer

Agenda [link](#)

Interesting session on “Working After Cancer. A Population—based Cohort Study Using A Life Course Perspective Approach”. The author (Régine Kiasuwa – Belgium) is from ULB, a young student who could perhaps get engaged with YA patient perspective.

A study on “Level of religiosity and non-performance of mammography among Arab and Jewish women in Israel” was presented and could be of relevance for MyPeBS project.

- Higher religiosity level is associated with decreases performance of mammography among Jewish women and with increased performance among Arab women.
- Future research should look to explain the disparity.
- When developing tailored preventive intervention programs for women in different ethnic groups taking religiosity level into consideration is inevitable.

7.K. - Monitoring inequalities in the cancer burden in Europe

Agenda [link](#)

Many **interesting institutions and projects** were presented:

- European network of cancer registries [link](#)
- European Cancer Information System, ECIS [link](#)
- CONCORD study LSHTM [link](#) The data of CONCORD is been used for many purposes, among OECD or the #CancerCare4All campaign on Access to Medicines [link](#).
- European Deprivation Index and links to cancer screening. [Link](#)
- Projects on rare cancers (1 out of 5 cancers in Europe are considered to be rare!)
 - RARECARE (surveillance 2007-2010)
 - RARECAREnet (information network 2010-15)
 - JARC Joint Action on Rare Cancer 2016-19

Saturday 1st December

8.F. - Health systems performance across Europe

Agenda [link](#)

Health 2020 index

The process of developing the Health 2020 index was explained, could be of interest for the ECAC map project. Roughly, all indicators were collected, normalized on indicators index (0-100) and then combined in a single table. Qualitative indicators were excluded from the Health 2020.

Future Forum Public Health

A German initiative to link academia and public health services in the country was presented [Link](#).

9.C. - You say 'tomato', I say 'tomato'(e): Knowledge translation disputes in public health

Agenda [link](#)

WHO Europe

The newly launched **Health Evidence Network** was presented ([link](#)). Interesting facts:

- Made available great info on decision making [link](#) within **EVIPNet Europe**, global network.
- Outcomes: Parliament in Estonia approves legislation taxing soft drinks [link](#)
- They organize multi-country and national workshops (capacity-building events)
- They have a lot of tools and manuals on communication (**to share with YAs**)
- European Health Information Initiative EHII [link](#)

ECIBC Guidelines on breast cancer screening and diagnosis

The new ECIBC guidelines were presented [link](#)

Interesting evidence frameworks provided to decision makers.

The output is a website adapted to patients, clinicians and decision makers.

10.C. - Workshop: European and international public health policy-making: The case of health literacy

An interesting database of health literacy data in [Portugal](#) was presented.

October is health literacy month, **to be acknowledged next year**.

Next March conference on health literacy will be hosted by IHLA [link](#)

Parallel meetings

Slovenian League Against Cancer

The **ECAC evaluation interview** for Slovenia was done.

Logistics for the **Youth Ambassadors Summer School 2019** were discussed, being the main outcomes:

- **Dates** settled for 30th of August to 1st of September. The arrival day would be the 29th of August along with the opening ceremony and dinner.
- Slovenia will take care of pre-reservations for the **accommodation**:
 - Expected amount of 30 participants (to be covered within the budget), perhaps some extra will join out of budget.
 - Perhaps one or two externals from organisations such as EMSA or IFMSA are to be expected, but not confirmed.
- **Venue** details were discussed, concluding that ECL would require one big lecture hall along with two or three small rooms for working groups.
- **Catering** details were discussed, and it was agreed to keep the event eco-friendly and sustainable. Contact with past Green coordinators from IFMSA will be done.

Also, program details were discussed:

- Regarding the workshop **structure**, it is envisioned for 2 full days plus two half days.
- The **content** will combine:
 - Capacity building on advocacy skills and health promotion
 - Strategy planning for the upcoming 2020
 - Small Working Groups sessions to discuss the ECAC
- The **theme event** and invited speaker are TBC. Slovenia would like to present its screening program as a best practice share.

IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students' Association)

An informal meeting with the IFMSA Regional Director for Europe (Paulina Birula, rdeurope@ifmsa.org) took place the 30th of November. Potential collaboration between the Youth Ambassadors and IFMSA was discussed, being the dissemination of the YA call the most pressing point in the agenda. A follow-up meeting by mid-December in Brussels was agreed.

Final remarks

Potential Youth Ambassadors

- *Urska Kosir* (urska.kosir29@gmail.com). Already met in Brussels, had a short follow-up meeting where her application was confirmed.
- *Masa Davidovic* (davidovic.masha@gmail.com). Introduced by Slovenian representatives, former IFMSAian and MD. Currently based in Belgrade, Serbia, doing her PhD with great interest in oncology and public health. It was agreed to share with her the upcoming YA call in 2019.
- *Régine Kiasuwa*. Presented a session on “Working After Cancer. A Population—based Cohort Study Using A Life Course Perspective Approach”. She is a ULB student who could perhaps get engaged with YA patient perspective. To be contacted with the new call.

Materials to share with the Youth Ambassadors

Collection of materials to share with the Youth Ambassadors:

- Amsterdam Healthy Weight Project [link](#)
- Interventions to reduce behavioral inequalities, HEPP [link](#)
- Health Equity Monitor [Link](#)
- Paper on freedom and public health policy [link](#)
- Alcohol Harm Paradox [link](#)
- The nanny state argument [link](#)
- WHO Health Evidence Network [link](#)

Opportunities to follow-up

For the **ECAC map and policy framework**

- The **health equity status report** will be soon released in February 2019. New indicators and disaggregated data for national states across Europe will be included.
- UK Public Health Outcomes Framework [link](#)
- Slovenia Health in Municipality [link](#)
- The development process of Health 2020 index WHO

For the European Code Against Cancer

- Contact ASPHER to discuss potential inclusion of the ECAC within the public health curricula.

For the **Youth Ambassadors summer school 2019**

- Great speaker for the SS19: *Vesna-Kerstin Petric*, Ministry Slovenia vesna-kerstin.petric@gov.si