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May 2021

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European Institutions and Agencies

Commission publishes Expert Group report on methods to assess access to healthcare

European Commission

The report shows how a better measurement framework can make an impact on a broader policy context through mitigating consequences of accumulated social, economic and health disadvantage.

It explores three types of tools such as measures of equitable distribution of health benefits; patient vignettes (mental, dental, stroke care); tools which can be used at national level to better understand hurdles experienced by vulnerable groups.

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The European Pillar of Social Rights: turning principles into actions

European Commission

The EC presents the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan which outlines concrete actions to further implement the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights as a joint effort by the Member States and the EU, with an active involvement of social partners and civil society.

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The impact of the coronavirus crisis on Roma and Travellers

European Parliament Think Tank

The EU's Roma and Traveller communities are among those most at risk of contracting Covid-19. This only adds to the multiple difficulties they face as regards employment, education, housing and health, compounded by discrimination and anti-Gypsyism.

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Commission proposes action to uphold child rights and support children in need

European Commission

The Commission has adopted the first comprehensive EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child, as well as a proposal for a Council Recommendation establishing a European Child Guarantee, to promote equal opportunities for children at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

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Persistent challenge: violence against women

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Women in Europe continue to face widespread harassment and violence. Many limit where they go and whom they meet out of worry of being attacked. And when attacked, they often do not report it.

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Disability: higher risk of poverty or social exclusion

Eurostat

In 2019, 28.4% of the EU population with a disability (aged 16 or over) was at risk of poverty or social exclusion, compared with 18.4% of those with no activity limitation.

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Management Plan 2021 DG Health and Food Safety (SANTE)

European Commission

DG SANTE presents its 2021 management plan striving to protect human, animal and plant health, promote a high level of food and animal feed safety, contribute to the Union's efforts to ensure sustainable food systems and enable the health and food sectors to achieve their full economic potential.

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Violence and harassment across Europe much higher than official records

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

A new survey on the general population's experience of crime, carried out by FRA reveal how targeted measures can help governments support victims and make it easier to report crime and receive justice.

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Combating gender-based violence – protecting victims and punishing offenders

European Commission

Violence against women is one of the most persistent forms of gender-based discrimination in Europe. The European Commission launches this consultation to gather the views of the public on the measures taken by the EU Member States to address gender-based violence against women and domestic violence.

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Communication from the Commission to the EP, the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee, Committee of the Regions on the EU strategy on the rights of the child

European Commission

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European Parliament resolution on children's rights in view of the EU Strategy on the rights of the child

European Parliament

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Statement by President von der Leyen at the Read-out of the College meeting/Press conference on the Commission's response to COVID-19

European Commission

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Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030

European Commission

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Joint Declaration on the Conference on the Future of Europe

European Parliament

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The Intergroup on Children's Rights asks the Commission for Protective measures for

MEP Intergroup for Children's Rights

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Equality in the EU 20 years on from the initial implementation of the equality directives

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

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Commission welcomes European Parliament's approval of Recovery and Resilience Facility

European Commission

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European Parliament resolution of 11 March 2021 on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and Social Aspects in the Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021

European Parliament

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Statement of the members of the European Council on COVID-19 and health

Council of the European Union

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Risk assessment on COVID-19

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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Enable Roma communities to recover from the pandemic, say human rights heads

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

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International Organisations

World Health Organization

[Devastatingly pervasive: 1 in 3 women globally experience violence](#)

[COVID-19 continues to disrupt essential health services in 90% of countries](#)

[Can people afford to pay for healthcare? New evidence on financial protection in Cyprus](#)

[Launch of the UN global report on ageism | VIDEO](#)

Overcoming COVID-19 and its collateral effects

World Health Organization

When cases of COVID-19 are at lower levels in many countries, health authorities are presented an opportunity to focus on evaluating and improving the performance of their response. This is also a time to prepare health services to get back on track, strategize, and deliver health services beyond the COVID-19 response.

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New research highlights risks of separating newborns from mothers during COVID-19 pandemic

World Health Organization

New research from WHO and partners shows that the COVID-19 pandemic is severely affecting the quality of care given to small and sick newborns, resulting in unnecessary suffering and deaths.

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Report "Our Europe, Our Rights, Our Future"- Children's and young people's contribution to the new EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child and the Child Guarantee

UNICEF

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Strengthening the frontline: How primary health care helps health systems adapt during the COVID 19 pandemic

OECD

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Civil Society

European Public Health Alliance

[EPHA leads calls for a 12 point plan for vaccine equity in the EU](#)

[Reducing inequalities from the first years of life: the role of Early Childhood Development - VIDEO](#)

[How can we ensure equal access to COVID-19 vaccines for all in the context of growing health inequities?](#)

[Combatting inequalities in healthcare a first step towards health equity for Roma - VIDEO](#)

[Should governments consider Roma a priority in their Covid-19 vaccination roll-out plans?](#)

Access to water -a major driver of health inequalities for Roma

Access to clean water and sanitation is of utmost importance for tackling public health challenges, but also ensuring individuals' and communities' health prevention. Improving water supply contributes to reducing health and social inequalities between and within countries and this is essential for vulnerable groups, such as Roma who struggle to access clean water and sanitation despite existing frameworks addressing access to water.

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The 2021 Health Management Plan is a missed opportunity to prioritise and advance health equity

Following the publication of the Management Plan 2021 DG Health and Food Safety (SANTE), the European Public Health Alliance and EuroHealthNet have written to the European Commission to express their concern about a missed opportunity to prioritise and advance health equity as one of SANTE's strategic objectives and as an urgent response to the inequitable consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic/syndemic.

[READ MORE](#)

The role of Roma and pro-Roma public health community for advancing health equity within the post-2020 Roma Inclusion, Equality and Participation Framework-position statement of the Roma Health Network

Roma Health Network

On International Roma Day, as part of the Roma Health network, the European Public Health Alliance has joined calls for greater involvement by Roma and pro-Roma health groups in efforts to tackle the health and social inequalities European Roma continue to face.

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Protecting the right to a nationality for children of same-sex couples in the EU – A key issue before the CJEU

European Network on Statelessness

The enjoyment of LGBTIQ* rights varies across Europe. As a result, children of same-sex couples can face problems with recognition of civil status, birth registration and access to birth certificates, leaving some children in these families either stateless or at risk of statelessness, and impacting on their access to EU citizenship.

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Social solidarity despite the 'gloom and zoom' of the pandemic -annual report

Social Platform

Social Platform has published its 2020 Annual Report providing an overview of its work ensuring social justice and participatory democracy during the extraordinary and challenging year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Roma inclusion: 10 years to wait until full equality in the EU?

Brussels Times

A European coalition of Roma and pro-Roma organisations welcomed the adoption of the Council Recommendation and expressed cautious optimism that it will make a difference during next decade.

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Europe's silent scandal: Romani children in state care institutions

Travellers Times

According to a new civil society report, long-term institutionalisation of young children is a form of violence and the disproportionate numbers of Romani children taken into state care amounts to a form of racist violence.

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"Making the link: Gender Equality and Health"

EuroHealthNet

A new policy précis looks at gender, health and inequalities. It covers differences in health status by gender, why these differences might occur, and what can be done to address gender-related health inequalities.

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EPHA response to the public consultation on the EC Green paper on Healthy Ageing

European Public Health Alliance

Population ageing is a serious challenge for many European countries. According to recent data, 20% of the EU population is above 65. However this is likely to reach 30% by 2070 with the rate of people over 80 expected to reach 13% – a significant increase affecting European societies and economies.

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The Impact of COVID-19 on Roma communities in European Union and the Western Balkans

ERGO Network

The survey confirms that Roma and Travellers are amongst the most affected and impacted by Covid-19, mainly due to their devastating living conditions and exclusion, triggered by widespread antigypsyism.

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"Street lawyering provision of legal aid to homeless persons - defending and promoting the rights of people living on the streets"

Human Rights 360

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"Response to the public consultation on the EU Green Paper on Ageing"

Age Platform

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Interview with Willem Adema, Senior Economist in the OECD Social Policy Division

Housing4Europe

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EU Alliance for Investing in Children statement to the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

Alliance for Investing in Children

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EU Alliance for Investing in Children statement on the ESF+ political agreement

Alliance for Investing in Children

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Situation assessment of statelessness, health, and COVID-19 in Europe - REPORT

European Network on Statelessness

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Academia

Homelessness, unstable housing, and risk of HIV and hepatitis C virus acquisition among people who inject drugs: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Lancet

People who inject drugs (PWID) are at increased risk for HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and also have high levels of homelessness and unstable housing.

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COVID-19 vaccine prioritisation for people with disabilities

Lancet

For many people around the world, the COVID-19 vaccine rollout has brought unprecedented hope. For people with disabilities, vaccine prioritisation schemes are the latest aspect of the pandemic response to raise concerns.

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An Antiracist Agenda for Medicine

Boston Review

In medicine, as in other domains, the default options for addressing racial inequality are often limited: implicit bias training, diversity and inclusion efforts, the adoption of supposedly objective checklist-style clinical criteria for decision making.

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Building Evidence for Pre-school Policy Change in Bulgaria

Frontiers in Public Health

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The new WHO Foundation — global health deserves better

BMJ Journals

[READ MORE](#)

Events

[European Union | Global Health Summit - 21 May 2021, Rome](#)

[14th European Public Health Conference 10 – 12 November 2021, Virtual](#)

Media

[Roma predicament highlights risk to Europe's vaccine drive](#) *The Financial Times*

[The New AIDS Epidemic: New targets in the fight against HIV](#) *Politico*

[Des aires d'accueil ont été installées à des endroits où on a refusé la création de chenils](#) *Libération*

[Personalized vaccines against cancer](#) *France Inter*

[Covid-19 : la surmortalité en France deux fois plus élevée chez les personnes nées à l'étranger](#) *France Inter*

[Social inequalities overtake climate change in EU citizens' concerns](#) *Euractiv*

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EPHA (AISBL) is the European Platform bringing together public health organisations representing health professionals, patients groups, health promotion and disease specific NGOs, academic groupings and other health associations. The European Public Health Alliance has received funding under an operating grant from the European Union's Health Programme (2014-2020). The content of this email represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains. Transparency Register Number: 18941013532-08

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