Contents

- International & European Institutions
- National Level
- Research Developments
- Roma Health
- In the Media
- Other News
- Upcoming Event

International & European Institutions

Strengthening primary health care to tackle racial discrimination, promote intercultural services and reduce health inequities

World Health Organization

As countries aim to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and achieving universal health coverage, health inequities driven by racial discrimination and intersecting factors remain pervasive. Inequities experienced by ethnic minorities are of concern globally; they are unjust, preventable and remediable.

[READ MORE]

Protect the progress: 2022 Progress Report on the Every Woman Every Child Global Strategy

Unicef

This global progress report presents key data, trends and developments in women’s, children’s and adolescents’ health and well-being followed by a deeper dive into the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report concludes with recommendations for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

[READ MORE]
End racism to advance health and other human rights says UN expert

OHCHR

Eliminating racism and disparities in health status resulting from racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance is central to global efforts to advance the right to health and other human rights.

Read More

Slovenia: More ambitious environmental action key to protect human rights, says UN expert

OCHCR

Slovenia is a global leader in recognising the right to a healthy environment, but faces challenges in protecting this right. More urgent action on climate change is also needed, said a UN expert.

Read More

National Level

Guidance: Health disparities and health inequalities: applying All Our Health

UK Government

This guide is part of All Our Health, a resource that helps health and care professionals and the wider workforce prevent ill health and promote wellbeing as part of their everyday practice. All Our Health content on inclusion health, community-centered practice and improving the wider determinants of health may be of particular interest in connection with this topic.

Read More

Research Developments

Residential Segregation and Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Severe Maternal Morbidity Before and During COVID-19

JAMA Network Open

Living in high-segregated Black communities in South Carolina was associated with racial and ethnic SMM disparities. Policy reforms on reducing residential segregation or combating the corresponding structural racism are warranted to help improve maternal health.

Read More

The Lancet Commission on ending stigma and discrimination in mental health

The Lancet

This Lancet Commission report brings together evidence and experience of the impact of stigma and discrimination and successful interventions for stigma reduction. It includes material that brings alive the voices of people with lived experience of mental health conditions (PWLE).

Read More
Digital Technology Access and Health-Related Internet Use Among People Experiencing Homelessness in Hungary: Quantitative Survey

Although compared with the general population, health-related internet use statistics are lower, results show that the idea of involving homeless populations in the digital health ecosystem is viable, especially if barriers to access are systematically reduced.

Racial disparities in neonatal mortality even wider with tools like IVF, study finds

One key finding: while neonatal mortality rates were twice as high among spontaneously conceived children of Black women versus white women, they were four times as high among infants of Black women conceived through technologies like IVF, according to the researchers’ study, which was published in the journal Pediatrics.

Racial Inequities Persist After Consideration for Preferences for Care

Racial disparities in access to advanced therapies for heart failure (HF) patients are well documented, although the reasons remain uncertain. We sought to determine the association of race on utilization of ventricular assist device (VAD) and transplant among patients with access to care at VAD centers and if patient preferences impact the effect.

Leveraging Implementation Science for Cardiovascular Health Equity

Reducing cardiovascular disease disparities will require a concerted, focused effort to better adopt evidence-based interventions, in particular, those that address social determinants of health, in historically marginalized populations (ie, communities excluded on the basis of social identifiers).

Roma Health

Roma Health and Housing: Filling in the Gaps — A Policy Paper by the Roma Health Network

The Roma Health Network is proud to present its policy paper on Health and Housing on the national Roma inclusion strategies. The result of months of collecting research, testimonies and evidence has culminated in six recommendations, focused on indicator use, health advocacy, mental health, housing, environmental justice and the effects of COVID-19

Roma in 10 European Countries - Main results

In conjunction with the 15th European Platform for Roma Inclusion, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) published a report on its 2021 survey on Roma in 10 countries, providing more much-needed data for hardships faced by Roma in many facets of life
European Commission releases the European Care Package – What's in it for Europe's Roma?

ERGO Network

While the Strategy pledges to improve access to early childhood education and care for Roma children, in synergy with the EU Roma Strategic Framework and the EU Anti-Racism Action Plan, the same consideration is not afforded to Roma adults needing long-term care, nor are Roma and other racialised carers sufficiently included.

READ MORE

Flawed Payouts Defer Justice for Czech Roma Women Sterilised by the State

Balkan Insight

An in-depth article with interviews and testimonies of Czech Roma women who were forced or coerced into getting sterilised. The Czech government enabled compensation for these historical practices last year, but the process has been lacklustre at best.

READ MORE

MEPs pass Roma resolution, demand more action to improve settlement conditions

Euractiv

The European Parliament on Wednesday (5 October) passed a resolution acknowledging the plight of Roma people living in settlements in the European Union and the need for changes in national policy to improve the lives of these communities. The resolution called on member states to ensure that EU funds earmarked to support Roma settlement communities are used effectively and to further integrate Roma populations into their societies.

READ MORE

North Macedonia: Ministry of Health Discriminated Against Romani Children with Drug Abuse Problems

European Roma Rights Centre

The Basic Court Skopje II in North Macedonia has ruled that the Ministry of Health discriminated against Romani minors with drug addiction problems by not providing them with treatment or rehabilitation. The Court ordered the Ministry to open a centre for child substance abuse treatment, adopt a specific treatment programme for child drug users, and pay procedural costs to the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC).

READ MORE

In the Media

Make poverty discrimination illegal like racism or sexism, says UN Special Rapporteur

The Guardian

Olivier De Schutter, Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights: "'Povertyism' restricts access to education, housing, employment and social benefits and must be outlawed"
Podcast: 'The TED Interview' on hidden toll of racism on health

The Ted Interview

In today’s episode, Linda Villarosa highlights how structural racism impacts community health and talks about why she’s still optimistic about combating health disparities in the country and across the globe.

LISTEN HERE

Health Brief: The many deserts of EU’s healthcare systems

Euractiv

The term 'medical desert' denotes a lack of medical personnel or medical services in certain geographical areas or communities, mostly in rural and remote regions, especially when it comes to vulnerable minority populations. Put it in simple terms, a medical desert means a person living in a village in a rural area cannot get certain medical services due to a lack of local medical staff.

READ MORE

Podcast: Racism in Health: the harms of biased medicine

Nature Podcast

Throughout history, racism and biases have been embedded within medical technology, along the clinicians who use it. Cultural concepts of race have been falsely conflated with biology. Disease itself, has been racialised. All of this adds up to barriers to care and worse health outcomes for many people, just because of the colour of their skin.

LISTEN HERE

Video: The fight for equity: Reforming health care systems from within

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Our panelists will explore new approaches to closing racial health gaps and discuss efforts to dismantle racism in health care. This event is presented in partnership with Harvard Public Health magazine, which devoted its fall issue to structural racism and health.

WATCH HERE

Other News
The European Care Strategy: recommendations for qualitative, affordable and accessible care services

EPHA/EU Alliance for Investing in Children

The EU Alliance for Investing in Children (Alliance), of which EPHA is part, has published a policy paper in response. In addition to EPHA, it is endorsed by 19 other partner organisations.

Michael Marmot: A return to austerity will further damage the public’s health

British Medical Journal

In the end, it is not the presence or absence of a disparities white paper that should concern us. More worrying is a [UK] government, fixated on growth in GDP, with apparent complete lack of concern either for the health of the planet or for a fair distribution of health and wellbeing in the population.

Michael Marmot: There doesn’t need to be a trade-off between sustainability and the cost-of-living crisis

British Medical Journal

The fuel poverty crisis has to be addressed with urgency. But now is also the moment to address the longer term issues of sustainability and health equity. There need be no trade-off between them. Both will require social action in addition to whatever the market can deliver.

Towards a more social European Semester

European Public Health Alliance

At its core, the European Semester allows for coordination of fiscal, economic, and social policies in Europe. Deeper into the second half of the 2022 Semester, we reflect on its social components which, though included, still require much more attention.

Free online course on understanding structural racism for for social workers, health and human services providers

Boston University - School of Social Work

Social workers often find themselves on the front lines of the ongoing battle against racism in this country. The lives of their clients are frequently shaped by institutional and structural oppression that can affect their finances, their health, and their futures, and many social workers are trying to better understand how and why that happens and what they can do about it.
Under increasing conflict and climate crises, young people's mental health bears a heavy burden

ReliefWeb

UNFPA's coordinator at the safe space in Chișinău, Shahin Rădiță, explained how essential it is to ensure young people have access to psychosocial support and counselling to deal with the trauma of conflict.

Paediatricians work to shift the dial of systemic child poverty and health inequalities

British Medical Journal

For paediatricians, child health inequalities are impossible to miss. They’re in the asthma that won’t go away from poor quality housing; a lack of nutritious food; poor dental health; or low birth weights.

Upcoming Event

Cochrane Lecture with Jimmy Volmink

Cochrane

30 November, 15:00 GMT (UK Time)

In this year's Cochrane Lecture, Professor James "Jimmy" Volmink will call for the adoption of global health equity as a strategic priority for Cochrane, and explore ways this can be actioned through steps such as prioritising review topics, enabling participation and promoting diversity and inclusion.

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 EU4Health Programme (2021-2027). 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 European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) 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

Our mailing address is:
European Public Health Alliance AISBL, Rue de Trèves 49-51, Brussels 1000, Belgium

Copyright © 2022 European Public Health Alliance AISBL All rights reserved