

Tackling health inequities through anti-racism and anti-discrimination

April 2023 – the pan-European Thematic Network* DisQo aims to address the impact of structural and institutional racism and discrimination on physical and mental health inequities, an issue for which there is overwhelming evidence¹, but one that so far has gained little attention in the public health domain. The network has been initiated and is led by the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), and currently about 40 organisations support DisQo.

Objectives of the thematic network

DisQo brings together stakeholders across policy domains to facilitate dialogue and best practice sharing among them, and to provide support and incentives to the European Commission and national policymakers to advance this work. At the kick-off meeting on 3 November 2022, it was jointly decided to focus on anti-racism as a case-in-point to reduce the health inequity gap.

Specifically, the objectives are 1) to organise 3-4 network meetings to facilitate dialogue, 2) to host 3 public webinars (19 January, 23 March, and 30 March, 11.00-12.30 CET) in collaboration with the European Commission, DG SANTE, engaging a wider stakeholder community, and 3) to develop a Joint Statement summarising the common position of the network.

Timeline

DisQo officially started in October 2022. The network meetings, webinars, and Joint Statement drafting will take place in the period November 2022-April/May 2023. The final Joint Statement will be presented to the European Commission on 19 April 2023, at DG SANTE's Annual Meeting.

Join the network!

DisQo is unique in its diversity engaging organisations across sectors and policy domains, including health, employment, education, housing, poverty, justice and fundamental rights, etc. For questions and/or requests to join the network, please contact raymond.gemen@epha.org.



The 24 organisations that initiated DisQo in October 2022. Currently 40 organisations support DisQo

* *Thematic Networks are temporary networks of stakeholder organisations created in the [EU Health Policy Platform](#), which is hosted by the European Commission, DG SANTE.*

¹ [The Lancet 2022. The Lancet Series on racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and health](#)