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DisQo Thematic Network

Organisations across sectors call for stronger action against racism and discrimination to achieve health equity

As part of the DG SANTE's Thematic Networks, DisQo has released a joint statement to further the discussion on the effects of racism and discrimination on health. The undersigned organisations commit to taking an active stance against all forms of racism and discrimination and call for decision-makers at all levels, including the European Commission, to follow suit.

It can still be endorsed until **17 May**.

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International & European Institutions



WHO releases the largest global collection of health inequality data

World Health Organization

The repository allows for tracking health inequalities across population groups and over time, by breaking down data according to group characteristics, ranging from education level to ethnicity.

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WHO celebrates 75th anniversary and calls for health equity in face of unprecedented threats

World Health Organization

The future of health depends on how well we power health through science, research, innovation, data, digital technologies, and partnerships.

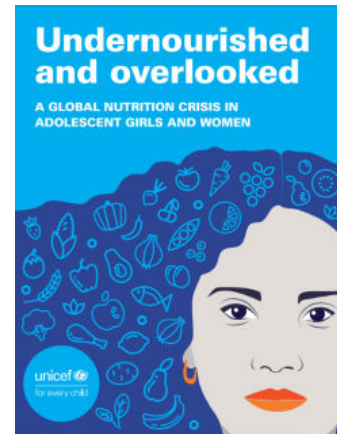
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Undernourished and Overlooked: A Global Nutrition Crisis in Adolescent Girls and Women

UNICEF

Poor nutrition harms all adolescent girls and women of reproductive age but the risks to their and their children's health and well-being are particularly high during pregnancy and the period following childbirth. UNICEF's 2022 Flagship Child Nutrition Report examines the latest data and evidence on the status, trends and inequities in the nutritional status of adolescent girls and women

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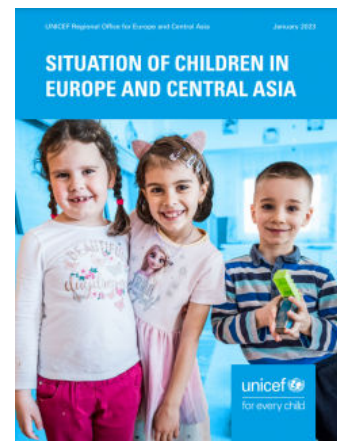


Situation Analysis of Children Rights in Europe and Central Asia

UNICEF

This report spotlights deepening inequalities and urges countries to put in place sound systems to support children at risk of poverty and social exclusion. The report is the first of its kind to bring together existing data and analysis for all countries in the region, while highlighting critical data gaps that need to be filled.

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Causes of death statistics by age group

Eurostat

This is an article using the most recent statistics on causes of death in the European Union (EU). It is important to identify and record the underlying reasons for deaths and make the information available to policymakers, health services and the public. Most causes of death vary significantly by age and by sex, for example

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Access to NCD medicines: emergent issues during the COVID-19 pandemic and key structural factors

World Health Organization

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated pre-existing inequalities in the treatment and care of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). This report examines the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to NCD medicines, and the policies and strategies implemented by countries and health systems to anticipate and mitigate stresses across NCD medicine supply chains.

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Promoting the health of refugees and migrants: experiences from around the world

World Health Organization

Produced by the WHO Health and Migration Programme and based on voluntary submissions from Member States and partners, the report showcases how different countries – with varying health systems and different challenges and facilitators towards universal health coverage – have implemented practices to promote the health of refugees and migrants.

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National Institutions

Minister Joe O'Brien announces publication of Ireland's National Action Plan Against Racism 2023-2027

Government of Ireland

The plan proposes actions to help make Ireland a place in which the impacts of racism are fully acknowledged and actively addressed. It was developed by an independent Anti-Racism Committee established by Charles Flanagan, then Minister for Justice and Equality and Minister of State David Stanton in 2020.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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Romania: Funding for NGOs working on social inequalities

European Commission

A new call for proposals from the annual In stare de bine initiative offers grants for projects assisting vulnerable groups and communities. This year, the objective of the call is to reduce social inequalities through culture, sports activities and the promotion of healthy lifestyle. Eligible projects will address the needs of vulnerable groups such as asylum seekers and refugees, homeless people, children at risk of poverty or school dropout, Roma communities, and others.

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Research Developments

In counties with more Black doctors, Black people live longer, 'astonishing' study finds

STAT News

A JAMA Network Open study shows how important cultural competency is for health outcomes. In counties with more black doctors, black people have better health outcomes. Similar studies for other ethnic groups are required to research this further

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State of World Population 2023: 8 Billion Lives, Infinite Possibilities - The case for rights and choices

ReliefWeb

This UN Population Fund report covers issues that result from demographic change. One of its main findings on health revolves around reproductive health. An estimated 257 million women worldwide have an unmet need for safe, reliable contraception.

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THE LANCET

Lancet Series: Commercial Determinants of Health

Defining and conceptualising the commercial determinants of health

The first paper of the series advances the understanding of how commercial actors drive health and equity by bringing some consensus around the complexity and scope of the issue. The authors suggest a conceptual model of the commercial determinants of health highlighting how health inequity can arise from the CDOH.

[READ MORE](#)

Conceptualising commercial entities in public health

This paper highlights the importance of looking beyond traditional segments of the commercial determinants of health, and to consider commercial entities that are relevant to public health. It suggests a framework that captures this scope and enables fuller consideration of how commercial actors might influence health outcomes

[READ MORE](#)

Commercial determinants of health: future directions

Paper three focuses on the future role of the commercial sector in global health and health equity by calling the global health community to move beyond observation to action. As highlighted, health actors can and must use their regulatory power to change policy systems and to move towards progressive economic models.

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Racism, xenophobia, and discrimination: data disaggregation is a complex but crucial step to improving child health

The Lancet

The disaggregation of data makes health inequities visible that would otherwise be masked, allowing for an intersectional approach to designing policies and programmes. However, child health data are infrequently disaggregated in ways that can spotlight inequalities among children who face racism and discrimination, and action is insufficient on this crucial health issue.

[READ MORE](#)

The effects of racism, social exclusion, and discrimination on achieving universal safe water and sanitation in high-income countries

The Lancet

Drinking water and sanitation services in high-income countries typically bring widespread health and other benefits to their populations. Yet gaps in this essential public health infrastructure persist, driven by structural inequalities, racism, poverty, housing instability, migration, climate change, insufficient continued investment, and poor planning

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In the Media

 euronews.

'A life of dignity and health for all must be at the heart of our policies'

Euronews

Dr Hans Henri P Kluge makes the case for an economy of wellbeing, citing examples of widening inequalities and what this means for people. Citing examples of universal healthcare coverage and wellbeing investments, he advocates for health not being a beneficiary, but a driver of the well-being economy

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 Social Europe

Cinderella no more: mental health matters

Social Europe

The pandemic has been a catalyst, having a widespread impact on mental health, particularly for young people: half of all young Europeans now report unmet health needs and depression among them has more than doubled. Covid-19 has also increased inequalities in mental health.

[BUTTON](#)

Conference explores link between anti-Roma racism and health disparities

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

The repercussions of anti-Roma racism were discussed at the 11th annual Roma Conference at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, held April 6. The conference focused on how Roma people in Europe experience considerably worse health outcomes than ethnic majorities.

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Social barriers faced by Roma, Gypsies and Travellers laid bare in equality survey

The Guardian

The survey revealed shocking health disparities between Roma, Gypsy and Traveller people and the rest of the population. Gypsy or Traveller men were 12.4 times as likely to suffer from two or more physical health conditions than white British men, while Roma men were five times as likely – both were higher figures than for any other ethnicity.

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Three reasons why Roma inclusion shouldn't be mission impossible

Euractiv

In the light of International Roma Day, Caritas' Shannon Pfohman outlines why Roma inclusion could progress much further, citing three reasons why Europe can and should act. Europe cannot afford to give up on the estimated six million Roma people affected by unacceptably high levels of social exclusion. This cannot be a mission impossible.

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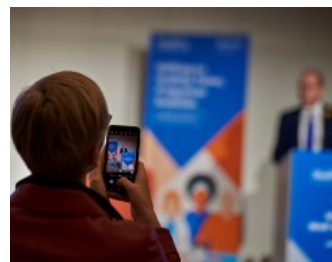
Other News

Shifting to well-being economies, the time for action is now!

European Public Health Alliance

Short article by Raymond Gemen of EPHA discussing the concept of the 'well-being economy', based on a discussion at the High-Level forum in Copenhagen in March. What is the state of play, and how can we move towards this concept?

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Ensuring equitable crisis resilience with a social European Semester

European Public Health Alliance

As European countries stumble from one crisis into the next, they are repeatedly reminded of the importance of the ability of their health systems to handle the peaks and troughs in demand. Some people are impacted by crises more than others, but how can we ensure that national health systems develop resilience as equitably as possible?



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Are We Having the Wrong Conversation About Vaccine Hesitancy?

EuroHealthNet

EuroHealthNet would argue that ‘vaccine hesitancy’ should more frequently be considered as a type of vaccine inequality rather than as a separate issue – and that solutions to ‘hesitancy’ should be less targeted at individual decision-making and more towards addressing systemic political, socio-economic, and health barriers.

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Indigenous health-care sovereignty defines resilience to the COVID-19 pandemic

The Lancet

As European countries stumble from one crisis into the next, they are repeatedly reminded of the importance of the ability of their health systems to handle the peaks and troughs in demand. While navigating these crises, it is crucial to keep in mind that some people are impacted by crises more than others. But how can we ensure that national health systems develop resilience as equitably as possible?

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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 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](#)

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