Contents

3 About EPHA
4 EPHA’s Membership
6 EPHA’s People
6 The Management Board
7 The Secretariat
8 The Expert Advisers
10 EPHA’s Networks and Partnerships
13 EPHA’s Way of Working
14 EPHA’s Clusters
14 Healthy Environments
16 Healthcare Delivery
18 Health Equity
21 Health Systems & Economy
22 Global Public Health
24 Digital Transformation
26 Politics & Health
About EPHA

The European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), recognised as the leading European advocacy public health NGO, is an international not-for-profit association established in Belgium in 1993.

With a mission to protect and improve public health in Europe, EPHA has grown into Europe’s largest platform of civil society organisations working on health.

EPHA is active in all policy areas that affect health, either directly via health policies, or across areas that have an impact on health, including the social, economic, environmental factors, but also political and commercial determinants of health.

In its work in the public interest, EPHA is independent from commercial funding.

What sets EPHA apart from other EU public health NGOs is its membership and its audiences. EPHA can proudly claim to be a people’s platform for public health – set up by people and for people.

Among its broad and versatile membership, EPHA hosts European umbrella organisations, national and regional organisations, but also the smallest of local grass roots. Its members include organisations of (public) health professionals, researchers, educators, and patients, organisations focusing on specific diseases (like cardiovascular or cancer), or on specific health threats (like tobacco or alcohol), and, importantly, an array of organisations that represent vulnerable population groups – including children, elderly, homeless, Roma communities, people living with AIDS, and those that suffer from substance abuse or gender-based violence.

Notably, EPHA’s nurses, doctors, scientists are not there to talk with each other - for that, they have their own professional associations. They are in EPHA to get involved in people’s voice, to talk with people and to work for people.

The quest that unites such a diverse range of organisations is the right to health and combating exclusion or discrimination of anyone in Europe.
EPHA’s Membership

- AGE Platform Europe (AGE)
- Alcohol Action Ireland (AAI)
- Associação Nacional dos Médicos de Saúde Pública (Portuguese Association of Public Health Doctors) (ANMSP)
- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- Association of European Coeliac Societies (AOECS)
- Association of Natural Medicine in Europe (ANME)
- Association of School of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
- British Society of Lifestyle Medicine (BSLM)
- Bulgarian Association for Patients’ Rights Defence BAZP (BAPRD)
- Cancer Research UK
- Center za zdravje in razvoj Murska Sobota (Centre for Health and Development Murska Sobota)
- Dachverband Komplementärmedizin (Dakomed)
- Eurocam
- Eurochild
- European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP UEMS SP)
- European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG)
- European Alcohol Policy Alliance (Eurocare)
- European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL)
- European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)
- European Association of Senior Hospital Physicians (AEMH)
- European CanCer Organisation (ECCO)
- European Central Council of Homeopaths (ECCH)
- European Chiropractors Union (ECU)
- European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH)
- European Council of Optometry and Optics (ECOO)
- European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
- European Federation of Patients’ Associations for Anthroposophic Medicine (EFPAM)
- European Forum and Federation of Osteopathy (EFFO)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Hematology Association (EHA)
- European Independent Foundation in Angiology/ Vascular Medicine (VAS EU)
- European Institute of Women’s Health (EİWH)
- European Lifestyle Medicine Council (ELMC)
- European Liver Patients’ Association (ELPA)
- European Medical Students’ Association (EMSA)
- European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP)
- European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health (Euronet MRPH)
- European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS)
- European Pharmaceutical Students’ Association (EPSA)
- Europe Region World Physiotherapy (ER-WCPT)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
European Shiatsu Federation (ESF)
European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT)
European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM)
European Specialist Nurses Organisations (ESNO)
European Sex Workers’ Rights Alliance (ESWA)
Federation Europeenne des Medecins Salariés (European Federation of Salaried Doctors) (FEMS)
France Assos Santé
Greek Patients’ Association
Health Action International – Europe (HAI)
Health Policy Institute
The Health and Europe Centre
Hungarian Alliance of Patient Organisation’s (BEMOSZ-HAPO)
Independent Order of Good Templars (IOGT NTO)
International Diabetes Federation – European Region (IDF Europe)
International Federation of Anthroposophical Medical Associations (IVAA)
International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA)
International Society of Doctors for the Environment (ISDE)
International Youth Health Organization (YHO)
Lithuanian Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition (NTAKK)
Malta Health Network (MHN)
Medici Pentru România (Doctors for Romania)
Mental Health Europe (MHE-SME)
Polish Society for Health Programs (PSHP – PTPZ)
Renaloo
Romtens Foundation
Royal College of Nursing (RCN)
Safe Food Advocacy Europe (SAFE)
Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAAP)
Slovenian Coalition for Public Health, Environment and Tobacco Control
Smoke Free Partnership (SFP)
Suomen ASH
Tallinn Children’s Hospital Foundation
Wemos
WHO Centre on Population Approaches for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention (CPA for NCD Prevention)
Youth Network No Excuse Slovenia (No Excuse Slovenia)

Join a thriving network of public health NGOs! Find out more at:
www.epha.org/about-us/membership/
EPHA’s People

EHPA’s work is overseen by a Management Board, appointed by the members at an Annual General Assembly. The Board oversees the work that is undertaken by a Secretariat and led by a Director General.

The Management Board

Alice Chapman-Hatchett  
President

Freek Spinnewijn  
Vice-President

Claudia Marinetti  
Treasurer

Jean-Paul Zerbib  
Board Member

Florence Berteletti  
Board Member

Denis Onyango  
Board Member

Nicolas Philippou  
Board Member
The Secretariat

Milka Sokolović
Director General

Raymond Gemen
Head of Policy

Madda Henry Magbity
Policy Manager

Cristina Pricop
Policy Manager

Alessandro Gallina
Policy Manager

Alba Gil
Policy Officer

Clémentine Richer Delforge
Policy Officer

Tomas de Jong
Policy Officer

Jaisalmer De Frutos Lucas
Policy Officer

Loyse Quéau
Policy Officer

Frazer Goodwin
Senior Communications & Advocacy Manager

Nicoleta Diaconu
Communications Officer
In addition, and to ensure the greatest use of expertise and scientific knowledge, EPHA has Expert Advisers who come from a range of different backgrounds, each of them a leading expert in their field.

**The Expert Advisers**

- **Paul Belcher**
  Special Advisor to the Director General and EPHA Leadership

- **Archie Turnbull**
  Strategic Advisor on Organisational Development and President Emeritus

- **Amandine Garde**
  Scientific Advisor on EU Internal Market Law and Policy
Tamsin Rose  
Strategic Advisor on EU Health Policy

Joan Benach  
Scientific Advisor on Health Inequalities

Stefan Buttigieg  
Scientific Advisor on Digital Health

Eleanor Brooks  
Scientific Advisor on Economics and Health Governance

Rose Gallagher  
Scientific Advisor on Antimicrobial Resistance

Gabriel Siles-Brügge  
Policy Advisor on Trade Policy

Nicoline Tamsma  
Policy Advisor on EU Health Policies

Catherine Hartmann  
Strategic Advisor on EU Advocacy

Christine Brown  
Scientific Advisor on Economy of Wellbeing

Monika Kosinska  
Scientific Advisor on Commercial Determinants of Health

Nick Sheron  
Scientific Advisor on Non-Communicable Diseases

Philippe Vandenbroeck  
Scientific Advisor on Healthcare System Transformation
EPHA’S Networks

As a public health network, EPHA promotes collaboration as an enabler of societal change. Following our Mission and Vision and in line with our priorities, we are an active host and member of numerous networks, alliances, and coalitions. Among others, we collaborate with the WHO Europe, OECD, European Commission and with many NGOs.

**EPHA is an active member of:**

**EPHA hosts:**
- AMR Stakeholders’ Network
- EU4Health Civil Society Alliance (EU4Health CSA)
  (jointly with the European Patients’ Forum)
- European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines
- Healthy Food Healthy Planet
- Healthy Food Marketing Alliance
- Medics for Clean Air (Medics4CleanAir)
- MEPs fight AMR interest group
  (jointly with Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) Europe)
- Roma Health Network
- DisQo – anti-discrimination & health equity

**EPHA is a member or partner of:**
- Alliance to Save our Antibiotics
- Antibiotic Resistance Coalition
- Clean Cities Campaign
- EU Alliance for Investing in Children
- EU Food Policy Coalition
- European Scientific Working group on Influenza and other Respiratory Viruses (ESWI)
- Healthy Food Marketing Alliance
- HPV Network
- Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD)
- JPI Healthy Diet Healthy Lifestyles HDHL
EPHA’s Partnerships

EPHA also benefits from and contributes to many partnerships and stakeholders’ groups convened by EU policymakers and international organizations.

These partnerships include a **Memorandum of Understanding signed with WHO Europe** to build upon the longstanding partnership between EPHA and WHO Europe so as to drive systemic changes and reduce health inequalities, ultimately leading to a healthier future for all people and the planet.

**We are part of the following networks convened by international organisations:**
- The OECD PaRIS Patient Advisory Panel
- The WHO Europe Access to Novel Medicines Platform
- The Steering Committee of the WHO Civil Society Commission

**We are a member of the following stakeholders and/or advisory groups convened by EU policymakers:**
- The European Medicines Agency (EMA) Patients’ and Consumers’ Working Party
- Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) Civil Society Advisory Forum
- e-health Stakeholders Group, European Commission
- DG AGRI Civil Dialogue Groups, European Commission
- DG SANTE NCD Initiative Advisory group, European Commission
- DG SANTE Beating Cancer Stakeholder Contact Group, European Commission
- DG SANTE Advisory group on Farm to Fork Strategy, European Commission

**Project-Based Networks**

EPHA cooperates with members and partners in project-based activities, such as EC-funded projects, including EU4Health Action Grants and Horizon Europe projects (including both research and coordination and support action ones), but also in projects supported by charitable foundations.

Discover more at: www.epha.org/campaigns
EPHA’s Way of Working

In 2020, EPHA’s Strategic Plan 2021-2025 was approved by the General Assembly, establishing a stronger focus on evidence, a more flexible & creative advocacy approach, and a focus on collaboration & partnerships - all introduced by a shift from individual campaigns that used to be a hallmark of EPHA’s successful advocacy past, to clusters of overlapping policy areas. This has secured more flexibility in a changing policy environment, better adaptability to challenging public health times – which has proven invaluable during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in a time of wars and a cost of living crisis – and a higher value to members.

Policy Clusters bring together the members active in the related topics, so as to combine their collective knowledge and expertise into a single voice. Working with external partners and EPHA’s Expert Advisors, this structure also ensures harnessing the best scientific evidence and knowledge, and translating it into policy recommendations and advocacy campaigns.

EPHA’s seven Policy Clusters (details of each to follow in the follow up chapters) include:

- Healthy Environments
- Healthcare Delivery
- Health Equity
- Health Systems & Economy
- Global Public Health
- Digital Transformation
- Politics & Health

EPHA is proud to say that, while implementing its current Strategic Plan, the Alliance has grown to be recognised as the European lead in evidence-based public health advocacy, a successful facilitator of multisectoral discussions, and a sought-after partner at all levels.

To find out more about EPHA’s Strategic Plan please visit: www.epha.org/about-us
Healthy Environments

At EPHA we have it clear: every citizen deserves an environment that enables and promotes their best health. The overwhelming impact of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) — from cancer, obesity, and diabetes to cardiovascular disease — underscores a critical need: prevention. These conditions dominate as Europe’s primary health challenges, in terms of mortality, morbidity and costs; most NCDs share common risk factors, hence they are often preventable life-alterations and burdens to societies that we’re determined to combat.

Prevention represents the heart of our mission in the Healthy Environments cluster. A cornerstone of our advocacy is the irrefutable link between nutrition and health. Access to affordable, nutritious food isn’t a luxury; it’s a right. Coupled with informed awareness about dietary impacts, healthier choices should be easy, obvious, and convenient for everyone. This encompasses making readily available nutritious, sustainable foods and reducing the prevalence of harmful products like tobacco, alcohol, and ultra-processed foods. The commercial landscape, often dictated by industry interests, plays a significant role in shaping these decisions. We firmly believe that industries must be held accountable for their influence in this arena. It’s unjust to solely blame individuals for health-related choices without considering the influential commercial determinants of health they’re subjected to.

We envision a Europe where good health isn’t a privilege but a norm; where every individual has access to a sustainable, high-quality health system. To achieve this, we’re committed to enhance prevention, promotion, protection, and participation. As board members of the EU Food Coalition, and in collaboration with several EU-wide organizations on several EU funded projects we work to implement the concept of healthy environments within the forthcoming Sustainable Food Systems Framework (SFSF), a landmark framework expected to redefine the European food chain. Additionally, we’ve been active players in the work of the parliamentary subcommittee for health (SANT) providing the dimension of equity in NCD prevention and management policies in Europe.

Furthermore, within EPHA, our cross-cluster collaborations with the Global Public Health cluster and the Health Equity cluster enable us to address health from multiple, interconnected perspectives, to effectively foster the development of holistic and integrated policies that scale up prevention and health promotion.

Join us as we redefine health in Europe, championing a future where individuals are empowered, industries are responsible, and environments are conducive to optimal well-being.
The members of our cluster are:

- Alcohol Action Ireland (AAI)
- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- Centre on Population Approaches for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention (CPA for NCD Prevention)
- Eurochild
- European Alcohol Policy Alliance (Eurocare)
- European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL)
- European Cancer Organisation (ECO)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- International Diabetes Federation – European Region (IDF)
- International Organisation of Good Templars (IOGT-NTO)
- Lithuanian Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition (NTAKK)
- Mental Health Europe (MHE/SME)
- No Excuse Slovenia (No Excuse)
- Romtens Foundation (ROMTENS)
- Safe Food Advocacy Europe (SAFE)
- Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems (SHAAP)
- Slovenian Coalition for Tobacco Control (SCTC)
- Smoke Free Partnership (SFP)
- The Association of School of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Alessandro Gallina
Policy Manager
alessandro.gallina@epha.org

Alba Gil
Policy Officer
alba.gil@epha.org
Did you know that while German patients have access to all medicines approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) within 1 year, only 10% of recently approved medicines are available to patients in Latvia? In the Healthcare Delivery cluster, we believe that every citizen has the right to advanced universal health coverage and equitable access to medicines and healthcare, no matter their socio-economic status or country of origin. Health, healthcare, and access to effective and affordable treatments should be ensured in the European Union and beyond.

In this cluster, we work on what we believe should be the norm in the twenty-first century: healthcare systems that are patient-centred, medicines that are accessible and affordable, pharmaceutical sector that does not hold a monopoly, the true costs of R&D that are public and transparent, as well as those of trial costs, public procurements, and joint purchases. If a project is funded by public money, shouldn’t the results be publicly available for everyone?

It goes without saying that we also fight for transparent and accountable public bodies such as the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA), and for the creation of an effective and intimacy-protecting European Health Data Space (EHDS) as part of the European Health Union. If we citizens enjoy freedom of movement within the EU, why shouldn’t our medical records and medical prescriptions enjoy it, too?

Right now, the European Union policymakers are discussing the next EU Pharma Strategy and legislation, which will tackle many of the truisms mentioned above, as well as coordinate the responses to current threats such as antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and the development of (new) antibiotics. Concerned about the heavy industry influence on this process, we call for the creation of an R&D system that is driven by public health needs and delivers medicines that are universally accessible and affordable.

And we don’t do it alone, because “if you want to go far, go together”. We at EPHA coordinate the European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Access to Medicines, a civil society coalition gathering consumer, patient and public health organisations calling

Big asks always seem impossible until they are done. Will you join us in our big asks?
The members of our cluster are:

- AGE Platform Europe (AGE)
- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- Eurocam
- European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG)
- European Pharmaceutical Students’ Association (EPSA)
- European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)
- European Cancer Organization (ECO)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Haematology Association (EHA)
- European Institute of Women’s Health (EIWH)
- France Assos Sante
- Health Action International (HAI)
- International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA)
- International Federation of Anthroposophical Medical Associations (IVAA)
- Mental Health Europe-Santé Mentale Europe (MHE/SME)
- Wemos
- International Diabetes Federation – European Region

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Madda Henry Magbity
Policy Manager
madda.magbity@epha.org
Health Equity

In an equitable world, there would be no unfair and avoidable differences between groups of people, including in the opportunities to be in good health, the access to healthcare services, and the exposure to factors that harmfully impact health. These differences in health also bring about significant social and economic costs to not just the individuals affected, but to our healthcare systems and overall society, reinforcing and reproducing more disparities in the long run. Although health equity issues cut across all of EPHA’s policy clusters, they clearly call for a dedicated stream of work.

The determinants of health cover a broad spectrum ranging from the social and economic, to the environmental and commercial. Its factors like housing and job security, safe and healthy environments, as well as social inclusion and non-discrimination that impact the opportunities to be in good health the most.

In collaboration with our members and partners, we are approaching our work on health equity from three angles: Early Childhood Development, with a focus on the most vulnerable children in society; Roma Health with a focus on capacity building of the most left behind, taking a rights-based approach, all the while leading the Roma Health Network; and Anti-discrimination, with a focus on the multiple dimensions of structural discrimination and the impact on health inequities.

In our advocacy, we pay most attention to the underlying drivers of health equity, which include participatory processes as policies are developed, and strong and transparent accountability systems.

We are proud that EPHA has been selected to lead the Thematic Network DisQo - anti-discrimination & health equity (Oct 2022 - Jun 2023), an initiative launched by the European Commission’s DG SANTE, and hosted on their EU Health Policy Platform. In collaboration with DG SANTE, DisQo organised a series of three webinars (Jan-Mar 2023) and concluded with a Joint Statement in May 2023 summarising the common position of the network.

Are you ready to take the next step for your organisation and join EPHA in the fight for health equity?
The members of our cluster are:

More than 20 EPHA members are engaged in the Health Equity cluster, with about half of them more actively:

- AGE Platform Europe (AGE)
- European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG)
- European Cancer Organisation (ECO)
- European Institute of Women’s Health (EIWH)
- European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT)
- Eurochild
- European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
- Hungarian Coeliac Society (HCS)
- Mental Health Europe (MHE/SME)
- ROMTENS Foundation
- Royal College of Nursing (RCN)
- Wemos

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Raymond Gemen  
Head of Policy  
raymond.gemen@epha.org

Tomas De Jong  
Policy Officer  
tomas.dejong@epha.org
In the context of COVID-19 recovery, energy crisis and the war in Ukraine, it is essential to advocate for sustained investments in health, health systems and the healthcare workforce. The aim of this cluster is also to raise awareness about the increasing consensus and evidence that health and wellbeing are not only intrinsic values but also prerequisites for economic growth and that health investments offer high returns for society.

The work of this cluster is highly relevant in the context of current poly-crisis (e.g., the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine conflict), which have put public health and health systems at centre stage and showed the negative effects of decreased investments in health systems. Ongoing discussions about rebuilding better, more effective, and resilient health systems need to incorporate health and wellbeing as core principles and highlight the high returns that health investments offer for society.

In the upcoming months, the Health Systems & Economics cluster will work with EPHA members on the topic of the healthcare workforce, the shortages and challenges they are facing, and develop recommendations on the matter. Furthermore, EPHA will develop, with external support, a scoping paper on developing work on health and health systems and the economy of wellbeing. The cluster will also seek to develop advocacy on other topics, such as health systems resilience and EU budget policy.

Our latest and upcoming publications and activities include:

- A scoping paper on opportunities for engagement on health and health systems and the economy of wellbeing;
- A joint paper with EPHA members on the healthcare workforce and the challenges they are facing.

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Clémentine Richer Delforge
Policy Officer
clementine.richer-delforge@epha.org
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), air pollution, climate change and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) are among humanity’s leading global public health threats, threats that know no borders. Europe has ambitious goals: to be the first climate neutral continent by 2050, and a world leader in tackling air pollution and AMR. The European Union and its Member States have enough resources both to lead the mitigation and adaptation changes needed for the climate transition and to set the bar high on preventing and preparing for AMR and other threats. At the same time, they can and should support implementing these solutions worldwide.

EPHA’s work focuses on transforming these promises into reality. We advocate for a clean transition from a carbon-intensive society based on fossil fuels to a more inclusive and sustainable society and for the EU to take loud and effective action in the global fight against AMR. We do all of this through the lenses of One Health and Planetary Health, which takes a wider view of determinants of health, rather than an individualistic view.

More specifically, at the Global Public Health cluster we aim to improve air quality and mitigate climate change in our cities by promoting EU policy ending fossil fuel use in our everyday lives, in areas as varied as transport and heating and cooking. We also seek to scale up AMR prevention and preparedness to save millions of lives and ensure the continued effectiveness of current healthcare practices.

As climate change visibly destabilises our planet and AMR more subtly breaks down our defence systems, we face the future with increased uncertainty and alarm.

Recent work and achievement in the cluster include advocacy in favour of a strong, ambitious Ambient Air Quality Directive, fully in line with the WHO recommendations, which was passed by the ENVI Committee in 2023. Work on clean cooking has seen EPHA’s report (with CLASP) featured in over 400 articles worldwide and has created opportunities to engage with DG ENER in Consultation Forums and Stakeholder contact groups. EPHA is seen as a reliable stakeholder in AMR, including to institutions such as DG Sante, ECDC and holding the secretariat of the MEP Interest Group on AMR. Our work has seen us supported by large donors such as the Oak Foundation, Clean Air Fund and European Climate Foundation. EPHA also joined the AMR Multi-Stakeholder Partnership Platform, hosted by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and as an accredited stakeholder to WHO Europe on AMR.
The members of our cluster are:

- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- Association of School of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
- Bulgarian Association for Patients’ Rights Defence (BAPD)
- Eurocam
- European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP UEMS SP)
- European Association of Hospital Pharmacists (EAHP)
- European Cancer Organisation (ECO)
- European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH)
- European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Institute of Women’s Health (EIWH)
- European Medical Students’ Association (EMSA)
- European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health (Euronet MRPH)
- European Pharmaceutical Students’ Association (EPSA)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- European Specialist Nurses Organisations (ESNO)
- European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM)
- International Federation of Anthroposophical Medical Associations (IVAA)
- International Society of Doctors for Environment – Italy (ISDE-Italy)
- Polish Society for Health Programs (PSHP - PTPZ)
- Wemos

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Cristina Pricop  
Policy Manager  
cristina.pricop@epha.org

Loyse Quéau  
Policy Officer  
loyse.queau@epha.org

For AMR, contact Madda Henry Magbity (madda.magbity@epha.org)
“Technological progress has merely provided us with more efficient means for going backwards,” Aldous Huxley, the dystopian-minded author of Brave New World, once remarked.

In the EPHA Digital Transformation cluster, however, we take an optimistic mindset and focus on making technological development in health work in the benefit of everyone. We coordinate our members’ work on digital health issues and highlight key policy initiatives such as the European Health Data Space. By coming together and exchanging information, knowledge, and expertise, we make our advocacy efforts more efficient. Our goal is for the digital transformation of healthcare to leave no one behind. We advocate for inclusive digital health policies, for empowering all citizens by getting digital health literacy higher on the EU political agenda, and for the ethical use of artificial intelligence and patient health data. In addition, we insist on more direct patient and patient representative involvement in the co-creation of digital health solutions in health and care. As a member of the expert advisory eHealth Stakeholder Group, EPHA provides direct input to the EU Commission on digital health issues.

Technological progress doesn’t have to end in dystopia: will you join us in ensuring a future where it makes all our lives better?
The members of our cluster are:

- European Heart Network (EHN)
- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- International Diabetes Federation (IDF)
- European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG)
- The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME)
- France Assos Sante
- Mental Health Europe (MHE/SME)
- European Council of Optometry and Optics (ECOO)
- Malta Health Network (MHN)
- Bulgarian Association for Patients’ Rights Defence (BAZP)
- No Excuse Slovenia
- European Institute of Women’s Health (EIWH)

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Jaisalmer De Frutos Lucas
Policy Officer
jaisalmer.defrutos-lucas@epha.org
Politics & Health

With a wide range of issues to cover at the intersection of Politics and Health, our work in this cluster focuses on improving EU policymaking, keeping public health at the top of the EU agenda, and ensuring that civil society has a voice in EU policymaking. Meaningful engagement of civil society in policymaking is crucial for democracy and for enhancing public trust. As a key piece of EU policymaking, we also focus on the role of the EU Better Regulation agenda.

The Politics and Health cluster has also been focusing its activity on the preparation of advocacy tools ahead of the European elections of 2024. In June 2023, EPHA’s key priorities ahead of the elections were published. Further activities in that regard are planned, including a more developed version of the manifesto with key health policy issues to be tackled by the next Commission.

The Politics and Health cluster relies on the cooperation with health NGOs through the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance, which includes EPHA members and partners. The Alliance was first launched as a campaign that focused on keeping health on the EU political agenda. In 2021 and 2022, it organised a successful campaign to secure the continuation of Operating Grants for NGOs by DG SANTE, which allowed for this funding instrument to be provided for 2022 and 2023. The Civil Society Alliance is also advocating for the engagement of civil society in EU policy-making processes, on the strengthening of social dialogue, and on the preparation of the 2024 European elections.

Our latest and upcoming publications and activities include:

- An event in the European Parliament calling for sustainable funding for civil society;
- Joint statement with the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance advocating for the sustainable funding for civil society and the continuation of Operating Grants for Health NGOs;
- EPHA’s and the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance’s manifestos ahead of the European elections;
- Participation in the Better Regulation for Better Health project with the University of Edinburgh;
- Preparation of further advocacy activities around the 2024 European elections.

You sure want to join us and benefit from our established advocacy platform?
The members of the EU4Health Civil Society Alliance are:

- Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)
- Association of European Coeliac Societies (AOECS)
- Eurocam
- European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG)
- European Alcohol Policy Alliance (Eurocare)
- European Central Council of Homeopaths (ECCH)
- European Cancer Organisation (ECCO)
- European Heart Network (EHN)
- European Liver Patients’ Association (ELPA)
- European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention (ENSP)
- European Respiratory Society (ERS)
- Health Action International (HAI)
- International Diabetes Federation (Europe)
- International Federation of Anthroposophical Medical Associations (IVAA)
- Mental Health Europe (MHE/SME)
- Smoke Free Partnership
- Wemos

For more information, don’t hesitate to contact:

Clémentine Richer Delforge
Policy Officer
clementine.richer-delforge@epha.org