



# ACCESS TO MEDICINES FORUM

8 December 2023

Scotland House, Brussels

# ABOUT EPHA'S ACCESS TO MEDICINE ADVOCACY

---

The Access to Medicines (A2M) Forum, hosted annually by EPHA, serves as a platform for facilitating discussions regarding pharmaceutical and medicine policies in the Brussels area and beyond.

The A2M Forum contributes to the capacity-building for various stakeholders, including patients, healthcare professionals, payers medicine agencies, European policymakers, health law experts, on the topic of access to medicines.





# WELCOME TO THE 6TH EDITION OF EPHA'S ACCESS TO MEDICINES FORUM!

---

The revision of the EU pharmaceutical legislation brings unique opportunities to restore the balance between the public and the private interest and ensure affordable access to quality, safe, innovative, and effective medicines.

The 2023 edition of EPHA's A2M Forum will therefore provide the opportunity for EPHA members and partners of our hosted European Alliance for Responsible R&D and Affordable Medicines to engage in meaningful exchanges with a broad spectrum of stakeholders.

In this 6th edition of the Forum, we will delve into the need for more effective and fair incentives to promote antibiotic development and securing access to existing ones. We will also discuss ways forward to improve transparency of pharmaceutical R&D costs in the context of the revision of the EU pharmaceutical legislation to ensure fair medicine prices



# 6TH EPHA ACCESS TO MEDICINES FORUM

## Programme

8.12.2023 | 9:30 AM -1 PM | SCOTLAND HOUSE, BRUSSELS

9:00 - 9:30 **REGISTRATION AND COFFEE**

### OPENING REMARKS

9:30 - 9:35

Milka Sokolović - Director General, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

### SETTING THE SCENE

9:35 - 9:45

Sarah Garner - Senior Policy Advisor, Access to Medicines and Health Products, WHO Regional Office for Europe

### SESSION 1: DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO NEW ANTIBIOTICS: INNOVATIVE AND FAIR INCENTIVES FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

Moderated by Tamsin Rose.

9:45 - 10:45

- Helle Aagaard | ReAct – Action on Antibiotic Resistance
- Dimitri Eynikel | EU Policy and Advocacy Advisor, Médecins Sans Frontières | Doctors Without Borders – Access Campaign
- Dr Dimitra Panteli | Programme Manager and Senior Health Systems Analyst – European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- Dr Rosa Castro | Senior Advocacy Officer at DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung)



# 6TH EPHA ACCESS TO MEDICINES FORUM

## Programme

8.12.2023 | 9:30 AM -1 PM | SCOTLAND HOUSE, BRUSSELS

10:45 -  
11:00

### COFFEE BREAK

### SESSION 2: PAVING THE WAY TOWARDS FAIR MEDICINE PRICING: ENSURING TRANSPARENCY OF R&D COSTS

Moderated by Tamsin Rose.

11:00 -  
12:00

- Anna Prokupkova | Health Policy Advisor – Greens/EFA Group at European Parliament
- Dr Javier de la Cueva | Lawyer specialised in free intellectual property licenses
- Anne Hendrickx | Advisor in the Research department of Solidaritas (Belgian mutual fund), Fair pricing calculator
- Suzannah Chapman | Health Policy Analyst, Health Division, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs – OECD

### CLOSING REMARKS

12:00 -  
12:05

Milka Sokolović - Director General, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

12:10 -  
13:00

### NETWORKING LUNCH



---

### Dr Milka Sokolović

Director General, European Public Health Alliance

As Director General of EPHA, the European Public Health Alliance, Dr Milka Sokolović supports the organisation's relentless work to improve health, and strengthen the voice of public health in Europe.

She started her career in Belgrade's Institute for Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, studying the expression and function of human SOX genes. The majority of her 15 academic years, however, took place at the University of Amsterdam, where she studied the intermediary metabolism of starvation and obesity, and taught subjects like medical biochemistry, DNA technology, metabolism and genomics.

Moving to Brussels, to the European Food Information Council, she led the Department of Food & Health Science for eight years, translating the complexity of science into "human" language, to help people make sense and use of it.

For five years Milka also acted as a Director of the Advanced Programme of the European Nutrition Leadership Platform, supporting food and nutrition professionals in making a lasting difference in the European public health landscape. Milka holds a degree in Biology from the University of Belgrade, and a PhD in Medicine from the University of Amsterdam.



---

### Dr Sarah Garner

Senior Policy Advisor, Access to  
Medicines and Health Products, WHO  
Regional Office for Europe

Sarah Garner PhD, BPharm is currently the Senior Policy Advisor, Access to Medicines and Health Products, WHO Regional Office for Europe. Sarah is a pharmacist specializing in global access issues and she is responsible for the strategic planning and delivery of ministerial policy dialogues and technical support to improve patient access in the 53 Countries of the WHO European Region. This includes pharmaceutical systems strengthening, regulation, selection, HTA, pricing and procurement. Sarah is the lead for the WHO/Europe Access to Novel Medicines Platform.

Her previous roles have included the Coordinator for the ‘Innovation, Access and Use’ Team in the Essential Medicines and Health Products Department at WHO HQ and the Associate Director for Science Policy and Research at the UK’s National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), and Pharmacist Lead for the UK Government’s Special Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance. Sarah was the technical lead for the Oslo Medicines Initiative and has led policy work-packages of public private research partnerships funded by the EU Innovative Medicines Initiative (GetReal, ADAPTSMART and Big Data for Better Outcomes) which have developed policy proposals for the adaptive pathways and use of real-world data in pharmaceutical development, regulatory and HTA decision making. In 2010-11 Sarah was a Harkness Fellow in Healthcare Policy and Practice in the United States. Her research examined the impact of comparative effectiveness research and Health Technology Assessment on pharmaceutical and MedTech innovation.

Sarah is an honorary professor at University College London and Manchester Universities with over 90 publications in peer reviewed journals.





---

## Helle Aagaard

ReAct – Action on Antibiotic Resistance

Helle Aagaard is a senior policy expert and the Deputy Director at ReAct – Action on Antibiotic Resistance (Europe) where she over the past seven years she has been working on antibiotic resistance and antibiotic R&D policy issues. Helle has more than 10 years' experience working on global health policy and access to medicines, including 6 years in Brussels working for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and as a political advisor in the European Parliament. Helle is originally a trained journalist from the Danish School of Journalism, with an MA degree in Human Rights and Democratisation.



---

## Dimitri Eynikel

ReAct – Action on Antibiotic Resistance

Versatile advocate and analyst in the area of humanitarian assistance, health and international relations. Currently advocating for better access to medicines at the European Union (commission, parliament and council) Experience in providing analysis and advocating on: access to medicines, access to health care & aid delivery in conflict zones, violence against health care workers. Based in Brussel, Belgium. Previously, lived and worked in South Africa, UK, Haiti, Libya, Afghanistan, Pakistan, DRC, CAR, South Sudan, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Iraq.



---

### Dimitra Panteli

Programme Manager and Senior Health Systems Analyst – European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Dimitra is a member of the Observatory’s Senior Management Team and is based at the Secretariat in Brussels. She leads the Observatory’s pillar of work on Innovation and supports its knowledge brokering activities in evidence briefings, webinars and policy dialogues. Dimitra has a medical degree and a doctorate in public health. She spent the 2016–2017 academic year as a Commonwealth Fund Harkness Fellow in Washington, DC. Dimitra has been involved in research around pharmaceutical regulation for more than ten years and produced relevant policy-informing publications. Most recently, she co-authored a policy brief on ensuring access to new and existing antibiotics in the context of addressing AMR in collaboration with the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



---

### Dr Rosa Castro

Senior Advocacy Officer at the Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung

Rosa is Senior Advocacy Officer at Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW), a global development organization advocating for sustained funding and better policies to support the development of tools to fight poverty-related and neglected diseases. In Brussels, she has also worked at the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the Federation of European Academies of Medicine (FEAM), and Milieu Consulting. Previously, she was a postdoctoral Fellow at the European University Institute, and at Duke University, USA, and a lecturer on intellectual property and international health law.



---

### Anna Prokúpková

Health Policy Advisor, Greens/EFA Group  
at European Parliament

Anna is an Advisor for the Greens/EFA Group at the European Parliament (EP) on health policy, building and representing the party's interests in technical negotiations on legislation and non-legislative files, including the European Health Union, the pharmaceutical legislation and the European Health Data Space. Before joining the Greens in January 2021, Anna led advocacy activities of the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), a European umbrella organisation of national cancer charities. Anna was born and raised in Prague, has a Bachelor degree in International Area Studies from the Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic) and a Master degree in European Studies from KU Leuven (Belgium). Anna's first Brussels job was at Covington & Burling LLP, where she worked as a paralegal in the Life Sciences team and became deeply involved in the EU's health and environment policy.



---

### Javier de la Cueva

Lawyer specialised in free intellectual  
property licenses

Javier de la Cueva works as a lawyer specialised in intellectual property rights, as a lecturer and as a researcher in EU Horizon projects. He holds a master and a PhD in Philosophy, and has participated as independent advisor in the draft of the Spanish National Open Science Strategy 2023-2027. He is member of the board of directors of Fundación Ciudadana Civio, where he litigates for public sector transparency, with two favourable rulings in medicine prices. His last work was the report mandated by the EU Commission 'Open Science and Intellectual Property Rights. How can they better interact? State of the art and reflections' (2022)



---

### Anne Hendrickx

Advisor in the Research department of Solidaris, Fair pricing calculator

Anne Hendrickx holds a Master in Economics from the ULB (Brussels). After 9 years of humanitarian work for the Red Cross and MSF, she became in 2003 the advisor in charge of the pharmaceutical policy in the cabinet of the Belgian Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health. Since 2015, she works in the Research department of the mutual fund Solidaris. She is a member of the Committee for Reimbursement of Medicines of the NIHDI, the Belgian committee for drugs appraisal. She has the technical lead on AIM's European calculator of Fair Prices of medicines and is the co-lead for the pricing models developed by ASCERTAIN (Horizon Europe project).



---

### Suzannah Chapman

Health Policy Analyst, Health Division,  
Directorate for Employment, Labour and  
Social Affairs – OECD

Suzannah Chapman has been working as a health policy analyst in the Health Division of the Directorate for Employment, Labour & Social Affairs at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) since 2019. As a member of the Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices team she works on issues around transparency of pharmaceutical markets, access to medicines, medicine shortages, and pricing and reimbursement, among others. Before joining the OECD, Suzannah worked as a clinical hospital pharmacist in Brisbane, Australia, and completed a Master of Public Health degree in Paris.

# ACCESS TO MEDICINES FORUM

8 December 2023

Scotland House, Brussels

#A2MForum



European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) AISBL  
Rue de Trèves 49-51, 1040 Brussels (B) • +32 02  
230 30 56  
[www.epha.org](http://www.epha.org) • [epha@epha.org](mailto:epha@epha.org) @EPHA\_EU  
Transparency Register Number: 18941013532-08

