

December 2023

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## **International & European Institutions**

#### ( World Health Organization

Mental health of refugees and migrants: risk and protective factors and access to care



# Mental health of refugees and migrants: risk and protective factors and access to care

## World Health Organization

This recent reports aims to provide findings and policy considerations that will facilitate international dialogue and knowledge sharing about the health needs of refugees and migrants and how to address these, as well as strategically supporting policy-making that both fosters public health and protects the right to health of refugees and migrants.

**READ MORE** 

## Tackling the scourge of racism: FRA calls for respect and condemns all expressions of racism, including hate speech and violence



## European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

The recent 'Being Black in the EU' report, published by the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights paints a worrying picture; incidents of intolerance and racial discrimination are increasing. In this statement, the agency takes a firm stand against racism, and once again repeats the call for member states to address systemic and structural racism

**READ MORE** 

## New ODIHR guidelines to improve access to healthcare and housing for Roma and Sinti communities presented in Warsaw

## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

According to Daniel Radulescu of Sastipen, "Roma and Sinti communities continue to experience inequalities in accessing healthcare services, and often face stereotyping by healthcare workers and even segregation". To address this issue, the OSCE's

ODIHR office has released a set of guidelines to help civil society with identifying ways to ensure Roma get the healthcare they have a right to.

## **READ MORE**

## Integrating the social determinants of health into health workforce education and training

## World Health Organization

It is no secret that our health is dictated by much more than just the health systems we live in and make use of. Non-medical or social causes, often named the 'social determinants of health' have a profound impact on our health, yet understanding of this is often lacking among both healthcare workers and patients. This report by the WHO makes the case for why social and healthcare workers should have a better grasp of this concept to ensure effective support. It also provides methods on how this can be achieved





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## **Research Developments**

## The 2023 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: the imperative for a health-centred response in a world facing irreversible harms

#### The Lancet

The Lancet Countdown is an international research collaboration that independently monitors the evolving impacts of climate change on health, and the emerging health opportunities of climate action. In its eighth iteration, this 2023 report highlights that seizing the opportunity to secure a healthier future has never been more vital. Ensuring that a thriving future remains in reach will require the coordinated action of health professionals, policy makers, corporations, and financial institutions.



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# thebmj

# THE LANCET

## Tackling racism in maternal care

#### BMJ

Inequalities in maternal health outcomes for ethnic minority and Indigenous populations across the globe are driven by cultural, structural, and interpersonal racism. Strategies to mitigate this racial injustice require government commitment, structural policy changes, and community led solutions. Biomedically driven interventions alone will not fix this, and novel systemic approaches are required to tackle the social determinants.

## Time to treat the climate and nature crisis as one indivisible global health emergency

## The Lancet

Over 200 health journals call on the UN, political leaders, and health professionals to recognise that climate change and biodiversity loss are one indivisible crisis and must be tackled together to preserve health and avoid catastrophe. This overall environmental crisis is now so severe as to be a global health emergency.

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# Work-related causes of mental health conditions and interventions for their improvement in workplaces

## The Lancet

Mental health problems and disorders are common among working people and are costly for the affected individuals, employers, and whole of society. This discussion paper provides an overview of the current state of knowledge on the relationship between work and mental health to inform research, policy, and practice

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## In the Media

# Mental health must be upheld as a universal human right

## Al Jazeera

Multiplying and escalating crises are placing ever greater strains on people's mental health and the services available to support them. From the lingering effects of COVID-19, the uptick in climate-related emergencies and the ongoing impacts of conflict and displacement in many regions, more and more people are suffering



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# Health in a Handbasket - Episode 4: Does healthcare have a racism problem?

## **University College London**

As part of the Health in a Handbasket Podcast series, this episode covers the health inequalities among ethnic minorities. It covers topics such as childbirth and mental health treatment. Shoba Poduval approaches these concepts based on her expertise in digital technology, explaining how health inequalities could be resolved by digital health services through an anti-racist health lens.



LISTEN HERE

## The double discrimination faced by women with disabilities

## Euractiv

The discussions on the European Disability Card are currently taking place in the European Parliament's FEMM committee. One point they warned about is the lack of awareness on double discrimination faced by women with disabilities. Though the Card is a great step in the right direction, it remains crucial to be aware of certain groups that may fall through the cracks because of intersectional discrimination.

## **READ MORE**

## **Other News**



## Children's Rights: Political will or won't?

## Eurochild

On World Children's Day on 20 November, Eurochild published a new report Children's Rights: Political will or won't? The report aims to identify good and promising practices, working solutions, and country-specific recommendations for EU decision-makers and national governments to draw from when addressing children's needs





# Good practices guide for LGBTI+ inclusive healthcare - INSIGHT Project

## **INSIGHT Project**

The Good Practices Guide, aims to contribute to the establishment of an inclusive healthcare system by offering HEI healthcare undergraduate students and current healthcare professionals up-to-date information on LGBTI+ healthcare needs and the existing barriers for LGBTI+ individuals when accessing health services, along with concrete guidance and examples of good practices for the participating countries on fighting barriers.

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## Le ho Th In of of ar na int wh

# Letter: Breaking the vicious circle of poor housing and poor health

## The Guardian

READ MORE

In a letter to the Guardian, the Association of Directors of Public Health call attention the crucial consideration of housing for health. Improving housing takes effort, and a local effort should be strongly complemented by a national effort as well, while also keeping the strong influence of poverty in mind. This requires a perspective which moves beyond just the health space, and into housing policy and other forms of policy as well.





Racism, discrimination, and health: a human rights-based approach

## **EPHA and OHCHR**

Together with the OHCHR, EPHA co-organised an event to bring together stakeholders on the topics of racism, discrimination and health. This was another step in calling attention to a topic that is too often forgotten. In case you missed the event, all sessions have since been uploaded to EPHA's YouTube channel, where you can watch each of them separately.

WATCH THE RECORDINGS HERE

#### UPDATE YOUR MAILING PREFERENCES

#### UNSUBSCRIBE FROM EPHA COMMUNICATIONS

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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