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.

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.

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.
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.

READ MORE

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.

READ MORE

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.

READ MORE

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.

READ MORE
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.

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.

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.

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

The Guardian

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.

Past Events

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