



EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting (19 April 2023)

Stakeholders' Dialogue: Joint Statements, Study results and discussion on Platform improvements

The EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting took place on 19 April 2023 and showcased the Joint Statements prepared by the 2022 Thematic Networks. These Joint Statements are the culmination of several months of exchange and research, each of them in a particular area of public health.

The second part of the meeting was dedicated to the first results of the EU Health Policy Platform study by Tetra Tech.

Close to 300 people from all over Europe and beyond followed the EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting was open and chaired by Stefan Schreck, Adviser for Stakeholder relations, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission.

MORNING SESSION

Presentation of the 2022 Joint Statements

The presentation of the Joint Statements that have been prepared by health stakeholder organisations is a central part of the Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting.

The 2022 Thematic Networks and their corresponding Joint Statements are:

“DisQo: anti-discrimination & health equity” presented by Raymond Gemen, Senior Policy Manager for Health Inequalities, European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)

- This Joint Statement brings together stakeholders across policy domains

(employment, education, health, housing, poverty, justice, and fundamental rights), facilitates dialogue and best practice sharing among them, and provides support and incentives to the European Commission and national policymakers to advance the work on anti-racism and anti-discrimination to reduce the health inequity gap.

“HIV, Tuberculosis, Viral Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infections” presented by Sini Pasanen, member of the Coordination Team of the EU Civil Society Forum on HIV, viral hepatitis and tuberculosis (CSF) and Yuliia Kalancha, Executive Director of the TB Europe Coalition.

- This Joint Statement examines outstanding challenges and nurture collaboration among stakeholders to ensure continuity of prevention, treatment and care and better quality of life for all people living with or most affected by HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, tuberculosis (especially drug-resistant) and sexually transmitted infections, including an adapted response for displaced and mobile people and other migrant populations.

“Mental Health in All Policies” presented by Francesca Centola, Policy and Knowledge Officer, Mental Health Europe (MHE).

- This Joint Statement shares knowledge and provides policy recommendations on how to develop (or expand existing)

mechanisms and approaches for integrated policies and actions to promote and protect mental health.

“Navigating Health Inequalities in the EU through Artificial Intelligence” presented by presented by Dr. Pin Lean Lau, Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Bio-Law, Centre for Artificial Intelligence: Social and Digital Innovations, Brunel Law School, Brunel University London and Janneke van Oirschot, Research Officer, Health Action International.

- This Joint Statement considers how we may leverage AI-driven technologies to improve healthcare and wider (e.g. productivity) outcomes and reduce inequalities in the European Union (EU), whilst also ensuring that such inequalities are not augmented or magnified or even that new iterations of inequalities are not created.

The Joint Statements received feedback from representatives from the European Commission’s Directorate General for Health and Food Safety.

A question-and-answer session provided the opportunity to find out more about the Joint Statements, which are now up for endorsement.

In a roundtable discussion, the leaders of the Thematic Networks shared lessons learned and their experiences of working with the Health Policy Platform. All of them appreciated the opportunity to collaborate and to exchange ideas and experiences in the networks, especially through the live webinars. They all also thanked the Commission for its support in co-hosting these events.

Asked what they would recommend to future leaders, they unanimously said to start working on the Joint Statements immediately, in order to draft and deliver their final Joint Statements in time for the EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting. In a lightning-quick last round, leaders

were asked to provide key take-aways and appeal for endorsements for their Joint Statements.

Endorsing a Joint Statement means showing support for the initiative and to the organisation that is leading it. **Endorsements can be made by contacting the network leaders in the Thematic Network section of the [EU Health Policy Platform \(registration required\)](#) or by email until 22 May.** The Thematic Networks are accessible by all EU Health Policy Platform members.

AFTERNOON SESSION

First results EU Health Policy Platform study and possible improvements

Tetra Tech presented the first results of the EU Health Policy Platform study, followed by breakout sessions where participants onsite and online had the opportunity to exchange on the Platform’s activities.

After presenting the conclusions and the next steps, the chaired closed the EU Health Policy Platform Annual Meeting.

The recording of this event, the presentations and Joint Statements are available on:

- the EU Public Health website https://health.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-health-policy-platform-annual-meeting-2023-04-19_en
- the EU Health Policy Platform (Agora network) registration required: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hpf/>

Register now in the EU Health Policy Platform, if you haven’t yet done so, to receive and share the latest public health news and events:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hpf/>