



EUROPEAN UNION

EU MISSIONS



Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges

EU Mission on Cancer: stepping up research and innovation

Walter Ricciardi – Chair of the Mission Board on Cancer

#EUmissions #HorizonEU

The Mission-oriented research and innovation approach



2018



2019



« Missions provide a solution, an opportunity, and an approach to address the numerous *challenges that people face in their daily lives* ».

“ Missions’ goal is to *involve citizens and stakeholders more closely in setting research priorities, but not only, which will lead to equal access for everyone in Europe to the best of European innovation & research resources, and global know-how*”

Professor Mariana Mazzucato

5 Mission Areas



Adaptation to climate change, including societal transformation



Cancer



Soil health & food

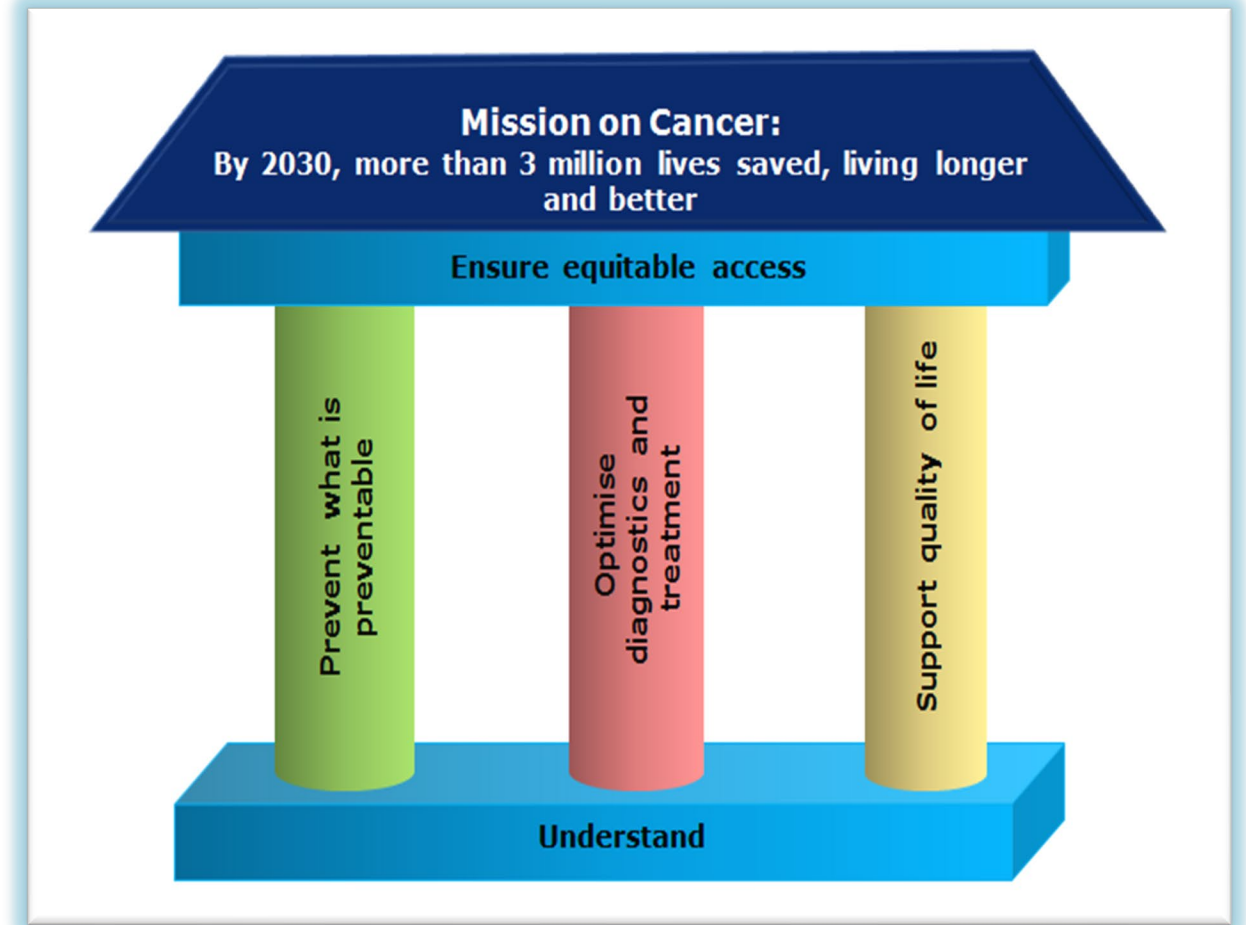


Climate-neutral & smart cities



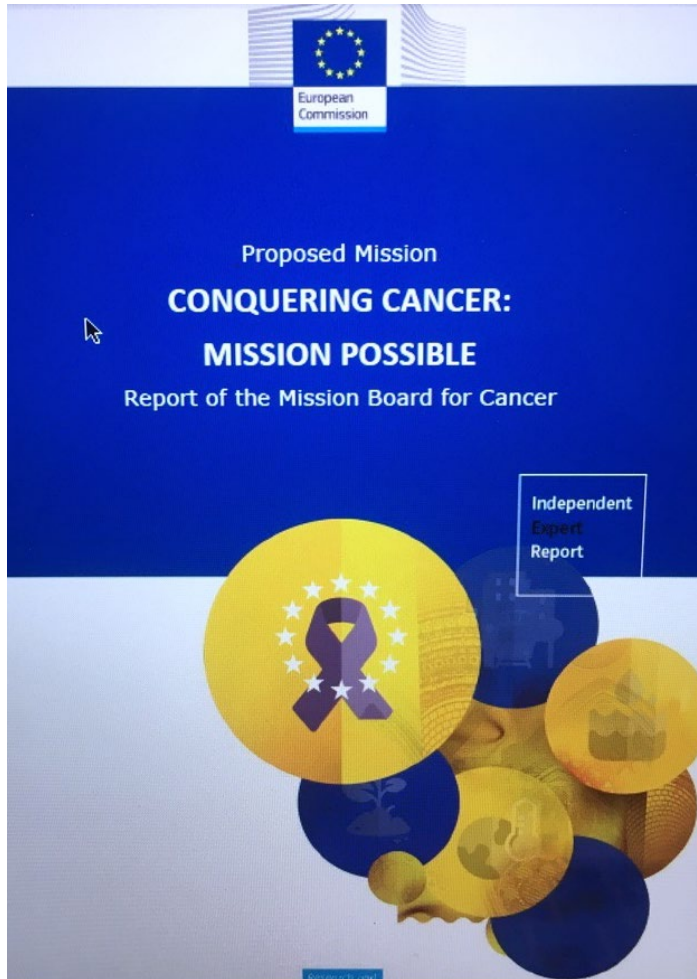
Healthy oceans, seas, coastal & inland waters

5 intervention areas to reach The Cancer Mission target



**13 patient/citizen centered
recommendations for bold actions**

Reports of the 5 Missions
Sept 2020



<https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-law-and-publications/publication-detail/-/publication/d0235612-b68a-11ea-bb7a-01aa75ed71a1>

Green light for the 5 Missions
September 2021

Launch of the 5 Missions

Implementation Plans

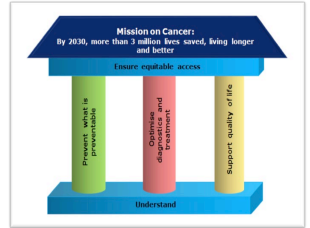
29 September 2021

€1.9 billion until 2023.



https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/implementation-plans-eu-missions_en

13 Bold recommendations for bold actions



- 1 Launch **UNCAN.eu** – a European Initiative to Understand Cancer
- 2 Develop an EU-wide research programme to identify **(poly-) genic risk scores**
- 3 Support the development and implementation of **effective cancer prevention strategies and policies** within Member States at the EU
- 4 Optimise existing **screening programmes** and develop novel approaches for screening and early detection
- 5 Advance and implement **personalised medicine approaches** for all cancer patients in Europe
- 6 Develop an EU-wide research programme on **early diagnostic** and **minimally invasive treatment/ technologies**
- 7 Develop an EU-wide **research programme and policy support to improve the quality of life** of cancer patients and survivors, family members and carers, and all persons with an increased risk of cancer
- 8 Create a **European Cancer Patient Digital Centre** where cancer patients and survivors can deposit and share their data for personalised care
- 9 Achieve **Cancer Health Equity** in the EU across the continuum of the disease
- 10 Set up a **network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures** within and across all EU Member States to increase quality of research and care
- 11 **Childhood cancers and cancers in adolescents and young adults: cure more and cure better**
- 12 Accelerate **innovation** and implementation of new technologies and **create Oncology-focused Living Labs** to conquer cancer
- 13 **Transform cancer culture, communication and capacity building**

- « **With ERNs** »
- « **Rare Cancers** »
- « **Model of ERNs** »
- « **Link with ERNs** »
- « **Cross border** »
- « **Network** »

Prevention, screening and early detection: principles

- Prevention is the most cost-efficient long-term cancer control strategy and it is better than any cure.
- Prevention is supported through policies such as the promotion of health-enhancing physical activity and sport. It is known that 40% of cancers could be prevented²⁵, but an enhanced and more personalised understanding of effective prevention measures is needed as well as improvements of the existing prevention programmes.
- Health literacy among EU citizens offers room for improvement. In general, citizens are not aware that certain cancers can be prevented or avoided through disease prevention strategies.
- National screening programmes exist for only three cancers (colorectal, breast and cervical), are not risk-based, and not all of the targeted population have access to them, including persons with disabilities.
- As quality assurance and available resources vary across screening programmes, they do not always reach their objectives. In addition, the general population (and general practitioners) are not fully aware of cancer symptoms, limiting the early detection of cancer.

Prevention, screening and early detection: actions

Prevention

- 1) Develop a one-stop cancer information centre on prevention (2022-2025):
- 2) Boost research and innovation into risk assessment (2024-2027)
- 3) Conduct implementation research on cancer prevention (2022-2030)
- 4) Establish synergies on prevention with other missions (2023-2026)

Screening and early detection

- 1) Optimise and improve access to existing screening programmes (2024-2029):
- 2) Develop new methods and technologies for screening and early detection (2021-2026):
- 3) Develop early predictors/tests (2025-2030)

Many of the actions proposed by the Mission Board under this specific objective have been included in the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, which outlines a comprehensive policy and regulatory agenda on prevention.

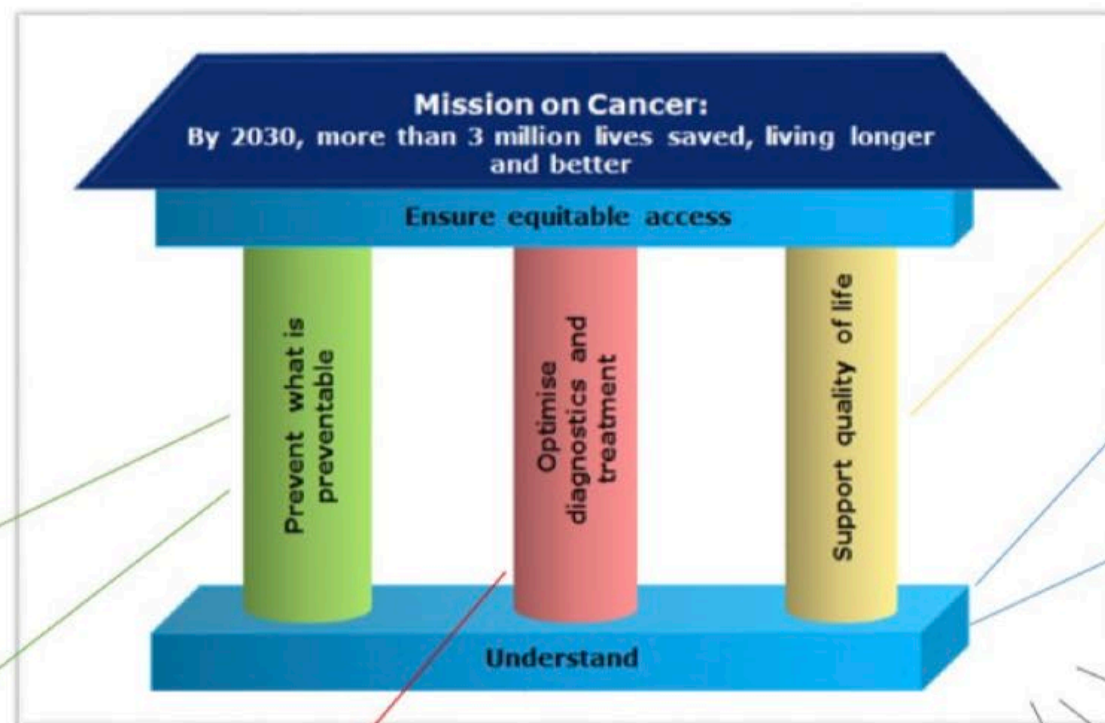
Furthermore, the Mission on Cancer helped shape the new Knowledge Centre on Cancer, launched by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in June 2021, which will expand its European Cancer Information System (ECIS) and its Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Knowledge Gateway to become an 'evidence clearing house' on prevention.



Horizon Europe Mission WP2021-2022 topics

Overall approach

- Apply mission-guiding principles
- Cooperation with Cancer Plan
- Budget 2021-2022: € 255 M



Develop new methods and technologies for screening and early detection
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-01

Improving and upscaling primary prevention of cancer through implementation research
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-01

Pragmatic clinical trials to optimise treatments for patients with refractory cancers
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-03

Establishing of national cancer mission hubs and creation of network to support the Mission on Cancer
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-05

Develop and validate a set of quality of life measures for cancer patients and survivors
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-02

Preparing UNCAN.eu, a European initiative to understand cancer
HORIZON-MISS-2021-UNCAN-01-01

Better understanding of the impact of risk factors and health determinants on the development and progression of cancer
HORIZON-MISS-2021-CANCER-02-03

Strengthen research capacities of comprehensive cancer infrastructures
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-02

Towards the creation of a European Cancer Patient Digital Centre
HORIZON-MISS-2022-CANCER-01-04

Thanks for your attention