



European
Commission

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY CONFERENCE

An EU comprehensive approach that prioritises
sound mental health for all

10 OCTOBER 2023

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Moderator: **Belle de Jong**, Mental health journalist and advocate

08.20 – 09:00 Registration and coffee

09.30 – 10.10 Opening and keynote speeches

Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians

Stella Kyriakides, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety

Marc Angel, Vice-President of the European Parliament

Dr Hans Henri P Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe (video message)

A message from Ukraine: **Olena Zelenska**, First Lady of Ukraine (video message)

10.10 – 11:00 **A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO MENTAL HEALTH**

Testimonial: **Rozina Spinnoy**, Founder of BIDS Belgium and member of Mental Health Europe

Keynote: **Jose Miñones**, Minister of Health, Spain (video message)

Moderated panel discussion

▶ **Sara Cerdas**, Member of European Parliament, Subcommittee on Public Health, rapporteur on a comprehensive approach to mental health

▶ **Catherine Brogan**, President of Mental Health Europe

▶ **Natalia Kallio**, European Youth Forum Board Member

11.00 – 11.25 Coffee break

11.25 – 11:35 Keynote: **Bertrand Bainvel**, UNICEF Representative to the European Institutions

11.35 – 12:25 **PRIORITISING PREVENTION THROUGH THE PROMOTION GOOD MENTAL HEALTH**

Dr Lydia Abela, First Lady of Malta and President of the Special Olympics Malta

Testimonial: **Gilmour Borg**, Athlete leader from Special Olympics Malta

Keynote: **Judit Bidló**, Deputy State Secretary for Health, Hungary

Moderated panel discussion

▶ **Dr Ledia Lazeri**, WHO Europe Regional Advisor

▶ **Francesca Colombo**, Head of the Health Division, OECD

▶ **Florian Prutsch**, ER nurse and Vice-President of the European Nursing Student Association

12.25 – 12.30 **MUSICAL INTERLUDE (Nele Fiers and Lieselotte Steenkiste)**

12.30 – 13.15 **EQUAL AND AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO TREATMENT AND CARE**

Testimonial: **Nicola Unterecker**, Patient advocate, Youth Cancer Europe

Keynote: **Frank Vandenbroucke**, Minister of Social Affairs, Belgium (video message)

Moderated panel discussion

▶ **Irena Bezić**, President of the European Association of Psychotherapy

▶ **Panu Saaristo**, Europe Region Manager, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

▶ **Kathleen Coppens**, Clinical psychologist and network coordinator BRU STARS

13:15 – 13.30 Closing remarks

Stella Kyriakides, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety