EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

EUPHA
EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

9TH EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE 2016

ALL FOR HEALTH, HEALTH FOR ALL

9 – 12 NOVEMBER 2016

AUSTRIA CENTER VIENNA, AUSTRIA

SUMMARY REPORT

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The 9th European Public Health Conference, Vienna 2016, is a collaboration of the European Association of Public Health (EUPHA), the European Public Health Conference Foundation and the Österreichische Gesellschaft für Public Health (ÖGPH)

EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

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INTRODUCTION

Vienna welcomed Europe and beyond to the 9th European Public Health Conference between 9 and 12 November 2016. Almost 1,850 delegates from over 70 countries gathered in Vienna to discuss and debate the state of global and European health from the perspective of research, methods and practices. The conference included 7 plenary sessions, 20 pre-conferences, 76 workshops, 44 oral sessions, 40 pitch sessions and 20 poster walks.

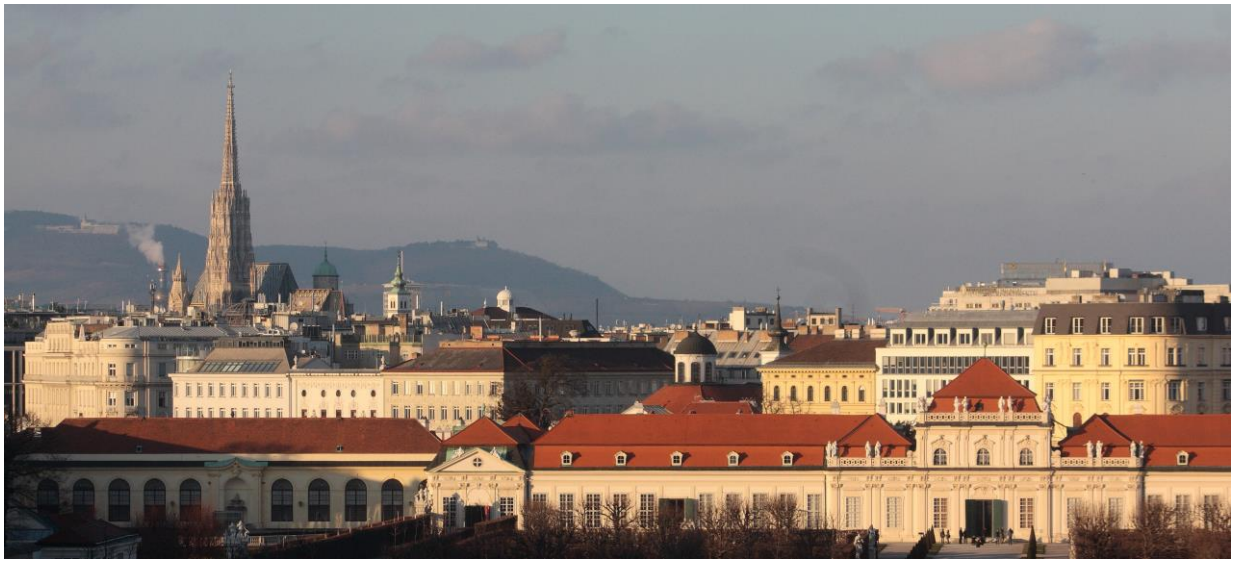
The EPH Conference was held in Austria Center Vienna (ACV), a few metro stops from Vienna's historic city centre.

During the four conference days, delegates had the opportunity to share findings from research and experiences with innovation in all fields of public health and health services.

The theme for the 9th EPH Conference was 'All for Health, Health for All'. A healthy population is a key requirement for the achievement of society's goals. Good health for all enhances quality of life, improves workforce productivity, increases the capacity for learning, strengthens families and communities, supports sustainable habitats and environments, and contributes to security, poverty reduction and social inclusion. Reducing inequalities improves health and well-being for all. However, escalating costs for treatment and care are placing unsustainable burdens on national and local resources such that broader developments may be held back.

The relation between health, well-being and economic development has been propelled up the political agenda of all countries. Increasingly, communities, employers and industries are expecting and demanding strong coordinated government action to promote health in all sectors of society and avoid duplication and fragmentation of actions.

Researchers, educators, policy makers, community representatives and health managers from Europe and beyond shared new information and insights from their experiences with this issue.



EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

1. VIENNA 2016: PROGRAMME

The European Public Health Conference is an annual scientific conference on public health topics organised throughout Europe. The EPH Conference is initiated by the European Public Health Association - EUPHA. The main purpose of the EPH Conference is to strengthen the capacity of public health professionals, researchers and policymakers by enhancing the exchange of knowledge, policy and best practice across Europe.

1.1. Plenary programme

The plenary programme of the 9th EPH Conference consisted of seven plenary sessions including an opening and a closing session.

Opening session of the 9th EPH Conference

Thursday 10 November 2016, 13:00-13:40
Thomas Dorner, Austria, Chair of the 9th EPH Conference 2016
Armin Fidler, Austria

Plenary 1: From Ottawa to Vienna: 30 years of the Ottawa Charter

Thursday 10 November 2016, 15:00-16:00 - Organised by EUPHA and EuroHealthNet
Nicoline Tamsma, EuroHealthNet (moderator)
Julian Mamo, EUPHA (moderator)
Gauden Galea, WHO Regional Office for Europe
Elodie Besnier, United Kingdom
Aida Tanios, Austria
Igor Grabovac, Austria
Lindsay Sullivan, Ireland
Emma Byström, Sweden
Evelyne de Leeuw, Australia
Bosse Pettersson, Sweden

Plenary 2: Achieving health in fragmented systems

Friday 11 November 2016,09:40-10:40 – Collaboration: Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger (HVB), Austria
Stephen Peckham, United Kingdom (moderator)
Josef Probst, Austria
Herwig Osterman, Austria
Tit Albreht, Slovenia
Claudia Stein, WHO Regional Office for Europe

Plenary 3: All for Health: The contribution of science to Planetary Health

Friday 11 November 2016, 14:00-15:00 - Organised by ASPHER
Jacqueline Müller-Nordhorn, ASPHER (moderator)
Richard Horton, The Lancet
Peter Groenewegen, The Netherlands
Matthew Fox, United States
Katarzyna Czabanowska, The Netherlands
Raquel Lucas, Portugal

Plenary 4: Health technologies, personalized health and equity: conflict or alignment?

Friday 11 November 2016, 17:50-18:50 - Organised by European Commission and European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Anjana Ahuja, United Kingdom (moderator)
Fabrizio Renzi, Italy
Martin McKee, United Kingdom
Rod Collins, United States
Isabel de la Mata, European Commission

Plenary 5: Health for All

Saturday 12 November 2016, 13:40-14:40 - Organised by EUPHA
Juergen Soffried, Austria (moderator)
Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Malta
Michael Moore, Australia
David Stuckler, United Kingdom
Allan Krasnik, Denmark
Teodora Krumova, Bulgaria

Closing session of the 9th EPH Conference

Saturday 12 November 2016, 14:40-15:25
Thomas Dorner, Austria, Chair of the 9th EPH Conference 2016
Martin McKee, United Kingdom
Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Malta
Birger Forsberg, Sweden, Chair of the 10th EPH Conference 2017

The Participants' Evaluation showed that 73% of the participants were satisfied to very satisfied with the plenary programme at Vienna 2016.

1.2. Parallel programme

The parallel programme reflected on a wide array of public health issues and ways of solving these issues at global, European, national, regional and local level. The parallel programme, offered two time slots of 90 minutes and eight time slots of 60 minutes. The available slots were filled with the following activities:

Workshop and invitational workshops
Thirty two 90-minute workshops and forty four 60-minute workshops were held with the following formats: regular workshop, skills building seminar, round table and pitch workshop. Invitational workshops were organised at the request of the conference organisers by Open Society Foundations (OSF), European Patients Forum (EPF) and by Austrian partners Diabetes Initiative, SportUnion, Fonds Gesundes Österreich.

Parallel sessions with oral presentations
These 60-minute sessions consisted of 8-minute oral presentations with few minutes of discussion around a common theme. Most sessions were co-chaired by two persons. In total, 220 oral presentations were held in 44 sessions.

Pitch sessions
Pitch presentations (5-minutes) were newly introduced a few years ago in Glasgow. Due to the positive evaluation by the delegates the pitch programme was extended first in Milan and now in Vienna. The programme included 40 pitch sessions with in total 320 presentations.

E-Poster walks
E-posters were newly introduced in Milan 2015. E-posters offer the opportunity to increase the number of accepted abstracts without compromising the high scientific quality of the conference. This year

measures have been taken to improve the conditions for the moderated poster sessions (less ambient noise, more screens). E-posters were displayed on large TV screens. The poster walks were held concurrently with the parallel programme: twenty 60-minute walks with 10-15 posters. In total, there were 200 E-poster presentations at Vienna 2016.

E-Poster displays
In Vienna, E-posters were displayed without presentation. In total, 153 posters were displayed. All posters were available for delegates to view at all times during the conference.

The Participants' Evaluation showed that 76% of the respondents were satisfied to very satisfied with the parallel programme at Vienna 2016.

1.3. Thematic tracks

The parallel programme of workshops and oral presentation sessions was structured in 16 thematic tracks, making it easier for delegates to follow a specific subject during the conference. The division in tracks was based on priorities in the field of public health and selected topics of the accepted abstracts.

Table 1: Overview of the 16 thematic tracks and type of session

Track	Theme	Workshop	Oral	Pitch	Poster
A	All for Health	5	3	2	-
B	Health for All	5	2	3	1
C	European Public Health	9	-	1	2
D	Health Promotion	2	4	4	1
E	Lifestyles	2	3	5	-
F	Chronic and Non-Communicable Diseases	4	4	2	2
G	Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health	6	2	2	-
H	Child and Adolescent Public Health	5	3	2	4
I	Mental Health	6	3	1	1
K	Health Information and Infectious Diseases	5	2	3	1
L	Inequalities and Social Empowerment	2	7	1	-
M	Health Services and Systems Research	5	3	2	2
N	Health and Care: Research, Policy and Practice	2	2	6	2
O	Health Data, Methodology, Monitoring and Reporting	4	3	3	1
P	Communication in Public Health	9	1	-	-
Q	Workforce Development and the Work Place	4	3	3	-

1.4. Abstract and presentation prizes

Each year, the conference organisers award abstract prizes in three different categories:

The Ferenc Bojan memorial prize, which is awarded to the best presentation by a young public health professional, was awarded to:

Kayvan Bozorgmehr, University of Heidelberg:
Multiple deprivation and distribution of vulnerable asylum-seekers: a small-area analysis in Germany

The prize for the highest scoring presentation was awarded to:

Kayvan Bozorgmehr, University Heidelberg
Multiple deprivation and distribution of vulnerable asylum-seekers: a small-area analysis in Germany
Co-authors: O Razum, J Szecsenyi, W Maier, C Stock
Average score: 6.250

Marina Karanikolos, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
Amenable mortality in the EU28 before and after the economic crisis
Co-authors: J Mackenbach, E Nolte, M McKee
Average score: 6.250

The prize for the best poster presentation was awarded to:

Andrea Serafini, University of Siena:
Heavy costs of diabetic population in Central Italy for cardiovascular diseases hospitalization

1.5. Pre-conference programme

Pre-conferences (21) were organised on Wednesday 9 November and Thursday morning 10 November 2016. In total, 1168 delegates attended the pre-conference programme. Pre-conferences were held for half day, full day or from lunch-to-lunch. Each pre-conference was preceded or completed with a network lunch for delegates.

1.6. Lunch symposiums and extra meetings

Lunch symposiums were held on Friday 11 November during the extended lunch hour.

Research, practice and policy: All for health
Friday 11 November, 12:50 – 13:50, Hall E
Moderators: **Karl Ekdahl**, ECDC and **Günter Pfaff**, EUPHA Section on Infectious diseases
This lunch seminar, organized as a round table focused on the challenges and opportunities of transferring knowledge form research to practice and policy. Each of the round table participants presented a concrete experience from their field of work followed by discussion with the audience.
With: **Andrea Ammon**, ECDC; **Gauden Galea**, WHO Regional Office for Europe; **Isabel de la Mata**, European Commission; **Ricardo Baptista Leite**, Member of Parliament, Portugal; **Aura Timen**, President of the EUPHA Section on Infectious diseases**; Gindrovel Dumitra**, General Practitioner, Romania; **Erik Baekkeskov**, University of Melbourne, Australia
This session was organised by organised by ECDC and EUPHA.

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Table 2: Pre-conference programme and number of delegates at Vienna 2016

Pre-conference	Organised by	Delegates
Scenarios for the future of health in Europe - evidence on NCDs from the FRESHER project	FRESHER project consortium	61
Patient participation in health care research and innovation	NIVEL, Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research, National Health Care Institute, the Netherlands	50
Use of injury data for effective and innovative safety promotion	EUPHA Section on Injury prevention and safety promotion, EuroSafe European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion, BRIDGE-HEALTH	44
Mental Health and Architecture	EUPHA Section on Public mental health, Politecnico di Milano, Italy	23
Managing change in health systems and TB prevention and care	WHO Regionals Office for Europe, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	55
Migrant health - Economics, Human rights, and Quality of Care	EUPHA Section on Migrant and ethnic minority health, Center for Health and Migration, Vienna	25
Enhancing evidence-informed decision-making to support resilient and sustainable health systems in Europe	European Commission, Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency (CHAFEA), WHO Regional Office for Europe, Health Services Research Europe, EUPHA Sections on HSR and on Public health practice and policy, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies	117
Health workforce governance in Europe: toward a future research agenda	EUPHA Section on Health services research, Working Group Health workforce research, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, OECD, WHO Regional Office for Europe	50
Extending working life beyond the age of 50: challenges in cross national research	EUPHA Section on Social security, work and health	26
Strengthening health information systems through cross-country learning and collaboration	EUPHA Section on Public health monitoring and reporting, BRIDGE HEALTH, WHO Regional Office for Europe, OECD	48
Pricing of food: can we use this to promote healthy nutrition?	EUPHA Section on Food and nutrition	38
Addressing health inequities across Europe: from evidence to policy	Maastricht University, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life sciences, EUPHA Section on Public health practice and policy, Euro-Healthy project	57
Making health instead of care as the business of healthcare - Enhancing the advocacy role of national public health associations in Europe	NPHF - Netherlands Public Health Association, SESPAS - Spanish Association of Public Health and Health Administration, EUPHA	30

ÖGPH Tagung: Integrierte Gesundheit - Integrierte Versorgung (In German only)	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Public Health (ÖGPH)	115
Evidence based public health – decision support for health (care) policy	Ludwig Boltzmann Institut for Health Technology Assessment, in collaboration with EUPHA Section on Health technology assessment	48
Operationalizing health promotion on the life course through the health literacy approach: where do we stand 30 years after Ottawa?	EUPHA Section on Health promotion	48
Who can benefit from JA-CHRODIS? The results from the European Joint Action to tackle chronic diseases	JA-CHRODIS	96
Core competences for strengthened public health system preparedness	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), Netherlands Institute for Public Health (RIVM), EUPHA Section on Infectious diseases control	102
Governance for Health and Health Systems	European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, WHO Regional Office for Europe	22
ASPHER Young Researchers' Forum	ASPHER	27
Environment and Health	European Commission, DG Research and Innovation	86

Health for all: Accelerating prevention in health care systems, the role of adult vaccination
Friday 11 November, 12:50 – 13:50, Room L7
Can vaccination provide a valuable preventative public health measure to address the challenges of Europe's ageing demographic? Global health experts present their perspectives.
With: **Jane Barratt**, International Federation on Ageing, Canada; **David Bloom**, Harvard School of Public Health, United States; **Kostas Athanasakis**, National School of Public Health, Greece.
This session was organised by EUPHA and Pfizer Vaccines and funded by Pfizer Vaccines.

Towards reduction of inequalities in Europe: Contribution of eea grants / Norway grants mechanism
Friday 11 November, 12:50 – 13:50, Room L2
Moderators: **Andrej Grjibovski**, Norway and **Otto Christian Rø**, Norway
The EEA Grants and Norway Grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to reducing economic and social disparities and to strengthening bilateral relations with 16 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. The lunch symposium also aims to increase awareness of this opportunity during the new period of the Grants, which will last until 2021.
With: **Andrej Grjibovski** and **Otto Christian Rø**, Donor Programme Partners, Norway; **Šarūnas Alasauskas**, Institute of Hygiene, Lithuania; **Hubert Zycinski**, Ministry of Health, Poland; **Diogo Pestana** and **Conceição Calhau**, University of Porto, Portugal; **Florian Al Nicula**, Ion Chiricuta Institute of Oncology, Romania; **Anne Camilla Hilton**, Financial Mechanisms Office, Belgium
This session was organised by Norwegian Institute of Public Health in cooperation with the Norwegian Directorate of Health.

Andrija Štampar award ceremony for Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of the Lancet
Friday 11 November, 12:50 – 13:50, Room L4
Each year, ASPHER awards the Andrija Štampar Medal to a distinguished person for excellence in the field of Public Health. This year the Andrija Štampar was awarded to Dr **Richard Horton**, Editor-in-Chief of the prestigious journal The Lancet. Richard Horton has worked as a passionate advocate for improving the health of the population, in addition to promoting high-quality research in medicine and public health. The Laudatio was delivered by **Martin McKee**, United Kingdom.

Board Meetings

During the conference days, many board meetings were organised. The meetings included but were not limited to: the Austrian Public Health Association (ÖGPH); UEMS – public health section; APHEA; ASPHER; EUPHA Sections; EUPHAnxt; EUPHA Executive Council, EUPHA Governing Board, EJPH Council, EJPH Editorial Board; and meetings for the upcoming EPH conferences (ICC, ISC, Stockholm 2017, Ljubljana 2018).

Press meeting

A press meeting was held on Thursday 10 November 2016. An Austrian media consultant was contracted to organise the meeting and invite media from Austria. Speakers included Thomas Dorner as Chair Vienna 2016 and representatives of the Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger (HVB), Mag. Ulrike Rabmer-Koller, and the Austrian Ministry of Health, Dr Pamela Rendi Wagner. On behalf of EUPHA, Allan Krasnik (New agenda for migrant health) and Christiane Stock (Vienna Declaration) were present.

1.7. Exhibition

There were 16 exhibitors present which can be categorised as follows:

Organisers & Partners

- EPH Conference Foundation
- EPH Conference Stockholm 2017
- EUPHA - European Public Health Association

Schools of Public Health

- ASPHER
- Institute of Public Health University of Porto, Portugal

Health organisations

- EuroHealthNet
- European Commission - Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency
- Health community association, Turkey
- WHO Regional Office for Europe

Publishers

- Dittrich & Partner Consulting GmbH, Germany
- Emerald Publishing, United Kingdom
- Oxford University Press, United Kingdom
- Springer Nature - BioMed Central, United Kingdom
- The Lancet, United Kingdom
- Taylor & Francis, United Kingdom
- Wisepress, United Kingdom

The Participants' Evaluation showed that 73% of respondents had visited the exhibition area at least once. Around 73% of the respondents were very satisfied/satisfied with the information provided by the exhibition at Vienna 2016.

1.8. Accreditation

The 9th European Public Health Conference received approval by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). The conference was approved for 22 European CME credits (ECMEC).

1.9. Social programme

The Welcome Reception was held in the *Festsaal* (Grand Festival Hall) of the *Wiener Rathaus* (Vienna City Hall), on Thursday 10 November 2016. The reception was attended by 864 people.

The Conference Dinner was organised in the Wiener Rathauskeller Restaurant on Friday 11 November. A total of 384 persons attended the dinner.

1.10 Physical activity – public engagement

With the support of our Austrian partners, SportUnion and the Ministry of Sports, we promoted healthy lifestyles by making it possible for delegates to improve their fitness on the exercise bicycles and other devices during the conference. In addition, on Friday 11 November, a successful Physical Activity Public Engagement Programme was organized. Students from two Viennese secondary schools participated in the physical exercises.

1.11 Vienna 2016 Choir

The conference choir was revived for Vienna 2016. The Vienna 2016 Choir was formed by around 20 trained and untrained singers. The conductor was Karl Lackinger, director of an Austrian music school.

The choir had three rehearsals during the conference. The choral performance was an integral part of the Closing Ceremony on Saturday 12 November.

1.12 Vienna Declaration

EUPHA and ÖGPH published the Vienna Declaration reiterating their commitment to the principles of the Ottawa Charter on Health Promotion. The Vienna Declaration calls on all parts of the public health community, in Europe and beyond, working at all levels, local, national, regional and global, to recognise the multi-tiered determinants of health and opportunities for action.

The Vienna Declaration has already been signed by 43 organisations.

Press Meeting, Thursday 10 November, 2016

General impressions from the conference

2. VIENNA 2016: DELEGATES

The conference addressed public health professionals, researchers, education specialists, training professionals, students, policy makers and representatives from international and European organisations. Delegates came from EU Member States, EU-neighbouring countries and countries outside the European region. Representatives from international organisations like the European Commission, WHO Europe and WHO headquarters, ECDC, and the European Observatory attended the conference. European (public) health networks and organisations actively participated.

2.1. Number and origin of delegates

Again, for the fourth year in a row we have broken the record set in the previous year. Since Malta 2012, the growth in the number of delegates has been steady and substantial with more than 10 percent each year. The total number of delegates for Vienna 2016 was considerably higher than for the conference in Milan last year (1,697). A total of 1,850 delegates from over 70 countries attended the conference. The majority of registrations was received before 1 September, the deadline for the early-bird registration.

The figure below shows the gradual increase in the number of registrations in the past decade from 650 in 2002 to the present levels of 1,850. Also the number of submitted abstracts has grown significantly to over 1,350.

Figure 1: Overview of conference registrations and abstract submissions 2000 – 2016

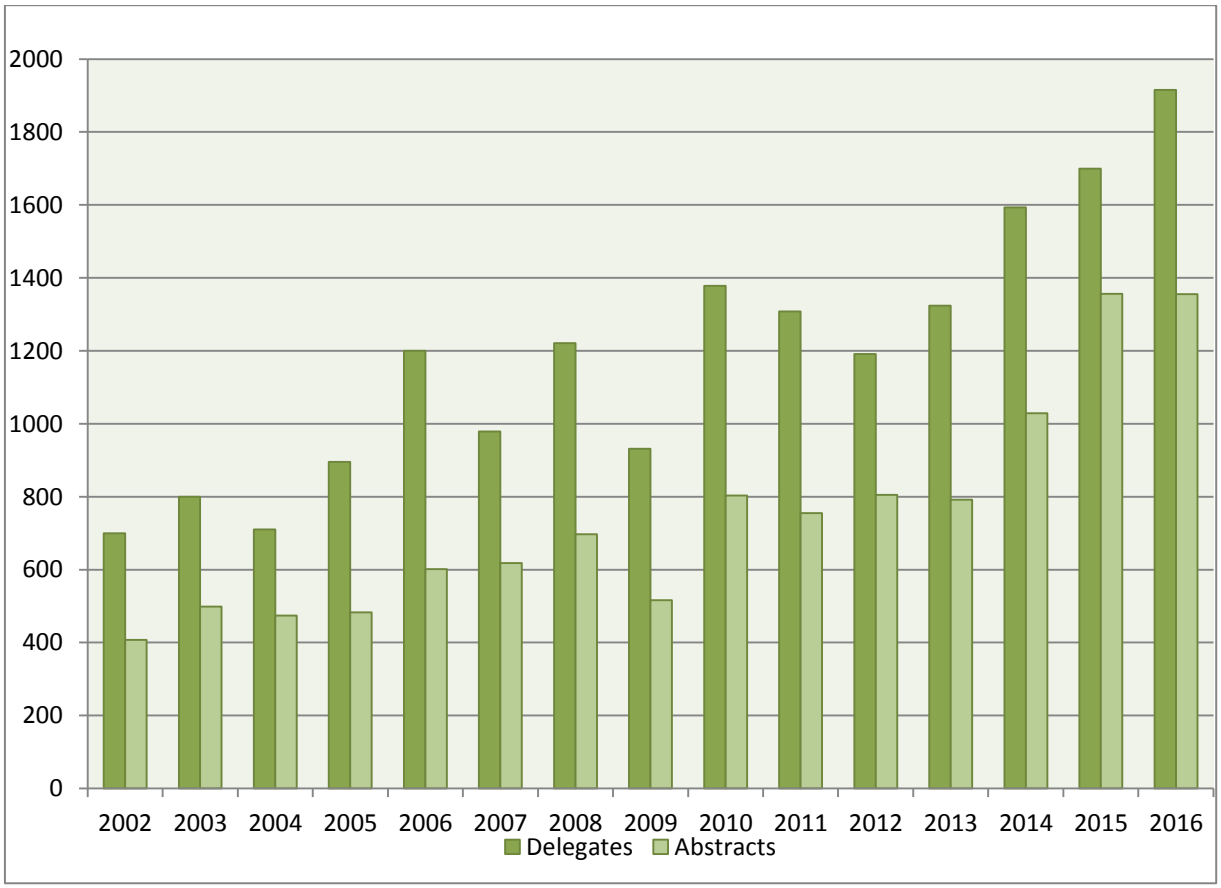
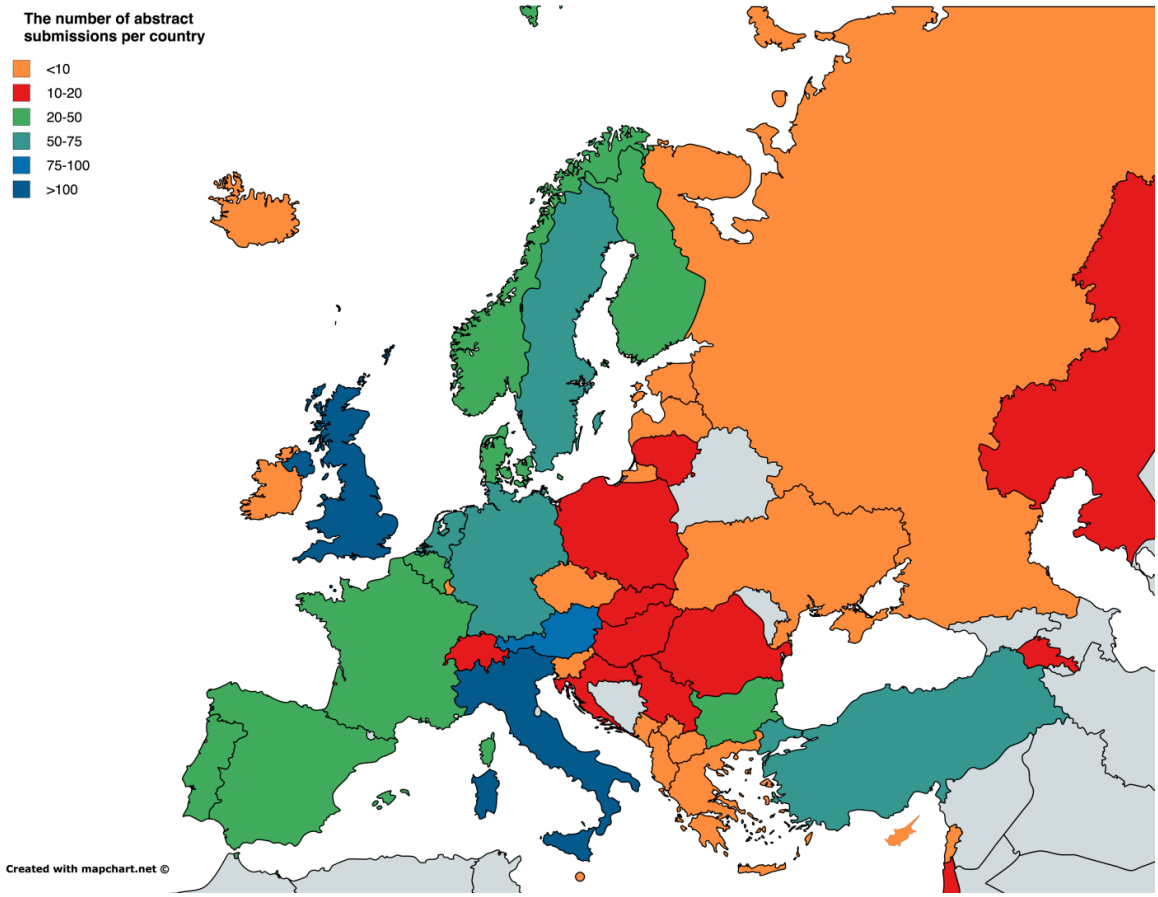


Figure 2: The number of abstract submissions per country in Europe, (Europe as defined by WHO EURO), Vienna 2016



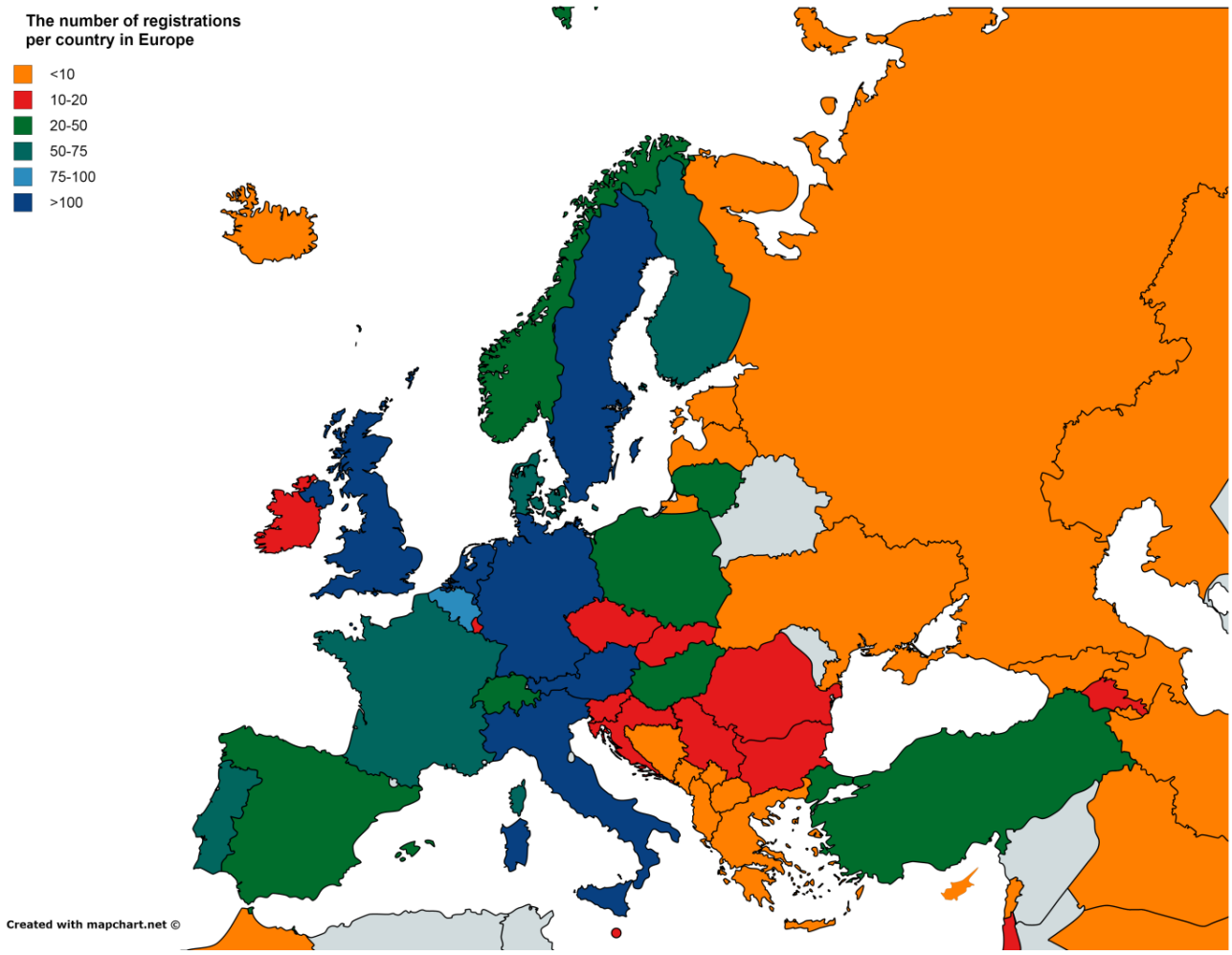
The number of day registrations was 96. The number of registrations for pre-conferences only was 223. Almost 250 of our delegates registered as early career professionals, last year in Milan the number was around 200. Registrations were received from 74 countries worldwide. As can be expected from a European conference, the majority of registrations was from European countries.

Table 3: Overview of registrations Vienna 2016

Type of registration	No.
Full conference registrations	1,164
Day registrations	96
Early career registration, full conference	239
Pre-conference only	223
Exhibitors	24

Most registrations were received from Austria (283), followed by Italy (167), the United Kingdom (158) and the Netherlands (148). Traditionally, the host country is mostly represented at EPH Conferences, followed by the three countries mentioned.

Figure 3: *Number of registrations per country in Europe (Europe as defined by WHO EURO), Vienna 2016*



2.2. Participation from early career professionals

As for previous EPH Conferences, Vienna 2016 paid special attention to the participation of students and early career professionals. A special registration fee for this category (€ 420) was set up. In total, 239 students and early career professionals registered for the conference, which was around the same number as for Milan 2015 (around 200).

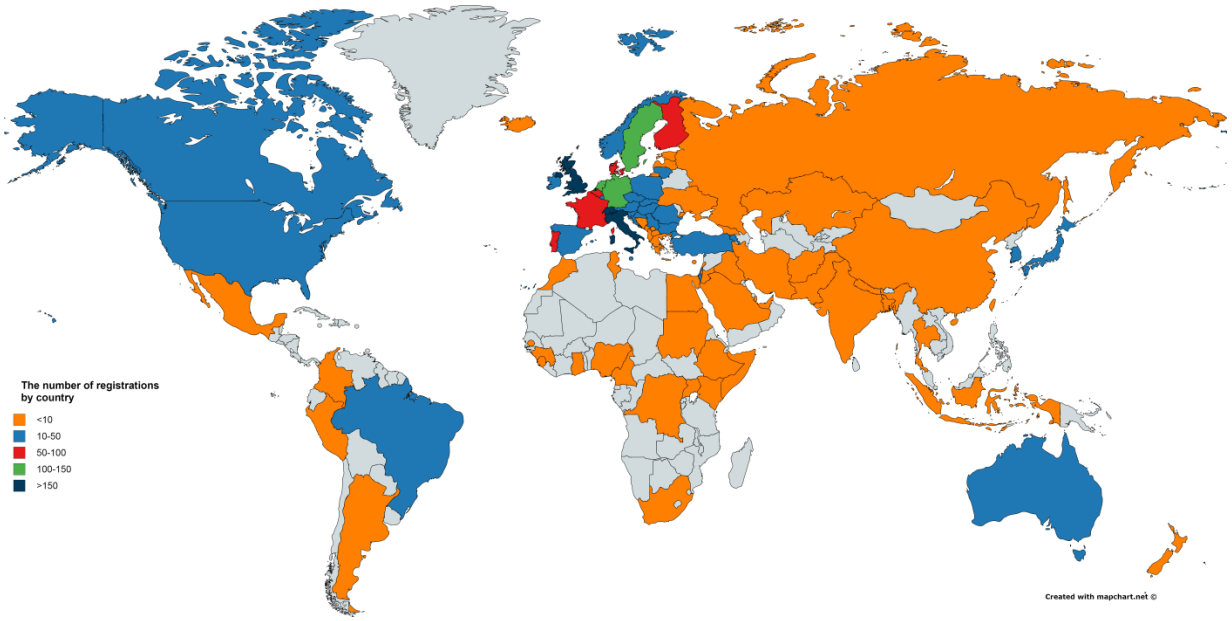
As part of the main conference programme, the Ferenc Bojan Young Investigators Award session was held for the five highest scoring abstracts submitted by young public health professionals. In the closing ceremony of the conference, the Ferenc Bojan memorial prize, which is awarded to the best presentation by a young public health professional, was presented to Kayvan Bozorgmehr, University of Heidelberg with a presentation on *Multiple deprivation and distribution of vulnerable asylum-seekers: a small-area analysis in Germany.*

2.3. Participation from Eastern European and Central Asian countries

Special attention was paid also to public health experts from low-income countries, particularly from Eastern European and Central Asian (EE & CA) countries. As in previous years, Open Society Foundations (OSF) was the main partner in this effort. OSF offered financial support to participants from

EE & CA countries and presenting experts to attend the conference. Support consisted of providing logistical support including travel, accommodation and other participation-related arrangements to enable them to participate in the Vienna 2016 conference. Participants themselves had to co-fund part of their travel and accommodation expenses. In total, 53 public health professionals form EE &CA countries could be supported by the grant.

Figure 4: *Number of registrations per country, Vienna 2016*



3. VIENNA 2016: ORGANISATION

3.1. Organisational structure of the conference

The 9th European Public Health Conference took place in Vienna, Austria from 9 - 12 November 2016. The conference was held at Austria Center Vienna (ACV).

Co-organisers of Vienna 2016 were:

- EPH Conference Foundation
- EUPHA – European Public Health Association
- ÖGPH – Österreichische Gesellschaft für Public Health

National partners included:

- Hauptverband
- Vienna Convention Bureau
- SportUnion
- Ministry of Sports
- Fonds Gesundes Österreich
- Diabetes Initiative
- WIG Health promotion Vienna
- Wiener Linien
- Medical University Vienna
- Ludwig Botzmann Institut

Partners for specific activities included:

- ASPHER
- EuroHealthNet
- European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
- Open Society Foundations
- European Commission
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- European Patients Forum (EPF)
- Norway Grants
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Pfizer Vaccines

The EPH Conference Foundation has supervisory authority over the management and organisation of the conference. The EPH Conference Foundation is governed by the EPH Executive Board, made up by members of EUPHA's Executive Council and chairs of previous and upcoming EPH Conferences. The EPH Executive Board is advised by the International Conference Council (ICC), which has representation from EUPHA and collaborative partners in European public health (ASPHER, EuroHealthNet, EHMA, European Commission, CHAFEA, ECDC, WHO EURO, and European Observatory).

As with past conferences, the parallel programme was set up with the help of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) consisting of public health experts from across Europe with a large representation from the conference host country. The ISC is responsible for the scoring of abstracts. Selection of abstracts and programme planning is done by the Executive Board . with the help of the Local Support Committee, consisting of public health organisations, universities and health services in Austria.

In broad terms, planning for Vienna 2016 was as follows:

Month	Activity
January	Coordination meetings with conference venue, suppliers and co-organisers in Vienna
February	Online abstract submission open
March	Meeting Executive Board and International Conference Council: finalising plenary programme
April	Pre-conference proposal submission deadline
May	Abstract submission deadline, scoring of abstracts
June	Meeting Executive Board in Vienna: selection of abstracts; planning of the programme and pre-conferences
July	Online registration on steam
August	Finalising meetings with conference venue, suppliers and co-organisers in Vienna
September	Conference App prepared, Interactive programme online Abstract Supplement to the European Journal of Public Health prepared Teleconference meeting Executive Board
October	EPH Conference Programme Book finalised; Conference Newsletters circulated
November	9th EPH Conference 9-12 November
December	Evaluation, Reporting

3.2. EPH Conference Office

The EPH Conference Office was responsible for the organisation of the conference, from the abstract handling process to the printing of the Programme Book. Furthermore, the Conference Office was responsible for:

- Search for and negotiations with European partners and sponsors;
- Public relations and marketing of the conference;
- Organisation of pre-conferences and lunch symposiums.

Key staff of the Conference Office are: Dineke Zeegers Paget, Director; Floris Barnhoorn, European Networks Coordinator and Pre-conference Coordinator; Ingeborg Vlug, Financial Officer; José Velthuis, Office Manager. The EPH Conference Office was supported by external staff: Elita Zoer, Conference Coordinator and advisory PCO; Jessica van Diemen, Exhibition Officer and Lydia Rink, Registration Officer.

3.3. Local assistance

The ÖGPH and in particular its President, Prof Thomas Dorner, Chair of the 9th EPH Conference, made a great effort in successfully finding the national conference partners in Austria and raising awareness for the conference resulting in a record number of delegates from Austria. His university was most helpful in hosting the preparatory meeting in June.

The Local Support Committee provided assistance in the selection of abstracts at the preparatory meeting in June 2016 and in organising the physical exercises and Public Engagement activities during the conference.

3.4. Conference venue

The 9th European Public Health Conference was held at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV), Austria's largest conference centre. For Vienna 2016, two halls and sixteen session rooms were available. The halls, with a capacity of more than 1600 people, were used for the plenaries on Thursday, Friday and on Saturday. The sixteen breakout rooms varied in size. Wireless access was provided free of charge to participants throughout the conference venue.

4. VIENNA 2016: VISIBILITY

The Announcement of Vienna 2016 was distributed at the 8th EPH Conference in Milan. A presentation of the theme was given in the closing session of Milan 2015. Subsequently, the Announcement was then published on the EPH Conference web pages.

EUPHA member organisations were informed through the EUPHA Newsletters of the upcoming conference and invited to put the Announcement on their websites and use their distribution systems to inform their members.

In addition to the Announcement, other communication channels were used to promote the 9th EPH Conference:

- EPH Conference E-News: the monthly electronic newsletter with conference news was published from January until October.
- European Journal of Public Health: updates on Vienna 2016 were published every two months in the European Public Health News pages of the EJPH.
- EUPHA Newsletter: concise articles on the conference were published in the monthly electronic EUPHA Newsletter, distributed to over 16,000 readers;
- Website and Twitter: the EPH Conference website was updated regularly, accompanied by Twitter feeds
- Conference Newsletters: two electronic conference newsletters were distributed to all registered delegates a few weeks before the conference
- Conference E-banners appeared on websites of partner organisations

4.1 Conference App

An Official EPH Conference App was introduced for Vienna 2016. The App, available on iOS (iPhone, iPad) and Android via the App Store and Google Play respectively, helped the delegates to make the most out of the conference through its information-rich schedule, guides and networking features. The App was downloaded 795 times, and the programme was the most popular feature among our delegates.

4.2 Twitter

Like in previous years, Twitter was used extensively throughout the conference. In total, 2 056 tweets using the #EPHVienna Twitter Hashtag were sent. Most tweets were sent from a mobile phone during the main conference.

Figure 5: The terms most frequently used in tweets during Vienna 2016

5. VIENNA 2016: REACHING OUR OBJECTIVES

Vienna 2016 was well organised, of scientific good quality and reached the objectives it set out to achieve. Almost 85% of the participants were very satisfied/satisfied with the Vienna 2016 conference.

The exhibition area was successful with over 73% of all respondents visiting the exhibition area. Almost 75% of the respondents were also very satisfied/satisfied with the information provided by the exhibition at Vienna 2016.

A large basis for the conference, also on international level, is seen as positive. For Vienna 2016, several European NGOs and international organisations were involved in organising the plenary programme. This should be further developed for future conferences.

The main purpose of the 9th EPH Conference was to strengthen the capacity of public health professionals, researchers and policymakers by enhancing the exchange of knowledge, policy and best practice across Europe. Specific objectives were:

Increased knowledge of research outcomes and best practice in health by public health professionals

EPH Conferences are known for the excellent organisation, the high number of participants and a broad programme covering relevant public health topics. Vienna 2016 was no exception to this with almost 1,850 delegates, scoring high overall satisfaction by delegates and with a varied programme of plenary sessions, workshops, oral, pitch and electronic poster presentations.

Delegates came from over 70 countries from Europe and beyond. The professional background of the participants showed a balanced mix of research, policy, practice and training. The majority of delegates has a university background but this proportion is decreasing in the last years. The absolute and relative numbers of delegates with a policymaking, public health practice and education background is steadily increasing.

The conference aimed at increasing knowledge and skills among European public health professionals. The programme of Vienna 2016 was varied and nearly all sessions mixed aspects of policy, practice and research. All sessions also included presentations from different countries, thereby increasing the networking objective of the programme itself.

Combining the electronic Abstract Supplement to the EJPH with a three-month complimentary subscription was appreciated by delegates and added to the objective of increased knowledge.

Increased knowledge and awareness of European public health policies and strategies

Over the years, the collaboration with the international European health organisations (European Commission, WHO EURO, ECDC) has broadened. For Vienna 2016, the European Commission was visible with two pre-conferences, a plenary session and an exhibition stand. WHO EURO collaborated with other partners in the organisation of several pre-conference and was present with a stand. ECDC organised a well-attended preconference and lunch symposium, in collaboration with EUPHA Section on Infectious diseases and the Netherlands Institute for Public Health (RIVM).

In many workshops and round tables, representatives from European health organisations were present and participated in discussions.

In addition, EPH Conferences are known by EU-funded project consortia as opportunities to convene coordination meetings or to disseminate the interim and/or final results of their projects or Joint Actions.

The following EU-funded projects organised a pre-conference or participated in a workshop: FRESHER, JA-CHRODIS, BRIDGE Health, PRECeDI, EuroSafe, MOCHA, REPOPA, PASTA, ICARE4EU, SELFIE, SCIROCCO

Closer collaboration among European public health networks, organisations and schools

Collaboration among European (public) health organisations has greatly improved by the establishment of the International Conference Council (ICC). The ICC has an advisory role toward the EPH Conference Executive Board and has representation from EUPHA, ASPHER, EuroHealthNet, EHMA, European Commission, CHAFEA, ECDC, WHO EURO and European Observatory. Members of the ICC have become partner of the conference for specific activities or have taken responsibility for organising a plenary session.

As in previous years, the conference hosted EUPHA's Governing Board thereby increasing the attendance of national public health associations and offering them a platform to share national experiences. Furthermore, the possibility to combine the European public health conferences with meetings of other European NGOs, organisations, networks and schools of public health, increases the aim of collaboration. Over the years, we have seen an increase in the collaboration, as the organisers actively invite other networks to their activities.

In Vienna 2016, EuroHealthNet, ASPHER, EPHA, UEMS, EuroNet MRPH and several other European-based NGOs were present and active. The field of international health organisations was represented by WHO EURO, ECDC, European Observatory, Open Society Foundations and the European Commission with DG SANTE, JRC, DG Research and CHAFEA.

In Vienna, all 21 EUPHA Sections (theme-specific networks) and EUPHAnxt held their annual meetings to discuss future activities and collaboration. EUPHA continues to actively support existing networks and assist in the setting up of new networks.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACV – Austria Center Vienna
ASPHER - Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region
BRIDGE-Health - Bridging Information and Data Generation for Evidence-based Health policy and research.
CHAFEA – Consumers, Health, Food and Agriculture Executive Agency, European Commission
EACCME - European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
EE & CA – Eastern European and Central Asian countries
EC – European Commission
ECDC – European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
EJPH – European Journal of Public Health
EPF – European Patients Forum
EPHA – European Public Health Alliance
EU – European Union
EUPHA – European Public Health Association
EuroNet MRPH – European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health
EuroSafe – European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety promotion
HSR - Health Services Research
HVB - Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger
JRC – Joint Research Centre, European Commission
NIVEL - Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research, The Netherlands
NPHF - Netherlands Public Health Association
Observatory – European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies
OECD – Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
ÖGPH – Österreichische Gesellschaft für Public Health (Austrian Public Health Association)
OSF – Open Society Foundations
PRECeDI – Prevention of Chronic Disease
ProFouND – Prevention of Falls Network for Dissemination
REPOPA - REsearch into Policy to Enhance Physical Activity
RIVM – National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, The Netherlands
SESPAS - Spanish Association of Public Health and Health Administration
UEMS – European Union of Medical Specialists
WHO EURO – World Health Organisation, Regional Office for Europe