

## EUPHA Health Impact Assessment section – Presidency motivation letter

Dear colleagues from the EUPHA Health Impact Assessment section,

According to the EUPHA Section Rules, the calls for presidency of the EUPHA-HIA section are now open and elections will soon be held. I am therefore submitting my candidacy for the EUPHA-HIA section Presidency position.

Being a member of the EUPHA since 2012, I have been an active member of the Public Health Economics section and have participated in all EUPHA conferences since 2011, with a special interest in issues related to the assessment of health and economic impact of public health interventions.

Recent decades have seen a surge in applying the tools of health impact assessment in public health systems. This indicates an increasing appreciation for this relatively new field to the public health sector at all levels. As a health economist, I provide expertise in assessing the health and economic impact of different public health interventions, with a particular focus on: 1) Interventions targeting mental health problems in children and adolescents, and 2) Preventive interventions targeting lifestyle choices. I currently hold two roles, as a senior researcher and associate professor of health economics at the department of Public Health and Caring Sciences, at Uppsala University and as executive expert support at Uppsala County Council in Sweden. My goal is to support implementation of evidence based public health interventions by creating evidence on their health and economic impact, with the goal of promoting health and preventing disease. The target groups we I most often produce evidence for and collaborate closely with are local, regional and national politicians and other decision makers within the healthcare, municipality and other societal sectors I have experience in preparing different guidelines for HIA in public health for the Swedish Ministry of Health and Welfare as well as for the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions. Additionally, my network in public health is very broad, both nationally and internationally, and I collaborate with Swedish society for social medicine, European health economic association and public health networks in different countries. .

Building on my experience, I can firmly contribute to setting our sights on the future, in order to promote the application of HIA in public health in the European setting. In line with EUPHA's vision, I believe the HIA section can contribute to "improving health in Europe, adding value to the efforts of stakeholders in regions and states, in national and international organizations, and individual public health professionals". If given the opportunity, I would see this as a guiding objective throughout my mandate as Section President.

After being an EUPHA-ECO section member and attending the last three “Join the Network” meetings held by the section, I got an experience in section work, which I consider beneficial for the position I am applying now.

As far as the requirements for the position go, I meet all of them, as I am a full member of EUPHA, have vast research experience in both public health and health economics and outcomes research (e.g. with projects on analytical framework for evaluation of public health interventions) and extensive working experience in public health, including in the Swedish state and local health authorities, international public health committees, such as Lancet Psychiatry Commission on Mental Health Care and Research in Ukraine. I have actively contributed to many EUPHA conferences, and scored over 40 abstracts every year.

I am very interested in continuing to expand my work in public health as Section President, and to have the opportunity to develop new ideas on how we can move the HIA section forward. If elected, I plan to tailor our section’s outputs according to the section members’ demands, by establishing a regular communication channel with all section members. I will call more colleagues from Health Economics and Health Impact Assessment into EUPHA and really take advantage of the intersection of Health Impact Assessment and Public Health to stimulate collaboration that can benefit European Public Health as a whole, to organize further webinars/pre-conferences/sessions aimed at enhancing evidence visibility and strengthening public health professionals’ capacity, as well as increasing EUPHA’s impact on other organizations and stakeholders such as the European Health Economics Association, EuHEA, the international Health Economics Association, iHEA, and the international society for pharma economics and outcomes research, ISPOR, through continued collaboration.

It would really be a privilege to represent EUPHA-HIA section, as this is a very exciting field where EUPHA can really make a difference. I hope you can consider me for the Presidency position, as I am ready and motivated to dedicate the necessary energy and time to this ambitious task and I would like to thank you all for your consideration and support.

Kindest regards,

Inna Feldman