



**AN INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC AND
PROFESSIONAL VOICE FOR
PUBLIC HEALTH IN EUROPE**



The European Public Health Association, or EUPHA in short, is an umbrella organisation for public health associations and institutes in Europe. EUPHA was founded in 1992. It is an international, multidisciplinary, scientific organisation, bringing together around 12'000 public health experts for professional exchange and collaboration throughout Europe. We encourage a multidisciplinary approach to public health.

At the beginning of 2008, we have a total of 65 members from 40 countries, divided as follows:

- 42 member associations
- 7 individual members
- 12 institutional members
- 7 associate members

1. Our objectives and aims are:

- ❖ To be the proactive platform for public health professionals in research and practice
- ❖ To be a bridge between these professionals and policymakers;
- ❖ To promote and strengthen public health research, policy and practice in Europe; and
- ❖ To encourage and promote effective European joint research and other activities in the field of public health research and health services research in Europe.

2. Our activities include:

1. Annual scientific conferences
2. European Journal of Public Health
3. Website and electronic newsletter
4. EUPHA sections
5. Actions on European health issues

2.1. Annual scientific conferences

EUPHA convenes a 3-day scientific conference every year, bringing together public health experts throughout Europe and beyond. The average number of participants lies around 1000. The conferences offer a platform for the exchange of information and an opportunity for international research groups to meet and present their work.

The 2008 annual conference will be held in Lisbon, Portugal from 6-8 November. The main theme of the conference is "I-health: health and innovation in Europe". The EUPHA 2008 conference is combined with the ASPHER 2008 conference.

The 2009 EUPHA conference will be organised in Cracow, Poland, again in combination with ASPHER's annual conference. The dates are 25 to 29 November. The main theme of the conference is "Human ecology and health: Promoting social and environmental conditions conducive to health".

The 2010 EUPHA conference will be organised from 10 to 13 November in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The proposed theme is "Integrated public health".

2.2. The European Journal of Public Health (EJPH)

EUPHA publishes a bi-monthly scientific journal. The EJPH does not only publish refereed original articles, but also provides a forum for discussion and debate of current international public health issues with a focus on the European

region. At the end of 2007, the impact factor of the EJPH is 1.910.

2.3. Website and electronic newsletter

EUPHA's website (www.eupha.org) provides information on the activities of EUPHA, its members and other non-governmental organisations. The website also gives information on upcoming conferences, recent publications and general information on health-related issues in Europe. It has a country overview which includes the reports of the World Health Organisation and the European Observatory on Health. The website has an average of 141'000 hits per month.

Linked to the website is the monthly electronic newsletter that EUPHA is publishing. This newsletter includes information on upcoming conferences, recent publications, etc.

2.4. EUPHA sections

EUPHA encourages the creation of sections for specific public health themes, which are international and open to all public health experts. The goal is to bring together researchers and public health professionals working in the same field for the exchange of information and the setting up of joint policies, reports and research.

In June 2008, EUPHA has 16 active sections:

- ❖ Child and adolescent public health
- ❖ Chronic diseases
- ❖ Environment related diseases
- ❖ Food and nutrition

- ❖ Health promotion
- ❖ Health services research
- ❖ Infectious diseases control
- ❖ Injury prevention and safety promotion
- ❖ Migrant health
- ❖ Public health economics
- ❖ Public health epidemiology
- ❖ Public health genomics
- ❖ Public health practice and policy
- ❖ Public mental health
- ❖ Social security and health
- ❖ Utilisation of medicines

2.5. Actions on European health issues

EUPHA and its members aim to be proactive in public health in Europe by giving out statements, reports and by actively participating or initiating projects to further public health in Europe. Some examples:

Ten statements on the future of public health in Europe

This statement was published in 2004 and is based on a series of 5 workshops to discuss with policymakers, researchers and practitioners the future issues and shape of public health in Europe. The statement has been translated in several languages and can be downloaded from our website.

SPHERE project

The SPHERE project stands for Strengthening Public Health Research in Europe. The project was initiated at the conference in Dresden by the president of the EUPHA Section on Public Health Practice and Policy. It was submitted to and

accepted by the European Commission's DG Research. The project includes three dimensions of public health research, knowledge and practice. It includes mapping and analysis of the area of research into knowledge (framework); how national and international agencies use public health research and how it is put into practice. The project officially started in Oslo in 2004 and was finished at the EUPHA conference in Helsinki, Finland in 2007.

3. Membership:

- ❖ **Full membership** – is open to national scientific associations for public health in Europe, as defined by the regional office of WHO. These associations need to be scientific and - preferably – multidisciplinary.
- ❖ **Individual membership** – is open to individual public health experts from countries where no national society is available. Individual membership is granted for a limited time period.
- ❖ **Associate membership** – is offered to international organisations.
- ❖ **Institutional membership** – is open to all institutes that endorse the activities of EUPHA and desire to officially be included in the EUPHA network. Institutional members receive the EJPH and have reduced conference fees for their staff. A representative of the institute is an observer in the Governing Council.

4. Contact EUPHA:

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