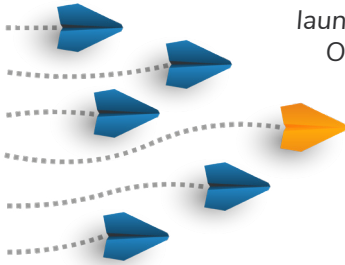


Improving health equity in Europe

Priorities for the 2024-2029 EU policy landscape

With European elections due in June 2024 and only six years remaining to achieve the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals, EuroHealthNet launches its priorities for the 2024-2029 EU policy landscape.

Our objective is to improve health equity and wellbeing in Europe by 2030 through action on the determinants of health – underlying conditions in which people are born, grow up, live, learn and work, and age.



I. EuroHealthNet's overarching vision is to achieve a Wellbeing Economy in the EU, which benefits people and planet, and ensures peace, human dignity, equal opportunities, and fairness.

Selected key actions and objectives:

- A European Commission Vice-President for Wellbeing Economy with the necessary staff and resources in addition to a Commissioner for Health and Food
- A European Parliament Public Health Committee
- A European Parliament intergroup on Wellbeing Economy
- A Wellbeing monitoring framework and an alert mechanism in the European Semester
- Strategic dialogues with citizens and civil society, fostering trust, transparency and accountability

II. European institutions should strengthen and uphold the EU's social objectives and act on the European Pillar of Social Rights as a tool for achieving health equity and a Wellbeing Economy.

Selected key actions and objectives:

- A European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan beyond 2025 with health commitments
- Further implementation and evaluation of the 2021 EU Child Guarantee, 2022 EU Directive on adequate minimum wages and the 2023 Council recommendations on adequate minimum income
- A new EU anti-poverty strategy with binding targets and a social and health investment approach
- A new EU Childhood Obesity Action Plan 2025-2035
- Maintain and strengthen the EU Youth Guarantee



III. The European Health Union should be broadened to include health priorities such as health equity, prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and mental health.

Selected key actions and objectives:

- An EU Mental Health Strategy including concrete, measurable objectives and a European Year of Mental Health
 - Accelerate the implementation of the prevention pillar of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan
 - Strengthen equity considerations in the European Health Data Space (EHDS) with a focus on inclusive digital health, data protection and improving digital health literacy
 - Broaden the European Center for Disease Control's (ECDC) mandate to include NCDs as co-morbidity conditions to infectious diseases
 - Revise front of package labelling and introduce mandatory restrictions on aggressive marketing, notably on ultra-processed foods
- Act on the commercial determinants of health
 - Look into the potential for an EU-wide application of pro-health pricing policies and pro-health taxes
 - Focus more broadly on planetary health and greening of our health systems
 - Align EU guidelines on air quality with WHO air quality recommendations by 2025/30
 - Present an EU sustainable food system legislative framework

To read all our recommendations and download our health priorities for the 2024-2029 EU policy landscape, please scan the QR code below.



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