

EU Health Highlights

News about health in the EU from EuroHealthNet Brussels Office

Issue # 11, August 2005

1. Main Stories

- **WHO Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion in a globalised World**

The Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion was adopted on 11 August 2005 at the 6th Global Health Conference on Health Promotion, co-hosted by WHO and the government of Thailand. The Charter highlights the changing context of global health and urges all stakeholders to ensure that health promotion is central to the global development agenda.

Caroline Costongs attended the conference on behalf of EuroHealthNet, a report will be available soon.

http://www.who.int/healthpromotion/conferences/6gchp/bangkok_charter/en/index.html

- **Open consultation on Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion**

The Commission has launched a consultation process on a proposal for 'Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion', setting priorities on the use of the Structural and Cohesion Funds, which includes investment in health. These draft guidelines, to be adopted by the Council, will be instrumental in encouraging Member States and regions to use the Structural Funds to invest in Health. They will also contribute to raising awareness on the health gap and on the need to invest in health prevention and promotion.

Stakeholders are invited to reflect on the priority areas of cohesion and respond to the consultation (deadline 30 September).

http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/consultation/index_en.htm

2. News from the European Commission

- **Tobacco advertising ban now in force**

The EU directive bans tobacco advertising in the print media, on radio and over the Internet. It also prohibits tobacco sponsorship of cross-border cultural and sporting events.

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/1013&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

- **Call for tender: Support the Commission in the field of diet, physical activity and health**

The aim of the contract is to support the Commission in the development of policies, strategies and activities related to Diet, Physical Activity and Health.

The Commission is planning to submit for public consultation a comprehensive document (Green Paper) listing possible options for actions in the area of diet,

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physical activity and health. The contractor will be asked to analyse the feedback received through this public consultation in a form of a report. The deadline for responding to the tender is 23 September 2005.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_programme/howtoapply/call_139731_2005.htm

- **Consultation on how to improve the urban environment**

The European Commission is inviting the public and relevant authorities to give their views via the Internet on a new European strategy to improve the urban environment in Europe and also reduce the impact that cities have on the wider environment. The strategy is due to be proposed by the Commission in December 2005. The consultation will run until 21 September 2005.

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/urban/public_consultation_2005.htm

- **DG Sanco: funded projects**

-Project: 'Reduction of health inequalities in the Roma Community'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action3/action3_2004_01_en.htm

-Project: 'Improving the knowledge base for Public Health'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action1/action1_2004_13_en.htm

-Project: 'Public health training in the context of an enlarging Europe'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action3/action3_2004_20_en.htm

-Project: 'ICAASE - Innovative Care Against Social Exclusion'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action3/action3_2004_19_en.htm

-Project: 'EUROCARE - Alcohol Policy Network in the Context of a Larger Europe: Bridging the Gap'. Funded project 2003, interim report.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2003/action3/action3_2003_02_en.htm#3

-Project: 'BALTIC HEALTHTRAIN - Baltic sea public health training network'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action3/action3_2004_02_en.htm

-Project: 'EMOB - European Mapping of Obesity Best practice'. Funded project 2004, description of the project.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_projects/2004/action3/action3_2004_21_en.htm

3. Events and Publications

- **What's new on EuroHealthNet Website?**

- New [section](#) on the conference 'IN good HEALTH", closing conference of the Health and Social Inclusion project. The draft programme, practical details and contacts can be found on the page, which will be regularly updated.
- New article on ' Investment in Health for Homeless People' written by Ingrid Stegeman can be found in the [publication section](#).

- **Conference 'Future Europeans: the right start in life for Children and Young People in Europe'**

[European Public Health Alliance](#) is organising the Conference that will take place on 9-10 November 2005 in Brussels. This is an associated event of the UK Council Presidency.

EuroHealthNet will be coordinating a workshop on '*Overcoming disadvantage: social exclusion, poverty.*' The workshop will aim to assess the situation of poverty and social exclusion amongst children in the EU, as well as EU activities in this area, and share examples of good practice from different EU Member States on how to improve well being, tackle poverty amongst children and youth and stimulate their social inclusion. Contact us if you are interested in contributing in the workshop or sponsoring it.

<http://children.ephpa.org/>

- **Publication on socio-economic inequalities in Smoking in Europe**

The European Network for Smoking Prevention has published a report entitled '*Socio-economic inequalities in smoking in the European Union - Applying an equity lens to tobacco control policies*'. The study sets out the health markers of social disadvantages associated with the unequal distribution of social, economic and cultural opportunities in European countries. The study also highlights how these inequalities in health and their underlying determinants, particularly tobacco consumption, need to be given priority across all levels of government.



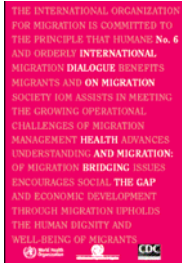
<http://www.ensp.org/files/socio.pdf>

- **Publication 'Pathways to "Evidence-Informed" Policy and Practice: A Framework for Action'**

In this article, the authors from the University of New South Wales, Australia, propose that an "evidence-informed policy and practice pathway" can help both researchers and policy actors navigate the use of evidence. The pathway illustrates different types of evidence and their uses in health policymaking, and proposes that specific capacities, such as an individual's skills, experience, and participation in networks, influence the adoption and adaptation of evidence in practice.

<http://medicine.plosjournals.org/perlserv/?request=get-document&doi=10%2E1371%2Fjournal%2Epmed%2E0020166>

- **Publication: 'Health and Migration, bridging the Gap'**



This paper from the [International Office for Migration](http://www.iom.int) is based on the Seminar on Health and Migration held in 2004 to assess the public health implications of increasingly mobile populations, and to integrate health policies into migration management strategies. The Seminar focused on the public health implications of increasingly mobile populations. In addition to exploring general migration health challenges it examined specific subpopulations, including irregular and returning migrants, migrants in conflict situations, migrants with HIV/AIDS, and migrating healthcare workers.

http://www.iom.int/DOCUMENTS/PUBLICATION/RedBook6_ebook.pdf

- **OECD publishes 2005 health data**

OECD Health Data 2005 offers a comprehensive source of comparable statistics on health and health systems across OECD countries. It is a tool for health researchers and policy advisors in governments, the private sector and the academic community, to carry out comparative analyses and draw lessons from international comparisons of diverse health care systems.

http://www.oecd.org/document/30/0,2340,en_2649_37407_12968734_1_1_1_37407,00.html

- **Equality and non-discrimination, annual report 2005**

The 2005 annual report published by DG Employment and Social Affairs is available online in various languages. Part two of the reports looks at the situation of the Roma in Europe and the efforts at community level for improvement of that situation.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/fundamental_rights/public/pubst_en.htm

- **Comparative Social Inclusion Policies & Citizenship in Europe: Towards a new European Social Model**

The [SEDEC network](http://www.shef.ac.uk/~perc/sedec/) (Social Exclusion and the Development of Citizenship network) has published a report comparing social inclusion policies in Europe.

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/~perc/sedec/FINREP.pdf>

- **Research positions in the Ellison Institute for World health**

The [Ellison Institute for World Health at Harvard University](http://www.ellisoninstitute.org/) is trying to recruit international mid-career research professionals and recent post-doctoral students to collaborate on a variety of research projects in the areas of economics, public health, health policy, demography, and related fields.

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More details are available on our website, [news section](#)

- **Boring jobs can lead to heart disease**

According to a study of the University College London Medical School: dull, steady, boring and unexciting jobs are not good for the heart of employees. Men with "low-grade jobs", meaning they had little control over daily tasks, may make the heart beat in an unchanging, rapid rhythm, which could lead to heart disease.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/medicalschooll/news/latest/newsitem.shtml?2005061401>

4. News from Member States / Organisations

- **UK: status report on the programme for action in tackling health inequalities**

The UK department of health has released a status report on the Programme for Action. This programme sets out plans to tackle health inequalities over the next three years. It establishes the foundations required to achieve the national target for 2010 to reduce the gap in infant mortality across social groups, and raise life expectancy in the most disadvantaged areas faster than elsewhere. The report shows that despite general improvements, the health poverty gap is widening.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/11/76/98/04117698.pdf>

5. Calendar of international events

4-8.09.2005	Cairo , 28 th Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health http://www.wfmh2005.com/
7-9.09.2005	Oxford , Conference Ageing Population Conference - "Sixty-five and not out!" http://www.ageing.ox.ac.uk/
12-13.09.2005	Coventry , Health Protection Agency Annual Conference 2005, UK Presidency Event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
12-14.09.2005	Warwick , Health Protection Agency, annual conference 2005 http://www.hpaconference.org.uk/
14.09.2005	London , Conference on Malnutrition in an Ageing Population Contact: info@european-nutrition.org
14.09.2005	Birmingham , 'Choosing inclusion, national health

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	development conference Health.development@uce.ac.uk
17-20.09.2005	Yerevan , 'Educating the Public Health Workforce, Development Perspectives for the European and Mediterranean regions' http://www.auachsr.com/aspher/
18-20.09.2005	Montreal , Improving Health by Advancing Health Care http://www.icsbhs.org/index_eng.html
18-23.09.2005	Orlando , XVIIth World Congress on Safety and Health at Work http://www.appcluster05.com/App/homepage.cfm?moduleid=16&appname=343
20.09.2005	Brussels , European Parliament Intergroup meeting on 'Employment of Older Workers, examples of goodpractice' http://www.age-platform.org/AGE/article.php3?id_article=221
20.09.2005	Brussels , Putting Informal Care on the EU Agenda, round table organized by the Madariaga foundation. http://www.madariaga.coleurop.be/
22-23.09.2005	Paris , 1st European Conference on Child and Adolescent Mental Health in Educational Settings http://www.tavi-port.org/departments/d_conferences/conferences/Conferences_ParisConf.htm
23-25.09.2005	Athens , 'From parents to children, the impact of parental mental illness on children' http://www.parentsonchildren.gr/
29.09-1.10.2005	Eretria , First European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion 'Towards a Safer Europe, time for action' Contact preevent@med.uoa.gr
3.10.2005	World Habitat Day http://www.unhabitat.org/whd/2005/
4-5.10.2005	Brussels , 2nd Annual Obesity Conference: Implications for the Food and Drink Industry http://www.euconferences.com/events.asp?ID=20&Type=Event
5-8.10.2005	Gastein, European Health Forum 2005 http://www.ehfg.org/website05/
6-8.10.2005	Berlin , Seminar 'Dignity and Health' of Disadvantaged and Excluded People http://www.smes-europa.org/UK_Invitation_9sem_Berlin.htm
9-11.10.2005	Reykjavik , 8 th North Public Health Conference http://www.congress.is/NPH2005/

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10.10.2005	Brussels , Conference 'Ageing, health Status and Determinants of Health Expenditure' Contact: svetla.tsolova@ceps.be
10-14.10.2005	Brussels , European Social Housing Week http://www.cecodhas.org/rightclick.cfm?ID=40
11-12.10.2005	Brussels , Social Platform conference on 'Building Social Policy on Fundamental Rights' http://www.socialplatform.org/code/EN/about.asp?Page=692
13-14.10.2005	Edinburgh , Protecting Patients: healthcare professionals Crossing borders, UK Presidency Event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
14-15.10.2005	Warsaw , 1 st Polish National Conference on Mental Health Promotion http://www.ipin.edu.pl
17-18.10.2005	London , Empowering People: Tackling Health Inequalities – UK Presidency event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
17-18.10.2005	Glasgow , Social Inclusion Round Table UK presidency event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
19.10.2005	San Francisco , Second Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/global_campaign/en/
20-21.10.2005	Hertfordshire , Health Ministerial Conference UK Presidency event
21-24.10.2005	Warsaw , 'Civil Society in European Union cohesion policy – Health promotion and diseases prevention aspects' http://www.ptoz.org.pl
27-28.10.2005	London , Meeting of EU Chief Medical Officers, UK Presidency Event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
7-8.11.2005	Brussels , EU Open Forum http://www.euhealthforum.org/
10-12.11.2005	Graz , 13 th European Conference on Public Health - EUPHA http://www.eupha.org/html/documents/2005_graz/eupha_graz_2005_first_announcement.pdf
11.10.2005	Brussels , Seminar in the area of e-Health http://www.ehealth-EU.org
14-15.11.2005	Brussels , Communicating European Research

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	http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/conferences/2005/cer2005/index_en.html
17-18.11.2005	Strasbourg , Forum organised by the OECD on ' Reconciling Labour Flexibility and Social Cohesion' http://www.coe.int/T/E/social_cohesion/social_policies/04.Activities/4.Annual_Forums/2005/
20-22.11.2005	Amsterdam , 3 rd International Congress, the failing heart under stress. http://www.failingheart.com
28-30.11.2005	London , Patient Safety Summit, UK presidency event http://www.eu2005.gov.uk
1.12.2005	London , World Health Day
8-9.12.2005	Edinburgh , 'IN Good HEALTH' conference organised by EuroHealthNet and NHS Health Scotland http://www.eurohealthnet.org/EuroHealthNet/Site/EuroHealthNet/Conference/First_Announcement.html
9.12.2005	Brussels , Health Council

Please note that EuroHealthNet is not responsible for the content of sites or publications mentioned in this publication.

Would you like to inform other members about new publications or events in your organisation or country? Please send contributions to l.coulet@eurohealthnet.org

Please see Events Calendar on www.eurohealthnet.org (under main menu item 'News') for upcoming events

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