

Health for Peace in the WHO European Region

Learning from the past to shape a better future

Monday, 12 September 2022 at 13:45 – 14:45 IDT 12:45 – 13:45 CEST (KING SOLOMON AB)

The Global Health for Peace Initiative (GHPI) was launched in November 2019 with the active support of the Sultanate of Oman and Switzerland. WHO's European Program of Work has mainstreamed the concept across its core priorities and flagship programmes in support of countries' and partners' efforts to leave no one behind in the current acute, chronic, and frozen conflicts in the Region.

WHO Regional Office for Europe has increased its efforts to give prominence to health for peace, including through strengthened partnerships, integrated action and by attracting investment. At the 72nd Session of the Regional Committee, WHO/Europe is convening a parallel session bringing together champions for health and peace together to discuss future prospects of promoting GHPI in the European Region. Building a regional alliance for health, peace and wellbeing has been done before in our region, and the session will present the experiences, lessons and opportunities of the South-eastern Europe Health Network (SEEHN). The South-eastern Europe Health Network (SEEHN) is a regional intergovernmental organization founded in 2001 with the aim to promote collaboration, common values and to encourage mutual efforts towards peace, health and well-being of the people in the SEEHN member states: Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria, State of Israel, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania and Republic of Serbia.

WHO/Europe is committed to advance GHPI and to engage in interregional work that can build awareness and capacities, and generate evidences and frameworks for action.

The parallel session will follow the format of a moderated panel discussion bringing together high-level representatives of SEEHN, WHO experts, and WHO partners to discuss lessons learned, generate an understanding of the current situation, and set the stage to advance GHPI in the Region.

The purpose of the panel discussions is three-fold:

- To inform a regional and global roadmap on health for peace, in the framework of the Global Health for Peace Initiative as requested by WHA75;
- To engage with Member States, drawing both awareness and attention to engaging in “health for peace” programming;
- To provide the opportunity for information sharing and exchange of best practices and generate evidence on health for peace.

Programme

The parallel session is co-hosted by: Federal Office of Public Health of Switzerland.

Chair: Ms. Nora Kronig Romero, Vice Director-General of the Federal Office of Public Health and Head of International Affairs Division, Switzerland.

Facilitator of the session: Dr Rudi Coninx, Facilitator WHO Regional Office for Europe and former Head of Unit for Interagency Policy for Emergencies, WHO Headquarters.

Opening

13:45–13:50

Welcome and Opening Remarks

by Dr Gerald Rockenschaub, Regional Emergency Director, WHO Regional Office for Europe

Health and Peace in the South-eastern European Context

13:50–13:53

Health for Peace

Multimedia Presentation

13:53–13:58

SEEHN — 20 years Health for Peace Collaboration in the South-eastern Europe

Dr Ogerta Manastirliu, Minister of Health Albania

13:58–14:10

SEEHN — Programmatic Approach to Health for Peace: The Mental Health Programme

Dr Goran Cerkez, Assistant Minister of Health Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Online)

Dr Aleksandra Vukadin, Senior Public Health Associate, International Cooperation and European Integrations, Department of Public Health, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Online)

Present and Future Perspectives on Health for Peace in the European Context

14:10–14:15

WHO Global Health for Peace Initiative

Ms. Nora Kronig Romero, Vice Director General of the Federal Office of Public Health and Head of International Affairs Division, Switzerland

14:15–14:20

Health for Peace in the WHO European Region: Where are we now and where are we going?

Dr Dorit Nitzan, Former WHO Regional Emergency Director

14:20–14:25

Global UN Interagency Collaboration in Sustaining Peace

Mr. Scott Weber, President Interpeace (online)

Open discussion

14:25-14:40

Questions and Answers*Facilitated by Dr Rudi Coninx WHO Europe***Closing**

14:40-14:45

Closing Remarks*Dr Gerald Rockenschaub Regional Emergency Director WHO/Europe***Speakers**

Dr Gerald Rockenschaub
Regional Emergency
Director, WHO



Mrs Ogerta Manastirliu
Minister of Health of
Albania



Ms. Nora Kronig Romero
Vice Director-General of the
Federal Office of Public Health



Dr Dorit Nitzan
Former Regional Emergency
Director, WHO



Mr. Scott Weber
President Interpeace



Dr Goran Cerkez
Assistant Minister
Ministry of Health,
Federation of Bosnia and
Herzegovina, Bosnia and
Herzegovina



Dr Aleksandra Vukadin
Senior Public Health Associate
International Cooperation and
European Integrations,
Department of Public Health
Ministry of Health and Social
Welfare, Republika Srpska,
Bosnia and Herzegovina



Dr Rudi Coninx
Facilitator and Former Head
of Unit for Interagency Policy
for Emergencies Policy for
Emergencies, WHO

Practical information

Zoom link

<https://who-e.zoom.us/j/96128594079>

Passcode: 850552

Webinar ID: 961 2859 4079

Languages

The parallel session will be in English with Russian interpretation

Interaction with participants

Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions after the panel discussion. Participants are free to submit their questions via Slido throughout the duration of the side event. One may access the Q&A submission portal by scanning the below QR code, or clicking on the following link: <https://app.sli.do/event/fEGfUJMKEdjM68k2pGeb8Y>



Documentation

[Global Health for Peace Initiative \(who.int\)](#)

[Health and peace initiative \(who.int\)](#)

[WHO Global Health for Peace Initiative October 2021](#)

[WHO-EURO-2021-3435-43194-60508-eng.pdf](#)

» 20 YEARS SEEHN

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/235383683_Southeastern_European_Health_Network_SEEHN_Communicable_Diseases_Surveillance_A_Decade_of_Bridging_Trust_and_Collaboration