



**European Heart Network**  
Fighting heart disease and stroke



# Annual report

## 2022



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# Mission and vision

## European Heart Network

The European Heart Network (EHN) is a Brussels-based alliance of foundations and associations dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke, supporting patients, representing patient interests and funding research throughout Europe.

## Our mission

To play a leading role in the prevention and reduction of cardiovascular diseases, in particular heart disease and stroke, through advocacy, networking, capacity-building, representing patient interests and research so that they are no longer a major cause of premature death and disability in Europe.

## Our vision

Every European has a right to a life free from avoidable cardiovascular diseases.



**European Heart Network**  
Fighting heart disease and stroke

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# Messages from the EHN President and CEO



**Charmaine Griffiths,**  
President, EHN

**F**or over 30 years the European Heart Network (EHN) has been bringing together people and organisations who strive to prevent and reduce cardiovascular disease. Today, as every single member navigates unprecedented global health challenges, that unity has never been more needed.

Our 27 member organisations work tirelessly to collectively promote and protect heart health of 465 million people across Europe, standing in solidarity to influence governments and systems, whilst also sharing knowledge and resources across borders.

As ever, influencing policy is at the very core of our work as the EHN. We strive to shine a light on the widening gap in access to healthcare and devastating shrinkage of the health and social workforce across Europe that tragically mean millions of people aren't getting the quality care and treatment they desperately need, right now. We will relentlessly advocate for action that reduces the devastating health cost cardiovascular disease has on people, and the growing economic costs the diseases have on society. The EHN presented its vision of a Cardiovascular Health Plan at the EU Parliament in June 2022 highlighting the need for action across four critical pillars: primary and secondary prevention, digital technologies for cardiovascular health, modernising the cardiovascular patient's pathway, and improving health and digital literacy to tackle inequalities.

We know none of these goals are easy to achieve, and none of them can be achieved by any single organisation. As such we're proud to play our part in powerful consortiums including the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH) to help move quicker towards our vision of a world that is free of cardiovascular disease.

*As the voice of heart foundations and organisations across Europe, the EHN remains deeply committed to driving progress.*

And from that vision will come the EHN Strategy 2023–2030, which boldly sets out our commitment to heart patients across Europe and continuing to strengthen our network post-pandemic.

As the voice of heart foundations and organisations across Europe, the EHN remains deeply committed to driving progress. In a time of such immense challenge, seeing the impact our member organisations make everyday powers our progress, and gives us hope that we will achieve a Cardiovascular Heart Plan for Europe. We must, for the 60 million people living with cardiovascular disease today.

Best Wishes,

**Charmaine Griffiths,**  
EHN President

**S**ome incredible turning points and, sadly, tipping points have marked the year 2022. Many a thought leader has spoken about a constant state of permacrisis, stretching beyond the pandemic, climate change, war and economic hardship.

In such volatile times, hard choices, focussing on the essential, need to be made and priorities to be reset. Collective networks were the new buzzwords. And the unfolding year was dedicated to working collectively for a very important, common cause: to bring greater attention, with more investment and innovation for the cardiovascular health of Europe's patients and people.

For cardiovascular health, policy makers at national and international level have taken decisions in favour of change. National cardiovascular health plans are emerging, like the Spanish Cardiovascular Health Plan. WHO-Europe's Director, on the occasion of the 72nd regional committee meeting in September 2022, said: "No doubt COVID-19 is the most visible pandemic in our lifetime, but it is not the deadliest. It is not the most preventable. That distinction goes to the pandemic of cardiovascular diseases. During COVID-19, five times more people have died at a younger average age due to heart attacks and strokes, than from COVID-19 at its worst."

WHO-Europe has walked the talk, launching its new WHO-Europe Signature Initiative to tackle cardiovascular disease (CVD) on 9 December



**Birgit Beger,**  
CEO, EHN



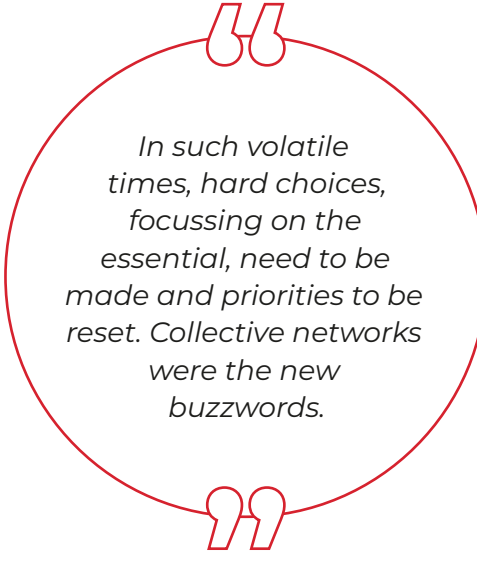
2022. The initiative is of particular interest to countries in the WHO-European Region with the highest burden of CVD, the highest prevalence of hypertension, poor hypertension control and high salt consumption. The European Commission has continued to support member states with the NCD initiative “Healthier together” and launched a Joint Action on Cardiovascular health and Diabetes.

The European Commission is now also offering many new research opportunities for cardiovascular health. EHN is actively participating in a selected number of these research projects with its network of patient consultants from its membership. You will read more about this further on in the report.

In spite of the challenging times we are facing, not to forget the devastating humanitarian loss caused by the war in Ukraine, a war which has not left our countries unscathed, there is a wind of change blowing in favour of collaboration. Collaboration amongst the many different stakeholders, from patient associations, heart foundations, researchers, policy makers, insurers, to cardiologists all sharing a common goal of prioritising heart health for everyone in Europe. The European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH), which was co-founded by the European Heart Network is yet another positive example of committed thought leadership rising to the challenge. I am grateful to EHN members, guided by the EHN Board, and to being part of this much needed change. I look forward to continuing the inspirational work with my team and all those involved in heart health for every European!

Cordially,

**Birgit Beger**  
EHN CEO



*In such volatile times, hard choices, focussing on the essential, need to be made and priorities to be reset. Collective networks were the new buzzwords.*



# Main achievements in 2022

**In 2022, EHN together with its members saw previous calls to put cardiovascular disease on the political agenda come to fruition at national and European level.**

This exciting political development was reflected in the title, “Cardiovascular Health on the European and national policy agenda”, of the EHN Annual Workshop in Madrid, from 30 May–1 June 2022. It was the first, in-person annual workshop and general assembly after the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns had been lifted and after two years of online EHN annual workshops (2020 and 2021). EHN members were finally able to come together to hold one of the most successful workshops to date as was reported by membership feedback. At the Madrid workshop, the European Commission presented its “Healthier Together Initiative”, which was an EU non-communicable diseases (NCDs) initiative and a toolkit to help EU countries reduce the burden of NCDs and improve citizens’ health and well-being by supporting action of the Member States and stakeholders. The initiative has 5 key strands of action, the first one being cardiovascular health. Recent and promising national cardiovascular health strategies and plans were also presented at the workshop from Scotland, Germany and Spain.

The EHN CEO, Birgit Beger, was later invited by the European Commission as a keynote speaker to the high-level launch event of the EU Non-Communicable Diseases Initiative, held on 22 June 2022 with the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Stella Kyriakides.





The European Commission held that the input from the European Heart Network has been most welcome and useful:

## European Cardiovascular Health Plan Pillars

### I. Primary and secondary prevention

- ambitious public health measures to mitigate cardiovascular risk factors.
- the importance of early detection and secondary prevention.

### III. Modernise cardiovascular patients' pathway

- interdisciplinary health care models.
- digital health to strengthen outpatient care.

### II. Digital technologies for cardiovascular health

- digitisation for cardiovascular innovation.
- digital innovation for saving lives.

### IV. Improve health and digital literacy to tackle inequalities

- ambitious policies to ensure equal access to innovation and
- public investment into programmes aimed at improving health and digital literacy to tackle inherent inequalities.

In order to further advocate for a European Cardiovascular (CV) Health Plan, the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH), a 17 member, European and international consortium of partners from the CVD community, co-founded by EHN, joined forces and revealed its [EACH Plan for Cardiovascular Health Launched – EACH \(cardiovascular-alliance.eu\)](https://cardiovascular-alliance.eu).



### A European Cardiovascular Health Plan: The need and the ambition



In gathering support for a European CV Health Plan, EACH organised a milestone event hosted by MEP Sokol: “Taking the pulse: A Cardiovascular Health plan for Europe”, which took place on 17 November 2022 at the European parliament. EHN President, Charmaine Griffiths, was the European Heart Network’s spokesperson at this first, large-scale event where participating MEPs gave their unanimous political backing for a Cardiovascular Health Plan in Europe.



As the European Union was becoming more aware and active in the area of cardiovascular health in its political agenda, WHO-Europe continued its work on cardiovascular health by creating a WHO-Europe signature initiative on hypertension and salt reduction. EHN CEO, Birgit Beger, member of the Regional Director’s Advisory Council on Innovation for non-communicable diseases, represented EHN at the meeting of the Advisory Council, which was held on 9 November 2022 in Berlin. The Advisory Council is part of the agreement to develop a roadmap with the aim of achieving concrete results by 2025 and speeding up implementation of the ongoing Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of non-communicable diseases in the WHO European Region 2016–2025.



In summarising the year 2022, the main achievements have been that cardiovascular (CV) health with its concrete, structured and financed CV health plan has become an important element in national and European health policy debates. A very positive trend, which needs to be carried forward and fostered over the next years, so that a Cardiovascular Health Plan becomes a reality everywhere in Europe.

## A new EHN strategy 2023–2030

Revisiting the EHN strategy, with the aim of renewing its mission and vision for 2023–2030, began with a members' brainstorming session during the EHN annual workshop in Madrid in May 2022. The new strategic plan will be the bedrock upon which EHN will continue to strengthen its network in a post-pandemic, new normal.

It was high time to turn the tide of rising cardiovascular disease (CVD) numbers into actionable solutions and to address the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) holistically. Emergent, national cardiovascular health plans will require much political backing and financial investment to be achieved.

EHN will continue its longstanding legacy of playing a leading role in the European cardiovascular community through patient representation, striving for cardiovascular health in all policy areas. It was considered that a 7-year, overarching strategic plan, with a mid-term point for evaluation, was the safest way forward considering the changing times.

The focus of the new EHN strategy will concentrate on its three core pillars: patients, CVD research and prevention, with an overarching leadership for change goal. Transversal topics will include health inequities, patient co-creation, digital health and AI. The new EHN Strategy 2023–2030 will be launched after its endorsement at the EHN Annual workshop in Mainz, 31 May–1 June 2023.



# Position papers and statements

## Position papers

### Using public procurement for systemic food transformation

Together with organisations involved in the public procurement task force of the EU Food Policy Coalition (FPC), EHN prepared a position paper on using public procurement for a systemic food transformation.



In a nutshell, the paper recommends that:

- The criteria for food selection must go beyond Green Public Procurement (GPP).
- The criteria should be ambitious, and progressive over time.
- National and international roundtables of procurement experts should accompany the definition of criteria.
- National dietary and nutrition guidelines should set ambitious goals and directions for public procurers of sustainable and healthy meals.
- The EU and its Member States should provide financial and technical support.
- Public procurers need to ensure compliance with latest labour and employment laws and agreements.
- Clarification on the rules related to local food procurement is necessary.

Here is a link to the position paper: <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/position-papers-and-statements/1338:using-procurement-for-systemic-food-transformation.html>

## Statements

EHN, BEUC and EPHA ask for a timely proposal on Front-of-Pack Nutritional Labelling.



On 19 December, EHN, BEUC and EPHA sent an open letter to Commissioners Kyriakides, Wojciechowski and Vice-President Timmermans expressing their concerns about a possible delay on the proposal of Front of Pack Nutrition labelling.

Here is a link to the open letter:

<https://ehnheart.org/medias/news/2155-ehn,-beuc-and-epha-ask-for-a-timely-proposal-on-front-of-pack-nutritional-labelling.html>

## EHN welcomes the proposal for a European Health Data Space (EHDS) Regulation

EHN joins 34 stakeholders in welcoming the proposal for a Regulation on the European Health Data Space. The Regulation has the potential to harness the benefits of the digital age for better health outcomes and EHN calls upon EU Member States to support the proposal and engage with the broad group of stakeholders to ensure the final Regulation optimises its potential.

Here are the recommendations from the 34 organisations:

- a broad range of stakeholders must be strongly involved from the outset of the process to guarantee the success of the EHDS.
- the EHDS must align with all relevant horizontal and sectoral European laws.
- there must be harmonised interpretation and implementation of the Regulation across the EU.
- approvals for secondary use of health data must be consistent and harmonised across Europe.
- the scope of EHR systems must be defined clearly within the Regulation.
- the successful implementation of the EHDS must be adequately resourced.
- existing health data infrastructures must be leveraged to allow continuity and build on existing expertise.
- the signatory organisations petition all Member State and European decision-makers to strongly support this Regulation and to enable multi-stakeholder engagement to maximise the final Regulation's potential.

For more information, please visit [here](#).



## EHN welcomes proposal to prohibit flavoured heated tobacco products (HTPs)

This Commission proposal is another welcome step towards a smokefree generation in the EU. In its 2021 position paper on Heated Tobacco Products, EHN showed that HTPs are particularly harmful to the cardiovascular system as they increase heart rate and blood pressure. HTPs have similar devastating effects on cardiovascular health as conventional cigarettes and therefore policy actions should parallel that of conventional cigarettes and roll-your-own tobacco products. Considering the similarities in CVD outcome in users of HTPs and conventional cigarettes, it is EHN's recommendation that both should be subject to the full effect of the Tobacco Products Directive (TPD). In countries where the TPD does not apply, HTPs should be subject to the same smoke-free legislation. This Commission proposal is another important step towards a smoke free generation.



Here is the link to EHN's reaction on the Commission proposal:  
<https://ehnhart.org/medias/news/2083-ehn-welcomes-proposes-to-prohibit-flavoured-heated-tobacco-products.html>

## Publications

### Scorecard project

EHN partnered with the World Heart Federation (WHF) on the CVD Scorecard project for the European region. The CVD Scorecard is an advocacy tool that supports stakeholders in assessing the strengths and gaps in national CVD programmes and policies to promote future targeted policy action. EHN led the country-level data collection on cardiovascular health-related measures and indicators for five European countries: Germany, Italy, Spain, France, and the United Kingdom. As the first European countries to be completed, these five countries were selected based on the availability of epidemiological and policy data. Data was collected for over 110 indicators related to national demographics, CVD and risk factor burden, health system capacity, and national response to CVDs. Each national scorecard was transformed into an infographic that can be accessed by all stakeholders on WHF's website. Using this dataset, EHN is collaborating with WHF on a report for publication.





## Policies to advance cardiovascular health in Europe

### *EU4Health – Healthier Together Initiative*

In December 2021, the European Commission launched its Healthier Together – EU non-communicable diseases (NCDs) initiative to support EU countries in identifying and implementing effective policies and actions to reduce the burden of major NCDs and improve citizens' health and well-being. The initiative covers the 2022–2027 period and includes 5 strands:

- health determinants.
- cardiovascular diseases.
- diabetes.
- chronic respiratory diseases.
- mental health and neurological disorders.

In the strand on cardiovascular diseases, EHN, in its submission to the EU, stressed the importance of having an EU Plan to tackle cardiovascular diseases. The existing burden of CVD, both in terms of morbidity and mortality, the cardiovascular inequalities in the EU and the cardiovascular legacy of COVID-19 beg for this plan to become a reality. In preparing this document, EHN asked the EU Institutions to focus on the following points:

- develop Ambitious public health measures to mitigate cardiovascular risk factors.
- focus on the importance of early detection and secondary prevention.
- invest in digitalisation for cardiovascular innovation.
- invest in Digital innovation for saving lives.
- modernise cardiovascular patients' pathways by supporting interdisciplinary health care models combined with digital health to strengthen outpatient care.
- improve health and digital literacy to tackle inequalities.

As part of the Healthier Together Initiative, examples of best practices on cardiovascular disease prevention and health promotion were sent to the European Commission by EHN Members. They can be found in the [Best Practice Portal](#) which is a repository to facilitate the collection and exchange of best practices and their implementation in the EU. As a funding tool, the [EU4Health programme](#) supports the implementation and transfer of the selected best practices across Europe.



# Cardiovascular patients

## EHN Patient Working Group

Almost half of EHN members are patient organisations and their combined outreach accounts for over 2 million patients and carers in Europe. EHN represents patient organisations that are committed to supporting people living with cardiovascular disease and embody the patient's voice at the national level.

## Linking patients with the research and medical communities

As the independent European CVD patient organisation, EHN provides a forum for its member organisations and the patients they represent. Together, we elevate the patient voice to influence EU policies affecting people living with cardiovascular

disease and improve cardiovascular health and care across Europe. In addition to working closely with EHN's Research Platform, EHN and its members carry patient needs and preferences forward in EU-funded projects.

During 2022, EHN members came together at the Annual Workshop in Madrid, where they had the opportunity to address crucial topics related to CVD patients: the possibilities for innovations for CVD patients in Europe after COVID-19, patient's role in controlling the quality of their health records (with the support of AI-based tools), patients presenting co-morbidities (with the example of cardio-oncology and related practices for patient engagement), and the experience of CVD patients in Romania.

## EHN member activities

### Pacts with the Heart – PACTOS

Pacts with the Heart is a public awareness campaign initiated by the Spanish Heart Foundation (with the name of PACTOS) and later joined by the Italian Society for cardiovascular prevention (SIPREC).

The two EHN member organisations have joined hands on this common public awareness campaign with the aim of reducing the number of myocardial infarctions, strokes and cardiovascular deaths in their respective countries. The first objective of the campaign is centred on raising awareness about risk factors for cardiovascular disease, the periodicity and modality of measurement, as well as the parameters' optimal values. The second objective is implementing policy actions



aimed at improving lifestyle choices, thus cardiovascular health.

### A vending machine for a friend

The project "A vending machine for a friend" is aimed at encouraging healthy choices at school and reducing overweight and



obesity among young people, as well as contrasting unregulated marketing of unhealthy products targeted to children.

The project was funded by the European Heart Network and then developed by the Italian National Research Council, in collaboration with the Italian Society for cardiovascular prevention (SIPREC) and the Lithuanian Heart Association (LHA). These two member organisations are now implementing a pilot project in the schools of Rome, Latina and Piverno in Italy, and in the schools of Vilnius and Panevėžys in Lithuania. The main objective of the project is to introduce new clauses for the regulation of vending machines and improve their nutritional quality: the new suppliers of vending machines must ensure that at least 50% of the products sold have a medium-to-small portion size, are low in saturated fat, salt, calories, and have no added sugar.



## European Medicines Agency (EMA)

EHN's membership in EMA's Patients and Consumers Working Party (PCWP) dates back to 2008. Within the 2019–2022 mandate, EHN was highly active in EMA activities, representing patient interests and providing input as needed on relevant EMA scientific and regulatory discussions.

EHN is a member of the EMA-HMA Big Data Steering Group, representing patient views on all aspects of data use for regulatory decision-making across the lifecycle of medicinal products. In 2022, EHN participated in nine HMA-EMA meetings and events of the Big Data Steering Group and six meetings of the EMA's Patients and Consumers Working Party.

In September 2022, EHN participated in EMA's multi-stakeholder workshop on patient experience data in medicines development and regulatory decision-making, specifically in the panel on digitalisation for patient-generated health data. The workshop aimed to understand what constitutes "patient experience data" and to reflect on current methods and challenges for collecting and incorporating patient data. The workshop highlighted the centrality of the patient voice during the whole lifecycle of a medicine, from early development to reporting of adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and risk minimisation.

One patient volunteer from EHN's member network participated in EMA's training for patients in October 2022. Finally, patient representatives of the EHN network participated in four other regulatory activities.

# Research

Fostering cardiovascular research is a core objective for the European Heart Network, and we are committed to creating a space where knowledge gathering and sharing is facilitated and encouraged. One of our top priorities is raising awareness on the need for more cardiovascular research, especially for projects targeting women, children and the elderly, and for research initiatives that focus on digitalisation and artificial intelligence in relation to CVD patient treatment, management and quality of life.

## EHN Research Platform

The EHN Research Platform serves as a meeting point for all EHN research-funding members, where they can review and assess their research priorities, including EU research framework programmes. Nationally sourced funding has been mostly spent on research performed within national borders, with the EU supporting scientific collaborations for transnational cardiovascular research. About one-third of EHN members fund CVD research, with a combined annual contribution of €180 million. EHN members' research spending covers a large spectrum of research activities from basic/pre-clinical, clinical and epidemiological research to research in prevention/population/public health.

EHN members that fund cardiovascular research also represent the EHN's expert group, to be consulted on relevant research-related topics and policies. Together, they develop the EHN's positions on issues that directly or indirectly impact CVD research and engage in EU policy discussions to improve awareness of the need for CVD research, influence the EU research framework programme and its implementation, and call for a more balanced EU funding, with sufficient funds available for CVD research.

## European grants and projects

The year 2022 was an active year for EHN's involvement in EU-funded research projects with the official start of one project, two new project proposals being accepted, and one project nearing completion.

### AIDAVA

AI Powered Data Curation and Publishing Virtual Assistant (AIDAVA)



is a Horizon Europe project which kicked off in October 2022 in Maastricht, The Netherlands. AIDAVA's consortium, made up of 14 partners from 9 European projects, aims to develop a digital solution, orchestrating diverse artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, for more efficient curation and publishing of personal health data that is interoperable and reusable for the benefit of patients and clinical researchers. Two versions will be developed and tested around CVD longitudinal health records and breast cancer registries. EHN facilitates the participation of four CVD patient consultants to support meaningful patient involvement during the development and evaluation of the AI system. As a result of this project, EHN launched its very own database of patient consultants who are interested in participating in research and policy activities at the European level.

### HYPERMARKER & AI4HF

Two more Horizon Europe project proposals were accepted in the second half of 2022. EHN will now join 12 other partners in the project called HYPERMARKER, which is set to start in January 2023. The project aims to unleash the potential of pharmacometabolomics to provide 'smart'

prescription of antihypertensive treatment and to develop a clinical decision support tool that uses advanced data analytics and robust AI algorithms to personalise treatment. Lastly, the project called Artificial Intelligence for Heart Failure (AI4HF), was accepted after receiving a high evaluation score of 14.5 out of 15. The ambitious objective of AI4HF is to design, develop, evaluate, and exploit an integrative and trustworthy AI solution for personalised heart failure risk assessment, trained from large multiple-source cardiovascular data. In both projects, EHN will play a key role in facilitating structured and meaningful patient participation throughout the life cycle of the projects.

## BigData@Heart

Launched in March 2017, BigData@Heart was a five-year project of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), a public-private initiative between the European Union and the pharmaceutical industry association EFPIA. BigData@Heart aims to develop a data-driven translational research platform towards improving patient outcomes and therefore reducing the societal burden of Atrial Fibrillation (AF), Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) and Heart Failure (HF) in Europe. The BigData@Heart consortium brings together 19 partners ranging from, leading epidemiologists and big data scientists, to patient and cardiovascular professional organisations, as well as pharmaceutical industry representatives. The European Heart Network is representing the views of CVD patients, as well as ensuring that key findings are disseminated among patient organisations and policy makers, with a view to improving current clinical practice and policies.

### New paper

#### Cardiology



#### Cardiology/Digital Health: Systematic Review

### Identification and Mapping Real-World Data Sources for Heart failure, Acute Coronary Syndrome, and Atrial Fibrillation

A number of academic papers were published in November 2022 and this open access paper was published: <https://t.co/fdeXys78Lk>.



# Annual workshop

For the first time in three years, EHN organised its 2.5-day Annual Workshop, which took place in the Spanish capital, Madrid, from 30 May–1 June 2022. The Annual Workshop brought together 36 participants from its 27 member organisations, with the participation of invited keynote speakers from the European Commission, Stefan Schreck, Advisor for Stakeholder Relations in DG SANTE, Directorate C, Public Health, WHO-Europe Regional Medical Officer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes, Division of Country Health Programmes, Jill Farrington and WHO Switzerland Director, Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, Francesco Branca. With the COVID-19 pandemic in mind, the workshop focussed on the need to bring cardiovascular health high on the European and national agendas.



Dr. Charmaine Griffiths, CEO of the British Heart Foundation (BHF), was elected EHN President 2022–2024, in Madrid, during the EHN General Assembly. EHN is looking forward to continuing the inspiring work together with all our members to improve Cardiovascular Health in Europe.

# Working with the EU institutions

## European Commission

### Responses to Commission consultations

EHN responded to the following EU Public consultations, published in 2022:



- **Sustainable food system:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1353:sustainable-food-system.html>
- **School Fruit, Vegetable and Milk Scheme:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1354:school-fruit,-vegetable-and-milk-scheme.html>
- **Excise duties on alcohol and alcoholic beverages:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1355:excise-dutyies-on-alcohol-and-alcoholic-beverages.html>
- **Digital Health Data and Services – the European Health Data space:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1350:ehn-ec-ehds-proposal.html>
- **Stakeholders' Targeted Consultation on EU4Health Work programme:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1349:ehn-eu4health2023-submission.html>
- **Healthier Together Initiative:** <https://ehnheart.org/publications-and-papers/responses-to-consultations/1339:healthier-together-initiative.html>

## European Parliament: MEP Heart Group

[MEP Heart Group – The Members of the European Parliament Heart Group](#) is a forum which provides MEPs with an opportunity to generate dialogue, outreach and activities at EU and Member State level. It is made up of MEPs who have an interest in promoting measures that will help reduce the burden of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) in Europe and raise CVD as a priority on the EU political agenda.

The Secretariat of the MEP Heart Group is managed by the European Heart Network and the [European Society of Cardiology](#).

## Co-chairs of the MEP Heart Group



**Maria da Graça Carvalho,**  
MEP (EPP, PT), Co-chair



**Brando Benifei,**  
MEP (S&D, IT), Co-chair

## CVD and Diabetes, 12 May 2022

Ten years after a landmark European Parliament Motion for a Resolution on Diabetes, MEPs Mobilising for Diabetes' co-chairs, MEPs Sirpa Pietikäinen and Christel Schaldemose were invited to a webinar on May 12 to explore the **progress achieved on tackling diabetes and CVD in the last decade** and how an ambitious 'Healthier Together – EU Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) Initiative could help achieve the many objectives in the Resolution that were still outstanding. The Healthier Together Initiative was launched by the European Commission in December 2021. Its aim was to help Member States reduce the burden of major NCDs such as diabetes. Cardiovascular disease, for which diabetes is a key risk factor and which is also its leading cause of mortality, is also included in the initiative. A consensus document, described as a [“toolkit to guide and coordinate action on NCDs”](#) was published by the Commission on 20 June 2022. This initiative, which will be largely



financed as part of the EU4Health programme, represents a major shift for the EC, which, until recently, had indicated that it would not support any disease-specific approaches other than cancer. The [toolkit guide](#) new vision is a unique opportunity to improve not only the prevention of diabetes and CVD but also the treatment, health outcomes and quality of life of the 32 million adults living with diabetes in the European Union.

## 26 September 2022: Cardiovascular Health from European to international level and back



In the context of the **World Heart Day**, Cardiovascular Health was discussed from an international perspective by the President of the World Heart Federation, Prof. Fausto Pinto, who met with MEPs from Europe, namely MEP Heart Group Co-chair Maria da Graça Carvalho (EPP, PT) and MEP Tomas Zdechovský commenting on the national situation and national practice models for European Cardiovascular Health in Poland.

For the agenda of the meeting, please click [here](#).

# Cooperation

## World Health Organization (WHO) – Regional office for Europe

### Meeting of the WHO – Europe Non-State- Actors in Brussels on 17 May 2022

EHN CEO, Birgit Beger attended the meeting with Dr. Bente Mikkelsen, Director, Non-Communicable Diseases, WHO and Dr. Nino Berdzuli, Director of the Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO-Europe, on 17 May 2022.



Dr. Bente Mikkelsen from the Global WHO office presented the efforts made for NCDs, yet pointed out that more countries could still meet the 2030 targets but that the window of opportunity for implementing policies with the highest return on investment was narrowing fast.

Only 14/194 countries are on track to reach SDG 3.4 by 2030 for women and 15 /194 for men. Dr. Mikkelsen equally referred to the need to promote cardiovascular health, as high blood pressure is the world's leading cause of death.

Further information can be found here:

[On the road to 2025 \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int)

[NCD Progress Monitor \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int)



**World Health Organization**

**The Global Hearts Initiative: Working together to promote cardiovascular health**

Technical packages to address these major risk factors are:

- TO DEFEAT THE GLOBAL TOBACCO EPIDEMIC**
- TO INCREASE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**
- TO REDUCE SALT CONSUMPTION**
- TO ELIMINATE INDUSTRIALLY-PRODUCED TRANS-FATTY ACIDS**

- High blood pressure is the world's leading cause of death.
- Treatment for HTN is safe, effective, and low cost, and yet, most people with hypertension do not have it controlled.
- Better DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, AND CONTINUITY OF CARE are all needed to improve HTN control rates**

**HEARTS**

World Health Organization

## WHO-Europe Regional Committee meeting in Tel Aviv, September 2022

EHN participated as Non-State-Actor at the Regional Committee meeting in Tel Aviv, and submitted a joint statement on digital transformation in the EURO Region together with ESO and WHF, available [here](#). In its statement, the three organisations highlighted the combined impacts of complications due to COVID-19 and non-communicable multimorbidities, as well as interruptions to crucial medical interventions and ongoing care for people living with cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes, obesity, kidney disease, stroke, cancer, and other circulatory and non-communicable disease conditions (NCDs) – those persons most at risk of poor outcomes from COVID-19. Reference was also made to the World Heart Federation’s Roadmap for Digital Health in Cardiology.

EHN also participated in a statement on the WHO European framework for action to achieve the highest attainable standard of health for persons with disabilities 2022–2030. EHN joined ESO and other organisations in its call for urgent actions to improve awareness, public health measures, acute health services, post-acute rehabilitation, and multi-sector measures



to reduce stroke, improve outcomes, and improve life after stroke for patients with disability. Please see the statement [here](#).

“Although COVID is the most visible pandemic of our lifetime, it is neither the deadliest nor the most preventable. Cardiovascular disease has killed 5 times as many people. We have the public health tools. The question is, can we muster the social & political will to use them?” Quote taken from Dr. Hans Kluge, Regional Director, WHO-Europe, in his key-note speech at the meeting.

[72nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe](#)



## Launch of the WHO-Europe Cardiovascular Signature Initiative, 9 December 2022

The Regional Director for Europe has initiated an NCD Advisory Council for Innovation in Noncommunicable Diseases of which EHN CEO, Birgit Beger is a member. This has six Signature Initiatives including the Signature Initiative to reduce inequalities in cardiovascular disease burden and high blood pressure prevalence through improving hypertension control in primary care and implementing salt-reduction strategies. This 'CVD Signature Initiative' aims at being pragmatic and practical. Taking person-centred, facility-based and population-level approaches, the following strategies will be employed by WHO to reduce inequalities in the CVD burden and the prevalence of high blood pressure:

- country demonstration projects in reducing CVD burden through hypertension control (including for people with diabetes) and salt reduction with implementation research.
- WHO European Regional report on hypertension (prevalence, treatment, control) including gender and inequalities.
- country profiles; country case studies.
- inter-country meetings on hypertension guidelines and salt reduction package.

The Launch event presented the CVD Signature Initiative and included the scale of the problem, what works, examples of good practice, and how countries might participate. Given reports received from Slovenia and Kyrgyzstan, the event was intended to be of particular interest to countries with a high burden of CVD mortality, high hypertension prevalence and/or salt consumption, and/or with poor detection, treatment and control of hypertension.

EHN president, Charmaine Griffiths supported the event:



**The WHO Initiative is a critical step in the right direction to encourage healthier foods that are lower in salt and ensure a clear focus on hypertension in primary care. Now is the time for action to ensure that today's risk factors don't become tomorrow's heartbreak, and we look forward to working with WHO on driving a new phase of CVH prevention.**

**Dr. Charmaine Griffiths, EHN President**

## European Society of Cardiology

EHN has a long-standing history of working with the European Society of Cardiology (ESC), for example with the MEP Heart Group in the European Parliament. More recently, EHN and ESC joined forces to become founding partners of the European Alliance of Cardiovascular Health (EACH), together with MedTech Europe. All three founding partners steer and coordinate the powerful consortium very closely. EHN is also involved in the ESC Prevention Committee through its CEO, Birgit Beger. Since May 2022, ESC has a new Public Affairs Director, James Kennedy, who heads the ESC public affairs team in Brussels.



(EACPR) which went on to become the current-day European Association of Preventive Cardiology (EAPC). EHN worked for many years with him, also in the context of the European Health Charter.

## World Heart Federation

Through its membership of the World Heart Federation (WHF), EHN participates in international work to advance the cause of cardiovascular health promotion worldwide. Since 2020, EHN's Treasurer, Kristina Sparreljung, Secretary General of the Swedish Heart Lung Foundation, has been a member of the WHF Board. EHN's CEO is a member of the WHF's Advocacy Committee.



## European Association of Preventive Cardiology

In 2022, EHN CEO, Birgit BEGER was invited to renew her mandate as a (non-voting) Advisor in the 2022–2024 EAPC Prevention Implementation Committee to keep the strong and mutually beneficial link between EAPC and EHN.



The Chair of the committee, Prof Joep Perk, MD, EFESC, Senior Professor of Health Sciences at Linnaeus University, Sweden, sadly passed away this year, his loss will be missed in the collaborative work on CVD in Europe. In 2004, Prof. Perk, was one of the founders of the European Association of Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation



In 2022, EHN collaborated with the WHF on the [CVD Scorecard](#) initiative, where EHN collected data in five European countries to help track and measure the national response of governments to CVD. More details about this collaboration are found under the Publications section of this report.

## European Chronic Disease Alliance

The European Chronic Disease Alliance (ECDA) is a coalition of 11 European health organisations (EHN being one of them) sharing the same interests in combating preventable chronic diseases through European policies that impact health. ECDA represents millions of chronic disease patients and over 200 000 health professionals.



More information about ECDA can be found at: [www.alliancechronicdiseases.org](http://www.alliancechronicdiseases.org)

## Smoke Free Partnership

The Smoke Free Partnership (SFP) is a large European coalition of around 50 partner organisations working on EU policy analysis and advocacy to mobilise decision makers to make tobacco control a political priority. SFP's main partners are the Belgian Foundation Against Cancer, Cancer Research UK, the Dutch Cancer Society, the Norwegian Cancer Society, and the European Heart Network. The Belgian Foundation Against Cancer is SFP's Associate Partner. EHN CEO, Birgit Beger, joined the SFP Board as a member in December 2020 and became President of SFP as of December 2021.



In 2022, the SFP Board appointed a new director, Lilia Olefir who was previously the Executive Director of Advocacy Centre "LIFE," SFP Coalition in Ukraine.



More information about SFP can be found at: <https://smokefreepartnership.eu>

## European Public Health Alliance

EHN is an active member of the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), which unites a range of organisations throughout Europe that cover a broad spectrum of health issues. EHN participated in EPHA's working groups, notably in food and nutrition, air quality, access to medicines, digital health and ad hoc discussions on the marketing to children and the horizontal aspects of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan. For the statement jointly adopted with EPHA, please see [page 13](#) on position papers and statements.



# Conferences and meetings

Please find below a selection of events in which EHN participated in 2022.

January
EHN members only meeting on Food and Nutrition, 14 January 2022
EHN members only meeting: Exchange on EU Roadmap for CVD, 17 January 2022
EU4Health Coalition meeting, 20 January 2022
EAPC: WALK-10 Task Force Meeting, 27 January 2022
EU Food Policy Coalition Strategy Workshop, 27 January 2022
WHF Advocacy Committee meeting, 31 January 2022
February
Healthier together, EH NCD Initiative, 3 February 2022
EACH Plenary meeting, 4 February 2022
SFP Coalition online meeting, 10 February 2022
Air Pollution and Health: Improving Air Quality and Tackling Epidemics, 10 February 2022
ECDA steering committee meeting, 15 February 2022
March
Food policy coalition meeting, 4 March 2022
EACH Plenary meeting 15 March 2022
Advocacy Committee Meeting WHF, 16 March 2022
Climate change and Health: Addressing climate change impacts on health through national policies, 16 March 2022
Healthier Together – EU NCD Initiative, 17 March 2022
HEAL Conference on air pollution, 21 March 2022
French Presidency digital symposium: “Future of AI for medical devices: the articulation between MDR and AI ACT”, 29 March 2022
Regional Director’s NCD Advisory Council online meeting Working Group for Signature Initiative on CVD (hypertension/salt), 30 March 2022
Health Policy Partnership Thought Leadership Forum on Cardiovascular Disease, 31 March 2022
April
WHO Regional Office for Europe Non-State Actor briefing and update on WHO activities in Ukraine, 4 April 2022
Workshop on strategic communication for WHO FCTC implementation, 5–6 April 2022
Meeting Healthier Together – EU NCD Initiative Stakeholder Webinar, 27 April 2022
WHO Europe online meeting Therapeutic patient education, 27 April 2022
ECDA Steering Committee meeting, 28 April 2022



May
'MEPs mobilising for diabetes'; event at the European Parliament, 12 May 2022
Visit of the Dutch Cardiovascular Alliance Group, 12 May 2022
"Towards a new normal: Why boosting cardiovascular health is critical – Opportunities for healthcare systems to build back better for patients in Europe" event, 13–14 May 2022
World Heart Summit (WHF Spring Meeting, WHF Advocacy Committee), Geneva Switzerland, 19–22 May 2022
British Chamber online event: "Preventative Healthcare in a post-pandemic world: strengthening CVD care through population health", 23 May 2022
Big Tobacco's greenwashing: a world no tobacco day conference, 24 May 2022
SFP Coalition meeting, 25 May 2022
EHN Annual Workshop: Cardiovascular Health on the European and National Policy Agenda, 30 May–1 June, Madrid, Spain
EHN Annual General Assembly 31 May 2022, Madrid, Spain
June
AI4HF full proposal kick-off meeting, 3 June 2022
Healthier together, EU NCD Initiative meeting, 3 June 2022
SFP Strategy Meeting: Revision of the EU Tobacco Taxation Directive, Coalition meeting, 7 June 2022
EPHA – SlowFood Round Table on food environments, 9 June 2022
EHN members online meeting on responses to public consultations on food and nutrition related topics, 15 June 2022
WHF Nominating Committee Meeting, 15 June 2022
EHN & HPP – discussion of EACH and CVD TLF, 16 June 2022
Launch of Healthier together, the EU non communicable disease initiative, 22 June 2022
Big data @Heart Annual meeting, Basel, 21–22 June 2022
EU Food Policy Coalition General Assembly, 24 June 2022
WHO meeting: European Action Network on Marketing to Children, 27 June 2022
Healthy Food Marketing meeting in EP, 28 June 2022
IPES Food Round Table, 30 June 2022
July
EU4Health Programme 2021–2027 Stakeholder's event, 8 July 2022
IHI People@Heart – Meeting consortium development, IHI call: "Cardiovascular diseases – improved prediction, prevention, diagnosis, and monitoring", 18 July 2022

**August**

IHI People@Heart – virtual consortium meeting, 8 August 2022

**September**

EACH Plenary meeting, 15 September 2022

MEP Heart Group virtual meeting: Cardiovascular Health from European to International level and back, 26 September 2022

SFP Coalition meeting, 27 September 2022

ECDA Steering Committee meeting, 27 September 2022

LongITools Policy Forum: an exposome approach to understanding cardiovascular disease risks across the life course, 29 September 2022

Regional Committee meeting WHO-Europe, Tel Aviv, Israel, 12–14 September 2022

**October**

AIDAVA project: kick off meeting: University of Maastricht, 4–6 October 2022

Food Policy Coalition Workshop on sustainable food systems, 5 October 2022

AI in medical technologies – improving health care systems and patient outcomes MedTech Event, 10 October 2022

EAPC Prevention Implementation Committee Kick-off meeting, 21 October 2022

À table! Meeting on perspectives on the Sustainable Food Systems Law, 26 October 2022

EHN members' meeting on Nutrition, 29 October 2022

EHN meeting with EPHA BEUC and Eurocare to discuss FIC Regulation proposal, 27 October 2022

**November**

5th NCD Advisory Council meeting on Innovation for noncommunicable diseases – Berlin Germany, 9 November 2022

SFP Annual Coalition meeting, 16 November 2022

EACH EP event: “Taking the pulse: A Cardiovascular Health plan for Europe”, 17 November 2022

EFPIA Unmet Medical Need (UMN) in the cardiovascular health field, 23 November 2022

AIDAVA – Introductory Patient Onboarding Meeting, 25 November 2022

Healthier together – EU Non-communicable Diseases Initiative Stakeholders' webinar, 28 November 2022

Meeting on the EU Code of Conduct on Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices, 29 November 2022

**December**

EHN members meeting on Cardiovascular Disease Prevention, 1 December 2022

CV & Diabetes Health Check Stakeholders Meeting, 2 December 2022

Launch of the WHO Cardiovascular Signature Initiative, 9 December 2022

ECDA steering committee meeting, 12 December 2022

# EHN governance

Information about EHN and its structure, governance and finances are publicly available on its [website](#).

## Membership

In 2022, EHN had member organisations from 24 countries in Europe.

## General Assembly

The General Assembly is comprised of all the member organisations of EHN.

The principal role of the General Assembly is to set broad strategic and policy guidelines. Its other responsibilities include:

- electing the Board and its President.
- approving the admission of new member organisations.
- approving budgets and annual accounts.

## Board

EHN is governed by a Board that can comprise no fewer than three members and no more than eight. In 2022, EHN's Board was composed of 8 Board members pictured below.

**Charmaine Griffiths, President**  
*British Heart Foundation*

**Martin Vestweber, Vice President**  
*German Heart Foundation*

**Kristina Sparreljung, Treasurer**  
*Swedish Heart Lung Foundation*

**Tim Collins**  
*Irish Heart Foundation*

**Dan Gaita**  
*Romanian Heart Foundation*

**Paola Santalucia**  
*Italian Association Against Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Diseases (ALT Onlus)*

**Hans Snijder**  
*Dutch Heart Foundation*

**Robert Keller**  
*Swiss Heart Foundation*



*EHN Board members (from left to right, top to bottom): Charmaine Griffiths, President; Martin Vestweber, Vice-President; Kristina Sparreljung, Treasurer; Paola Santalucia; Tim Collins; Dan Gaita, Robert Keller, Hans Snijder.*

## EHN Secretariat

EHN has maintained an office in Brussels since 1992. The Network has functioned as a legally registered, non-profit-making association in Belgium (AISBL) since 1993.

In 2022, the EHN Brussels office had a team of six people to coordinate EHN's work.

The Brussels office acts as the central point for communication between the member organisations, facilitates its advocacy work with the institutions of the European Union, initiates research and publications work to underpin advocacy work, and organises the Annual Workshop, seminars and meetings for members. EHN also participates in pan-European projects.



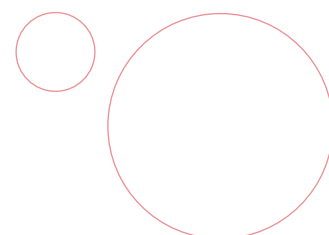
*EHN Staff, left to right: Nasrine Malanda, Marleen Kestens, Birgit Beger, Marilena Vrana, Maria Cummins, Isabella Cinà*

# EHN member organisations in 2022

Country	Member name
<b>Belgium</b>	Belgian Heart League♥
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	Foundation of Health and Heart
<b>Croatia</b>	Croatian Heart House Foundation
<b>Denmark</b>	Danish Heart Foundation♥
<b>Faroese Islands</b>	Faroese Heart Foundation
<b>Finland</b>	Finnish Heart Association♥
<b>Germany</b>	German Heart Foundation♥
<b>Greece</b>	Hellenic Heart Foundation
<b>Iceland</b>	Icelandic Heart Association
<b>Ireland</b>	Irish Heart Foundation♥
<b>Israel</b>	Israeli Heart Association♥
<b>Italy</b>	Italian Association against Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Diseases (ALT Onlus)
	Italian Heart Foundation
	Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention (SIPREC)

Country	Member name
<b>Lithuania</b>	Lithuanian Heart Association
<b>Netherlands</b>	Dutch Heart Foundation
	Harteraad (Heart Council)♥
<b>Portugal</b>	Portuguese Heart Foundation♥
<b>Romania</b>	Romanian Heart Foundation♥
<b>Serbia</b>	Serbian Heart Foundation
<b>Slovenia</b>	Slovenian Heart Foundation♥
<b>Spain</b>	Spanish Heart Foundation♥
<b>Sweden</b>	Swedish Heart and Lung Association♥
	Swedish Heart Lung Foundation
<b>Switzerland</b>	Swiss Heart Foundation♥
<b>Turkey</b>	Turkish Heart Foundation
<b>United Kingdom</b>	British Heart Foundation♥

♥ These member organisations are either dedicated patient organisations or organisations in which working for and with patients makes up an important part of their activities.





# Accounts

## Auditor's report to the board of the European Heart Network for the year ended December 31, 2022.

### Respective responsibilities of the Board and auditors

The Board and the Company's management are responsible for the preparation of these financial statements. Our responsibility is to issue a report on these financial statements based on our review.

We conducted our review in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements 2400. This Standard requires that we plan and perform the review to obtain moderate assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit.

### Opinion

We certify that we have obtained all the information and explanations required by us as auditors and that the attached income and expenditure accounts for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the balance sheet at that date are in accordance with the records maintained by the European Heart Network.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying financial statements are not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with International Accounting Standards.

Kortrijk, 16/05/2023

VANDELANOTTE BEDRIJFSREVISOREN CV  
Represented by  
Frank VANDELANOTTE  
Certified Public Accountant

## Key figures

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Member subscriptions	617,185.92	476,060.41	581,761.96	558,600.00	564,827.00	564,827.00
EU grants & other income	56,929.31	33,519.87	67,287.54	391,335.61	380,650.52	65,143.64
Financial income	19.95	651.45	617.86	408.17	692.05	987.22
<b>Total income</b>	<b>674,135.18</b>	<b>510,231.73</b>	<b>649,667.36</b>	<b>950,343.78</b>	<b>946,169.57</b>	<b>630,957.86</b>
Regular expenditures	639,479.72	538,007.44	622,390.02	563,014.05	561,008.45	519,949.36
Project expenditures	84,181.75	34,185.06	60,616.16	220,636.43	197,924.95	168,504.87
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>723,661.47</b>	<b>572,192.50</b>	<b>683,006.18</b>	<b>783,650.48</b>	<b>758,933.40</b>	<b>688,454.23</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(49,526.29)</b>	<b>(61,960.77)</b>	<b>(33,338.82)</b>	<b>166,693.30</b>	<b>187,236.17</b>	<b>(57,496.37)</b>

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Reserve	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00
Net current assets	585,193.05	634,719.34	696,680.11	730,018.93	563,325.63	376,089.46
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,135,193.05</b>	<b>1,184,719.34</b>	<b>1,246,680.11</b>	<b>1,280,018.93</b>	<b>1,113,325.63</b>	<b>926,089.46</b>



## Income

<b>1. Member subscriptions</b>	<b>2022</b> (Euro)	<b>2021</b> (Euro)
Belgian Heart League	4,938.00	2,327.00
Bosnia Herzegovina Foundation of Health and Heart	1,234.00	1,164.00
British Heart Foundation	200,589.00	94,537.50
Croatian Heart House Foundation	1,234.00	1,164.00
Danish Heart Foundation	56,346.00	57,237.00
Dutch Heart Foundation	126,788.00	104,508.00
Faroese Heart Foundation	1,223.92	1,153.91
Finnish Heart Association	13,896.00	14,385.00
German Heart Foundation	37,329.00	32,489.00
Hellenic Heart Foundation	1,234.00	1,164.00
Icelandic Heart Association	4,938.00	4,654.00
Israele Heart Association	1,234.00	
Irish Heart Foundation	11,682.00	13,262.00
Italian Association against Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Diseases (ALT)	2,469.00	2,327.00
Italian Heart Foundation	1,234.00	1,164.00
Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention	1,234.00	1,164.00
Lithuanian Heart Association	1,234.00	1,164.00
Netherlands, Heart and Vessel Group	4,938.00	4,794.00
Portuguese Heart Foundation	4,938.00	2,327.00
Romanian Heart Foundation	1,234.00	1,164.00
Serbian Heart Foundation	1,234.00	1,164.00
Slovenian Heart Foundation	2,469.00	4,654.00
Spanish Heart Foundation	4,938.00	4,654.00
Swedish Heart and Lung Association	6,725.00	4,654.00
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	102,901.00	75,990.00
Swiss Heart Foundation	17,738.00	40,468.00
Turkish Heart Foundation	1,234.00	2,327.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>617,185.92</b>	<b>476,060.41</b>

## Income

	<b>2022</b> (Euro)	<b>2021</b> (Euro)
<b>2. Special contributions</b>		
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	20,000.00	20,000.00
Big Data at Heart Project	28,031.94	13,519.87
AIDAVA Project – revenue	8,371.28	
Other reimbursements	526.09	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>56,929.31</b>	<b>33,519.87</b>
<b>3. Financial income</b>		
Investment income	19.95	651.45
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>674,135.18</b>	<b>510,231.73</b>

## Expenditures

	<b>2022</b> (Euro)	<b>2021</b> (Euro)
Personnel (excl. specific projects)	528,619.79	459,530.16
Office	20,255.71	4,741.36
Property (incl. insurance)	42,998.12	43,048.53
Travel, subsistence, meetings and conferences (incl. Board)	12,089.01	874.70
Office equipment, computers, IT support	9,406.64	7,832.41
Depreciation (office equipment/computers)	7,576.04	4,603.10
Professional fees	11,938.10	11,171.86
Membership fees	3,396.76	3,293.89
Bank charges	272.17	442.12
Taxes	2,927.38	2,469.31
<b>Total regular expenditures</b>	<b>639,479.72</b>	<b>538,007.44</b>

Continued over the page

## Expenditures

	<b>2022</b> (Euro)	<b>2021</b> (Euro)
Smoke Free Partnership	25,000.00	10,000.00
European Chronic Disease Alliance	3,999.99	3,999.99
Annual Workshop	21,125.01	
Patients Group seminar		
Fundraisers seminar		
Research platform		
Nutrient profiling model	1,545.32	
MEP Heart group	709.04	671.04
World No Tobacco Day		
Consultancy support		
Communication	5,481.35	8,698.07
HeartMan		
Big Data at Heart	6,978.36	10,815.96
AIDAVA Project	7,253.38	
European Alliance Cardiovascular Health	12,089.30	
Prevention Guidelines Task Force		
Training Patients		
E-/m Health Paper		
Expert Meetings / teleconferences		
Project fund		
<b>Total operational and project expenditures</b>	<b>84,181.75</b>	<b>34,185.06</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>723,661.47</b>	<b>572,192.50</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>674,135.18</b>	<b>510,231.73</b>
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>-49,526.29</b>	<b>-61,960.77</b>
<b>RETAINED RESULT BEGINNING OF PERIOD</b>	<b>634,719.34</b>	<b>696,680.11</b>
<b>RETAINED RESULT END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>585,193.05</b>	<b>634,719.34</b>

## Balance sheet as at December 31, 2022

	2022 (Euro)	2021 (Euro)
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>7,926.90</b>	<b>3,612.71</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors and prepayments	19,920.50	18,844.44
Cash at bank	1,575,278.77	1,355,366.23
	<b>1,603,126.17</b>	<b>1,377,823.38</b>
<b>Current Liabilities and Provisions</b>		
Reserve	550,000.00	550,000.00
Accrued costs and expenses	228,336.12	161,235.04
Prepaid income	239,597.00	31,869.00
	<b>1,017,933.12</b>	<b>743,104.04</b>
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>	<b>585,193.05</b>	<b>634,719.34</b>

## Big Data Heart

	2022 (Euro)	2021 (Euro)
<b>Project expenses</b>	<b>6,978.36</b>	<b>10,815.96</b>
Personnel cost	6,978.36	9,162.36
Staff travel and subsistence		1,653.60
Other costs		
<b>Project income</b>	<b>28,031.94</b>	<b>13,519.87</b>
<b>Big Data at Heart</b>	<b>21,053.58</b>	<b>2,703.91</b>

## AIDAVA Project

	2022 (Euro)	2021 (Euro)
<b>Project expenses</b>	<b>7,253.38</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Personnel cost	6,697.09	0.00
Staff travel and subsistence	556.29	0.00
Other costs		
<b>Project income</b>	<b>8,371.28</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>AIDAVA Project</b>	<b>1,117.90</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## Expenditures

<b>1. Staff costs</b>	2022 (Euro)	2021 (Euro)
Salaries	399,233.95	337,541.26
Group insurance	18,145.11	20,447.87
Social security employers	85,849.44	74,400.67
Accrued vacation pay	-5,934.28	15,627.09
Insurance personnel	5,280.90	3,177.67
Meal vouchers	9,454.69	7,509.16
Other personnel charges	589.64	463.50
Social office	9,048.16	6,870.88
Recruitment fee	12,095.15	0.00
Training team / Development	8,532.48	0.00
Interim	0.00	2,654.42
Personnel costs to recover	-13,675.45	-9,162.36
	<b>528,619.79</b>	<b>459,530.16</b>

## 2. Principal accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the organisation's accounts :

### Accounting basis

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.



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