



European Heart Network
Fighting heart disease and stroke



Annual Report 2023

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Co-funded by
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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 preventing cardiovascular diseases (CVD), representing patient interests and funding research throughout Europe.

Our mission

EHN's mission is to play a leading role, on behalf of patients and people in Europe, in promoting cardiovascular health and the prevention and reduction of cardiovascular disease, in particular heart disease and stroke, to ensure CVD is no longer a major cause of premature death and disability throughout Europe. This will be achieved through evidence-based advocacy, research promotion networking, capacity-building, and representing patients' and the wider public's interest.

Our vision

Every person in Europe can grow up and live in a sustainable environment that promotes cardiovascular health. Premature and preventable deaths due to cardiovascular diseases are reduced by 30% in 2030. State-of-the-art, personalised care and quality of life is accessible and attainable for those born or living with CVD.



European Heart Network
Fighting heart disease and stroke

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Messages from the EHN President and CEO

At a time when the world faces unprecedented conflict, challenge and uncertainty, the European Heart Network shines bright, showing what can be done when a community shares one vision to make a difference for people's hearts.

Together, our 29 members continue to make an impact in tackling cardiovascular diseases that take so many millions of lives, devastating millions of families across Europe every single year. Together, as the EHN, we will not leave this devastation unchallenged. By helping prevent heart disease, by being the voice of millions of patients affected by CVD right now, and by championing research.

The last year has seen some historic moments in our progress. We launched our EHN Strategic Plan to 2030, laying out a path to meet the World Health Organisation goals to reduce premature and preventable deaths due to CVD by 30% in 2030. This clear plan has set a standard for the action we so urgently need across Europe, and we're encouraged by seeing some of Europe's leading political parties adopt their own cardiovascular heart health plans, giving hope to our vision to make even more of an impact. And this year we are proud to have worked with World Health Organisation Europe and The European Society for Cardiology, to revise the European Heart Health Charter which was launched on World Heart Day 2023.

We could not achieve any progress without our brilliant members and partner organisations, and these milestones are no different. My heartfelt thanks go to each of our inspirational members, to Birgit and the EHN team, and to our Board, supporters and partners for the vital role they play.

Each year we prove that together we are far, far more than the sum of our parts.



Charmaine Griffiths
President, EHN

My heartfelt thanks go to each of our inspirational members, to Birgit and the EHN team, and to our Board, supporters and partners for the vital role they play.

We know that the learning we share across the Network elevates not only every member, but also enhances the impact EHN makes through EU influencing. We know that the relationships we make across the network bring richness and strength in ways that inspire us. And so it is a particular joy to be welcoming new members to the EHN this year, notably those from Eastern Europe, and other alliances and organisations that share EHN's mission to lead change for people's hearts. And as we grow in numbers, our voice grows louder as we call for change for the millions of people living with cardiovascular diseases, right now. Every heart deserves better, and we won't stop until we see the changes millions of hearts across Europe so urgently need.

Best Wishes,

Charmaine Griffiths
EHN President

Turbulent times hit Europe in 2023, as we witnessed some discouraging developments. Nevertheless, we also saw some positive steps being taken in the right direction. While WHO declared the end of the COVID-19 global emergency in May 2023, another war broke out in October 2023. Ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine, and between Israel and Hamas have brought tension right on Europe's doorstep.

As European Health NGOs are committed to promote improving people's health and leaving no one behind, humanitarian crises are the consequences of drawn-out warfare.

In light of this, it's heart-warming to see that cooperation is still growing against the backdrop of regional pressure, precisely because cooperation is most needed to face the many challenges that lie ahead.

In 2023, EHN communicated its new, 7-year strategic plan 2023–2030 to its members and external stakeholders, sharing bold goals and a dedicated roadmap on how to achieve them. Given the rapidly transitioning environments of public health and its digitisation, EHN has already witnessed some of the first goals entering the implementation phase!

Membership interest in joining the European Heart Network has emerged in these uncertain times. A widening footprint is coming from Eastern Europe, where cardiovascular health is feeling the strain under current health system conditions, which require urgent improvement to bring quality of life to people.



Birgit Beger
EHN CEO


All over Europe there is a keen interest for collaboration and exchange, to learn from the experience and expertise of other EHN members. The EHN annual workshop has always been a unique and special moment to have this exchange, find inspiration and foster the rich relations and links a European network can offer, all with a human touch.

In the wider cardiovascular health community, we have been greatly encouraged by the dynamics of the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH). EU Member State representatives, but also Members of the European Parliament are in dialogue with EACH and have officially recognised the burden of cardiovascular disease and the need for a European Cardiovascular Health Plan. The trio Presidencies (Spain, Belgium and Hungary) have taken a historic step by addressing cardiovascular disease for the first time in the EU's 30-year history.

In December 2023, during a major summit held at the European Parliament in Strasbourg entitled: "Vote for Cardiovascular Health 2024", many Members of the European Parliament came forward and expressed their political support for a European Cardiovascular Health plan to be included in their EU election manifestos in 2024. These positive political developments are what confirm that *where there is a (political) will, there is a way to Heart Health in Europe!*

Cordially,

Birgit Beger
EHN CEO



*All over Europe
there is a keen interest
for collaboration and
exchange, to learn from
the experience and
expertise of other
EHN members.*

Main achievements in 2023

A new EHN strategy: 2023–2030



EHN's 7-year strategic plan was adopted by all EHN members at its Annual General Assembly in June 2023 under the heading: *'Europe's Cardiovascular Health Opportunities: Leadership for Change'*. It is a central governance, management, and communications tool and will enable stakeholders to understand and contribute towards EHN's vision, mission and key goals.

The three fundamental pillars of its strategy are:

- To prevent avoidable CVD and achieve best outcomes for existing conditions, overall moving towards cardiovascular health for every person in Europe, through creating an environment in Europe that is conducive to healthy lives for all, regardless of where people are born, their background or means, facilitating early detection for people at high risk of developing CVD.
- To strengthen the patient and public voice and agency, within EHN and externally, through EHN's membership, enabling on-going involvement of patients living with CVD to shape policy and advocacy efforts, and their meaningful engagement.
- To improve awareness of and investment in research on societal, biological and environmental determinants impacting cardiovascular health, to explore research on comorbidities impacting CVD and to act as an incubator and accelerator for EHN member research collaboration and shared learning.



A new website and a new logo



Along with the launch of the new EHN's Strategic Plan, a brand new EHN website was launched in October 2023. The new website is easier to navigate, shows the expanding breadth of our work, and reflects the advancements in cardiovascular health at the European level. The new website is available at: <https://ehnheart.org/>

With the new website, EHN has also launched a new visual identity that strengthens our online image and, most importantly, better reflects the values we stand for. The new colours and graphic elements convey ideas of movement, network, connections, diversity and dynamism. You will find this both in our new logo and across the new website.

The website and visual identity are two pieces of broader work EHN is carrying out to strengthen the communication of our network's values and calls for change. Other pieces include continuous work to elevate the work and perspectives of our members and engage people with lived experiences in our communications.

EHN at the helm of EACH secretariat in 2023

EHN successfully steered the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH) secretariat in 2023. The 19-member alliance, comprised of key stakeholders active in the field of cardiovascular health, is a complex and diverse ecosystem of scientific, patient representatives and industry organisations within the healthcare sector. Managing the EACH secretariat included organising plenary meetings, setting agendas, drafting minutes, and selecting the social media company to represent EACH in its multi-stakeholder communication campaigns. Throughout the year, four plenary meetings were conducted, facilitating robust discussions and decision-making processes. Notably, the alliance expanded from 16

to 19 members under EHN's stewardship. Additionally, EHN coordinated various Working Groups, laying the groundwork for the planning of the EACH Summit at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, in December 2023. The European Society of Cardiology (ESC) took over the EACH secretariat in November 2023 and continued to build on this year's successes, which could not have been achieved without the joint efforts of all partners. Through EHN's dedication to excellence in administration and collaboration, EHN has ensured that EACH remains a cornerstone of cohesion and progress within the European health policy landscape and improving cardiovascular health in Europe.

Annual Workshop, 31 May–2 June 2023, Mainz (Germany)

EHN members gathered for the Annual workshop in Mainz (Germany) on 31 May–2 June 2023.

The main theme of this year was: *“New approaches for cardiovascular health in times of crises”*.

The programme was very rich and diverse with excellent external speakers from the WHO, OECD and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, tackling topics such as Planetary Health – global

environmental change and CVD risks, Air pollution and CVD, and the economics of CVDs: costs and the return on investment of policy action. Interactive sessions allowed EHN members to get involved in *“active advocacy – European and national level working in synergy”*.

There were practical case studies to drive forward a European Action Plan on CVH and WHO Europe CVD Signature Initiative, optimising impact in a national context.



EHN Members at the Annual Workshop, Mainz, 2023. (Left and right).

As EHN grows stronger in its patient representation, the patient voice in all policies was at the very heart of the programme, introduced by speaker Anca Toma, Executive Director, European Patients' Forum, who spoke about: *"The case for patient involvement in health research, policy, and practice"*.

Research was also on the agenda, as was a half day dedicated to Fundraising topics. The successful annual workshop came to a close, and German Heart Foundation hosts, Martin Vestweber and Christine Dehn were thanked many times over for their hospitality and great social programme, which they put together, in the beautiful town of Mainz, on the banks of the river Rhine.

Policies to advance cardiovascular health in Europe

Call for a cardiovascular health plan

During its tenure as the EACH secretariat, EHN spearheaded intensive lobbying efforts at the European Parliament to advance policies aimed at improving cardiovascular health across Europe.

As an integral part of its advocacy efforts, EHN together with 18 partners organised the [EACH Summit](#) at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, a pivotal event where an exhibition featuring comprehensive data on cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevalence, risk factors, and outcomes from across the European Union was showcased.



EPP President Manfred Weber together with EHN Vice President Martin Vestweber in Strasbourg on 12 December 2023 jointly supporting a European Cardiovascular Health Plan.

This exhibition served as a platform for raising awareness among policymakers about the significant burden of CVD and the urgent need for coordinated action at European level.

During the summit, patients, patient organisations, scientific and industry representatives publicly sought the support of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), garnering an overwhelming response with more than 100 MEPs publicly endorsing EACH's cause. This significant achievement underpinned the collective commitment to advancing cardiovascular health at the European level.

A formidable delegation participated from the [European Heart Network](#) and was on-site, conducting interviews with numerous MEPs and securing their backing for EACH's goals. This effort deployment was a *conditio sine qua non* for achieving the core objectives of the Summit.

As we forge ahead, EHN's dedication to advocating for a comprehensive European CVH plan remains unwavering, with continued collaboration and dialogue with key stakeholders in the Parliament and European Commission to transform EACH's vision into tangible policies for the benefit of cardiovascular health across Europe. We are proud to share the great impact achieved by EHN's Patient advocates during the summit, see full article below on: "Cardiovascular Patients".



EHN delegation at the EACH Summit, Strasbourg 2023.

Cardiovascular patients

EHN Patient Working Group

Building up on the foundation laid in previous years, the EHN Patient Working Group has continued to link cardiovascular patients with advocacy activities and research projects. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Patient Working Group is again a vital forum for elevating the patient voice and influencing EU policies.

In 2023, EHN's focus was to reactivate its patient platform, namely in the context of patient consultants for EHN's involvement in EU Research projects. For more information, please visit the Research section further below.

Furthermore, EHN gathered information about medicine shortages amongst EHN members, EHN members participated

in workshops about Medical Devices Regulation and its impact on the market accessibility of medical devices, as well as participating in online seminars about the Pharmaceutical Legislation and the European Regulatory System for Medicines.

The EACH Exhibition in Strasbourg, which took place on 11–14 December, provided a unique platform for EHN patient representatives to engage in EU advocacy directly with policymakers, industry leaders, and healthcare professionals.

By sharing their first-hand experiences and insights, EHN patient advocates played a crucial role in shaping discussions on cardiovascular health and highlighting the priorities and challenges faced by individuals living with cardiovascular



Hannah Bettsworth, Annie Faherty Costelloe (Croí Heart & Stroke Charity), MEP Sean Kelly (EPP, IR) and Pauline O'Shea (EHN Patient Advocate, Irish Heart Foundation) at the EACH Summit, Strasbourg 2023.

diseases. Their presence not only underscored the importance of patient involvement in the healthcare decision-making process but also reaffirmed EHN's



Maite San Saturnino (Patient Advocate, Spanish Heart Foundation) and MEP Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (RENEW, ES) at the EACH Summit, Strasbourg 2023.

dedication to ensuring that the patient perspective remains “at the forefront of EU policies and initiatives”.



Franz Weidinger (President, European Society of Cardiology) and Ulrich Janssen (Patient Advocate, German Heart Foundation) at the EACH Summit, Strasbourg 2023.

European Medicines Agency (EMA) – Patient and Consumers Working Party

EHN's longstanding participation in the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) Patients and Consumers Working Party (PCWP) remains active, showcasing EHN's sustained commitment to relevant discussions. Throughout 2023, EHN was involved in 6 PCWP meetings, demonstrating EHN's dedication to shaping data utilisation for regulatory decision-making.

Building upon its engagement, EHN has successfully advocated for the inclusion of cardiovascular medicines in the [EU's Critical Medicine list](#). EHN has been a pivotal contributor to a dedicated working group addressing medicine shortages, enhancing preparedness in this crucial domain. The working group is still ongoing.

Moreover, EHN has provided the EMA with input for resistant hypertension consultation purposes, demonstrating its commitment to actively involving patients in regulatory processes. EHN also engaged in EMA's consultation on Opioid Use Disorder warning, underlining broader involvement in shaping regulatory discussions and policies at European level.

EHN's contributions to EMA activities in 2023 also included participation in a multi-stakeholder workshop on patient myocarditis post COVID-19 vaccination, medical shortages, and the new Pharmaceutical Legislation. This reinforced EHN's dedication to incorporating the patient's voice throughout the entire lifecycle of medicines.

Research

EHN Research Platform

Established in 2018, EHN's Research Platform brings together EHN's research-funding organisations, around a third of all EHN members.

In 2023, EHN communicated significant developments and initiatives pertaining to cardiovascular health advocacy and research efforts in Europe, as well as sharing pertinent updates from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to its members. This encompassed informing members about EMA's review of medicines containing pseudoephedrine due to associated risks, as well as soliciting feedback on consultations related to the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme. Members were encouraged to actively participate in relevant webinars organised by the European Commission, thereby fostering engagement and collaboration in advancing cardiovascular health research and policy.

Furthermore, EHN ensured that its members were informed about **legislative developments** with implications for cardiovascular health. Notably, members were briefed on ongoing discussions regarding new EU pharmaceutical legislation, including directives and regulations, and the potential impact on patients. EHN also sought members' **input on consultations** initiated by EMA, such as the consultation on opioid use disorder warnings on opioid-containing

medicines, thereby facilitating collective advocacy efforts.

EHN extended invitations to its members to participate in **collaborative initiatives and events** aimed at advancing cardiovascular health research and policy. This included invitations to webinars organised by the European Commission on the European Health Data Space (EHDS) and workshops conducted by EMA on topics such as the ICH E6 guideline and shortages in the pharmaceutical industry.

EHN CEO Birgit Beger is member of the Strategic Advisory Board of the [ERA4Health](#)



**ERA4Health
Partnership**

Partnership which is a 7-year partnership co-funded under the Horizon Europe Program, the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation, facilitated by the European Commission. The EU-funded ERA4Health Partnership brings the opportunity to increase European transnational collaborative research funding by creating a funding body for joint programming in priority areas addressing European public health needs. Recently, ERA4Health launched a call on diet and physical activity ([HealthEquity call](#)) and a call on cardiovascular diseases ([CARDINNOV call](#)).

Patients in research

i~HD Annual Conference 2023 – “Patients in the driving seat”

During the i~HD Annual Conference 2023 (The European Institute for Innovation through Health Data, 31 November – 1 December) held in Ghent, Belgium, EHN’s Policy Advisor, Patients and Research presented the AIDAVA project under the topic: “Patients in the driving seat”. The session aimed to explore the role of patients in driving innovation and value in digital health solutions. Over the course the presentation, EHN’s Policy Advisor delved into the evolving relationship between patients, healthcare providers, and researchers, emphasising the patient’s increasing autonomy in the management of their health data, prevention, healthcare, and treatment. EHN’s presentation was focused on the importance of including patients throughout the entire project lifecycle. Specifically, it was highlighted that the AIDAVA project was co-created with patient consultants, underscoring the significant role patients play in shaping and implementing innovative healthcare solutions. For more information on AIDAVA, please see below under European Grants and projects.

EHN in European research projects

AIDAVA

AIDAVA (Automate curation and publishing of personal health data through artificial intelligence) is a project that aims to develop a tool that collects all different medical information of patients into one platform, with the help of AI.



For this project, EHN contributed in several aspects. Firstly, EHN organised meetings and workshops for both CVD and cancer patients. Secondly, EHN contributed to the development of an interview guide and helped with conducting interviews with patients, as well as transcribing them. Thirdly, EHN gave presentations to the patients. To date, EHN has contributed as a co-author in a paper entitled: [“Artificial intelligence based data curation: enabling a patient-centric European health data space”](#), published in the online *Frontiers in Medicine* journal, section on regulatory science.

AI4HF

AI4HF (Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence for Personalised Risk Assessment in Chronic Heart Failure) is a Horizon-funded project on the development of an AI tool that can provide personalised risk assessments and care plans for people living with chronic heart failure. EHN's role in the project is, as in all projects, it's patient involvement. In this context, EHN was responsible for the recruitment of patients and their involvement in the project.



Kick-off meeting, June 2023.

For 2023, EHN contributed by organising online meetings, workshops and attending the kick-off meeting in June, starting and completing the patient recruitment process and involving patients in the project.

Hypermarker

Hypermarker is another Horizon-project. It has a focus on hypertension (hence, the “hyper” in Hypermarker) and tries to use metabolism profiles to provide the best treatment for patients (hence the “marker”, as in biomarkers). As with AI4HF, EHN's role is through its patient involvement in the project.



Kick-off meeting, June 2023.

Hypermarker is still in its initial stages. EHN has attended meetings on the clinical side, and preparatory meetings with regard to patient involvement. Patient involvement in the project will officially start in 2024.

Working with the EU Institutions

European Parliament

Work with European Parliament Subcommittee on Public Health

The EP subgroup on public health produced a European Parliament resolution on 13 December 2023 on non-communicable diseases, for which EHN provided essential input via several meetings with the rapporteur Erik Poulsen (Renew Europe – Denmark) and his assistant. Following these meetings, EHN sent its [suggestions](#) for amendments to the rapporteur. The aspect of NCD prevention, identification of high-risk populations and early diagnosis of NCDs, improving NCD healthcare, patient empowerment, fostering innovation to accelerate the development of effective, accessible and affordable technology and medicines and finally awareness, research and knowledge sharing, are all addressed in the report which was published as a European Parliament [Resolution](#).

Work of the MEP Heart Group

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

On 26 April 2023, ESC convened the MEP Heart Group webinar on the “European Health Data Space & Registries: Restoring the EU’s primacy in research”. The MEP Heart Group called on the European Commission and Member States’ regulatory authorities to leverage existing stakeholder expertise with registries and data-sharing initiatives for the definition of standards and minimum data sets. It also urges the European Commission to secure appropriate EU investment for cardiovascular disease registries within its existing funding programmes such as EU4Health or Horizon Europe. For more information, please see: <https://mepheartgroup.eu/ehds-registries-restoring-the-eus-primacy-in-research-2/>

On 28 June 2023, EHN organised the [MEP Heart Group](#)’s webinar on the shortage of medical devices for cardiovascular patients in the European Union. Key insights from the meeting highlighted the critical role of medical devices in cardiovascular care, particularly in paediatric cardiology, and the challenges posed by the implementation of the EU Medical Devices Regulation. The meeting showed that medical devices

play a vital role in diagnosing, treating, and monitoring cardiovascular diseases, improving patient outcomes and quality of life. The shortage of medical devices, particularly in paediatric cardiology, poses a significant concern and threatens patient care and safety. Panel discussions emphasised the importance of addressing compliance costs, lengthy assessment timelines, and ensuring access to medical devices for vulnerable populations. The call for financial support and actions to enhance capacity for certification at national level, through so-called notified bodies, monitor implementation progress, support innovation, and strengthen coordination among stakeholders was the message of the meeting.

The report of the meeting and its presentations can be found here:

<https://mepheartgroup.eu/wp-content/uploads/Report-on-MEPHG.pdf>

Co-chairs of the MEP Heart Group



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



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

Cooperation

World Health Organization (WHO) – Regional Office for Europe

In 2023, EHN continued its fruitful cooperation as an accredited Non-State Actor with the WHO-Europe office in Copenhagen. The 3-year cooperation agreement outlines the four pillars for action:

- Prioritising primary prevention of cardiovascular disease (CVD).
- Prevention of avoidable CVD.
- Better patient care through improved diagnosis, treatment and management.
- Capacity building and strengthening the network.

Dorota Jarosinska, Programme Manager Living and Working Environments, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, presented at the EHN Annual workshop on Air pollution and CVD. In her presentation, she highlighted that Tackling air pollution will deliver substantial benefits in terms of reducing burden of NCD and premature mortality. Policies and measures to reduce air pollution require concerted action across different governance levels, local, national, and regional, intersectoral cooperation and involvement of stakeholders.

The EHN, in its role as non-state actor participated in a number of meetings with WHO-Europe in Brussels in 2023, for example on the non-state actor engagement plan, health leadership and global health diplomacy.



Dorota Jarosinska,
(Programme Manager, WHO)

European Society of Cardiology

In 2023, EHN together with ESC and WHO-Europe revised the



European Heart Health Charter. The goal of the European Heart Health Charter is to improve cooperation at national, European, and international levels. It promotes cardiovascular health in all policies and demonstrates what policymakers, medical professions, NGOs, and national and international institutions can do to address and reverse the burden of disease.

The revised version of the European Heart Health Charter was launched on 29 September 2023, coinciding with World Heart Day. It expands its scope and considers progress made over the last decades in prevention, patient care, treatment, and research. For the new version, please visit:

<https://ehnheart.org/activities/publications/prevention/a-new-european-heart-health-charter-for-a-new-europe/>

The secretariat of the MEP Heart Group is managed by the European Heart Network and the European Society of Cardiology.

In 2023, EHN ran the secretariat of the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (<https://www.cardiovascular-alliance.eu/>). In this endeavour, EHN works closely with ESC and MedTech Europe as founding members of the Alliance.

The cooperation between ESC, which represents medical expertise and EHN, which represents the patients' voice is crucial for the success of EACH in times when cardiovascular health is climbing steadily upwards on national and European political agendas.

European Association of Preventive Cardiology

EHN CEO Birgit Beger is advisor of



the EAPC – Prevention Implementation Committee (PIC). The mission of PIC is to support the implementation of the European Guidelines on CVD Prevention, with the aim of reducing the burden of CVD, and closing gaps between science and the practice of cardiovascular prevention in hospitals, general practice and the population at large. The Chair of the committee is: Elena Cavarretta.

World Heart Federation

EHN Board members join the new WHF Board 2023–2024

For many years Kristina Sparreljung (EHN Treasurer) has been



a Board member of the World Heart Federation and was previously WHF Treasurer. Today Kristina Sparreljung is Vice-

President of its Executive Committee. In 2023, she was joined on the WHF Board by Charmaine Griffiths (EHN President).

Kristina Sparreljung and Charmaine Griffiths' terms of office on the WHF Board will continue for a 2-year mandate until end 2024. Both will be working closely with WHF board members to guide the Federation's leadership.

Birgit Beger, EHN CEO, continued her mandate within WHF's Advocacy Committee, which connects the Federation's stakeholders on all advocacy-related issues.

In 2023, the Advocacy committee produced a policy paper on Physical activity: entitled: [“More people, more active, more often for heart health - taking action on physical activity”](#).



Physical Activity at the WHF Summit in Geneva (Switzerland), 19–21 May 2023.

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 combatting 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

EHN, together with the European chronic disease alliance publishes a set of [recommendations](#) to advance NCD prevention and management in the EU.

In the context of the Global Week for Action on NCDs (14–21 September 2023), ECDA and EHN encouraged EU policymakers to focus efforts on [NCD prevalence reduction](#), mobilise investment in prevention and control, and implement necessary measures to effectively address NCDs in the EU.

Smoke Free Partnership

The EHN CEO was President of the Smokefree Partnership in 2023. In 2023, the SFP work focused on the (postponed) reviews of the EU Directives on Tobacco Taxation and the Tobacco Products Directive.



SFP also focused on novel tobacco products and the need to include them in the (delayed) review of the Tobacco Products Directive.

The SFP position paper on Heated Tobacco products (HTPs) was published in June 2023, please see [here](#).

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 is actively involved in EPHA's policy clusters on One Health for All, Health and Environment, Climate change and Health, Digital Health, Health and pharma legislation. EHN participated in several EPHA workshops, amongst others on sustainable food systems and on food information to consumers.

EHN contributed to EPHA's statement on [Priorities for the EU Climate change targets 2040](#)

EHN contributed to [EPHA's manifesto](#) to set public health priorities after the 2024 European elections.

EHN co-signed the [EU4Health Community's](#) plea for robust and consistent funding of Health NGOs at EU level.

Publications and statements

EHN statements

[EHN urges Commission President to stick to sustainable food systems timeline](#)

[Sustainable food systems policies](#)

EHN, together with the Food policy coalition publishes a [Joint open letter](#) on the need to publish the EU legislative framework for Sustainable Food Systems before the end of this Commission's mandate.

[EHN co-signs joint letter to EMA on antibiotics shortages in Europe](#)

[EHN suggestions to improve the SANT Committee Draft Report on non-communicable diseases \(NCDs\)" September 2023](#)

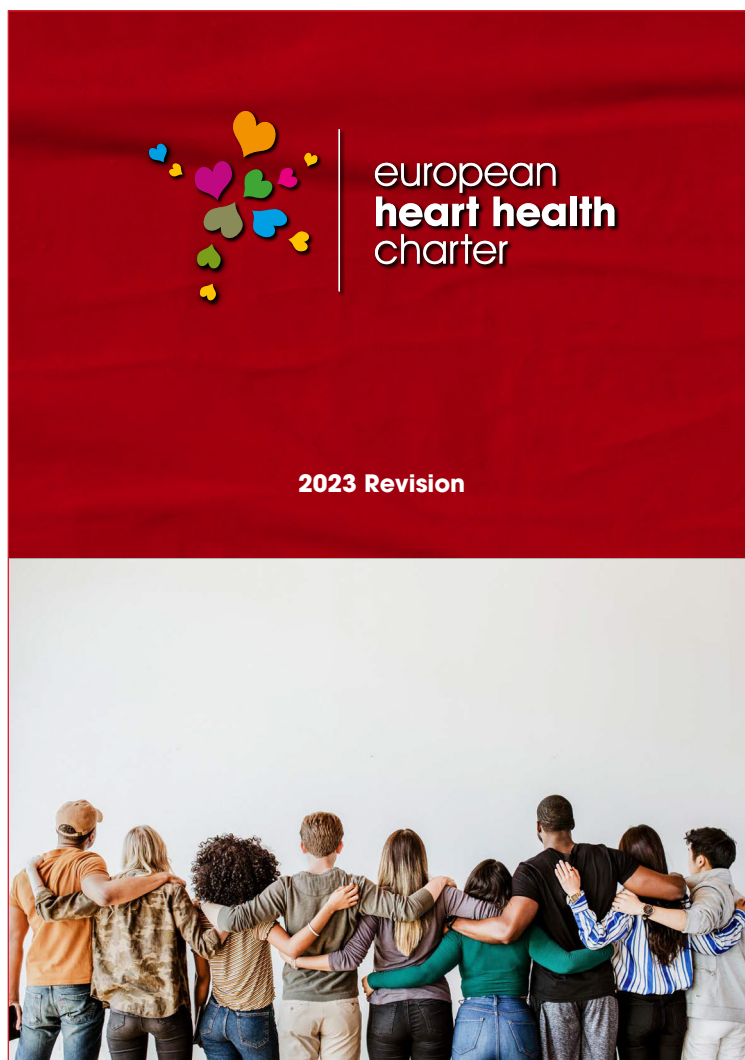


Publications

A new European Heart Health Charter:

The newly revised [European Heart Health Charter](#) was launched by the European Heart Network and the European Society of Cardiology on World Heart Day, on Friday 29 September 2023. It revised the earlier version that was launched in 2007. The goal of the new European Heart Health Charter is to improve cooperation at national, European, and international levels. It promotes cardiovascular health in all policies and demonstrates what policymakers, healthcare providers (HCPs), NGOs, and national and international institutions can do to address and reverse the burden of disease. The revised version of the European Heart Health Charter expands its scope and considers progress made over the last decades in prevention, patient care, treatment, and research. It emphasises that a coordinated European strategy is crucial for improving cardiovascular health.

This new Charter version recommends that all signatories promote and support the creation of a strong collaborative framework to reduce the number of premature and preventable fatal and non-fatal cardiovascular disease events in the European Union and the WHO European Region countries by one-third, in line with the UN and WHO Sustainable Development Goal target of good health and well-being (SDG 3).



Conferences and meetings

Please find below a selection of events in which EHN participated in 2023.

January
EACH Partners Plenary Meeting, 23 January 2023
Hypermarker Kick off meeting, 30 January 2023, Utrecht, the Netherlands
Action Grant on Non-communicable Diseases “FILTERED” -Consortium Meeting, 31 January 2023
February
WHF Advocacy Committee meeting, 27 February 2023
Joint CVD-Diabetes Health Checks exhibition in the European Parliament, 28 February – 2 March 2024
March
ECDA Steering Committee meeting, 8 March 2023
European Life After Stroke Forum Barcelona, 10 March 2023
WHO-Europe NSAs meeting 20 March 2023 – Preparing Tallin, Estonia Conference
AIDAVA Webinar “Data for the common good, but what about me?”, 22 March 2023
EACH Plenary Meeting, 23 March 2023
April
AIDAVA: virtual project progress meeting/ General Assembly, 13 April 2023
CVD/Diabetes Stakeholders meeting, 19 April 2023
Covrina Conference – panellist: Improving personalised care and patients outcomes through molecular diagnostics and therapy, 19 April 2023
WHF Advocacy Committee meeting, 24 April 2023
May
EACH Task Force Meeting organisational committee EACH Summit Strasbourg, 11 May 2023
WHO Meeting with NSA’s on upcoming engagement opportunities, 17 May 2023
WHF World Heart Spring Summit, 18–19 May 2023, Geneva, Switzerland
AI Act – Healthcare stakeholder statement – Catch-up meeting, 23 May 2023
EU4Health Civil Society Alliance meeting, 25 May 2023
CVD/Diabetes stakeholder group meeting, 25 May 2023
June
EHN Annual workshop in Mainz, 31 May - 2 June 2023
ERA4Health STAB kick-off meeting, 5 June 2023
AI4HF Kick-off meeting, 6 June 2023, Utrecht, the Netherlands

People@Heart 2.0 – Consortium meeting, 19 June 2023
Czech Ministry – Health Care Daily conference – National CVD Plans: The Novel strategic approach in EU Countries, Prague, 20 June 2023
1st Ethics and RRI' Advisory Board (ERAB) meeting in ERA4Health, 26 June 2023
WHF Advocacy Committee Meeting, 26 June 2023
MEP-Heart Group meeting: Addressing the Shortage of Medical Devices for Cardiovascular Disease Patients in the EU, 28 June 2023
July
EACH & EFPIA @ DigitalEurope meeting, 10 July 2023
August
WHF Advocacy Committee meeting, 7 August 2023
EACH Summit Task Force Meeting, 17 August 2023
EPHA workshop on revision of food information to consumers, 18 August 2023
September
DigitalEurope, EACH & EFPIA CVD network meeting, 5 September 2023
WHO Europe meeting: Supporting health leadership for the present while developing health leadership for the future: the Pan-European Leadership Academy, 11 September 2023
ERA4Health Management Board meeting, 14 September 2023
WHO Leadership Dialogue on Global Health Diplomacy, 18 September 2023
European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies silver jubilee webinar, the next 25 years, 21 September 2023
October
AI4HF CE Marking – Medical Device Software and SW Lifecycle Process-Workshop, 5 October 2023
The Economist event: Future of Health Europe 2023 building a sustainable, inclusive and digital health system, 11–12 October 2023, London
WHF Advocacy Committee teleconference, 23 October 2023
EU Parliament event: Equal Hearts: Addressing Cardiovascular Health Disparities in Europe, 23 October 2023
November
SFP Partnership Workshop on Taxation, 7 November 2023
Global Heart Hub summit: Early detection and diagnosis, 8–9 November 2023, Barcelona, Spain, EHN CEO speaker for EACH
Belgian Presidency Stakeholder consultation on health, 13 November 2023, Brussels, Belgium
ERA4Health Strategic Advisory Board meeting, 17 November 2023, Brussels, Belgium
Hypermarker annual meeting, 29–30 November 2023, Valencia, Spain
December
SFP Board meeting, 8 December 2023, Brussels, Belgium
EACH Summit & exhibition: “Vote for Cardiovascular Health 2024” – European Parliament Strasbourg, 11–15 December 2023, France

EHN member activities spotlight

This section showcases the pivotal endeavours undertaken by EHN members throughout 2023 in the realm of cardiovascular health prevention, advocacy, and promotion.

British Heart Foundation's Initiatives for cardiac arrest survival through community empowerment

The British Heart Foundation has a strategic ambition to increase survival rates from out- of-hospital cardiac arrest. To achieve this our aims are:



- For every young person in the UK to leave school knowing how to save a life.
- For every adult in the UK to be and remain confident in delivering CPR & defibrillation.
- For everyone to have access to an emergency-ready defibrillator.

Over the past two years, BHF has developed two key programmes to help achieve these goals:

- [RevivR](#) is an accessible and scalable digital CPR training tool, that is free to all and provides basic lifesaving skills in just 15 minutes. To date, 400,000 people have used RevivR with more than 120,000 completing all the training modules giving them the confidence to save a life.
- Community defibrillator programme: the BHF launched a community defibrillator funding programme to reduce current inequalities in defibrillator access. BHF used [The Circuit](#), health and deprivation data to identify areas of greatest need,

and targeted its support to these communities, awarding 300 defibrillators in the first year of the programme.

Danish Heart Foundation's Let's Walk Project: encouraging physical activity and community engagement

GÅ MED (Let's Walk) is a Danish Heart Foundation



prevention project aiming to boost physical activity levels, particularly among the most inactive, as over half of Danish adults (58.1%) fall below WHO's physical activity guidelines.



Let's Walk Project, Danish Heart Foundation.

The project launched the first nationwide campaign to recruit volunteers to start new walking groups in the local neighbourhood.

It particularly emphasised the importance of steps in everyday activities and habit

stacking for behaviour change. By the end of 2023, the project had recruited 217 walking hosts.

In addition to campaign activities, GÅ MED coordinates volunteer hosts nationwide, uses communication strategies to engage inactive Danes, conducts follow-up research with the Research Unit of Sport and Health Science at Southern University of Denmark, and collaborates with health organisations, municipalities, and national research institutes.

Dutch Heart Foundation's comprehensive strategy to advance cardiovascular health in the Netherlands

In 2023, the Dutch Heart Foundation undertook various activities to advance cardiovascular health in the Netherlands. Some of the most significant include:



- **Dress Red Day:** on the occasion of World Heart Day, more than 10 organisations and institutions coloured their buildings in red.
- **Matters of the Heart talk show:** where researchers and doctors can share their knowledge with a wider public.
- **Dear non-smoker campaign:** raising awareness of the difficulties smokers face when trying to quit.
- **Looking for Healthy campaign:** raising awareness of the need for more affordable, healthy food options.
- **Heart Foundation Checkpoints:** In 2023, the Dutch Heart Foundation initiated its first pilot checkpoints, where people could have their heart rates measured for free, in close cooperation with local

organisations and health services. The checkpoints were hosted in more deprived neighbourhoods and the responses were overwhelmingly positive.

- **AED Initiative and Emergency Response training:** in partnership with the Nouri Foundation, the Dutch Heart Foundation installed 34 AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) across the country, trained 1700 individuals in AED use, and received recognition for its dedication to establishing a nationwide, six-minute zone, alongside launching an online course emphasising the importance of prompt action and dialling 112 in cases of cardiac arrest, heart attack, or stroke.
- **Kitesurfing race:** the Dutch Heart Foundation's annual kitesurfing race from Hook of Holland to Den Helder raised a record amount of over 1 million euros; tickets had sold out after 1 minute.
- **Dutch Heart Foundation wins European Golden Effie:** for its long-term campaigns to create a nationwide, 6-minute zone in the Netherlands, the Dutch Heart Foundation was awarded a Golden European Effie.

German Heart Foundation Launches Herzfit: Your Personalised Guide To Heart Health

In 2023, the German Heart Foundation launched the HerzFit App (HeartFit), developed in



collaboration with various stakeholders. It allows users to track health metrics like blood pressure, heart rate, cholesterol, weight, and blood sugar, providing daily updates. The app includes a risk calculator for determining heart age and

cardiovascular disease risk. Users can set personal health goals and access tips on healthy living.

It also offers educational content on heart health, reviewed by specialists, with additional videos and podcasts for further learning.

Hellenic Heart Foundation: leading cardiovascular health initiatives in Greece

In 2023, the Hellenic Heart Foundation led various initiatives to promote cardiovascular health in Greece. The 38th Congress of Clinical Cardiology brought together experts to exchange knowledge, while the 27th Symposium on Atherosclerosis focused on providing cardiac check-ups to residents in underserved areas.



The “Heart Route” programme organised symbolic walks in urban and rural areas to

encourage daily exercise for heart health. The Hellenic Heart Foundation also implemented “Heart Health Education School Programmes” nationwide to educate students on heart health, obesity, nutrition, and exercise.



Heart Route Programme, Hellenic Heart Foundation.

Additionally, the Hellenic Heart Foundation conducted “Cardiovascular Risk Assessment” programmes in elderly care centres and collaborated in the “Womens’ Hurdles European Programme” to promote physical exercise for women. On World Heart Day, they illuminated the central square of Athens in red to raise awareness about heart health.



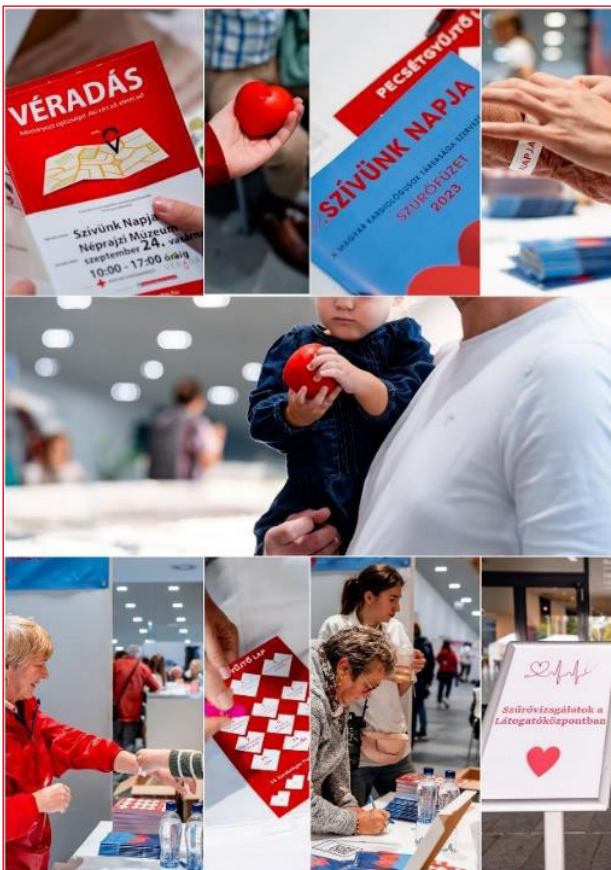
Athens’ central square illuminated in red on World Heart Day, 29 September 2023.

Hungarian Society of Cardiology Hosting World Heart Day 2023 in Budapest

On World Heart Day 2023, the Hungarian Society of Cardiology hosted an event in Budapest to raise awareness about cardiovascular diseases, risk factors, screening importance, and health-conscious lifestyles in Hungary. The event offered a diverse range of activities catering to different aspects of cardiovascular health:



- **Screening, Tests, and Counselling:** attendees received a “passport to health” and access to screenings, consultations, diet advice, physiotherapy, and psychological counselling.
- **Educational and Professional Programmes** including interactive experiences, CPR training, discussions



World Heart Day 2023 in Budapest, Hungary.

on identifying fake medicine ads, and roundtable sessions with professionals and patients.

- **Healthy Lifestyle and Nutrition:** nutritionists were present to offer personalised diet advice and to promote nutritious eating habits.
- **Sports and Exercise:** physical activities like yoga, aerobics, and cycling programmes were offered to encourage an active lifestyle.
- **Entertainment, and Family Programmes:** family-friendly activities included a drawing competition, a heart quiz, and music therapy sessions.

Icelandic Heart Association: Advancements in Research and Community Engagement

In 2023, the Icelandic Heart Association facilitated access to the Reykjavik study data for research students and supervisors through a collaboration with the University of Iceland. This agreement, which included the establishment of a professorship in cardiovascular genetics, ensures the continued utilisation of valuable research data.



Additionally, the Icelandic Heart Association organised a public 5 and 10 K running race as part of the EHN Heart Day celebrations in September. The event, which saw active participation from President Guðni Th. Jóhannesson of Iceland, aimed to increase awareness of the benefits of regular physical activity for cardiovascular health.

Irish Heart Foundation launches Primary Prevention Paper and Health Promotion Alliance

On 14 November 2023, the Irish Heart Foundation published a major new position paper:

[‘Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease: Best Practices and Lessons for Ireland’](#).

This paper highlights the extent to which ‘upstream’ policy-based cardiovascular disease prevention strategies are more effective, equitable and cost-efficient than ‘downstream’ preventative activities targeting individuals.

The Irish Heart Foundation established a new all- island, advocacy-driven coalition.

The Health Promotion Alliance Ireland comprises organisations committed to advocating for major policy changes to promote the primary prevention of chronic disease.



Irish Heart Foundation



Prof Ivan Perry and Janis Morrissey, Members of the Health Promotion Alliance Ireland.

SIPREC’s Impact: advancing cardiovascular health in Italy

The Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention (SIPREC)



played a leading role in advancing cardiovascular health initiatives across Italy. Notable projects included organising the 21st National Congress and the 3rd Italian National Day for Cardiovascular Prevention.



Massimo Volpe, Board Director, SIPREC.

SIPREC also led efforts in drafting official documents for the Italian Ministry of Health, focusing on “Air Pollution and Cardiovascular Disease” and the “Update of Italian Cardiovascular Risk Charts.” Additionally, SIPREC contributed to national guidelines on the Mediterranean Diet and Telemedicine.

The organisation actively participated in the European Erasmus projects such as “Mediterranean Diet in the 3rd Age” and “Women’s Hurdles.” Moreover, SIPREC organised obesity awareness programmes and sponsored events like the “Tour della Salute” (Healthy Tour) to promote cardiovascular health awareness across Italy

Lithuanian Heart Association celebrates World Heart Day

On September 29, 2023, the Lithuanian Heart Association marked World Heart Day with a vibrant celebration in Vilnius, aimed at increasing awareness of cholesterol management and reducing cardiovascular disease incidence.



The event at the Lithuanian National Radio and Television headquarters featured a health quiz, first aid and resuscitation training, and various health measurements and consultations. Attendees enjoyed activities like a photo booth, informational material distribution, and a discussion with the Ministry of Health on national cardiovascular health strategies. The event also included a special appearance on the LNRT show “Labas rytas, Lietuva,” highlighting the association’s commitment to heart health.



World Heart Day 2023 in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke presents ‘His/Hers Numbers Up’: Blood Pressure Campaign 2023

Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke’s prevention-focused campaign aims to raise awareness about high blood pressure, the importance of knowing your numbers and getting checked to reduce the risk of strokes and heart attacks. With 1 in 2 heart attacks and strokes linked to high blood pressure, it is crucial to get checked and access treatment if necessary. Targeting those over 45, especially males, and areas of deprivation, Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke aimed to increase awareness and detection rates.



‘His/Hers Numbers Up’: Blood Pressure Campaign 2023.

Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke hosted a live online blood pressure advice session, providing immediate access to clinicians and health professionals for the public to learn about preventing, detecting, and managing high blood pressure. Additionally, they conducted 1038 blood pressure checks in shops and shopping centers, with 40% of participants referred to their GP/A&E for undiagnosed high blood pressure.”

Spanish Heart Foundation advancing cardiovascular health through patient platform initiatives

The platform of patient associations of the Spanish Heart Foundation is composed of national and regional associations of cardiovascular patients. Its main objective is improving the patient's quality of life, and promoting CVD awareness and prevention.



Heart-healthy march at the 1st National Congress of the Spanish Heart Foundation's Patient Platform.

The Patient Platform's projects involve supporting associations within our platform, advocating for cardiovascular patients' rights, raising awareness of cardiovascular diseases in Spain, prioritising cardiovascular health on national and international agendas, training members' associations, and collaborating with scientific societies and CVD-related organisations.

In 2023, the Spanish Heart Foundation's Patient Platform held its [1st National Congress](#), featuring a wide programme of activities geared towards mutual learning, knowledge and experience sharing. The activities included medical tests for the population, a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) workshop, the "Abrimos Paso" campaign and a heart-healthy march.

The Swedish Heart and Lung Association's 2023 Atrial Fibrillation Report: Revealing Undiagnosed Cases

In 2023, The Swedish Heart and Lung Association



published a report on Atrial Fibrillation, revealing that an estimated 127,000 individuals in Sweden remain undiagnosed with the condition. The report sheds light on the significant underdiagnosis of atrial fibrillation across the country, emphasising the importance of early detection and treatment.

Chairperson Anders Åkesson underscored this urgency in a debate article in *Dagens Medicin*, advocating for improved access to EKG equipment, targeted health talks for high-risk groups, and enhanced patient education. The report received



Swedish Heart and Lung Association Chairperson Anders Åkesson and Secretary General Christine Cars-Ingels.

widespread attention and was featured in Swedish television and major newspapers, prompting contributions from various associations in local newspapers.

EHN Governance

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

Membership

In 2023, EHN had member organisations from 24 countries in Europe. The list of EHN members can be found [here](#) on EHN's website.

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

The EHN Board meets four times per year: two meetings are in person and two meetings take place online. EHN is governed by a Board that can comprise no fewer than three members and no more than eight. In 2023, EHN's Board was composed of 8 Board members:

Charmaine Griffiths, President

British Heart Foundation

Martin Vestweber, Vice-President

German Heart Foundation

Kristina Sparreljung, Treasurer

Swedish Heart Lung Foundation

Nataša Jan

Slovenian 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

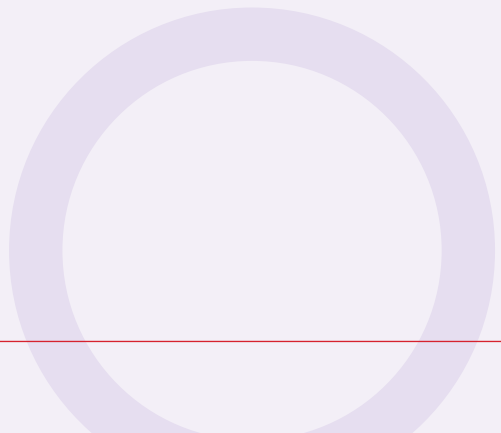
Swiss Heart Foundation



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



EHN Board meeting in Timisoara (Romania) on 29 March 2023 hosted by Dan Gaita, CEO of the Romanian Heart Foundation.



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 2023, the EHN Brussels office had a team of 6 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 to underpin its advocacy work, and organises the Annual Workshop, seminars and meetings for members. EHN also participates in pan-European projects.



EHN Staff, left to right: Birgit Beger (Chief Executive Officer), Maria Cummins (Executive Assistant – Copy Editor), Marleen Kestens (Manager CVD Prevention Policies), Isabella Cinà (EU Projects and Communications Officer), Carlos Altuna (Policy Advisor, Patients and Research), Alessandra Boschi (Media and Communications Intern).

EHN member organisations in 2023

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

Country	Member name
Lithuania	Lithuanian Heart Association
Netherlands	Dutch Heart Foundation
	Harteraad (Heart Council)♥
Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland Chest and Stroke
Portugal	Portuguese Heart Foundation♥
Romania	Romanian Heart Foundation♥
Serbia	Serbian Heart Foundation
Slovenia	Slovenian Heart Foundation♥
Spain	Spanish Heart Foundation♥
Sweden	Swedish Heart and Lung Association♥
	Swedish Heart Lung Foundation
Switzerland	Swiss Heart Foundation♥
Turkey	Turkish Heart Foundation
United Kingdom	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, 2023.

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, 2023 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, 30/05/2024

CALLENS, VANDELANOTTE NV
Represented by
Frank VANDELANOTTE
Certified Public Accountant

Key figures

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Member subscriptions	640.844,88	617.185,92	476.060,41	581.761,96	558.600,00	564.827,00
EU grants & other income	86.517,61	56.929,31	33.519,87	67.287,54	391.335,61	380.650,52
Financial income	5.155,03	19,95	651,45	617,86	408,17	692,05
Total income	732.517,52	674.135,18	510.231,73	649.667,36	950.343,78	946.169,57
Regular expenditures	694.536,94	639.479,72	538.007,44	622.390,02	563.014,05	561.008,45
Project expenditures	144.642,08	84.181,75	34.185,06	60.616,16	220.636,43	197.924,95
Total expenditures	839.179,02	723.661,47	572.192,50	683.006,18	783.650,48	758.933,40
Surplus / (Deficit)	(106.661,50)	(49.526,29)	(61.960,77)	133.338,82)	166.693,30	187.236,17

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Reserve	550.000,00	550.000,00	550.000,00	550.000,00	550.000,00	550.000,00
Net current assets	478.531,55	585.193,05	634.719,34	696.680,11	730.018,93	563.325,63
Total Equity	1.028.531,55	1.135.193,05	1.184.719,34	1.246.680,11	1.280.018,93	1.113.325,63

Income

1. Member subscriptions	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Belgian Heart League	5.150,00	4.938,00
Bosnia Herzegovina Foundation of Health and Heart	1.287,00	1.234,00
British Heart Foundation	209.214,00	200.589,00
Croatian Heart House Foundation	1.287,00	1.234,00
Danish Heart Foundation	51.500,00	56.346,00
Dutch Heart Foundation	130.258,00	126.788,00
Faroese Heart Foundation	1.287,00	1.223,92
Finnish Heart Association	14.657,00	13.896,00
German Heart Foundation	41.368,00	37.329,00
Hellenic Heart Foundation	1.287,00	1.234,00
Icelandic Heart Association	5.150,00	4.938,00
Israele Heart Association	1.234,00	1.234,00
Irish Heart Foundation	10.797,00	11.682,00
Italian Association against Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Diseases (ALT)	1.287,00	2.469,00
Italian Heart Foundation	1.287,00	1.234,00
Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention	1.287,00	1.234,00
Lithuanian Heart Association	1.287,00	1.234,00
Netherlands, Heart and Vessel Group	5.150,00	4.938,00
Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke Association	10.468,00	0,00
Portuguese Heart Foundation	0,00	4.938,00
Romanian Heart Foundation	1.287,00	1.234,00
Serbian Heart Foundation	0,00	1.234,00
Slovenian Heart Foundation	248,88	2.469,00
Slovak Heart Foundation	5.150,00	0,00
Spanish Heart Foundation	5.150,00	4.938,00
Swedish Heart and Lung Association	6.653,00	6.725,00
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	102.902,00	102.901,00
Swiss Heart Foundation	22.925,00	17.738,00
Turkish Heart Foundation	1.287,00	1.234,00
SUB TOTAL	640.844,88	617.185,92

Income

2. Special contributions	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	20.000,00	20.000,00
Big Data at Heart Project		28.031,94
AIDAVA Project - revenu	33.131,46	8.371,28
HYPERMARKER Project - revenu	3.680,33	
AI4HF Project	29.705,82	
Other reimbursements		526,09
SUB TOTAL	86.517,61	56.929,31

3. Financial income	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Investment income	5.155,03	19,95
TOTAL INCOME	732.517,52	674.135,18

Expenditures

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Personnel (excl. specific projects)	548.116,41	528.619,79
Office	21.208,79	20.255,71
Property (incl. insurance)	49.594,59	42.998,12
Travel, subsistence, meetings and conferences (incl. Board)	3.834,18	12.089,01
Office equipment, computers, IT support	13.653,97	9.406,64
Depreciation (office equipment/computers)	3.963,34	7.576,04
Professional fees	43.842,14	11.938,10
Membership fees	3.506,49	3.396,76
Bank charges	659,24	272,17
Taxes	6.157,79	2.927,38
Total regular expenditures	694.536,94	639.479,72

Continued over the page

Expenditures

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Smoke Free Partnership	25.000,00	25.000,00
European Chronic Disease Alliance	3.999,99	3.999,99
Annual Workshop	26.135,09	21.125,01
Patients Group seminar		
Fundraisers seminar		
Research platform		
Nutrient profiling model	651,00	1.545,32
MEP Heart group	1.080,00	709,04
World No Tobacco Day		
"Consultancy support Communication"	20.601,68	5.481,35
HeartMan		
Big Data at Heart	714,39	6.978,36
AIDAVA Project	26.505,23	7.253,38
European Alliance Cardiovascular Health		12.089,30
Hypermarker Horizon Project	3.154,21	
Atheronet	-151,80	
Each Secretariat Meeting	12.554,06	
AI4HF	24.398,23	
Project fund		
TOTAL OPERATIONAL AND PROJECT EXPENDITURES	144.642,08	84.181,75
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	839.179,02	723.661,471
TOTAL INCOME	732.517,52	674.135,18
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-106.661,50	-49.526,29
RETAINED RESULT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	585.193,05	634.719,34
RETAINED RESULT END OF PERIOD	478.531,55	585.193,05

Balance sheet as at December 31. 2023

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Fixed Assets	3.963,56	7.926,90
Current Assets		
Debtors and prepayments	17.380,67	19.920,50
Cash at bank	1.525.211,36	1.575.278,77
	1.546.555,59	1.603.126,17
Current Liabilities and Provisions		
Reserve	550.000,00	550.000,00
Accrued costs and expenses	297.185,04	228.336,12
Prepaid income	220.839,00	239.597,00
	1.068.024,04	1.017.933,12
Net current assets (liabilities)	478.531,55	585.193,05

Big Data Heart

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Project expenses	0,00	6.978,36
Personnel cost	0,00	6.978,36
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	0,00	
Project income	0,00	28.031,94
Big Data at Heart	0,00	21.053,58

AIDAVA Project

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Project expenses	26.505,23	7.253,38
Personnel cost	13.121,67	6.697,09
Staff travel and subsistence	13.383,56	556,29
Other costs		
Project income	33.131,46	8.371,28
AIDAVA Project	6.626,23	1.117,90

AI4HF Project

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Project expenses	24.398,23	0,00
Personnel cost	14.358,23	
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	10.040,00	
Project income	29.705,82	0,00
AI4HF Project	5.307,59	0,00

HYPERMARKER Project

	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Project expenses	3.154,21	0,00
Personnel cost	2.478,80	
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	675,41	
Project income	3.680,33	0,00
HYPERMARKER Project	526,12	0,00

Expenditures

1. Staff costs	2023 (Euro)	2022 (Euro)
Salaries	425.475,44	399.233,5
Group insurance	17.429,10	18.145,11
Social security employers	94.528,30	85.849,44
Accrued vacation pay	4.466,89	-5.934,28
Insurance personnel	4.126,61	5.280,90
Meal vouchers	10.801,13	9.454,69
Other personnel charges	964,58	589,64
Social office	10.613,00	9.048,16
Recruitment fee	0,00	12.095,15
Training team / Development	0,00	8.532,48
Interim	10.384,45	0,00
Personnel costs to recover	-30.673,09	-13.675,45
	548.116,41	528.619,79

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.

European Heart Network

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