



European Heart Network
Fighting heart disease and stroke

Annual Report 2024



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Who we are

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.

EHN Pillars



Prevention

Prevent avoidable CVD and promote early detection for better cardiovascular health



Patients

Strengthen patient and public involvement in shaping policy and advocacy



Research

Increase awareness and investment in research on cardiovascular health determinants and comorbidities, while fostering collaboration and shared learning among EHN members

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 are accessible and attainable for those born or living with CVD.

Reflecting on 2024: Opening Words

Dear Members and Partners,

As we reflect on the past year, it is evident that 2024 has been a year of remarkable progress and collaboration within the European Heart Network (EHN).

In a groundbreaking development, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen declared European Cardiovascular Health as a new Health Priority for the European Union in its new mandate 2024–2029. This milestone is a testament to the years of advocacy by EHN and its members, together with the wider cardiovascular community.

As the leading cause of death in Europe, cardiovascular disease could not be sidelined any longer. This commitment to non-communicable diseases offers a chance to turn the tide, but we now need to see decisive action to make this a reality. Millions of lives are at stake.

And our commitment to increasing the impact we make across Europe is stronger than ever. This year we laid the foundations for new members' admission and enlargement of membership categories for our EHN community and are thrilled to welcome three new members from Eastern Europe: CÄKO, Czech Alliance for Cardiovascular Diseases (CZ Republic), the Latvian Heart Health Promotion Alliance (LV), and one new member from Italy: Science for the Prevention and Education of Heart Health (SPELS) (IT). We know that their inclusion will strengthen our network and enhance our collective efforts in cardiovascular health.



Charmaine Griffiths
President, EHN

We were also delighted to reinforce our partnership with the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) through a new Memorandum of Understanding to recognise our mutual strengths and shared goals and drive impactful initiatives in cardiovascular health.

Given the global, political volatility as we tackle the world's biggest killer, it is clear to me that the work of the EHN has simply never been more needed. As we navigate such challenging times, it is essential that we remain united as a community to make a profound impact on the lives of those affected by heart disease and stroke.

I thank each of our brilliant members for their tireless efforts, and for actively engaging with our initiatives, and collaborating with fellow members to drive our mission forward. Your efforts inspire us every day and power progress to save countless lives across Europe and beyond.

Best wishes,

Dr Charmaine Griffiths
EHN President

Dear colleagues and friends,

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud to present the European Heart Network's Annual Report—a reflection of our collective dedication to combatting cardiovascular disease (CVD) across Europe.

Throughout the year, we have made significant strides in implementing our seven-year strategic plan, Europe's Cardiovascular Health Opportunities: Leadership for Change. Our focus on preventing avoidable CVD, amplifying patient and public voices, and enhancing investment in cardiovascular research has guided our initiatives and collaborations.

Political support from the European Union for a European Cardiovascular Health Plan will see more national cardiovascular Health Plans taking shape across Europe, in times where building a resilient European Health Union is needed more than ever before.

I am pleased to share the news that, amongst other health NGOs, EHN scored a very high evaluation result in its grant application, through the EU4Health programme, and in 2024, EHN received operational funding from the European Commission.

In 2024, EHN hosted its inaugural Patient Advocacy Workshop in Brussels, bringing together European cardiovascular disease patient advocates and consultants to forge ahead with advocacy through training sessions and peer-to-peer learning. The event marked a significant milestone in our mission to empower patients to actively participate in shaping health policies. The workshop was tailored on the EHN Patient Advocacy Handbook Volume I, a comprehensive guide, which provides practical tools and strategies for patients to advocate for improved CVD care and awareness at all levels. Please stay tuned for Volume II, earmarked for publication in 2025!

Our strength lies in our diverse and dedicated community. EHN's members and partners have built powerful coalitions, drawing on their expertise in healthcare, policy, and research to work collectively



Birgit Beger
CEO, EHN

towards common goals. This collaborative spirit has been instrumental in achieving EHN's milestones in 2024 at national and European levels. The 2024 edition of the EHN annual workshop held in Amsterdam, themed "United in diversity", successfully connected EHN members, policy makers, thought leaders and experts from all walks of life.

A strong community also needs strong communications. EHN implemented its comprehensive communication strategy and achieved over 1000 followers on its LinkedIn profile.

As we look towards 2025 with renewed energy and ambition, we are eager to build on the strengths of our dynamic community and work on our mission of reducing premature and preventable deaths from cardiovascular diseases.

The year ahead presents a unique opportunity to further our strategic goal of achieving a European cardiovascular health plan.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and partnership. Together, we can turn the tide on cardiovascular diseases to build a heart-healthy future for all.

Warm regards,

Birgit Beger
EHN CEO

2024 at a Glance



March 2024

EPP calls for an EU Cardiovascular Health Plan



April 2024

EHN signs a grant agreement for operational funding from the European Commission



June 2024

EHN welcomes three new members at the Annual Workshop in Amsterdam: ČAKO, Czech Alliance for Cardiovascular Diseases (CZ Republic); the Latvian Heart Health Promotion Alliance (LV); and one new member from Italy: Science for the Prevention and Education of Heart Health (SPELS) (IT)



July 2024

Ursula von der Leyen announces cardiovascular disease as a priority in health policy for the new European Commission



September 2024

World Heart Day – Empowering Action for Cardiovascular Health



November 2024

Olivér Várhelyi appointed as EU Health Commissioner



November 2024

Launch of the FILTERED campaign on the commercial determinants of health aiming to reduce common risk factors of NCDs (reduction of alcohol-related harm, tobacco control and the reduction of the consumption of unhealthy foods and drinks)



December 2024

Landmark Council Conclusions on Cardiovascular Health



December 2024

EHN hosts its first Patient Workshop in Brussels and presents the *EHN Advocacy Handbook Volume I*

Preventing Cardiovascular Diseases:

A Policy-Driven Approach

Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are largely preventable, with an estimated 80% of CVD cases being avoidable through effective public health measures. To reduce exposure to key risk factors, a systemic, policy-driven approach to primary prevention is essential. Population-wide interventions not only increase the number of years lived in good health but also yield substantial human and economic benefits, delivering significant returns on investment.

As 2024 was a year of election and renewal of mandates, both for the European Commission and for the European Parliament, events and documents were prepared to outline EHN's policy asks. Many of these actions were developed in alliance with other organisations to strengthen EHN's policy requests.

When it comes to primordial prevention of cardiovascular diseases, the plans outlined in the EU Farm to Fork Strategy and in the prevention agenda of the Beating Cancer Plan were very promising for the prevention of NCDs, including cardiovascular disease. However, these plans did not materialise at EU level.

To give but a few examples:

- The proposal on front of pack nutrition labelling was not adopted, and not proposed by the Commission
- The review of the Tobacco Products Directive, and the Tobacco Taxation Directive were not proposed by the Commission

Considering the lack of EU action on topics that are of the utmost importance to keep the EU population healthy and prevent the onset and further development of NCDs in general, and cardiovascular diseases in particular, EHN worked with the Food policy Coalition to [call on the next Commission to make the transition to sustainable food systems a high political priority](#).

EHN, as a member of the Smokefree Partnership (SFP), provided input in the SFP position paper on [tobacco taxation](#), on [electronic cigarettes](#) and on [Smokefree policies](#).

Policy Paper on Alcohol and Cardiovascular Diseases

In September 2024, EHN contracted Professor Tim Stockwell and colleagues at the University of Victoria in Canada to prepare a literature review on existing evidence on the impact of alcohol on cardiovascular disease. The research, shared with EHN members, served as input for the draft policy paper that was developed and discussed with EHN members and launched in 2025.

EU-funded Prevention Projects

In 2024, EHN did not only receive operational funding from the European Commission to work on prevention it was actively involved in two EU-funded projects under the EU4Health financial framework, focussing on both primary and secondary prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

FILTERED Project

The **FILTERED Project (From sILos To synErgies to pRevEnt NCDs)**



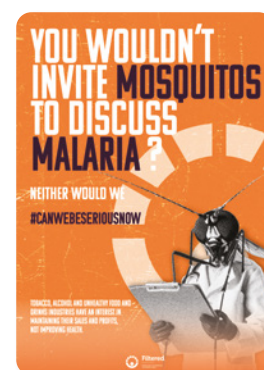
aims to strengthen collaborative advocacy, health promotion, action, and accountability at both European and national levels. It focuses on preventing NCDs by reducing alcohol-related harm, tobacco use, and the consumption of unhealthy foods and drinks.

The project fosters cooperation among civil society organisations specialising in NCD prevention, encouraging a co-creative approach that promotes strategic alliances and mutual learning. It pays particular attention to EU policy interventions targeting key risk factors—tobacco, alcohol, and unhealthy diets—and their impact on major NCDs, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and cancer.

The project was formally launched at a meeting held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) where EHN's Board member, Nataša Jan, outlined EHN's input in the project and talked about the importance of working in alliances, both at European and national levels.

Key FILTERED Activities and Events:

- **FILTERED Conference** (Ljubljana, Slovenia, 27–28 June 2024) – A forum for stakeholders to debate policies on alcohol, tobacco, unhealthy foods and drinks, and the commercial determinants of health.
- **Social Media Campaign** (November 2024) – In collaboration with Eurocare, the Smoke Free Partnership, and the International Youth Health Organisation, EHN launched a campaign highlighting industry tactics that influence public health policies. The campaign used visual storytelling to illustrate how corporate lobbying, misinformation, and corporate social responsibility initiatives undermine public health efforts.



FILTERED Conference – Ljubljana (Slovenia), 27–28 June 2024

JACARDI Project

The JACARDI (Joint Action on Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes)

Project is an EU initiative supporting 21 European countries in addressing the burden of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes.



EHN contributes to JACARDI through its representation on the Strategic Advisory Board, with EHN Board member Paola Santalucia and EHN CEO Birgit Beger providing expertise on policy and public health priorities.

Additionally, EHN supports the dissemination of project findings to maximise impact across Europe.

Several EHN member organisations participate in JACARDI, including:

- **Italy** – The Italian Association for Cardiovascular Prevention (SPELS)
- **Spain** – The Spanish Heart Foundation
- **Finland** – The Finnish Heart Association

Advocacy for CVD Prevention

EHN advocates for the prevention of cardiovascular diseases through targeted campaigns directed at EU policymakers and civil society.

- **International Women's Day 2024 (8 March 2024)** – EHN reaffirmed its commitment to gender equity in cardiovascular research. In collaboration with MEPs Frances Fitzgerald (EPP, Ireland), Sirpa Pietikäinen (EPP, Finland), and Estrella Durá Ferrandis (S&D, Spain), EHN called for greater inclusion of women in cardiovascular health policies and research.
- **World Heart Day 2024** – EHN urged policymakers to take coordinated action to improve cardiovascular health by prioritising prevention, strengthening health systems, and investing in early detection, management, and research. To support this advocacy campaign, EHN developed a **World Heart Day resource kit**, including a press kit, social media infographics, and highlights of member organisation activities.



Other

- **Presentation of EHN Poster at the European Commission's Webinar on the Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases**

On 20 March 2024, the EU organised a Stakeholder webinar on prevention of non-communicable diseases within the framework of the Healthier Together – EU non-communicable diseases initiative. EHN was invited to present its Poster on a comprehensive, EU-wide Cardiovascular health plan for primary and secondary prevention, early detection, patient care, management and treatment.

As part of the Healthier Together – EU non-communicable diseases initiative, EU-level health associations were invited to present ideas to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The EHN Poster focuses on how our organisation will support the prevention of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) in the European Union (EU).

- [European Commission event page with agenda and meeting report](#)
- [EHN news article about the poster presentation](#)



A Strong Patient Voice

In 2024, EHN took major strides in putting patients at the heart of cardiovascular policy. From hosting a first-ever Patient Advocacy Workshop in Brussels to actively contributing to the European Medicines Agency's Patients and Consumers Working Party, EHN created powerful platforms for people living with CVD to speak up, be heard, and help shape the decisions that impact their lives.

Strengthening the Patient Voice and Expanding Our Network

In alignment with its strategic goal to bolster patient and public agency, EHN expanded its network by welcoming three new members in June 2024: the [Czech Alliance for Cardiovascular Disease \(ČÁKO\)](#), the [Latvian Heart Health Promotion Alliance](#), and [SPELS Onlus](#) from Italy.

EHN also plays a crucial role in the HYPERMARKER and AIDAVA Research projects, focusing on hypertension and patients' data leveraging respectively. By facilitating patient involvement, EHN ensured that the projects' outcomes are patient-centred and responsive to the real-world needs of those living with CVD.

EHN Patient Advocacy Handbook: A Collaborative Resource for Change

In 2024, the EHN launched the first edition of its Patient Advocacy Handbook—a vital tool created to empower individuals living with CVD to become confident, effective advocates. Designed as a practical guide, the handbook equips patients with the knowledge, tools, and strategies needed to navigate and impact health policy environments.

What sets this initiative apart is its collaborative spirit. Since its launch, the handbook has been actively shaped by patient input gathered through EHN's network and engagement activities. This feedback has helped refine and enrich the content, ensuring it truly reflects the lived experiences and advocacy needs of people living with CVD. The final, fully updated version is set for publication in May 2025, and is poised to become a cornerstone resource for patient empowerment across Europe.



EHN Patient Advocacy Workshop – Brussels (Belgium), December 2024

Empowering Patients with Cardiovascular Disease: EHN Hosts First Patient Advocacy Workshop

A defining moment in 2024 was EHN's first Patient Advocacy Workshop, held on 5 December in Brussels. This landmark event brought together thirteen CVD patients, advocates, and representatives from across Europe and with different backgrounds with a shared mission: to strengthen the patient voice in cardiovascular health policy.

The workshop provided a dynamic and interactive environment where participants not only shared personal experiences but also built practical advocacy skills. Through expert-led, training sessions, hands-on activities,

and peer-to-peer learning, attendees explored how to navigate complex policy landscapes, communicate effectively with decision-makers, and mobilize for change at national and EU levels.

Importantly, the workshop also served as a platform for building lasting connections among patient advocates—fostering a stronger, united voice that can drive progress in cardiovascular care and prevention across Europe. It marked the beginning of a growing movement to ensure that the voices of those most affected by CVD are not only heard but are instrumental in shaping the future of heart health.

Advancing Research

In 2024, the European Heart Network (EHN) continued to advance cardiovascular research by fostering collaboration among its members and aligning research efforts with the needs of patients.

Additionally, EHN actively participated in the European Medicines Agency's Patients and Consumers Working Party (PCWP), ensuring that patient perspectives inform regulatory discussions and decisions.

The **EHN Research Platform** continued to serve as a vital forum for collaboration among EHN's research-funding members and patient representatives.

EHN Research Group

In 2024, the EHN Research Group reinforced its commitment to cross-border collaboration and patient-centred research. At the April 2024 online meeting, representatives from national heart foundations in Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany, and Switzerland gathered to share progress and align on shared goals.

EHN plays a pivotal role in patient engagement, ensuring meaningful participation at all stages of each project.

The group also advanced efforts to enhance access to European research funding and discussed the potential of enabling multinational consortia through platforms like the Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum (GCRFF). Discussions are ongoing on defining EHN's strategic role in coordinating research and supporting patient-led innovation.

A new workplan is being developed to strengthen collaboration among members and guide EHN's expanding research agenda.

EU-funded research projects

Throughout 2024, EHN has remained actively involved in several ongoing EU-funded research projects, serving as a patient representative partner in each consortium. EHN's primary role is to facilitate Public and Patient Involvement (PPI), ensuring that the patient perspective is integrated into the design and development of each project, while promoting structured and meaningful patient engagement.

HYPERMARKER

HYPERMARKER aims to enhance the treatment of patients with high blood pressure by unleashing the potential of pharmacometabolics to provide 'smart' prescriptions of antihypertensive therapy, based on large-scale cohorts from 11 European countries, with validation in a randomized controlled trial. The project's use of deep learning techniques to analyse complex metabolic and exposomic data is uncovering novel patterns of metabolome-drug interactions that have not been previously documented.

During 2024, EHN organised online meetings and workshops on Patient Involvement and Engagement and attended the consortium conference in October. A standout moment of the meeting was the invaluable contribution of a patient living with hypertension. His candid sharing of personal experiences and challenges with medical treatment provided the team with a vital perspective, reminding them of the real-world impact of the research and the importance of patient-centered innovation.

HYPERMARKER Consortium Meeting – Hamburg (Germany), October 2024





*AIDAVA Consortium Meeting
– Tallinn (Estonia), 2024*

AIDAVA

AIDAVA (Automate curation and publishing of personal health data through artificial intelligence) aims to maximise automation of the curation and publishing of structured and unstructured data in healthcare. The project intends to take an innovative approach to data interoperability. By capturing appropriate metadata on data sources and by orchestrating multiple curation tools – including AI-based ones – the project aims to demonstrate the possibility of working with data sources

in any format and to semi-automatically integrate and transform them into any format needed for secondary data use.

EHN contributed by facilitating the participation of four cardiovascular patient consultants to support the structured involvement of patients in the development and implementation of the AIDAVA system and attended the 2024 consortium meeting in Tallinn, Estonia.

AI4HF

AI4HF (Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence for Personalised Risk Assessment in Chronic Heart Failure) is another Horizon Europe project that aims to co-design, develop, evaluate, and exploit an integrative and trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) solution for personalised heart failure (HF) risk assessment. Based on the early prediction of a patient's heart risk, AI4HF will provide personalised advice to patients on medication, diet, exercise, pacemakers, and cardiac resynchronisation therapy.

In 2024, EHN engaged with the consortium partners to support co-creation activities with patient consultants such as the recruitment and co-hosting of workshops. EHN was also involved in promoting the Information & Communication (I&C) package survey and social media posts.



*AI4HF Consortium Meeting – Amsterdam UMC (Netherlands),
15–16 October 2024*

EU Policy Landscape:

Advancing the European Cardiovascular Health Plan

2024 marked a pivotal year for cardiovascular health in the EU, with significant policy developments reinforcing the commitment of European policymakers to prioritise cardiovascular disease (CVD) prevention and care. The European Parliament, the Council of the EU, and the European Commission have taken important steps to advance a coordinated and comprehensive **EU Cardiovascular Health Plan** within this mandate.

Olivér Várhelyi Appointed as EU Health Commissioner

In November 2024, **Olivér Várhelyi** was appointed as the new European Commissioner for Health as part of the incoming European Commission. His mandate includes advancing key public health priorities, with cardiovascular disease positioned as a central focus. During his confirmation hearings, Várhelyi emphasised the need for a comprehensive **EU Cardiovascular Health Plan**, aligning with

the ongoing implementation of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and the 2023 EU Mental Health Strategy.

His appointment is seen as a crucial step in ensuring stronger EU-level action on CVD, reinforcing the European Commission's role in promoting preventive healthcare and improving access to high-quality cardiovascular treatment.

Landmark Council Conclusions on Cardiovascular Health

In a significant policy milestone, on 3 December 2024, the Council of the EU adopted **Conclusions on Cardiovascular Health**, formally recognising the urgency of addressing CVD at European level. These conclusions underline the importance of a strategic EU approach, calling on the European Commission to take concrete steps towards a structured **EU Cardiovascular Health Plan**.

The Council's conclusions highlight the need for:

- Stronger investment in prevention and early detection of CVD

- Improved patient access to innovative treatments and rehabilitation
- A more integrated approach to tackling CVD risk factors, aligned with existing EU public health strategies

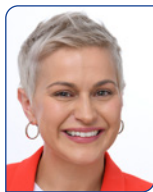
This recognition by the Council reinforces the need for coordinated action across Member States and strengthens advocacy efforts for dedicated EU funding and policy measures.

A New MEP Cardiovascular Health Group

The establishment of a **Cardiovascular Health Group** within the European Parliament in October 2024 marked another key development. Comprising Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from various political groups and Member States, this group aims to:

- Keep cardiovascular health high on the EU policy agenda
- Advocate for the development and adoption of an **EU Cardiovascular Health Plan**
- Ensure that CVD prevention, treatment, and research receive adequate EU funding

By fostering cross-party dialogue and collaboration, this group will play a crucial role in shaping legislative and funding priorities for cardiovascular health in the coming years.



MEP Maria Walsh
EPP, Ireland



MEP Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis
S&D, Lithuania



MEP András Tivadar Kulja
EPP, Hungary



MEP Tilly Metz
the Greens/EFA, Luxembourg



MEP Romana Jerković
S&D, Croatia



MEP Kateřina Konečná
Non-Attached, Czechia



MEP Aurelijus Veryga
ECR, Lithuania



MEP Vlad Vasile-Voiculescu
Renew, Romania



MEP Tomislav Sokol
EPP, Croatia



MEP Carlo Ciccio
ECR, Italy



MEP Lukas Mandl
EPP, Austria



MEP Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska
EPP, Poland



MEP Michalis Hadjipantela
EPP, Cyprus



MEP Pascal Arimont
EPP, Belgium



MEP Elena Nevado Del Campo
EPP, Spain



MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen
EPP, Finland

EHN Involvement in Multistakeholder Collaboration and Alliances

The European Heart Network (EHN) actively engages in multistakeholder collaboration and strategic alliances to strengthen advocacy efforts and promote cardiovascular health across Europe. This section highlights EHN's key contributions and partnerships with leading health organisations and policy platforms throughout 2024.

WHO (World Health Organization) Regional Office for Europe



74th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe

As a recognised non-state actor, the European Heart Network (EHN) submitted two key statements to the WHO Regional Committee meeting, joining discussions on two critical public health frameworks:

- **Health Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Resilience in the WHO European Region 2024–2029 (Preparedness 2.0):** EHN and WHF jointly endorsed this strategy, aiming to strengthen health emergency preparedness while safeguarding essential health services during crises. The statement highlights the vulnerability of people with cardiovascular diseases in emergencies and calls for increased

resources and equitable access to essential health services across the continuum of care.

- **Framework for Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in the WHO European Region 2025–2030:** This framework highlights the urgent need to tackle environmental risk factors, such as air pollution, which is linked to 1.4 million annual deaths in the region. EHN, jointly with the World Heart Federation (WHF) and World Stroke Organisation (WSO), calls on Member States to implement stricter air quality standards, translate international agreements into national policies, and promote health equity across sectors.

EACH (European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health)

EHN is a founding member of the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH), an alliance that brings together leading European and international organisations around joint activities to promote cardiovascular health as a policy priority at EU level.



EHN is actively involved in the EACH Steering Committee and the EACH working groups on public affairs and advocacy, and communication.

In the election year 2024, the EACH call to vote for Cardiovascular Health was picked up by the European People's Party (EPP), Europe's largest political party as they included a 'European Cardiovascular Health Plan' as a core component of their [electoral manifesto](#).

Following this inclusion in the EPP Manifesto, EU Commission President, Ursula Von der Leyen included the need for an EU cardiovascular health plan in the [Mission letter](#) to the Commissioner-Designate of Health and Animal Welfare (later Commissioner for Health and Animal Welfare), Olivér Várhelyi.

At EU Council level, EACH participated in the [Hungarian Presidency High-Level Conference on Cardiovascular Health](#) (4 June

2024), where EHN's Board member, Hans Snijder, participated in the panel discussion on 'Rehabilitation and Patient Centered Support: care beyond the clinic'.

While negotiations were going on around the draft Council Conclusions on Improving Cardiovascular Health in the EU, EACH Partners welcomed several Health Attachés from the Permanent Representations to the EU for a breakfast meeting on cardiovascular health (19 September 2024). EHN's CEO Birgit Beger participated in the [EACH Breakfast Briefing on Cardiovascular Health](#).

On 18 November 2024, the European Heart Network (EHN) delegation attended the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health (EACH) event in Brussels, titled "[Rising to the Challenge: Time for Action on Cardiovascular Health](#)." The event brought together policymakers, healthcare professionals, patient advocates, and experts to discuss comprehensive strategies for improving cardiovascular health (CVH) across Europe.

Finally, the high-level event and the series of preparatory meetings at EU Council level culminated in the adoption of the [EU Council Conclusions on Cardiovascular Health](#) on 3 December 2024. This important step was accompanied by a commitment from the EU Health Commissioner announcing the EU's readiness to develop a [comprehensive Cardiovascular Health Plan](#).



From left to right: Marleen Kestens (EHN Manager Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Policies), Birgit Beger (EHN Chief Executive Officer), MEP Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis (S&D, Lithuania), Martin Vestweber (EHN Vice-President) at the EACH event in Brussels

WHF (World Heart Federation)

In May 2024, the Global Heart Journal published a policy brief on physical activity: "[More People, More Active, More Often for Heart Health – Taking Action on Physical Activity](#)". EHN CEO, Birgit Beger, contributed to this publication as a member of the World Heart Federation (WHF) Advocacy Committee.



In August 2024, EHN attended the WHF café at the ESC congress in London addressing secondary prevention as part of a holistic approach to embrace a Cardiovascular Health Plan at national, European and global levels.

EU Food Policy Coalition

EHN is an active member of the EU Food Policy Coalition, an alliance that brings together civil society and organisations working towards refining and advocating for a shared vision of sustainable food systems at EU level.



EHN worked with the Food policy Coalition to [call on the next Commission to make the transition to sustainable food systems a high political priority](#).

EHN is a member of the Task force on Public Procurement and the task force on Sustainable Food Systems.

European Chronic Disease Alliance

ECDA, with strong support of EHN, in particular in terms of human resources, developed the '[Time to Lead: Global Week for Action on NCDs 2024](#)' campaign. It started in May 2024, and culminated in a week of action on October 2024 in the European Parliament. It provides particularly new EU policy makers with timely and precise information on how to prevent NCDs (at national and EU levels), and which measures are needed in terms of patient support and research for data collection.



ECDA also prepared a paper for newly elected Health Commissioner Várhelyi outlining what EHN believes should be the [key priorities](#) during his mandate. EHN prepared the primordial prevention messages in this document.

ESC (European Society of Cardiology)

In September 2024, the European Heart Network (EHN) and the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) renewed their longstanding collaboration by signing a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This agreement marks a continued joint commitment to advancing cardiovascular health across Europe.



The MoU reaffirms both organisations' shared goals in promoting evidence-based policy, strengthening patient involvement, and supporting the development of a European Cardiovascular Health Plan. It also expands cooperation on research, education, and advocacy initiatives.

EHN CEO Birgit Beger emphasised the importance of the renewed partnership, stating: "This MoU reaffirms our long-standing partnership with the ESC, further solidifying our joint efforts to prioritise cardiovascular health in Europe." Jean-François Riffaud, CEO of ESC, added: "Working with EHN helps us achieve our goal of improved cardiovascular healthcare for all."

As cardiovascular disease continues to place a heavy burden on public health systems, the strengthened collaboration between EHN and ESC aims to amplify the voice of patients and ensure that CVD remains high on the EU policy agenda.

Birgit Beger (EHN Chief Executive Officer) and Jean-François Riffaud (Chief Executive Officer of the European Society of Cardiology) at the EHN Annual Workshop in Amsterdam, June 2024.



EHN Member Activities Spotlight

From expertly crafted awareness-raising campaigns, innovative fundraising initiatives and prevention activities in schools, this section celebrates the groundbreaking efforts of EHN members throughout 2024. These highlights showcase our members' impactful and essential work in promoting cardiovascular health and driving policy change.

Belgian Heart League launches Word Hartstarter to boost CPR awareness

In September 2024, during its annual Heart Week, the Belgian Heart League launched *Word Hartstarter* (Become a Heartstarter), a nationwide campaign to improve bystander CPR rates in Belgium. Each year, thousands of people in Belgium suffer sudden cardiac arrest, yet immediate CPR can drastically increase their chances of survival. Alarming, only 15% of Belgians feel confident performing CPR.



To raise awareness, the campaign featured popular Belgian actor Rik Verheye. A replica of his head was placed on a traditional CPR training manikin to draw attention in an engaging and memorable way. The campaign promoted simple, life-saving actions and encouraged the public to learn CPR basics via the platform wordhartstarter.be.

Word Hartstarter which reached a wide national audience, generating over 300,000 website visits, a PR value exceeding €2 million, and a significant increase in CPR course registrations among partner organisations. By engaging the public and working with emergency services and policymakers, the campaign contributed to a more prepared and responsive society.

In 2025, the campaign will be re-launched in collaboration with partners to mark World Restart a Heart Day.

[Watch the campaign video](#)



British Heart Foundation: Hearts Need More Campaign – Advocating for Policy Action in Cardiovascular Health

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) launched its *Hearts Need More* campaign



in September 2023, seeking urgent policy action from the UK Government in response to the ongoing heart care crisis. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the challenges facing cardiovascular health, including NHS cardiac waiting lists, the need for better prevention of cardiovascular disease (CVD), and the prioritisation of research funding.

In 2024, the campaign garnered significant media attention, including a parliamentary debate led by former MP Dean Russell on trends in premature CVD deaths.

A key milestone was the launch of a public pledge in May 2024, urging the Government to prioritise CVD, which collected over 46,000 signatures. In December, the BHF took the pledge to No. 10 Downing Street, accompanied by MPs, ambassadors, and

their Chief Executive, Dr Charmaine Griffiths, with the event covered by Channel 4 News.



In September, the BHF published the [Hearts Need More report](#), outlining the necessary actions for a new government. The report was showcased at both the Labour and Conservative party conferences, with support from a successful public 'Email Your MP' campaign. Most recently, BHF also led the development of a sector consensus statement, which brought together almost 50 organisations to call for a National CVD Plan, published in February 2025.

Danish Heart Foundation: Research Project on Optimised AED Placement to Increase Cardiac Arrest Survival

The Danish Heart Foundation (DHF) is working to improve survival rates from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) in Denmark by enhancing education on CPR and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs).



While access to AEDs is essential for survival, there has been a lack of comprehensive strategy for optimising their placement. To address this, the Danish Heart Foundation launched a pioneering research project aimed at providing valuable insights into the strategic and optimal placement of AEDs using a mathematical algorithm.

Developed in collaboration with Canadian researchers, the algorithm utilises local data—such as existing AED locations, past OHCA incidents, and demographic information—to identify the most effective locations for AEDs, ensuring broad and efficient coverage.



In 2024, 280 AEDs were installed in the northern part of Denmark, with invaluable support from DHA volunteers.

Over two-thirds of these were placed in private buildings, predominantly in rural areas, and all AEDs are accessible 24/7.

The project will continue to monitor the impact of this AED placement strategy over the coming years. This optimisation model could potentially be adapted for use in other regions of Denmark, as well as internationally.

Dutch Heart Foundation: Celebrating 60 Years of Impact and Innovation

In 2024, the Dutch Heart Foundation (DHF) celebrated its 60th anniversary, marked by extensive media campaigns, a Charity Night, and the minting of a commemorative DHF coin. To raise awareness of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) in women; 60 landmarks were illuminated in red, and the DHF published a magazine on female cardiovascular health.



The DHF set up 65 free health checkpoints, primarily in deprived areas, allowing people to have their health values measured. To enhance public awareness of heart attack and stroke symptoms, the DHF launched

an online 'emergency course', which was completed 200,000 times. In terms of prevention, the DHF successfully advocated stricter tobacco control measures and formed a new alliance to promote physical activity. The DHF also sponsored the SuperList investigation into healthy foods in supermarkets, resulting in a greater willingness from supermarkets to promote healthier options.

The Name Lottery was launched to expand fundraising efforts, with 80% of the revenue directed to the DHF. Thanks to TV and other campaigns, the number of donors increased by 13,000, and the Heart for Business initiative welcomed 113 new company donors.

The DHF co-funded Active Life, Europe's largest research programme on physical activity and seven citizen science projects. The seven topics from the Cardiovascular Agenda have been translated into 72 targets, which the DHF will focus on in the coming years.

Finnish Heart Association: Advancing Cardiovascular Health through Prevention, Education, and Peer Support

The Finnish Heart Association continues its mission to prevent cardiovascular disease (CVD) and reduce related premature deaths while ensuring that no individual or their loved ones face the challenges of the disease alone.



Key achievements in 2024 include:

- **Smart Family:** Providing families and professionals with tools and knowledge on healthy lifestyle choices. Recognised as one of the best practices in the EU, it is now being implemented in six additional European countries under the Health4EUKids initiative.
- **JACARDI:** Developing an automated six-month digital wellness coaching programme for working-age adults to promote long-term health.



- **Tulppa Rehabilitation Programme:** Expanding the digital version of this outpatient rehabilitation programme for individuals with cardiovascular disease to a third region in Finland.
- **Peer Support:** Over 600 trained peer supporters facilitated 18,000 encounters, offering personal guidance and support to those affected by CVD.
- **Sydan.fi:** Our dedicated media platform reached 3.76 million visitors in 2024, providing valuable information and resources on health and lifestyle changes.
- **Heart Symbol:** The Heart symbol front-of-package label was ranked the ninth most valued brand in Finland, with high consumer recognition and strong support from the food industry and retailers.

German Heart Foundation Launches Resuscitation Campaign in Schools to Save Lives

Every year, around 65,000 people in Germany succumb to sudden cardiac death, a tragedy that could often be prevented. Experts estimate that approximately 10,000 lives could be saved





Project was successfully launched at kick-off meeting in November 2024. © 2024 Dirk Jünger

if more bystanders took immediate action to perform resuscitation. In response, the German Heart Foundation, in collaboration with other organisations in the state of Hesse, is taking a major step forward: Starting in the 2024/2025 school year, resuscitation training will be mandatory for seventh-grade students—a move that could set a nationwide precedent.

The initiative is being implemented across Hesse by the Ministry of Education in partnership with the German Heart Foundation and the Björn Steiger Foundation. To support educators, the German Heart Foundation has launched an online learning platform ([Wiederbelebung in Schulen – Bildungsportale der Länder](#)) offering training courses, instructional videos, and teaching materials. Additionally, the Björn Steiger Foundation will provide every participating school with 12 training mannequins for hands-on practice.

In a double lesson, students will learn the life-saving steps: “Check, Call, Compress.” With schools serving as an ideal platform for societal change, several other states have already expressed interest in adopting resuscitation training in their curricula.

Hellenic Heart Foundation Hosts CARDIO LIFE STYLE 2024 Event to Promote Heart Health Awareness

One of the most impactful initiatives by the Hellenic Heart Foundation in 2024 was the CARDIO LIFE STYLE 2024 event, a two-day scientific and socially



engaging festival focusing on heart health. The event's theme, “Adopting a Healthy Lifestyle,” aimed to raise awareness about preventing cardiovascular diseases.

For the first time in Greece, 66 experts from various medical fields, including cardiologists, pulmonologists, endocrinologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical nutritionists, and fitness trainers, gathered to present 32 different topics across 11 thematic sections. These presentations were tailored to the general public ensuring that complex scientific concepts were communicated in an accessible and understandable way.

In addition to the educational presentations, attendees participated in 12 experiential activities, including open discussions, workshops, exercises, and Q&A sessions. One of the highlights of the event was the opportunity for participants to interact directly with scientists and receive reliable answers to their questions.



The themes covered a wide range of heart health topics, from nutrition and stress management to the role of technology and exercise in prevention and rehabilitation. The event was further celebrated by prominent Greek athletes and actors, who supported the cause through videos, resulting in an overwhelming response from the audience.

CARDIO LIFE STYLE 2024 truly became a vibrant celebration of heart health. The next edition of the event is scheduled to take place on 1–2 November 2025.

Heart Foundation of the Hungarian Society of Cardiology – World Heart Day Budapest 2024

On Sunday 29 September, the Heart Foundation of the Hungarian Society of Cardiology hosted World Heart Day Budapest 2024 in City Park, near the award-winning Ethnographic Museum. The event attracted hundreds of visitors with a full-day programme of free health screenings, expert advice, physical activity sessions, music, games and interactive activities for all ages.



The event aimed to raise awareness around heart disease prevention and promote healthy lifestyles in a fun and engaging way. Attendees could measure their blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugar, weight and BMI, and benefit from ultrasound screenings to detect early signs of peripheral vascular disease.

World Heart Day Budapest 2024 also offered opportunities for community building. A special highlight for younger audiences was the announcement of the results of a national children's drawing and photography competition. The day coincided with the 10th anniversary of the Hungarian Society of Cardiology's public-facing website, www.szivderito.hu, further marking the occasion.

Lithuanian Heart Association Marks 30th Anniversary and World Heart Day 2024

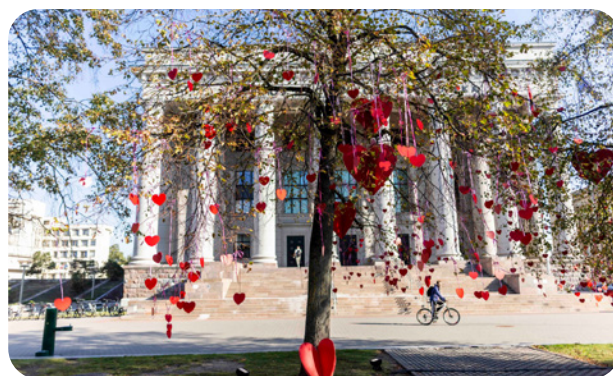
In 2024, the Lithuanian Heart Association (founded 09–09–1994) celebrated its 30th anniversary while continuing its commitment to cardiovascular health.

On September 24, medical professionals gathered in Vilnius for a conference titled “Trends in Cardiovascular Diseases in the European Union and Lithuania,” discussing the latest European Council goals and



Lithuania's efforts to reduce cardiovascular disease mortality. The creation of a national, long-term management plan was also initiated in collaboration with the Lithuanian Ministry of Health and Parliament.

Ahead of World Heart Day (September 29), the Association and the Lithuanian Society of Cardiology unveiled the “Widow Tree” installation in Vilnius to raise awareness of cardiovascular diseases. On World Heart Day, events were held across Lithuania, with screenings and consultations offered in Vilnius at the National Lithuanian Radio and Television.



Lithuania also joined the global initiative to light up buildings in red to raise awareness of cardiovascular diseases, with the Vilnius TV Tower participating. The Association also produced educational materials for patients and organised conferences for health professionals to further promote cardiovascular health.

Irish Heart Foundation: Landmark Achievements in 2024

In 2024, the Irish Heart Foundation achieved significant milestones that reinforced its leadership in cardiovascular health across Ireland.

One of the most notable accomplishments was securing the country's first-ever national funding for community heart and stroke support services. The Foundation also played a pivotal role in reinstating Ireland's status as a global leader in tobacco control, with the introduction of legislation that raises the age of sale of tobacco to 21, effective from 1 February 2028.



**Irish Heart
Foundation**

The Foundation's Patient Champions programme expanded to 30 members, helping amplify the voices of stroke and heart patients. In addition, the Mobile Health Unit provided 6,000 free health checks to communities nationwide. The partnership with Active School Flag led to four weeks of Bizzy Breaks, reaching 150,797 children, while the 'Let's Get Active' challenge supported 24,000 children in staying active. Through the CPR 4 Schools programme, over 350,000 young people had the opportunity to learn CPR, with 90% of post-primary schools dedicated to learning this skill.

The Foundation's Stroke Connect service received 1,350 referrals, and the Heart Connect Service delivered over 260 hours of support calls for those living with heart failure. Fundraising efforts and corporate partnerships also flourished, helping advance the Foundation's campaigns, including blood pressure awareness and women's heart health, which gained considerable media attention throughout the year.

Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke (NICHS) Heart Failure Campaign

On the occasion of World Heart Day 2024, NICHS launched a campaign to raise awareness of heart failure, educate the public on its symptoms, and encourage individuals to seek medical help. The campaign ran until mid-November and featured a dedicated information hub on the NICHS website. The hub provided resources to support those affected by or diagnosed with heart failure while also promoting NICHS's cardiac services.

A key element of the campaign was the emotional impact of personal stories. NICHS shared the inspiring journeys of three mothers who received heart failure diagnoses at the ages of 32 and 43.

These stories, shared through local press outlets, stressed the importance of recognising the symptoms early and



seeking timely medical intervention. The campaign emphasised that early detection and proper management could improve outcomes for those living with heart failure.

Portuguese Heart Foundation Promotes Heart Health Awareness with Year-Round Campaigns and Activities

In 2024, the Portuguese Heart Foundation (PHF) organised numerous activities, not only during May, Heart Month in Portugal, but also throughout World Heart Day. The Foundation also marked various commemorative days throughout the year. The 2024 campaign, titled "**Nobody Dies From Nothing. Take Care of Your Heart,**" featured one of the most-viewed films with the message "No one dies for a missed goal. Take care of your heart." The campaign received widespread media attention, with the television film broadcast on



several channels, the radio spot airing on numerous national and regional stations, and press announcements published in various media outlets.

Throughout the year, PHF carried out health education activities, screening tests, and counselling sessions, offering dietary advice, and measuring blood pressure, BMI, and blood cholesterol levels. The Foundation also hosted the VIII Paddle Tennis Tournament.

PHF partnered with the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth to celebrate the European Week of Sport.



On World Heart Day, the Foundation illuminated landmark monuments in red, with around 50 councils participating in this initiative. Activities for Heart Month and World Heart Day were widely publicised on LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram, with regular updates featuring quizzes and information on cardiovascular prevention.

Spanish Heart Foundation “DON’T LET IT BURN OUT” – A Heart Failure Awareness Campaign

The “Don’t Let It Burn Out” campaign, launched by the Spanish Society of Cardiology (SEC) through its Heart Failure Association



and the Spanish Heart Foundation (FEC), with the support of its Organisation of Patient Associations, aims to raise awareness about heart failure. Launched in May 2024, the campaign’s goal is to inform the public about the symptoms of heart failure, enabling early diagnosis and improving patients’ quality of life.

One of the key actions involved illuminating hospitals and iconic buildings in red across Spain as a symbol of support.



The campaign also promoted the hashtag #NoDejesQueSeApague on social media and provided educational materials via a dedicated website.

These materials include infographics, brochures, and recommendations on self-care and diet for patients.

Heart failure affects over 770,000 people in Spain, and its prevalence continues to rise. The campaign emphasises the importance of recognising symptoms early and seeking medical attention to reduce the mortality associated with this condition.

Swedish Heart and Lung Association: No Time to Lose – Heart Failure Report Reveals Critical Gaps in Care

In 2024, the Swedish Heart and Lung Association launched the [heart failure report No Time to Lose](#), based on a member survey that exposed serious shortcomings in the care of people with heart failure. Alarming, one in five respondents had to wait over a year for a diagnosis after their first contact with healthcare. Half had sought medical attention at least once in the past year due to worsening symptoms.



The findings also revealed major gaps in patient support: nine out of ten lacked both a personal treatment plan and access to a physiotherapist specialising in cardiac rehabilitation. Additionally, eight out of ten were not offered patient education. Managing heart failure is further complicated by coexisting conditions—seven out of ten respondents also live with kidney disease or diabetes, making treatment more challenging.

In Sweden, patients are not sufficiently equipped to manage their condition. Many lack essential knowledge about their symptoms, leading to an increased risk of hospitalisation—one in five had been hospitalised in the past year.

To address these issues, the Swedish Heart and Lung Association is calling for key reforms, including shorter waiting times for ultrasounds, more heart failure clinics, expanded patient education, and better training for home care and home healthcare staff.

Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation – 120 Years of Saving Lives

In 2024, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation celebrated its 120th anniversary with a remarkable year of achievements. A record-breaking fundraising campaign raised over SEK 500 million, of which SEK 532 million was allocated to cardiovascular and pulmonary research in Sweden, making it the Foundation's most impactful year to date.



To mark the milestone, the Foundation hosted a charity gala that brought together supporters, researchers and partners to highlight decades of progress and inspire continued efforts to tackle heart and lung disease.

EHN Governance and Secretariat

Information about EHN's structure, governance, and finances is publicly available on its website, including:

- [Homepage](#)
- [Governance](#)
- [The Board](#)
- [Secretariat](#)

Membership

In 2024, EHN had 31 member organisations from 27 countries across Europe.

The full list of EHN members is available on the EHN website: [EHN Members](#).

General Assembly

The General Assembly consists of all EHN member organisations. Its primary role is to establish broad strategic and policy guidelines. Additionally, its responsibilities include:

- Electing the Board and its President
- Approving the admission of new member organisations
- Approving budgets and annual accounts

EHN Board

The EHN Board meets four times per year, with two meetings held in person and two conducted online. The Board consists of a

minimum of three and a maximum of eight members. In 2024, the EHN Board was composed of eight members.



Charmaine Griffiths,
President
British Heart Foundation



Martin Vestweber,
Vice-President
German Heart Foundation



Kristina Sparreljung,
Treasurer
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation



Dan Gaita
Romanian Heart Foundation



Paola Santalucia
SPELS Onlus



Hans Snijder
Dutch Heart Foundation



Robert Keller
Swiss Heart Foundation



Nataša Jan
Slovenian Heart Foundation

EHN Secretariat

Since 1992, EHN has maintained an office in Brussels, and in 1993, it became a legally registered non-profit association in Belgium (AISBL).

In 2024, the EHN Brussels office had a team of seven people coordinating the Network's work. Serving as the central hub for communication among member organisations, the office plays a key role in EHN's advocacy efforts with European institutions. It also initiates research and publications to support its policy work, organises the Annual Workshop, seminars, and meetings for members, and actively participates in pan-European projects.



Birgit Beger
Chief Executive Officer



Maria Cummins
*Executive Assistant to
the CEO – Copy Editor*



Marleen Kestens
*Manager Cardiovascular
Disease Prevention
Policies*



Alessandra Boschi
*Media and
Communications Officer*



Gregorio Sambataro
EU Projects Officer



Clémence Gilbert
Office Manager



Carlos Altuna
*Policy Advisor, Patients
and Research*

Membership Overview

The European Heart Network (EHN) is proud to count 31 member organisations across 27 European countries. Our members consist of national heart foundations and associations, all united in their commitment to preventing cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) throughout Europe. These organisations play a crucial role in supporting patients, advocating for patient interests, and funding vital research to improve cardiovascular health across the continent.



Country	Member Organisation
Belgium	Belgian Heart League ♥
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Foundation of Health and Heart
Croatia	Croatian Heart House Foundation
Czech Republic	Czech Alliance for Cardiovascular Diseases
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 Heart Foundation
	Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention (SIPREC)
	SPELS Onlus
Latvia	Latvian Heart Health Promotion Alliance
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 constitutes a significant part of their activities.

Accounts

Auditor's report to the board of the European Heart Network for the year ended December 31, 2024.

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.

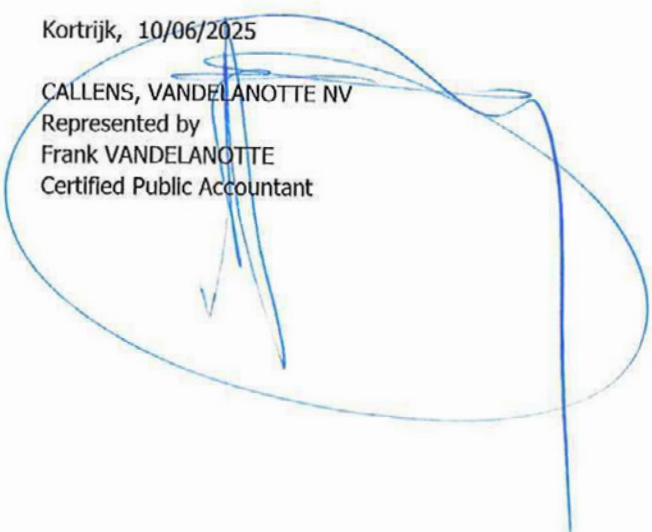
We conducted our review in accordance with the International Standard on Review Engagements 2400. This Standard requires that we plan and perform the review to obtain moderate assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. A review is limited primarily to inquiries 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 account for the year ended DECEMBER 31, 2024 and the balance sheet at that date are in agreement 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, 10/06/2025
CALLENS, VANDELANOTTE NV
Represented by
Frank VANDELANOTTE
Certified Public Accountant



Key figures

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Member subscriptions	567,883.00	640,844.88	617,185.92	476,060.41	581,761.96	558,600.00
EU grants & other income	529,689.22	86,517.61	56,929.31	33,519.87	67,287.54	391,335.61
Financial income	14,826.19	5,155.03	19.95	651.45	617.86	408.17
Total income	1,112,398.41	732,517.52	674,135.18	510,231.73	649,667.36	950,343.78
Regular expenditures	834,930.66	694,536.94	639,479.72	538,007.44	622,390.02	563,014.05
Project expenditures	224,184.44	144,642.08	84,181.75	34,185.06	60,616.16	220,636.43
Total expenditures	1,059,115.10	839,179.02	723,661.47	572,192.50	683,006.18	783,650.48
Surplus / (Deficit)	53,283.31	(106,661.50)	(49,526.29)	(61,960.77)	(33,338.82)	166,693.30
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Reserve	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00	550,000.00
Net current assets	531,814.86	478,531.55	585,193.05	634,719.34	696,680.11	730,018.93
Total Equity	1,081,814.86	1,028,531.55	1,135,193.05	1,184,719.34	1,246,680.11	1,280,018.93

Income

1. Member subscriptions	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Belgian Heart League	4,492.00	5,150.00
Bosnia Herzegovina Foundation of Health and Heart	1,123.00	1,287.00
British Heart Foundation	182,469.00	209,214.00
Croatian Heart House Foundation	1,123.00	1,287.00
Danish Heart Foundation	46,077.00	51,500.00
Dutch Heart Foundation	115,572.00	130,258.00
Faroese Heart Foundation	1,123.00	1,287.00
Finnish Heart Association	13,220.00	14,657.00
German Heart Foundation	35,911.00	41,368.00
Hellenic Heart Foundation	1,123.00	1,287.00
Hungarian Heart Foundation	1,123.00	0.00
Icelandic Heart Association	4,492.00	5,150.00
Israeli Heart Association	1,123.00	1,234.00
Irish Heart Foundation	9,735.00	10,797.00
Italian Association against Thrombosis and Cardiovascular Diseases (ALT)	0.00	1,287.00
Italian Heart Foundation	1,123.00	1,287.00
Italian Society for Cardiovascular Prevention	1,123.00	1,287.00
Lithuanian Heart Association	1,123.00	1,287.00
Netherlands, Heart and Vessel Group	4,492.00	5,150.00
Northern Ireland Chest Heart & Stroke Association	9,940.00	10,468.00
Portuguese Heart Foundation	4,492.00	0.00
Romanian Heart Foundation	2,246.00	1,287.00
Serbian Heart Foundation	1,123.00	0.00
Slovenian Heart Foundation	4,492.00	5,398.88
Spanish Heart Foundation	4,492.00	5,150.00
Swedish Heart and Lung Association	5,073.00	6,653.00
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	85,901.00	102,902.00
Swiss Heart Foundation	15,997.00	22,925.00
Turkish Heart Foundation	1,123.00	1,287.00
Portuguese Heart Foundation - membership 2023	5,150.00	0.00
Serbian Heart Foundation - membership 2023	1,287.00	0.00
SUB TOTAL	567,883.00	640,844.88

Income

2. Special contributions	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Swedish Heart Lung Foundation	20,000.00	20,000.00
German Heart Foundation	7,000.00	
EU Operating Grant (*)	438,609.52	0.00
NCD Alliance Award	12,646.75	0.00
AIDAVA Project - revenue	18,829.05	33,131.46
HYPERMARKER Project - revenue	11,280.80	3,680.33
AI4HF Project	21,323.10	29,705.82
Other reimbursements		
SUB TOTAL	529,689.22	86,517.61

(*note) : 219.304,76 of the EU Operating Grant is booked as 'income to be received'

3. Financial income	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Investment income	14,826.19	5,155.03
TOTAL INCOME	1,112,398.41	732,517.52

Expenditures

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Personnel (excl. specific projects)	669,757.41	548,116.41
Office	20,467.96	21,208.79
Property (incl. insurance)	53,180.31	49,594.59
Travel, subsistence, meetings and conferences (incl. Board)	4,827.43	3,834.18
Office equipment, computers, IT support	19,048.53	13,653.97
Depreciation (office equipment/computers)	5,749.57	3,963.34
Professional fees	52,460.33	43,842.14
Membership fees	3,574.78	3,506.49
Bank charges	674.36	659.24
Taxes	5,189.98	6,157.79
Total regular expenditures	834,930.66	694,536.94

Expenditures

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Smoke Free Partnership	25,096.11	25,000.00
European Chronic Disease Alliance	3,999.99	3,999.99
Annual Workshop	38,065.16	26,135.09
Patients Group seminar	15,952.26	
CEEC Meeting	1,816.57	
Board Meetings	2,891.33	
Nutrient profiling model		651.00
MEP Heart group		1,080.00
Filtered Project	675.29	
Consultancy support		
Communication	53,840.39	20,601.68
HeartMan		
Big Data at Heart	20,103.29	714.39
AIDAVA Project	15,063.24	26,505.23
European Alliance Cardiovascular Health	20,597.69	12,554.06
Hypermarker Horizon Project	9,024.64	3,154.21
Atheronet		-151.80
AI4HF	17,058.48	24,398.23
Project fund		
TOTAL OPERATIONAL AND PROJECT EXPENDITURES	224,184.44	144,642.08
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,059,115.10	839,179.02
TOTAL INCOME	1,112,398.41	732,517.52
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	53,283.31	-106,661.50
RETAINED RESULT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	478,531.55	585,193.05
RETAINED RESULT END OF PERIOD	531,814.86	478,531.55

Balance sheet as at December 31. 2024

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Fixed Assets	54,497.37	3,963.56
Current Assets		
Debtors and prepayments	241,696.29	17,380.67
Cash at bank	1,314,253.46	1,525,211.36
	1,610,447.12	1,546,555.59
Current Liabilities and Provisions		
Reserve	550,000.00	550,000.00
Accrued costs and expenses	397,130.26	297,185.04
Prepaid income	131,502.00	220,839.00
	1,078,632.26	1,068,024.04
Net current assets (liabilities)	531,814.86	478,531.55

AIDAVA Project

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Project expenses	15,063.24	26,505.23
Personnel cost	8,748.19	13,121.67
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	6,315.05	13,383.56
Project income	18,829.05	33,131.46
Aidava Project	3,765.81	6,626.23

AI4HF Project

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Project expenses	17,058.48	24,398.23
Personnel cost	9,445.75	14,358.23
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	7,612.73	10,040.00
Project income	21,323.10	29,705.82
AI4HF Project	4,264.62	5,307.59

HYPERMARKER Project

	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Project expenses	9,024.64	3,154.21
Personnel cost	7,509.04	2,478.80
Staff travel and subsistence		
Other costs	1,515.60	675.41
Project income	11,280.80	3,680.33
HYPERMARKER Project	2,256.16	526.12

Notes on the accounts for the year ended December 31, 2024

1. Staff costs	2024 (Euro)	2023 (Euro)
Salaries	457,659.20	425,475.44
Group insurance	23,877.87	17,429.10
Social security employers	104,567.98	94,528.30
Accrued vacation pay	8,089.39	4,466.89
Insurance personnel	6,708.27	4,126.61
Meal vouchers	12,655.39	10,801.13
Other personnel charges	3,510.19	964.58
Social office	12,434.21	10,613.00
Recruitment fee	898.00	0.00
Training team / Development	0.00	0.00
Interim	65,059.89	10,384.45
Personnel costs to recover	-25,702.98	-30,673.09
	669,757.41	548,116.41

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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