



**BUILDING ACADEMIC CAPACITY  
IN GLOBAL HEALTH IN THE EASTERN  
EUROPE - CENTRAL ASIA REGION**



Eurasian Academic Alliance for Global Health



**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

## ***Quarterly Bulletin of the Eurasian Academic Alliance for Global Health Quarter 2, 2022***

The Eurasian Academic Alliance for Global Health was established under the auspices of the project - *Building Academic Capacity in Global Health in the Eastern Europe & Central Asia Regions (BACE)* - supported by the European Commission's Erasmus+ programme. In the context of the Alliance - *Eurasia* is defined as a group of countries located in the Baltic Sea, Eastern Mediterranean, Black Sea, Caspian Sea and the Central Asia regions.

BACE is implemented by a partnership of eleven academic institutions:

- Heidelberg Institute of Global Health, Germany (Coordinator)
- Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Kazakhstan
- Astana Medical University, Kazakhstan
- Batumi State University, Georgia
- Bergen University, Norway
- National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine
- Tbilisi, Institute of Global Health, Georgia
- Tbilisi State University, Georgia
- Ternopil National Medical University, Ukraine
- University of Georgia
- University of Tromsø, Norway

BACE is aimed at achieving the following objectives:

- Developing curricula and delivering new courses on priority global health topics with specific focus on countries in the Eurasia region;
- Developing curricula and delivering new courses on global health research methods at BACE beneficiary universities;
- Establishing the Eurasian Academic Alliance for Global Health.

The Alliance serves as a collaborative platform on global health education and research among academic institutions of the Eurasian region. Academic institutions from and outside the region, interested in expanding collaboration on global health education and research, are encouraged to join the Alliance. Information is available on the Alliance's web-page: [www.allianceforglobalhealth.net](http://www.allianceforglobalhealth.net)

The Quarterly Bulletin is a dissemination instrument for updates on the Alliance's activities and BACE implementation, as well as various developments in the area of global health.

The Alliance looks forward to welcoming new members and to establishing productive collaboration with interested partners.

## Updates from the Alliance

The first Annual Conference of the Alliance will take place in September, 2022. The event will be held in the online format. The main objective is to provide a platform for discussion among the Alliance members on scaling up global health teaching and research across the region and to share experiences about addressing cross-border risks affecting the health of the region's population. The conference agenda is being finalized and will be shared soon. Please refer to the Alliance's website for more details: [www.allianceforglobalhealth.net](http://www.allianceforglobalhealth.net) At the margins of the Conference, the Alliance will also convene its Board meeting.

## Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine



Russia's invasion of Ukraine has created a humanitarian crisis and has cost the lives of thousands of civilians. Atrocities are being committed by Russian troops against the Ukrainian people. This gripping documentary by CSIS describes the atrocities taking place in Ukraine by Russian forces:

<https://www.csis.org/programs/global-health-policy-center/ukraine-human-price-war>

This document provides an update of the initial Flash Appeal for Ukraine for March-August 2022 (Source: OCHA):

<https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-flash-appeal-march-august-2022-enruuk>

This website provides updates on coordinated action of the UN agencies and other international partners on addressing public health challenges during the crisis:

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ukraine/health>

## International Partnerships in Global Health



**Association of Schools of Public Health of the European Region (ASPHER)** is the key independent European organisation dedicated to strengthening the role of public health by improving education and training of public health professionals for both practice and research. Founded in 1966, ASPHER counts members in 43 countries in Europe with associate members also in the EMRO, PAHO and WPRO regions.

ASPHER supports the professionalization of the public health workforce in Europe, whilst respecting the diversity of national and regional contexts in which each school of public health operates. ASPHER is strategically placed to guide cross-country integration of public health training with professional competency-based systems and assessment. Empowering development, support and recognition for professional careers in public health, enables ASPHER and its members to cultivate public health leaders with the passion, skills and capabilities to work effectively in health systems to improve the health of the population and the planet. Please refer to ASPHER's content-rich website to learn more about their work and to review a wide range of on-line resources, such as ASPHER community, forums, working groups, projects and partnerships and others.

Each year, ASPHER awards the prestigious Andrija Štampar Medal to a distinguished person for excellence in the field of Public Health. Recently, ASPHER developed its new fellowship programme. This programme is being created to support master, doctoral and postdoctoral fellows in order to assist them in fulfilling their greater vision of how they wish to progress and develop in their career, as it relates to public health practice and research.

For more information please visit: <https://www.aspher.org/>

## Emerging Challenges of Global Health Importance



7 April is World Health Day. It is celebrated annually and each year draws attention to a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. The 2022 World Health Day theme focuses link between the health of our planet and the health of humans, animals, plants – all living creatures. The One Health approach, which recognizes the interconnectedness of human, animal and ecosystem health, encourages collaboration between diverse disciplines to address complex health problems. One Health approach can be applied to better understand and control zoonotic pathogens, engage community stakeholders in One Health research and utilize wildlife species, most notably sea otters and birds, as sentinels of ecosystem health. Collaboration is rarely without complications; however, drawing on these insights may benefit the process of operationalizing the One Health approach to address today's global health challenges. Please review relevant literature below:

Operationalizing a One Health approach to global health challenges:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0147957113000222>

Applying a One Health Approach in Global Health and Medicine: Enhancing Involvement of Medical Schools and Global Health Centers

<https://annalsofglobalhealth.org/article/10.5334/aogh.2647/>

Facing up to astronomical challenges in global health through a One Health approach

<https://schistosomiasiscontrolinitiative.org/news/2019/9/27/facing-up-to-astronomical-challenges-in-global-health-through-a-one-health-approach>

## Innovations in Global Health



Covid-19 pandemic triggered unprecedented increase in global demand for healthcare equipment and materials. Consequently, hospitals and other health facilities generate an ever-increasing amount of waste, approximately 15% of which may be infectious, toxic, or radioactive. Besides conventional technologies being deployed across geographies, many companies are also focusing on alternatives ways of healthcare waste management such as microwave technologies, autoclaving, electro-pyrolysis, and chemical mechanical systems. These treatments ensure medical wastes are non-infectious, so that they can be disposed in incinerators or landfills as regular solid waste. Please review relevant literature below:

Microwave as an emerging technology for the treatment of biohazardous waste: A mini-review  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0734242X16684385>

Thermal Plasma Treatment of Medical Waste  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7476648/>

Digitalization: a boon for biomedical waste management  
<https://www.ltts.com/blog/digitalization-boon-biomedical-waste-management>