



**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 4, 2023

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+ program. 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.

A partnership of eleven academic institutions implementing BACE:

- 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

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 alliance is pleased to announce the finalized dates for the election of the Alliance's Board Chair and the upcoming conference meeting. After careful consideration, the online board meeting is confirmed for January 9, 2024. Additionally, the Alliance conference is scheduled to convene on April 16-17, 2024, in Almaty, Kazakhstan. This conference serves as a pivotal platform, bringing together Alliance members and various stakeholders to exchange information on work progress and outline plans. We will share the detailed conference agenda in the next bulletins.

The Alliance, functioning as a network of diverse member organizations, emphasizes collaboration among academic institutions, research organizations, think tanks, NGOs, and private sector entities. Notably, the Alliance is not a formally registered legal entity governed by the laws of any specific country. Members actively engage in public/global health, epidemiology, health policy, health economics, and related fields, all sharing a common purpose within the Alliance.

For more comprehensive details, please visit the Alliance's website: www.allianceforglobalhealth.net

International Partnerships in Global Health



EuroHealthNet is a not-for-profit partnership in Europe dedicated to public health, disease prevention, health promotion, and addressing health inequalities. It comprises organizations, institutes, and authorities from the public health sector and operates across three platforms: policy, practice, and research.

The policy platform focuses on national and European health-related policies, health equity, social rights, and other issues concerning health and wellbeing. It monitors, advocates, and influences at both national and regional levels to support cross-sectional and integrated policy-making aimed at reducing health inequality and improving health outcomes.

The practice platform facilitates the sharing of information and expertise among its members to support the implementation of cost-effective and sustainable health policies and practices.

The research platform operates in the research field, identifying and promoting evidence-based approaches to health, equity, and well-being. These activities leverage the capacity of the organization's members and associations.

EuroHealthNet has outlined a long-term strategic development plan for 2021-2026, comprising five priorities and two cross-cutting topics. Strategic five priorities include health

equity, non-communicable diseases, climate crisis, prevention and promotion, and life course. Two cross-cutting topics are digital inclusion and mental health.

Institutions or organizations prioritizing health equity and sharing the EuroHealthNet values can become members. For additional information on the membership, ongoing projects, and related topics, please visit the following website: <https://eurohealthnet.eu/>.

Israeli-Gaza War 2023

On 7 October, 2023, Hamas initiated an attack on Israel during the Jewish holiday. This assault resulted in the death of approximately 1200 people and the hostage-taking of 240 individuals. In response, Israel declared a state of alert for war and mobilized its army. Since then, more than 20,000 people have lost their lives and numerous others have been injured. According to a WHO visit to Gaza, hospitals are overwhelmed, exceeding their capacity to cope with the significantly increased demands.

For more information on the ongoing Israeli-Gaza war and the history of the long-term conflict to that current situation, you can visit: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Middle-East>

To understand the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, visit this link:

<https://www.unfpa.org/resources/unfpa-palestine-situation-report-4-11-december-2023>

For a detailed analysis of the public health situation during the war, you can visit:

<https://reliefweb.int/report/occupied-palestinian-territory/public-health-situation-analysis-phsa-hostilities-occupied-palestinian-territory-opt-05-november-2023>

The Artificial Intelligence in Global Health

There is growing evidence suggesting that the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the global health sector holds the potential to significantly enhance population health outcomes and diminish health disparities on a global scale. AI, characterized by machines displaying intelligence akin to human cognitive functions—such as learning, pattern recognition, planning, and decision-making—represents a transformative development in health technology. This innovation has demonstrated its efficacy in diverse applications within global health research, improving healthcare delivery, addressing healthcare workforce shortages, predicting outbreaks, and others.

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Global Health:

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)30226-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30226-9/fulltext)

AI in health research: <https://wellcome.org/news/how-ai-reshaping-health-research>

Artificial intelligence ethics in health: <https://www.mdpi.com/2504-4990/5/3/53>