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Thank you for your contributions!

**We look forward to your feedbacks,
suggestions, INPUTS and ideas!**

YGers scientific articles are Going Inter- national

YGers have the opportunity to present their research via scientific articles in Going International (GI), an information platform for higher education in the fields of biomedicine, public health, international health and humanitarian assistance. It is a great chance to share your research findings on the same platform as Prof Martin McKee or Prof Helmut Brand.

The GI newsletter will be disseminated within the public health community and has over 32.000 subscribers from all different sectors. For an example of a scientific article please click [here](#).

One day with ...

Young Gasteiner Sofia Ribeiro



Routine is a word that I fortunately don't have to use when I describe a day in my life. As a final year Public Health resident at a Primary Healthcare Unit in Lisbon, no day is like another. Let me pick a "usual" Tuesday. Mornings start around 9am with Travel Medicine appointments. In Travel Medicine, we give advice to future travelers on immunizations, on how to avoid mosquito bites, on how to eat and drink safely during their trip, among other tips to ensure that they have a healthy and stress free travel.

Afternoons can be filled with a wide range of possibilities. I am currently coordinating the implementation of the Fast Track Cities project in Lisbon, a joint UNAIDS, IAPAC, UN-Habitat initiative aiming at fast tracking the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, contributing to reaching the 90-90-90 objectives in 2030 (90% of the people who are infected with HIV know their status, 90% of those are in treatment and 90% of those in treatment are virally suppressed). The implementation of the project in Lisbon requires a considerable number of meetings with different stakeholders (municipality, ministry of health, directorate-general for health, NGOs, healthcare providers, among others). When I don't have any meeting, I work on the local Health Plan, which establishes the milestones and indicators in health until 2020 for the Northern area of Lisbon. Other activities in the local Public Health unit include auditing, surveillance and outbreak control, evaluating disability, among others.

If weather (and time!) allows, the day usually ends with a coffee at a rooftop overlooking the Tagus river and the beautiful city of Lisbon; during which I recharge batteries and catch the last sun rays before sunset. In most days, I have to work at night, either on my PhD or in other commitments I have, including the Young Gastein Taskforce.

... if you want to share your daily routine as a health professional with your fellow YGers, just drop Josef (josef@ehfg.org) an email ...



Picture: Michaela Told and 16 Young Gasteiners at the YFG Health Diplomacy Workshop in Copenhagen, which Sofia co-organized and co-moderated in her role as YFG taskforce member.

YFG Members Website

Find all YGers from all over Europe in your field of interest by clicking here:

<https://www.ehfg.org/young-forum-gastein/member-login/>

There is the possibility to collaborate with other YGers in your field or within your country. Either check the YFG Members Website and get in touch with your fellow YGer directly or post your project or suggestion on Facebook/LinkedIn or the YFG google group and see who is interested in cooperation.

Young Gasteiners Health Diplomacy Workshop 2017

'Health is a political choice'



Health Diplomacy can be defined in many ways, but essentially it is about bringing together a range of disciplines, from public health to international relations, and to focus on the negotiation process that shapes and defines the [global policy environment for health](#). With this, there has become a need to [build capacity for global health diplomacy](#), by training public health professionals and diplomats respectively in this area. As such, 1st to 2nd June 2017, 16 Young Gasteiners with diverse range of professional backgrounds came together in Copenhagen to participate in a Health Diplomacy workshop. This workshop was made possible by funding from the [Robert Bosch Stiftung](#). The objectives were to foster an understanding of global health and its interconnectedness with foreign policy, practice negotiation skills, network with both young and senior (public) health professionals from across Europe.

During the first day, based at the Danish Architecture Centre, Dr. **Michaela Told** (Executive Director, Global Health Center, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva; @michaelatold_GH) introduced the **fundamentals of Global Health Diplomacy**, extensively pulled from her international experiences. This learning was then directly applied during a simulation/theoretical scenario, based on the topic of Migration and Access to Care for Migrants, amongst three different European countries. Through this multi-dimensional exercise, different stages of the process of negotiation were practiced, which included determining a position within a multi-stakeholder delegation, preparing briefing notes and the application of difference strategies for policy negotiations.

Participants were asked to reflect on the challenges encountered during the exercise, and the lessons learnt from the first day were then discussed amongst the participants, and served as valuable input for the expert Q&A session on Day 2, based at WHO Europe.



During the second day, the participants also had the opportunity to hear from three experts working in different aspects of health diplomacy; **Svenja Herrmann** (External Relations Office, WHO/Europe), **Monika Kosinska** (Governance for Health Division of Policy and Governance for Health and Well-being, WHO/Europe; @mikakosinska) and Dr. **Ricardo Baptista Leite** (Member of Parliament in Portugal, city councilor Cascais, and Head of Public Health, Catholic University of Portugal; @RBaptistaLeite).

Mrs Kosinska's presentation focused on strengthening foreign policy and development corporation, introduced the WHO's [Health H2020: European policy framework and strategy](#) to support action for health and well-being, through a 'whole-of-society' and whole-of-government approach. She emphasized the current global momentum for health, that not only is it important to achieve in its own right, but it is instrumental in order to achieve all of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). As such, health is a strong indicator of good governance and a political choice.

Mrs. Herrman's presentation focused on the key elements for building and maintaining strategic partnerships, and she shared her extensive experience of doing so across Europe. As well as highlighting that this approach is also inherent within the SDGs, with a specific goal ([SDG 17](#)) dedicated to strengthening the means of implementation and revitalization of global partnerships for sustainable development.

Mr. Ricardo Baptista Leite shared his 'when research meets policy' experiences in the health sector and at **working at the intersection between policy, research and diplomacy** in Portugal. Using the decision making process around Hepatitis C treatment, he illustrated the need for developing "Evidence-based, real-world Data-driven and Decision-oriented" policy. He also advocated a **community value-based approach**, where the financial infrastructure for health care promotes accountability and a focus on optimal health outcomes for the community as a whole.

Collectively, the two day workshop provided the Young Gasteiners with valuable and practical insights into the world of health diplomacy, relevant for each of the participants' different professional roles within the health sector. Events such as this are extremely important, as negotiation processes that shape the (global) policy environment for health are increasingly conducted on different levels and between different *players*. In order to shape (public) health leaders and *influencers* of the near future, governments, healthcare systems, initiatives such as [EHFG](#) need to design, implement and foster programmes addressing the mindset, science, practice and art of health diplomacy, as after all "health is a political choice".

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... at Meetings and Conferences

Young Gasteiners at the ECDC Summer School in Stockholm 2017...



During this summer, three Young Gasteiners – Elzbieta, Oksana and Vladimir had the great opportunity to participate in the ECDC Summer School in Stockholm. Four days long we could actively participate in many lectures and workshops led by motivated and experienced teachers. We could choose from many excellent workshops – Cross border sharing of health data, Story telling for scientist, Public health economics, Public health emergency preparedness, Anthropology for public health: qualitative methods and Migrant and refugee health. And the choice which workshop to choose was not easy!

Together with senior professionals in applied epidemiology and other fields of infectious diseases prevention, we were actively involved in solving case studies and in discussing real life cases e.g. assessing cost effectiveness of particular actions during Ebola outbreak, looking how many challenges both anthropologist and epidemiologist are facing during their field work. We also could share and exchange experiences from our field of research. Our preparation started already before the Summer School – we had access to ECDC Virtual Academy where comprehensive materials were prepared for us.

It is not easy to determine which workshop was the best one. During the ECDC Summer School we had a perfect mix of theoretical and practical workshops. In my opinion, Story telling for scientist should be the “must seminar” for all public health researchers. Lisa Hansen und Lisa Jensen, the facilitators of the workshop, gave us useful tips how to present the research results, also to non-scientific audience, in a clear way that also creates understanding of the work we do and its importance for public health issues.

Sometimes pure facts and research results are not enough. During the workshop, we practiced how to present our research as a great and interesting story to a broader audience.

In public health research, we mainly are using quantitative methods. However, thanks to Aileen Kitching, Lisa Hansen, Judit Takacs, Lisa Jensen and the workshop they have prepared, we have seen how anthropological methods can contribute to traditional public health sciences. We practiced how to employ qualitative interview techniques and how to apply structured coding to analyse text data. Even if the results of qualitative research are sometimes more difficult to digest, they can give a deeper understanding of analysed issues.



So, if you want to be a part of a great Summer School and if you are looking for an opportunity to attend very well prepared workshops, you should come to Stockholm for the ECDC Summer School! We met motivated and fascinating scientists and we had an opportunity to exchange important public health experiences.

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Lights, Camera, Action!

On learning how to moderate effectively and other stories...



Young Gasteiner Marie Delnord participated at the EHFG Facilitation Workshop with David Rose who will hold a session on Facilitation exclusively for YGers this year at the 20th EHFG.

“Tell me something. You are about to facilitate an important conference session and you are allowed to bring one item with you on stage. Which one do you pick?”

1. Your confidence, who needs anything else?
2. A clipboard with your notes (You’ve mapped out the seating chart of the room with GPS satellite precision)
3. Your phone, to check the live-twitter feed
4. A buzzer, to (cut people off) keep time
5. Sunglasses, to exit stage left incognito just in case

This spring, I was fortunate to be invited by EHFG to attend with seven other European health experts, a 1.5-day workshop from LACS Training on conference facilitation at the Microsoft Innovation Center in Brussels.

David Rose, professional public speaker, moderator and communications consultant, led us through the workshop and shared some of the ‘tricks of his trade’. On the morning of our first day, we got straight down to business.

I am a researcher, and part of my work is to present complex data in front of different types of stakeholders: university students, field specialists, users, and sometimes curious onlookers.

I have noticed, however, that in conference sessions, having a “Rambler” (someone who makes a long statement instead of actually asking a question), or a “Dominator” (someone continuously trying to take the floor at the expense of giving someone else a turn, too...) during the Q&A can make it challenging to keep the discussion on track.

That of course also assumes that the panel members have stuck to time and topic too...

David tailored the workshop to our individual needs and provided tremendously useful tips and pointers. Did you know that you only have the first 30 seconds to make a positive impression on people? Or that adults can, on average, stay focused for 10 consecutive minutes at best? We started with the basics. Preparation is key. It turns out, having a punchy and informative session title is just as essential as practicing introducing your panelists when they walk up on stage. During the training, we scoped a vast array of moderation tools and techniques: from proper posture, to the use of diplomacy, smart session-design, and appropriately employing a Twitter-feed during an event.

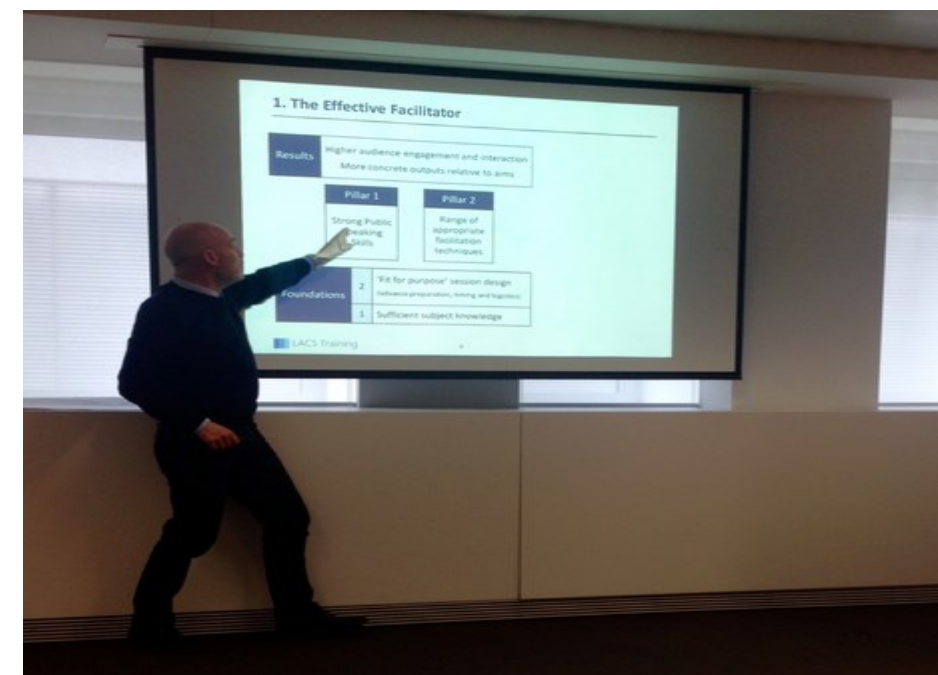
David showed us how to navigate conference proceedings with agility and expert consistency. Each of the concepts were illustrated with highly-relevant examples, and we also had the chance to share our own success stories and mishaps. Exploring many different scenarios provided for a friendly and stimulating atmosphere during the training.

On the last day, it was time to roll up our sleeves. We practiced our new set of skills in front of the group (and the video camera!). Once we had all taken our turn with the filmed exercise, I realised that you can never talk.....too..... slow.....in front of an audience. Pauses and intonation are tools which structure your message, highlight facts, and set the mood for a dynamic session.

I can happily say that this workshop organised by the EHFG will bring immediate improvements in our day-to-day professional lives. How? Well, we acquired the means to help our events sail smoothly every time: by engaging people, projecting enthusiasm, and staying aim-focused. I was grateful for the opportunity to get personal and concrete feedback. So, you might not be surprised to hear that I found myself on the train on travelling back home to Paris after the workshop... rehearsing the opening remarks for my next (online) event: “My name is Marie Delnord, and...” I only hope the other passengers understood what I was doing!

Marie Delnord

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Young Gasteiners' research...

What do political parties in Croatia talk about when they talk about health?

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Background Between the last two parliamentary elections in Croatia (2011-2015), health care politics were characterized by diverse rhetoric and actions. Among them some had strong influence: separation of social welfare into separate Ministry, new National strategy of health care (2012-2020) and mid-term change of the Minister of Health. The aim of this study was to systematically and objectively assess areas and comprehensiveness of health policies (HPs) included in the 2015 pre-election political programmes.

Methods We used the Walt-Gilson policy analysis model for the content analysis of pre-election HP. Each of five evaluators independently reviewed HPs of included parties through four dimensions: content, actors, processes and context. HPs proposed by at least two parties were included in the final analysis and by referring to any of four dimensions for specific HP parties scored one point (maximum of four points per HP).

Results Seven out of the 11 included parties incorporated health care topics in their programmes, six discussed the accessibility of health care and the hospital system organisation while five included financing of the health care system - the most comprehensively approached HP across all parties. HPs of the least interest were prevention, waiting lists, vaccination and public procurement in health system. Parties earned 35% of all points for describing the content, 28% for the processes, 21% for the actors and 16% for the context of HPs.

Conclusion Parties' pre-election programmes were mostly focused on the topics of accessibility and financing of health care (especially hospitals) while prevention and financial resources needed for the implementation of the HPs were rarely discussed. Our analysis showed that in describing HPs parties mostly focus on the content, while they less frequently address the role of processes, actors, and the context needed for successful implementation of the recommended HPs.

Main messages There is a lack of interest among parties to include HPs targeting prevention of major public health problems in Croatia such as obesity, cancer, tobacco and alcohol use in their programmes. There is a need for a more comprehensive approach in planning HPs in which parties will in addition to content discuss actors, processes and context required for the policy implementation.

These research findings have been presented in November 2016 in Vienna during the annual European Public Health (EPH) Conference, organized by EUPHA, and [published](#) in a special EPH conference supplement of the European Journal of Public Health (EJPH). An updated version of this research will be presented at the MPSA (Midwest Political Science Association) Conference in Chicago and a subset of data focusing on eHealth policies will be presented at the Informatics for Health Conference in Manchester, both in April 2017.

A "follow-up" opportunity arose sooner than expected as (first ever) pre-term elections were held in Croatia in September 2016. We started an interdisciplinary and multi-institutional initiative, supported by the Croatian Public Health Association, called "[Health in the 2016 Elections](#)". The aim of this initiative, active for 3 months prior to the elections, was to present these findings to the public but also to inform interested political parties and "guide" them through successful policy planning and design. We also produced a document explaining and supporting parties during the policy making process - "[Guide for health policy design](#)".

Currently, an interdisciplinary team health policy experts is evaluating health policies present in political parties' pre-election programmes for the 2016 pre-term elections. Once the evaluation is finished, we will compare the results to the ones from 2015.

The plan is to establish this kind of health policy "watch" as an ongoing project with a dual focus, on the public as well as on the political parties.

We would also like to motivate Young Gasteiners from other European countries to become involved in this kind of policy research and advocacy and offer our experience, help with methodology and any other kind of support.

On behalf of the "U4 Health Policy Watch" team, PublicHealth Resident and a Young Gasteiner

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Upcoming events

7 September 2017
EPHA 8th Annual Conference: Make Health Your Business
Brussels, Belgium

13-15 September 2017
4th European Conference on Integrated Care + Assertive Outreach
Hamburg, Germany

4-6 October 2017
20th European Health Forum Gastein
Bad Hofgastein, Austria

11 October 2017
GENCAD Conference 2: Gender and health – awareness, facts, and European perspectives
Brussels, Belgium

15-17 October 2017
World Health Summit
Berlin, Germany

1-4 November 2017
10th European Public Health Conference
Stockholm, Sweden

21-22 November 2017
Healthy Workplaces Summit
Bilbao, Spain



YFG Social Networks

You can find regularly job offers and information on all our activities on our YFG Social Networks, join us NOW



A taste of what's to come... YFG @ EHFG 2017 and beyond

We are in the midst of finalising the YFG programme for the EHFG 2017. For those lucky people who received a 2017 scholarship, you can look forward to **career talks, mentoring opportunities with senior experts/speakers, access to high level experts from various fields and YFG speakers in main EHFG sessions ...**

But not only at the EHFG, Young Gasteiners also have great opportunities during the year such as the **ECDC Summer School, YFG Institutional and thematic workshops, the Global Health Policy Forum, attendance at advisory board committee meetings of the EHFG, Global Health Forum Taiwan, Observatory Venice Summer School and Alpbach Professional Programme on European Health Care and Social Systems in Transition.**

So look out for more offers for Young Gasteiners !

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Winter 2018 YFG Newsletter

We are planning to publish the next edition of the YFG Newsletter in Winter 2018. We are dependent on your input about job offers, research, publications, events and other opportunities. So please email josef@ehfg.org with any contributions by the middle of January 2018.

