



CARE SUMMIT 2025

Collaborative Action for Reframing Europe's health

3 – 4 December 2025 – Brussels, Belgium

Why CARE? Why now?

Europe is facing complex and accumulating health challenges: workforce shortages, rising chronic diseases, growing cross-border threats, fragmented data ecosystems, and persistent inequalities in access to care. These systemic issues threaten the sustainability of health systems and undermine broader European goals in economic stability, democratic cohesion, security, and climate resilience.

Robust and equitable health systems are not merely a component of societal infrastructure; they are the connective tissue that binds together the strategic priorities of the European Union, encompassing economic competitiveness, security, social cohesion, and environmental sustainability. Healthy populations are a prerequisite for economic competitiveness, security, and social trust. In this context, the CARE Summit – Collaborative Action for Reframing Europe's Health – emerges as a critical, timely response.

What is the CARE Summit?

The CARE Summit is a high-level policy conference designed and led by EHMA. It seeks to reframe health as a central pillar of EU policy and governance and to support Member States in embedding health priorities within wider political, economic, and environmental strategies. It will bring together 250 participants from across the EU, associated countries, and international organisations. The programme will feature interactive sessions, workshops, and facilitated dialogues using innovative formats designed to ensure active engagement and outcomes-driven discussions.

Objectives

The CARE Summit wants to respond to three core imperatives:

- 1. Reframe health** as a policy domain that intersects with, and actively advances, key EU priorities, including sustainability, security, competitiveness, and cohesion.
- 2. Facilitate cross-sectoral dialogue** to foster cooperation between traditionally separate policy areas, such as agriculture, defence, energy, digital, and environment.
- 3. Co-create a Roadmap** for multidisciplinary, equity-based, and innovation-driven health policy across the European Union.

The CARE Summit will serve as a **policy platform, design lab, and engagement forum** for developing concrete strategies that support health system transformation aligned with the **EU Strategic Agenda 2024–2029**, the **European Health Union**, and the **EU4Health programme**.



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Programme focus areas

The sessions will explore five transformation priorities:

1. Reframing health as a strategic driver

Positioning health as a foundational element of Europe's economic, social, and environmental strategies, not a downstream cost, but an upstream enabler.

2. Proactive health system transformation

Advancing models of care that are preventive, integrated, and population-based, shifting from crisis response to long-term system preparedness.

3. Equity-driven innovation

Ensuring that technological and organisational innovation serve to reduce disparities, strengthens inclusion, and reinforce public trust.

4. Financing for sustainability and outcomes

Exploring collaborative and value-based financing models that support efficiency, coordination, and long-term health investment.

5. Data governance and the European health data space

Supporting data interoperability, digital infrastructure, and governance frameworks to enable timely, evidence-based decision-making.

Each session will explore key enablers such as governance reform, cross-border collaboration, workforce resilience, and citizen engagement.

The event is structured into four tracks:



A. Crisis preparedness and cross-border cooperation

will examine how the EU can enhance its capacity to address transnational health threats



B. The One Health approach

will delve into the interconnected challenges affecting human, animal, and environmental health



C. Advancing affordable, accessible, and innovative medicines

will explore the need for innovation within the EU pharmaceutical sector



D. Leveraging the European Health Data Space

will explore the vast potential of interoperable health data to revolutionise healthcare delivery and research.

Interactive formats, participatory workshops, and high-level multi-sectoral dialogues will showcase how investing in health unlocks untapped potential for societal progress, sustainability, and innovation.

Expected outcomes

The CARE Summit is designed to deliver measurable and durable outputs that contribute to EU-level health policy and system strengthening:

✚ A **co-created Roadmap for Multidisciplinary Health Policy**, featuring evidence-based strategies, actionable recommendations, and case studies for Member States and institutions.

✚ Strengthened alignment between national health reforms and European priorities, including the **European Health Union, EU4Health, One Health, and Health in All Policies**.

✚ Consolidated insights on emerging challenges such as data interoperability, digital infrastructure, workforce planning, and preparedness for cross-border threats.

✚ Increased engagement with EU health initiatives, such as the **European Health Data Space**, pandemic response mechanisms, and equitable access to medicines.

✚ A foundation for sustained cross-sector partnerships, with follow-up actions, monitoring, and dissemination mechanisms extending beyond the event itself.



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