

European

Observatory



on Health Systems and Policies

OBSERVATORY VENICE SUMMER SCHOOL

VENICE, 25–31 JULY 2010

**EU INTEGRATION AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PATIENTS,
PROFESSIONALS AND POLICY-MAKERS**



IN COLLABORATION WITH THE VENETO REGION



REGIONE DEL VENETO



The Observatory Venice Summer School

The Observatory Venice Summer School brings together policy-makers in a stimulating environment.

The programme offers formal teaching combined with a participative approach. In addition to the lectures, an important part of the programme is dedicated to exchange between participants and to group work, including working on a concrete case study linked to the topics covered.

Participants will also have opportunities for networking as events will be organised during the week to enjoy Venice and each others' company.

EU integration and health systems: challenges and opportunities for patients, professionals and policy-makers

The Summer School 2010 will look at the influence of European integration and regulation on health systems, and the opportunities and challenges that this creates for patients, professionals and policy-makers. It will explore different EU policy fields to identify links with health and assess their impact on health systems. The course will distinguish between policies that 'directly' and 'indirectly' relate to health policy, such as patient rights, patient mobility; professional education and movement; pharmaceutical licensing and evaluation; procurement of goods and services.

The Summer School will focus on the implications for patients, professionals and policy-makers, and will also address the EU institutional framework, the process of policy development, the linkages with national and regional levels as well as the influence of stakeholder and interest groups.

The main aim is to identify key issues where the EU creates challenges for national and regional health systems; share participants' insights (whether they are practitioners or analysts), and build contacts and networks to help respond.



The six-day course will be organised into three modules:

1. The institutional and regulatory framework

After an introduction into health system objectives, functions and building blocks, this first module will develop a greater understanding of the institutional and regulatory framework in which health-related EU policies are being developed and the complexities and diversity it faces in relation to health systems. Starting from the European Treaty, the legal base for EU action in the field of health and health care will be explored. It will also map out the institutions involved and their roles in developing policies targeting health or affecting health systems.

The Summer School will be led by its Director, Professor Reinhard Busse (Berlin University of Technology), supported by co-directors Professor Elias Mossialos (LSE Health) and Willy Palm (European Observatory). Coordination with the European Commission is ensured by Nick Fahy (Head of Unit, DG SANCO).

2. Economic integration and health systems' governance

In this module we will further explore the implications of economically-oriented EU policy and regulation for health systems, health services and goods as well as for all actors involved. The creation of an internal market in health care and its related rules for ensuring free and fair competition will be the main focus. One of the central questions will be whether EU economic integration is adversely affecting steering instruments of national and regional health authorities and whether it is pushing health systems towards more consumer choice and private sector involvement.

3. Supportive EU policies and instruments for health systems governance

This last module will focus on existing and possible routes for maximising the opportunities that the EU creates for health systems and minimising the potential threats through action at the different levels (EU, national and regional levels). We will analyse the policies and instruments that the EU has developed over time to support Member States in addressing public health threats, increasing social cohesion, ensuring quality of health care, improving efficiency and effectiveness as well as constructing evidence-based policies in these fields. One of the objectives is to identify critical issues and gaps and to explore scope and ways for improvement.





Practical Information

The Summer School will be from 25–31 July 2010 on San Servolo Island, Venice, Italy.

It is intended for senior to mid-level policy-makers and more junior professionals who are making careers in policy and management at a regional, national or European level.

The course fee is €1,950 and includes teaching material, social programme, accommodation and meals during the course. Early applications are encouraged as places are limited.

The Summer School is accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

For more information and the application form please visit www.observatorysummerschool.org or contact the European Observatory:

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The Summer School is organised by the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and one of its partners, the Veneto Region of Italy. The Observatory is a partnership which includes WHO Regional Office for Europe, the Governments of Belgium, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the Veneto Region of Italy, the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the World Bank, UNCAM (French National Union of Health Insurance Funds), the London School of Economics and Political Science, and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

www.healthobservatory.eu

