

# HOPE AGORA 2024 PROGRAMME



For more than 30 years, HOPE has organised at the end of the annual Exchange Programme an evaluation meeting renamed more recently Agora. For more than 40 years participants of the HOPE Exchange programme spend time in a European country to learn how similar healthcare issues are tackled differently. During the Agora event, HOPE Exchange participants and some of their hosts gather in one place to cover a single topic. The HOPE Agora 2024 will take place from 7 to 9 June in Brussels and its theme is: 'Keeping our health workforce!'.

Although the shortage and leaving of healthcare personnel is not a new topic, it was accentuated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The stabilisation and the reversing of the attrition rate of healthcare workers are now among the highest priorities in the European region, as stated in the Bucharest Declaration on the Health and Care Workforce adopted in 2023 at a WHO European Region meeting on health and care workforce in Europe. There are many reasons why healthcare staff leave the sector: retirement, working conditions, work-life balance, violence or harassment against healthcare staff, stress and burn-out, a lack of professional development and career progression, salaries, working hours, etc. The HOPE Agora 2024 theme will be approached through the lens of the retention of the healthcare workforce.

The conference will first host experts presenting different approaches at local, regional, national, and European levels. Then the HOPE Exchange Programme participants will bring back their learning following a four-week experience abroad. They are asked to identify up to three good practices, at national, regional, and local level on how the healthcare sector is coping with the issues.

**DAY 1**

*Friday, 7 June 2024*

**10:00 - 14:00**

**REGISTRATION**

**14:30 - 14:35**

**OPENING OF THE HOPE AGORA 2024**

Chair of the day: Eamonn Fitzgerald, President of HOPE

**AGORA 2024 TOPIC: KEEPING OUR HEALTH WORKFORCE!**

**14:35 - 14:40**

**VIDEO MESSAGE FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Nicolas Schmit, EU Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights  
Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

**14:40 - 15:00**

**THE BELGIAN PRESIDENCY**

Pedro Facon, Deputy CEO  
National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance (Belgium)

**15:00 - 15:30**

**EUROPEAN PROJECT MAGNET4EUROPE: IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING AT THE HEALTHCARE WORKPLACE**

Simon Dello, Project Coordinator  
Institute for Healthcare Policy at KULeuven

**15:30 - 16:00**

**HOW TO INFLUENCE THE AVAILABILITY OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN THE FUTURE?**

Sari Laanterä, Principal Lecturer  
South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences (Xamk)

Pirjo Syväoja, Chief Executive Nursing Officer  
Wellbeing Services County of South Savo (Eloisa)

**16:00- 16:30**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**16:30- 18:00**

**PRESENTATION OF GOOD PRACTICES IN THE HOPE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, PART 1**

1. United Kingdom
2. The Netherlands
3. Latvia
4. Italy
5. Ireland
6. Greece

**19:00- 21:00**

**WELCOME RECEPTION**

**9:15 - 9:30****WELCOME**

Chair of the day: Francis De Drée, Vice-President of HOPE

**9:30- 11:00****PRESENTATION OF GOOD PRACTICES IN THE HOPE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, PART 2**

7. France
8. Malta
9. Poland
10. Portugal
11. Spain
12. Finland
13. Belgium

**11:00 - 11:30****COFFEE BREAK****11:30 - 13:00****WORLD CAFÉ**

Chair of the session: Sascha Marschang

**13:00 - 14:15****LUNCH****14:15 - 15:45****PRESENTATION OF GOOD PRACTICES IN THE HOPE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, PART 3**

14. Sweden
15. Moldova
16. Germany
17. Denmark
18. Austria
19. Estonia

**15:45 - 16:00****COFFEE BREAK****16:00 - 17:00****MEETINGS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN****20:00****CONFERENCE DINNER**