



Athens, Greece, 30 September to 2 October 2025

Outline

The Knowledge Forum on Refugee and Migrant Health, hosted by the WHO Regional Office for Europe's Health and Migration Programme, is grounded in the *Action plan for refugee and migrant health in the WHO European Region 2023–2030* (the Action Plan).¹ It serves as a collaborative platform to support the implementation of the Action Plan by promoting partnerships, sharing innovative solutions and advancing good practices. The Forum brings together Member States, health authorities, civil society, United Nations agencies, academia and other key stakeholders to exchange knowledge, lessons learned and experiences. It also fosters dialogue on common challenges and opportunities, while identifying areas for joint action and coordination across migration routes – including countries of origin, transit and destination.

The first Knowledge Forum took place in Valletta, Malta, on 16–18 April 2024 and brought together more than 30 Member State representatives, United Nations agencies and key partners from the WHO European and Eastern Mediterranean Regions. The Knowledge Forum included plenary sessions on:

- governance and health leadership
- epidemiology of refugee and migrant health
- migrant-friendly and responsive health services.

Workshops were held on:

- human resources for health
- immunization services for refugees and migrants
- communication with refugees and migrants
- migration health data collection for data-driven policy-making.

The Second Knowledge Forum will take place between 30 September and 2 October 2025 and is being organized by the WHO Regional Office for Europe's Health and Migration Programme in collaboration with the WHO Quality of Care Programme, as well as with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Migration and Asylum of the Hellenic Republic, and the European Commission.

The Second Knowledge Forum focuses on key priority topics identified in collaboration with Member States and partners:

¹ Action plan for refugee and migrant health in the WHO European Region 2023–2030. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2023 (<https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/375061>, accessed 4 June 2025). Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

- quality of mental health services for refugees and migrants in particular children and adolescents;
- healthy ageing and noncommunicable diseases in refugee and migrant populations;
- enhancing cooperation for improved health care for refugees and migrants; and
- access to health-care information using behavioural and cultural insights, including health literacy.

Purpose and goals

The primary goal of the Forum is to support Member States in the implementation of the Action Plan.

Rooted in the outcomes from the High-level Meetings on Health and Migration in Türkiye (2022) and Egypt (2023) and the first Knowledge Forum in Malta (2024), the Knowledge Forum in 2025 will focus on developing interregional collaboration, with a whole-of-route approach that emphasizes cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination.

Main approaches

- **Interregional collaboration:** create a platform for representatives from different regions to discuss and align strategies on migration-related health issues.
- **Interactive learning:** engage participants in hands-on, innovative sessions that foster deep collaboration and enhance learning.
- **Targeted solutions:** focus discussions on key challenges and actions to overcome these, enabling participants to identify practical solutions based on shared experiences.

Thematic focus

Day 1.TBC

Day 2.TBC

Day 3. TBC (half day).

Participants

- Representatives of the Hellenic Authorities and the host country.
- Member States from the WHO European Region, WHO African Region and WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region.
- United Nations agencies, European Commission and relevant partners and stakeholders.
- International experts in the field of public health and migration.
- Representatives from refugee and migrant communities.

Expected outcomes

- Identify strategic partnerships and avenues for joint action to implement the Action Plan.

- Serve as a platform to strengthen the network created during the first Knowledge Forum among Member States and key partners for information, knowledge sharing and cross-country and interregional collaborations.
- Build the capacity of participants on practical and innovative good practice solutions to support the health of refugee and migrant populations.

Meeting language

The Knowledge Forum will be conducted in English.