

Minister of Social Affairs
Rina Sikkut
Ministry of Social Affairs
Suur-Ameerika 1
10122 Tallinn
Estonia

Via email: info@sm.ee

Thursday 7 March 2024

Dear Minister Sikkut,

In my function as President of the European Health Forum Gastein (EHFG), it is my pleasure to extend a warm invitation to you to participate in the:

27th European Health Forum Gastein – Hybrid Conference
Shifting Sands of Health – Democracy, Demographics, Digitalisation
24 – 27 September 2024

We would be honoured if you agreed to participate in the EHFG 2024 and would be happy to explore in-person speaking opportunities for you during our conference sessions in Gastein. We would also welcome your participation in our invitation-only onsite Gastein Policy Dialogue workshop and dinner on the evening of Wednesday 25 September. There may also be the opportunity to participate in one of our press points. To make best use of your time in the Gastein Valley, we can also gladly facilitate bilateral meetings with other ministers and senior representatives from international health organisations.

[#EHFG2024: Shifting Sands of Health – Democracy, Demographics, Digitalisation](#)

The health landscape in Europe is ever-changing, driven by numerous factors, trends, and forces. Inter-linked transformations, most prominently the demographic shift and the rapid developments in the world of digitalisation, have wide-ranging implications for the health of our societies and healthcare systems. Furthermore, the erosion of self-governing democracies by populist and autocratic political movements remains underestimated in health policy debates: democracy isn't so much dying in the darkness as being extinguished in the cold light of day. The health community faces a stark choice: mobilise in this new landscape or collude with the health consequences. We would be delighted if you would join us at the hybrid EHFG 2024 to discuss solutions for the complex "3D" interplay of democracy, demographics, and digitalisation. Let's be optimistic and not bury our heads in the shifting sands!

[About the EHFG](#)

The EHFG annually convenes around 1700 participants onsite and online for candid exchange and active collaboration, comprising senior decision-makers as well as key experts and community members from government and administration, business and industry, civil society, and science and academia. The conference integrates regional, national, European, and international levels, and actively supports intersectoral dialogue that breaks open traditional silos in health policy. For an insight into the proceedings of last year's edition of the Forum, we would like to draw your attention to our [EHFG 2023 Outcomes](#). The EHFG Outcomes are disseminated to a wide network of stakeholders each year, providing valuable insights into the conference discussions.

It would be my pleasure to welcome you to the 27th edition of the EHFG. For more information please do not hesitate to contact our Senior Advisor Louise Boyle (Louise.Boyle@ehfg.org).

Yours sincerely,



Dr Clemens Martin Auer
President of the European Health Forum Gastein