



ONE EUROPE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH DECLARATION

PRAGUE AMENDMENT

November 30, 2022

Czech Medical Association - Prague

BACKGROUND

The One Europe for Global Health civil society coalition aims to bundle the voices from the diversity of professional organizations and citizens across Europe and around the world.

This initiative came to life on February 8th, 2022, through the commitment of several One Sustainable Health Forum members who mobilized in Lyon, at the occasion of the European Ministers of Health and Foreign Affairs meeting, during the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The resulting [Consolidated Lyon Declaration for a European Health Union](#) urges European stakeholders in Global Health to make a long-term commitment now for future generations; act locally while thinking globally; come together in equity and solidarity; limit silos with more intersectoral cooperation and commit to good governance for a European Health Union..

After the first event organized in Lyon on February 8th, 2022, under the One Sustainable Health for All Foundation, the Lyon Declaration for a European Health Union was presented on February 10th in Grenoble (France) to the 27 European health ministers. Two official events took place in October at the 2022 Berlin World Health Summit (WHS): a workshop on unifying Europe with “One Voice for European Global Health and One Health Strategy” and a side-event aimed towards “Building a European Health Union”.

Following the decision to ensure the Continuity, Coherence and Consistency through subsequent Presidencies of the Concilium: Czech Republic, Sweden, Spain, Belgium *etc.*, a meeting was held during the Czech Presidency in Prague, on November 30th, in partnership with the Czech Medical Association (CzMA).

THE CZECH PRESIDENCY

One of the focuses of the Czech Presidency is reinforcement of Governance and Funding mechanisms to stimulate innovation in various areas of import where One Health is implicated. During the session held in Prague on November 30th at the Czech Medical Association, some recommendations were adopted and included in the amendment to the Lyon Declaration: the place of the Youth; the One Health paradigm and the Climate Change issues; reinforcement of Governance and Financing.

The Czech Governmental level was represented by Mr. Jakub Dvořáček, Deputy Minister of Health. It is noteworthy that the preparation of the revised EU Global Health Strategy took place during the EU Czech Presidency. Further, the official presentation, was on the same day as the event in Prague. The Deputy Minister spoke to the process of adaptation of the EU Global Health Strategy. He has stated that all these initiatives clearly show that a strong political commitment at the highest possible level can bring tangible results leading to better health for all.

The main intention and additional value of the Prague event was to bring youth and the young generation on board. The representatives of the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) Czech Republic, invited on behalf of medical universities' students, have expressed their readiness and willingness to be part of this initiative, emphasizing the importance of inviting youth to the table at all levels, whether it is local, national or global. The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow and through these discussions and debates all can learn, *via* sharing insights and opinions.

The event organized in Prague, was also the occasion for the Czech Medical Association (CzMA) to officially join the OEGH coalition. The Letter of Commitment to One Europe for Global Health has been signed. The CzMA thus has agreed to become an active member of the coalition to contribute to its ideas, philosophy of the holistic approach of health while supporting concrete activities. The example of the CzMA may serve as inspiration for other interested institutions who are not indifferent to the future of European and Global health.

PRAGUE AMENDMENT

1. The Lyon Declaration will be referred to as the “**OEGH Declaration**” to reflect the encompassing nature of its scope and future contributions during the subsequent Presidencies.
2. The National contributions will be referred to as “**Amendments**” with the format “City Name Amendment”.
3. **Governance & Financing** One Health & Global Health
 - 3.1. *Governance*
 - 3.1.1. Consistency and Clarity are needed to define the responsibilities of each international organisation regarding One Health and Global Health objectives. For example, articulation between EU Strategy and the Quadripartite program (WHO, WOA, FAO, UNEP), and with actions within member states.
 - 3.1.2. Agreement on definitions of key facets of One Health and Global Health will allow development of a common understanding that will facilitate communication and action, aligning strategies and move towards joint positions.
 - 3.1.3. Historically, and currently, health decisions reside with national or European authorities, whereas there are shared competencies in other sectors, such as fishing and environment. One Health competencies should be considered as shared national, European and International prerogatives. This includes data sharing.
 - 3.1.4. National public health institutions need to be at the centre of public health infrastructure.
 - 3.2. *Financing:*
 - 3.2.1. Establish criteria for joint financing of One Health and Global Health actions / infrastructure.
 - 3.2.2. Optimize / Develop financing methodology to allow more effective translation of innovative research into life-saving treatments, as well as social and organisational improvements in an equitable manner.
 - 3.2.3. Establish equitable financing mechanisms for all LMICS including those in and around the EU, to ensure co-investment in One Health (Public Health and Climate Health).
 - 3.2.4. Strive to ensure Official Development Assistance (ODA) is applied to capacity building and infrastructure such as investment in global public goods and commons, for example, a network of public health institutions, production facilities for vaccines and medicines.
4. Highlight the importance of **Environmental health** in Global Health efforts
 - 4.1. Balance composition of “Climate Health”, “Animal Health” and “Human Health” committees to include members knowledgeable in the complementary expertise: animal, human or climate / environmental health. These different competencies must be integrated to become “One Health / Global Health Committees”.
 - 4.2. Encourage capacity-building & collaboration between animal and human health and climate health professionals.
 - 4.2.1. Generate a resource of case-studies illustrating key aspects of their interconnectivity.
 - 4.3. Embrace “**preventive / protective actions**” for Global Health
 - 4.3.1. Address the “**determinants of health**” including social and economic environment, physical and natural environment, individual characteristics and behaviours and political and commercial impetus.
 - 4.4. Empower the "European patient" through One Health and Global Health
 - 4.4.1. Give citizens the possibility to receive and access preventive care, health services, innovative / novel medicines, Food/nutrition more equitably/uniformly.
5. Centre **Youth involvement** to ensure **Sustainability** in European Health policies
 - 5.1. Education: to ensure the young health professionals have basic exposure to the concepts of One Health, these topics must be integrated into mandatory medical school and university curriculum.
 - 5.2. Connect Youth to stakeholders – Evaluate connectedness – establish role(s) and *modus operandi*.

On February 9th, 2023, during the Swedish Presidency, the coalition is invited to participate in a day of hybrid conferences at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm and online. The new EU commission [Global Health Strategy](#) will set the scene for the morning meeting within the Nobel Forum, arranged by Karolinska Institutet in dialogue with the Swedish Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the EU's role and reach in Global Health, and hear distinguished guests and experts address the changing role of the EU as a global health actor with the aim to contribute to a European convergence on global health action with the new EU Global Health Strategy as a basis. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of having open and constructive cross-sectoral dialogue between academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), policymakers, and other vital stakeholders to reach the Global Health Strategy and ultimately the UN 2030 Agenda.

In the afternoon there will be a conference and round table co-organized with the OEGH coalition in view of proposing the essence of the Stockholm Amendment of the OEGH declaration.

The OEGH coalition aims to foster not only health in Europe, but health globally, based on recognizing the fundamental interconnectedness of humans and our health and actions, with those of animals and the environment.

It is essential to consolidate the voices of the citizens, crystalizing them around concrete recommendations to implement One Europe for Global Health.

The February 9th seminar in Stockholm carries on the torch lit by universities and NGOs in Lyon during the French Presidency of the Council of the EU ("[The Lyon Consolidated Declaration for a European Health Union](#)"), through the [World Health Summit](#) in Berlin, on to Prague during the Czech Republic Presidency where the Lyon Consolidated Declaration has been renamed the "One Europe for Global Health (OEGH) Declaration" as set in the Prague Amendment and, moving forward, through the Presidencies of Spain and Belgium. The OEGH Declaration is a living document that caters for sustainability and long-term commitment with the message that we need "One Europe for Global Health". To safeguard health - planetary, animal and human, the OEGH Declaration calls for a long-term commitment for future generations, a global perspective, equity and solidarity, cross-sectoral cooperation, and improved governance.