

• **Terveyspolitiikan ja reformien trendejä Euroopassa – miten EU vaikuttaa?**

Keskustelemassa L-M Voipio-Pulkki ja Tapani Piha

• Reform = purposeful, dynamic process that involves systematic policy, structural and process changes and is aimed at achieving desired goals.

Kiitokset:

Ewout van Ginnekenin esitykset Tallinnassa 19.9.2024 ja Oslossa 9.5.2025

Health Reform Tracker

Overview of health system functions and care areas: comparing reforms on the same topic across multiple countries -- now contains more than 630 reforms!

European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

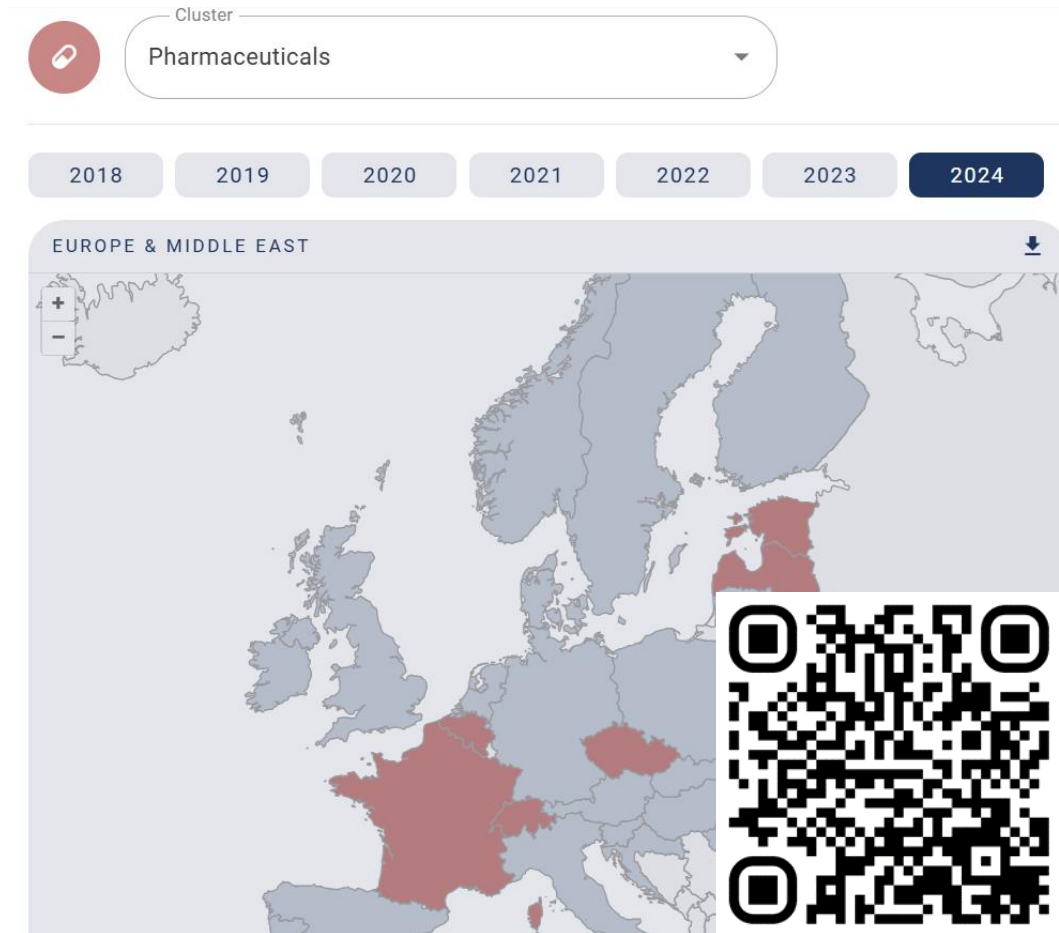
Health Reform Tracker

The Health Reform Tracker provides a first-ever overview of the content and dynamics of health reforms in over 30 countries across the WHO European Region and North America over time. The Observatory's [Health System Policy Monitor \(HSPM\)](#) network of experts has been collecting the "top three" health policy and system reforms for each country annually since 2018. These are organized, validated and synthesized by the Observatory.

The reforms are classified according to two types of clusters - health system functions and care areas - as well as by their type and policy originator.

Analyse functions and areas

Get country reports >



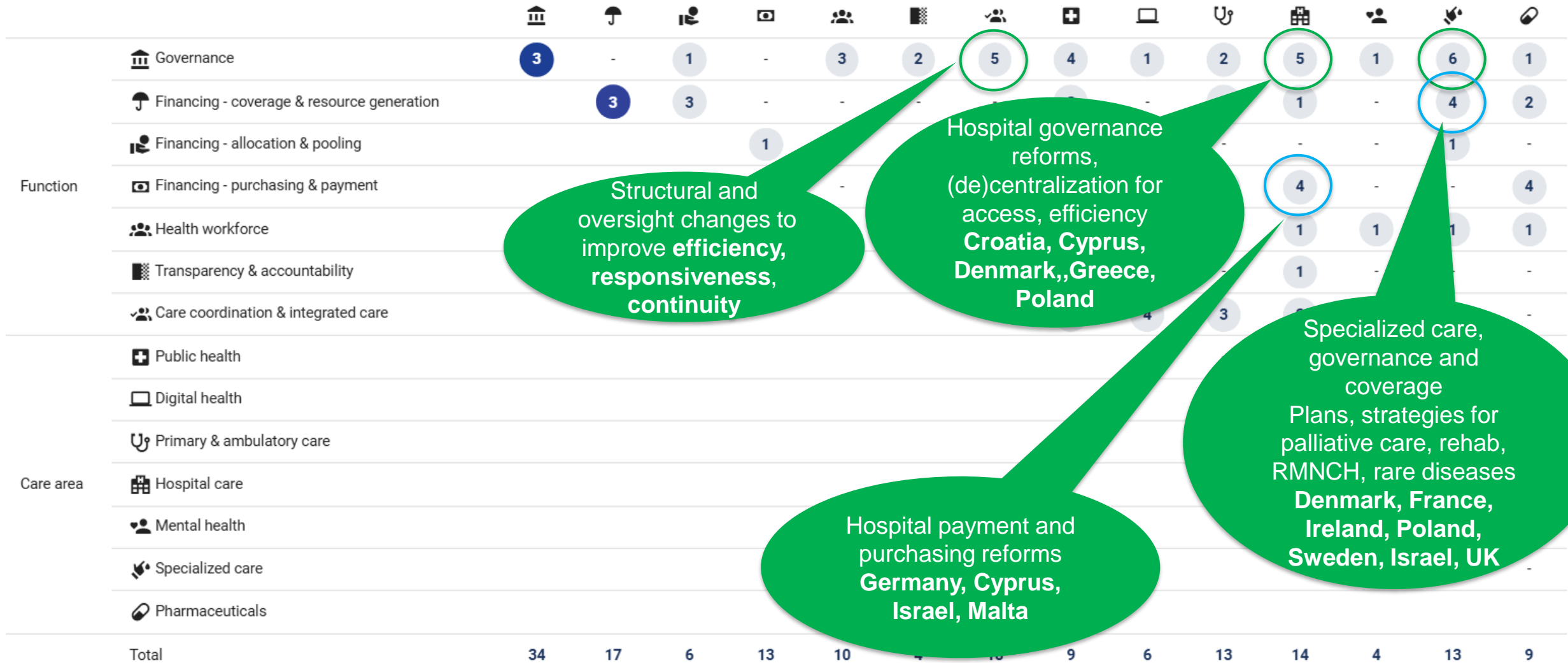
An overview of 2020-2024 indicates governance, purchasing & payment and coverage & resource generation to be most active areas

Cluster	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Governance	1	1	1	1	1
Financing: coverage & resource generation		2	3		3
Financing: allocation & pooling					
Financing: purchasing & payment	2	3		2	
Health workforce			3	2	
Transparency & accountability					
Care coordination & integrated care					2
Public health					
Digital health	3				
Primary & ambulatory care		2	2	3	
Hospital care					
Mental health					
Specialized care					
Pharmaceuticals					

Look into main reforms areas, 2023: governance, HWF, and hospital financing, supported by care coordination reforms



Look into main reform areas, 2024: governance of specialized, hospital, care coordination & integrated care, supported by financing reforms



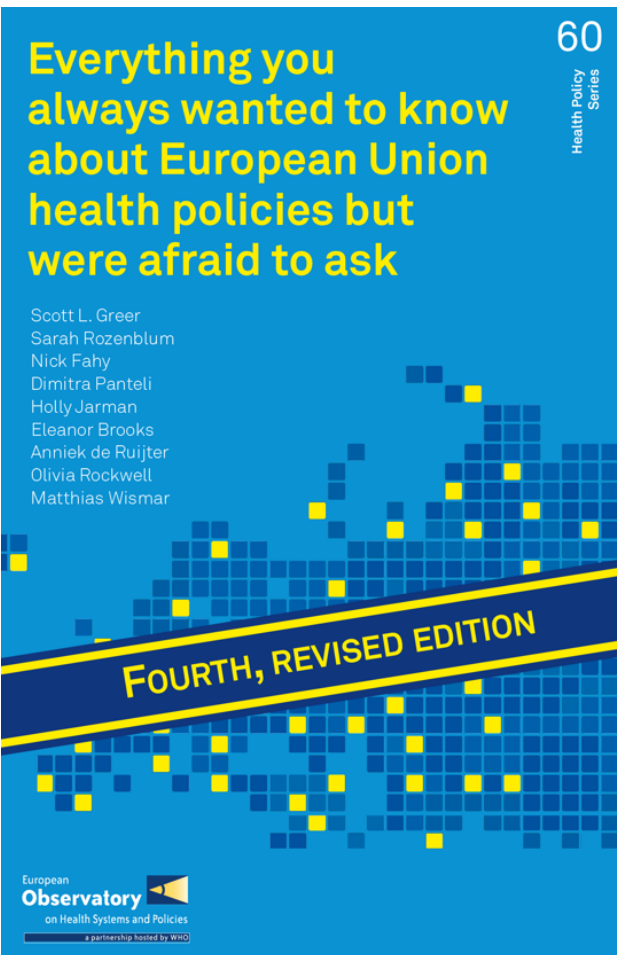
Several themes emerge for 2023 and 2024 ...

- ✓ **Governance** remains top cluster, with emphasis on (de)centralization
- ✓ From purchasing & payment back to **coverage & resource generation**
- ✓ **HWF** reforms focus on new competencies, scope of practice, better planning, more oversight and new payment models
- ✓ From primary & ambulatory care to **specialized and hospital care** reforms, and strengthened **coordinated & integrated care**
- ✓ Expansion of **prevention and public health services**
- ✓ **Digital health** tools and infrastructure have re-emerged since COVID-19, mostly related to care coordination, access and efficiency considerations
- ✓ **Access and efficiency** issues as rationale behind many reforms

What do we want from the EU?



The EU has impact on health systems and policies regardless of choice of Commissioners, mission letters and organizational set-up.



“There is no European Union health system but there is EU health policy. The European Union affects the health of its citizens, the health of people around the world, and the operation and finance of its Member States’ healthcare systems in many ways, most of them poorly understood. (Greer SL et al 2024)



“The EU has huge impact – and huge potential impact – on global health. It is one of the world’s largest markets, aid donors, health care innovators and trading powers. It influences global health and health policy directly and indirectly, through its explicit global health policies and through the effect of its other policies on global health.” (Greer SL et al 2024)

What has the EU done to facilitate health system transformation?

Longstanding initiatives

Collection and provision of data (Eurostat)

Research programmes and Joint Actions

Expert Groups

Financial assistance: Cohesion Policy Funds, Recovery and Resilience Facility (focus on greening, digital)

Targeted technical assistance through SG REFORM

The Technical Support Instrument (TSI) provides tailor-made technical expertise to EU MS's to design and implement reforms.

State of the Health in the EU series 2017- (also Iceland and Norway)





- **29 profiles** published in **December 2023**
- In **collaboration** with DG SANTE & OECD;
- **Companion (synthesis) Report** developed by DG SANTE with OBS support;

Next cycle due 2025



Executive summary

The 2023 Synthesis Report highlights three key areas drawing on the 2023 Country Health Profiles prepared in the context of the *State of Health in the EU*

The *State of Health in the EU* project constitutes an important knowledge-brokering platform to support European policy makers in their quest to develop more effective, accessible and resilient health systems and more evidence-based health policies. Part 1 of this Synthesis Report highlights three key messages from the analysis of European health systems in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Part 2 provides a snapshot of the key country findings in each of the 29 Country Health Profiles.

1 MENTAL HEALTH REFORMS ADDRESSING DE-STIGMATISATION, PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND REINTEGRATION ARE NEEDED

In order to support Member States and stakeholders, the EU has developed a new approach to effectively address mental health challenges in a comprehensive, multi-sectorial and prevention-oriented manner. Breaking stigma

and discrimination surrounding mental health, stepping up investment in mental healthcare and health systems reforms, including the mental health workforce will be key.

2 CLOSING HEALTH GAPS BY TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES BOTH ACROSS AND WITHIN COUNTRIES REQUIRES A MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACH

Health inequalities in the Union have been on the rise in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic led to a widening of the gap in life expectancy at birth between 2019 and 2021 across Member States. However, life expectancy estimates from 2022 show a narrowing of the gap, which is a positive trend but should be closely monitored going forward. At the same time,

unmet healthcare needs are also increasing. Instruments to address health inequalities and the related socio-economic and environmental determinants and behavioural factors, (such as the risks associated with unhealthy diets, physical inactivity, environmental pollution, tobacco and alcohol consumption), range from investment in health literacy to integrated care, health promotion and legislation.

3 INVESTMENTS TOWARDS RESILIENT AND ACCESSIBLE HEALTH SYSTEMS NEED CONTINUITY, UNDERPINNED BY ROBUST DATA COLLECTION MECHANISMS

Investments in public health, disease prevention and health systems should remain a key priority in the medium term. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the fragility of health systems. Managing the pandemic required immediate efforts and large investments to provide enough workforce

and facilities to treat COVID-19 patients. Investments in surveillance and tracking and tracing systems were also made. In the aftermath, it is imperative that health systems can cope with future crises.

European Experts and stakeholders have had great expectations: Future Health Priorities of the EU



A public debate on the future health priorities of the European Union

Outcomes, insights and ideas for action



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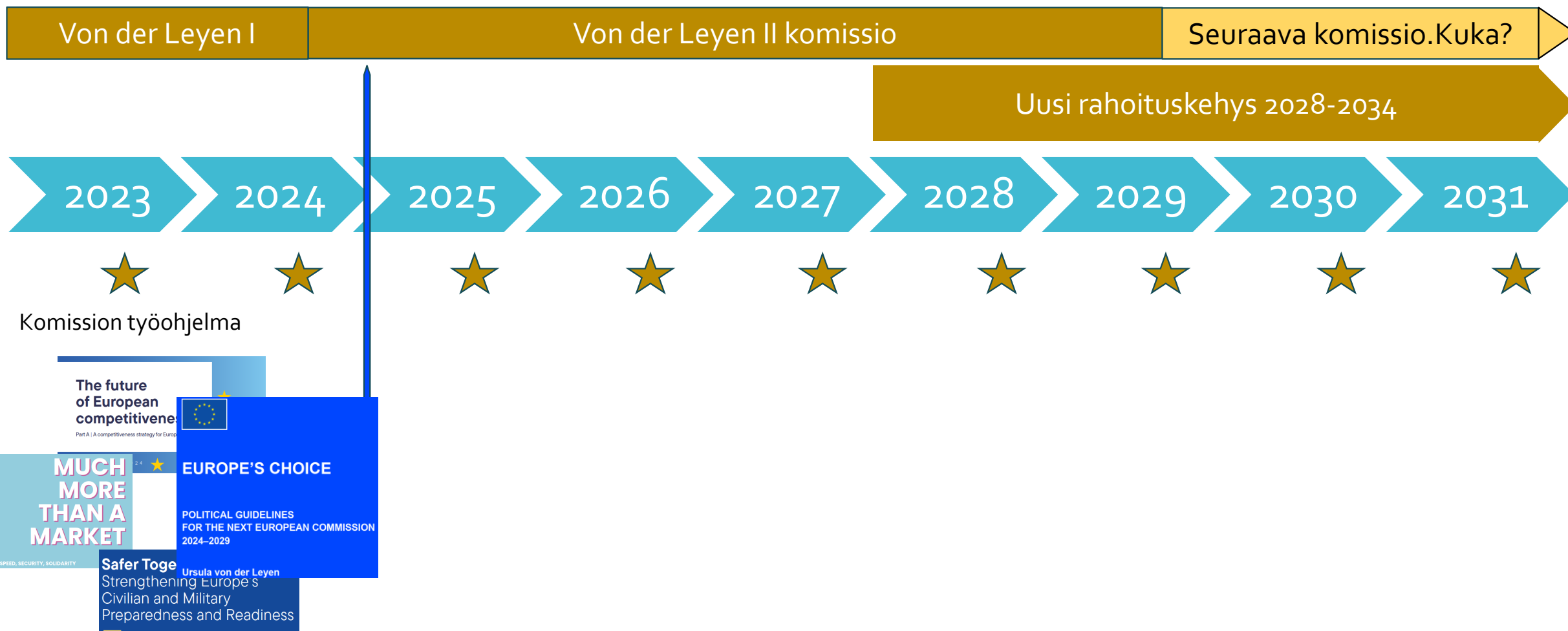
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Health determinants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The commercial determinants of health Cross-sectoral integration and involving other sectors in addressing health determinants
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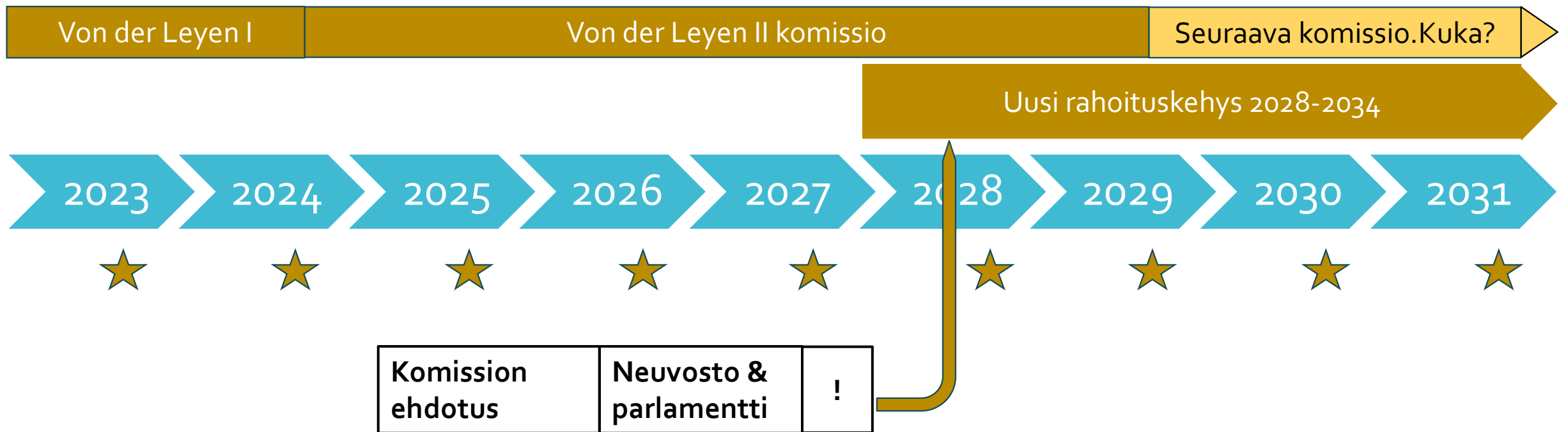
What do we want from the EU and what we may get?



EU:n terveyst politiikan iso kuva 1



EU:n terveyst politiikan iso kuva 2



MUCH MORE THAN A MARKET

SPEED, SECURITY, SOLIDARITY

The future of European competitiveness

Part A | A competitiveness strategy for Europe

SEPTEMBER 2024

Safer Together
Strengthening Europe's
Civilian and Military
Preparedness and Readiness

The image shows the cover of a report titled 'The future of European competitiveness'. It features a white background with a blue header and footer. The title is in bold black text, and the subtitle 'Part A | A competitiveness strategy for Europe' is in smaller black text. The date 'SEPTEMBER 2024' is at the bottom left. On the right side, there are five yellow stars arranged in a semi-circle, similar to the European Union flag.

The future of European competitiveness

Part A | A competitiveness strategy for Europe

SEPTEMBER 2024

What the Draghi report says about health?

Three key challenges

1. Innovation gap, especially in advanced technologies.
 2. Decarbonisation and competitiveness.
 3. Security and reducing dependencies.
- **Healthcare and digitalisation** are a part of broader strategies to enhance Europe's competitiveness, in particular innovation in the pharma sector.
 - Accelerating the **digitisation of health systems** and the **European Health Data Space (EHDS)**, to provide clear guidance on the **use of AI** (in the lifecycle of medicines).
 - Scale up **genome sequencing capacities** and to present a strategic blueprint beyond 2026, building on the European 1+ Million Genomes initiative.
 - Boost the **attractiveness of the EU for conducting clinical trials** and to expedite access to markets for novel medicines.
 - EU funding should be refocused on the development of **a limited number of world-class innovation hubs** in life sciences for advanced therapy medicinal products.



MUCH
MORE
THAN A
MARKET

SPEED, SECURITY, SOLIDARITY

What the Letta report says related to health?

- The report advocates a **fifth freedom**, which focuses on research, innovation, knowledge, and education in the context of the European Single Market.
- The market integration could eventually contribute to achieving the **completion of the Single Market for services**, including healthcare.
- **Leveraging the Single Market to strengthen health resilience**
- The new single market framework could enhance **cooperation and drive innovation** in the sector.
- European **healthcare urgently requires revitalization**.
- A decisive factor to guarantee the sustainability of the health sector is **technology**: the digitisation of health systems, use of AI, robotics, telemedicine and biotechnologies, advanced genomics.



Safer Together

Strengthening Europe's
Civilian and Military
Preparedness and Readiness

What the Niinistö report says about health?

- **The 'whole of society' approach** bringing together authorities and private entities, civil society organisations, and citizens.
- **Improve crisis and emergency communication** to reach citizens under all conditions.
- **The possibility of various threats:** terrorism, the climate change, accelerating biotechnological innovation on synthetic pathogens, as well as transmutations of animal viruses.
- The EU and Member States can best protect citizens by enhancing their resilience and agency. This means **enabling citizens** to play an active role in ensuring crisis preparedness and first response.
- **Increased the digital connectivity** means a bigger cyberattack surface, thus greater possible repercussions throughout the services.
- The report does not address health or the digitalisation of healthcare specifically but it emphasises the importance of preparedness across all sectors, including health.





EUROPE'S CHOICE

POLITICAL GUIDELINES
FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION
2024–2029

Ursula von der Leyen

**MISSION
LETTER**

Brussels, 17 Septe

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LETTER**

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Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission

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Olívér Várhelyi

Commissioner-designate for Health and Animal
Welfare

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Responsibilities divided across Commissioners

- Henna Virkkunen, Vice-President, Digital and Frontier Technologies
 - **Digital and artificial intelligence**, the EU Data strategy
- Roxana Minzatu, Vice-President, Skills, Education, Social Rights
 - European Pillar of Social Rights
 - Long-term care workforce challenges
- Raffaele Fitto, Cohesion, regions, cities
 - **Investment and reforms**
- Valdis Dombrovskis, Economy, Implementation and Simplification
 - European semester
- Ekaterina Zaharieva, Startups, Research and Innovation
 - Health research
- Hadja Lahbib – Preparedness
 - Medical countermeasures, stockpiling
- Glen Micallef, Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture, Sport
 - Youth, social media harm, health enhancing physical activity with focus on mental health
- Olivér Várhelyi, Health and Animal Welfare
 - Pharma, digital, prevention



MISSION LETTER

Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission

Brussels, 17 Septe



Olívér Várhelyi

Health Commissioner's tasks on digital health 2025-2029

- **Complete the European Health Data Space.**
- Promote the **uptake of artificial intelligence**, notably through clear and timely guidance on its use in the **lifecycle of medicines**.
- Make proposals to **scale up genome sequencing capacities**.
- Prepare a **European action plan on the cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers** in the first 100 days of the mandate.
- [Scale up **genome sequencing capacities**.]

Brussels, 15.1.2025
COM(2025) 10 final

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

European action plan on the cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers

The next Commission's agenda 2025-2029

Pharmaceuticals, medical technology and life science

- Propose a Critical Medicines Act.
- Conclude work on the pharmaceuticals reform.
- Work on a new European Biotech Act.

Prevention and public health

- Step up our work on preventive health.
- The **European Beating Cancer Plan** and **design a common approach in other areas**.
- **Revise the tobacco legislation**, notably young people's access to novel tobacco and nicotine products.
- Continue the work on **anti-microbial resistance (AMR)**.
- Impact of **social media and excessive screen time** especially on young people.





European Parliament - Health Committee (SANT)

Headline legislation:

- Pharmaceutical Package, Critical Medicines Act

Work on

- Cross-border healthcare reform
- A strategy for women's health
- An EU action plan on rare diseases
- The EU's Beating Cancer Plan and cardiovascular disease
- Biotechnology and life sciences
- Mental health and adolescent wellbeing (social media)
- A crisis strategy for the EU's health workforce, covering job conditions and healthcare system sustainability

SANT called that MFF 2028-2034 should secure an ambitious budgetary allocation for the EU4Health programme, i.a.

- **cross-border health cooperation**, including enhanced patient mobility and cross-border clinical trials
- improve patients' **access to cross-border healthcare**
- **mental health** across all age groups
- the **European Health Data Space (EHDS)**





European Parliament resolution on the next MFF 7 May 2025

A revamped long-term budget for the Union in a changing world



51. ...a need to prioritise investment in

- prevention of, preparedness for and response to health threats,
- medical research and disease prevention,
- access to critical medicines,
- healthcare infrastructure,
- physical and mental health
- the resilience and accessibility of public health systems in the Union;
- recalls ... strategic autonomy in health ...;

52. ...the next MFF must **build on the work done** in the current programming period by ensuring that **the necessary investment is in place to build a genuine European Health Union** that delivers for all citizens;

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European Commission's Competitiveness Fund around five objectives



- The fund seeks to merge the EU executive's research and industrial programs to support strategic sectors.
- The fund is to focus on EU priorities, meaning
 - the clean transition,
 - the digital transition,
 - resilience,
 - defense and space, and
 - health and biotech.
- These areas will be financed via "sectoral windows."
- The new financial toolbox comprises indirectly managed tools, such as direct debt, advisory (grants) and equity, as well as directly managed tools such as grants, prizes, procurements, Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI) and auctions as a service.

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State of the Health in the EU series



Teknisen tuen välineen (TSI) vuoden 2026 ehdotus- pyyntö



- Teknisen tuen välineen (TSI) tavoitteena on antaa jäsenvaltioille teknistä tukea uudistushankkeiden suunnitteluun tai täytäntöönpanoon.
- Jäsenvaltiot voivat esittää tukea koskevia pyyntöjä monilla eri aloilla, kuten vihreässä ja digitaalisessa siirtymässä, ..., terveydenhuollossa, osaamisessa ja koulutuksessa.
- Jäsenvaltioita kehoitetaan keskittymään maakohtaisissa suosituksissa yksilöityihin aloihin.
- Komissio on käynnistänyt uuden ehdotuspyynnön vuoden 2026 syklin puitteissa.
- Jäsenvaltio yksilöi politiikan alat ja tuen painopisteet TSI-tuelle 31.10.2025 mennessä.

Tervetuloa TSI 2026 -hakukierroksen infotilaisuuteen 6.6.2025 UM:n Merikasarmilla. Lisätietoja TSI@gov.fi.