

ECDC organises first training modules in the framework of the EU Initiative on Health Security

The EU Initiative on Health Security, 2020-2024, financed by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations enables tailor-made support to EU candidate and potential candidate countries and European Neighbourhood Policy partner countries, on workforce-oriented capability building delivered through the Mediterranean and Black Sea Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (MediPIET). This includes capacity building in epidemic intelligence, risk assessment, preparedness and response and promotion of regional cooperation, knowledge sharing and networking.

The trainings are on epidemic intelligence and rapid risk assessment and will be provided in English (19-23 April 2021) and in Russian (4-10 May 2021) and have the following objectives:

- understand the need to rapidly assess threats from infectious disease or of unknown origin;
- build capacity to perform rapid risk assessments;
- understand the value of a reproducible methodology and rapid appraisal of the available evidence for rapid risk assessment;
- understand the principles of Epidemic Intelligence (EI);
- understand different steps of EI process;
- familiarise with the main EI tools used for EI.

A third training activity on the use of 'epitweetr' – an interactive tool to help with the automatised early detection of public health threats using Twitter data – will take place on 15 June 2021 with the following objectives:

- understand the aims and principles of epitweetr in the context of epidemic intelligence;
- analyse and interpret signals of public health threats detected by epitweetr;
- acquire skills in using the features of epitweetr, especially dashboard, alerts and configuration;
- understand the signal detection settings that are available in epitweetr;
- understand how to change other epitweetr settings for adapting it to specific users' needs.

Information on the EU candidate and potential candidate, and the European Neighbourhood Policy countries

Current EU candidate countries are Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey. Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo* are potential candidates.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) is mainly a bilateral policy between the EU and each partner country and governs the EU's relations with its eastern and southern neighbours: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine*, Tunisia, Ukraine.

* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

More information

[Work Programme 2021 of the EU Initiative on Health Security in English](#)

[Work Programme 2021 of the EU Initiative on Health Security in French](#)

[Work Programme 2021 of the EU Initiative on Health Security in Russian](#)

[Work Programme 2021 of the EU Initiative on Health Security in Arabic](#)