

# European Partnership on Transforming Health and Care Systems (THCS) Marks One-Year Milestone with Inaugural Annual Conference

*One year after its start, the Transforming Health & Care Systems (THCS) Partnership organized its first Annual Conference in Brussels. Gathering over 20 high level speakers from all over Europe, the event served as the official launch of the partnership and provided a forum to discuss key elements of health and care systems transformation.*

**BRUXELLES, 30/11/2023** – Celebrating one year since its inception, the Transforming Health & Care Systems (THCS) Partnership convened its inaugural Annual Conference on November 30th in Brussels at the Square Conference Center. The event served as a comprehensive forum for stakeholders across sectors and governance levels (European, national, and local/regional) to engage in discussions on healthcare transformation from both policy and field experience perspectives.

The conference, organized by [ProMIS](#) in its capacity of leader of THCS's Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation activities, featured four distinct sessions:

**Opening and Presentation Speeches:** The event was opened by Gaetano Guglielmi and Sabrina Montante (THCS Coordination Team), and continued with the opening remarks from Giuseppe Ippolito (Director, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation in HealthCare, Italian Ministry of Health), Americo Cicchetti (Director, Directorate-General of Health Planning, Italian Ministry of Health), Carmen La Plaza-Santos (Head of Unit D2 - Health Innovations and Ecosystems - DG RTD).

**First panel discussion:** "Transforming Health and Care Systems: Effective Tools and Solutions to Inform the Decision-Making Process": the first panel explored the institutional perspectives on the transformation of health and care systems, featuring keynote speeches by Natasha Azzopardi (World Health Organisation, Europe Office) and Francesca Colombo (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). The panel included speakers from DG SANTE, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, EUPHA, and EUREGHA.

**Second panel discussion:** "Transforming Health and Care Systems: Key Ingredients for a Successful Implementation Process": the second panel focused on identifying key elements for implementing innovative and sustainable healthcare systems. Keynote speaker Nick Fahy (Director, Health and Wellbeing Research Group, RAND Europe) was

joined by speakers from DG CNECT, EIT Health, and the Scottish Health and Industry Partnership (SHIP).

**Third panel discussion:** "Transforming Health and Care Systems: Launching the THCS Strategy for Innovation Ecosystems": organized within the framework of THCS WP9, this panel showcased examples of regional ecosystems and stimulated reflection on the preconditions for a successful transformation of health and care systems.

### **Presentations and additional material**

You can find all PPT presentations on our webpage at the following link: [www.thcspartnership.eu/news/latest-news/european-partnership-on-transforming-health-and-care-systems-thcs-marks-one-year-milestone-with-inaugural-annual-conference.kl](http://www.thcspartnership.eu/news/latest-news/european-partnership-on-transforming-health-and-care-systems-thcs-marks-one-year-milestone-with-inaugural-annual-conference.kl).

On our Youtube Channel, you can find the video broadcasted during the Annual Conference, presenting THCS Partnership: [www.youtube.com/@THCS-HorizonEU](http://www.youtube.com/@THCS-HorizonEU).

### **THCS Initiative Overview**

Led by the Italian Ministry of Health, THCS is a unique strategic collaboration involving 63 partners from 26 countries, including National and Regional Ministries, Research and Innovation Funding Organisations, and Research Performing Organisations. The partnership is dedicated to supporting coordinated national and regional R&I funding, capacity building, networking, dissemination, and other key activities to drive health and care systems transformation. Launched in January 2023, THCS boasts a budget exceeding 300 million euros and is slated to run for seven years.

Stay updated on THCS developments through its website: [www.thcspartnership.eu/](http://www.thcspartnership.eu/) and social media - [twitter.com/THCS\\_HEU](https://twitter.com/THCS_HEU) and [linkedin.com/in/thcs/](https://linkedin.com/in/thcs/).

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