



Expert Conference on Oncology  
**“Modern Cancer Control:  
Saving Lives through Smart Solutions”**  
13 – 14 July 2022, Brno, Czech Republic



MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



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**Vlastimil Válek**  
Minister of Health

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure and honour that the most esteemed European oncology experts and stakeholders accepted our invitation to Brno for an Expert Conference on Oncology: “Modern Cancer Control: Saving Lives through Smart Solutions”.

You are opening a brochure that will guide you through your stay in Brno to make it as pleasant as possible. On the following pages, you will find useful information that will help you to get acquainted with the Conference, its program, and honoured speakers. It will also provide you with some practical advice.

I firmly believe that once you arrive, you will appreciate why Brno has been chosen as the venue of

the Conference. I would like to highlight not only the well-known facts that it is the second largest city in the Czech Republic with hundreds of historical sights (including a UNESCO World Heritage Site). I must mention the dominant of Brno, the Špilberk Castle, where the evening reception will take place at the end of the first day. Another prominent site worthy of your kind attention is the Augustinian cloister with the museum where Gregor Mendel discovered the rules of inheritance, something you will certainly appreciate from a professional point of view. Last but not least, Brno is my hometown, a city where I have spent my entire professional life, and above all, where I still feel at home, although being the Minister of Health, my professional duties lie predominantly in Prague. Brno has a reputation as an amicable, welcoming, and enchanting place, and I am hopeful that after your stay here, you will concur.

It is no coincidence that the first event of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU in the field of health is this conference. Cancer is absolutely devastating to the health of European citizens and their loved ones. Its threat continues to rise due to aging population, insufficient health literacy and an unhealthy lifestyle. Needless to say, the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated this negative trend. As we all know, without decisive action, cancer will become the leading cause of death in the EU and an overwhelming threat to our society.

The EU is not standing aside and has decided to act with unity and

determination, which has resulted in a strong political commitment to leave no stone unturned in the fight against cancer. The ambition of the Czech Presidency is to further reinforce EU efforts that materialize in the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and objectives of the EU Mission on Cancer. Indeed, building European Health Union is not only a matter for political leaders. It requires collective thought and commitment at all levels.

**We can already see that the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan in tandem with the EU Mission on Cancer is making a difference. But we must not rest on our laurels and put all the necessary elements in place to meet these bold objectives.**

This expert event seeks to close some of the remaining gaps that Member States may have in their smooth implementation. For a clearer picture of the nature of the meeting, let me draw a brief local comparison. Just a short walk from the Conference venue there is the Liberty Square. The oldest and most remarkable square in the city of Brno, known for most of the time as the Forum Inferius, which for centuries has served as a place for meetings and discussions of all kinds, from everyday chit chat to historical proclamations. Our Conference could have the same function as this square and serve as a Forum, where you, the leading European oncology stakeholders, can share your knowledge and insights to enhance synergy in our fight against

cancer in the European Union. And also, as a pleasant place for a meeting of the European Oncology Community after a long break caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and therefore to way to get „back to normal“.

Two days of the Conference does not allow us to cover the whole comprehensive approach of EU policies. Our humble intention is rather to shed light on a few burning EU flagship initiative sand accelerate their implementation. As you know, outcomes of our debates will be reflected in the Call to Action, which will be further discussed by health ministers during the Informal Meeting of the Ministers of Health on 6 - 7 September 2022 in Prague. The focus of the Conference and the Scope of the Call to Action are explained in detail below.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am sure that this Conference will elucidate the paths experts and stakeholders need to take to reach the desired goal as well as pinpoint measures to tackle the threat of cancer.

I wish you a fruitful Conference and discussion as we believe the destiny of this event is in the palm of your hands. You will be the leaders of the discussion and your expert voices have the power to rend this Conference a success, all for the benefit of European patients.



## Stella Kyriakides Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, European Union

Dear participants,

I am very pleased that cancer is at the top of the agenda of the Czech Presidency for the coming six months. The fact that such an important meeting is taking place only two weeks into the Presidency is a clear sign of the ambitions of our Czech colleagues to advance the work under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan.

It is the first time the EU has such a comprehensive and well-funded plan on cancer, this provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to work together and change the realities for Europe's cancer patients

and their families. Key to change this these realities are high-quality care that is accessible to all, addressing the inequalities in prevention and cancer care and detect as many cancers as early as possible – the topics that you will be discussing during this conference.

I would like to wish you all a very inspirational and productive exchanges at this very rich expert meeting on oncology and modern cancer control.

## Scope and Purpose

The Czech Republic intends to utilize its Presidency of the Council of the European Union to further support joint efforts to reduce the suffering caused by cancer and to discuss the implementation of leading European policies in the fight against cancer.

The purpose of the expert Conference is founded on the premise that early detection, affordable treatment, and patient-centred approach to clinical decision-making in oncology make the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan to a life-saving instrument.

The Conference focuses on the following interlinked EU flagship initiatives:

- 1. Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures**
- 2. Future of cancer registries and European Health Data Space**
- 3. Improving early detection of cancer and screening schemes in EU**

The Conference will bring together around 100 experts from all EU Member States, including delegates from national oncology and statistical organizations, as well as senior representatives of the European Commission, World Health Organization, leading European initiatives on cancer prevention and control, and last but not least, representatives of the European patient organization.

## Scope

### **1. Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs)**

Access to high-quality cancer care integrating clinical care and research still varies significantly not only across Europe but also within individual Member States. This situation results in differences in treatment outcomes, survival rates and quality of life after treatment. These disparities need to be addressed so that every patient in every Member State can benefit from the latest innovative diagnostics and treatments.

In response to this challenge of modern cancer control, EU-wide network of Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs) linking recognized National Comprehensive Cancer Centres and networks in each EU Member State must be established.

These CCIs have been identified in almost all EU Member States. However, follow-up efforts are needed to discuss the concept and

methodology of CCIs, as well as to explore whether and how these CCIs could become part of an EU-wide network.

EU initiatives reflected in the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and EU Cancer Mission, including EU CCIs Network establishment by 2025, will thus significantly contribute to the improvement of patients' access to quality-assured diagnosis and treatment including best practice, state-of-the-art therapy and clinical trials across Europe.

### **2. Future of cancer registries and European Health Data Space**

Comprehensive data and information are needed to provide care to cancer patients, to effectively design and evaluate cancer policies, and to conduct cancer research in order to keep improving all parts of cancer control continuum. Strong support of all stakeholders is needed to improve cancer data infrastructures and their use, harnessing modern tools including artificial intelligence and high-performance computing. Traditional cancer registries, which for a long time have represented the backbone of cancer information, should be an important but not the sole part of modern cancer information system.

Providers of cancer care need to share data easily to provide a truly patient-centred care within comprehensive cancer infrastructures. These data need to be shared in line with clear technical and legal principles to support research and

policy making on both national and EU levels. EU wide policies, namely European Health Data Space, and tools, including European Cancer Information System and European Cancer Inequalities Registry, should be important facilitators of this complex approach to share and use cancer data effectively.

### **3. Improving early detection of cancer and screening schemes in the EU**

One of significant challenges in cancer control is late detection of many cancer entities. Whereas early detection of some cancers, namely pancreatic cancer, remains difficult and new innovative tools need to be developed by researchers, in several cancers the science of early detection is clear. We can significantly decrease mortality of breast, colorectal, and cervical cancer through population-based screening programmes. It is necessary to implement these programmes as widely as possible, to ensure their high quality, and to remove all possible barriers so that as many people from eligible target groups as possible can participate. Effective tests for early detection of lung cancer and prostate cancer exist and need to be introduced appropriately in an organised fashion to maximize benefits and minimize harms. Data on cancer screening and early detection should be part of cancer information systems on the national and EU levels to ensure their continuous improvement.

A revision of the Council Recommendation on cancer screening is high on the agenda of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, which will make every effort to ensure smooth deliberation with a view to have the Recommendation adopted by the EPSCO Council in December. It is important to support swift implementation of the Recommendation to ensure that citizens in the EU have access to high-quality cancer screening programmes and can benefit from improved cancer survival. Moreover, early detection through improved health literacy and patient-centred networking of cancer care should be promoted beyond organised cancer screening programmes.

## Output document

Call to Action will aim to build understanding and strengthen coordination, political leadership, and collaboration on the identified flagship initiatives under the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and objectives of the EU Cancer Mission, through joint efforts of Member States, the European Commission, and other stakeholders.

The document reaffirms the strong support for all key pillars of the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan and major objectives of the EU Mission on Cancer and taking into account the output documents of the European Meeting of the French National Cancer Institute, which was organized under the French Presidency on 3 -4 February 2022 in Paris, i.e. the

Political Declaration and List of action against cancer recommended by a panel of European stakeholders in the framework of the working groups led by the French National Cancer Institute.

The aim of the document is to help find ways to move forward in identified interlinked EU flagship initiatives, accelerate their progress and bypass obstacles. The document is being prepared in coordination with leading oncology experts and is widely shared in advance with all involved stakeholders.

The Call to Action will be published at the end of the Conference, and further discussed by health ministers during the Informal EPSCO Council meeting on 6 - 7 September 2022 in Prague.

# Programme

Wednesday, 13. 7. 2022

Time	Programme	Speaker
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>	
12:30 – 12:40	Welcome remarks from the Minister of Health of the Czech Republic	Mr. Vlastimil Válek
12:40 – 12:50	Remarks from the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety	Ms. Stella Kyriakides
12:50 – 13:00	Remarks from the Regional Director for Europe of the World Health Organisation	Mr. Hans Kluge

13:00 – 15:00

**BLOCK I - Comprehensive Cancer Infrastructures (CCIs)**

13:00 – 14:25

Series of keynote speeches

13:00

Representative of the DG SANTE, EC:  
*“Concept of CCIs as reflected in the European Commission activities and efforts”*

Mr. Matthias Schuppe

13:15

Representative of the Joint Action on network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres, CraNE JA: *“Implementation of the CCIs concept within the Joint actions on cancer policy in the EU”*

Mr. Tit Albreht

13:30

Representative of the Organization of European Cancer Institutes (OECI): *“Scope of the CCIs concept from the perspective of the OECI”*

Mr. Giovanni Apolone

13:45

Representative of the Oncologisch Netwerk Zuidoost-Nederland (OncoZON), Netherlands: *“State of the art of comprehensive cancer care delivery from the perspective of the OncoZON”*

Ms. Fabrizia Ketelaars

13:55

Representative of Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute in Brno (MMCI), Czech Republic: *“State of the art of comprehensive cancer care delivery from the perspective of the MMCI”*

Mr. Marek Svoboda

14:05

Representative of the Karolinska Institutet, Sweden: *“State of the art of comprehensive cancer care delivery from the perspective of the Karolinska Institutet”*

Mr. Matthias Löhr

14:15

Representative of the European Reference Network on Rare Adult Solid Cancers (EURACAN): *„State of the art of comprehensive cancer care delivery from the perspective of the European Reference Networks - EURACAN“*

Mr. Jean-Yves Blay

14:25 – 15:00

Moderated panel discussion of keynote speakers and other guests of honor

Representative of the - European Cancer Patient Coalition

Ms. Adela Maghear

15:00 – 15:30

**Coffee break**

15:30 – 17:45			BLOCK II. - Future of cancer registries and European Health Data Space		
15:30 – 17:00			Series of keynote speeches		
15:30	Representative of the Joint Research Centre (JRC), EC: <i>“Knowledge center on cancer, ENCR, ECIR”</i>		Mr. Ciaran Nicholl		
15:45	Representative of the DG SANTE, EC: <i>“European Health Data Space, secondary use of data and cancer information”</i>		Mr. Jerome De Barros		
16:00	Representative of the Innovative Partnership for Action Against Cancer (iPAAC) Joint Action: <i>“Secondary use and linkages of cancer data: iPAAC pilot studies”</i>		Ms. Roberta de Angelis		
16:15	Representative of the Belgian Cancer Registry (BCR): <i>“Modernizing cancer registry: example of Belgium”</i>		Ms. Liesbet Van Eycken		
16:30	Representative of the French National Cancer Institute (INCa): <i>“Secondary use of cancer data, example of French data hub”</i>		Mr. Philippe-Jean Bousquet		
16:45	Representative of the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic (IHIS): <i>“Czech National Information System for Cancer Control and Management”</i>		Mr. Ladislav Dusek		
17:00 – 17:45			Moderated panel discussion of keynote speakers		
17:45			<b>Closing remarks</b>		
	Minister of Health of the Czech Republic		Mr. Vlastimil Válek		
19:30			<b>Evening reception</b>		

# Thursday, 14. 7. 2022

<b>08:30 – 09:00</b>	<b>Welcome coffee</b>	
<b>09:00 – 11:00</b>	<b>Block III - Improving early detection of cancer and screening schemes in EU</b>	
9:00 – 10:15	Series of keynote speeches	
09:00	Representative of the DG SANTE, EC: <i>“Cancer screening scheme and update of EU Council Recommendation”</i>	Mr. Matthias Schuppe
09:15	Representative of iPAAC JA: <i>“Challenges for screening and early detection in Europe”</i>	Mr. Ahti Anttila
09:30	Representative of the Erasmus Medical Center, Netherlands: <i>“Evidence on improvement and extension of cancer screening”</i>	Mr. Harry de Koning
09:45	Representative of JRC, EC: <i>“Improvement of quality of screening programmes and international screening statistics”</i>	Mr. Ciaran Nicholl
10:00	Representative of the Clalit Research Institute, Israel: <i>“Digital tools for improvement of early disease detection”</i>	Mr. Ran Balicer
10:15 – 11:00	Moderated panel discussion of keynote speakers and other guests of honor	
	Representative of IHIS Representative of WHO (Director of the Division of Country Health Programmes)	Mr. Ondrej Majek Ms. Nino Berdzuli
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	
<b>11:30 – 12:30</b>	<b>Conference summary</b>	
11:30 – 12:30	Moderated panel discussion of speakers on the proposed Call to Action	
	Introduction of the Call to Action by the Deputy Minister of Health of the Czech Republic	Mr. Jakub Dvoracek
	Minister of Health of the Czech Republic	Mr. Vlastimil Válek
	European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety	Ms. Stella Kyriakides
	Director of the Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO	Ms. Nino Berdzuli
	President of the European Cancer Patient Coalition	Mr. Francesco de Lorenzo
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>	

## Keynote speakers (in alphabetical order)



### **Mr. Tit Albrecht** (Block I.)

holds Ph.D. in Health Services Research at the University of Amsterdam, Head of the Centre for Health Care at the National Institute of Public Health of Slovenia, Senior Researcher in the field of health services research, health policy and health systems research, Member of the Scientific Committee of EUPHA, President of the Slovenian Preventive Medicine Society. He has worked on national and EU policies in cancer control and cancer care since 2006. He was the scientific coordinator of the Joint Action innovative Partnership for Action Against Cancer (JA iPAAC), and now is the scientific coordinator of of the Joint Action CRANE.



### **Ms. Roberta de Angelis** (Block II.)

is Epidemiologist and senior researcher at the Italian National Institute of Health (1999). Head of the Unit of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics in the Department of Oncology and Molecular Medicine (2017). She has a scientific background and work experience in biostatistics and cancer epidemiology. Specific fields of interest include the statistical methods to derive population-based epidemiological indicators of cancer burden and outcome. Member of the Scientific Board of the EURO CARE network aimed at monitoring population-based cancer patients' survival and prevalence in Europe. Leader of Work Package 7 on Cancer Information and Registries of the iPAAC Joint Action on Cancer (2018-2021).



### **Mr. Ahti Anttila** (Block III.)

works since 1997 as a Cancer Epidemiologist, Head of Research, and Director of Research at the Mass Screening Registry of the Finnish Cancer Registry, Helsinki from January 2005 up to end of June 2022. He is an Adjunct Professor in Epidemiology at the Faculty of Health Sciences Unit, Tampere University, since 2000. His research activities for cancer research involve identification of occupational and environmental risk factors of cancer, and evaluation of cancer screening programmes. Dr Anttila worked as an Expert in the recent EU-co-funded Joint Action on Innovative Partnership for Action Against Cancer, iPAAC, in the domain on cancer screening.



**Mr. Giovanni Apolone**  
(Block I.)

is the Scientific Director of the “Foundation IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori” of Milan and the Vice President and Executive Secretary of the OEI. His major areas of expertise are methodological, ethical and regulatory aspects of clinical research, with special emphasis on oncology and anticancer drugs; health care evaluation; health outcomes assessment (patient self-reported health status): development validation and application in epidemiological and experimental clinical projects; development and validation of case-mix measures; and education and health promotion research and programs.



**Mr. Ran Balicer**  
(Block III.)

is public health physician and researcher, serves as Chief Innovation Officer and Founding Director of the Clalit Research Institute at Clalit - Israel's largest healthcare organization. Prof. Balicer has been affiliated as faculty with the Ben-Gurion University since 2004, involved in research and teaching in the School of Public Health, and serves today as full professor and track director in the faculty' MPH program. He serves as Chair of the Israeli Society for Quality in Healthcare, as an Advisor to Israeli Ministry of Health on infectious disease epidemiology, health policy and emergency preparedness. He also served as a Board Member of the International Foundation for Integrated Care and of the European Federation of Medical Informatics.



**Mr. Jerome De Barros**  
(Block II.)

is a Policy Officer in the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) at the European Commission and is responsible for the development of Digital Health policies and initiatives, including the European Health Data Space. Prior to joining the European Commission, he worked on digital health programmes in academia and government agencies in Belgium and the UK.



**Ms. Nino Berdzuli**  
**(Block III., Conference Summary)**  
is a medical doctor and public health professional with over 16 years of experience working in health sector reform, including health policy strategy development, health network reorganization, health-care quality management, and institutional and human resource capacity-building. She has clinical and technical expertise in reproductive, maternal and child health. Dr Berdzuli joined WHO/Europe in 2018 to lead the sexual and reproductive health programme. In 2020, she was appointed Director of the Division of Country Health Programmes (CHP). Before joining WHO/Europe, Dr Berdzuli was Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs in Georgia.



**Mr. Jean-Yves Blay**  
**(Block I.)**  
is a medical oncologist, Professor of Medicine at the University Claude Bernard in Lyon, General Director of the Centre Leon Berard, the Comprehensive Cancer Centre of Lyon France since December 2014, researcher and Professor at the University Claude Berard, France. Since 2019, he serves as the President of the French Federation of Cancer Centers UNICANCER, the network of 18 Comprehensive Cancer Centers in France.



**Mr. Philippe-Jean Bousquet**  
**(Block II.)**  
is the head of Survey, Data-science and Assessment Division at the French National Cancer Institute (INCa) since 2010. He is a Doctor (MD) specialized in Public Health. He worked as a methodologist at the Montpellier-Nîmes university hospital centers. He also became a member of the Persons' Protection Committee (CPP) and member of the Committee for the Evaluation of Research, Studies and Health Assessments (Cesrees). After he joined INCa he was able to develop the topics relating to the observation of cancers, health information systems and evaluation and to initiate the Oncology Data Platform.



**Mr. Ladislav Dusek**  
(Block II.)

is Associate Professor at the Maastricht University and Director of MU's Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses. In 2014 he was also appointed Director of the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic. His research activities include analysis and assessment of biological and clinical data, application of statistical methods and information technologies in biology and medicine. He is one of the leading authors of the Czech national online system for the visualization of data on cancer epidemiology. Dr Dušek is board member of the Czech Society for Oncology, and Head of its Section for Cancer Epidemiology and Health Informatics. Internationally, he is Czech representative in the EU programme Joint Action Against Cancer.



**Ms. Liesbet Van Eycken**  
(Block II.)

is co-Chair (from 2021) and member of the ENCR (European Network of Cancer Registries) Steering Committee as IACR (International Association of Cancer Registries) representative (since 2017) as well as member of the IACR Board of Directors. The main goal is to promote the crucial role of the Cancer Registries in Cancer Control activities. She was trained as Radiation Oncologist in the University Hospital of Leuven (1997) and obtained a diploma of Physician Expert Health Data Management (2003). She is Director of the Belgian Cancer Registry since 2005. Her interests are focused on the good practices in a cancer registry (data collection, data quality, and linkage with administrative/clinical data bases).



**Ms. Fabrizia Ketelaars**  
(Block I.)

holds a Master's degree in Health Sciences at Maastricht University, gained experience at various institutions involved in oncology, such as Maastricht University Medical Center and the Netherlands Comprehensive Cancer Organization which compiles clinical data of all individual cancer patients. From 2014 she was directly involved with the formation of the Comprehensive Cancer Network in the South-east Netherlands: OncoZON. The network consists of 9 hospitals and 1 independent radiotherapy institute and covers a region of approximately 2 million people. As the General Manager at OncoZON she has started a new challenge with OncoZON: a network accreditation by the OECl.



**Mr. Harry de Koning**  
(Block III.)

is professor of Public Health and Screening Evaluation, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. His major scientific contributions are in the areas of (1) design, management, and evaluation of large-scale multidisciplinary population-based randomised controlled trials to establish the efficacy of screening; (2) evaluation of active international screening programmes and tests to establish their effectiveness; and (3) guidance of public health policies through use of predictions of favourable and unfavourable effects of and the cost of screening, based on micro-simulation modelling of the natural history of disease and cost-effectiveness and cost-utility analyses.



**Mr. Matthias Löhr**  
(Block I.)

is the Professor of Gastro-enterology & Hepatology at Karolinska Institutet. He is leading the Pancreatic Team at Karolinska University Hospital. He is the secretary of the European Pancreas Club (EPC) and the vice president of the United European Gastroenterology (UEG). Löhr's research focusses on pancreatic diseases, both clinically and in the lab. He conducted several early phase clinical studies as a PI in pancreatic cancer, including personalized cancer medicine study in pancreatic cancer (PePaCaKa). Mr. Löhr is leading the European Educational Program for Future Pancreatologists, "Pancreas 2000".



**Mr. Francesco de Lorenzo**  
(Conference Summary)

is a colon cancer survivor with 25 years of experience in patient advocacy, capacity building, research, networking building, policy, partnership and project design and management. In ECPC since 2004 (co-Founder): from 2016 to 2019 as President. Presently he is also President of the Italian Federation of Cancer Patients Organisation (FAVO), President of the Italian Association for Cancer Patients (Aimac). Involved in several European research projects and collaborating with the consortium Cancer Core Europe in the Board of Directors. Board member of the European Academy of Cancer Science (EACS) and of the Cancer Drug Development Forum (CDDF).



**Ms. Adela Maghear**  
(Block I.)

is a graduate in pharmacy studies and holds two PhD degrees; one in Medical Sciences (Field of Pharmacy) and another in Chemistry awarded by the University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and University of Lorraine (France), respectively. Her research work and scientific publications have dealt with a wide range of subjects, especially focusing on work related to pharmaceuticals in the environment and antimicrobial resistance. In June 2020, she has joined the European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC) as Senior EU Affairs Officer. She leads the policy work of the organisation and coordinates the activities of the Challenge Cancer Parliamentary Intergroup where ECPC holds the secretariat.



**Mr. Ondrej Majek**  
(Block III.)

is the Head of Department of International Affairs at the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic and the scientific lead of its National Screening Centre, where he is involved in monitoring and evaluation of screening programmes and introduction of new disease early detection projects. He is also an assistant professor and the Head analyst of cancer screening programmes at the Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses, Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. His research interests include monitoring and evaluation of disease detection programmes, cancer epidemiology, and medical biostatistics. He is a co-author of over 40 articles in international peer-reviewed journals.



**Mr. Ciaran Nicholl**  
(Block II. and Block III.)

is the Head of the Health in Society Unit at the Joint Research Centre (JRC). Ciarán obtained his PhD in cancer research at Heidelberg University (DE), an MSc degree at Kingston University and Kings College Hospital (UK) and a BSc degree in Chemistry at Galway University (IE). He joined the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) as a post-doctorate fellow in 1995 and worked in JRC communications until 2012. Since 2013, Ciarán is head of the Health in Society unit in the JRC's Directorate for Health, Consumers and Reference Materials.



**Mr. Matthias Schuppe**  
(Block I. and Block III.)

has an MSc from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (among other diplomas) and has extensive experience in public health through the various positions he had held in the past 20 years: programme manager and later on-Secretary General of the European Health Forum Gastein or a consultant to the European Public Health Alliance. Presently he is appointed as a team leader responsible for preparing DG SANTE's work on the 'Europe's Beating Cancer Plan' at the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety of the European Commission.



**Mr. Marek Svoboda**  
(Block I.)

is General Director of the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute in Brno, before that, he was acting for nine years as the Director for Science, Research and Education. In his clinical practice, prof. Svoboda specializes mainly in cancer of breast, colon and rectum, as well as in cancer genetics and prevention. He is also very active in cancer research; he was the leading investigator of nine grant projects and co-researcher of another eight projects. His scientific work has been awarded three times with the Minister of Health Award for Medical Research and Development. In addition, he acts as a teacher at the Medical Faculty of Masaryk University.

## Programme committee

The Conference is organized by the Ministry of Health in close cooperation with the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic, and two leading oncology centers: the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute in Brno, and the Motol University Hospital in Prague.

The Institute of Health Information and Statistics has been established by the Ministry of Health and is the administrator of the National Health Information System. The Institute is therefore a body for the collection, sharing (at national and international level) and processing of health information and data, and for the management of national health registers. From the perspective of the Conference, it is the administrator of the National Cancer Registry and the National Screening Center.

The Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute in Brno is the leading oncology centre in the Czech Republic with supraregional competence. The institute concentrates all essential branches of medicine to ensure complex oncological care, including prevention, epidemiology, diagnostics, research activities, and particular modalities of cancer treatment and physiotherapy. The institution is managed by the Ministry of Health, and it is established as one of two National Cancer Centres for the EU-wide network in the Czech Republic.

The Motol University Hospital in Prague is the largest medical facility in the Czech Republic and one of the largest in Europe. It provides basic, specialized and super specialized health care and services in various medical fields including oncology. Like the above-mentioned Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, the Department of Oncology of the Motol University Hospital performs comprehensive multidisciplinary treatment of cancer, and it is established as a second National Cancer Centre for the EU-wide network in the Czech Republic.

**The expert guarantors for the thematic blocks of the Conference are the following:**

- **Mr. Ondřej Májek, Institute of Health Information and Statistics, Brno**
- **Mr. Marek Svoboda, Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, Brno**
- **Ms. Iva Mládenková, Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, Brno**
- **Ms. Kateřina Kopečková, Motol University Hospital, Prague**

The Conference also includes an accompanying program prepared by following Czech patient organizations and non-profit organization for the prevention of oncological diseases:

The Alliance of Women with Breast Cancer (AWBC) is an umbrella organization of 40 national non-profit patients' organizations. It has been serving its member organizations for 20 years. Alliance is creating an

information and educational center for the public, for breast cancer patients and their organizations, offering methodological help to breast cancer patients' organizations, coordinating projects and campaigns aimed at the prevention and treatment of breast cancer, unifying efforts of both patients' organizations and individuals pressing for equal rights and conditions during the treatment and convalescence of women with breast cancer disease. Since 2009, the AWBC has been a member of the Europa Donna coalition and since 2017 a member of the European Cancer Patients Coalition.

Loono is a non-profit organization composed of a team of medical students, young physicians and other professionals such as nurses, paramedics, and nutritionists. Loono organizes educational workshops and webinars at private companies, schools, and festivals. The scope of their workshops range from cancer prevention (#boobsandballs), or cardiovascular diseases prevention (#yourheartforlife) to lifestyle diseases and sexual health (#alldownthere). They recently added a new mental health campaign (#feelinggood) to the portfolio of their activities. Loono is under the auspices of 1st LF UK and another 6 medical faculties in the Czech Republic. Their professional guarantors are doctors from fields of gynecology, urology, cardiology, and general practice.

The Voice of oncology patients is a platform that brings together patient and support organizations that work to meet the health, social and

psychological needs of cancer patients. The purpose of the platform is to develop activities mainly in the field of representation, support and promotion of the interests and complex needs of patients with oncological and hemato-oncological diseases, across all diagnoses. Further strengthen the awareness of these diseases among the general public, including the state administration and other institutions, both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

## Practical information

This Practical Information Note provides general information on logistical and organisational aspects to help you prepare for the meeting and a timeline of steps we kindly ask you to take in advance.

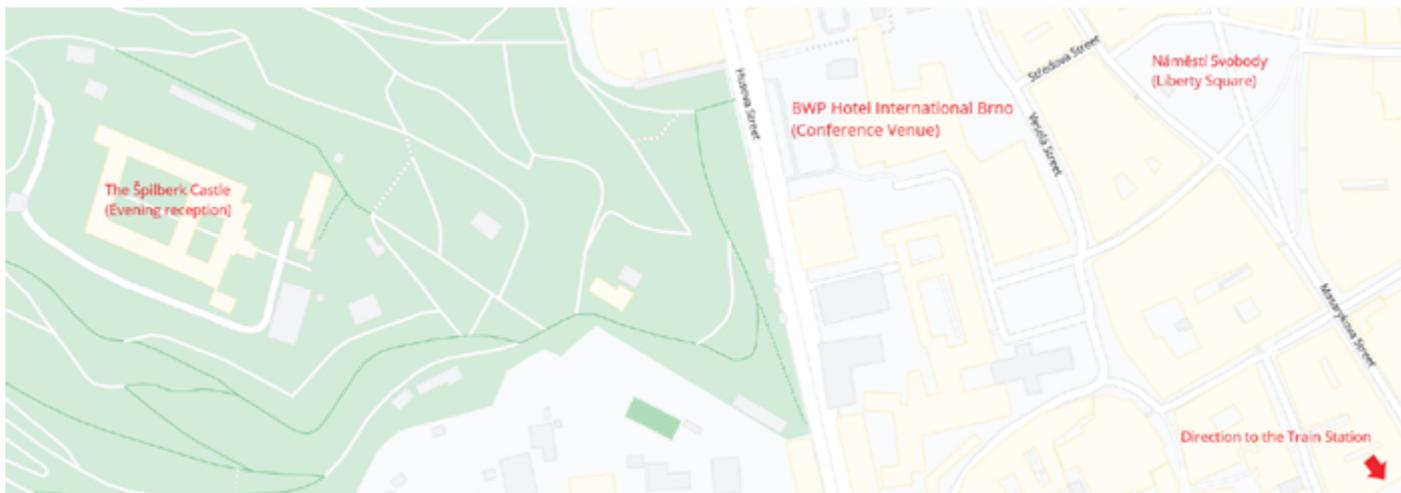
Please note that all information may be subject to change, in which case it will be communicated by the Czech Presidency in due time.

### Conference venue and accommodation:

**The Conference as well as your accommodation will be arranged at the BWP Hotel International Brno <https://hotelinternational.cz/en/>.**

This four star hotel is located directly in the historic heart of Brno (close to the „Náměstí Svobody“, Liberty Square) and is equipped with a modern congress center.

Please note that the Czech Presidency will cover the costs of accommodation only for keynote speakers. Other participants are responsible for booking and paying



for their accommodation. For your convenience, the Czech Presidency has made pre-reservations of hotel rooms at a discounted price. You will receive instructions and a link to book rooms after successful on-line accreditation. Kindly note that availability of rooms at hotels is on first-come first served basis. If you have any questions regarding the accommodation, please send your enquiry to:

[accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz](mailto:accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz).

The Conference venue and Hotel address is **Husova 200/16, Brno** (You can enter from Husova Street and Veselá / Středová Street, please see the map above).

The Czech Presidency will provide all necessary services, such as a cloakroom, internet connection, and catering at the conference venues.

### Evening Reception

**The evening reception will take place at the Špilberk Castle from 7.30 pm on 13 July.**

All participants of the Conference are invited. The Špilberk Castle is about a 10-minute walk away from the venue. It is possible to walk (through the park in front of the hotel) or use the shuttle bus, which will be waiting for you at regular intervals in the parking lot in front of the hotel. The meeting point is the main fortification gate (the only entrance directly to the castle). The reception will take place directly on the walls, for your comfort we would recommend shoes without high heels.

The castle offers extraordinary views of the historic city center. You can enjoy food and wine from local producers. A short concert of Dulcimer music (ie traditional Moravian folk music) will take place during the evening. If you are interested in information about the history of the castle, we recommend you look at this page: <https://www.spilberk.cz/en/>.

Please note that the Conference and evening reception will be conducted in English only, no interpretation will be provided.

### Accreditation

Please note that attendance at the Conference is by invitation only and only accredited delegates will have access to the main venue and evening reception.

Delegates were kindly requested to register via the online accreditation system of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, through the designated Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO) of the respective delegation. You should have detailed instructions in your email box.

In case you have not appointed your DAO yet, please proceed at your earliest convenience to register the DAO through an e-mail at [accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz](mailto:accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz) and please indicate the name of the event in the subject of the email. The DAO will receive the link to the accreditation system in due time.

**Please note that the online accreditation must be completed 5 days prior the event at the latest.**

Each participant will receive their badge at the registration desk in the hotel lobby upon the arrival. Please make sure to wear your badges visibly at the meeting venue and evening reception. If you lose your badge, please contact the registration desk at the meeting venue without any delay.

If you have any questions regarding the invitation or registration, please send your enquiry to:

[accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz](mailto:accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz).

All personal information provided during the accreditation will be processed only in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) obligations mentioned in the CZ PRES GDPR memorandum, which can be found on presidency website and accreditation system itself.

## Transport

The Czech Presidency will cover the costs of transport only for keynote speakers. Other participants are kindly asked to make their own travel arrangements. The Czech Presidency is ready to advise you in any way possible.

The city of Brno has an excellent transport accessibility. It is possible fly not only directly to the international airport in Brno, but also to Vienna, Bratislava and Prague, and then take an easily accessible train to the centre of Brno.

The hotel is located in the center of Brno. If you arrive by train and do not have heavy luggage, we encourage you to take a 10-minute walk from the train station to the hotel.

You can walk through Masarykova Street to Náměstí Svobody (Liberty Square) and from there to the left along Středová Street to the entrance of the hotel. Otherwise, you can also use public transport. Please take tram no. 4 or 9 from the train station to the Náměstí Svobody stop, and then along Středová Street to the hotel. If you arrive at Brno International Airport (Tuřany Airport, BRQ), take the shuttle bus (leaves every 20/30 minutes) to the train station and then proceed as above.

If you have any questions regarding the transportation, please send your enquiry to:

[accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz](mailto:accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz).

## Brno:

We cordially invite you to discover the city of Brno. To do this, please check the tourist website at: <https://www.gotobrna.cz/en/>.

## Other Information:

Emergency number: 112 (fire brigade, medical assistance)

Electricity: The voltage in Czech is 230V, 50 Hz.

Local time: Central European Summer Time Zone (CEST) – GMT +2:00

Country code: Czech Republic +420

Currency: Czech crown, for the actual rate please consult <https://www.cnb.cz/en/>

Tap water: Czech water is regularly tested for quality and is safe to drink

## Contact

If you have any question regarding the substantive content of the meeting, please send your enquiry to: [CZPRES@mzcr.cz](mailto:CZPRES@mzcr.cz).

If you have any questions regarding the logistics, please send your enquiry to:

[accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz](mailto:accreditation.czpres@mzcr.cz).

More information about the Conference is available at:

<https://www.mzcr.cz/modern-cancer-control-saving-lives-through-smart-solutions/>.

The website of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2022: <https://www.eu2022.cz> contains information on all topics related to the Presidency available in Czech, English and French.

You can also follow us on social media:

 Twitter

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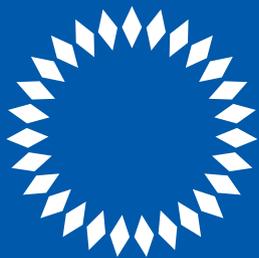
Official photos and videos of the Czech presidency will be available

 on Flickr

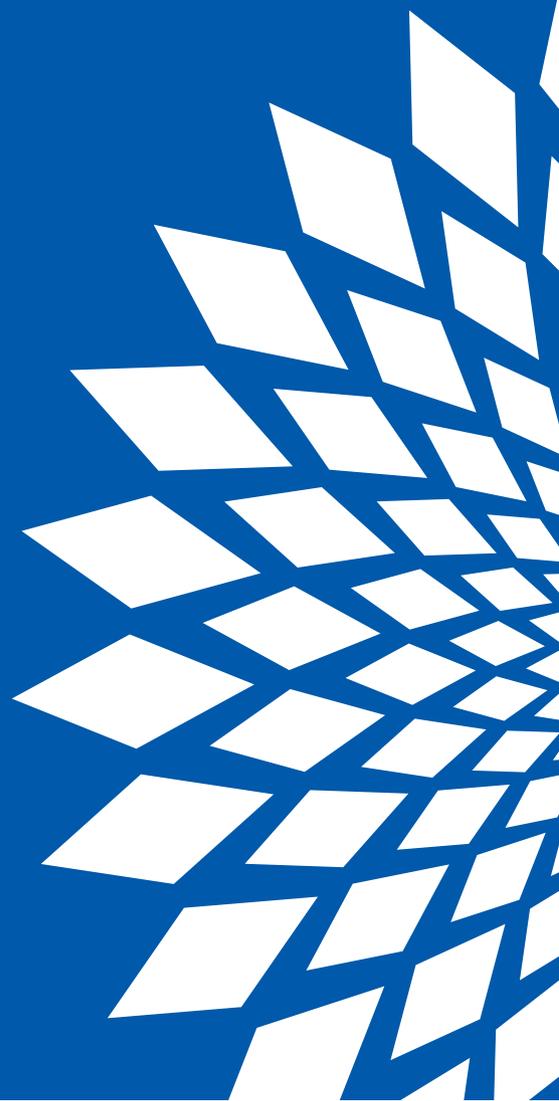
<https://www.flickr.com/people/193276846@N04/>

 and Youtube.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe5eK6yIlt-WfoLd\\_mJDkQA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe5eK6yIlt-WfoLd_mJDkQA)



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