

Dear SSPH+ Community,

Welcome to the March edition of the SSPH+ Newsletter. Here you will find key updates, upcoming events and opportunities, and new initiatives for IGC students and SSPH+ postdocs.

SSPH+ COURSES

Upcoming SSPH+ IGC Courses in April 2026

Applied Bayesian Methods in Epidemiology and Public Health (Intermediate) – 3 places left

- Dates: 14–16 April 2026
- Location: University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)
- Late registration: 08 April 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

Understanding Social Inequalities and Social Problems in Health (Basic) – 3 places left

- Dates: 20–22 April 2026
- Location: University of Fribourg and Swiss TPH
- Registration deadline: 20 March 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

Epidemiological Concepts, Principles, and Methods: A Practice-oriented Introduction (Basic)

- Dates: 27 April – 1 May 2026
- Location: University of Lausanne, Unisanté
- Course format: On site
- Registration deadline: 27 March 2026
- Course flyer: [here](#)

For more information please visit [Course Program & More Info](#). All courses in March are fully booked. However, you may register for the waiting lists by emailing phdph@ssphplus.ch, as places may still become available.

IGC Writing Retreat – August 2026

26–28 August 2026 | France

IGC PhD or MD students, and SSPH+ postdocs are invited to **the IGC Writing Retreat**, a new initiative designed to support focused academic writing in a collaborative environment.

The retreat will take place 26–28 August 2026 at Domaine du Hirtz (Wattwiller, France) and will be led by scientific writing facilitator **Dr. Kali Tal**. Participants working on manuscripts, proposals, or theses will benefit from structured writing sessions, workshops, and feedback opportunities. Full participation awards 1 ECTS credit.

The participation fee is CHF 100 (accommodation and meals included; travel not covered). Places are limited to 20 participants, and applicants must submit a short motivation letter during registration. [Register here.](#)

SSPH+ Emerging Health Leaders (EHL): "Leading, Communicating and Sustaining Yourself in Complex Work Environments" with leadership expert **Carl Emerson** (InsideOut Solutions)

Emerging Health Leaders: Skills Training & Leadership Courses



Empowering health care and public health professionals with essential skills and leadership expertise to shape the future of health care.

Join us at the next EHL course:



Carl Emerson
InsideOut Solutions

Leading, Communicating and Sustaining Yourself in Complex Work Environments

Build the leadership, communication, and self-management skills needed to thrive in complex, high-pressure professional environments.



Luzern, Switzerland

Thursday, 16 April 2026 (all day event)



The course fee is CHF 300 for all participants, with a reduced rate of CHF 30 for SSPH+ IGC students, Post-Docs and NRP 74 EHCL alumni. For more info, please visit: <https://ssphplus.ch/>

- Date: 16 April 2026
 - Location: Lucerne, Switzerland
 - Course format: On site
 - Course program: [here](#)
 - More info & registration: [here](#).
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GLOHRA - SSPH+ / Early Career Researcher Field Trip to Geneva

Four SSPH+ PhD students and postdocs can join the Early Career Researcher Field Trip to international organizations in Geneva, organized by [German Alliance for Global Health Research](#) (GLOHRA). The visit includes meetings with experts at World Health Organization and other international agencies to explore how research informs global health policy and to build professional networks. GLOHRA will cover all essential costs, including second-class return rail travel within Switzerland, local transport in Geneva, accommodation, and meals.

- **Date:** 27 September - 2 October 2026
- **Location:** Geneva
- **Target audience:** PhD students (2nd year or beyond) and postdocs (within 7 years of receiving PhD) with research interest in global health

Application deadline: 6 April 2026. [More info here](#).

SSPH+ EVENTS

SSPH+ Annual Meeting 2026

23-24 June 2026 | from noon to noon | University of Fribourg

Under the motto “**Protecting Science – Protecting Health**,” our Annual Meeting highlights the role of rigorous, independent science in informing policy and safeguarding public health in Switzerland. Sessions cover protecting public health evidence, negotiation strategies for translating science into policy, and updates on the white paper and health promotion initiative. The agenda is available [here](#); registration details were sent to community members via email and is now closed.



The 35th SSPH+ Lugano Summer School (LSS) in Public Health Policy, Economics, and Management

17–22 August 2026 | Lugano & online

For over 30 years, the SSPH+ LSS has brought together practitioners, researchers, and students from around the world for a unique, collaborative learning experience. Guided by the principle of mutual learning for change, the LSS serves as a global platform where education, innovation, and collaboration come together to advance global public health. The 2026 programme will feature

12 highly interactive courses, 2 plenaries, and several networking events, designed to foster reflection, exchange, and the development of transformational ideas. Discover more on our [website](#).



**SSPH+ LUGANO
SUMMER SCHOOL**

IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY, ECONOMICS,
AND MANAGEMENT

35TH EDITION
17-22 AUGUST 2026
IN LUGANO AND ONLINE



Swiss Public Health Conference 2026 – Registration open

2–3 September 2026 | University of Lucerne

Registration for SPHC 2026 is now open! We warmly invite researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, patient advocates, and everyone engaged in public health to join us in exploring how complexity enriches public health. For full details and registration information, please visit the [SPHC 2026 website](#). Please note that students and PhD candidates benefit from a discounted registration fee of **CHF 100** for one or both days.

SSPH+ CALLS

Call for Course Proposals – SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus

SSPH+ invites faculty members to submit course proposals for the Inter-university Graduate Campus (IGC) in the following areas:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Implementation Science
- Responsible Use of Generative AI in Research

Proposals involving early-career researchers in teaching or course development are especially encouraged. Submission deadline: 17 May 2026. Please contact awalser@ssphplus.ch to receive detailed information about the course concepts, general guidelines, and a proposal template.

SSPH+ Journals APC support for SSPH+ Affiliates

The International Journal of Public Health ([IJPH](#)) and Public Health Reviews ([PHR](#)) offer APC discounts for SSPH+ Affiliates. Manuscripts submitted during 2026 with successful peer-review and with at least one author affiliated with SSPH+ (at the time of submission) will receive a **50% APC discount**. You must complete an **APC support application form at submission for either IJPH or PHR to apply for the discount**. Find more information and the procedure [here](#).

SSPH+ Journals Open Calls

- [Armed Conflicts, Wars and Mental Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 July 2026
- [Public Health Diplomacy in a Complex World](#) - Manuscript Deadline 30 June 2026
- [Urban Health in Transition: Advancing Evidence and Policy for Healthier Cities](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 March 2026
- [Evidence-Based Supported Employment and Education for Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 31 March 2026
- [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) and Public Health](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 30 June 2026
- [Metrics of One Health](#) - Abstract Deadline: 15 March 2026 | Manuscript Deadline: 31 May 2026
- [Strengthening the Public Health Response to Cardiovascular Disease and Diabetes](#) - Manuscript Deadline: 15 January 2027

SSPH+ 2026 Call for Proposals – Inter-University Activities

Deadline: 30 April 2026

SSPH+ has launched the 2026 call for proposals to support inter-university activities led by network partners. The aim of this call is to strengthen exchange, collaboration, and the overall SSPH+ spirit. More information about the call and the submission form are available [here](#). Information on previously funded projects can be found [here](#).

SSPH+ PARTNER COURSES AND EVENTS

Lecture Series: 40 Years of the Ottawa Charter in Switzerland – Health Promotion in Transition: *Gesundheit vor Ort gestalten: Der Settingansatz in der Gemeinde*

Tuesday, 24 March 2026 | 12.00-13.00 | online

- Carlo Fabian, FHNW (DE)
- Emmanuelle Garcia, Unisanté & Christelle Dayer, Promotion santé Valais (FR)
- Tannys Helfers, BFH (EN)
- Sibylle Wälty, Resilientsy (DE)

SSPH+, together with the Special Interest Group on Health Promotion and Prevention of [Public Health Schweiz](#) and [Gesundheitsförderung Schweiz](#) is organizing an online public lecture series. Participation is free of charge. [Further information and registration here.](#)

The ORPHEUS 2026 Conference

26–28 May 2026 | Budapest, Hungary

The conference invites academic leaders, doctoral programme directors, supervisors, quality-assurance professionals, and PhD candidates to engage in an in-depth exploration of: “Sustainable Networks Through Interdisciplinary Partnerships – The Key to Quality Enhancements in Doctoral Education”. ORPHEUS offers **8 scholarships of €500** to cover the costs of travel, registration and accommodation to PhD researchers. Selection is based on abstract submissions (deadline 22 March). For more info, please visit semmelweispremium.hu/orpheus2026.

OTHER CALLS

15 years of Swiss and international longitudinal data on health care systems: open access to data of the International Health Policy (IHP) Survey by the Commonwealth Fund

The [Commonwealth Fund](#)'s International Health Policy (IHP) Survey has collected comparative data on healthcare systems across ten countries since 1998, with Switzerland participating since 2010 under the coordination of [the Federal Office of Public Health \(FOPH\)](#). Fifteen years of Swiss and international longitudinal data are now available free of charge for research purposes. Interested researchers can request access by submitting a brief application to the FOPH (max. 2 pages, details available in [EN](#) / [DE](#) / [FR](#) / [IT](#)).

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Are you hiring or organizing an event relevant to our community? We would love to help you spread the word – contact us at info@ssphplus.ch.