# Executive Board Annual Report 2022

## Name of the Section/Network/Temporary Working Group: Health Communication

## Management team:

Chair: Doreen Reifegerste, Bielefeld University, Germany, [doreen.reifegerste@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:doreen.reifegerste@uni-bielefeld.de)

Vice-chair: Thomas Friemel, University of Zurich, Switzerland, [th.friemel@ikmz.uzh.ch](mailto:th.friemel@ikmz.uzh.ch)

Vice-chair: Julia van Weert, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, [J.C.M.vanWeert@uva.nl](mailto:J.C.M.vanWeert@uva.nl)

After the elections during ECREA 2022 on October 22, 2022 the Chair Doreen Reifegerste stepped down and the following new management team was elected:

Chair: Julia van Weert, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, [J.C.M.vanWeert@uva.nl](mailto:J.C.M.vanWeert@uva.nl)

Vice-chair: Thomas Friemel, University of Zurich, Switzerland, [th.friemel@ikmz.uzh.ch](mailto:th.friemel@ikmz.uzh.ch)

Vice-chair: Elena Link, Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover, Germany, [elena.link@ijk.hmtm-hannover.de](mailto:elena.link@ijk.hmtm-hannover.de)

## Number of members:

In February 2022 there were 140 people on the mailinglist of the ECREA Health Communication section.

## Social media:

The Twitter account @HealthComEurope has 213 Followers (10 February 2023)

## Activities in 2022:

The Health Communication section received seven time slots for 35 speakers (5 presentations per time slot) at ECREA 2022, held in Aarhus from 19 to 22 October 2022. There were 54 paper submissions which were reviewed by 25 reviewers (two reviewers per submission). The review process and the programme were organized by Julia van Weert.

At the business meeting, the chair Doreen Reifegerste, who proposed the TGW Health Communication in April 2017, (co-)founded it after its approval by ECREA in November 2017, and guided the process to become a section in 2021, stepped down. In September 2021 we applied for a status transformation and our application to become a permanent section of ECREA was approved at the ECREA Board Meeting on 18-19 November 2021. Doreen was warmly thanked for her efforts in establishing the TGW Health Communication, organizing core activities and achieving the status of *Section Health Communication*. The chairs Thomas Friemel and Julia van Weert were re-elected, and Elena Link was newly elected as the management team for the Section Health Communication.

The **European Journal of Health Communication** published 3 issues in 2022 (see [www.ejhc.org](https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ejhc.org%2F&data=05%7C01%7CJ.C.M.vanWeert%40uva.nl%7Cbeadcb36b9ed4c842e4608daf4a3c2c3%7Ca0f1cacd618c4403b94576fb3d6874e5%7C0%7C0%7C638091281431969977%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qjh319vLjW9Cu9BjZQVOnRcuqXVrWLPgXMWB%2BGcslqU%3D&reserved=0)) with a total of 18 original research papers and two research reports. Since its foundation in 2019 the journal became the leading open access journal of our field with more than 8.000 article downloads in 2022. Beside two regular issues, the third volume includes a Special Issues on "Mis- and Disinformation about COVID-19: Challenges for Health Communication" by the Guest Editors Sabrina H. Kessler (University of Zurich) & Philipp Schmid (University of Erfurt).

## Plans for 2022:

The **European Conference on Health Communication (ECHC) 2023** will be a Joint Annual Conference of the Health Communication Divisions of the German Communication Association (DGPuK) & the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA). It will be held from 15 - 17 November 2023 at the University of Klagenfurt in Austria. Isabell Koinig and her team are organizing this conference.

At the 73th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA) in Toronto, Canada, to be held from 25 to 29 May 2023, the **Health Communication section of ECREA** will be involved in the panel “Forging impactful partnerships among health communication researchers, health professionals, and community stakeholders” which is a joint panel by ICA, EACH and ECREA members.

The **European Journal of Health Communication** aims to publish several special issues, next to the general issues:

* “Young Scholar Action Special Issue” based on the best-rated abstract of young scholars presented during the **ECHC2021 (European Conference on Health Communication)** on November 4 and 5 2021 (<https://www.echc2021.eu/>). Guest Editors: Heidi Vandebosch (University of Antwerp) & Gert-Jan de Bruijn (University of Antwerp)
* “Best ECREA’s Health Communication papers” based on the best-rated presentations within the Health Communication section. Guest Editors: Rita Araujo (Universidade do Minho) & Julia van Weert (University of Amsterdam)
* “Inequalities and Equity in the Context of Digital Health Communication”. Guest Editors: Estera-Tabita Badau (Université de Bourgogne), Evelyn Y Ho (University of San Francisko), Olivier Galibert (Université de Bourgogne) & Iccha Basnyat (George Mason University).
* “Planetary Health”. Guest Editors: Marijn Meijers & Eline Smit (University of Amsterdam) & Ann DeSmet (Université Libre de Bruxelles / University of Antwerp)