



European Commission

# EU Health Union: Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

#EUCancerPlan

3 FEBRUARY 2021



*"In 2020, while we were all fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us were fighting a silent battle. The battle against cancer. In 2020, we lost 1.3 million Europeans to this disease. And sadly, the number of cases is on the rise. This is why we present Europe's Beating Cancer Plan today. The fight of those battling cancer is our fight as well, in Europe."*

**Ursula von der Leyen**, President of the European Commission



*"Honouring one of this Commission's central pledges, we present today an anthropocentric Plan for cancer that addresses all angles: prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship. It is about health but beyond health policy. A whole-of-society effort. In a strong European Health Union, cancer becomes a shared political, operational and scientific priority."*

**Margaritis Schinas**, Vice-President of the European Commission



*"This is first and foremost about people. About celebrating and reinforcing resilience and treating cancer as a disease that can and must be overcome. A strong European Health Union is a Union where citizens are protected from avoidable cancers, where they have access to early screening and diagnosis, and where everyone is empowered with access to high quality care, at every step of the way. This is what we want to achieve with our Cancer Plan."*

**Stella Kyriakides**, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety



	ACTIONS	TIMETABLE
	<b>A MODERN APPROACH TO CANCER: NEW TECHNOLOGIES, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AT THE SERVICE OF PATIENT-CENTRED CANCER PREVENTION AND CARE</b>	
	<b>Knowledge Centre on Cancer:</b> better coordination of scientific and technical related initiatives at EU level.	<b>2021-2022</b>
	<b>European Cancer Imaging Initiative:</b> innovative solutions for greater accuracy and reliability in diagnostic imaging.	<b>2022</b>
	<b>SAVING LIVES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE CANCER PREVENTION</b>	
	<b>Vaccinate at least 90% of girls and a significant increase of boys against human papillomaviruses by 2030</b> with support from EU funds and investment in infrastructure.	<b>2021-2030</b>



With its **ten flagship initiatives** and **multiple supporting actions**, the Cancer Plan will help Member States turn the tide against cancer.

	ACTIONS	TIMETABLE
	<b>IMPROVING EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER</b>	
	<b>EU Cancer Screening Scheme:</b> including <b>updating Recommendations on screening</b> and new <b>Guidelines and Quality Assurance schemes</b> .	<b>2022-2025</b>
	<b>ENSURING ACCESS TO HIGH STANDARDS IN CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT</b>	
	<b>EU Network linking recognised National Comprehensive Cancer Centres</b> in all Member States by 2025.	<b>2021-2025</b>
	<b>Cancer Diagnostic and Treatment for All initiative:</b> access to innovative cancer diagnosis and treatments.	<b>2021-2025</b>
	<b>European Initiative to Understand Cancer (UNCAN.eu):</b> planned under the foreseen Mission on Cancer, to help identify individuals at high risk from common cancers.	<b>2021-2025</b>
	<b>IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND SURVIVORS</b>	
	<b>Better life for cancer patients initiative: Cancer Survivor Smart-Card</b> and <b>European Cancer Patient Digital Centre</b> .	<b>2021-2023</b>
	<b>REDUCING CANCER INEQUALITIES ACROSS THE EU</b>	
	<b>Cancer Inequalities Registry:</b> reducing inequalities between Member States and regions.	<b>2021-2022</b>
	<b>PUTTING CHILDHOOD CANCER UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT</b>	
	<b>Helping Children with Cancer Initiative</b> , including <b>EU Network of Youth Cancer Survivors</b> .	<b>2021-2023</b>

**€ 4 billion** for actions addressing cancer, including **€1.25 billion from the future EU4Health programme**, plus financial support through the Horizon Europe Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, and the Digital Europe programme.