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Public Policy Exchange runs a series of interactive, high-level symposiums representing the practitioners’ voice in Brussels. The mission of PPE is to initiate and develop avant-garde platforms for capacity building, policy development, and networking, and to serve as a progressive interface between practitioners, non-state actors and policy/decision makers at EU, national, regional and local levels in Europe.

Through its EU office in Brussels, PPE has successfully developed platforms in the fields of public health, human rights, migration, ICT, youth policy, green energy and higher education. With ongoing policy developments in other fields, PPE is continually seeking to initiate new platforms in key public policy areas through close cooperation with EU institutions and agencies, leading European and international organisations, and key practitioners and academics from across the globe.

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Follow us and interact with fellow delegates on Twitter: @PublicPolicyEx
09:15  Registration and Morning Refreshments

10:00  Chair’s Welcome and Opening Remarks
      Jan Buitelaar  
      Professor, Radboud University  
10:10  The European Strategy on Mental Health: Understanding the Current Framework  
      Laura Marchetti  
      Policy Officer, Mental Health Europe  
      Ionela Petrea  
      Head of Department Trimbos International, Leader of the EU Compass for Mental Health and Well-being, Trimbos Instituut  
10:40  First Round of Discussions
11:10  Morning Coffee Break
11:30  Promoting a Cross-Sectoral Approach, Early Prevention, Detection, and Treatment of Mental Health  
      Valentina Polylas  
      Operations Manager, EUREGHA  
      Sona Nevsimalova  
      Professor of Neurology, Charles University Prague  
      Karolien Weemaes  
      Assistant federal coordinator for the reformation of the mental health care for children and adolescents in Flanders and Brussels, Federal public service  
12:00  Second Round of Discussions
12:30  Networking Lunch
13:30  The Role of Technology and Social Media: Potential Risks and Solutions  
      Martin Schmalzried  
      Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, COFACE – FAMILIES EUROPE  
      Tinna Ros Steinsdottir  
      Child Participation Officer, Eurochild  
14:00  Third Round of Discussions
14:30  Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50  Improving Workplace Conditions for Young People  
      Massimiliano Mascherini  
      Senior Research Manager Social Policies, Eurofound  
      Vanessa De Greef  
      Researcher and Senior lecturer, ULB  
15:20  Fourth Round of Discussions
15:50  Chair’s Summary and Closing Remarks
16:00  Networking Reception and Refreshments
16:30  Symposium Close

** Please note that the programme and speakers are subject to change without notice **
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>N.M. Bakkeren</td>
<td>Doctoral Candidate/Teacher</td>
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<td>Franz Baro</td>
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<td>Naila Boussaid</td>
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<td>Joseph Duffy</td>
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<td>Françoise Gillen</td>
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<td>N.J.J.M. Mastenbroek</td>
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<td>Davnet McEllin</td>
<td>Youth Officer</td>
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<td>Miclea Mircea</td>
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<td>Kate Mitchell</td>
<td>Senior Policy and Research Officer</td>
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<td>Sinead Morgan</td>
<td>Adult Education Officer</td>
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<td>Beverley Sinton</td>
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<td>Aleksandras Slatvickis</td>
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<td>Tyne Van der Veken</td>
<td>Project Manager (Youth Projects)</td>
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<td>Diederik Van Iwaarden</td>
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<td>Project Worker Mental Health Prevention</td>
<td>Vlaams Instituut Gezond Leven</td>
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<td>H.M.V. Van Rijen</td>
<td>Professor of Innovation in Biomedical Education / Director of Biomedical Sciences</td>
<td>University Medical Center Utrecht</td>
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<td>Martina Von Richter</td>
<td>Fund Mangager</td>
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Jan Buitelaar
Professor, Radboud University

Jan Buitelaar is a professor of psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry at the Radboud University Medical Centre, and at the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. He is also head of the Karakter Child and Adolescent Psychiatry University Centre in Nijmegen and chair of the National Knowledge Centre of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

He has a strong clinical and research interest in neuropsychiatric disorders as ADHD, autism and impulsivity and aggression related disorders, and is involved in pharmacological, cognitive, clinical, genetic, and neuroimaging studies in these disorders. His current active research is focused on translational studies aiming to identify new molecular targets for ADHD and autism through matching preclinical models to human imaging genetics studies. His research is supported by numerous grants from the European Union, NIH, and from the Dutch Medical Research Council.

Prof. Buitelaar has been editor in chief of European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry from 2003-2014. He has published more than 750 peer-reviewed scientific papers with more than 35,000 citations, and is among the top 1% of most often cited researchers worldwide. He has been awarded several honours, such as the research price of the Dutch Society of Psychiatry in 2011, the international travelling speaker fellowship 2011/2012 of the Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health, and the Merz Guest Professorship at Goethe University in Frankfurt in 2014.

Laura Marchetti
Policy Officer, Mental Health Europe

Laura Marchetti is Policy Officer at Mental Health Europe (MHE), where she works on social policies, employment, work-life balance and deinstitutionalisation. Laura has been working in the field of human rights at European and international levels throughout her career. More specifically she has focused on the rights of persons with disabilities, children’s rights, deinstitutionalisation, economic and social rights.

Ionela Petrea
Head of Department Trimbos International, Leader of the EU Compass for Mental Health and Well-being, Trimbos Instituut

Ionela Petrea is Head Departement, Trimbos International at Trimbos-instituut responsible for Mental Health Care. Previously she has been working in World Health Organisation as Technical Officer for Mental Health Programme (2004-2010) and technical Officer for Tobacco Control Programme (2001-2004).

Ionela has a PhD degree in Medicine from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London and Masters Degree in International Public Health/International Health from University of Copenhagen.
Valentina Polylas
Operations Manager, EUREGHA

Valentina Polylas joined the European Regional and Local Health Authorities (EUREGHA) network on January 2018 as Operations Manager. She leads and manages the Secretariat and provides strategic advice to the Chair, the Executive Board and the General Assembly. She is responsible for the strategic planning process and advocacy campaign of EUREGHA. She also coordinates the network’s commitments within the European projects SUNFRAIL (Health Programme 2014-2020) and BOOST (H2020). Valentina represents EUREGHA externally by liaising with members, EU institutions, European networks and other relevant stakeholders.

Prior to EUREGHA, she was Senior Policy Officer at the Emilia-Romagna Delegation to the EU, where she was responsible for Culture and Creativity, Skills, VET, Youth and Tourism. From November 2014 to December 2017, she was co-chair of the Regional Initiative for culture and creativity, a Brussels-based informal network. She is external lecturer on EU funding opportunities at the University of Perugia. Valentina holds a law degree from the University of Bologna as well as a LLM in International and European law from the University of Bologna and a M.A in European Studies from the University of Louvain-la-Neuve – Université Saint Louis.

Sona Nevsimalova
Professor of Neurology, Charles University Prague

Professor Sona Nevsimalova has devoted the greatest part of her life to sleep medicine. She has published over 200 scientific papers, 7 monographs and 32 monographic chapters. Her main interest is focused on childhood sleep disorders and particularly central hypersomnias (narcolepsy). She received many scientific awards (including one from the American Academy of Neurology) and honorary prizes for her research, the latest one for the whole life scientific contribution from the President of the Czech Republic (autumn 2017).

At present, she is the Vice-President of the Czech Sleep Society, and just finished a four-year period as the President of the Czech Society of Child Neurology. She has organized several International Congresses, and participated in the Scientific Committees of the ESRS and WASM. The main organizing effort was focused on the World Sleep 2017, held in Prague last October; more than 2.700 delegates participated in this event.

Karolien Weemaes
Assistant federal coordinator for the reformation of the mental health care for children and adolescents in Flanders and Brussels, Federal public service

Karolien Weemaes has a master in criminology. Over the years she has contributed to a better cooperation between different service providers of mental health care and related fields for different target groups and from different angles. Since 2013 she was involved with the Belgian mental health care reform which is characterized by a global and integrated community-oriented policy and the creation of regional networks. After having worked as a Coordinator of a regional adult mental health network in Antwerp, she currently works for the federal public service ‘health, food chain safety and environment’,
as assistant federal coordinator for the reformation of the mental health care system for children and adolescents in Flanders and Brussels.

**Martin Schmalzried**

Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, COFACE – FAMILIES EUROPE

Martin Schmalzried holds a Master’s Degree from the ULB (Brussels) in Political Science and is a licensed sociology teacher in upper secondary education. He has been working at COFACE (Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU) as a Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer for over nine years. He was responsible for the content of the #DeleteCyberbullying project and was involved in a number of European Projects as external expert including POSCON, ENABLE and SIP-BENCH II and III. He follows the DG CNECT Alliance to better protect minors online and is an expert to the Council of Europe on Digital Citizenship Education.

**Tinna Ros Steinsdottir**

Child Participation Officer, Eurochild

Tinna Rós Steinsdóttir works as a Child Participation Officer at Eurochild, a network of organisations and individuals working in and across Europe to promote the rights and well-being of children and young people. Eurochild puts great emphasis on communicating with children and young people and do their work for children, with children and within her role, Tinna is responsible for supporting the participation of children at all levels of Eurochild’s work.

Originally from Iceland, Tinna has lived in Austria and Switzerland before relocating to Brussels in 2016 to work with Eurochild. Tinna has great experience in child/youth participation, leadership training and personal development from years of involvement in the YMCA and YWCA from early age; on local level in Iceland, European level, and world level.

**Massimiliano Mascherini**

Senior Research Manager Social Policies, Eurofound

Massimiliano Mascherini is senior research manager in the Social Policies unit, where he leads new research on monitoring convergence in the European Union. Since joining Eurofound in 2009, he has designed and coordinated research in the field of youth employment, NEETs and their social inclusion, as well as on topics related to the labour market participation of women. Previously, he was scientific officer at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. He studied at the University of Florence where he majored in Actuarial and Statistical Sciences and then obtained a PhD in Applied Statistics. He has been visiting fellow at the University of Sydney and at Aalborg University. In recent years, he has produced a range of contributions for international peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings and policy reports.

**Vanessa De Greef**

Researcher and Senior lecturer, ULB

Vanessa De Greef is a researcher in law, specialized in social law, human rights and legal theory. She defended her doctoral thesis on the topic « Right to work and mental disorders ». She advises administrations on social law, public law and public policies.
DIRECTIONS

Getting to the railway stations and airports

To Brussels Airport - Zaventem

The hotel is within walking distance to the railway station Brussels-Nord with departures to and from Brussels Airport - and in direct connection to Brussels-Midi with the International lines Eurostar and Thalys. Up to 6 trains per hour connect the Brussels Airport to Brussels-North, Brussels-Central, and Brussels-Midi stations.

The airport express bus station is 100 meters from the hotel, and the hotel is 12 kilometres from Brussels Airport.

To Brussels Charleroi Airport

From Brussels-Midi, there is a Brussels City Shuttle every 30 minutes going to Brussels Charleroi Airport.

To Brussels-Central Station

Walk from Thon Hotel to Rogier Metro Station and take Line 3 (Direction Churchill) or Line 4 (Direction Stalle P) until De Brouckere Metro Station (1 stop).

From De Brouckere Metro station change to Line 1 (Direction Stockel) or Line 5 (Direction Hermann Debroux) until Gare Centrale Metro Station (1 stop).

To Brussels-Midi Station

Walk from Thon Hotel to Rogier Metro Station and Take Line 3 (Direction Churchill) or Line 4 (Direction Stalle P) until Brussels-Midi Station (5 stops).
Digital Skills for Everyone: Accelerating Europe’s Competitiveness and Inclusive Growth

Thursday 5th April 2018 – Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels

This timely international Symposium will provide an important opportunity to exchange views on the recent initiatives launched in the framework of the EU’s New Skills Agenda. Delegates will get a chance to analyse the opportunities to integrate the digital sector in citizens’ life, its benefits, and the possibilities offered by comprehensive and sustainable training. The symposium will touch upon the topic of digital inclusiveness and how different organisations can lead the process. The participants will share best practice and discuss their digital skills adaptability in different sectors.

Why attend:

- Understand the European initiatives aimed at enhancing capacities in the digital sector
- Explore the opportunities to finance digital education under different Europe-funded programmes (Horizon 2020, Erasmus+)
- Discover ways to build long term strategies to enhance digital literacy and benefit from digital training
- Debate how to address social changes brought about by a growing need of digital skills
- Identify ways to address European geographic fragmentation in digitisation
- Evaluate the role of digital skills in future education and ways to increase their presence in national curricula

Fostering Gender Equality in the Workplace: Developing Inclusive Labour Markets for Women Across the EU

Tuesday 10th April 2018 – Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels

This symposium provides a timely opportunity for experts, national authorities, social partners and other key stakeholders to discuss the latest policy developments at EU level to tackle gender-based discrimination in the workplace. It will also allow delegates to analyse the different drivers of inequality between female and male workers, and to identify priorities for future policy actions in order to remove the remaining barriers to women’s access to the labour market.

Why attend:

- Delve into the latest EU policy developments aiming at the achievement of gender equality at work
- Understand the dynamics behind the horizontal and vertical segregation of female workers and debate about proportionate remedies
- Explore effective solutions to close the gender pay gap
- Discuss about measures and methods to tackle violence and harassment against women at work
- Assess the role of social partners in ensuring an empowering workplace for women
- Examine the consequences of unpaid care work on female employment
- Exchange views about innovative policy answers to encourage a more equal share of caring tasks between women and men

How to Register
Call: +44 (0)845 606 1535
or Email: conferences@PublicPolicyExchange.co.uk