



Launch of the *Review of social determinants and the health divide in the WHO European Region*

# The need for a review and the development of Health 2020



**World Health Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

**Europe**



**Organisation mondiale de la Santé**

BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'

**Europe**



**Weltgesundheitsorganisation**

REGIONALBÜRO FÜR

**Europa**



**Всемирная организация здравоохранения**

**Европейское** региональное бюро

Zsuzsanna Jakab  
Regional Director  
WHO Regional Office for Europe

# Health – a precious global good

- Higher on the political and social agenda of countries and internationally
- An important global economic and security issue
- A major investment sector for human, economic and social development
- A major economic sector in its own right
- A matter of human rights and social justice

# The changing health landscape

- The global health architecture has become more extensive but very complex.
- Globally and regionally health has improved, yet deep inequities remain.
- Health challenges are multi-faceted and require active involvement of all levels of government (international, national and local).

People live longer and have fewer children.

People migrate within and between countries; cities grow bigger.

Noncommunicable diseases dominate the disease burden.

Depression and heart disease are leading causes of healthy life years lost.

Infectious diseases, such as HIV and tuberculosis remain a challenge to control.

Antibiotic-resistant organisms are emerging.

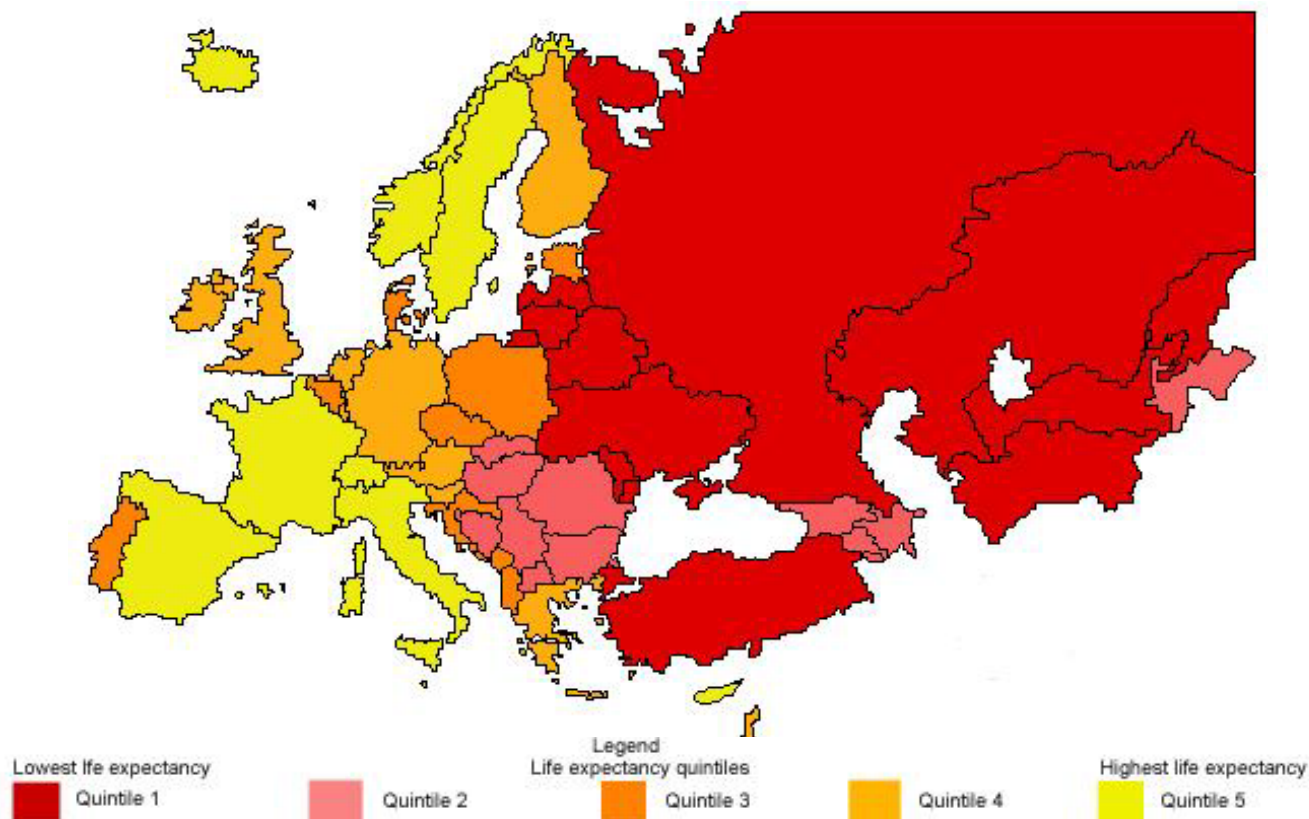
Health systems face rising costs.

Primary health care systems are weak and lack preventive services.

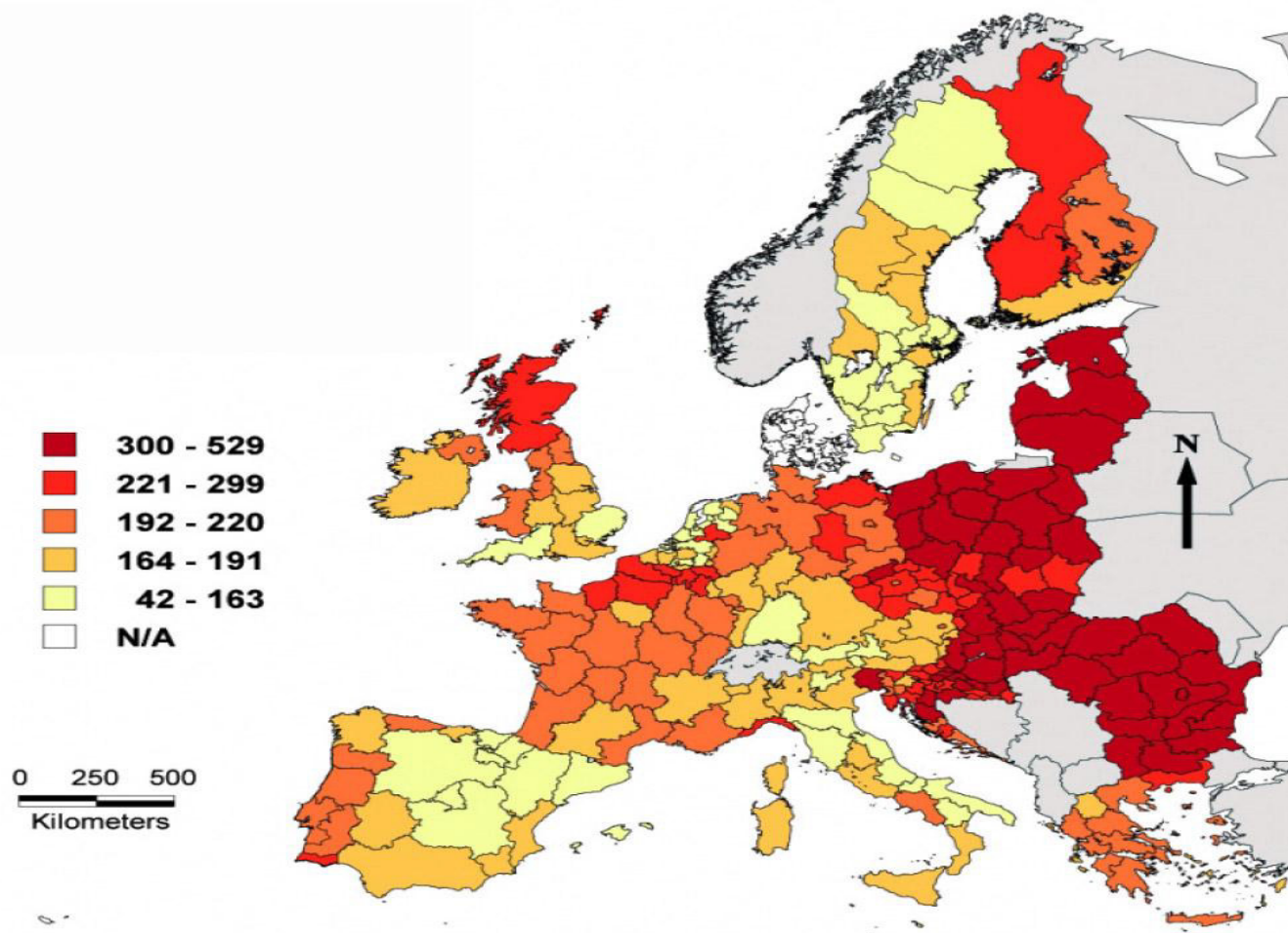
Public health capacities are outdated.

# Inequities between countries

Life expectancy, in years, for countries of the WHO European Region

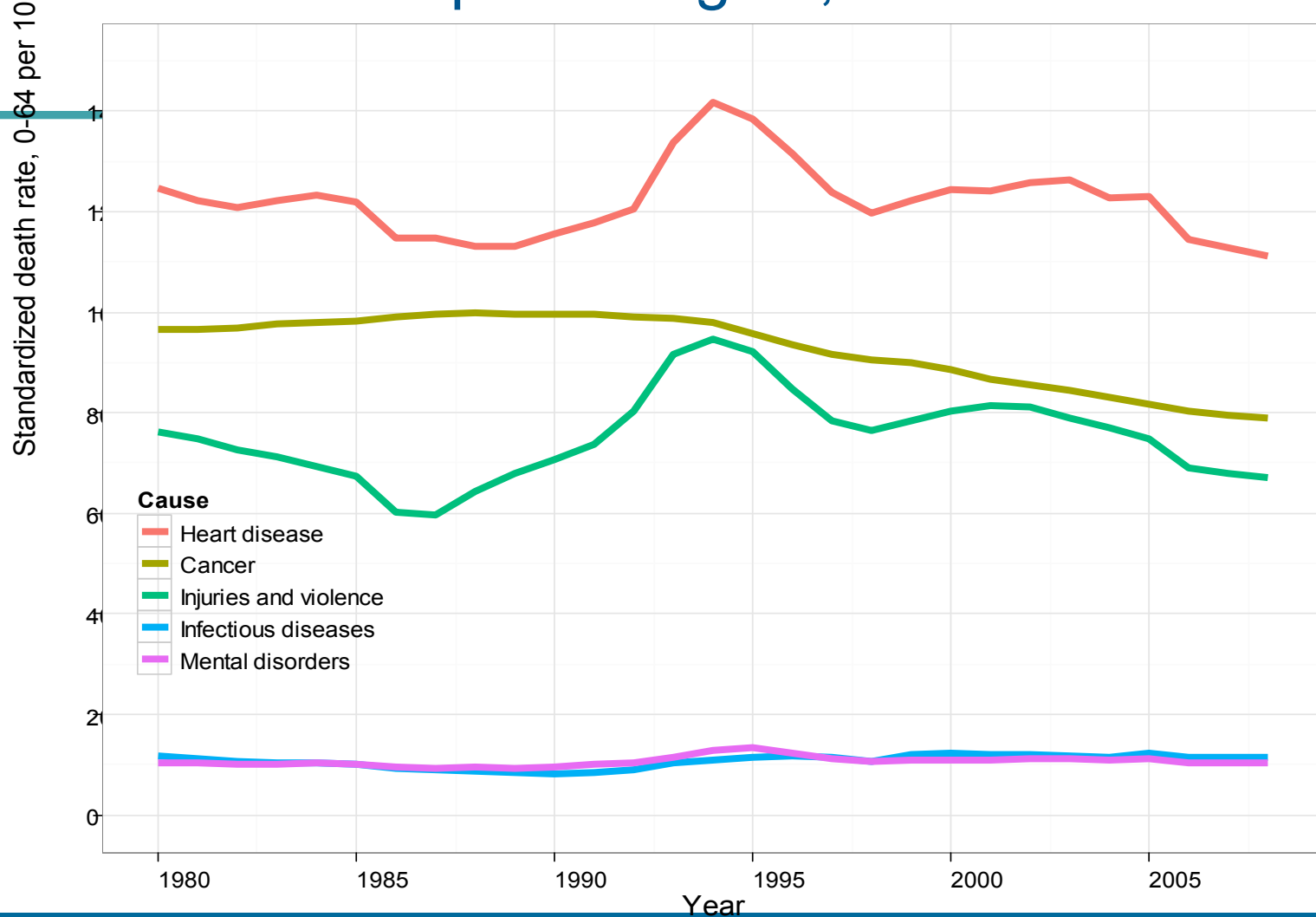


# Inequities within countries



Premature mortality: standard mortality ratios for people 0–64 years of age per 100 000 population for regions within European Union and candidate countries, 2006 or latest available year

# Trends in premature mortality by broad group of causes in the European Region, 1980-2008





# Why Health 2020?

Significant improvements in health and well-being but ... uneven and unequal

Europe's changing health landscape: new demands, challenges and opportunities

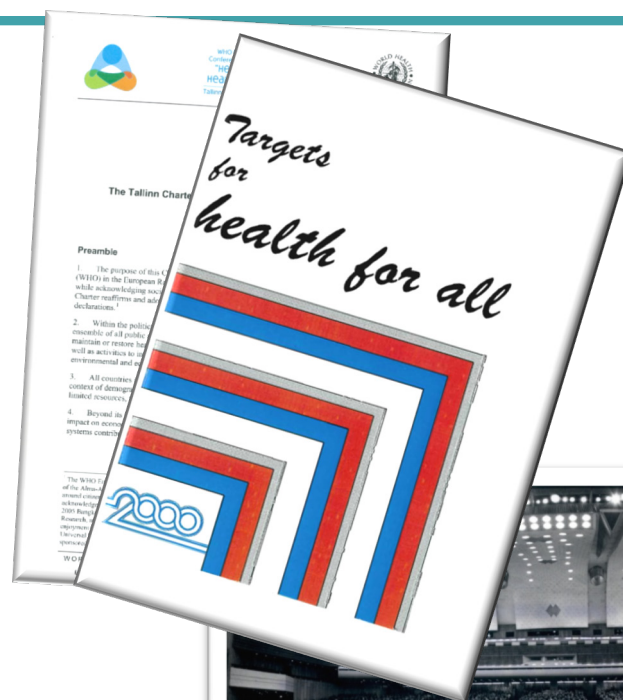
Economic opportunities and threats: the need to champion public health values and approaches



# Building on public health history

- WHO Constitution
- Alma Ata Declaration
- Health for All
- HEALTH21
- Tallinn Charter

Integrated policy frameworks can and have inspired health-generating actions on all levels.





# Health 2020 strategic objectives

Working to improve health for all  
and reducing the health divide

Improving leadership, and  
participatory governance for  
health

## Health 2020: four common policy priorities for health

Investing in  
health through a  
life-course  
approach and  
empowering  
people

Tackling Europe's  
major health  
challenges of  
non-  
communicable  
diseases and  
communicable  
diseases

Strengthening  
people-centred  
health systems  
and public  
health  
capacities, and  
emergency  
preparedness,  
surveillance and  
response

Creating resilient  
communities  
and supportive  
environments

# The Health 2020 framework

- Is an adaptable and practical policy framework.
- Recognizes that countries engage from a different starting point and have different contexts and capacities.
- Recognizes that every country is unique and that countries will pursue common goals through different pathways and use different entry points and approaches but be united in purpose.



# Health 2020 – reaching higher and broader

- Going upstream to address root causes such as social determinants
- Investing in public health, primary care, health protection, health promotion and disease prevention
- Making the case for whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches
- Offering a framework for integrated and coherent interventions

# The development journey

- Evidence-based
- Experience-informed
- Stakeholder-(peer-)reviewed



# New evidence informing Health 2020

- *Review of social determinants of health and the health divide in the WHO European Region*
- *Governance for health in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*
- *Supporting Health 2020: governance for health in the 21<sup>st</sup> century*
- *Promoting health, preventing disease: the economic case*
- *Intersectoral governance for health in all policies: structures, actions and experiences*
- *Review of the commitments of WHO European Member States and the WHO Regional Office for Europe between 1990 and 2010*



# Health 2020: tackling root causes

“We want to see better health and well-being for all, as an equal human right. Money does not buy better health. Good policies that promote equity have a better chance. We must tackle the root causes [of ill health and inequities] through a social determinants approach that engages the whole of government and the whole of society.”

– Margaret Chan, WHO Director-General  
WHO Executive Board session, 16 January 2012

