

# Preparing Health and Social Care Students for the New Realities of Work in Health and Social Care Services

**EURECO-EHECADI Joint Forum**  
**21-22 November 2024**  
**BluePoint Brussels | Online**  
[Register Here](#)

## Concept Note

### Introduction

EURECO, the European collaboration platform, in conjunction with the EHECADI project, is delighted to announce this joint forum which will identify how Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), healthcare providers and support and social care services can best prepare health and social care students for the evolving needs of the sector. This collaboration addresses the contemporary challenges faced by the healthcare and social care and support services sectors.

### About EURECO

EURECO is a European collaboration platform of academic researchers and service providers working on inclusive community planning and development of in the perspective of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The platform originated from a joint initiative of the European Association of Services Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD) and the Centre for Planning and Evaluation of Social Services (ZPE), University of Siegen, Germany to foster European theory-practice cooperation in the disability services sector. It was intended to develop a network of academic researchers and research-affined service providers specifically interested in developing inclusive communities. Furthermore, regular meetings for platform members in a format mixing elements of academic conferences and project development workshops were to be organized. In the following years, the partnership grew to include the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD) and ZonMW.

### About EHECADI

EHECADI is a European project designed to support healthcare students from different disciplines (nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and nutrition and dietetics) to address broad societal health issues such as healthcare equity, epidemic preparedness, underinvestment in healthcare workers, health needs of migrant populations.

To do this the project has developed the following materials:

- An online Knowledge Hub which will host all of the final materials of the EHECADI project;
- a co-designed Virtual Community of Practice that will share knowledge between academia and other stakeholders, detect societal needs and steer the international final graduate dissertations towards them;
- a co-designed digital open course for students that will enhance responsible research as well as the acquisition of digital and transversal skills.
- a set of guidelines for students, teachers, and institutions to support the implementation of the international final undergraduate dissertation.

## **EURECO-EHECADI Joint Forum**

The EURECO-EHECADI Joint Forum will take place between 21-22 November 2024.

Designed for:

- HEIs, lecturers, and teachers;
- Students and research groups in long-term care and healthcare;
- Support service and healthcare providers.

The event aims to address the following questions:

- How can HEI for long-term care, health care and social work better prepare students for the transition to the labour market through their curriculum and final undergraduate dissertations?
- How can HEIs contribute to the inclusive transformation of local support services for people with disabilities?
- How can support service providers collaborate with HEI to further develop curricula that reflect the requirements of contemporary workplaces in transformation?
- How can healthcare and support service providers work with HEI to facilitate the recruitment and continuous in-service training of staff?

Participants will have the opportunity to increase their knowledge in several important areas, including:

- How HEIs and local support service services work together to identify relevant final dissertation research questions that promote an inclusive transformation of services.
- How HEIs benefit from the EHECADI experience of focusing student research activities on innovative service provision in inclusive local service landscapes.
- The experiences of students who have chosen their final dissertation topics using EHECADI's approach.

# Agenda

Day 1: 21 November 2024

08h45	<b>Registration and Coffee</b>
09h15	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EASPD President</li><li>• Johannes Schaedler, ZPE Siegen University, EURECO</li></ul>
09h20	<b>Keynote 1: EU Skills agenda: what does it mean for long-term care and health sectors?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Representative of the European Commission (TBC)</li></ul> <b>Keynote 2: Addressing current societal challenges through Final International Healthcare Dissertations: EHECADI's approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ester Goutan Roura, Fundacio Universitaria Balmes</li></ul>
09h50	<b>Panel 1: Identifying skill needs for the inclusive transformation of health and Long-Term Care</b> <i>Moderation: Renaud Scheuer, EASPD</i> <i>Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Melanie Schaur, Johannes Kepler University Linz</li><li>• Martijn da Costa, ZonMW</li><li>• Representative of EHECADI</li><li>• Representative of EHECADI</li></ul>
11h00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11h30	<b>Panel 2: Designing curricula and dissertations to prepare students for the labour market</b> <i>Moderation: EHECADI</i> <i>Speakers:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student from Fundacio Universitaria Balmes</li><li>• Esa Barlund, Turku University of Applied Sciences</li><li>• Johannes Schaedler, ZPE Siegen University, EURECO</li><li>• Alice Schippers, IASSIDD/Disability Studies NL</li></ul>

12h30	Lunch
13h45	<p><b>Parallel workshops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Workshop 1: Academic Collaborative Centres (ACC)</b></li> <li>• Martijn da Costa, ZonMW</li> <li>• Representative of ACC people with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>• Representative of ACC elderly people</li> <li>• Representative of Dutch Ministry Health, Welfare and Sport</li> <li>• <b>Workshop 2: EHECADI Workshop: Experiences of the EHECADI platform</b></li> <li>• <i>Moderator: Ester Goutan Roura, Fundacio Universitaria Balmes</i></li> <li>• Reninka De Koker, ODISEE</li> <li>• Antonio Ferrira, Red Cross University Portugal</li> <li>• Representative of EHECADI</li> <li>• <b>Workshop 3: Care4Skills: Rapid response to training and skill needs</b></li> <li>• <i>Moderator: Renaud Scheuer, EASPD</i></li> <li>• Kalianne Farren, EASPD</li> <li>• Melanie Schaur, Johannes Kepler University Linz</li> <li>• Jiří Horecký, European Aging Network</li> </ul>
15h00	Coffee Break
15h30	<p><b>Panel 3: Next Steps: Boosting upskilling and reskilling of health and long-term care workers</b></p> <p><i>Moderation: Konstantina Leventi, EASPD</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic, European Commission, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</li> <li>• Mathias Maucher, Social Services Europe (TBC)</li> <li>• Samantha Howe, EPSU</li> <li>• Representative of EURECO</li> <li>• Lyudmil Ninov, BeWell Project</li> </ul>

<b>16h45</b>	<p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EASPD President</li> <li>• EURECO Representative</li> <li>• EHECADI Representative</li> </ul>
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**Day 2: 22 November 2024**

The EURECO Project Development Workshop will take place at Rue Guimard 1, 1040 Bruxelles.

<b>09h45</b>	<b>EURECO Project Development Workshop</b>
<b>12h45</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>

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