



CEPS ACADEMY



Executive course on EU and global health

16-18 November 2026

Brussels, Belgium



CEPS ACADEMY EXECUTIVE COURSE ON EU AND GLOBAL HEALTH

CEPS is opening a call for interest for a new three-day Executive Course organised as part of the CEPS Academy for experts on global health policy from low and middle-income countries in Africa, Southeast Asia and South America.

The course will be organised on 16-18 November 2026 in Brussels with approximately 15 participants expected to be selected.

THE COURSE

The course is designed to equip experts and practitioners — from government, academia, the private sector and civil society — with the fresh insights, advanced expertise and updated latest policy developments and to offer an opportunity for knowledge sharing and mutual learning on global health policy.

Over the course of three days, participants will take part in sessions exploring a broad range of topics from digital health innovations to pandemic preparedness, visit Brussels-based stakeholders, engage in dedicated networking moments, and dive into thematic areas of strategic importance, including digital health, AI in health, pharmaceutical manufacturing, health innovations, pandemic preparedness and health governance. Each session will be led by a top expert in the field. The programme is built around three complementary types of sessions:

Thematic deep-dives. The focused sessions will be organised on topics where global collaboration is most consequential today: digital innovation in health; the manufacturing and procurement of vaccines, pharmaceutical products and health technologies; infectious disease foresight; pandemic preparedness, and surveillance; and next generation health technologies.

Engaging with experts and building networks. Interactive by design, the sessions opens the floor to rich exchange — not only among participants, but also with EU experts and researchers working on the topics at hand. It is as much about forging lasting connections as it is about sharing knowledge.

Global Health governance and the EU's role as a Global Health actor. This course provides discussion on global health architecture, and explores the EU's place within the wider international health ecosystem. The participants leave with a solid grasp of how — and why — the EU engages on global health. The module also explores the lessons learned from the EU's

own experience in health resilience, and offers an opportunity for participants to reflect the lessons and consider them in their own context.

The three days will be structured as follows:

Day 1: Introduction: Global Health Governance and the EU's role in it. This day addresses key questions such as:

- Is the current global health architecture fit for purpose in an era of pandemics, geopolitical competition, and shrinking aid budgets?
- What role does and should the European Union play in global health ecosystem and what are the lessons learned from the EU's own experiences?
- We expect interventions from leading experts from EU Institutions, as well as researchers and senior experts such as Ander Nordström.

Day 2: Thematic sessions. The sessions will cover the following topics:

- Infectious disease foresight and emerging pandemic threats
- mRNA platforms and next-generation vaccine technologies
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Digital innovations in health
- The expected speakers include experts from EU institutions, global health initiatives, civil society and academia.

Day 3: Interactive Sessions and taking stock

- This day will focus on exchanging knowledge and ideas among participants as well as tailored meetings with experts that provide an opportunity for more in-depth conversation with our speakers and CEPS experts.

Preparatory course materials will be shared with the selected participants ahead of the course.

Participants are expected to take an active role during the three days and provide their inputs in each session. They are also expected to present a 'case study' on an issue, initiative or innovative practice, related to the themes of the course. This case study can take many forms depending on the person's affiliation and specific field of expertise. The overall goal is to share with the group ideas, knowledge, lessons learnt and initiatives taking place in LMICs.

The course is free of charge and travel and accommodation will be covered for the selected participants.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Applicant profile

- Minimum 7 years of relevant experience in global health, health policy, public health systems, health governance, or health-related research and innovation in academia, public sector, private sector or civil society
- Demonstrated experience in policy design, programme implementation, research, research coordination, international cooperation or similar.
- An acknowledged expert in the health sector at international or national level, potentially working with and aiming to expand collaboration with the EU on mission-oriented R&I projects, in the field of global health.
- Applicants should currently be affiliated with an organisation working in the field of global health, health policy, public health, research, and/or international cooperation. A relevant role could be for instance in policy development and implementation, programme management, research and advisory functions, policy advocacy, coordination and management of international cooperation
- Demonstrated interest in or experience with international cooperation, including EU partnerships, development cooperation, international cooperation on R&I or global health initiatives. While a strong background in global health is expected, prior experience working with or within EU frameworks or contexts is not a prerequisite.
- Ability to participate in person in Brussels and fully in the three-day course.

The selection process

The selection is carried out through a nomination process. Applicants can either be nominated by the organisation they are affiliated with or nominate themselves.

- Each institution may nominate up to two candidates who meet the applicant profile above.
- Nominations should include an updated CV, a short statement of interest from the nominee, and a justification from the nominating institution, outlining why the course is beneficial for the nominee and for the organisation nominating them.
- Candidates can also nominate themselves, in which case they require a letter of recommendation from the institution they are affiliated with that details how the course would be useful for the organisation

Required documents for the application

- Fully updated CV
- A letter of nomination from the nominating organisation (from nominated applicants) or a reference letter from the organisation a participant is affiliated to (for self-nominated applicants), explaining how this training course will benefit the organisation

to achieve its goals, and bringing in information of the applicant's role in the organisation.

- Motivation letter by the applicant (maximum 1 page), detailing why this course is useful to them, what motivates them, how it links to their current expertise and indicating whether they would be interesting in autumn or spring cohort

Final selection for the applicants will be made by CEPS based on relevance of expertise, professional experience, and institutional diversity.

Application should be sent to Ms. Katja van der Meer to katja.vandermeer@ceps.eu by **16th August 2026, 23:59 CEST**, with "Application for CEPS Academy Executive Course on EU and Global Health" in the subject line.

ABOUT CEPS AND THE ACADEMY

Founded in Brussels in 1983, CEPS ([Centre for European Policy Studies](#)) is a leading think tank and forum for debate on EU affairs, ranking among the top think tanks in Europe. With an exceptionally strong in-house research capacity and an extensive network of partner institutes throughout the world, CEPS has amply demonstrated its ability to anticipate trends and to analyse policy questions well before they become topics of general discussion. At CEPS, researchers conduct policy research across a diverse array of areas, from finance, trade and economic affairs, to health, innovation and digitalisation among many others. CEPS has a large [research workstream](#) on EU and global health connected to a network of top-level expert Senior Advisors in the field based in Europe and globally.

The [Academy](#) is CEPS' branch dedicated to teaching and training, built to share the same in-house expertise that shapes EU policy. A solid foundation in how EU policy actually works, plus deep dives into the debates defining it right now. The CEPS Academy offers a range of training formats designed to meet different learning goals, career stages and professional needs. From a comprehensive understanding of EU policy to a focused deep dive into a specific topic, CEPS offers different formats: a core curriculum, masterclasses, executive trainings and debriefs.

This CEPS Academy [Executive Course on EU and Global Health](#) is accessible through this application process only and not open to a broader audience. It is part of a [research project](#) funded by the Gates Foundation. The contents and findings are those of CEPS, the lectures and invited guest speakers and do not necessarily reflect positions or policies of the Gates Foundation.



Centre for European Policy Studies

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