



European
Commission

JRC PORTFOLIO 27

BETTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO HEALTH CRISES

The need for better preparedness and European Union (EU) cooperation in health crises is a key lesson drawn from the COVID-19 pandemic. Climate change, habitat encroachment and deforestation, overpopulation and migration flows, world conflicts, vaccine hesitancy are destabilising environmental and social factors that are sources of zoonotic diseases and multidrug resistant microorganisms. This will increase the threats of more frequent and more lethal outbreaks. In this context, the EU needs and aims to be at the forefront of preparedness and response planning against serious cross-border health threats, with broad actions and a comprehensive approach in the new Health Union package.

The portfolio aims to:

Provide knowledge, tools and infrastructure to advance the European Health Union and support EU preparedness to prevent and respond to future health crises

Contribute to reinforcing EU strategic technological autonomy and resilience in the health sector and health-related industries, by leveraging advanced technologies for surveillance and medical countermeasures

Share knowledge and expertise in the domain of emerging health preparedness and response technologies, and network with digital and experimental research infrastructures

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Delivering on anticipation, integration and impact of EU policies:

- ▶ providing technology analyses and developing tools and mechanisms to help the EU and Member States anticipate, prevent, prepare and respond to future health crises,
- ▶ providing an agile science and technology platform to prevent and address (One)-Health crises affecting humans, animals or the environment,
- ▶ supporting Commission Directorates-General (DGs), Commission agencies and other relevant organisations in their mandate for early detection and warning of imminent biological threats.

Time frame:

In the **short term**, the portfolio will interconnect existing knowledge, technologies, and laboratory work that addresses multidisciplinary science and policy challenges of health crisis preparedness, in order to support the newly adopted Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health. Within a **long-term perspective**, it will provide cornerstone agile science to build the European Health Union and the prominent role of Europe in the new EU Health Security Framework and EU Global Health Strategy.

Main partners:

Partner DGs

AGRI, ECHO, ENV, HERA, RTD, SANTE

Selected stakeholders

EFSA, ECDC, EMA

Health crises

Pandemics

Medical countermeasures

New technologies

Vaccines

Treatments

One Health

Strategic autonomy

Infectious diseases

Standardisation

Preparedness

Early detection

Early warning

Biological threats

Resilience

Find out more



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<https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-research-portfolios/health-crises-response>

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