

IMPACT REPORT 2025

Prepared by
the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL)



ewac
European Week
Against Cancer

 **ECL**
Association of European
Cancer Leagues

25-31 May

EUROPEAN WEEK AGAINST CANCER

The European Week Against Cancer (EWAC) took place between 25 and 31 May 2025 and brought together policymakers, cancer leagues, and health advocates from across Europe with one shared goal: to reduce the impact of cancer on people's lives and our societies.

Together, we made a real impact. Thanks to our collective efforts, the 2025 EWAC campaign reached over 4.2 million people, with 9.6 thousand interactions online and 880 mentions on social media, amplifying our message across borders.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of European Week Against Cancer 2025. Whether you organised an event, spoke out online, or shared your story, your involvement mattered.

As we close the chapter on EWAC 2025, we invite everyone to save the date for the next European Week Against Cancer, taking place between 25 and 31 May 2026. Stay tuned to our website for updates and ways to get involved!

EWAC is a flagship initiative from the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), a non-profit umbrella organisation made up of 34 national and regional cancer leagues advocating for improved cancer control and care across Europe. Our vision is a Europe free of cancer.

www.cancer.eu/ewac



A WEEK OF ACTION

Throughout the week, a wide array of webinars, events, and social media actions helped shine a light on the everyday challenges faced by those affected by cancer. These activities also highlighted the many impactful initiatives across Europe to prevent cancer, encourage screening and vaccination programmes, improve access to medicines, and promote cutting-edge research and innovation.

25 MAY

Primary prevention

26 MAY

Early detection

27 MAY

Access to medicines

28 MAY

Digital health

29 MAY

Research

30 MAY

Patients and survivors

31 MAY

World No Tobacco Day



THE IMPACT OF THE EUROPEAN WEEK AGAINST CANCER 2025



4.2 million
people reached



9.6 thousand
interactions online



880 mentions
on social media



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

**European institutions,
bodies and agencies**

United Nations Agencies

MEPs Against Cancer

European cancer leagues

Civil society voices



#EWAC2025

EU INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES

European institutions, bodies, and agencies – including the European Commission, the European Medicines Agency, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control – joined the 2025 European Week Against Cancer to raise awareness and showcase how EU policies and initiatives support research, prevention, early detection, and care for cancer patients and survivors.



European Commission

European Commission | 26 May 2025 | Directorate-General for Communication | 1 min read

Home > News and media > News > European Week Against Cancer: providing patients with high-quality healthcare

NEWS ARTICLE | 26 May 2025 | Directorate-General for Communication | 1 min read

European Week Against Cancer: providing patients with high-quality healthcare



Each and every EU citizen deserves the very best in cancer care. As we mark the European Week Against Cancer (25-31 May), the European Commission reaffirms its commitment to achieve a European health union that delivers high-quality healthcare for all. Already through its Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, the Commission has provided support to millions of people affected by cancer across the European Union. It now works with almost 630 organisations and has committed €394 million to support its actions in cancer

 <https://shorturl.at/hWlM6>



European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety

EU One Health @EU_Health

To mark the #EuropeanWeekAgainstCancer next week, join our webinar on the implementation of the #EUCancerPlan on 27 May. Opening remarks by @OliverVarhelyi. Register here: europa.eu/1CKQBQ3



Tuesday, May 10:00 - 11:40 On Webex

3:31 PM · May 21, 2025 · 672 Views



This week is #EuropeanWeekAgainstCancer.

Every minute, five people in the EU find out they have cancer. Through the #EUCancerPlan, it is our mission to make sure their chances of survival are the highest possible.

Since its launch in 2021, the EU Cancer Plan is providing support to millions of patients affected by cancer. We are now working with almost 630 organisations and have committed EUR 394 million under the #EU4Health programme to bolster our initiatives.

Our work does not stop there. Implementation of the EU Cancer Plan continues in full force:

Prevention: A new edition of the European Code Against Cancer to provide practical advice on reducing cancer risks.



European Commission's Joint Research Centre



Sandra Caldeira • Following
Head of Disease Prevention Unit at European Commi
2w • ②

💡 Hope through data: that's what we work on every

Today is #Patients and #Survivors day #EWAC
#EuropeanWeekAgainstCancer and the data in our
#EuropeanCancerInformationSystem give hope!

💡 125 cancer registries 68 cancer types 32 countries
💡 Incidence, Mortality, Survival, Prevalence

💡 These indicators are improving!

💡 Not as fast as we'd wish for. Not everywhere, for e
every cancer type.

💡 And that's why we keep at it: to give policyma
and citizens accurate and timely data, for targeted an
interventions and always better cancer outcomes. Fir
about our work:

ECIS <https://lnkd.in/dmA6T5z>
ENCR <https://www.encri.eu/>



Ciarán NICHOLL • Following
Director Health & Food EU Joint Research Centre
2w • ②

I'm dreaming of the moment where I won't have to
anymore about cancer meaning it will be over, no m
more hearts broken, no more suffering.

As we mark the start of #EWAC2025, I'm proud to re
the work being done by our amazing team at the [EU](#)
[and Innovation](#) to fight against cancer:

💡 We identify and assess the risks associated with s
lifestyle factors that contribute to causing cancer (ex
carcinogens, poor diet, physical inactivity...).

💡 We provide scientific advice on how to promote
habits and reduce the risk of cancer through dietary

💡 We monitor cancer trends across EU countries, to
in cancer across the EU.

💡 We evaluate the potential health impacts of polic
interventions aimed at reducing the burden of cancer
recommendations based on evidence-based science

💡 We look at how AI could enhance cancer diagno



Ulla Engelmann • Following
European Commission Joint Research Centre JRC Directo
2w • ②

💡 Spotlight on the #EuropeanWeekAgainstCancer 🌟

Every year, on 25-31 May, the [Association of European Ca](#)
[Leagues](#) organises this flagship initiative to raise awareness
importance of cancer prevention and care. Each day is ded
key theme and today, the focus rests on [#research](#) – the fo
progress in all cancer care. Here, the [#JRC](#) is playing a vital

JRC Directorate Nuclear Safety and Security was the first to
the novel concept of applying radionuclides in [#cancer](#) the
pioneering research and successful results in the nuclear tr
prostate cancer – achieved in 2014 in cooperation with the
[Hospital Heidelberg \(UKHD\)](#) and published in the [Lancet](#) last
year – was a major milestone, highlighting the JRC's cr
this field. 🌟



European Medicines Agency



European Medicines Agency
336,485 followers
2w • ②

This week is #EuropeanWeekAgainstCancer.

At EMA, we are committed to supporting the fight ...more



317

4 comments · 31 reposts



European Commission's Audiovisual Services



European Commission's Audiovisual Service ②

0 ...

💡 The European Week Against Cancer starts today.

The EU Cancer Plan provides diagnosis and treatment through an EU
Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres backed by EUR 90 million in
EU funding.

Watch more youtu.be/wUIMw3dIA7Q

Read more europa.eu/!493xQy
#EWAC2025





European Commission's Health and Digital Executive Agency



<https://shorturl.at/xBAld>



<https://shorturl.at/an1Y1>



<https://shorturl.at/hiYIH>



<https://shorturl.at/26Q0f>



#EWAC2025

UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES

During the 2025 European Week Against Cancer, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) released new videos, launched new factsheets, organised webinars, shared resources, and called attention to key risk factors like tobacco and alcohol.



World Health Organization



WHO/Europe  @WHO_Europe

Laura Brennan's parents lost their daughter to **#CervicalCancer** – a type of **#cancer** that can be prevented with the **#HPV** vaccine.

Watch them speak about their experience: bit.ly/427xHEG

#EWAC2025



International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)



IARC marks European Week Against Cancer 2025

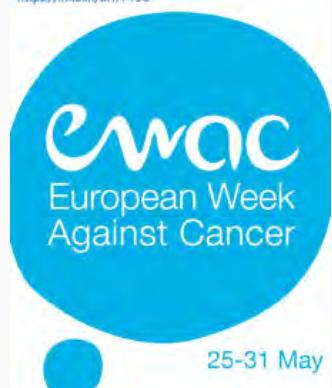
Scientists and other personnel at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) are marking European Week Against Cancer 2025 by highlighting different aspects of the Agency's work in cancer prevention research on IARC's website and social media channels throughout the week.

European Week Against Cancer takes place every year, beginning on 25 May and ending on World No Tobacco Day, 31 May. Each day of the week offers an occasion to highlight a different aspect of the cancer continuum: primary prevention on day 1, early detection on day 2, access to treatment on day 3, digital health and care on day 4, research on day 5, patients and survivors on day 6, and World No Tobacco Day on day 7.

 <https://shorturl.at/FedGa>



 <https://shorturl.at/hNFPb>



#EWAC2025

MEPS AGAINST CANCER

In the lead-up to the European Week Against Cancer, the MEPs Against Cancer (MAC) Interest Group celebrated 20 years of leadership in the fight for a cancer-free Europe with an event held at the European Parliament in Brussels. Supported by the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), the MAC group brings together policymakers from across the political spectrum and EU member states.



The MEPs Against Cancer group also hosted a webinar to discuss the growing body of scientific evidence between per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and cancer. The webinar, which was hosted by MEP Tilly Metz (Vice-Chair of the MAC group), explored effective policy measures to regulate and eventually phase-out these harmful chemicals in Europe.

Featured speakers included Tom Buis (Dutch Cancer Society, representing the Association of European Cancer Leagues), Paul Speight (EU Commission's Directorate-General for Environment), and Sandra Jen (Health and Environment Alliance).



🌐 <https://shorturl.at/y0f8V>



#EWAC2025

EUROPEAN CANCER LEAGUES

Cancer leagues from all over Europe marked the European Week Against Cancer through a mix of online campaigns and in-person events. From advocating for stronger policy measures to prevent cancer, to hosting conferences focused on screening, members of the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL) actively took the spotlight to raise awareness and drive action. Here are a few examples:



Portuguese League Against Cancer



The Portuguese League Against Cancer organised a series of in-person events for both cancer patients and the general public, featuring activities such as yoga and cooking classes, as well as a dedicated conference to explore the challenges of lung cancer screening.



Spanish Association Against Cancer



The Spanish Association Against Cancer, alongside the WHO Regional Office for Europe, Smoke Free Partnership, the European Respiratory Society, and the European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention, organised a high-level workshop in Brussels to mark World No Tobacco Day.



To kick off the European Week Against Cancer, ECL launched a new position paper making the case to ban harmful PFAS chemicals across Europe, due to the growing scientific evidence linking these 'forever chemicals' to cancer.

🌐 <https://shorturl.at/jWr2M>

Deutsche Krebsgesellschaft e. V. (German ... 10,570 followers)

Today on May 30, the European Week against #Cancer is all about patients and survivors. What challenges do people with cancer face when they want to #returntowork? On International Workers' Day, we learned a lot about their perspectives and experiences from our partner Association of European Cancer Leagues:

👉 <https://lnkd.in/d7upC-ER>

Together with the Robert Koch Institute, our researchers at German Cancer Society have published a paper about "Cancer in People of Working Age in Germany 1999-2022" – now available in English!

The publication shows that around 500,000 people are diagnosed with cancer in Germany every year. Thirty-five percent of those affected are between the ages of 20 and 64. How have the data changed over time for men and women? Which cancer diagnoses have the highest proportion of people of working age?

👉 Read more: <https://lnkd.in/e9urgTz>

#EWAC2025 #oncology

Junts contra el càncer

Setmana Europea Contra el Càncer 2025



FECEC Federació Catalana d'Entitats contra el Càncer @FecesFederacio

Diumenge comença una nova edició de la Setmana Europea contra el Càncer que organitza la @cancerleagues.

Cada dia se centra en un tema clau sobre la prevenció i l'atenció del càncer durant tota la setmana.

🔗 cutt.ly/mrCHHUi

#EWAC2025

17 posts · post



La Setmana Europea Contra el Càncer (EWAC) es celebra cada any entre el 25 i el 31 de maig i es dirigeix a professionals de la salut, grups de la societat civil, es politiques, pacients de càncer i supervivents per sensibilitzar sobre la importància del l'atenció del càncer.

Es una iniciativa emblemàtica de l'Associació de Lligues Europees Contra el Càncer: una sèrie d'activitats que agrupa 34 lligues nacionals i regionals contra el càncer de tota Europa. La seva visió és una Europa lliure de càncer.



12 cancercode

12 cancercode Did you know that up to 40% of cancer cases are preventable through healthier lifestyle choices?

The European Code Against Cancer outlines 12 practical, evidence-based recommendations to help reduce your cancer risk — from healthy eating and physical activity to avoiding tobacco and limiting alcohol.

- ➡ Learn the steps
- ➡ Take action

11 likes
May 27



13 cancercode

13 cancercode Cancer is now the leading cause of death for people aged 45-64 in many EU countries. But progress is happening.

eu EU-funded projects are advancing cutting-edge cancer research and innovation. 🚀

Across Europe, national and regional cancer leagues are supporting vital work — from prevention and early detection to treatment and survivorship.

11 likes by krebsliga and 10 others
May 29



ΑΝΤΙΚΑΡΚΙΝΙΚΟΣ
ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ
ΚΥΠΡΟΥ
THE CYPRUS ANTI-CANCER SOCIETY

Cyprus Anti-Cancer Society



anticancer.cy



anticancer.cy 31 Μαΐου - Παγκόσμια Ημέρα Χυρίς Καρκίνου
Ο καπνός παραμένει η κύρια αιτία πρόληψης του καρκίνου, ευθύνεται για σχεδόν το 20% των περιστατικών στην Ευρώπη και προκαλεί περισσότερους από 700.000 αποτρέμουσα ρουσίους κάθε χρόνο.

❖ Το κάπνισμα συνδέεται με τουλάχιστον 16 διαφορετικούς, τύπους καρκίνους.

❖ Όσοι ωρίτερα σταματά, τόσο μεγαλύτερα

τα ωρίτερα για την υγεία.

❖ Ο στόχος για μια Ευρώπη με λιγότερα από



13 likes

May 27



anticancer.cy



anticancer.cy Την περίοδο 2019-2022, ασθενείς στη Γερμανία είχαν πρόσθιση από 46 από τα 48 φάρμακα κατά του καρκίνου που εγκρίθηκαν στην ΕΕ. Στη Λιθουανία: Μόλις 3. Δεν μπορούμε να αφήνουμε την πρόσθιση στη Βερμούδα να εξαρτάται από τον τόπο διαμονής. Όρα να γενικούσουμε τις αναδότητες: [#Anticancereny](https://cancer-inequalities.jrc.ec.europa.eu/#EWAC2025)

See translation



19 likes

May 28



Cancer Society of Finland



syopajarjestot



syopajarjestot Jos tupakointi loppui, yhdeksän kymmenestä keuhkosyövänä voitaisiin ehkäistä. Tupakointi onkin suurin estettävissä oleva syöpäärsi. Tupakointi liittyy lähes 20 prosenttiin syöpätapauksista Euroopassa. Tavoitellaan yhdessä ensimmäistä savutonta sukupolvea.

Ilman syopaa -verkossaivulta löydät tietoa siitä, mitä syöpäriskejä tupakka aiheuttaa.

Vietämme Euroopan syöpäviikkoa 25.-31.5. eri



37 likes

May 25



botniacancer · Following
Pohjanmaan Syöpäyhdistys · Österbottens Cancerförening



botniacancer 3w
Europeisk cancervecka är på gång! -
Käynnessä on Euroopan syöpäviikko!

Pääsy syöpätoitoihin ei saa riippua postinumerosta. Uusien hoidojen korkeat hinnat sulkevat niin poisi monen maan ulottuvit. On aika tehdä elintärkeistä hoidoista yhteen eurooppalaisen asia.



21 likes

May 27

ECL · Add a comment...



Hellenic Cancer Federation



ellok.org · Following



ellok.org 3w
Ευρωπαϊκή Εβδομάδα Κατά του Καρκίνου



❖ Η Ευρωπαϊκή Εβδομάδα κατά του καρκίνου αποτελεί μια κορυφαία πρωτοβουλία της ECL (Association of European Cancer Leagues), η οποία ενύσιες οργανώσεις της κοινωνίας των πολιτών, επαγγελματικές υγείας και φορείς χάραξεις πολιτικής με στόχο την ευαισθητοποίηση γύρω από την



12 likes

May 26

ellok.org · Add a comment...



ellok.org

31 Μαΐου - Παγκόσμια Ημέρα κατά του καπνισμάτος

❖ Η Ευρωπαϊκή Εβδομάδα κατά του καρκίνου αποτελεί κορυφαία πρωτοβουλία της ECL (Association of European Cancer Leagues) και ολοκληρώνεται σήμερα με την Παγκόσμια Ημέρα κατά του καπνισμάτος.

❖ 31 Μαΐου είναι η Παγκόσμια Ημέρα κατά του καπνισμάτος! Το κάπνισμα ευθύνεται για σχεδόν το 20% των περιστατικών καρκίνου

3 likes

May 31

CIVIL SOCIETY VOICES

Health and civil society groups across Europe joined the EWAC action by sharing resources, calls to action, and raising awareness about the importance of cancer prevention and care on social media and beyond.

Association of European Cancer Leagues	European Cancer Organisation	GAMIAN-Europe
ABC Global Alliance	European Environmental Bureau	Health and Environment Alliance
BIG Against Breast Cancer	European Health Management Association	International Kidney Cancer Coalition
Cancer Patients Europe	European Liver Patients' Association	International Papillomavirus Society
CHEM Trust	European Lung Foundation	Lung Cancer Europe
Digestive Cancers Europe	European Society for Paediatric Oncology	Nederlands Kanker Collectief
EDC-Free Europe campaign	European Society of Surgical Oncology	Safe Food Advocacy Europe
European Association for Cancer Research	EU Food Policy Coalition	Standing Committee of European Doctors
European Association of Nuclear Medicine	Foodwatch International	Whole Grain Initiative
European Breast Cancer Coalition	World Bladder Cancer Patient Coalition	

EUROPEAN WEEK AGAINST CANCER

Thank you for supporting the European Week Against Cancer (EWAC)

EWAC is a flagship initiative from the Association of European Cancer Leagues (ECL), a non-profit umbrella organisation made up of 34 national and regional cancer leagues advocating for improved cancer control and care across Europe. Our vision is a Europe free of cancer.

Transparency register number: 19265592757-25



ecl@cancer.eu



www.cancer.eu

