

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Open Call for the Admission of New Cities European Mental Health Cities Network (EMHCN)

Institutional document for public dissemination

Institutional Background

The European Mental Health Cities Network (EMHCN) was formally established on 30 October 2025, following a shared political commitment by European cities to strengthen local public mental health policies through cooperation, good governance and evidence-informed action.

On 19 December 2025, the General Assembly elected the first Executive Secretariat of the EMHCN for an initial two-year mandate (2026—2027), entrusting it with the operational coordination, institutional representation and strategic development of the Network.

Within this framework, and in accordance with its mandate, the Executive Secretariat hereby launches an Open Call for Expressions of Interest, inviting European cities and municipalities to join the EMHCN.

Open Call for Expressions of Interest

The European Mental Health Cities Network (EMHCN) invites European cities and municipalities to express their interest in joining a structured, values-based and action oriented European network dedicated to the advancement of local public mental health policies.

Mental health is a fundamental human right and a key determinant of quality of life, social cohesion and sustainable urban development. As proximity-based governance actors, cities play a central role in promoting inclusive, preventive and community-oriented approaches to mental health.

Membership in the EMHCN offers cities the opportunity to engage in a collaborative European framework designed to support:

- Sharing Best Practices — Establishing a structured space for the exchange and implementation of effective, evidence-informed local mental health policies; ●

Developing Joint Projects — Creating synergies for innovative, transnational mental health initiatives;

- Access to International Networks and Identification Funding Opportunities — Strengthening the positioning of cities within the European and international mental health landscape.

Eligibility

This call is open to cities and municipalities located in European countries that:

- Demonstrate a clear political commitment to mental health as a strategic local public policy priority;
- Align their local approaches with the values and principles set out in the EMHCN Charter of Principles;
- Are willing to ensure active institutional and technical engagement in the work of the Network.

Conditions for Membership

Membership of the EMHCN is institutional and voluntary and is formalised

through: ● The signature of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU);

- The explicit acceptance of the Charter of Principles and the Rules of Procedure.

The governing documents are attached to this call and must be carefully reviewed, as their acceptance constitutes a mandatory condition for admission to the Network.

Submission of Expressions of Interest

Cities wishing to apply are invited to submit an Expression of Interest, including:

- A formal letter or email expressing political intent to join the EMHCN;
- Confirmation of readiness to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and to accept the Charter of Principles and the Rules of Procedure;
- A concise description of local mental health priorities and existing policy frameworks;
- The designation of official political and technical contact points.

Institutional Contact

European Mental Health Cities Network (EMHCN)

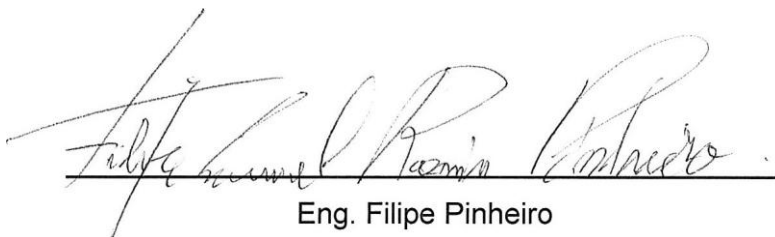
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Issued and signed on behalf of the Executive
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