Meeting Venue: Paasitorni, Circus Hall, 0. floor, Paasivuorenkatu 5 A, FIN-00530 Helsinki.
Location on a map

PROGRAMME

The event is organised by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health of Finland
in cooperation with the Council of Europe

*Please note that all times are in Eastern European Summer Time (EEST)

08:00-08:50   Welcome coffee

08:50-09:00   **WELCOME**

► **Tuula HELANDER**, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland)

09:00-09:20   **OPENING STATEMENTS**

► **Sanni GRAHN-LAASONEN,** Minister of Social Security (Finland)
► **Denis HUBER,** Head of Health Department, Council of Europe

09:20-09:40   **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**
The session will consider how AI systems augment and/or compromise the therapeutic relationship with emphasis on human rights principles relating to health, including the needs and responsibilities of patients and doctors in the transition towards AI-enabled healthcare.

► **Tuomas PÖYSTI**, Chancellor of Justice (Finland)

09:40-10:40   **'PATIENT-AI-DOCTOR' RELATIONSHIP – INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**
The session will explore perspectives and strategic thinking regarding AI-enabled healthcare having regard to human rights and ethical considerations, notably equitable access to healthcare, professional and patient autonomy, and private life and right to information.

- ► Moderator: **Veli-Mikko NIEMI**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland)
- ► Panelists:
  - ► **Tomáš DOLEŽAL**, Chair, Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), Council of Europe
  - ► **Marco MARSELLA**, Director for Digital, EU4Health and Health Systems modernization, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission
  - ► **Katarina VUJOVIC**, Health Research Officer, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
  - ► **Aleksi YRTTIAHO**, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland)
  - ► **David NOVILLO ORTIZ**, Unit Head and Regional Adviser, Data and Digital Health (WHO)

10:40-11:00   Break

11:00-12:00   **EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND AI SYSTEMS**
The session will discuss how AI systems are deployed and contribute to decisions regarding equitable access to healthcare, with attention to the blended access to a doctor and/or AI-enabled health services. Having regard to problems of bias and the potential for discrimination, the speakers will consider how deterministic AI systems are/should be when accessing healthcare services and what support and/or redress do patients need.

- ► Moderator: **Pauliina (Lina) NYKÄNEN-RETTAROLI**, Senior Technical Lead and Unit Head on Human Rights, World Health Organization (WHO)
- ► Panelists:
  - ► **Ivana BARTOLETTI**, Global Privacy and AI Governance Officer, Wipro (Italy)
  - ► **Sarah CUNNINGHAM-BURLEY**, Chair, Nuffield Council on Bioethics (U United Kingdom)
  - ► **Aleksi PAJUNEN**, Teacher of Ethics, University of Helsinki, Faculty of Medicine (Finland)
  - ► **Milana TRUCL**, Senior Policy Officer, European Patients Forum (Belgium)
  - ► **Zinnya DEL VILLAR**, Director of Data, Technology and Innovation at Data-Pop Alliance (Mexico)

12:00-13:00 **PATIENT AUTONOMY AND AI SYSTEMS**
The session will consider what information and critical thinking patients need to use AI-enabled systems to be able to introduce their own values, preferences and perspectives in patient–doctor communications. The speakers will consider whether patients should be able to accept or refuse AI systems in their care or treatment, including whether they should be able to seek a second opinion (with or without the use of an AI-system in the loop).

- ▶ Moderator: **Kristine SØRENSEN**, Global Health Literacy Academy (Denmark)
- ▶ Panelists:
  - ▶ **Izabel ABGARYAN**, Legal Advisor, Yerevan State Medical University (Armenia)
  - ▶ **Tomáš DOLEŽAL**, Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences (Czechia)
  - ▶ **Enni SANMARK**, Research Group Leader, Helsinki University Hospital (Finland)
  - ▶ **Erza SELMANI**, Researcher, Digital Transformation for Health Lab (Kosovo[1])
  - ▶ **Ildikó VAJDA**, Policy Advisor, Patients Association (The Netherlands)

13:00-13:45 Buffet lunch (0. floor, at restaurant Paasin Kellari)

13:45-14:45 **EUROPEAN NORMS AND GUIDANCE ON AI FOR HEALTHCARE**
The session will briefly present Council of Europe work and norms on AI as they pertain to health, including the [Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law](#); [Report on AI's impact on the patient-doctor relationship](#); [Convention 108+ on data protection](#); [draft Handbook on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence](#)

- ▶ Moderator: **Saila RINNE**, Head of Unit "eHealth, Well-Being and Ageing", Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), European Commission
- ▶ Panelists:
  - ▶ **Isil DENEMEC**, Head of Delegation of Türkiye to the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)
  - ▶ **Virpi KOIVU**, Senior Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of Justice (Finland)

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[1] *All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, shall be understood in full compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.*

- **Krista OINONEN**, Chairperson of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH), Director of the Unit, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
- **Maria do Céu PATRÃO NEVES**, Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), Council of Europe

14:45-15:45 PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND AI SYSTEMS
The session will explore the place, purpose and accountability of health professionals vis-à-vis AI systems used in healthcare systems. This includes the level of professional responsibility, transparency and discretion when using AI systems, and the standards, education and training needed in times of transition and deployment.

- Moderator: **Mindy DUFFOURC**, Assistant Professor of Law, Maastricht University (United States)
- Panelists:
  - **Janne AALTONEN**, CPME Head of Delegation, Standing Committee of European Doctors (Finland)
  - **Michael KRAUTHAMMER**, Professor of Medical Informatics, University Hospital, Zurich (Switzerland)
  - **Ondřej VOLNÝ**, Deputy Head, Department of Neurology, University of Ostrava (Czechia)
  - **Katarina VUJOVIC**, Health Research Officer, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

15:45-16:45 HEALTH DATA AND AI SYSTEMS
The session will consider what health data will be collected and processed by AI systems and the place of informed consent. It will discuss health data sharing arrangements and the safeguards necessary to protect the privacy and personal data of patients.

- Moderator: **Joni KOMULAINEN**, Senior Ministerial Advisor, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland)
- Panelists:
  - **Andreas CHRISTODOULOU**, Vice President of Cyprus' National eHealth Authority (NeHA)
  - **Visa HONKANEN**, Director of Customer Relations, Helsinki University Hospital (Finland)

▶ **Marco MARSELLA**, Director for Digital, EU4Health and Health Systems modernization, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission

▶ **Tanja MUOTKA**, Senior Officer, Office of the Data Protection Ombudsperson (Finland)

▶ **Yehor YAHMUROV**, Expert, Department for Monitoring the Observance of Information Rights of the Secretariat of the Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ukraine)

16:45-16:55   SUMMARY

▶ **Maria do Céu PATRÃO NEVES**, Vice-chair, European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE) (Portugal)

16:55-17:05   CLOSING REMARKS

▶ **Denis HUBER**, Head of Health Department, Council of Europe

▶ **Tuula HELANDER**, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Finland)

17:05   Close

Information about arriving to the venue:
Parking:
Guests arriving by car can find parking spaces in the vicinity of Paasitorni. The spaces are subject to a charge. The car park at Jaffa Station (Arena Center Hakaniemi) provides long-term parking options.
Public transportation:
Easy way to locate Paasitorni, go to: www.reittiopas.fi
Many bus lines run through Hakaniemi, and there is a metro station as well. The Central Railway Station is roughly a kilometre away, a distance easily covered on foot or by bicycle as well. Paasitorni provides parking for bicycles on the side flanking Saariniemenkatu. There is a direct train from Helsinki Airport to the Central Railway Station. Note! There will be no direct tram services to Hakaniemi beginning 3 March until November 2025. To get to Hakaniemi, take the Metro (our recommendation) or a bus from the Railway Square or Sörnäinen.