

Strengthening vaccination policies towards the 2024 European elections: from recommendations to concrete experiences

14 February 2024 | 10:30 – 12:00
Room Spinelli 3H1 | European Parliament, Brussels

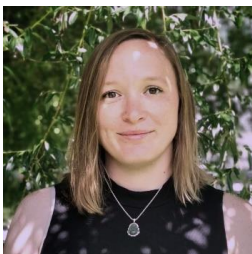
Speakers' list

Beatrice Covassi



Beatrice Covassi is a Member of the European Parliament. She sits as a full member in the Committee for Industry, Research and Energy and as a substitute member in the Committee for Environment, Public Health and Food safety. She is a Member of the EU-UK Parliamentary Partnership Assembly, of the EU-China Delegation and of the delegation for relations with the Pan-African Parliament. She co-chairs the “Sustainable, long-term investments and competitive European industry” Parliamentary Intergroup. She joined the EP in December 2022 from London where she was working as Minister Counsellor at the newly established EU Delegation to the UK. Between 2016 and 2019 Beatrice worked as Head of the European Commission Representation to Italy.

Sandra Evans



Sandra Evans serves as the Acting Executive Director of the Coalition for Life Course Immunisation (CLCI) and is the Founder and Director of Sandra Evans Health Policy (SEHP). She brings ten years of experience in the health sector, leading NHS, European policy, social enterprise and academic projects, campaigns and ventures. She holds an MPhil in Public Health from the University of Cambridge.

Gary Finnegan



Gary Finnegan is Editor of Vaccines Today. He has a degree in physiology, an MSc in science communications and has worked as a health journalist and editor for 10 years. He was a national winner at the EU Health Prize for Journalists in 2009, 2010 and 2011, as well as Online Journalist of the Year and Opinion Columnist of the Year at the Irish Medical Media Awards in 2007 & 2013 respectively.

Angelos Kassianos



Angelos Kassianos is an academic in Health Psychology at the Cyprus University of Technology's School of Health Sciences. He has a research portfolio in Behavioral Medicine and Public Health and leads the co-OPERATOR project which is funded by the EU4Health programme.

Heidi Larson



Heidi Larson is Professor of Anthropology, Risk and Decision Science and Director of The Vaccine Confidence Project (VCP); Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine; Clinical Professor, Department of Health Metrics Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, USA, and Guest Professor at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. Professor Larson's research focuses on the analysis of social and political factors that can affect uptake of health interventions and influence policies. Her particular interest is on risk and rumor management from clinical trials to delivery – and building public trust. Currently Principle Investigator for a global study on acceptance of vaccination during pregnancy; an EU-funded (EBODAC) project on the deployment, acceptance and compliance of an Ebola vaccine trial in Sierra Leone; and a global study on Public Sentiments and Emotions Around Current and Potential Measures to Contain and Treat COVID-19.

Laurent Louette



Laurent Louette is leading the advocacy and Public Affairs of Vaccines Europe, the trade association representing vaccine developers in the EU. Laurent has been working for more than 15 years in European public affairs, from patient associations to industry representation.

Jurjen van der Schans



Jurjen van der Schans is a health economist working at the Global Health unit, University Medical Center Groningen, and member of the Innovative Medicines Initiative funded consortium on Vaccines and Infectious Diseases in the Ageing PopuLation (VITAL). He leads the work package on the economic evaluation of the management of infectious diseases in ageing adults.

Mariano Votta



Mariano Votta is responsible for EU Affairs of the Italian NGO Cittadinanzattiva and the Director of its EU branch called "Active Citizenship Network" (ACN). He has over 20 years of experience in advocacy, stakeholder engagement, European projects, communication, and civic information. In 2015 he led the launch of the MEP Interest Group "EU Patients' Rights & Cross-Border Healthcare," endorsed by nearly 100 organisations across Europe, and the MEP Interest Group "SDGs for wellbeing and consumer protection" in 2021. In 2016 Mariano has won the Efhre International University Excellence Awards on patients' rights and in 2017 he was appointed as Secretary-General at European Consumer Union. Along the mandate 2016/2019, he was also appointed by the EU Commission to represent Italian Consumer Associations in the EU Consumer Consultative Group.



Mariano holds an MSc in Political Science and two post-graduate courses in EU Public Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility.

The event is realized in the framework of the [VaccinAction 2023](#) project.

With the unconditional support of:



Media Partners:

