

3rd meeting of screening specialists and country representatives

Towards gastric cancer screening implementation in the European Union

TOGAS CONFERENCE

September 11, 2025

Europa Congress Center | Rome, Italy | On-line

Participants:

- EU country representatives (ministries, national cancer institutes)
- European Council & JRC representatives
- Cancer screening specialists
- Project consortia members (TOGAS, EUROHELICAN, AIDA, PRAISE-U, SOLACE)
- Researchers and opinion leaders involved in gastric cancer prevention
- Patient advocates

08.00 – 09.00 Registration and Coffee

09.00 – 09.10 WELCOMING

09.00 – 09.10 **Mārcis Leja, Riga, Latvia**
Gianluca Ianiro, Rome, Italy

09.10 – 10.10 SESSION 1 – TOGAS: THE PROGRESS

Chair: Mario Dinis Ribeiro, Porto, Portugal

09.10 – 09.25 01.01. Gastric cancer prevention - A global perspective
Ernst Kuipers, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

09.25 – 09.40 01.02. Overview of pilot studies within TOGAS
Jan Bornschein, Oxford, United Kingdom | Riga, Latvia

09.40 – 09.55 01.03. Preliminary evaluation of potential long-term negative effects of the *H. pylori* test-and-treat strategy: Insights from EUROHELICAN and TOGAS
Danute Ražuka-Ebela, Riga, Latvia

09.55 – 10.10 Panel Discussion

10.10 – 10.40 Coffee Break

10.40 – 11.30 SESSION 2 – FEEDBACK FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS

Chair: Jochen Weigt, Magdeburg, Germany

10.40 – 10.50 02.01. Shaping gastric cancer screening implementation – based on perspectives from EU citizens and policy makers
Marlon van Loo | Thomas More, Antwerp, Belgium

10.50 – 11.00 02.02. Exploring public and patient perspectives on gastric cancer screening: insights from the general public and pilot study participants
Marianna Vitaloni | DiCE, Brussels, Belgium

11.00 – 11.10 02.03 Motivations and beliefs of vulnerable populations regarding gastric cancer screening – results

from focus group discussions in Belgium, the Netherlands, and Romania
Tessa Groen | Thomas More, Antwerp, Belgium

11.10 – 11.20 02.04. Current results from the survey of practicing physicians
Sindija Kezika, Riga, Latvia

11.20 – 11.30 Panel discussion

11.30 – 12.30 SESSION 3: QUALITY AND SCREENING PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Chair: Jin Young Park, Lyon, France

11.30 – 11.45 03.01. Quality Indicators development within the European Commission Initiatives on cancer screening and care
Shawn Baldachino | JRC, Ispra, Italy

11.45 – 12.00 03.02. Quality & performance indicators for gastric cancer screening
Mārcis Leja, Riga, Latvia

12.00 – 12.15 03.03. Quality indicators for secondary prevention of gastric cancer
Jan Bornschein, Oxford, United Kingdom | Riga, Latvia

12.15 – 12.30 Panel Discussion

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 14.45 SESSION 4: UPDATE ON CURRENT AND COMPLETED PROJECTS

Chair: Tamara Matysiak-Budnik, Nantes, France (TBC)

13.30 – 13.45 04.01. Learning lessons from Eurohelican
Bojan Tepeš, Ljubljana, Slovenia

13.45 – 14.00 04.02. Cost-effectiveness modelling of *H. pylori* test-and-treat strategy - A case study from Slovenia
Duco Mulder | ERASMUS-MC, Rotterdam, Netherlands

14.00 – 14.15 04.03. IARC Working Group Meeting on “Population-based Helicobacter pylori screen-and-treat strategies for gastric cancer prevention: guidance on implementation”
Jin Young Park | IARC, Lyon, France

14.15 – 14.30 04.04. AI in gastric cancer prevention – AIDA
Tania Fleitas Kanonnikoff, Valencia, Spain

14.30 – 14.45 Panel Discussion

14.45 – 16.30 SESSION 5: UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Chair: Colm O’Morain, Dublin, Ireland

14.45 – 15.00 05.01. Upcoming European Commission Initiative on Gastric Cancer
Jin Young Park | IARC, Lyon, France

15.00 – 15.15 05.02. Data platform within EU CanScreen
Inese Pojaka, Riga, Latvia

15.15 – 15.30 05.03. EU CanScreen – FIT/SAT pilot
Yelena Tarasenko, Statesboro, GA, USA

15.30 – 15.45 05.04. Is there a place for *H. pylori* elimination in Africa
Violet Kayamba, Lusaka, Zambia

15.45 – 16.00 05.05. The Success and Status of Gastric Cancer Prevention Program in Bhutan

Guru Prasad Dhakal, Thimphu, Bhutan

16.00 – 16.15 05.06. Feedback from the External Advisory Board
Yi Chia Lee, Taipei, Taiwan

16.15 – 16.30 Panel Discussion

16.30 – 17.00 Coffee break

17.00 – 17.30 SESSION 6: ROUND TABLE ON COUNTRY RELATED ISSUES, FEEDBACK, DISCUSSION

Chair: **Mārcis Leja, Riga, Latvia**

17.00 – 17.30 Country representatives

17.30 Final remarks
Mārcis Leja, Riga, Latvia

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