Original article

# Health Psychology and the Sustainable Development Goals

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## **Background:**

The EHPS has a formal affiliation with the United Nations and works to support sustainable development through the

implementation of health psychology research and practice to improve health around the globe.

This year, we asked everyone submitting an abstract to the EHPS annual conference in Dubrovnik to, if appropriate, map their work onto the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The seventeen SDGs define the agenda of the member states of the United Nations until 2030. They address the global challenges of Sustainable Cities and Communities; Poverty; Hunger; Health and Wellbeing; Quality Education; Gender Equality; Clean Water And Sanitation; Affordable And Clean Energy; Decent Work and Economic Growth; Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; Reduced Inequalities; Responsible Consumption Production; Climate Action; Life Below Water; Life on Land; Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions; and Partnerships.

Unsurprisingly, the vast majority of the submitted abstracts this year were mapped onto the SDG "Good Health and Wellbeing", followed by "Reduced Inequality" and "Quality Education". However, there were many abstracts that addressed many other SDG, showing the potential Health Psychology as a discipline may have in contributing to the development of SDGs.

### Aim(s):

In line with EHPS's mission to support achievement of these SDG through the work of health psychology research and practice, we would like to invite submissions of papers focusing on the application of health psychology approaches in any of the areas of the Sustainable Development Goals for publication in a special issue of the European Health Psychologist.

#### **How to Submit:**

The general guidelines for submissions are available <a href="here">here</a>.

We are looking for submissions of abstracts of up to 300 words. The full paper will have a word limit between 1,500 – 2,000 words. The submissions can be position papers, reports, reflections on using health psychology approaches in addressing SGDs, methodological issues, best practice ideas, ways of working, concept and others.

The deadline for abstract submissions is September 30th, 2020. All submissions will be assessed before November 15th, and invitations for full submissions will be sent out before November 30th.

The special issue will also be announced at the EHPS conference in Bratislava and we are hoping that relevant discussions at roundtables, at the meeting of the Special Interest Group "Equity, global health, sustainability", or relevant presentations will encourage submissions after the conference.

Contributions can be submitted by sending an e-

mail to Dr. Lucia Rehackova and Dr. Maria Karekla.

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