

Acknowledgements 2023

DOI: 10.47368/ejhc.2024.100
2024, Vol. 5(1) I–III
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We reflect on 2023 with much gratitude for all who have contributed to the great success of our journal – authors, associate editors, reviewers, readers, and sponsors. Within four years, the European Journal of Health Communication (EJHC) has become a well-recognised outlet for high-quality research. This success is not only reflected by the increasing number of submissions but also by the vast interest of readers who account for 15,941 abstract views and 11,349 article downloads in 2023. We are grateful to the readers of EJHC, who play a key role in promoting the recognition and visibility of the journal in the health communication community.

The high quality of the articles published in EJHC also became apparent during the selection process for the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA) Health Communication Article of the Year. A jury of eight persons from eight European countries read all 19 articles that were published in EJHC in 2022 and selected four articles that were included in a detailed review by the jury members. In alphabetical order, this shortlist includes the work by Gültzow et al. (Vol. 3, Issue 1), Link et al. (Vol. 3, Issue 1), Memenga et al. (Vol. 3, Issue 2), and Ziegele et al. (Vol. 3, Issue 2). We congratulate all involved authors for this achievement and thank them for sharing their outstanding contribution to the field of health communication in our journal. The winning article by *Marc Ziele, Maike Resing, Katharina Frehmann from the University of Düsseldorf and their colleagues Nikolaus Jakob, Oliver Quiring, Christian Schemer, Tanjev Schultz, and Christina Viehmann (Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz)* addresses people's belief in Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19)-related conspiracy theories and their vaccination intentions and convinced the jury due to its high relevance to the field of health communication, its theoretical foundation, methodological rigour, and comprehensible presentation. Nominees and winners were celebrated at the European Conference on Health Communication 2023 in Klagenfurt. In addition to our admiration of our esteemed colleagues, we express our gratitude to the jury members: Rita Araújo (University of Minho), Sara Atanasova (University of Ljubljana), Nadine Bol (Tilburg University), Anne-Linda Camerini (Università della Svizzera italiana), Kathrin Karsay (University of Vienna), Michéle Möhring (Dortmund University), Anna Sendra Toset (Tampere University), and Sergio Villanueva Baselga (University of Barcelona). We also thank Markus Schäfer (Macromedia University Frankfurt), who chaired the committee and organised the whole process.

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In 2023, the number of submissions received by our journal again increased. The reviewer and editors have done a fantastic job selecting the most sophisticated contributions to our field and providing constructive feedback to the authors whose work was not considered for publication. To all of the reviewers listed below, we say thank you, obrigado, gracias, merci, grazie, hvala, danke, dank u, tak, tack, and takk for your timely and well-balanced reviews!

EJHC reviewers in 2023

Ales Ziberna	Elena Link	Nicola Diviani
Alessandro Rovetta	Eline Smit	Nicola Doering
Alexander Ort	Ellen Smets	Nida Gizem Yilmaz
Alexander Röhm	Freya Sukalla	Nils Holmberg
Amalie Søgaard Nielsen	Gian Hernandez	Paula Giesler
Andraž Petrovčič	Helen Atherton	Petya Eckler
Anette Arbjerg Højen	Jakob-Moritz Eberl	Rachael Hunter
Anja Kalch	Karolien Poels	Rhianne Hoek
Ann DeSmet	Kathrin Karsay	Ruben Rivas-de-Roca
Anna Gaul	Laura König	Saar Mollen
Anne Reinhardt	Lorenz Harst	Sabrina Heike Kessler
Anne-Linda Camerini	Magdalena Rosset	Sandra Zwier
Aurora Occa	Marcia Vervloet	Sara Atanasova
Barbara Schouten	Mark Boukes	Sarah Eitze
Bruno Takahashi	Marko Bachl	Sinikka Torkkola
Christian von Sikorski	Matthew Matsaganis	Sonali Wayal
Christin Scholz	Matthias R. Hastall	Thomas Gültzow
David Rodrigues	Michael Brill	Toni Claessens
Dennis Rosenberg	Minh Hao Nguyen	Yara Qutteina
Dominik Daube	Mirjam Jenny	Yi Xu
Dominique Wirz	Nehama Lewis	

Since its launch in 2019, 202 different reviewers have contributed to EJHC. Among them are three reviewers who were especially engaged and deserve our gratitude: Sara Atanasova (University of Ljubljana), Kathrin Karsay (University of Vienna), and Elena Link (JGU Mainz). Each has reviewed at least four articles during this time and provided valuable feedback to the editors and authors. These three colleagues were celebrated at the EHC 2023 conference in Klagenfurt and received our distinguished EJHC Reviewer Award.

Growing as a journal involves hand-over among the associate editors and management team. In 2023, Gert-Jan de Bruijn (University of Antwerp) left the management team, and Tom H. van de Belt (Radbout University) and Kathleen Beullens (KU Leuven) left the team of associate editors. Therefore, we are more than happy to welcome Helena Sandberg (Lund University) and Raffael Heiss (University of Innsbruck) to our team. In light of this turnover, we strive for continuity in all editorial processes with the help of our associate editors Eva Baumann (Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media), Anne-Linda Camerini (Università della Svizzera italiana), Gregor Petrič (University of Ljubljana), Constanze Rossmann (LMU Munich), and Barbara Schouten (University of Amsterdam), our language editor Petya Eckler (University of Strathclyde), and our typesetter Zeph van Berlo (University of Amsterdam).

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We are aware that there are other high-quality journals that publish articles on health communication. However, EJHC is the only journal today that is truly open access. As a platinum open access journal, publication and access is free of charge for readers and authors. Based on our experience, we know what it takes to run a journal, where inappropriate profit maximisation begins, and how public money and the free labour of authors, reviewers, and editors are diverted into shareholder pockets. Therefore, we are convinced more than ever that platinum open access is the only fair way for academic publishing. At EJHC, all editors work for free, but we pay our editorial assistant and typesetter a fair wage. Therefore, we are grateful for all in-kind support and sponsorship that we receive. We thank the main library of the University of Zurich for providing, hosting, and maintaining the publishing platform. We also appreciate the Department of Communication and Media Research (IKMZ), the Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR), the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW), and the University of Amsterdam for their financial support.

The EJHC Management Team (in alphabetical order),
Thomas N. Friemel, Sarah Geber, Nico Pfiffner, Doreen Reifegerste, and Julia van Weert