



Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Spanish Society of Epidemiology (Sociedad Española de Epidemiología, SEE), we would like to reaffirm our commitment to global health governance. In an interconnected world, health challenges transcend borders and require coordinated responses based on scientific evidence and international cooperation.

We wish to emphasize the central role of the World Health Organization (WHO) as the principal institution for promoting health, maintaining global security, and caring for vulnerable populations so that everyone, wherever they are, can enjoy the highest attainable standard of health. Since its creation, the WHO has played a leading role in monitoring and controlling communicable and non-communicable diseases, improving health systems and responding to health emergencies. Its work has significantly contributed to historic milestones such as the eradication of smallpox, the dramatic reduction in child mortality and the containment of epidemic outbreaks through vaccination strategies and epidemiological surveillance. These achievements demonstrate the transformative power of science and how countries can work together despite their political and economic differences.

It is also important to acknowledge the critical contribution of US institutions such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). These institutions have been key partners in developing innovative research, responding to global health crises, and supporting public health policies and programmes that have benefited millions of people around the world.

In Europe, we must continue to strengthen the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), broadening its scope of collaboration to tackle health problems around the world and promoting its role in training professionals.

In this context, it is essential to recognise that strengthening global health governance not only benefits the most vulnerable regions, but also protects collective health and ensures a safer future for all. The different public health emergencies of international concern are a reminder that global health threats require evidence-based, coordinated and supportive responses. Science, with its capacity to generate rigorous knowledge and effective solutions, must continue to guide public health decision-making.

To strengthen our commitment to sound and equitable global public health, the SEE proposes the following actions:

1. **To actively support the WHO and other international public health institutions:** to recognise and strengthen the role of the WHO as the lead agency in coordinating global health responses, ensuring its independence and operational capacity. It is also recommended to strengthen and expand the role of public health institutions at European level.
2. **To strengthen scientific dissemination and public health education:** to bring evidence-based knowledge closer to citizens, combat misinformation and promote a culture of trust in health institutions.
3. **Promotion of partnerships between national and international scientific societies in the field of public health and epidemiology:** strengthening collaboration between organisations in different countries to share best practices, resources and knowledge that contribute to more effective and resilient global health governance.
4. **To advocate for public policies that make global health a priority:** by urging governments to maintain and increase their support for international cooperation, recognising that an investment in global health is an investment in stability, prosperity and sustainable development.

Health is a fundamental right and a common good that we must preserve with responsibility and commitment. At this historic moment, the unity of scientific societies



and the support of international public health institutions are essential to protect the gains made and to move towards a healthier, fairer and safer future for all people around the world.

We are at your disposal to coordinate efforts and promote joint actions in the defense of international public health.

Yours sincerely,

*Spanish Society of Epidemiology*

Scientific societies adhering to this initiative:

