

## **ASPHER STATEMENTS AND OTHER FORMS OF OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION**

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This clarification of ASPHER's position on public statements and other forms of official communication is designed to improve the understanding of routine ASPHER operations. It will come into force from the time of approval by the ASPHER Executive Board.

ASPHER will not endorse or facilitate the publication of any works that have been financed by interests which violate ASPHER's funding, donation and sponsorship policy.

### **1) Public statements and official communications expressing the organisational position or viewpoint(s) of ASPHER**

When resolving to make a public statement or other official external communication expressing the organisational position of the Association, ASPHER must consider its mission to improve and protect the public health by strengthening education and training of public health professionals for both practice and research; mandate to support the professionalisation of the public health workforce in Europe and sustain capacity building in public health; and sphere of influence as a membership organisation made up of institutions of public health education and training.

ASPHER statements and communications may take a stance on issues related to its mission and core mandate, of public health training and education systems, capacity building, workforce development and professionalisation. ASPHER may also make statements about Schools themselves, issues affecting them and the situations they are operating in (for example, country or regional contexts). ASPHER statements and other official external communications require approval of the ASPHER Executive Board to ensure alignment with ASPHER's mission, mandate and sphere of influence.

The position(s) expressed in ASPHER statements represent an organisational viewpoint alone and do not necessarily reflect the position of individual ASPHER Member institutions. ASPHER may seek endorsement of its statements by other organisations or topic relevant stakeholders.

Topics and issues falling outside of ASPHER's mission, mandate and sphere of influence may be better addressed through partner organisations and other fora. In such cases, the ASPHER Executive Board may approve a co-authorship role or endorsement by ASPHER as deemed most appropriate.

### **2) Publications and written communications not expressing the organisational position or viewpoint(s) of ASPHER**

ASPHER and ASPHER working structures (see: ASPHER WORKING STRUCTURES for a definition of ASPHER working structures) may choose to publish other forms of communications (for example: position papers, commentaries, policy briefs and reports) to record activities, address interest in and disseminate results from ASPHER and working structure agenda-items. These may be published through the ASPHER website or through scientific journals.

Publications and communications that do not represent an official position of ASPHER do not require Executive Board approval. However, the Executive Board must be informed of all publications and written communications arising from ASPHER activities. The Executive Board reserves the right to intervene if the content is inappropriate, could cause reputational damage to ASPHER, is not properly evidenced or is of poor quality.

Publications by ASPHER working structures must include a disclaimer clarifying that any views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect ASPHER's views or official position.

If the working structure does not have independent sources of funding (e.g. project funding, publication fee waiver) and seeks for publication fees to be paid by ASPHER, a request for funds must be made to and formally approved by the Executive Board in advance of submission.