

# Concept Note

## 5th Global Mental Health Summit

### “Mental Health in All Policies”

#### Date & Venue

The 5th Global Mental Health Summit (GMHS) will be held in Centro Cultural Kirchner (CCK), Buenos Aires, Argentina, on October 5 & 6, 2023.

#### Background & Objectives

For the purpose of creating a continuum between the Summits held in Rome (2022), Paris (2021), Amsterdam (2019) and London (2018), and as a sign of the global pledge for mental health, the Minister of Health of Argentina, Carla Vizzotti, announced during the 4th GMHS in Rome the intention of hosting the 5th GMHS in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. This will be the first Summit held in Latin America.

*“Our President, Alberto Fernández, has defined mental health and substance use as a public health priority, based on the strong belief that there is no health without mental health, and no mental health without social justice, a human rights-based and gender perspective”<sup>1</sup>*

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<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-sera-sede-de-la-cumbre-mundial-de-salud-mental-de-2023>

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda emphasize the promotion of mental health and psychosocial wellbeing as an integral part of the plans to reduce health inequalities within Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing (SDG 3). In this context, the GMHS 2023 aims at introducing the concept of mental health as a cross-cutting component of all public policies in order to make interventions based on the social determinants that affect people and communities.

In this regard, mental health policies have the potential ability to strengthen recovery processes within critical situations. The emergency context triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic can be better understood as an opportunity to reinforce and relaunch the transformation and improvement processes of the healthcare system, thus raising awareness on the need to structurally integrate mental health into the various policies that compose the governments' response.

The new health intervention scenarios at global level represent a challenge for public policies. These scenarios do not only require an increase in mental health budgets (which represent on average 2% of countries' health budgets at global level, according to the World Health Organization), but also the adoption of a cross-sectoral and comprehensive approach that includes meeting demands and providing solutions in a collective way, taking into account the singularities of healthcare processes depending on people's life cycles.

In line with the visibility of the mental health approach at global level during the COVID-19 pandemic, Argentina launched the Federal Strategy for the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health and Substance Use in 2022, with a human-rights, gender-responsive and diversity respectful perspective in order to implement and articulate public policies for mental health care and medical assistance.

**“Mental Health in All Policies”** represents bringing together all government areas, as well as civil society, into a dialogue for the purpose of agreeing on and designing public policies that are responsive to the multiple and complex needs of the population regarding mental health, based on the paradigm of community mental health and on the understanding that mental health is a relevant topic for everyone.

### Format

The GMHS 2023 will be a two-day in-person event, which will include a high-level inaugural conference on Mental Health in All Policies, two global plenary sessions, one regional plenary session, and nine thematic workshops.

### Outcome

The GMHS 2023 aims to scale up community mental health interventions in all policies, to include mental health and psychosocial support services in national mandates and budgets, to implement actions focused on the key role of the social determinants of mental health, and to strengthen measures that promote access to the health system within the transformation process from institutional to community-based models.

### More info:

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 <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/salud/mental-cumbre-mundial-2023/en>