

Gender Equity & Tobacco control:

High impact accelerators for the EU Safe Hearts' ambition

20 May 2026
08:30-13:00

Permanent Representation
of Cyprus to the EU

Under the auspices of the Cypriot Presidency
of the Council of the EU in collaboration with
the European Society of Cardiology



Wednesday,
20 May 2026
08:30 – 13:00



Permanent Representation of
Cyprus to the EU
Av. de Cortenberg 61, 1000
Brussels

[Register here](#)

PROGRAMME

08:30 | **Arrival**

09:00 ● Opening
Opening Remarks

Welcome by the Cypriot Presidency of the Council of the EU.

Master of Ceremony for the full event: **Mrs. Berna Berberoglu**, Spokesperson, Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the EU

09:10 ● Opening Exchange · 30 min

The Safe Hearts Journey: Milestones, Momentum and Next Moves

Csaba Kontor

Cabinet of Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi

Dr Kyriakos Yiangou

Cypriot representative

Gender Inequalities in Cardiovascular Health

09:40 ● Keynote · 10 min

Gender Inequalities in Cardiovascular Health

Prof. Cecilia Linde

President-Elect, European Society of Cardiology

09:50 ● Panel Discussion · 50 min (Q&A integrated)

Panel 1: Gender Equality and Health Equity in CVD Prevention and Care

Elsie Evans

Patient Advocate, FH Europe Foundation (NL)

Janis Morrissey

Deputy CEO, Irish Heart Foundation

Prof. Bharati Shivalkar

Cardiologist, Delta Hospital Brussels & FESC

Novartis Representative

Industry Perspective

10:40

Quick refreshment break · 20 min

Nicotine as a Structural Driver of CVD

11:00 ● Panel Discussion · 50 min (+ Q&A) · In collaboration with ECDA (European Chronic Disease Alliance)

Panel 2: Nicotine and Tobacco Control in the EU Safe Hearts Plan

Helen Parks

Vice Chair Elect, European Lung Foundation

Moderated by **Richard Price, Policy Director**,

European Cancer Organisation (ECO)

Prof. Maryam Kavousi

European Association of Preventive Cardiology

11:50 ● Closing · 10 min

Closing Remarks

12:00

Lunch & networking · 60 min