# Top 3 Health Reforms in Europe …and beyond

**Health Systems and Policy Monitor Meeting**
**Online, 27 Oct 2020**

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European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

a partnership hosted by WHO

# The Health Reform Round-up

Krakow 2018

Malta, 2019

# Developments

- A paper to be submitted to Health Policy

> Major health reforms in 31 high-income countries in 2018 and 2019: a comprehensive overview of the top 3 national reforms in both years

  – All HSPM contributors invited to be co-authors.

  – Comment period closes Nov 6th.

- Incorporate experiences into new Observatory/HSPM website

  – More systematic monitoring of reforms

  – Better visualization of reform trends across countries

# The 2020 survey

- Aims:
  - Overview of 2020 reforms (impact of COVID?)
  - Implementation status of 2018 and 2019 reforms

- Survey sent out on Oct 7th
  - All countries responded, last answer: yesterday, 18:00

- New in 2020 survey: Reform definition:
  - "A purposeful process that involves systematic policy, structural and/or process changes and is aimed at achieving desired goals"

# Results

## Survey response

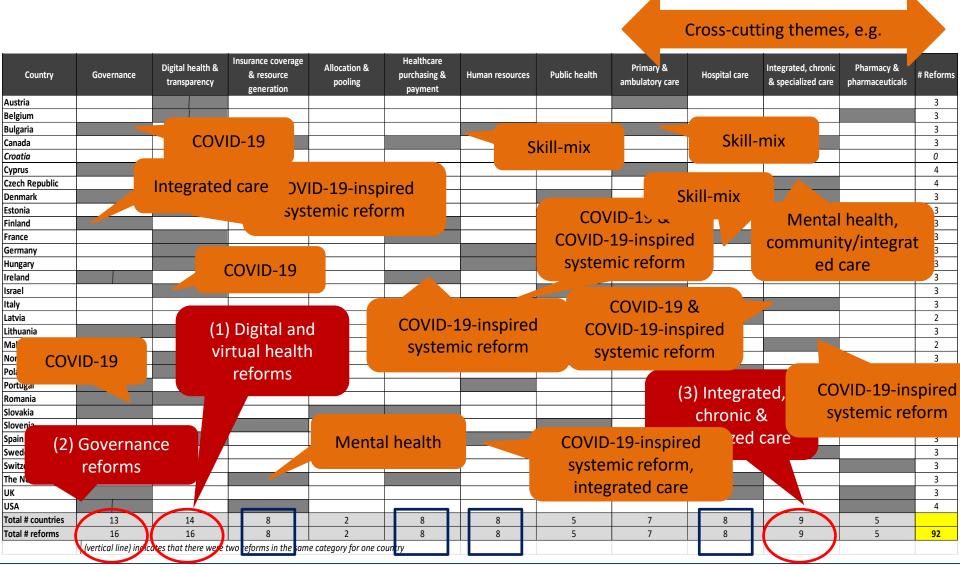| | 2018 | Reported | Included in analysis | 2019 | Reported | Included in analysis | 2020 | Reported | Included in analysis |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total countries | 31 | 30 | 28 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 30 |

**81 reforms**

**87 reforms**

**93 reforms**

## 11 reform categories

1. Governance
2. Digital health & transparency
3. Insurance coverage & resource generation
4. Resource allocation & pooling
5. Healthcare purchasing & payment
6. Human resources
7. Public health
8. Primary & ambulatory care
9. Hospital care
10. Chronic & other specialized care
11. Pharmaceuticals

# 2020 reforms



Callout labels: Cross-cutting themes, e.g. · COVID-19 · Skill-mix · Skill-mix · Integrated care · COVID-19-inspired systemic reform · Skill-mix · COVID-19 & COVID-19-inspired systemic reform · Mental health, community/integrated care · COVID-19 · (1) Digital and virtual health reforms · COVID-19-inspired systemic reform · COVID-19 & COVID-19-inspired systemic reform · COVID-19 · (2) Governance reforms · Mental health · (3) Integrated, chronic & specialized care · COVID-19-inspired systemic reform · COVID-19-inspired systemic reform, integrated care

| Country | Governance | Digital health & transparency | Insurance coverage & resource generation | Allocation & pooling | Healthcare purchasing & payment | Human resources | Public health | Primary & ambulatory care | Hospital care | Integrated, chronic & specialized care | Pharmacy & pharmaceuticals | # Reforms |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Belgium | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Bulgaria | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Canada | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| *Croatia* | | | | | | | | | | | | *0* |
| Cyprus | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Czech Republic | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Denmark | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Estonia | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Finland | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| France | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Germany | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Hungary | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Ireland | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Israel | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Italy | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Latvia | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Lithuania | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Mal... | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Nor... | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Pola... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Portugal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Romania | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slovakia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slovenia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spain | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Swe... | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| Switz... | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| The N... | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| UK | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 |
| USA | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Total # countries | 13 | 14 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | |
| Total # reforms | 16 | 16 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 92 |

| (vertical line) indicates that there were two reforms in the same category for one country

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# 2018 reform implementation 2019

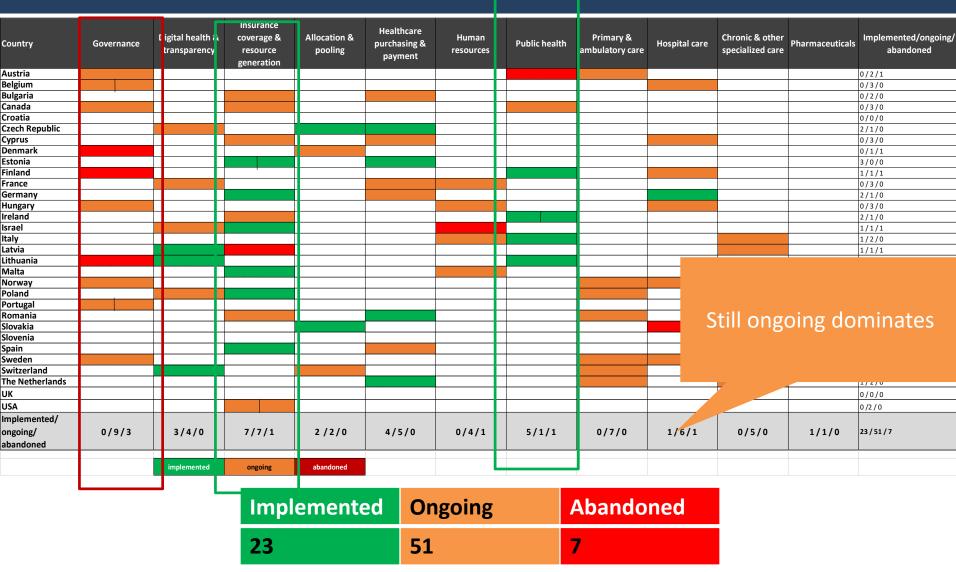| Country | Governance | Digital health & transparency | Insurance coverage & resource generation | Allocation & pooling | Healthcare purchasing & payment | Human resources | Public health | Primary & ambulatory care | Hospital care | Chronic & other specialized care | Pharmaceuticals | Implemented/ongoing/ abandoned |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 1 |
| Belgium | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 |
| Bulgaria | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 |
| Canada | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 |
| Croatia | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Czech Republic | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 / 1 / 0 |
| Cyprus | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 |
| Denmark | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 1 / 1 |
| Estonia | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Finland | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 1 / 1 |
| France | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 |
| Germany | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 / 1 / 0 |
| Hungary | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 |
| Ireland | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 / 1 / 0 |
| Israel | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 1 / 1 |
| Italy | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 |
| Latvia | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 1 / 1 |
| Lithuania | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Malta | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Norway | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poland | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Portugal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Romania | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slovakia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slovenia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spain | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sweden | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Switzerland | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| The Netherlands | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 |
| UK | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 |
| USA | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 |
| Implemented/ ongoing/ abandoned | 0 / 9 / 3 | 3 / 4 / 0 | 7 / 7 / 1 | 2 / 2 / 0 | 4 / 5 / 0 | 0 / 4 / 1 | 5 / 1 / 1 | 0 / 7 / 0 | 1 / 6 / 1 | 0 / 5 / 0 | 1 / 1 / 0 | 23 / 51 / 7 |

Still ongoing dominates

| implemented | ongoing | abandoned |
|---|---|---|

| Implemented | Ongoing | Abandoned |
|---|---|---|
| 23 | 51 | 7 |

# 2018 reform implementation 2020

| Country | Governance | Digital health & transparency | Insurance coverage & resource generation | Allocation & pooling | Healthcare purchasing & payment | Human resources | Public health | Primary & ambulatory care | Hospital care | Chronic & other specialized care | Pharmaceuticals | Implemented/ ongoing/ abandoned / missing |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | 🟩 | | | | | | 🟥 | 🟧 | | | | 1 / 1 / 1 / 0 |
| Belgium | 🟧 | | | | | | | | 🟧 | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Bulgaria | | | 🟥 | | 🟥 | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Canada | 🟨 | | 🟨 | | | | 🟨 | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Croatia | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Cyprus | | | 🟨 | | 🟨 | | | | 🟨 | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Czech Republic | | 🟩 | | 🟩 | 🟩 | | | | | | | 3 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Denmark | 🟥 | | | | 🟨 | | | | | | | 0 / 1 / 0 / 1 |
| Estonia | | | 🟩 | | 🟨 | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Finland | 🟥 | | | | | | 🟩 | | 🟨 | | | 1 / 0 / 1 / 1 |
| France | | 🟧 | | | 🟧 | | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Germany | | | 🟩 | | 🟨 | | | | | 🟩 | | 2 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Hungary | 🟧 | | | | | 🟧 | | | 🟧 | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Ireland | | | 🟧 | | | | 🟩 | | | | | 2 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| Israel | | 🟩 | 🟩 | | | 🟥 | | | | | | 2 / 0 / 1 / 0 |
| Italy | | | | | | | | | | 🟧 | | 2 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| Latvia | 🟥 | 🟩 | 🟥 | | | | | | | 🟨 | | 1 / 0 / 1 / 1 |
| Lithuania | 🟥 | | | | | | | | | | | 2 / 0 / 1 / 0 |
| Malta | | | | | | | | | | | 🟨 | 1 / 0 / 0 / 2 |
| Norway | 🟨 | | | | | | | 🟨 | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Poland | | 🟨 | 🟩 | | | | | 🟨 | | | | 1 / 0 / 0 / 2 |
| Portugal | 🟧 | | 🟩 | | | | | | | 🟧 | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Romania | | | 🟥 | | | | | | | | | 1 / 1 / 1 / 0 |
| Slovakia | | | | | | | | 🟧 | 🟥 | | 🟩 | 2 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| Slovenia | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Spain | | | 🟩 | | | | | | | 🟨 | | 1 / 0 / 0 / 2 |
| Sweden | 🟧 | | | | | | | | 🟧 | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Switzerland | | 🟩 | | | | | | 🟩 | | | | 2 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| The Netherlands | | | | | | | | | 🟧 | 🟧 | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| UK | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| USA | | | 🟧 | | | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| **Implemented/ ongoing/ abandoned** | 1 / 6 / 3 / 2 | 5 / 1 / 0 / 1 | 7 / 3 / 3 / 2 | 2 / 1 / 0 / 1 | 3 / 1 / 1 / 4 | 1 / 2 / 1 / 1 | 5 / 0 / 1 / 1 | 1 / 4 / 0 / 2 | 1 / 3 / 1 / 3 | 0 / 3 / 0 / 2 | 1 / 0 / 0 / 1 | 27 / 24 / 10 / 20 |

> More 2018 reforms implemented bet. 2019 and 2020, but many put on hold due to COVID

| Implemented | Ongoing | Abandoned | Missing |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27 | 24 | 10 | 20 |

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# 2019 reform implementation 2020

| Country | Governance | Digital health & transparency | Insurance coverage & resource generation | Allocation & pooling | Healthcare purchasing & payment | Human resources | Public health | Primary & ambulatory care | Hospital care | Chronic & specialized care | Pharmaceuticals | Implemented/ongoing / abandoned / missing |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | | Ongoing | | | | | Abandoned | Ongoing | | | | 0 / 2 / 1 / 0 |
| Belgium | | | | | Implemented/Ongoing | | | | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Bulgaria | Implemented | | | Implemented | | | | | | | | 3 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Canada | | | | | | | Missing | | | Missing | Missing | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Croatia | | | | Missing | | | | Missing | | Missing | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Cyprus | | | Implemented | | | | | Implemented | Implemented | | | 3 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Czech Republic | | | | | | | | Implemented | Ongoing | Ongoing | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Denmark | | | | | | Ongoing | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Estonia | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 0 |
| Finland | Missing | | | | | | | Missing | | Missing | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| France | Ongoing | Ongoing | | | | Ongoing | | | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Germany | | Missing | | Missing | | | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Hungary | | | | | | | Ongoing | | | | | 0 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| Ireland | Ongoing | | | | | | Ongoing | | Abandoned | | | 0 / 1 / 2 / 0 |
| Israel | | Implemented | | | | Ongoing | | Ongoing | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Italy | | Ongoing | | | | Ongoing | | Ongoing | | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Latvia | | | | | | Missing | | | | Missing | Missing | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Lithuania | Missing | | | | | | | | | Missing | Missing | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Malta | | Ongoing | | | | | | | | Ongoing | Ongoing | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Norway | | | | | | | | | Ongoing | | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Poland | Missing | Implemented | | | | | Missing | | | | | 1 / 0 / 0 / 2 |
| Portugal | Ongoing | Ongoing | | | | | | | | Ongoing | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Romania | Abandoned | | | | | | Ongoing | Implemented | | | | 1 / 0 / 2 / 0 |
| Slovakia | | | | Ongoing | | | | | | | Ongoing | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Slovenia | | | | | | Missing | | | | | | 0 / 0 / 0 / 3 |
| Spain | | | | | | Ongoing | | | | | Ongoing | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| Sweden | | | | Implemented | | | | | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Switzerland | Ongoing | | | | Ongoing | | | | | Ongoing | | 0 / 3 / 0 / 0 |
| The Netherlands | Implemented | Ongoing | | | | | | | | Ongoing | Implemented | 2 / 1 / 0 / 0 |
| UK | Ongoing | Ongoing | | | | | | | | | | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| USA | | | Ongoing | | | | | | | | | 0 / 2 / 0 / 0 |
| Implemented/ongoing/ abandoned / missing | 3 / 6 / 1 / 3 | 2 / 5 / 0 / 1 | 1 / 2 / 0 / 0 | 2 / 0 / 0 / 2 | 1 / 4 / 0 / 0 | 0 / 4 / 0 / 3 | | | | / 0 / 4 | 1 / 2 / 0 / 2 | 15 / 45 / 3 / 23 |

*| (vertical line) indicates that there were two reforms in the same category for one country*

Still ongoing dominates, in part due to COVID

| Implemented | Ongoing | Abandoned | Missing |
|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | 45 | 3 | 23 |

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# Conclusions

- The three most important areas across 2018-2019:

  1. Primary & ambulatory care

  2. Governance

  3. Hospital

- Most important areas 2020:

  1. Governance

  2. Digital health & transparency

  3. Integrated, chronic & specialized care

- COVID-19 has put other reforms on hold or slowed down implementation

- COVID-19 has inspired larger-scale reforms

# Thank you!

If you have further questions:

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