

Partnership

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Europe is faced with changes in its population structure with an increasing proportion of elderly people. In addition, many countries, including Latvia, are hard hit by the financial crisis. This forces municipalities and regions in Europe to think of their health policies along different lines.

To solve Europe's health problems, it is important that the focus on treating sick people is supplemented with preventive work and health promotion to keep people out of the treatment systems as long as possible. To achieve effective public health work, it is important to have regular and good health surveys visualising where efforts should be made and how the development of the public health over time can be followed.

The Heprogress project is a follow-up of the international [HEPRO \(2005 – 2008\) project](#), where Østfold County Council was project manager. Among other things, the project developed a concept which made it possible to carry out public health surveys across borders. At the time, about 34,000 Europeans in 6 different countries participated – but later, other European surveys have used the HEPRO-model. More than 50.000 Europeans have so far answered the questions.

Now, a similar survey will be conducted in Østfold, Norway and in Vidzeme, Latvia. Check out the map to see where the partners in HEPROGRESS are located.