



**CODE**  
**YAA**

Palliative Care EDUcation

**Welcome to our first CODE-YAA@PC-EDU newsletter. Here you can find information about what happend in our first project year. We had fantastic presentations and webinars from our project members, exciting events and amazing award winners.**

## **Leadership Positions of the CODE-YAA@PC-EDU Project**



**Piret Paal**

(Action Chair & Grant Holder Scientific Representative)



**Minna Hökkä**

(Action Vice-Chair)



**Leszek Pawlowski**

(Grant Awarding Coordinator)



**Cornelia  
Brandstötter-Gugg**

(Science Communication  
Coordinator)



**Stephen Mason**

(Lead Working Group 1)



**Philip Larkin**

(Lead Working Group 2)



**Gil Goldzweig**

(Lead Working Group 3)



**Vilma Tripodoro**

(Lead Working Group 4)



**Tania Pastrana**

(Lead Working Group 5)



**Guillaume Economos**

(Lead Working Group 6)





**Irem Özgören Kinli**  
(Ethics Officer)



**Katarina Vojvodic**  
(Gender Equity Officer)



**Sofia Shunkina**  
(CODE-YAA X Account Coordinator)



**Mirjami Ritola**  
(website coordinator)

## Project description

In response to an age-related increase in deaths from chronic diseases, the CODE-YAA@PC-EDU project (COST Action CA22127) was born for integration and improvement of education and training in palliative care. CODE-YAA@PC-EDU is an acronym for “COLlaboratively DEveloped culturallY Appropriate and inclusive Assessment tool for Palliative Care EDUcation” aiming to set quality indicators for establishing a gold standard for high-quality palliative care education and training. By developing and employing CODE-YAA as a freely accessible, new culturally and ethically appropriate inclusive evidence-based self-assessment tool, CODE-YAA@PC-EDU will measure, explore and promote access to palliative care education in the Pan-European region, focusing on primary health care, which is considered the most sustainable and cost-effective model for palliative care delivery.

## First CODE-YAA@PC-EDU General Meeting

From the 30th to the 31st January 2024, the first General Meeting of our CODE-YAA Cost Action took place in Salzburg, Austria. Almost 60 people from 26 different countries attended the meeting to discuss on the topic of Palliative Care Education.

During these insightful days of our CODE-YAA meeting, we engaged in fruitful exchanges that are set to significantly impact the trajectory of our project. The collaborative spirit and shared expertise within the consortium have paved the way for innovative ideas and strategic advancements.



# **Presentations and talks about our CODE-YAA@PC-EDU Project**

**February  
2024**

On 15th February 2024 our Working Group Leader **Stephen Mason** had a talk about the CODE-YAA project at the Annual Research Thinktank of the International Collaborative for Best Care for the Dying Person. As head of CODE-YAA Working Group 1 (Gold Standard: Defining quality indicators for Palliative Care Education; testing the CODE-YAA tool), Dr. Mason introduced our project, aims, actual news and further steps at this popular online event, providing a platform for connecting, sharing and discussing research ideas between the Best Care for the Dying Collaborative members.

**March  
2024**

On March 22nd 2024, CODE-YAA Action Chair Prof. **Piret Paal** participated in the second ONLINE International Symposium of Nursing Research Collaboration, presenting on the topic "COST Projects and Pathways to Follow in Nursing Research".

**April  
2024**

On 30th of April 2024 COST CODE-YAA@PC-EDU Action Chair Prof. **Piret Paal** held a presentation at the EAPC free webinar titled "The impact of international collaboration in palliative care education and research".

**May  
2024**

On 13-14th May 2024 our Working Group 1 Leader **Stephen Mason** presenting an overview of the CODE-YAA project at the International Collaborative for best care for the dying person Summer School.



On 16-18th May 2024 Our COST member **Sandra Martins Pereira** at the World Research Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care in Barcelona.

**June  
2024**

On 7th June 2024 our COST member **Aslı Şensoy** gave a talk about COST projects. She took the opportunity



She took the opportunity to present our CODE-YAA COST Action.



On June 28, 2024, **Ilknur Dolu**, a CODE-YAA MC member from Turkey, had the opportunity to present the CODE-YAA COST Action during her talk at the Association for Research and Development in Nursing (HEMARGE).

September  
2024



Prof. **Jerzy Kochanowicz**, participant of our COST Action from Poland presented the CODE-YAA project at the 3rd Conference "Supportive care palliative medicine and pain management" in Zielona Góra, Poland (September 6-7). **Aneta Maria Kochanowicz** is co-author of this presentation.

October  
2024

Our Vice Chair, **Minna Hökkä**, spoke at the Danish Palliative Care Nurses' Day about our CODE-YAA Palliative Care Education COST Action.



**December  
2024**

Our Vice Chair **Piret Paal**, held a presentation at this exciting event: PACED Annual Report “Keep Pace With Paced: Impact, Stories and the Road Ahead” on 10th of December 2024.

## Two honourable Awards for our Action Chair Prof. Piret Paal

Our sincere congratulations go to Action Chair Piret Paal for receiving the international Tara Cook Award 2024 for Innovation in Neuropalliative Education and the 1st Science Award of the Austrian Palliative Society (OPG) for her outstanding efforts in the field of Palliative Care.

As this year’s awardee of the prestigious Tara Cook Award by the International Neuropalliative Care Society (INPCS), Prof Paal was invited to present her topic on innovative approaches in neuropalliative care education at the 4th INPCS Annual Meeting 2024 (September 20-22) in Grand Rapids, Michigan.



The 1st Science Award of the Austrian Palliative Society was awarded on April 6th 2024 at the 8th Interprofessional OPG Congress in Villach, Austria.

These honorable awards acknowledges the national and international efforts of Prof. Paal.

## Grant Award Winner

Congratulations to our first CODE-YAA Grant Award Winner Andreas – Henri Mulalli, MSc!





## 1st CODE-YAA@PC-EDU face-to-face Working Group Meeting

Education in palliative care plays a crucial role in ensuring that healthcare professionals have the knowledge and skills to provide quality care to patients with serious illnesses. Meetings and projects involving experts from various fields such as medicine, nursing, psychology, social work, and more can help in sharing best practices, research findings, and innovative approaches to education in palliative care.

That was the purpose of the first CODE-YAA@PC-EDU face-to-face Working Group meeting, which took place at Ibis Yerevan Center in Armenia on June 27-28, 2024. There were about 25 participants from a large number of countries, and many others who joined the meeting online.

We appreciate everyone's active participation!

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## Short Term Scientific Mission

Our CODE-YAA working group member, Mary Nevin, spent a Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) in Lithuania. Olga Riklikiene from the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences hosted her. Mary reports about the exchange:

“We had a very productive week (Sept 30th - Oct 4th). We made significant progress on a scoping review on mentorship in palliative care, prepared a protocol for publication, and agreed on a timeframe

for completion. I gave a presentation to undergraduate students, met with PhD students, and, discussed exchange opportunities and future collaborations with colleagues at the University.”



## CODE-YAA Webinar on the topic of “Stakeholder Analysis”

In this webinar on the 23rd of January 2025, we explored effective strategies to identify, analyze, and engage stakeholders, with a focus on palliative care education. This session welcomed healthcare educators, palliative care professionals, program developers, and policymakers.

## 1st hybrid CODE-YAA Core Group Meeting

From October 22-23, 2024, the first face-to-face (hybrid) meeting of the CODE-YAA Core Group took place at the Diaconia University of Applied Sciences in Helsinki, Finland.

With the first grant period of the CODE-YAA project ending at October 31, 2024, fruitful discussions on results and milestones achieved so far, provided the basis for a successful continuation within the second grant period.



## Gender Equality Officer and Ethics Officer

We at CODE-YAA COST Action are thrilled to announce that we have filled two new positions: Gender Equality Officer and Ethics Officer. İrem Özgören Kinli (Ethics Officer) and Katarina Vojvodic (Gender Equality Officer) will now be supporting our team. A warm welcome to both of you!

## Upcoming Events

### CODE-YAA General Meeting Helsinki /hybrid March 17

Target group: Online meeting is open for all, face-to face: reimbursement for 30 participants, (MC members, Core-group members and members important in current progress of the project, invitation will be sent at the end of January)

Aim of the meeting: A review of progress so far, working together on our quality indicators, advocacy and cultural issues in workshops held by our workgroup members.

More info on our [website](#).



### Webinar (WG5): Advocacy for palliative care education- Elevator Pitch March 27

In this webinar, we will explore effective strategies to craft and present a powerful message to your stakeholders, with a focus on palliative care education. This session welcomes healthcare educators, palliative care professionals, program developers, and policymakers.

More info on our [website](#).

### Leadership and Ethics Summer School June 2025

The CODE-YAA Ethics and Leadership Summer School aims to foster clinical and research ethics competencies, leadership skills, and partnerships among network members, including young palliative care researchers and clinicians from the WHO European Region.

Join us for the CODE-YAA Ethics and Leadership Summer School in Palliative Care! (June 9-13, 2025). Applicants can apply for both groups, depending on the availability of places.

The application form is on our [website](#).

**All upcoming events on our [website](#).**

## More about our CODE-YAA project

Here you can find an interesting post about the CODE-YAA project on the Blog of the European Association for Palliative Care.: [CODE-YAA@EDU-PC – A Palliative Care Education and Training Network Initiative.](#) | [EAPC Blog](#)

You can find an interesting post about our COST Action on the website of Yerevan State Medical University: [YSMU is a participant in the EU COST-Action program on palliative care education - Yerevan State Medical University after Mkhitar Heratsi](#)

COST Association presented something about our project on their website: [Palliative care – a global need with CODE-YAA@PC-EDU](#)

## 1st CODE-YAA@PC-EDU publication

In April 2024 we had the pleasure of celebrating the first CODE-YAA publication! [Cultivating excellence in palliative care education and training: a network and thematic deep dive into CODE-YAA@PC-EDU initiatives](#) | [Paal](#) | [Palliative Medicine in Practice](#)

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## Literature recommendations

Here you can find a new open access study entitled "Core Palliative Care Competencies for Undergraduate Nursing Education: International Multisite Research Using Online Nominal Group Technique" from Hökka et al.: [Core Palliative Care Competencies for Undergraduate Nursing Education: International Multisite Research Using Online Nominal Group Technique - Minna Hökkä, Teija Ravelin, Veerle Coupez, Danny Vereecke, Joanne Brennan, Teodora Mathe, Cornelia Brandstötter, Piret Paal, Daniela Elena Spanu, Nicoleta Mitrea, 2024](#)

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Source of addresses: