Regional Collaborating Committee on Tuberculosis Control and Care (RCC-TB)

What is RCC-TB?
The WHO Regional Director for Europe established the Regional Collaborating Committee on Tuberculosis Control and Care (RCC-TB) as an interactive platform of stakeholders including donors, technical agencies, professional societies, patient and community representatives and others to exchange information related to Multidrug- and Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (M/XDR-TB) response and to advocate for action. The RCC-TB was established in line with the implementation of the Consolidated Action Plan to Prevent and Combat M/XDR-TB in the WHO European Region, 2011–2015, and its accompanying resolution (EUR/RC61/R7).

Why the need for RCC-TB?
The RCC-TB addresses the need for improved communication and coordination among a wide spectrum of stakeholders to achieve greater impact of TB prevention and control across the WHO European Region. While a number of coordinative bodies exist (some formal, some informal), the RCC-TB is envisaged as an “open-source” platform to facilitate and allow greater engagement with and among partners, stakeholders and affected communities. During the last decade, faced with the alarming spread of M/XDR-TB and one of the fastest growing HIV epidemics in the world, the countries in the Region have acquired unique and innovative experiences, which are not always widely shared, nor have their best practices or lessons learned been sufficiently disseminated.

What is the mission of RCC-TB?
The key objectives are to strengthen involvement and foster collaboration between national and international partners in TB and M/XDR-TB prevention, control and care. In addition, the RCC-TB aims to raise awareness about TB; advocate for resource mobilization; and catalyse an exchange of best practices for TB and M/XDR-TB prevention, care and control.

In what areas can we make a difference?
- High level of political advocacy;
- Promoting engagement of civil society organizations;
- Documenting and disseminating best practices in different areas with particular attention to the TB epidemic among vulnerable groups and key populations.

Who are we and what is our modus operandi?
The RCC-TB is a network comprising a wide range of national and international stakeholders hosted by the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen, Denmark. It has a Steering Group currently consisting of 11 members representing the following organizations: Eli Lilly Foundation, European Respiratory Society, Foundation for Development of Ukraine, Global Health Advocates, Health Development Center AFI, KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation, Koch-Metschnikow-Forum, Nannouz, Stop TB Forum, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and USAID.
The RCC-TB is a synergistic network with open membership. For additional information on how to engage and become a member, please contact: tuberculosis@euro.who.int. Fanny Voitzwinkler (fvoitzwinkler@ghadvocates.org) is the current Chair of the Steering Group.