
4EU+ Urban Health Case Challenge 2023: Obesity in an Urban Environment



Do you want to work in a multidisciplinary team and solve a real-world urban challenge together with students from different universities across Europe? Sign up for 4EU+ Urban Health Case Challenge 2023 now, and represent Charles University in this exciting student competition!

The Urban Health Case Challenge (UHCC) is an activity organized within the [4EU+ European University Alliance](#). It addresses urban changes concerning health and demographic transformation. In 2023, the case challenge is focused on obesity in an urban environment. Obesity is one of the main civilizational challenges of our times. According to WHO, obesity is “often the result of environmental and societal changes associated with development and lack of supportive policies in sectors such as health, agriculture, transport, urban planning, environment, food processing, distribution, marketing, and education.” Together with your team, you will work on a solution to a given case question concerning one of these relations.

In the case challenge (also often called the case competition) the participating student teams strive to develop the best solution to a real-world issue within a limited time span. Each team presents their solution in front of an expert jury at a session on the last day of the case challenge.

The aim is to strengthen university students’ competencies and engagement in solutions to real-world cases through employment of practical, theoretical, innovative and interdisciplinary thinking. Students are going to work in mixed teams, to network and learn from and with each other, faculty, the external case provider and other stakeholders. Students will learn to work innovatively and cross-disciplinarily to solve complex case problems, train their presentation skills and practice task and time management.

Full-degree Bachelor, Master’s and PhD students from 4EU+’s partner universities and Uppsala University (Sweden), Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Norway) can participate in the challenge.

Programme of UHCC in 2023

The theme for Urban Health Case Challenge 2023 is “Obesity in an urban environment”. Starting on 15 November, four online classes will provide background knowledge ranging from medical issues to urban planning (they will be delivered weekly, most likely on Wednesdays from 17:00). The case challenge will take the form of a physical, in-person workshop in Warsaw from 9 to 12 December 2023.

The first day, the specific case question will be revealed for students’ teams to solve it creatively and innovatively with the reference to knowledge in the field. The case question allows for a variety of solutions from multiple approaches to address the diverse urban environments in Europe.

The participants will be trained in problem solving and the presentation of results and solutions, as well as developing and concretizing their ideas so they can present them convincingly.

On the last day of the competition, the teams will present their solutions to an international jury of experts, followed by feedback on their ideas. The winning team may be given the opportunity to put their proposed idea into practice.

Practical information

If you want to participate in the challenge, please send an application with the following information to Julie Hubeňáková, julie.hubenakova@ruk.cuni.cz and Luděk Sýkora, sykora@natur.cuni.cz by **15 October 2023**:

- Full name, CU student's number
- Faculty, study programme and level (bachelor, master, PhD)
- A short and concise motivation for joining the case challenge (maximum 10 sentences).

Based on the application, students are going to be selected to represent Charles University in the UHCC 2023.

The course is granted 3 ECTS. Link to course in SIS [here](#) (code: MZ340A01).

In the case of doctoral students, you can discuss with dissertation supervisor to include the Urban Health Case Challenge (UHCC) in your ISP's individual study plan.

The physical mobility to Warsaw is covered by a stipend. Each student is going to receive scholarship to cover 5-day travel expenses.

[UHCC flyer](#)