TB Europe Coalition Annual Report 2017

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## Message of Thanks

The TB Europe Coalition would like to thank all of the individuals and organisations working in TB control and international development who have provided information, guidance and support throughout the year.

Particular thanks to RESULTS UK & Global Health Advocates & Alliance for Public Health who provide support and host the TBEC Secretariat and to the EC and ACTION for providing financial support.

In addition, thank you to TBEC members for their continued support and dedication to the fight against TB.
Executive summary

The TB Europe Coalition is a regional advocacy network of civil society organisations and individuals from across the WHO Europe region, comprising Western and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. The network aims to strengthen the role of civil society within the regional response to tuberculosis (TB), and ensure political and financial commitments to end TB. Established in 2009, TBEC has grown rapidly and is now increasingly recognised as the voice of the civil society across the WHO Europe Region.

In 2017, TB Europe Coalition continued its activities in two key areas:

- **advocacy** towards international and regional decision-makers and civil society organisations such as WHO Europe, Global Fund, G20, European Commission and European Parliament, Global TB Caucus, TBPeople and European Harm Reduction Association, via active participation in the regional and international conferences, meetings and forums such as the Union global conference on lung health, Wolfheze meeting, Global Ministerial Conference on TB, EU Health Policy platform etc.; and

- **capacity and skills building** of TBEC membership through TBEC country visits (Bulgaria, Georgia, Belarus, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova) and training workshops, financial support for TBEC members to attend international and regional conferences, online webinars and research on best practices;

Furthermore, TBEC underwent various changes in **network management and governance** such as re-registration of TBEC membership, development and adoption of TBEC Strategy 2017-2020, and decision to register as an official network in the Netherlands:

- The Strategy outlines new mission and vision statements, presents two key outcomes for the network to achieve by 2020 and showcases a detailed work plan for each year in order to do so. Moreover, Strategy outlines three priority issue areas for TBEC for next four years such as human rights (people centred care), research and development and access (AMR, new and existing TB tools/medicines) and finances (transition & sustainability and domestic funding).

- As of autumn 2017, TBEC has more than 170 members, including individuals and civil society organisations from more than 35 countries in the WHO Europe region;

- After registration of the network as legal entity and following Board elections in spring 2018, the new governance structure will be officially launched;

In 2017, as part of TBEC **outreach and communication** activities, the Secretariat published several policy brochures on key relevant TB issues such as people-centred care, antimicrobial resistance, and UN High-level meeting on TB in 2018. Furthermore, TBEC engaged with its members throughout the year through TBEC website, listserv and social media, resulting in over 65 blog articles, 12 newsletters and rapid increase in Facebook/Twitter followers. TBEC has also issued 3 press releases on World TB Day, G20 Communiqué and Global Ministerial Conference.

TBEC activities are funded via: 1) dedicated staff time by RESULTS UK based in London, Global Health Advocates in Brussels and the Alliance for Public Health in Kiev and 2) international and regional grants, including an Operational Grant by the EC CHAFEA under 3rd EU Health Programme for the years 2015-2017 and a Global Fund grant via the TB REP project for the years 2016-2018.
TBEC governance

Our vision: a world free of TB.
Our mission: civil society driving the TB response.

The TB Europe Coalition is a regional advocacy network of civil society organisations and individuals from across the WHO Europe region, comprising Western, Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. The network aims to strengthen the role of civil society within the regional response to tuberculosis (TB), and ensure political and financial commitments to end TB.

History
TBEC was formed by a group of TB advocates in 2009. The consistent increase of already high rates of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB), coupled with limited funding and low awareness among general populations and policy makers in the region, called for urgent action. At that time there were few civil society organizations and advocates working on TB and there were few organisations and individuals capable of successfully advocating for TB on a national and regional level. Acknowledging their common needs, and recognising the importance of an effective civil society, TBEC was formed to bring organisations and individuals together. Over the following years, TBEC expanded through online communication via the TBEC website and listserve, active networking at international and regional conferences and regular country visits. In 2014, TBEC obtained a multi-annual grant from the European Commission’s Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency under the 3rd EU Health Programme. This grant allowed the strengthening of the network’s operational capacity and substantially expanded TBEC’s outreach activities. Since 2016, TBEC, represented by Alliance for Public Health, is a partner of the TB REP project with a role to provide support to civil society partners in 11 countries of the Eastern Europe and Central Asia in their advocacy efforts for transition to quality people-centred TB care.

Membership
As of autumn 2017 after rigorous re-registration process of TBEC membership in spring and summer of 2017, TBEC has more than 170 members, including individuals and civil society organisations from more than 35 countries in the wider European region. Membership is open and free of charge to all individuals and civil society organisations within the WHO Europe Region working to end the TB epidemic. New members confirm their alignment with TBEC’s values upon joining the network.

TBEC values
TBEC maintains a commitment to the following core values:
Empowerment: TBEC believes that people’s needs should be at the centre of any TB decision-making. As such TBEC seeks to empower civil society and TB affected communities to actively participate in the TB response.
Human rights based approach to TB: A human rights-based approach to TB prioritises the dignity and autonomy of all people with TB. TBEC is committed to promoting and defending the rights of TB affected people.
Equality & Social Justice: TBEC holds to the principles of promoting and defending health equality, with special focus given to engaging and empowering vulnerable and marginalised groups in TB affected communities.

Independence, Transparency and Accountability: TBEC only accepts funding from donors whose objectives are in line with its vision and core value. Furthermore, TBEC maintains a policy of transparency and disclosure for its beneficiaries, donors, and partners.

TBEC governance structures
At the annual TBEC Steering Committee meeting in Brussels in October 2017 (please see meeting report on TBEC website), it was agreed that TBEC would be registered as an official network in the Netherlands. The current proposal (see below) is currently under development and discussion.

TB Europe Coalition organogram

At the moment, the Secretariat is de facto based between London (hosted by RESULTS UK), Brussels (hosted by Global Health Advocates), and Kiev (hosted by Alliance for Public Health), with staff operating the work and budget of the network from the three individual organisations. The Secretariat is responsible for the coordination, communication, administration and management of the network. The role of the Secretariat is to ensure that the network’s work programme is successfully implemented, and to ensure that TBEC Board and Secretariat’s operations are transparent and efficient.

TBEC Strategy 2017-2020
During winter 2017, TBEC Steering Committee and Secretariat organised a three-day meeting in Kiev, gathering the key TBEC members to discuss and develop TBEC Strategy for the next three years.
TBEC works twofold: first, to strengthen the advocacy capacity of civil society organisations and activists at national level, and second, to coordinate and carry out evidence-based TB policy advocacy at regional and international level. With TBEC entering a new stage in its development, the coalition adopted a new Strategic Plan for the years 2017-2020, which outlines our mission, vision and the two main outcomes TBEC wish to achieve over the next four years:

Outcome 1: **TBEC to be a high performing, accountable and united TB network**

Outcome 2: **TBEC members have the capacity and skills to effectively influence policies and provide evidence based service delivery.**

As the key thematic priorities in the region, TBEC has identified **health system financing, people-centred TB policies**, and **access to and research and development for TB health technologies.**

### Domestic Financing

As the economies of the region are growing, many countries in the WHO Europe region are gradually becoming ineligible for donor support to national TB and HIV responses. However, increases in GDP are often not accompanied by an increase in health spending, as a result TB and HIV programmes and services targeting vulnerable groups and key affected populations can experience a dramatic decrease in financial support. There is a substantiated worry that that the progress made so far in the TB and HIV response will be lost due to a lack of political will and financial commitment. TBEC aims to address the issue by carrying out advocacy activities towards the Global Fund, the EU, and WHO to lessen the impact of a poorly planned and timed transition, by advocating for a health system approach for cost-effective & evidence based interventions & sustainably engaging civil society in the response and, by providing information.

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<th>High performing, accountable and united regional TB network;</th>
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<tr>
<td>Create accountable coordination mechanism;</td>
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<td>Develop robust system for knowledge management + sharing of best practices across the region;</td>
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<td>Develop strong partnerships with key institutions and partners;</td>
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<th>CSO/country that has capacity and skills to effectively influence policies;</th>
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<td>Identify skills gaps to effectively respond to address the skills gaps;</td>
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<td>Adressing the skills and knowledge gaps to empower members to be effective advocates and service providers;</td>
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on the latest funding opportunities available to civil society in the region. TBEC is advocating for a health system approach to the TB and HIV response and sustainable domestic funding for civil society and communities so that they can continue to provide people-centred services for key populations after donor withdrawal.

People-centred care
Traditionally, individuals with TB in many Eastern European and Central Asian countries with a high TB burden have been routinely treated in hospital on an inpatient basis for long periods. This is often unnecessary. In most cases, ambulatory TB treatment delivers similar or better treatment outcomes. However, simply shifting from hospital-based to ambulatory care is not going to improve treatment outcomes overnight. TBEC believes that in order to have successful, quality, people centred care in ambulatory setting; TB treatment needs to be integrated into primary health care. Referral systems between health, social and community care providers must be strengthened and engage civil society and community organisations in all aspects of these activities ranging from advocacy to service provision.

Research and Development and access to TB health technologies
TBEC believes that there is an overwhelming need for the accelerated uptake of existing tools and for the development of new ones if TB is to end this century. Current estimates show that without new tools to fight TB, after 2025 existing tools will be exhausted. The field of research and development of new TB drugs, diagnostics and vaccines has suffered from a chronic lack of investment due to the current medical R&D model which prioritises investments based on the return to be made rather than the health needs. This results in an alarmingly bare pipeline of promising compounds and drugs. Prioritising new tools to end TB would have a major public health impact. TBEC aims to increase advocacy efforts in favour of R&D in TB at relevant international and regional forums such as G20 and the EU.

Funding
TBEC activities are funded via: 1) dedicated staff time by RESULTS UK based in London, Global Health Advocates in Brussels and the Alliance for Public Health in Kiev and 2) international and regional grants, including an Operational Grant by the EC CHAFEA under 3rd EU Health Programme for the years 2015-2017 and a Global Fund grant via the TB REP project for the years 2016-2018.
Advocacy

Progress on TB has been hampered by a chronic lack of political will. Many Western European Member States have a generally low burden of TB and so have not invested significant resources to tackle it. However, in Eastern European countries, where the TB and MDR-TB incidence is much higher, governments are often unable to invest in policies due to insufficient resources, or are unwilling to prioritise policies that mainly target the most at-risk groups.

TBEC aims to address the lack of political will through continuous and strategic advocacy efforts with key decision makers and players from global organisations such as the Global Fund, WHO, UN, OECD, ECDC, G20 and EU amongst others at regional and international level. TBEC aims to influence international and regional TB policy and mobilise resources to eliminate TB. TBEC’s reach and ability to communicate with the vast majority of TB activists is a cornerstone for ensuring legitimacy and even-handedness of TBEC member organisation policy asks to various high-level decision makers.

TBEC members regularly contribute to public consultations on the fight against TB in Europe, actively participate in relevant EU and WHO forums and stand available to provide information and advice to policy-makers on issues that the network has particular expertise. TBEC’s Secretariat members are part of the WHO Regional Coordinating Committee on TB, an interactive platform for stakeholders such as donors, technical agencies, professional societies and patient and community representatives to exchange information related to multidrug- and extensively-drug resistant tuberculosis responses and advocate for action and the Regional Green Light Committee for the WHO European Region. Different TBEC members are also systematically involved and selected as civil society representatives in National TB Programme Reviews organised by WHO Europe throughout the region.

In 2017 TBEC continued to strengthen its position as a key civil society network, working on TB issues in the wider European region. Throughout the year, TBEC carried out various advocacy activities on various TB policy aspects such as:
- transition and sustainability;
- people-centred care;
- antimicrobial resistance;
- investment in TB R&D;
- integrated health systems;
- upcoming UN High-level meeting on TB;

The continuous financial support from the EC allowed TBEC Secretariat and Steering Committee members to actively participate in various regional and international conferences such as EU Health Symposium, Wolfheze 2017, the Union conference on Lung Health, Call to Action Conference, Global Ministerial Conference and EU Health platform annual meeting amongst others. The grant also allowed to closely engaging with various international and regional stakeholders such as the EU (EU Global Health Policy Forum, European Parliament working groups, permanent representations of the EU MS to the EU, CHAFEA, DG SANTE amongst others), WHO (annual meetings of Green Light and TAG TB Committees) and the Global Fund.
Furthermore, TBEC strengthened the regional partnerships with Eurasian Harm Reduction Association through joint country visit to Bulgaria, and worked closely with the Global TB Caucus in order to strengthen ties between the CSOs and the parliamentarians, and TBPeople, with specific focus on EECA engagement.

Conferences, meetings and policy consultations
- EU Health Symposium, Malta, January;
- Wolfsheze, the Netherlands, May;
- TB EECA Summit, Georgia, August;
- 48th Union conference on Lung Health, Mexico, October;
- Call for Action conference, Germany, October;
- Global Ministerial Conference on TB, Russia, November;
- EU Health Policy platform meeting, Belgium, November;
- WHO TAG TB annual meeting, Denmark, February;
- WHO Green Light Committee for the WHO European Region, Denmark, July;
- C20 meeting ahead of G20 in Argentina in 2018, Germany, August;
- Meeting on Transition and Sustainability, Estonia, December;
- EU Civil Society Forum on HIV, TB/Hep C, Belgium, throughout the year;
- EU Global Health Policy Forum on access to medicines, Belgium, throughout the year;
- Bureau Meeting of the European Parliament Working Group (EPWG) on Innovation, Access to Medicines and Poverty Related Diseases, Belgium, throughout the year;
- Meeting with Estonian Perm Rep for the Estonian EU Presidency high level meeting on Transition and Sustainability, Belgium, throughout the year;
- Various meetings with MEPs on European Parliament resolution on the EU's response to HIV, TB and Hepatitis, Belgium, throughout the year;
- Submission for mid-term evaluation of 3rd EU Health Programme;
- Submission to the AMR public consultation;
- Submission to Horizon 2020 mid-term review;
- TBEC consultation on the UN High-level meeting on TB;

Engagement in detail:

Global Ministerial Conference on TB
Member of TBEC Steering Committee attended two-day global conference of the Ministers of Health in Moscow in November 2017. At the end of the conference, Ministers from 100 countries signed the Moscow Declaration to End TB and re-committed to end the TB epidemic by 2030. The Ministers committed to: first, scale up TB prevention diagnosis, treatment and care; second, ensure sustainable and sufficient financing of national, regional and global TB programmes; third, accelerate research and development (R&D) for new tools to fight TB, and fourth, to develop a new multi-sectorial accountability framework. This is an important stepping-stone ahead of the UN High Level meeting on TB in 2018.

The Union World Conference on Lung Health
The Union World Conference on Lung Health is the world’s largest assembly of clinicians and public health workers, health programme managers, policymakers, researchers and advocates working to end the suffering caused by lung disease, with a focus specifically on the challenges
faced by the low- and middle-income countries. This year the 48th Union World Conference on Lung Health was held on 11-14 October in Guadalajara, Mexico. TBEC sponsored two of its members from Romania and Ukraine to attend the conference and participate in some of the community engagement sessions, in particular, on transition from donor to national funding in Romania. Furthermore, one of the symposiums was focused on the issues of civil society and community engagement in countering TB. The information about the implementation of the regional TB-REP project aimed at large-scale provision of people–centred care to the patients with TB was presented within the symposium. During the symposium, the participants from the EECA region and other countries discussed the experience of joint work aimed to improve TB diagnostics and treatment, expansion of social and psychological support to the patients and their families, as well as the TB-REP progress in general.

**Wolfheze 2017**

Every two years KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation organises Wolfheze workshop, which gathers national TB programme managers and TB surveillance correspondents, health authorities, scientists, and civil society organisations to share discuss achievements, challenges and the way forward in TB control and prevention. This year the Workshop focused on TB in migration, TB/HIV co-infection surveillance and integrated care, latent TB infection, new and repurposed anti-TB drug introduction and active TB drug-safety monitoring and management, digital health and quality people centred care. TBEC together with TBPeople and the Alliance for Public Health was invited to organise the session on quality people centred care to explain the values and nature of people centred care, share experiences and survey results from in-depth patient interviews undertaken as part of the TB-REP programme that illustrate the nature of quality in people centred care, present learning from research in Romania and set quality PCC in a context of ethics and patient rights.

**G20 and C20 engagement**

TBEC continuous engagement in C20 process ahead of this year’s Summit in Hamburg 7-8 July resulted in first ever discussion on health amongst G20 Leaders. The German G20 presidency highlighted antimicrobial resistance alongside pandemic preparedness and health systems strengthening on the agenda. The G20 communiqué not only highlighted the need to “foster research and development” for WHO priority pathogens as well as tuberculosis but also called for a new international R&D Collaboration Hub to maximise the impact of research into drug resistant infections.

**EU engagement**

**EU Civil Society Forum on HIV, TB and Hepatitis C**

TBEC, represented by GHA in Brussels, has been advocating in the past years for the enlargement of the EU HIV/AIDS Civil Society Forum (an official consultative body of EU institutions) to include also TB and Hepatitis CSOs. This year the European Commission, following to the adoption of the Communication on "Next Steps for a sustainable European future", has decided to renew the Civil Society Forum and include TB and Hepatitis C CSOs in the membership. GHA, as coordinator of TBEC, applied and became a member of the EU Civil Society Forum. It’s also one of the co-chairs of the forum, representing the interests of TBEC members and other TB organisations from the WHO Europe Region.

**European Parliament resolution on integrated response to TB, HIV and Hepatitis**
TBEC has been long advocating for an integrated EU policy on TB, HIV and Hepatitis in the EU and in neighbouring countries. GHA, as a coordinator of TBEC, together with other NGOs, has implemented various advocacy activities for integrated policies towards the EU institutions. This year the European Parliament adopted with a large majority and cross-party support a resolution on "EU's response to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Hepatitis". With this, the European Parliament made a strong political call to the European Commission and EU member states on the urgent need to develop a comprehensive policy framework addressing the three diseases jointly, taking into account specific challenges faced within the EU and in neighbouring countries, where the burden of the epidemics is the greatest. The resolution also underlines the importance for the EU to play a stronger political role in the dialogue with countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, ensuring plans for sustainable transition to domestic funding are in place so that programmes fighting HIV, TB and Hepatitis are sustained and scaled-up after the withdrawal of international donors’ support. The resolution comes after strong CSO advocacy activities carried out at EU level, asking for a strong EU political response to the three epidemics.

EU Senior-Level Meeting on transition and sustainability in the WHO Europe region
At the beginning of 2017 GHA, on behalf of TBEC, drafted and coordinated the preparation of a civil society letter addressed to the Estonian government asking to organise a High Level Policy dialogue on transition & sustainability of TB and HIV response during their EU Presidency. As a result, the Estonian government initiated the organisation of such an event. GHA was part of the leading group supporting the organisation of the high level event in Estonia, together with WHO EURO, the GF and led by the Estonian government.
The EU Senior-Level Meeting ‘Addressing HIV and TB Challenges: from Donor Support to Sustainable Health Systems’ took place on 12-13 December 2017 in Tallinn under the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and concluded with this Framework. The Framework prioritizes two major challenges for HIV and TB: integration of services within health systems and sustainability in the context of donor transition. It outlines needs, challenges, opportunities and a framework for multi-sectorial and multi-stakeholder action towards sustainable, resilient and people-centred systems for health that would lead towards the end of the AIDS and TB epidemics and leave no one behind, as committed in the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development. The document is supported by multiple global and European commitments for stronger health systems, HIV and TB.

TB-REP
TBEC, represented by ICF “Alliance for Public Health,” is a formal partner of the TB REP project, the first ever GF regional grant on TB for the European region. TB-REP is officially called "TB in Eastern Europe and Central Asia Project on Strengthening Health Systems for Effective TB and Drug Resistant-TB Care". The Principle Recipient of the TB-REP is PAS Center (Moldova), with the technical leadership to the project provided by WHO Regional Office for Europe.
The project aims to reduce the burden of TB and halt the spread of drug resistance in the region by increasing political commitment and translating evidence into implementation of a people-centred model of TB care. 11 TB-REP countries are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.
Civil society partners in 11 countries of the TB-REP project, work to ensure that the voices of the people with TB experience/affected by TB are heard when the decision makers are making decisions on how effective TB care should look like, particularly in the ambulatory settings. Thus the activities of the civil society partners done through the in-country grass root level advocacy
are complementary to the high-level advocacy component of the TB-REP for TB care reform within the health systems strengthening approach. Civil society partners’ activities within TB-REP include:

- Development of the networks of people affected by tuberculosis (both for advocacy and potential service provision);
- Strengthening multi-stakeholder partnership for transition to people centered care;
- Promotion of the social contracting mechanisms, to ensure the involvement of the civil society in the service provision;
- Awareness raising activities on the benefits of the ambulatory treatment as well as general reduction of stigma towards the people with TB.

The role of TBEC is to support civil society partners in TB-REP countries in their grassroots advocacy efforts for transition to quality people-centred TB care through regional consultations, coordination, in country monitoring and support missions, successful practice documentation, as well as ensuring linkages between the civil society in-countries and the regional advocacy.

**Capacity building**

Since its creation in 2009, TBEC members have reported significant challenges in contributing to an effective TB response at both the national and regional levels. There is a clear ask from TBEC members to increase the depth of their knowledge and advocacy skills to be able to effectively influence policies and spending. Therefore the 2017-2021 TBEC strategy aims to support its member’s capacity and capabilities in order for them to successfully advocate for robust TB national and regional policies.

TBEC actively informs, trains and engages civil society organisations and individuals working on TB at national level. It does this via regular country visits, online webinars and publications on relevant TB issues, ad hoc financial assistance to members to attend international and regional conferences, meetings and workshops, as well as various individual and organisation-based mentoring activities.

**Country visits**

The country visits in 2017 included **Bulgaria, Georgia, Belarus, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova**.

The visits were set to include CSOs advocacy capacity building, facilitating linkages between civil society and national and international stakeholders on TB in the countries as well as to document the successful practices and lessons learnt within the implementation of CSOs advocacy activities.

In TBEC visit to **Bulgaria** in early July, TB Europe Coalition delegation met with 8 Bulgarian government and civil society stakeholders, involved in TB management and advocacy and identified key gaps and/or issues in the country’s actions against tuberculosis (e.g: ambivalence in the CSO and medical community regarding move from hospital/sanatorium care to ambulatory and people centred care; lack of TB/HIV NGO coordination at national level for advocacy purposes; legal issues with regards to social contracting of NGOs to provide outreach and prevention services). Furthermore, TB Europe Coalition together with European Harm Reduction Network carried out three day advocacy workshop in Sofia, with 40 Bulgarian civil
society representatives present and organised an advocacy meeting with Director of HIV/TB Prevention and Control Programme, within the Ministry of Health, Dr. Tonka Varleva, former MEP and Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Demographic Policies, Ms. Christina Christova, as well as Daniela Ushatova, Team Leader, National Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria. Following the country visit, 7 Bulgarian civil society organisations have become TBEC members.

Webinars and case studies
- **TBEC webinar on UN High-level meeting on TB** in EN/RU in October. Rachael Crockett, TB Policy Officer at the RESULTS UK provided a concise overview on what the UN High Level meeting on Tuberculosis is, why it is important and how it can help member’s goals in the country. For more information, please check TBEC website.
- **TBEC webinar on media engagement** in EN/RU in September. The webinar was led by Grace Virtue, PhD and ACTION’s Senior Advisor in Communications, and provided step-by-step and very practical advice on how to write an effective and noticeable press release. For more information, please check TBEC website.
- Case study in Tajikistan - TBEC member launches one stop car repair shop as one of the few **social enterprises in Dushanbe**, with proceeds going to TB patient support. For more information, please check TBEC website.
- Case study in Bulgaria - TBEC member carries out a STOP TB Partnership’s supported project on **engaging religious leaders in fight against TB in Roma communities in Sofia**. For more information, please check TBEC website.

Communications
TBEC website structure has been simplified and the content rewritten to mirror TBEC governance revamp and Strategy 2017-2020. TBEC has published over 65 blog articles and 12 newsletters in EN/RU in 2017. TBEC has also issued 3 press releases on World TB Day, G20 Communiqué and Global Ministerial Conference. TBEC Secretariat organised a coordination meeting on communications, establishing ground rules for TBEC website, listserv, social media (Facebook/Twitter) and communication with TBEC SC.

Annual TBEC member survey* was conducted in October with an objective to make the TB Europe Coalition more responsive to membership needs by offering technical support, training and workshops, providing up to date information, news and other activities that better meet members’ interests.

Reports and publications
- Policy paper “**UN High-level meeting on TB**” was launched in winter 2017, and provides an overview of what the UN High-level meeting is, how civil society is involved at global and regional levels, and how TBEC members can influence the national position, with specific focus on clear accountability mechanisms and reporting before, during and after the meeting.
- Policy paper “**Tuberculosis – the cornerstone of AMR threat**” was launched in autumn 2017. The 4-page resource provides a brief overview of what anti-microbial resistance is. Furthermore, the paper looks in more detail at drug-resistant TB, and discusses why countries need to invest more in research and development of new drugs to tackle it.

* For detailed survey result charts, please see Annex 1;
Policy paper “Moving to people-centred care: achieving better TB outcomes” was launched in June 2017. The brochure published highlights the position of civil society on quality people-centred care for TB patients. The material was compiled by joint efforts of TB-REP partners and activists from among people affected by tuberculosis.
Annex 1: TBEC member survey 2017

TBEC membership survey 2017

- 39 participants out of 169;
- 22 (11 and 11) – less than 1 year and more than 3 years TBEC member;
- Overall 36 people satisfied with TBEC work (20 very satisfied, 16 satisfied);
- Countries represented the most – Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan;

TBEC membership survey: what is good

1. Information sharing with TBEC;
2. Advocacy at national, regional and global level;
3. Capacity building via training on NGOs online and in country;
4. Scholarships for participation at international meetings;
5. Coordination and “consolidation” of civil society;
6. Newsletter/website updates;
7. Protection of TB patients rights;
8. TB success stories;
9. Cooperation with the government organisations;
TBEC membership survey: where change is needed

- Fundraising and funding opportunities for members;
- Health care professionals to be more engaged;
- Social determinants (prison, human rights);
- Country profiles in detail – on TB, on key challenges, available drugs etc.
- More regional and subregional meetings;
- More info on TBEC strategy and how TBEC members can get involved;

TBEC membership survey: where change is needed

- More information/action on stigma;
- More focus on HIV/TB co-infection;
- Develop a volunteer movement;
- Provide legal assistance for the CSOs experiencing difficulty at national level;
- More peer to peer exchange;
- Closer work with parliamentarians at national and European level;