

The COVID19 impact on young people

30 June 2021

Radost ZAHARIEVA, Policy coordinator for Health inequalities,
European Public Health Alliance



About EPHA

EPHA is the a change agent striving for universal good health and well-being, where all have access to a sustainable and high quality health system

Its actions reflects its values: equity, solidarity, sustainability, universality, diversity and good governance

Structure: 85 members

European and national organisations, patients groups, public health NGOs, health professionals and disease groups



European Medical Students' Association



Eurohealth



ENSP

European Network for Smoking and Tobacco Prevention

HAI HEALTH ACTION INTERNATIONAL 40

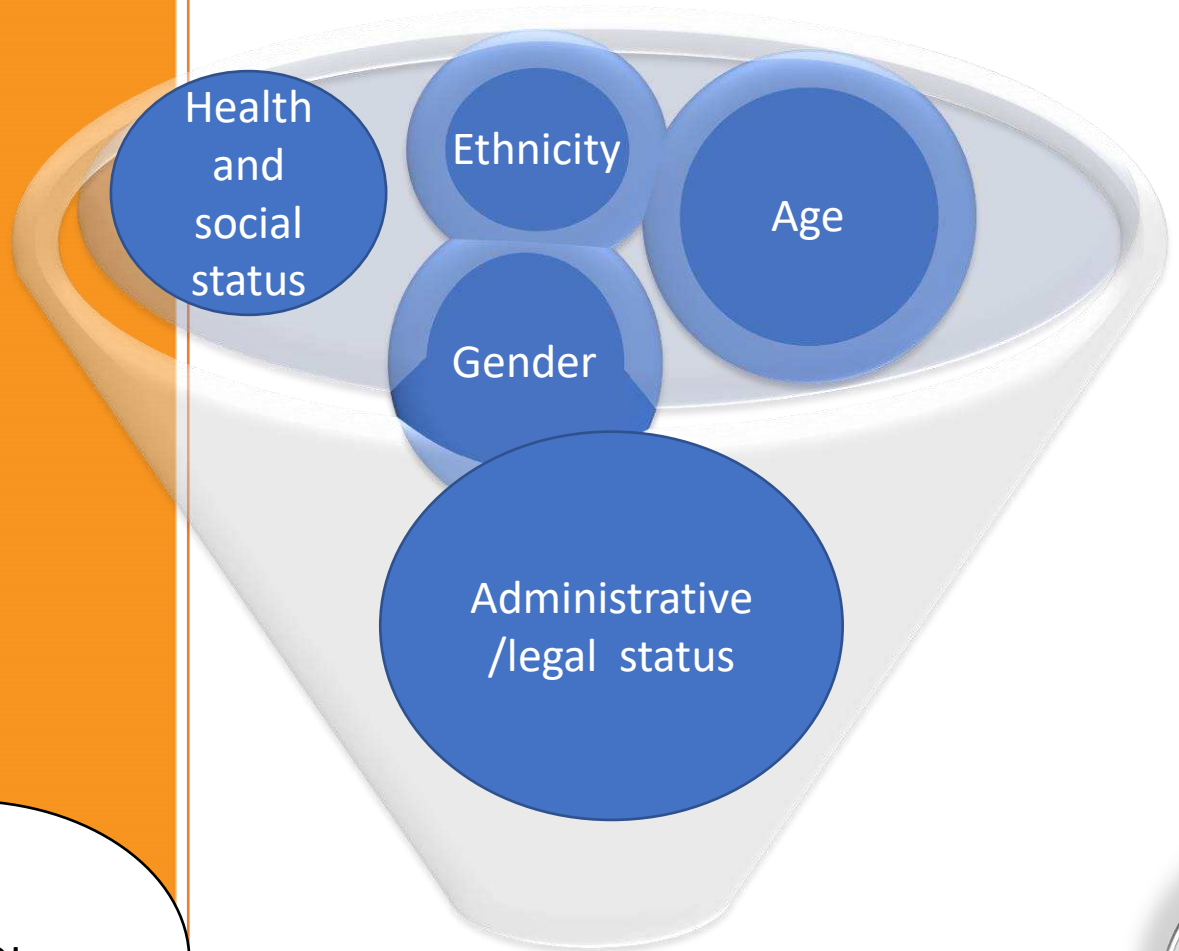


Why young people should be considered as a vulnerable group?

People with physical and mental disabilities

Homeless people

LGBTQI+



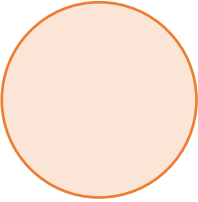
Intersectional inequalities

Refugees and migrants

Ethnic minorities, including Roma

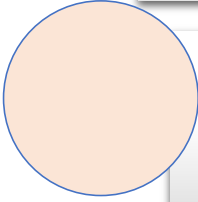
Young people in shelters and detention centers



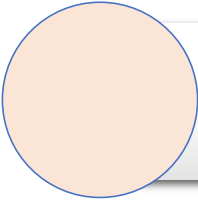


Risk of poverty and social exclusion due to intersectional inequalities based on age, gender, ethnicity, social, administrative and legal status (e.g migrants, Roma, LGBTQI+)

18.6 million young people (25.1%) of young people were at risk of poverty in 2019 (highest rates are noted in Greece (38.1 %), Romania (34.2 %) and Denmark (33.2 %))



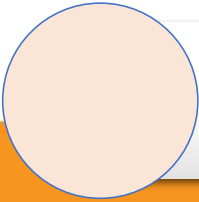
Greater exposure to health and social inequalities, including unemployment and employment precariousness



Lower ability to afford essential health and preventive services, including mental health prevention



Poor living and working conditions



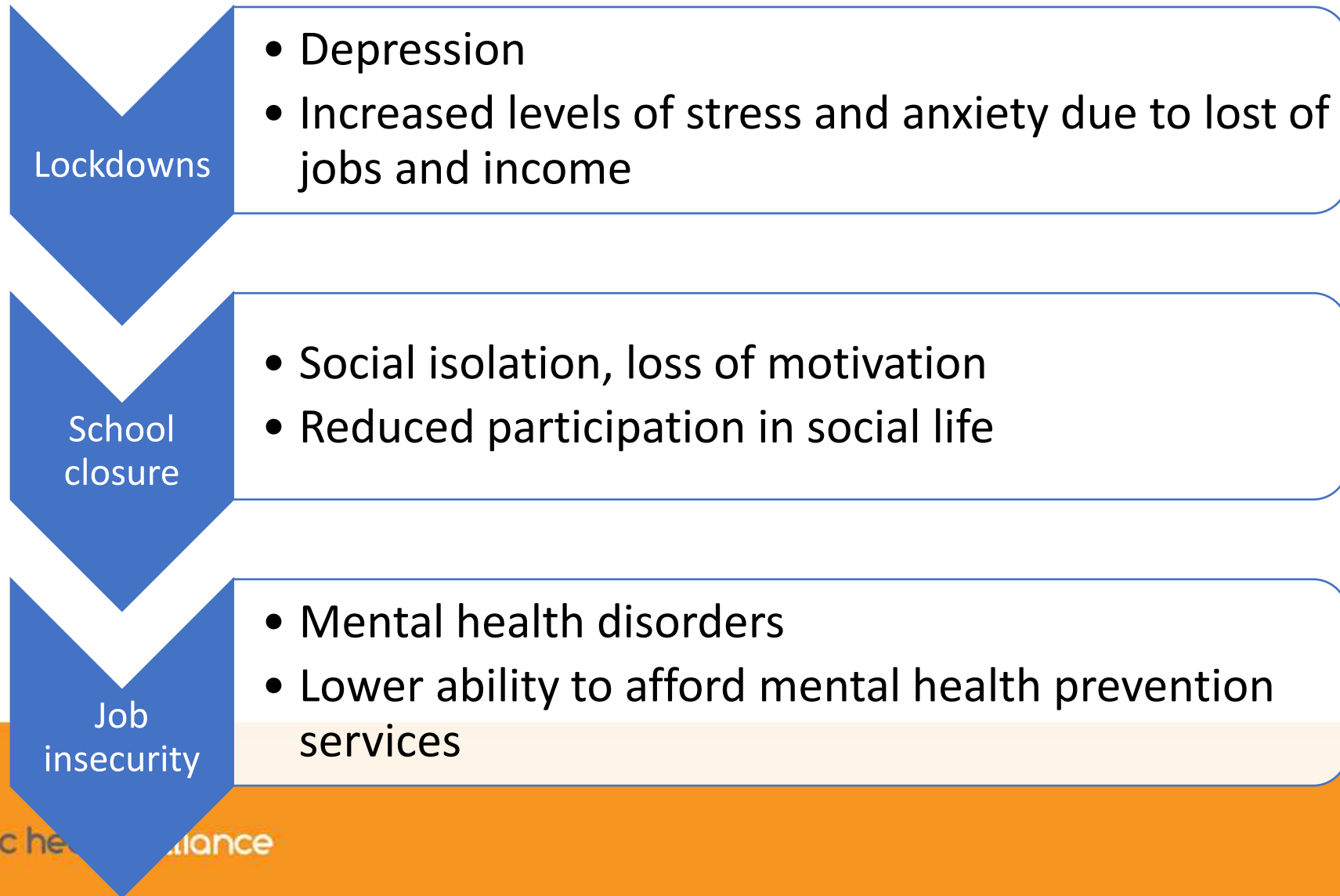
Lower access to social protection services and employment benefits exacerbating young people's socio-economic situation in COVID19

Groups at a particular risk of unemployment

- Roma Youth – unemployment rates reach 90% in Portugal and 70% in Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria*
- 1 out of 2 disabled person is unemployed
- Refugees and migrants have lower access to essential services due to administrative and language barriers, but also discrimination
- People with a migrant background are over-represented in seasonal and precarious work



Mental health impact of the pandemic



EPHA response to growing health and social inequalities: the European Charter on Health Equity



Launched in 2010 following the European Year against Poverty, revised in 2020 in the context of COVID19

- prioritising investment in social, health and human rights protection focusing on the most vulnerable across all parts of society
- working collaboratively to promote holistic policies targeted to vulnerable, socially excluded and marginalised communities.

Thank you for attention!

Radost Zaharieva,

Policy coordinator for Health Inequalities

<https://epha.org/>

<https://epha.org/roma-health-network/>

<https://epha.org/european-charter-on-health-equity/>

radost.zaharieva@epha.org

