

LETTER TO EDITOR

Status of Malaria in the W.H.O. Region of Europe

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ABSTRACT

Background: The objective of this paper is to present a birds-eye view of the Malaria situation in the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) Region of Europe. **Methods:** The study design included online searches related to Malaria for each country such as from W.H.O. and United Nations documents. **Results:** Fifty-one countries (Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan) have been certified by the W.H.O. to be free from indigenous Malaria. Two countries (Georgia and Turkey) are yet to apply to the W.H.O. for certification of elimination of Malaria. **Conclusions:** Two countries in the W.H.O. Region of Europe are yet to receive certification of Malaria elimination.

Keywords: Malaria, World Health Organization, Europe.

Introduction

The W.H.O. Region of Europe consists of the following fifty-three countries (Figure 1): Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan.

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Fig. 1: Map of W.H.O.'s Region of Europe [Source: (1)]



Methods

The study design included online searches related to Malaria for each country such as from W.H.O. and United Nations documents.

Results

1. **Albania:** Albania was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 2012.[2]
2. **Andorra:** Andorra was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 2012.[2]
3. **Armenia:** Armenia was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 2011.[2]
4. **Austria:** Austria was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1963.[2]
5. **Azerbaijan:** Azerbaijan was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 2023.[7]
6. **Belarus:** Belarus was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012. [2]
7. **Belgium:** Belgium was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1963.[2]

8. **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Bosnia and Herzegovina were certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1973. [2]
9. **Bulgaria:** Bulgaria was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1965. [2]
10. **Croatia:** Croatia was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1973.[2]
11. **Cyprus:** Cyprus was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1967. [2]
12. **Czechia:** Czechia was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963.[2]
13. **Denmark:** Denmark was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963.[2]
14. **Estonia:** Estonia was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012.[2]
15. **France:** France (Metropolitan) was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012.[2]
16. **Finland:** Finland was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963.[2]
17. **Georgia:** In Georgia, transmission of Plasmodium vivax Malaria was interrupted in 2010. Two imported cases were detected in 2011 and 2012. No locally acquired cases were reported in 2013. The country is now in the “prevention of Malaria reintroduction” phase. [4]
18. **Germany:** Germany was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1964. [2]
19. **Greece:** Greece was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
20. **Hungary:** Hungary was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1964. [2]
21. **Iceland:** Iceland was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1963. [2]
22. **Ireland:** Ireland was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1963. [2]
23. **Israel:** Israel was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
24. **Italy:** Italy was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1970. [2]
25. **Kazakhstan:** Kazakhstan was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
26. **Kyrgyzstan:** Kyrgyzstan was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2016. [2]
27. **Latvia:** Latvia was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
28. **Lithuania:** Lithuania was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
29. **Luxembourg:** Luxembourg was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 2012. [2]
30. **Malta:** Malta was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1963. [2]
31. **Monaco:** Monaco was certified by the W.H.O. to be free of Malaria in 1963. [2]
32. **Montenegro:** Montenegro was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1973.[2]
33. **Netherlands:** The Netherlands was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1970.[2]
34. **North Macedonia:** North Macedonia was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1973. [2]
35. **Norway:** Norway was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1963. [2]

36. **Poland:** Poland was certified by the W.H.O. to be free from Malaria in 1967. [2]
37. **Portugal:** Portugal was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1973. [2]
38. **Republic of Moldova:** The Republic of Moldova was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012. [2]
39. **Romania:** Romania was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1967. [2]
40. **Russian Federation:** The Russian Federation was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012. [2]
41. **San Marino:** San Marino was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963. [2]
42. **Serbia:** Serbia was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1973. [2]
43. **Slovakia:** Slovakia was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963. [2]
44. **Slovenia:** Slovenia was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1973. [2]
45. **Spain:** Spain was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1964. [2]
46. **Sweden:** Sweden was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963. [2]
47. **Switzerland:** Switzerland was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963.[2]
48. **Tajikistan:** Tajikistan was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2023. [7]
49. **Turkey:** In 2015, only three imported Malaria cases were registered in the country. [6]
50. **Turkmenistan:** Turkmenistan was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2010.[2]
51. **Ukraine:** Turkmenistan was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2012.[2]
52. **United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland:** The United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 1963.[2]
53. **Uzbekistan:** Uzbekistan was certified to be free from Malaria by the W.H.O. in 2018.[2]

Discussion

Fifty-one countries (Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan) have been certified by the W.H.O. to be free from indigenous Malaria. Two countries (Georgia and Turkey) are yet to apply to the W.H.O. for certification of elimination of Malaria.

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