



Medi-CaSE
Mediterranean Cancer Screening
and Early Diagnosis

in 
[medi-case.eu](https://www.medi-case.eu)

CA23151 - Medi-CaSE
Mediterranean Cancer Screening and Early Diagnosis Network

Annual meeting
MAPPING OUR JOURNEY – ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

Istanbul, 20-22 May 2026



Istanbul Kent University
Kağıthane Campus
İstanbul, Türkiye

 **cost**
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

 Funded by
the European Union



WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2026

13.30 – 14.40

Opening session

Moderators: L. Giordano, S. Gözüm

13.30 Participation and registration

14.00 Welcome from the Chair

L. Giordano

14.10 Introduction by local hosts

S. Gözüm and Turkish health and Istanbul Kent University authorities

14.20 Overview of meeting objectives and agenda

L. Giordano

14.30 Medi-CaSE Action profile: composition, diversity, and capacity building

G. Ferrante

14.40 Icebreaking Session

15.10 – 16.10

Session 1 - Cancer screening in Türkiye: current state, challenges, and future perspectives

Moderators: L. Giordano, S. Gözüm

15.10 Cancer screening programs in Türkiye: a comprehensive overview

A. N. Özaydın

15.55 Discussion

16.10 – 16.30 | Coffee break

16.30 – 17.30

Session 2 - Working Group updates (Part 1) and cross cutting collaboration

Moderators: J. Hasic, A. David

16.30 WG1 Cancer early diagnosis and screening implementation, optimization, data collection, and monitoring

I. Samardzic, R. Castagno

16.45 WG2 Research platform in cancer screening across the Mediterranean

C. Dantas, P. Peremiquel

17.00 From fragmentation to integration: optimizing reviews and survey activities across Working Groups

C. Dantas, S. Gozum

17.15 Discussion

17.30 Closing



THURSDAY, 21 MAY 2026

09.00 – 10.30

Session 3 - Working Group updates (Part 2) and COST networking opportunities

Moderators: S. Adib, F. Di Stefano

09.00 WG₃ Training of professionals and stakeholders in cancer secondary prevention: focus on the 2026 Training Schools

M. Krini, G. Casnati

09.15 WG₄ Approaches for increasing the participation among general population and vulnerable groups

S. Gözüm, O. Nimri

09.30 Distribution of funds for networking opportunities in the current Grant Period

M. Coccia

09.45 Latest updates on Medi-CaSE proposals for Short Term Scientific Missions and Conferences

J. Hasic

10.00 STSM: Developing a qualitative methodological protocol for inclusive risk-based cancer screening communication

C. Barrufet

10.10 ITC Conference: Implementation status of national organized HPV-based cervical cancer screening in Albania

K. Filipi

10.20 Discussion

10.30 – 11.00 | Coffee break

11.00 Team building activities

11.30 – 13.00

Session 4 - Innovating screening pathways: technologies, guidelines and emerging practices

Moderators: M. Coccia, G. Casnati

11.30 Artificial Intelligence in cancer screening: opportunities, risks and implementation challenges

S. Mazzetti

11.45 Key Takeaways & Discussion

A. David

12.00 Self-Sampling in cervical cancer screening

P. Peremiquel

12.15 Key Takeaways & Discussion

G. Ferrante

12.30 European screening guidelines: current updates and future directions

A. Mannik (Joint Research Centre – European Commission)

12.45 Key Takeaways & Discussion

L. Giordano



Medi-CaSE
Mediterranean Cancer Screening
and Early Diagnosis

in 
[medi-case.eu](https://www.medi-case.eu)

13.00 – 14.00 | Lunch break

14.00 – 15.20

Session 5 - Stakeholder involvement in Medi-CaSE: building collaborative partnerships

Moderators: C. Dantas, G. Ferrante

14.00 From coverage to participation: patient engagement and equity in breast cancer screening in Italy - Europa Donna

M. Schina

14.10 Colorectal cancer in Lebanon: breaking barriers toward screening and patient support

H. Nimer

14.20 Promoting breast cancer prevention and patient support: the experience of Think Pink in Bosnia and Herzegovina

S. Burlović-Mehičević

14.30 Beyond the diagnosis: patient rights and the power of advocacy in cancer screening - The experience of Careca Power Association

M. Brice

14.40 Roundtable discussion: opportunities for collaborations in Medi-CaSE

C. Dantas, G. Ferrante

15.20 Team building activities

16.00 – 16.30 | Coffee break

16.30 – 17.15

Session 6 - Working Group updates (Part 3)

Moderators: I. Samardžić, E. Ademović

16.30 WG5 Integration of cancer secondary prevention within ongoing health services

B. Charles Antony, S. Adib

16.45 WG6 Dissemination and communication

F. Di Stefano, K. Filipi

17.00 Discussion

17.15 Closing



FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026

09.00 – 10.30

Session 7 – Enhancing participation in cancer screening: experiences from Medi-CaSE countries

Moderators: K. Filipi, O. Nimri

09.00 From invitation to participation: experiences from Slovenia

K. Jarm

09.10 Implementation status of national organized HPV-based cervical cancer screening in Montenegro

J. Vukovic-Lekovic, I. Samardzic

09.20 Views on cancer screening in Jordan from Ministry of Health Representatives

O. Nimri

09.30 Strengthening cancer screening participation: the experience of Bosnia and Herzegovina

E. Ademovic

09.40 Bridging gaps in cancer screening: insights from Lebanon

S. Adib

09.50 The role of General Practitioners in cancer screening access

A. David

10.00 Integrating cancer screening into broader healthcare services: strategies for impact

L. Giordano

10.15 Discussion

10.30 – 10.50 | Coffee break

10.50– 11.50

Session 8 - Life-Course approaches in cancer prevention and screening: methods, training, and research opportunities in Medi-CaSE

Moderators: G. Ferrante, K. Jarm

10.50 The Life-Course approach: building capacity for application in cancer prevention and screening

F. Ricceri

11.05 PhD in Life Course Research: fostering the study of life courses from a holistic and transdisciplinary perspective

R. Guetto

11.20 Life-Course PhD: biomedical focus

F. Ricceri

11.30 Life-Course PhD: socio-demographic focus

R. Guetto

11.40 Discussion



Medi-CaSE
Mediterranean Cancer Screening
and Early Diagnosis

in 
[medi-case.eu](https://www.medi-case.eu)

11.50 – 12.30

Session 9 - Reflecting and moving forward: strengthening impact and strategic positioning

Moderators: L. Giordano, S. Gozum

11.50 Reflecting on the Medi-CaSE Action: what we have accomplished and where we face gaps

J. Hasic Telalovic

12.05 Strengthening inclusiveness: expanding participation to North African Partners

L. Giordano

12.20 Discussion

12.30 – 12.45

Closing session

12.30 Looking ahead: Key messages and next steps for Medi-CaSE

L. Giordano, K. Jarm

12.45 Closing Remarks and Host Acknowledgements

L. Giordano, S. Gozum