

# EHMA 2024

Shaping and managing  
innovative health ecosystems

## Midwifery education in Europe: Survey among

### WHO-Europe member states

Dr. Sule Kurt, KU Leuven Institute for Healthcare Policy (Leuvens Instituut voor GezondheidszorgBeleid LIGB), Coordinator of WHO CC for Human Resources for Health Research & Policy, Belgium

Prof. Walter Sermeus, KU Leuven Institute for Healthcare Policy (Leuvens Instituut voor GezondheidszorgBeleid LIGB), KU Leuven, Belgium

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#EHMA2024

# Objectives

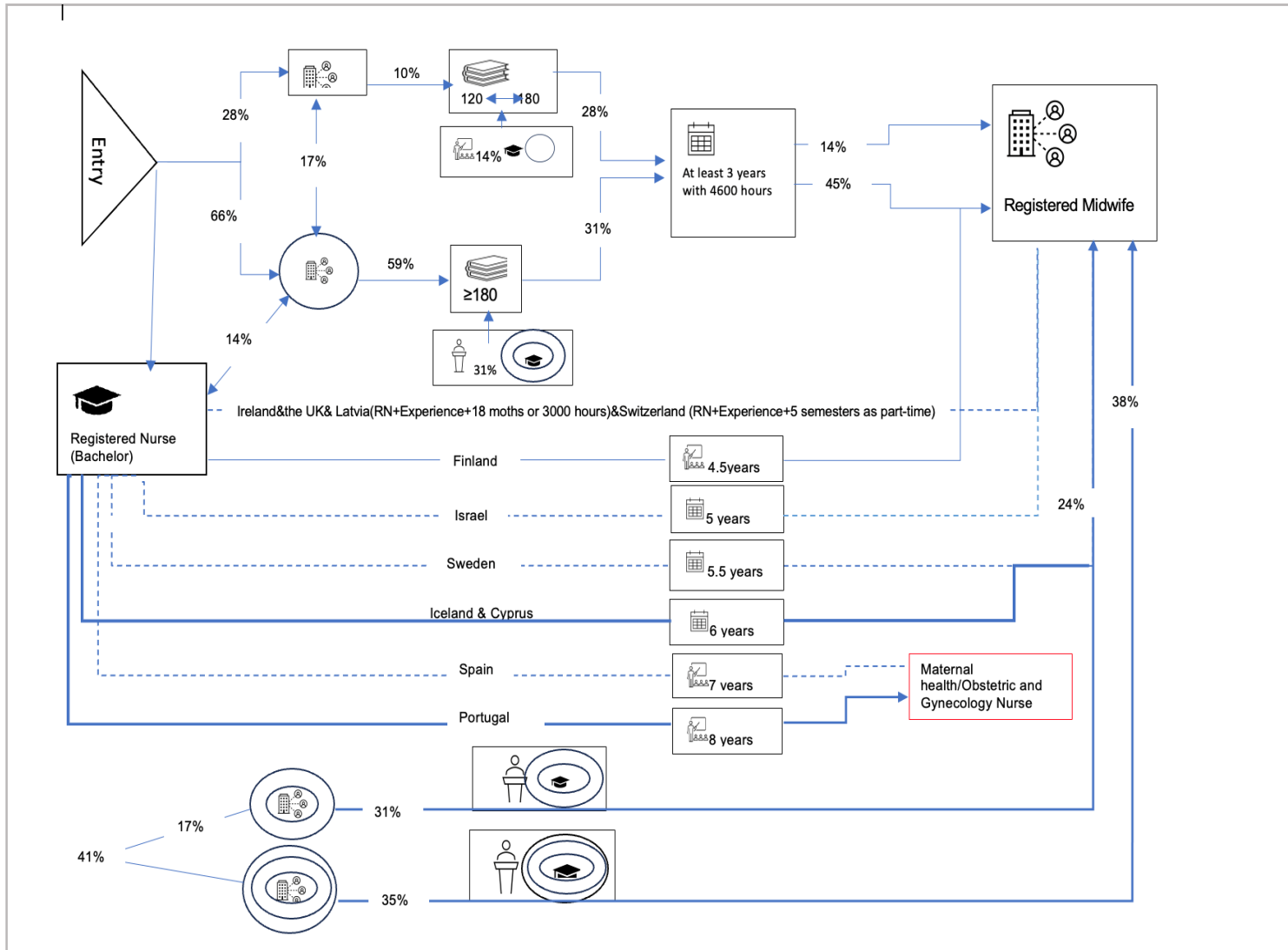
- Education pathways of midwives in WHO-European countries
- Education pathways affect duration of midwifery education
- The impact of education pathways on midwifery titles
- The impact of postgraduate education on midwifery titles

# Methodology

This study was designed as a cross-sectional study to define status of nursing and midwifery workforce in WHO Europe member states in line with European strategic directions for strengthening nursing and midwifery towards Health 2020 goals.

**Data were collected** between December 2020 and June 2021 from 29 countries. Analysis of data and comparison with literature led to validation of data between April and November, 2023.

Organisation of the midwifery education in Europe: survey among WHO Europe Member States



We identify at least 2 different educational pathways to become a midwife: as an independent profession at vocational or bachelor level, as a post-track study at bachelor or master level (Cyprus, Finland, Israel, Iceland, Sweden, Portugal and Spain).

This impacts the duration for midwifery education going from at least 3 years (in all vocational training and a large part of bachelor training) up to 4.5 years in Finland, to 5 years in Israel, to 5.5 years in Sweden, to 6 years in Cyprus, Iceland, to 7 years in Spain, to 8 years in Portugal to become a fully qualified midwife.

The pathway might also have an impact on their title being registered midwife (RM) with exceptions such as Spain and Portugal, where they are more seen as specialist nurses.



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# Thanks very much for listening!

Dr. Sule Kurt, KU Leuven Institute for Healthcare Policy (Leuven Instituut voor GezondheidszorgBeleid LIGB), Coordinator of WHO CC for Human Resources for Health Research & Policy, Belgium

[sule.kurt@kuleuven.be](mailto:sule.kurt@kuleuven.be)