



FINE

Webinar

EUROPEAN FEDERATION
OF EDUCATORS
IN NURSING SCIENCE

FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE
DES ENSEIGNANTS
EN SCIENCES INFIRMIÈRES

**Nursing education: responding to health service and
policy expectations**

**La formation infirmière : répondre aux attentes des
services et des politiques de santé**

***16 June 2022
3 – 5 pm (CET)***



Nursing education: responding to health service and policy expectations – Experiences from Slovenia

Prof Dr Brigita Skela Savič (*PhD, MPhil, BA, RN*)

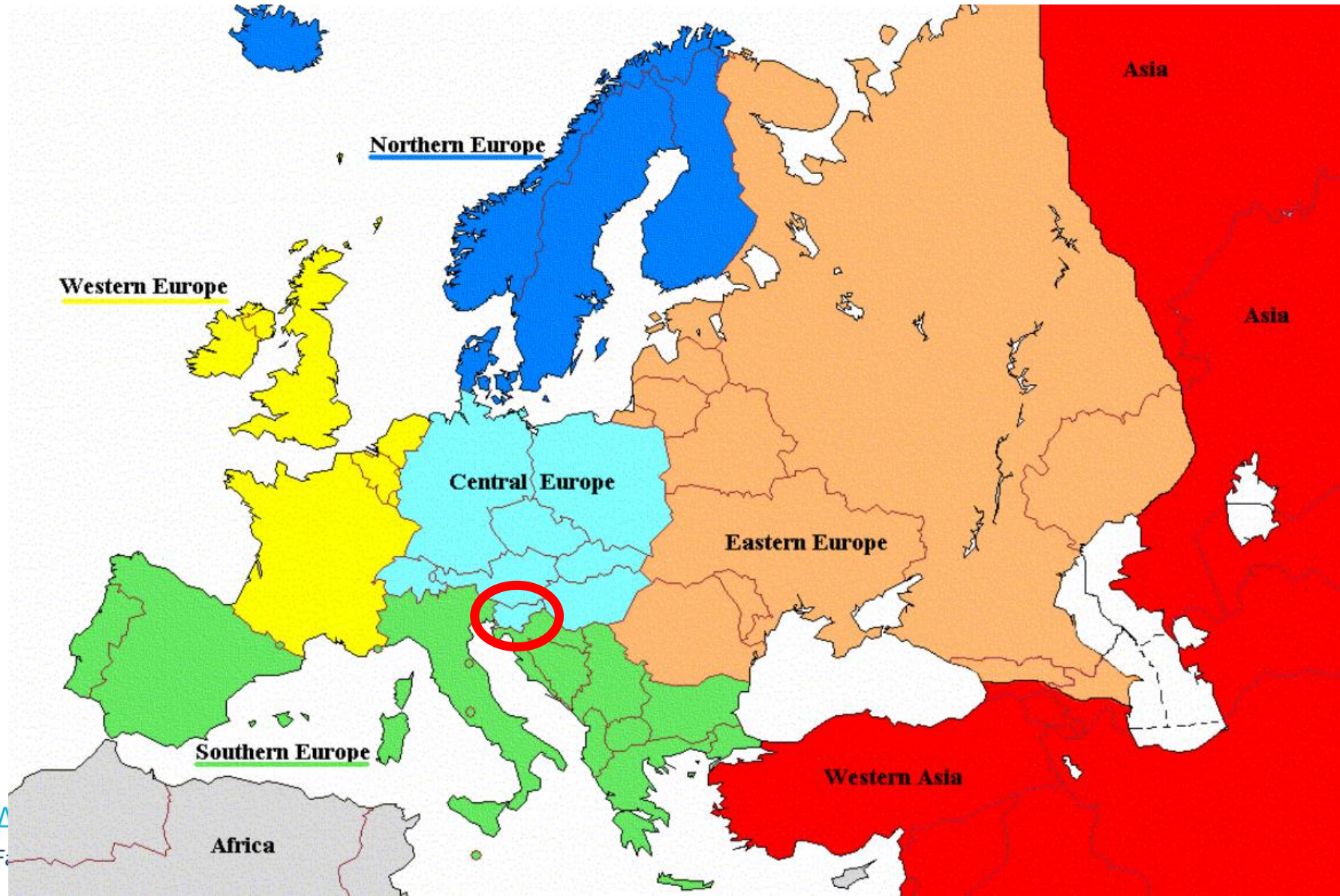
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ICN – past Board member (2017-2021)

FINE - Advisory board member (2020-)

Webinar FINE 16 June 2022

Slovenia is a part of Central Europe



Two levels of education in nursing

- **Secondary education** – Health care assistant (4 years secondary school, enter at 15 years, EQF 4)
- **Tertiary education** – (enter at 19 years)
 - BSc in Nursing (180 ECTS, EQF 6)
 - MSc in Nursing (120 ECTS, EQF 7)
 - PhD in Nursing (180 ECTS, EQF 8)

Situation in health care institutions – average staffing ratio

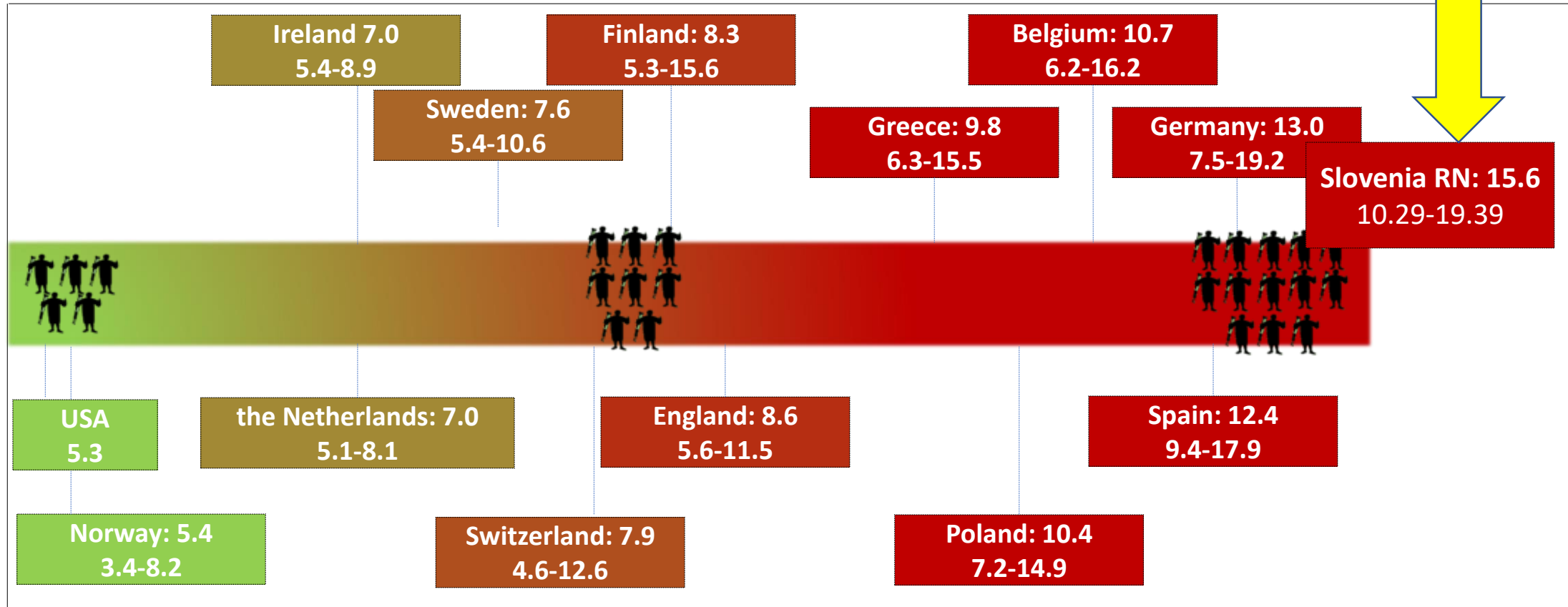
- 40 % BSc in Nursing (EQF 6) – 4 % of them MSc or PhD
- 60 % Health care assistant (EQF 4)



NURSE STAFFING:

Ratio between the number of patients and one RN per working shift

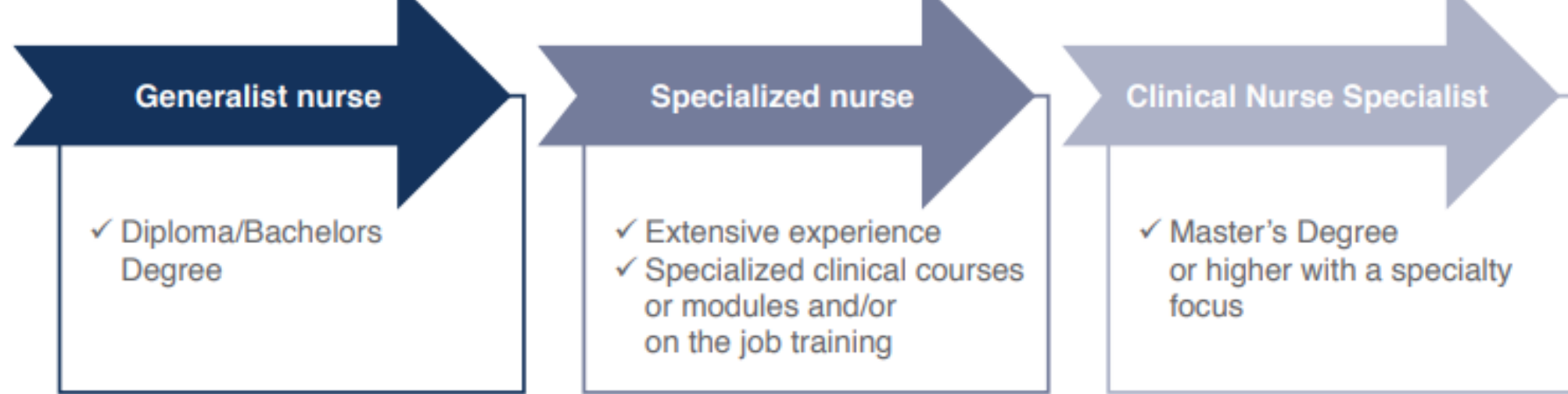
PATIENTS TO NURSE RATIO



Crisis situation in nursing in Slovenia

- There is **no vision for the development of nursing by 2030**, there is a vision 2011-2020, which has not been implemented.
- **Inadequately trained nursing management.**
- **Little development cooperation between faculties and health care institutions** that would have an impact on nursing development.
- **Shortage of BSc Nurses** - going abroad (Germanic area and Scandinavian countries).
- **HCA overeducation**, 800-1000 without a job (health problems, no interest in working in nursing).
- **Difficult working conditions for BSc Nurses** (RN4CAST - lowest working environment score in the EU).
- **Low salaries** in relation to responsibility.
- **No clear support from medical organizations** for the development of nursing.
- **No horizontal career development** and systematized jobs for MSc or PhD level educated.
- 130,000 citizens without a personal doctor, excessive waiting times for diagnosis and treatment - **no support for ANP or clinical nurse specialist.**
- The ambition of the nursing chamber for advanced forms of work is questionable.
- **Enrolment places for BSc Nurses are sufficient, 20% increase in 2022**, problem is going abroad.
- **Health policy** is primarily concerned with doctors, not the health system.

The lessons learned in a crisis situation as well as in a normal operating mode - recommendations



Title

- Health care assistant / Practical nurse
- General care nurse
- Specialised nurse
- ~~• Clinical nurse specialist or Advanced nurse practitioner~~

Level of education

- Secondary education or programme with 1200 – 2000 hours of professional education – HCA, PN (EQF level 4 or 5)
- Higher education – BSc or BA (EQF level 6)
- Specialised clinical courses after BSc/BA (EQF level 6)
- Master degree – MSc Nur (EQF level 7), PhD (EQF level 8)



Table 2. NP/APN education and advanced practice in selected OECD and EU countries in primary care, 2015

	Countries	NP/APN education	Advanced Clinical Practice (in primary care), as per SoP
<i>Established: NP/APN working at high levels of advanced clinical practice</i>	Australia, Canada, Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom (England, N. Ireland, Scotland, Wales), United States	✓	<p>✓</p> <p>Authorised to perform <u>all</u> of the following seven clinical activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prescribing medications •Medical diagnosis & health assessment •Ordering medical tests & exams •Treatment decisions •Panel of patients •Authorised to refer patients •First point of contact
<i>Emerging: (few) NP/APN education programs, but practice not at advanced clinical level</i>	Austria, Belgium ^o , Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Lithuania, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland	(✓) Emerging*	<p>(✓)</p> <p>Level of advanced clinical practice is more restricted than above, authorised to perform a limited set of advanced clinical activities, usually under physician oversight</p>
<i>Other extended nursing roles, but practice nor education at NP/APN level</i>	Belgium ^o , Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary ^{oo} , Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, <u>Slovenia</u>	No**	<p>(✓)</p> <p>Limited advanced clinical practice, authorised to perform a <u>limited set</u> of clinical activities, usually under physician oversight</p>

Notes: SoP=Scope-of-Practice, *Few or recent NP/APN programmes established at universities or universities of applied sciences
 **No NP/APN education programmes, but additional specialisations and trainings for nurses. ^oBelgium (Flamish part with APN

• Maier et al., 2017, *OECD Health Working Papers*, No. 98

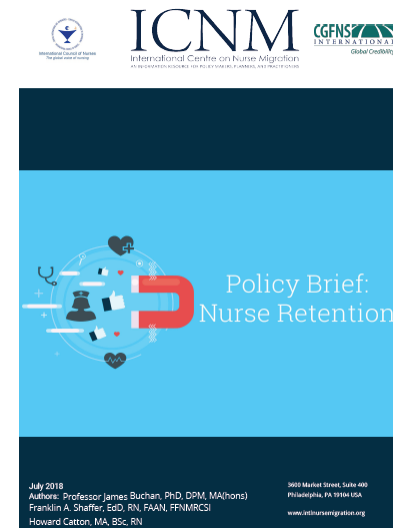
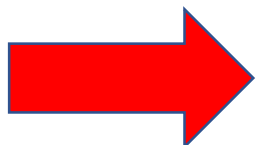


Urgent considerations of amendments to the EU Directive

- **The needs for nurses is increasing**, society is aging / needs for more and more nurses (Buchan et al., 2018)
- Increase the number of hours of clinical learning in **simulated laboratories**. Not enough clinical environments.
 - Research have shown that good preparation in simulation environments improves the effect of clinical training (Kang et al. 2020; Arrogante et al. 2020; Ogunyemi et al., 2020; Guerrero-Martínez et al. 2020; Craig et al. 2020; Costa et al. 2020; Franklin et al. 2020; ...).
- **Why the study of nursing requires such an extensive part of clinical training compared to the study of general medicine?**
- An **extension of nursing studies to 4 years** and defined **clinical specialist training** for a clinical nurse specialist and **advance nurse practitioner** as arranged for physicians. See study Maier et al. (2017), Maier and Aiken (2016)



GENERAL MEDICINE Directive (2013/55/EU)	GENERAL NURSING CARE Directive (2013/55/EU)
Basic medical training shall comprise a total of at least five years of study , which may in addition be expressed with the equivalent ECTS credits, and shall consist of at least 5 500 hours of theoretical and practical training provided by, or under the supervision of, a university.	'The training of nurses responsible for general care shall comprise a total of at least three years of study , which may in addition be expressed with the equivalent ECTS credits, and shall consist of at least 4 600 hours of theoretical and clinical training , the duration of the theoretical training representing at least one third and the duration of the clinical training at least one half of the minimum duration of the training.
Average hours per study year = 916 hours	Average hours per study year = 1533 hours
Practical training is not defined	Practical training is defined with 2300 hours



What we need?

- Nursing education – **4 years BSc or BA study (240 ECTS)**
 - Master degree – 1 – 2 years (60 - 120 ECTS)
- **Complementing the EU Directive** with a clear requirement for education at EQF level 6 as entry to the profession, a 4-year study program and a clear **definition of postgraduate education**.
 - **Training in simulation conditions** as part of students' clinical training.
- **Clear European Commission requirements for nurses** in the EU (education, promotion, autonomous roles in the health system, nursing law, systematization of jobs at EQF levels 6 and 7).
- **More knowledge and science** – research methods, EBP, development of nursing as a profession and science.



Thank you.

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