European AIDS Clinical Society

Results Survey USA exit from WHO and/or USAID / PEPFAR freeze March 2025

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Brussels, April 29, 2025

Results

On February 21, 2025, following the news on the U.S.A. administration presidential decreet on exiting WHO and freezing all USAID funded programmes, including PEPFAR, EACS fielded a simple seven-questions survey on the impact of these decisions within the European context. The survey was sent to **471** EACS European members and was online from **February 21 to April 17, 2025**. Assuming that the survey wasn't passed onto other individuals, the response rate was of 13,2% (n=62). Of the 62 answers obtained, 80,6% weren't from USAID/PEPFAR and/or WHO beneficiary countries (n=50), meaning that many European countries aren't receiving funds from these entities and aren't directly impacted by the cuts that the U.S.A. administration inflected on humanitarian aid and third parties. Only 19,4% of the respondents (n=12) were impacted. When looking into which types of grants the respondents received, 75% (n=9) were receiving grants from multiple sources (see table below) versus single grants 25% (n=3).

Types of g	rants
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		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	WHO	3	25	25	25
	USAID / WHO	2	17	17	42
	USAID / PEPFAR	3	25	25	67
	USAID / PEPFAR / WHO	3	25	25	92
	USAID / WHO / GLOBAL FUND	1	8	8	100
	Total	12	100	100	

Table 1 - Grants by source

If we analyse the results by entity (see table below), we can see that most of the respondents are from countries that had/have support from WHO and USAID (36%, ex aequo), followed by PEPFAR (24%). This also aligns with the previous results, where WHO and USAID each, have provided grants to 75% (n=9) of our respondents. WHO and USAID combined, cover 100% of the grant recipients in the WHO-EU Region.

Grants by entity

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	WHO	9	36	36	36
	USAID	9	36	36	72
	PEPFAR	6	24	24	96
	GLOBAL FUND	1	4	4	100
	Total	25	100	100	

Table 2 - Grants by entity

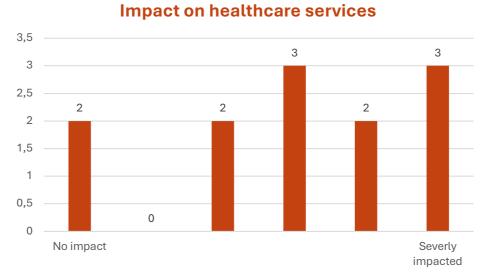


Looking into the countries that were/are recipients of grants awarded by the entities previously mentioned, we can see that Ukraine was the country with the highest response rate (36,3%; n=4). All other countries only had one response per country. Notably all countries are from Central and Eastern Europe. By crossing data, we can see that WHO is supporting almost all of the responding countries except Kazakhstan that is supported by a USAID/PEFAR grant.

		Country			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Ukraine	4	33,3	33,3	33,3
	Albania	1	8,3	8,3	41,7
	Kazakhstan	1	8,3	8,3	50,0
	Poland	1	8,3	8,3	58,3
	Uzbekistan	1	8,3	8,3	66,7
	Republic of Moldova	1	8,3	8,3	75,0
	Romania	1	8,3	8,3	83,3
	Russian Federation	1	8,3	8,3	91,7
	Serbia	1	8,3	8,3	100
	Total	12	100	100	

Table 3 - List of grant recipient countries

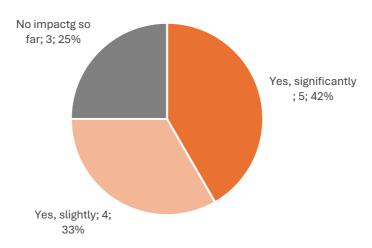
Regarding the impact of the exit of the USA from WHO and/or the freeze of the USAID/PEPFAR programmes, 83,3% of our respondents (n=10), pointed out that there was an impact on healthcare services with 25% (n=3) reporting a severe impact on healthcare services.



Graph 1 - Impact of the USA exit from the WHO and/or USAID/PEPFAR funding freeze on healthcare services

When asked about the impact on reducing services in healthcare facilities, 75% (n=9) reported that there was a decline with 42% (n=5) reporting a "significant reduce of services".

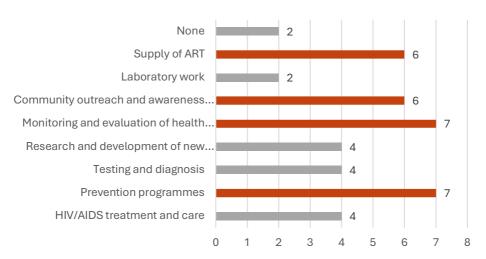
Services Reduced



Graph 2 - Perception of services being reduced due to the USA exit from the WHO and/or USAID/PEPFAR funding freeze

In regard to the areas that were most affected by the USA exit from WHO and/or the USAID/PEPFAR freeze, prevention programmes, and monitoring and evaluation of health programmes were given the highest response (16,7%; n=7, respectively), followed by supply of ART and community outreach and awareness programmes, (14,3%; n=6).

Most affected areas



Graph 3 - Areas affected by the USA exit from WHO and/or USAID/PEFAR freeze

Lastly, in the open-ended question, when asked to describe the impact of the exit of the USA from the WHO and/or USAID/PEPFAR freeze, the following answers were obtained (responses were aggregated into broader topic):

Торіс	# of answers
Downsizing or termination of programmes	4
Uncertainty about the provision of ART, PEP and PrEP	3
Programmes that didn't start (e.g., new testing algorithm)	2
Medical and educational programmes closed	1
More difficult to initiate ART for new patients	1
Harder to diagnose new HIV cases	1
Prevention programmes have become much more difficult	1
Concern about the deterioration of the quality of life of people living with HIV	1

Table 4 - Additional insights on the impact of the exist of the USA from WHO and/or the USAID/PEPFAR freeze

Despite the reduced number of responses, it seems like WHO and USAID have a more prominent role in terms of the funding schemes in Europe, especially in Eastern Europe. Further country-specific analysis should be conducted to measure the number of people living with HIV that were impacted, their health outcomes, as well as, HIV incidence and prevalence, and mortality, alongside with the economic impact of the U.S.A. administration presidential decreets in the recipient countries.

Contacts

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Acknowledgements

EACS would like to express its appreciation to the Joint Infectious Diseases Unit at WHO Europe, to the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and to Prof. Deniz Gökengin that helped disseminate the survey among their networks. Special credits should also be given to EACS' president, Prof. Miłosz Parczewski, to EACS' Executive Director Mrs. Joëlle Verluyten, and to the EACS governing board that revised the report and provided input.