

# Impact Assessment American Eurasian Cancer Alliance

The mission of the American Eurasian Cancer Alliance (AECA) is to pool the intellectual and scientific resources of member institutions to further research and discovery in cancer prevention, treatment strategies, and palliative care. AECA operates within Central Asia, Caucuses, Central and Eastern Europe, and Balkan Peninsula of the Eurasian perimeter.

## I. Promoting Research Training and Education

**AECA has effectively facilitated research training delivered through high-quality, multidisciplinary endeavors, including professional courses, fellowships, workshops, tumor boards, patient case reviews, and specialty webinars. AECA is committed to training the next generation of U.S. and Eurasian scientists, surgeons, clinicians, and palliative care professionals ultimately creating a more conducive context for joint scientific cooperation.**



**Assists local groups in building their capacity to address cancer issues effectively.** This involves providing technical assistance, mentorship programs, and opportunities for networking and collaboration with other organizations in the region working in the field of cancer control.

This work will ultimately contribute to the reduction of the burden of these diseases and improving quality of life and health outcomes for affected individuals.

**Facilitates participation of students and researchers** from Eurasian low- and middle-income countries in global knowledge exchange platforms – such as:

American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC), European Research Organization on Genital Infection and Neoplasia (EUROGIN), European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), and International Gynecologic Cancer Society (IGCS)

to ensure growth opportunities for emerging leaders and build research capacity of partnering nations.

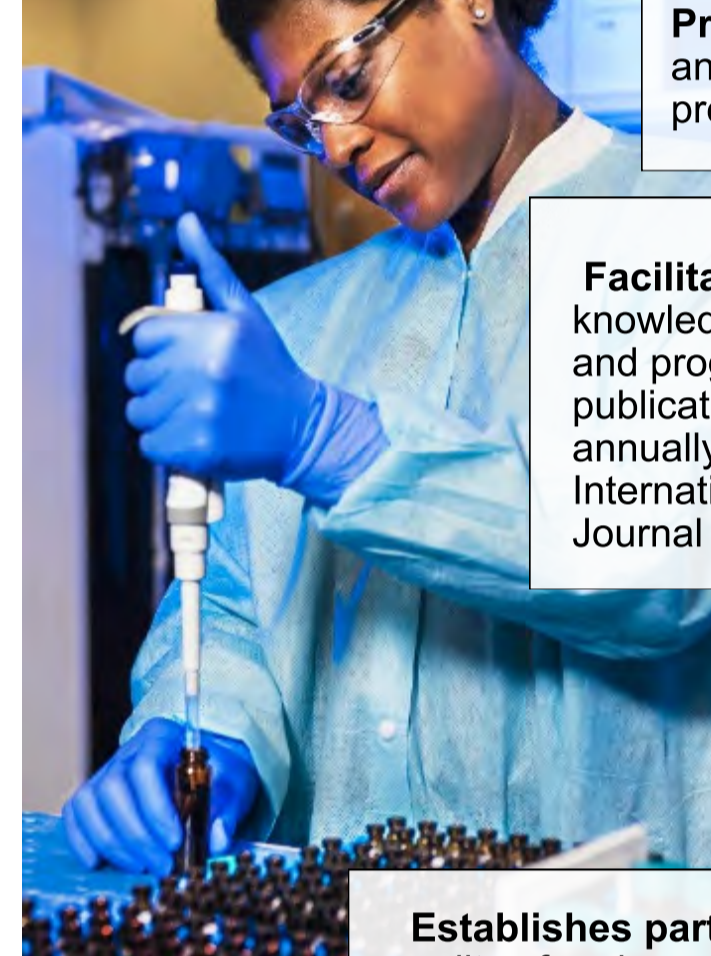


**Fosters collaboration and knowledge exchange among healthcare professionals, researchers, and organizations** from different parts of the world. This collaboration leads to the development of innovative treatment approaches, the sharing of best practices, and the advancement of research in the field of global oncology.

**Launches practical pre-invasive cervical care program in Eurasia** to educate healthcare providers on opportunities to identify cervical cancer early and reduce morbidity and mortality due to one of the most common malignancies in women globally.

## II. Strengthening Global Cancer Research

**After more than two decades of ardent endeavors to reduce the global burden of cancer, AECA has seen tremendous scientific breakthroughs as a result of robust international collaboration.**



**Provides research support**, including assistance with editing data analysis, and historical data retrieval, to accelerate manuscript preparation and data sharing.

**Facilitates preparation of scientific abstracts/articles** by fostering knowledge sharing and cross-border cooperation to disseminate scientific and programmatic findings on a wide range of topics through peer reviewed publications. Partnering organizational institutions average 75 publications annually, including in world renowned journals such as The Lancet Oncology, International Journal of Gynecological Cancer, Annals of Oncology, Journal of Clinical Oncology, and World Bulletin on Public Health.

**Strengthens cancer surveillance and dissemination of results** (e.g., through yearly Eurasian summits and regional leadership sessions) to build evidence-based research.

**Establishes partnerships with biobanking institutions in Central Asia** to optimize quality of and access to research materials available to the global research community.

**Supports implementation of Central Asia's investment in radiotherapy techniques** – such as brachytherapy, intraoperative radiation therapy, and stereotactic radiosurgery – as well as coordination with U.S. radiation oncology leaders to maximize global impact. Online adaptive radiotherapy system will be installed which will connect to a consortium of end users from the U.S. and Europe, who are exploring the technological advancement of artificial intelligence and exchange of data and clinical outcomes.

**Facilitates scientific sessions and dissemination opportunities** specifically tailored for emerging leaders within the Eurasian platform to promote strong research careers.

**Fosters collaboration to conduct cancer research**, which involves sharing data via ECHO tumor boards and national cancer registries. By pooling resources and expertise, the global research community can gain a better understanding of the cancer burden and tailor interventions accordingly, including interventions to accelerate precision medicine.



**Builds partnerships and platforms with cancer centers and industry partners** that catalyze international research initiatives. For example, the Cervical Cancer Research Network (CCRN), Every Woman Study, SUCCOR Study, Surveillance of Esophageal Cancer, Clinical Evaluation of Complex Treatment of Colorectal Cancer, and IPSOS Atezolizumab Study.

## III. Translating Research into Policy and Programs

**AECA, together with international partners, leads cancer control activities in Eurasia by providing guidance on existing practices to inform public health policy and strengthen research capacity, stimulate partnerships, and contribute to successful implementation of cancer control plans.**



**Advocates for policies and initiatives that support the needs of cancer patients globally.** By raising awareness of the importance of early detection, access to treatment, and supportive care services, AECA influences policymakers to prioritize these issues through substantive resolutions and allocate resources accordingly.

**Develops cervical cancer prevention framework** in conjunction with Central Asian and Eastern European leaders to disseminate outcomes of national investment in WHO-championed HPV vaccination campaigns. Regional of vaccination and screening policies were recently published in an international journal.

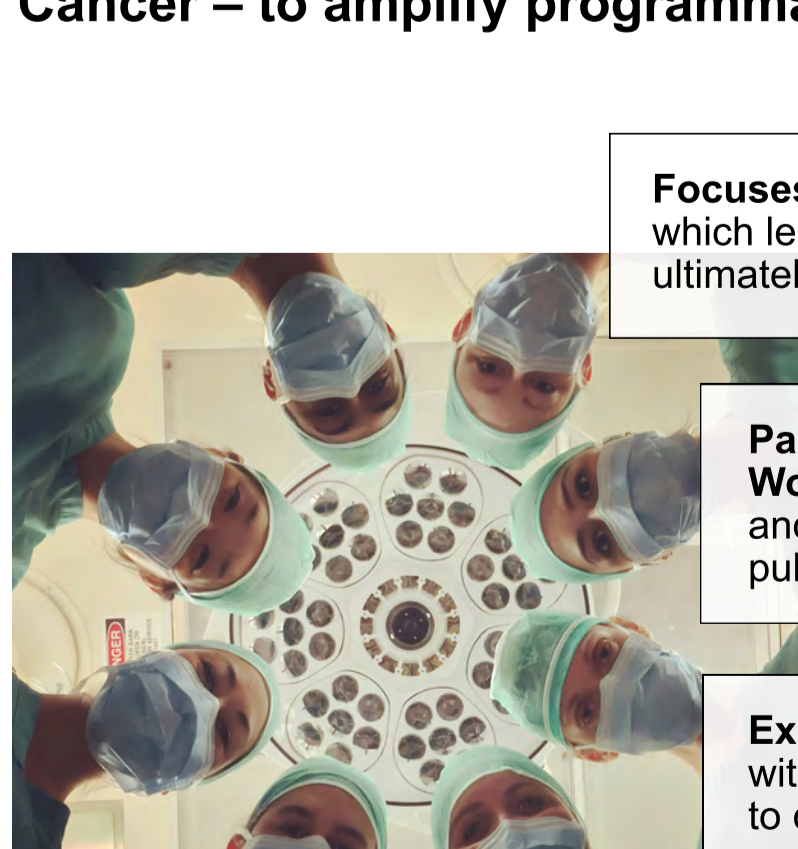
**Partners with the Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance (WHPCA)** throughout the Eurasian region. This effort has included pursuing increased access to pain management, expanded supporting services, and integration of palliative care in cancer care. This work recently inspired the development of a palliative care declaration from the International Gynecologic Cancer Society (IGCS).



## IV. Health and Science Diplomacy

**AECA maintains its commitment to global health and science diplomacy for the purposes of strengthening global cancer research and promoting evidence dissemination. AECA aligns its priorities to leading international organizations – such as the World Health Organization, Union for International Cancer Control, and International Agency for Research on Cancer – to amplify programmatic benefit for global communities.**

**Focuses programmatic efforts on cross-border collaboration**, which leads to the exchange of ideas, resources, and expertise, ultimately contributing to the advancement of global oncology care.



**Participates in the Global Oncology Medical Diplomacy Working Group** to examine the issues that challenge equity and inclusion in genetic medicine. This effort was recently published in Annals of Global Health.

**Expands services and supports into underserved areas** within Central Asia and Eastern Europe, increasing access to cancer care in areas of greatest need and creating new avenues of partnership through health and science diplomacy.

Unites local governments, international health organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to **promote development and execution of national cancer control programs.**

**Draws individual and organizational interest into global coalitions** such as IGCS, WHO, ASCO, ESMO, WHPCA – expanding diverse participation and increasing patient impact.

**Positioned to launch gynecological programs in Ukraine in 2024** to support displaced and underserved cancer patients amid the ongoing conflict. Neighboring countries will be engaged to ensure continuity of care between service providers.

