



Global Harmonization Initiative

Advocating safe food for all

October 2021

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President's message

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the October 2021 issue of GHI Matters. I hope that you have remained free from Covid-19 and if not, that you have been or are recovering completely. Then, of course, I hope that you will find information in this issue that is important for you to know.

GHI is continually growing and along with that becoming more active. This applies to working groups, editors of GHI books, GHI ambassadors and GHI officers. All of them would be happy with more volunteers to share the workload. Therefore, if you are willing to spend a couple of hours per week to advance GHI's goal of safe and nutritious food for all people in the world, let us know. We would be happy to make you responsible for an important task or arrange for you to work with others to accomplish a larger task.

You will read that the number of GHI ambassadors is increasing (there are >100), more new ambassadors are likely to be appointed shortly. As with members, also the number of ambassadorship applications is growing.

Many ambassadors have translated the anonymous whistleblowing reporting website that will soon be available into >20 languages. More about this in the December issue of the newsletter.

There are announcements of events of which some are live again, such as the EFFoST conference in Lausanne, Switzerland, where GHI has a special session with 8 presenters.

Enjoy reading!

Huub Lelieveld, October 2021.

Editor's message

Dear Readers,

The end of 2021 is approaching very quickly and it is my pleasure to welcome you to our October Issue of GHI Matters. I appreciate your continued readership of the last 4 issues of GHI Matters this year. After this current issue, we shall have one more to close the year. This is a good time to put a draft of anything you would like to be carried in the final GHI Matter for this year which will be released just before the Christmas holiday

In the current issue of GHI matters, we carry important information regarding some positive upgrades to the GHI website. Notable changes include: the GHI logo now has the tagline: ***Advocating safe food for all*** to replace the previous one that read '*Advocating science-based food safety law and trade*'. The Directors felt it is more appropriate to describe the role of GHI globally. The presentation of GHI Matters on the AJFAND website is also more user friendly as you can choose the specific GHI Matter item to read just by clicking on it once and then a second click will hide the information. The GHI home page has been revamped to have

clearer welcoming information about the role of GHI. The home page has also been linked to the impartiality statement.

The events section carries many relevant events once again from around the world with some of these expected to be physical meetings. This may be an early sign that the travel restrictions due to COVID-19 situation are at least beginning to ease a bit.

Finally, in this issue of GHI Matters we announce the appointment of five (5) new GHI ambassadors from different countries from around the world. Let us all warmly welcome them to the GHI community.

I wish that you have an awesome read and do send you my warm regards.

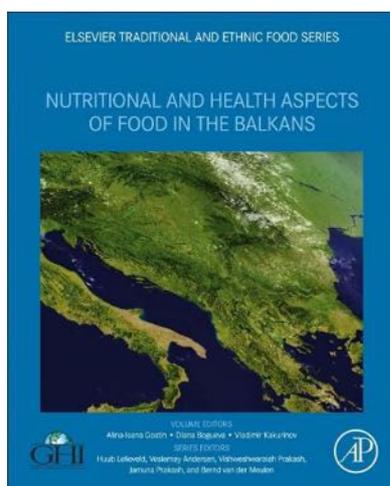
Benard Oloo, Editor - GHI Matters, October 2021

Proposed GHI Working Group on Risk Assessment

This Issue of GHI Matter carries a call to those interested in participating with a GHI Working Group on Risk Assessment (that will try to define what risks are emerging that would affect food security and what can be done to reduce these risks). This therefore serves as a reminder to Members of GHI interested in joining the WG and in the preparation of draft objectives for such a group for approval by the Board should get in touch with Dr Diana Bogueva as soon as possible by email: diana.bogueva@globalharmonization.net

Books

Nutritional and Health aspects of Food in the Balkans



Another volume co-produced by GHI in collaboration with the Elsevier book series is *Nutritional and health aspects of food in the Balkans*. It was recently released. The book introduces and analyzes traditional and ethnic foods from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Romania, Moldova, and the European part of Turkey. The editors Dr Alina-Ioana Gostin, Dr Diana Bogueva and Professor Vladimir Kakurinov believe the book will be a great reference for nutrition researchers and professionals, including nutritionists, dieticians, food scientists, food technologists, toxicologists, regulators, and product developers as well as educators and students.

Beginning with the eating habits in the Balkans, this book unfolds the history of the use, origin, compositions and preparation, ingredient origin, nutritional aspects, and the effects on health for various foods and food products of the region. The book also addresses local and international regulations and provides suggestions on how to harmonize these regulations to promote greater global availability of these foods. More details about the book can be found on the website [here](#). When ordering, use the code GHI30 for a 30% discount.

Food safety management: A practical guide for the food industry, 2nd edition

Editors: Veslemøy Andersen, Huub Lelieveld and Yasmine Motarjemi

As was communicated in the August Issue of GHI, Elsevier may start the production process for this book with the hope to publish by the end of this year. We shall give you more information as soon as it becomes available.

Food safety stories

Editors: Peter Overbosch, Yasmine Motarjemi and Huub Lelieveld.

This book will present a series of real food safety incidents, experienced by food safety professionals. The stories may help with teaching food safety, showing what unexpected incidents may happen and why an open mind is always important, to see failures that may not be explicitly discussed in any book. The book may serve as a teaching tool and complement other existing books such as the book Food safety management discussed above, or the Handbook of hygiene control in the food industry (Elsevier 2016).

Published Articles by GHI Members

How global nutritional standards could pivot to harmonization for safer foods.

Iuliana Vintilă Ph.D., an associate professor in the Food Science, Food Engineering, Applied Biotechnology, and Aquaculture Department at the Universitatea Dunarea de Jos Galati in Romania has published this article in the Food Safety Magazine. It addresses why an honest, legal compliance assessment, based on clear and transparent guidelines, needs to be implemented at the global level to allow the consumer to judge the quality and safety of their food. The full article can be accessed [here](#).

The European Commission (EC) and GHI

This is a reminder regarding the ongoing EC requests for consultations to GHI that were done in October. GHI frequently receives announcements of these EC public consultations. This enables everyone to provide comments on proposals for the amendments of regulations or other changes. Those on food safety can be found [here](#). If this does not work, please copy the link below and paste in your browser. Currently there are 19 consultations, including ones on food labelling and food contact materials.

Link: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives_en?topic=FOOD&frontEndStage=OPC_LAUNCHED

Food laws and regulations around the world

If you want information about food safety regulations in your own or any other country, chances are increasing that you can find a starting point or more on the GHI webpage "[Food Laws and Regulations](#)", where you will find an ever-growing list of websites dealing with food laws and regulation. You may also click on the link to the site on the GHI homepage.

New GHI Ambassador Appointments

The number of GHI ambassadors is constantly growing. In 2021, we welcomed 5 ambassadors representing diverse geographical locations as the list of countries below attests. Kindly join us in extending a warm welcome to our newly appointed GHI ambassadors. Please reach out to them to know more about how you may engage with them. This is also a clear indication that our GHI Ambassadors' Director Dr Alina-loana Gostin (Ardelean) has been working hard and deserves a commendation for her good work.

1. Dr Michael MURKOVIC, GHI ambassador for Austria (appointed in August 2021)
2. Dr John Yew Huat TANG, GHI ambassador for Malaysia (appointed in August 2021)
3. Dr Hongshun YANG, GHI ambassador for Singapore (appointed in May 2021)
4. Dr Huang KUANG, GHI ambassador for New Zealand (appointed in April 2021).
5. Dr Nicola STANLEY, GHI ambassador for the UK (appointed in February 2021).

You can get more information from our GHI Ambassadors web page [here](#).

Events

Valedictory Symposium for Professor O.C. AWORH

VALEDICTORY SYMPOSIUM FOR PROFESSOR O.C AWORH

Time: Nov 9, 2021 11:00 AM West Central Africa

Join Zoom Meeting

[Click here to join on zoom](#)

Meeting ID: **812 1837 6906**

Passcode: **133415**

Prof. O. Charles Aworh, one of our highly appreciated Nigerian members, has been with the University of Ibadan for more than 40 years teaching food technology. On the 9th of November, he will say farewell to the university during a dedicated "Valedictory Symposium", where colleagues from various universities will present papers about the role of lesser-known crops in addressing food and nutrition security. The symposium can be followed on line. For details, see the attachment that can be accessed [here](#).



First Joint Food Safety Conference for Africa

The First Joint Food Safety Conference of the African Continental Association for Food Protection (ACAFP), Africa Union Commission (AUC) and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The Conference will take place virtually on the 10th and 11th November 2021 and the theme for the Conference is Food Safety in Africa: Past, Current & the Future. More information about the conference can be accessed [here](#)

NUTRICON Congress 2022



The Nutricon Congress is dedicated to Food Quality and Safety, Health and Nutrition will be held from 8 to 10 June 2022 in Ohrid, Macedonia. This year GHI will discuss the reasons for the UN's World Food Safety Day (which is on 7 June) and address how participants may contribute to improving the chances that everybody in the world will get access to sufficient safe and nutritious food. Abstracts submission deadlines start on 15 November 2021 and go to 15 May 2022. More details about the conference can be accessed [here](#).

EFFoST Annual Conference 2021



As was announced in the August Issue of GHI Matters, the 35th EFFoST Conference 2021 took place in the Swiss Tech Centre, Lausanne, Switzerland on 1 to 4 November 2021 with the theme 'Healthy Individuals, Resilient Communities, and Global Food Security. Click [here](#) for additional information. The 35th EFFoST Conference Committee collaborated with the GHI leadership on a proposed session on "Novel food technologies in relation to food security, safety, sustainability and consumer acceptance".

The GHI Special Session at the EFFoST conference

Climate change, food supply disruptions induced by changes including pandemics, population growth and nature's calamities are imminent interactions that will affect the global food system. Novel food technologies are critical for a more resilient global food security, safety and sustainability system. The session presented different types of novel food technologies adapting to or solving the future of food. It featured a number of GHI members. Details of the presentations are shown below.

Session: GHI - Food security, safety, sustainability, and consumer acceptance of novel food technologies Chair: Huub Lelieveld	
Paola Pittia	Assessing skills and competences to boost novel food technologies – outcomes of ASKFOOD Knowledge Alliance
Petros Taoukis	Non-thermal Processing for safety, sustainability and consumer acceptance - The High-Pressure paradigm in research and applications
Katheryne Flynn	Improving food system sustainability through technological, social, and organizational innovations in intermediate food value chains.
Erzsébet Némédi	Novel, functional forest honey's health-promoting impact justification with human clinical trial

Daisy Lanoi	Edible bird's nest as novel food
Cristina Luisa Silva	Application of ultrasound treatments in processing and production of high quality and safe juices and added-value by-products
Attila Kiss	Comparative study of prebiotic utilizing capabilities of distinctive probiotics by using various prebiotic materials of food application potential
Jordi Serratosa Vilageliu	Ultra-high Pressure homogenization (UHPH): Advantages, applications and performances vs UHT and HPP

IFW 2020 | 3rd International Conference: Insects to Feed the World 2020



This is a reminder that the “Insects to Feed the World” international conference will be held in person in Quebec, Canada in June 2022. The virtual version took place from the 23rd to 26th, November, 2021. Because insects will certainly have an increasing role in food security, you may be interested in accessing the information on their website, [here](#). Diana Bogueva, GHI's Working Group Coordinator is a member of their Scientific Committee.

[GHI](#) is an initiative of the European Federation of Food Science and Technology ([EFFoST](#)), which is the European part of the International Union of Food Science and Technology ([IUFoST](#)) and the International Division of the Institute of Food Technologists ([IFT](#)). GHI is supported by the European Engineering and Design Group ([EHEDG](#)). The goal of GHI is "Achieving consensus on the science of food regulations and legislations to ensure the global availability of safe and wholesome food products for all consumers".

GHI has legal non-profit entity status, registered in Austria as “GHI-Association - Globale Harmonisierungs Initiative für Gesetze und Verordnungen im Bereich Lebensmittel”, ZVR number 453446383.