



### **Abstract submission guidelines**

Submissions of abstracts, symposia, post-graduate courses and workshops will **open on 18 February and will close 9 April 2026 at 23:59 Central European Time (CET)**.

All abstracts must present original research and at least preliminary results; abstracts reporting data pending will not be accepted. Submission implies that the material has not previously been presented or published elsewhere before presentation at the Union World Conference on Lung Health 2026. Abstracts are placed under embargo until they are presented at the conference.

Find out about The Union's [abstract mentor programme](#).

### **Matrix of tracks**

Select one or more options among:

- Methods
- Disease and Crosscutting Themes
- Care cascade (for TB related abstracts)

Familiarise yourself with the [matrix of tracks](#).

**Please note that it is only mandatory to select an option under 'methods', as this helps us to identify well-suited reviewers.**

**While it is useful for us to know the 'disease and cross-cutting theme' of your abstract, as this informs programme selection, choosing an option in these sections is not mandatory. The same applies to the 'care cascade' section for TB related abstracts.**

### **SELECTION REVIEW SYSTEM**

The Conference Scientific Committee (CSC) of The Union World Conference base their programme selection decisions according to a pre-defined review system.



## Abstract guidelines

Please read the abstract guidelines below carefully before submitting.

<b>Session dates</b>	17-20 November 2026
<b>Abstracts accepted for these session types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral abstract session</li> <li>• E-poster session</li> </ul>
<b>Abstract session format</b>	<p>This year's conference will be in-person. Technical specifications will be provided at a later stage to help presenters prepare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For oral abstract sessions, presenters will both present and participate in the live discussion that will take place during the session.</li> <li>• E-poster presenters will be required to present and address audience questions during their allotted presentation time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Please note that virtual presentations are not accepted.</b></p>
<b><u>Matrix of tracks</u></b>	<p>When submitting abstracts you should select all the methods you used and provide details on disease and cross-cutting themes. This is to assist with reviewer assignment and programme planning. These choices have no impact on the selection process.</p>
<b>Abstract title</b>	<p>The title of the abstract should be written in upper and lower case, using capitals only for the first word, acronyms, and proper nouns. Titles of more than 25 words (110 characters and spaces) will be truncated.</p>
<b>Abstract summary</b>	<p>A 50-word summary of your abstract should be provided for publication on the online programme, prior to the lifting of the conference embargo. <b>This must not include any results</b> but should provide information of relevance to assist delegates in selecting sessions of interest.</p>



## Abstract body

- The abstract text should not exceed 300 words. Abstracts of more than 300 words will be truncated.
- Please note that affiliations do not count as part of the 300 words.
- Abstracts must be submitted in **English**.
- To improve access to the Union Conference for those doing important work across Latin America, but are not comfortable to present in English, we have launched the Latin American Research track. This will feature abstracts relevant to the Latin American region and be presented in Spanish or Portuguese. To help the reviewing process, the abstracts must be submitted in English.
- Use format options provided to insert symbols, accents, and special formatting (e.g., italics, bold,  $\beta$ ,  $\mu$ , etc.).
- Abstracts should be submitted with unjustified text and aligned to the left for an easier read (compared to justified text).
- Authors are responsible for proofreading and submitting an abstract without errors, as they will be reproduced in the form they were submitted.
- Abbreviations and acronyms must be written out in full at the first mention in the text.
- The content to be submitted needs to be approved by all co-authors beforehand and cleared by your organisation (if required). **No changes will be accepted after the submission deadline.**

Previous [Union Conference abstract books](#) are available for your reference.



<p><b>Abstract format</b></p>	<p><b><u>Option 1:</u></b></p> <p>Select one or more track options among: methods, disease and crosscutting themes, care cascade (for TB related abstracts).</p> <p><b>Please note that it is only mandatory to select an option under 'methods', as this helps us to identify well-suited reviewers.</b></p> <p><b>While it is useful for us to know the 'disease and cross-cutting theme' of your abstract, as this informs programme selection, choosing an option in these sections is not mandatory. The same applies to the 'care cascade' section for TB related abstracts.</b></p> <p>Abstracts should be organised under the following headings and include concise, informative statements in each section:</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Clearly state the purpose and objectives of the research. This section should outline the study question or hypothesis being tested, or provide a description of the problem being analysed or evaluated.</p> <p><b>Methods:</b> Describe the study design, study period, setting and location, as well as the intervention or investigational product (if applicable). Include details on the primary outcome(s) (if relevant), data collection methods, and analytical approaches used. The description should be sufficiently detailed to allow reviewers to assess the quality and rigour of the study.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> Present the study findings as clearly and in as much detail as possible. Include relevant numbers and proportions along with 95% confidence intervals where applicable. Please disaggregate data by age and gender where possible and highlight any specific or noteworthy results. While the results should remain concise, they must contain enough detail to allow for critical appraisal by reviewers.</p>
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	<p><b>Conclusions:</b> Summarise the significance of your findings and discuss the broader implications of the results. Clearly articulate what your study contributes to the field.</p> <p><b><u>Option 2:</u></b></p> <p>This format is suitable for abstracts describing lessons learnt from the implementation or management of programmes, projects, or policies. Abstracts should be structured under the following headings, with concise and informative content in each section:</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Summarise the purpose, scope, and objectives of the programme, project, or policy. Include the context, setting, and highlight common or setting-specific challenges addressed during implementation.</p> <p><b>Description:</b> Provide a clear overview of the programme, project, or policy, including its duration, setting, and location. Describe its structure, target population (if applicable), and key activities or interventions undertaken. Include details on data collection methods, success metrics, definitions of outcomes (if applicable), and any analysis conducted. The description should be sufficiently detailed to allow reviewers to understand the initiative, assess the plausibility of any observed changes or successes being attributable to it, and evaluate the implementation process.</p> <p><b>Lessons learnt:</b> Present the key findings or outcomes as clearly and specifically as possible. Provide a thoughtful analysis of lessons learnt and highlight best practices. Where relevant, include both numbers and proportions, and apply statistical tests if appropriate. Please disaggregate data by age and gender where possible. While this section should remain</p>
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	<p>concise, it must contain enough detail to support a critical appraisal of the results and the conclusions drawn.</p> <p><b>Conclusions:</b> Explain the significance of the findings and discuss their broader implications. Clearly articulate the contribution of the programme, project, or policy to the field and any recommendations for future practice or implementation.</p>
<p><b>Tables</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authors may submit one table or one figure per abstract. If more than one table or figure are submitted, one of them will be deleted.</li> <li>• Tables should be smaller than 10 rows x 10 columns.</li> <li>• A table can be submitted with the abstract, by clicking on the “Insert Table” icon  on the pink ribbon.</li> <li>• Data/characters included in the tables are not considered for the word count if inserted via the ‘Insert a table’ icon.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Figures</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A figure/image can be submitted with the abstract, by clicking on the “Insert Image” icon  .</li> <li>• The maximum file size of each figure/image is 5 MB. The maximum pixel size of the figure/image is 600(w) x 800(h) pixels.</li> <li>• Graphs can be uploaded in JPG/JPEG, GIF or PNG formats.</li> <li>• The graphic content must be clearly legible when previewing the abstract.</li> <li>• Recommended resolution: min. 150 dpi, 300 dpi for images, 600 dpi for line art (charts). Low-resolution images will not be included in the Abstract Book.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note that tables and figures are reproduced in a single column with the abstract and that legibility is the responsibility of the author. We recommend that you use a sans serif (Arial or Calibri) font for clarity.</li> <li>• Data/characters included in the figures are not considered for the word count if inserted via the 'Insert a figure' icon.</li> </ul>
<b>Authors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A maximum of 12 authors will be allowed.</li> <li>• If all authors belong to a single institution, there is no need to create new affiliations for each author. Click on "Institutes" to prefill the form.</li> <li>• The corresponding author is responsible for the abstract content. They are the contact person for submission and communication purposes, and they are also responsible for disseminating information related to the abstract to the co-authors.</li> <li>• A listed co-author other than the corresponding author may register and present the study at the conference.</li> <li>• <b>Once the abstract is submitted and reviewed, the list of co-authors can no longer be amended.</b> Please make sure there is no oversight in the final list of co-authors before proceeding with the submission.</li> </ul>
<b>Biographies</b>	A biography of no more than 100 words must be submitted by the proposed presenter.
<b>Submission</b>	<p>Online submission will be open from <b>18 February and will close 9 April 2026 at 23:59 Central European Time (CET).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After the submission deadline, no further changes are accepted.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The corresponding author will receive an email confirming that the submitted abstract has been received.</li> <li>• An abstract can be submitted according to the <a href="#">matrix of tracks</a>: resubmission is not permitted. The submissions of multiple abstracts on the same topic by varying the authors or under different titles with only minor word changes or the submissions of multiple abstracts on the same study with the same first author are not encouraged. In such cases, all the submissions on that topic will be automatically rejected.</li> <li>• Abstracts submitted by email will not be considered.</li> <li>• Abstracts submitted as an attachment will not be considered.</li> <li>• First-time users to the submission system will need to create an account to be able to submit their abstract/s. Other authors can reset their password if they have forgotten it.</li> <li>• <b>Abstracts should be submitted only if there is a plan to present the abstract by the authors (in case of abstract acceptance).</b></li> <li>• It is the responsibility of the authors to save a copy of their abstract as submitted. The Conference Secretariat will not share copies of the abstracts.</li> </ul>
<b>Review</b>	<p>All submitted abstracts will be sent for peer review to a panel of international experts. Each abstract will be reviewed and scored by at least three reviewers. The scores will then be submitted to the members of the Conference Scientific Committee who will determine which abstracts are accepted</p>

	and whether they are best suited for oral abstract presentation sessions or e-poster sessions.
<b>Use of non-stigmatising language</b>	<p>The Union is committed to promoting people-centred language in all conference abstracts and presentations. During the abstract preparation and submission. The Union encourages the use of guidelines laid out in <a href="#">Words Matter - Suggested language and usage for tuberculosis communications</a>.</p> <p><b>When detecting stigmatising language, reviewers will enter their comments in the reviewing system and the submitter will receive an email with such comments. The author should commit to make proper adequations when presenting the abstract (if accepted).</b></p>
<b>Ethical research declaration for scientific research</b>	<p><b>Abstract authors must have obtained ethical clearance (where required) before submitting their abstract. Research presented in the abstract must have been conducted in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki of the World Medical Association or the WMA Statement on Animal Use in Biomedical Research.</b></p> <p><b>The Conference Scientific Committee may contact authors to request further information regarding ethical aspects during the review process.</b></p> <p><b>Abstracts submitted under Option 2, reporting on programmatic data, may not require ethical clearance.</b></p>
<b>Contact with submitters</b>	<p>To facilitate access to the submission, registration, conference digital devices and apps, all communications will be made with the active email address of the corresponding author.</p> <p><b>Otherwise, the system will not recognise the user.</b></p>
<b>Notifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corresponding authors will be notified of the status of their abstracts by mid-June. Co-authors will need to be</li> </ul>



	<p>informed of the abstract submission status by the corresponding author.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After an abstract is allocated to a specific session, it will not be possible to change the date, time, or type of the session. Any allocation is final. A co-author or colleague can present on behalf of the corresponding author if they are not available on the assigned date and time.</li> <li>• Abstracts that are not accepted cannot be reconsidered for review or presentation at the conference.</li> </ul>
<b>Publication</b>	<p>All accepted and presented abstracts will be included in the Abstract Book, which is a supplement to the International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IJTLD). The Abstract Book will be made available online for download from the website soon after the conclusion of the conference. Accepted abstracts ultimately not presented at the conference will not be included in the Abstract Book.</p>
<b>Attendance and registration</b>	<p>Abstract submission implies that if accepted, the submitter is aware that to present and attend the conference they need to be registered.</p> <p>Delegates registered for the conference can attend all abstract sessions.</p>
<b>Consent</b>	<p>If selected, the abstract presenters agree to the <a href="#">consent relating to the release</a>, recording and publication of their presentation and session.</p>