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Josep Figueras, MD, MPH, PhD (econ), FFPH is Director Emeritus to the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies. He was previously the founding director of the Observatory and, in addition to WHO, he has served major multilateral agencies such as the European Commission and the World Bank and has worked as a policy advisor in more than forty countries within the European region and beyond. He is a member of several governing, advisory and editorial boards. His research is on health systems and policy focusing on health systems comparisons, performance assessment, public health policy and knowledge brokering.

He is an honorary fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health and received the Edward Kennedy Health Policy Award from Trinity College, the Spanish Ministry of Health Award, the European Health Forum Gastein Star, the Andrija Stampar Medal for excellence in Public Health, and a Doctorate Honoris Causa from Semmelweis University.

He is currently a visiting professor at the London School of Economics and the NOVA National School of Public Health in Lisbon. He has been appointed by the European Commission DG Santé as ambassador of the Health Union Fellowship training program. He was director of the MSc in Health Services Management and lecturer at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.

Dr Figueras obtained his PhD from the University of London LSE / LSHTM in 1993 on health policy and financing. He started his career as a specialist in Family and Community Medicine in Spain.