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McKee, Martin
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine



Martin McKee qualified in medicine in Belfast, Northern Ireland, with subsequent training in internal medicine and public health. He is Professor of European Public Health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he founded the European Centre on Health of Societies in Transition (ECOHOST), a WHO Collaborating Centre. He is also research director of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and Past President of the European Public Health Association. He has published over 1,200 academic papers and 46 books and his contributions to European health policy have been recognised by, among others, election to the UK Academy of Medical Sciences, Academia Europeae, and the US National Academy of Medicine, by the award of honorary doctorates from Greece, Hungary, The Netherlands, Sweden, and the UK and visiting professorships at universities in Europe and Asia, the 2003 Andrija Stampar medal for contributions to European public health, in 2014 the Alwyn Smith Prize for outstanding contributions to the health of the population, and in 2015 the Donabedian International Award for contributions to quality of care. In 2005 was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE).