1. Health care is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time.
   C. Everett Koop
2. Good surveillance does not necessarily ensure the making of the right decisions, but it reduces the chances of wrong ones.
   Alexander D. Langmuir, 1963
3. Despite several EU funded projects, networks and actions that aimed to develop a capacity in EU public health surveillance, its status quo was perceived comparably weak in 2011/2012.
   this dissertation
4. Syndromic surveillance has the potential to augment traditional public health surveillance systems to monitor infectious as well as non-infectious health threats.
   this dissertation
5. Continuous monitoring of potential novel data sources for public health surveillance as well as the assessment of their relevance should be one key capacity of public health surveillance systems.
   this dissertation
6. Nothing is possible without men and women, but nothing is lasting without institutions.
   Jean Monnet
7. Public health experts await the development of a sustainable and comprehensive EU health information system that covers all aspects of information systems as indicated in the Data-Information-Knowledge-Wisdom-hierarchy and that supports EU and member state needs.
   this dissertation
8. The time is right for a comprehensive and sustainable EU public health surveillance infrastructure - the conditions for advancing EU public health surveillance such as established joint networks, the formalization of data collection, and pushes by non-health policy actions have never been more favourable than now.
   this dissertation
9. The results of this dissertation and the identified conditions to advance European public health surveillance intend to inform the future development of a sustainable and comprehensive European health information system.
   this dissertation (valorisation)
10. [...] achieving better health for the whole population by taking the reduction of health inequalities seriously is a banner worth rallying behind. Monitoring of the health of the population, its determinants and its distribution is central to that societal aim.
    Sir Michael Marmot & Peter Goldblatt, BMJ 2013