# OUR MISSION

JustHealth aims to embed social justice into the design, development, and deployment of AI in healthcare. As the first doctoral programme in the EU and beyond dedicated to this goal, JustHealth integrates expertise in ethics, governance (law & policy), engineering & AI, clinical sciences and co-creation methodologies.

The programme will train 8 Doctoral Candidates (DCs) through an ambitious, transdisciplinary pathway, in collaboration with leading European, South African, and US academic and non-academic partners.

**Project partners**

- University of Macerata
- Maastricht University
- KU Leuven
- Radboudumc

**Associated partners**

- Delft University of Technology
- University of Pretoria
- PathCheck Foundation
- Be Ethical
- Eurocentro
- University of Johannesburg
- Tufts University
- MeanderGroep
- Altuition
- Emory University
- Cue2Walk
- University of Cape Town
- Stichting Radboud Universiteit



## WHERE TO GET INFORMATION

www.justhealth-project.eu

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# JUSTHEALTH

## BUILDING A DECOLONIZED ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR JUST AND TRUSTWORTHY AI IN HEALTHCARE



Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming healthcare — from diagnosis to personalized treatment. Yet AI systems can unintentionally discriminate against vulnerable populations, reinforcing structural inequalities and limiting equitable access to care.

Even “trustworthy AI” is not enough. Technically robust systems can still be unjust if they fail to embed principles of social justice. Current ethics and governance frameworks often reflect predominantly Western perspectives, overlooking voices and values from the Global South — contributing to what is increasingly described as colonialist AI.

## OUR AMBITION

**TO DEVELOP A NEW GENERATION OF RESPONSIBLE RESEARCHERS CAPABLE OF SHAPING JUST AND TRUSTWORTHY AI FOR GLOBAL HEALTH.**



## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

### RO1 – MAPPING GAPS & CO-CREATION (WP1)

Identify ethical, legal, technical, and clinical barriers to social justice in healthcare AI and develop innovative co-creation strategies, methods, and tools.

### RO2 – DEVELOPING THE FRAMEWORK (WP2)

Design a decolonized ethics and governance framework tailored to Foundation Models (FMs), tested through two healthcare use cases involving vulnerable groups:

- Freezing of Gait (FOG) severity monitoring (older populations in Western countries)
- Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) screening and staging (younger populations in the Global South)

### RO3 – TESTING & VALIDATION (WP3)

Validate and refine the framework through real-world applications, including compliance self-assessment tools, care pathways, FM-based applications, and co-creation instruments.

### RO4 – VALORISATION & POLICY IMPACT (WP4)

Develop recommendations for policymakers, support standardization efforts, and provide guidelines to transfer the framework to other healthcare contexts.

## TRAINING OBJECTIVES

JustHealth will train 8 Doctoral Candidates to PhD level on how to ensure social justice in the design, development, deployment, and governance of AI systems in healthcare, thus contributing to just global health. Through long secondments at academic and non-academic institutions in South Africa and the US, Doctoral Candidates will gain first-hand experience of diverse healthcare systems and socio-technical contexts.