ROUND 30

Europe's Health Systems Are Failing Their Patients

Source: Bloomberg Quicktake

토크샵 관련 링크

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1. Vocabulary   *Check the meaning of these words/expressions in the dictionary.*

💡 Today's Expression(오른쪽 링크 클릭) - To bend over backward for/to

- Definition
- Example

QR코드를 통해 To bend over backward for(to)의 설명 영상을 보실 수 있습니다.

1. **Engulf**(verb) - To completely surround or cover something, often with a negative or overwhelming effect.
   ex) The wildfire quickly **engulfed** the forest, leaving devastation in its wake.

   "For the last decade, Stockholm-based doctor Akil Awad and nurse Jenny Pattersson have been on the frontlines of the health care crisis ***engulfing*** several parts of Europe."

2. **Exacerbate** (verb) - To make a problem, situation, or condition worse or more severe
   ex) Lack of sleep can **exacerbate** existing health issues.

   "The situation is ***exacerbated*** by mounting structural problems."

3. **Electorate** (noun) - The group of people who are eligible to vote in an election
   ex) The candidate focused on appealing to a broad spectrum of the **electorate**.

   "...who instead go for one-off solutions that play well with the ***electorate***."

4. **One-off** (adjective/noun) - Something that happens or is made only once and is not part of a series.
   ex) The company offered a special, **one-off** discount for their anniversary.

   "While spending did jump during the Covid pandemic, much of that went to ***one-time*** and emergency costs..."

2. Listening Drill

"I have to choose which patients will get the greatest chance to survive. That's not how it should be." *(Interview)*

If a patient is shouting at me in the hallway, I can't respond to them. Because I am on the way to someone who is more unwell.(Interview)

For the last decade, Stockholm-based doctor Akil Awad and nurse Jenny Pattersson have been on the frontlines of the health care crisis **engulfing** several parts of Europe.

After years of underfunding, the Covid-19 pandemic and a fast-aging population, health systems **across the continent** are facing a potential breaking point.

Surges of flu, Covid and respiratory viruses **filled emergency rooms** this winter, while medical professionals from Rome to Berlin walked out over staff shortages and pay.

"Our hospitals are getting full almost every day and it leads to a one-in-one-out situation, where we have to choose between different patients that all need hospital care. We're constantly forced to break rules, break routines and our moral compass. The situation is exacerbated by mounting structural problems."(Interview)

Across Europe, spending on health was flat as a percentage of GDP for more than a decade, even as the cost of drugs, diagnostics and treatments increased, resulting in **stagnant salaries** and tighter hospital budgets.

While spending did jump during the Covid pandemic, much of that **went to one-time** and emergency costs, such as extra beds and Coronavirus vaccines.

The crisis started before Corona, even if corona of course push things to their breaking point. Today we don't have any time for recovery, with overtime through the roof, increasingly worse working conditions and an ever-increasing workload. (Interview)

Another issue is Europe's aging population. Care for older populations is generally more expensive. In 2020, That's 3 percentage points higher than a decade earlier. And health care workers are getting older too.

According to the World Health Organization, the aging of health care professionals in Europe is a "**ticking time bomb**."

In France, for example, nearly half of doctors are over the age of 55.
Making health care systems more **resilient** will require countries across Europe to up their spending.

Health care professionals we've spoken to have pleaded for money for years, but their calls have often been ignored by politicians, who instead go for **one-off solutions** that play well with the electorate.

Because fixing European health care is going to be expensive. According to the OECD, its member states would have to spend 1.4% of GDP to make health care systems more resilient.

And most of this going to frontline staff. Under the current conditions, frustrated health care workers might choose to leave the profession, creating a snowball effect.

If the health care system continues to look the way it is at the moment, I will not stay for many years. I will not be able to take that. (Interview)

3. Summary

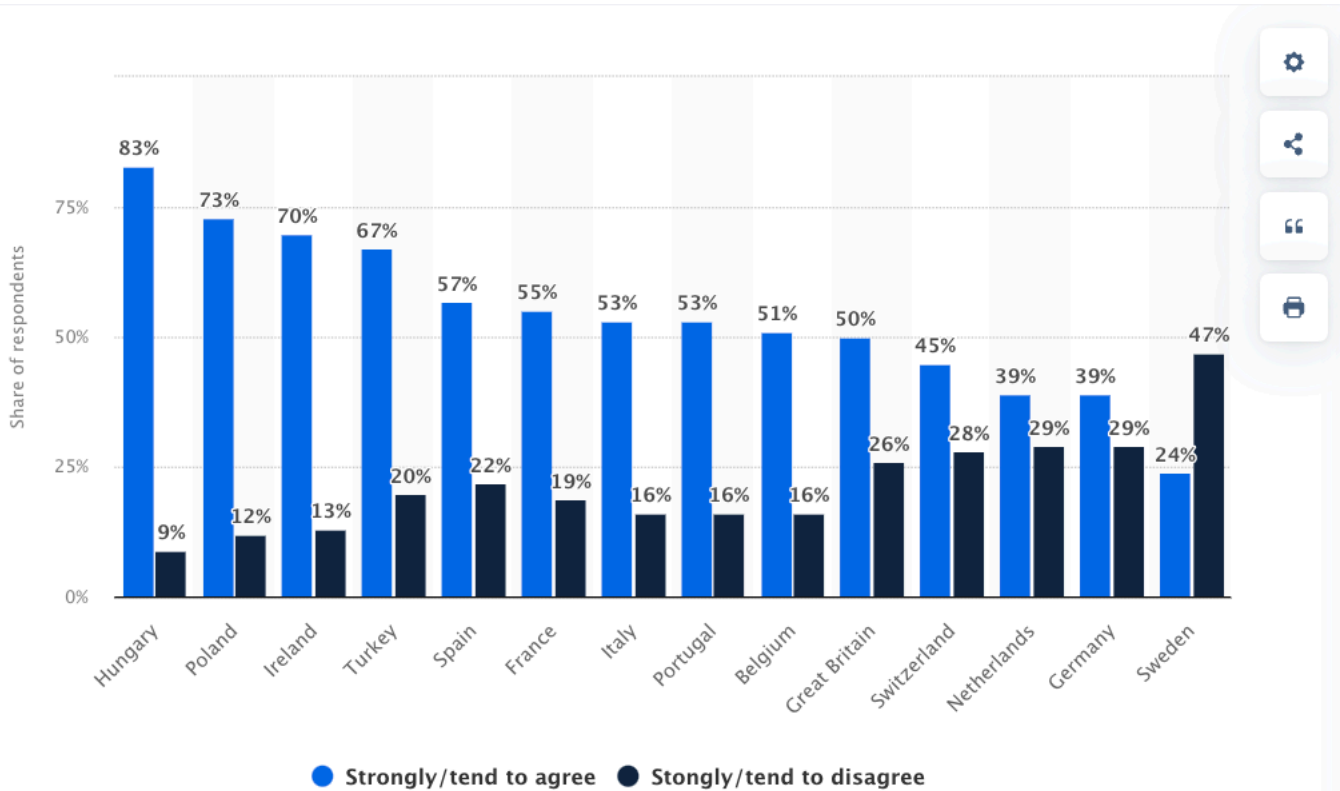*Summarize what you have seen/heard in two or three sentences*

> **Tip.**
>
> Answer the questions using vocabularies that you learned in the vocabulary section.

4. Describing The Chart

Describe what is the general idea being expressed by the graph. Discuss it to your class.
Try to interpret what you see in the chart.

Share of adults who agreed that many people in their country could not afford good healthcare in select European countries in 2022

Share of respondents

83% 9%
73% 12%
70% 13%
67% 20%
57% 22%
55% 19%
53% 16%
53% 16%
51% 16%
50% 26%
45% 28%
39% 29%
39% 29%
24% 47%

Hungary, Poland, Ireland, Turkey, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Great Britain, Switzerland, Netherlands, Germany, Sweden

● Strongly/tend to agree   ● Stongly/tend to disagree

Details: Europe; Ipsos; July 22 to August 5, 2022 ; 1,000 for each country; 16-74 years; Online panel

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Affordability of healthcare according to adults in select European countries 2022

Published by Preeti Vankar , Dec 14, 2022

In 2022, 83 percent of Hungarian respondents believe that healthcare is unaffordable to many in their country, while 47 percent of Swedish respondents disagreed with the statement regarding how unaffordable healthcare is in their country. This statistic displays the share of adults who agreed that many people in their country could not afford good healthcare in select European countries in 2022.

Questions

1. What 's the take away of the graph?

2. What extra information can help you understand the graph even better?

3. Do you have any interesting findings? What's your guess about it?

5. Discussion Questions

Let's begin at the easy category. You are expected to have prepared your answers already before the class begins.

Easy

1. How satisfied are you with the Korean healthcare system? On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is extremely dissatisfied and 10 is extremely satisfied, how would you rate your overall experience with the healthcare system in Korea? Additionally, if you've come across any challenges or problems within the system, please feel free to share them

Average

1. "Reflecting on your own career journeys, do you feel that your working conditions have improved compared to when you first started, or have they worsened?

5. Discussion Questions

Let's begin at the easy category. You are expected to have prepared your answers already before the class begins

Average

2. In comparison to the ongoing healthcare crisis in Europe as mentioned in the transcript, do you think there's a possibility of Korea facing a similar healthcare crisis? Why do you say so?

Difficult

1. Considering the aging healthcare workforce issue seen in Europe, do you anticipate that rapid aging in Korea could lead to important challenges not only in healthcare but also in other sectors? For instance, think about the potential social and economic impacts that might arise.

These expressions and idioms can **be used when describing various trends, changes, or patterns** in charts, graphs, or data presentations.

1. **Shoot up** (phrasal verb) - to increase rapidly and sharply

    ex) The sales figures for the new product **shot up** after the marketing campaign.

2. **Plummet** (verb) - to fall or decline steeply

    ex) The stock prices **plummeted** after the negative news was released.

3. **Level off** (phrasal verb) - to stabilize or reach a steady state

    ex) After a period of growth, the demand for the product **leveled off**.

4. **Skyrocket** (verb) - to increase dramatically and quickl.

    ex) The company's profits **skyrocketed** after the successful launch of their new product.

5. **Plateau** (noun) - a period of stability or little change

    ex) The revenue growth **reached a plateau** and remained steady for several months.

6. **Fluctuate** (verb) - to rise and fall irregularly or unpredictably

    ex) The stock prices **fluctuated** throughout the day, responding to market conditions.

7. **Bottom out** (phrasal verb) - to reach the lowest point and then stabilize

    ex) The housing prices finally bottomed out and showed signs of recovery.

8. **Surge** (verb) - to experience a sudden and significant increase

    ex) The website experienced a **surge** in traffic after being featured in a popular blog.

9. **Slump** (noun) - a sudden and significant decline or decrease

    ex) The company's profits **suffered a slump** due to the economic downturn.

10. **Rebound** (verb) - to recover or bounce back after a decline

    ex) After a period of recession, the economy **rebounded with** strong growth.

11. **Peak** (noun) - the highest point or level

    ex) The chart shows that sales **reached their peak** during the holiday season.

12. **Downturn** (noun) - a period of decline or decrease in economic activity

    ex) The industry **experienced a downturn** due to changes in consumer preferences.

13. Accelerate (verb) - to increase in speed or rate

    ex) The company's expansion plans **accelerated** after securing additional funding.

14. **Slow down** (phrasal verb) - to decrease in speed or rate

    ex) The production rate **slowed down** due to a shortage of raw materials.

15. **Flattening curve** (idiom) - a gradual reduction or stabilization of a trend

    ex) The chart indicates a **flattening curve** in COVID-19 cases, suggesting a decrease in infection rates.

16. **Break-even point** (noun) - the point at which total costs equal total revenue

    The business needs to **reach the break-even point** to start making a profit.

17. **Double-digit growth** (idiom) - a growth rate of more than 10%

    ex) The company **achieved double-digit growth** in sales for the third consecutive quarter.

18. **Taper off** (phrasal verb) - to gradually decrease or diminish

    ex) The demand for the product **tapered off** after the initial launch hype.

19. Upswing (noun) - an upward or positive trend

    ex) The market **experienced an upswing** as consumer confidence improved.

20. **Hit a plateau** (idiom) - to reach a point of stability or little change

    The number of subscribers **hit a plateau** and remained steady for several months.