**Nominee Statement: Dr Azra Herceg**

**Position: IAPB Europe​ Regional Chair**

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| **Nominee Job Title** |
| MD, Specialist OD Ophthalmology (FEBO) |
| **Nominee Organisation** |
| National Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia |
| **Nominating IAPB member organisation** |
| Light for the World |
| **Nominated by** |
| Katri Bertram |
| **Nominating Statement** |
| [Click here for the statement.](https://iapbglobal.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/Governance-External/EZATvnkrx_ZOoVbtbJs0LbQBC0ND8lOSEBQIKEgmdHzdiA?e=KIVeoT) |
| **Seconded IAPB member organisation** |
| Organisation pour la prévention de la cécité |
| **Seconding by** |
| Prof Serge Resnikoff |
| **Seconding Statement** |
| [Click here for the statement.](https://iapbglobal.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/Governance-External/EaiYQgxtXr9DmcgF6zvFNT8ByGggL71L-OeERkJczNtBzA?e=kmSAJN) |
| **Nominee Statement** |
| Dr. Azra Herceg is a highly respected ophthalmologist and public health advocate with extensive experience in eye health policy, clinical practice, and international health diplomacy. As a certified EBO ophthalmologist, she has combined her medical expertise with a strong commitment to advancing public health initiatives, particularly in the prevention of avoidable blindness.  Her leadership roles include serving as State Secretary at the Ministry of Health in Slovenia and coordinating the Strategic Council for Healthcare under the Prime Minister’s Office. She has represented Slovenia at the WHO General Assembly, UN General Assembly, and EPSCO Council meetings, playing an active role in shaping health policies at both national and international levels.  Dr. Herceg has been actively engaged as a key member of IAPB’s European Advocacy Network, working alongside stakeholders to strengthen regional collaboration and advance eye health as a public health priority. Her experience in health governance, policy development, and cross-sectoral advocacy makes her well-positioned to contribute to IAPB’s mission as Regional Chair for Europe. |