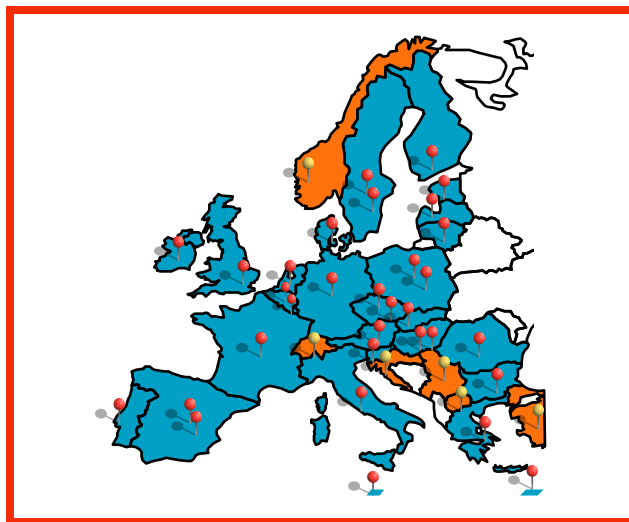




8th Annual Workshop of the National Reference Laboratories for *E. coli* in the EU

10-11 October, 2013

Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

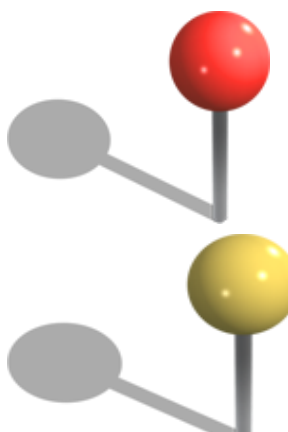


Funded by the European Commission – DG SANCO

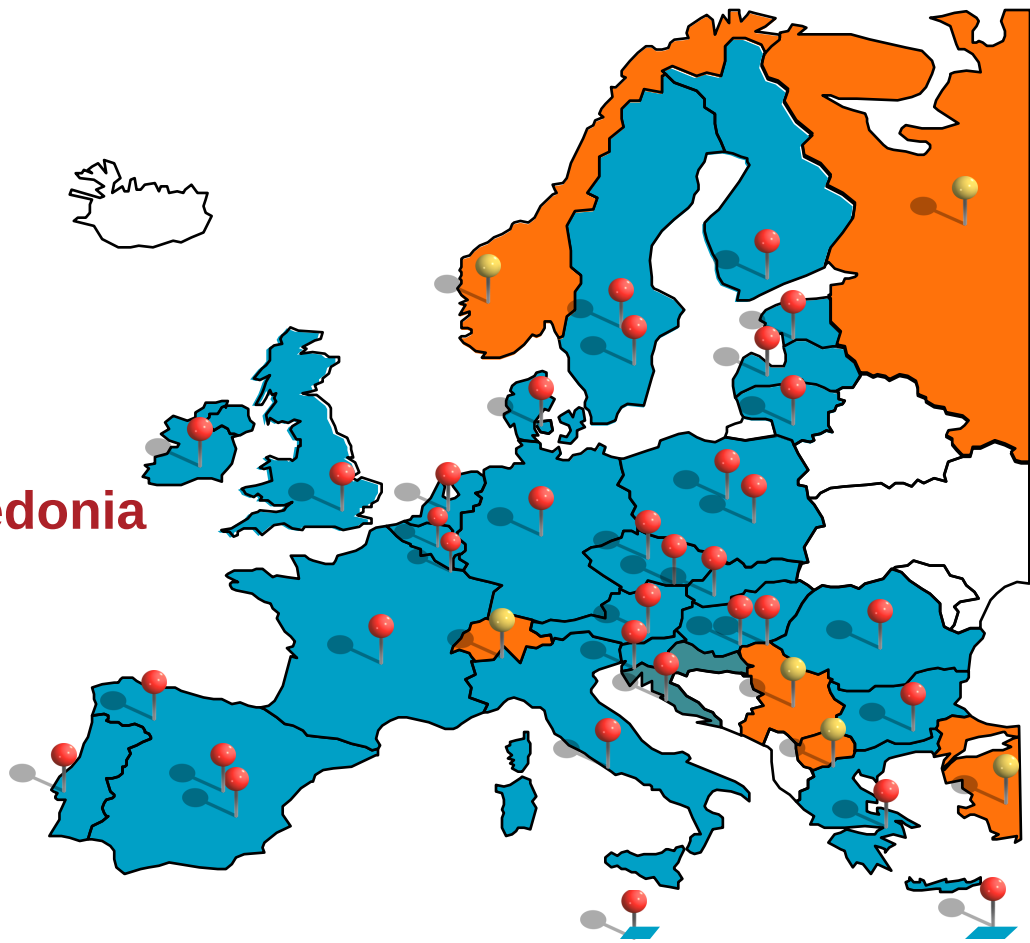


The network of National Reference Laboratories (NRL) for *E.coli*

**34 NRLs designated by
28 EU countries**



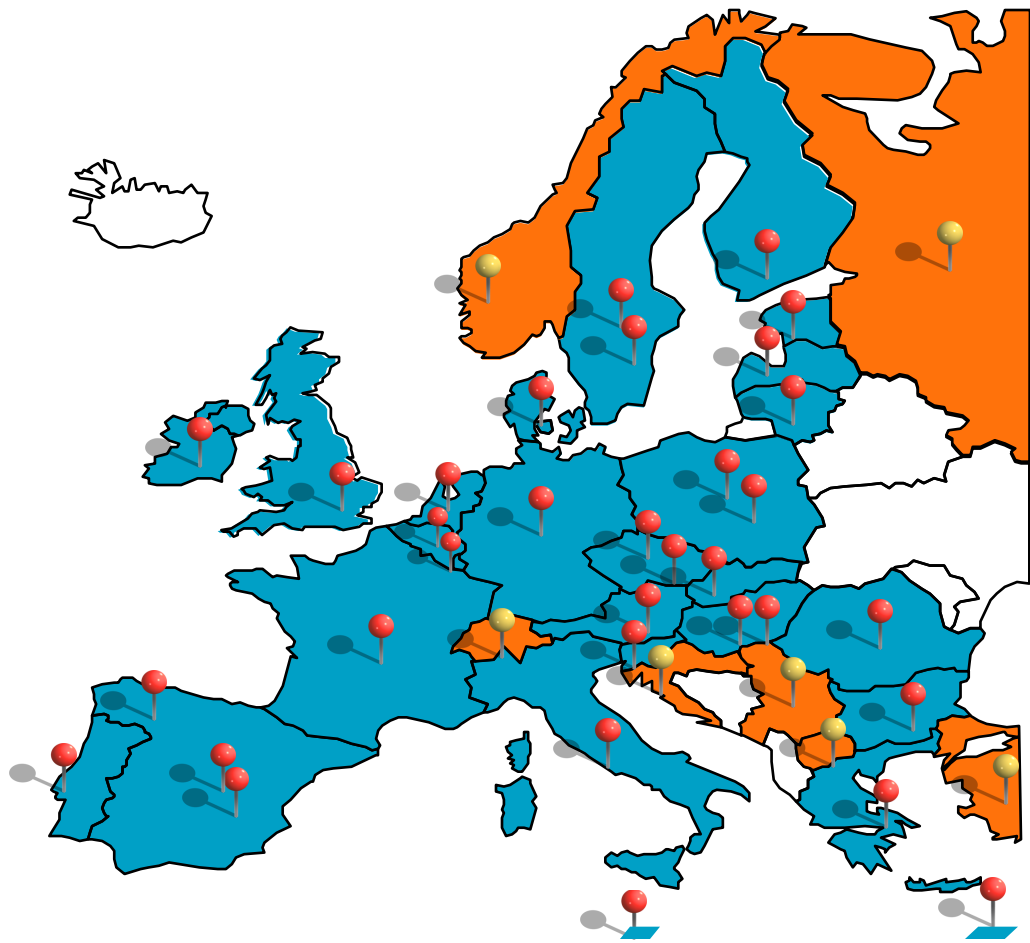
6 NRLs of
Switzerland
Norway
Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia
Serbia
Turkey
Russia
+
2 NRLs in Egypt



Participants from:

29 NRLs
representing
24 EU countries

the NRLs of
Norway
Russia
Turkey
Egypt



Aims of the workshop

- Update of surveillance and monitoring activities on VTEC in the EU
- Development of data bases for molecular testing of foodborne pathogens in view of outbreak preparedness
- Laboratory methods and Proficiency Testing (PT):
 - The results of PT10 (VTEC typing and PFGE, joint with ECDC)
 - The results of PT11 (identification of VTEC and other pathogenic *E.coli*)
 - The next PT12 (VTEC and other pathogenic *E.coli* in sprouts)
 - Update and perspectives of methods for VTEC detection

Aims of the workshop

- **Invited talks**
 - Role of phages in the evolution of VTEC
 - Genome sequencing and VTEC genomics
 - Development of a European molecular typing database for *Listeria*
 - Risk management approaches for VTEC
- **Network activities**
 - Presentation of NRL activities (PT, surveys, outbreaks)
 - Training at the EU-RL VTEC

Further consolidation of the network of EU Reference Laboratories