

# **ge<sup>2</sup>p<sup>2</sup> global foundation**

governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

## ***The Sentinel***

***Human Rights Action :: Humanitarian Response :: Health :: Education ::  
Heritage Stewardship :: Sustainable Development***

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***Period ending 10 March 2018***

*This weekly digest is intended to aggregate and distill key content from a broad spectrum of practice domains and organization types including key agencies/IGOs, NGOs, governments, academic and research institutions, consortiums and collaborations, foundations, and commercial organizations. We also monitor a spectrum of peer-reviewed journals and general media channels. The Sentinel's geographic scope is global/regional but selected country-level content is included. We recognize that this spectrum/scope yields an indicative and not an exhaustive product.*

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***:: Week in Review***

*A highly selective capture of strategic developments, research, commentary, analysis and announcements spanning Human Rights Action, Humanitarian Response, Health, Education, Holistic Development, Heritage Stewardship, Sustainable Resilience. Achieving a balance across these broad themes is a challenge and we appreciate your observations and ideas in this regard. This is not intended to be a "news and events" digest.*

## Development – SDGs: Indicator Measurement/Metrics and Children

### Progress for Children in the SDG Era

UNICEF

March 2018 :: 104 pages

PDF: [https://data.unicef.org/wp-](https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Progress_for_Every_Child_03.08.2018_V3.pdf)

[content/uploads/2018/03/Progress for Every Child 03.08.2018 V3.pdf](https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Progress_for_Every_Child_03.08.2018_V3.pdf)

#### ***Foreward [excerpt]***

*The Sustainable Development Goals embody our highest aspirations for a better world – and reflect our greatest responsibility as a global community: To provide children and young people today with the services, skills and opportunities they need tomorrow to build better futures for themselves, their families, and their societies.*

This understanding – that a sustainable future depends on how we meet the needs of children and young people today – is at the core of the SDGs, which include 44 child-related indicators integrated throughout the 17 goals. Progress for Every Child in the SDG Era, the first report of UNICEF's new SDG tracking series, provides a preliminary assessment of how the world is doing thus far on achieving these critical targets.

Even for early days, the outlook the report reveals is foreboding.

Most urgently, UNICEF's comprehensive report on SDG progress for children reveals that more than 650 million children – approaching one-third of the world's children – live in 52 countries that are off track on at least two-thirds of the child-related SDG indicators for which they have data.

The concerns raised by this news are compounded by the fact that these are only the children we know about. Progress for Every Child in the SDG Era also reveals that over half a billion of the world's children live in 64 countries that lack sufficient data for us even to assess if they are on or off track for at least two-thirds of all child-related SDG indicators.

This is a critical juncture in the SDG era: A time when the decisions we take and the investments we make can pay enormous dividends – or extract an impossible price. While it would be both counterproductive and premature to predict failure, it is never too soon to calculate its potential costs.

Given current trends, unless we accelerate progress to meet the child-related SDG targets, between 2017 and 2030, 10 million children will die from preventable causes before reaching their fifth birthdays.

As many as 31 million children will be stunted, robbed of the opportunity to fulfil their potential for lack of adequate nutrition.

At least 22 million children will miss out on pre-primary education, so critical to their later ability to succeed in school and beyond.

And without faster progress, 670 million people worldwide will still be without basic drinking water, in turn threatening children's survival and healthy development...

#### ***Call to action [p.100]***

*An agenda for action on data*

There are no easy fixes to addressing the data deficiencies exposed in this report. Good data on children depend on strong national data institutions and capacity, which take time and investment to develop. But much can be done – and done now. Putting systems in place to generate the data required to track and enable progress will take sustained efforts and support across a number of areas.

The accountability to generate the data – and achieve the goals – is held by countries. But the international community has an obligation to work in partnership with national governments.

In Goal 17, the SDGs include a call for a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development – and working together to develop countries' statistical capacities is an essential part of that endeavour. Target 17.18 specifically calls for capacity-building support to developing countries "to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts."

We identify three principles that should underpin this effort and that will guide UNICEF's work over the next 12 years:

*:: Data as the spine of system strengthening.*

The effort to improve data collection and capacity is inseparable from the broader effort to build strong service delivery systems, whether in health or education, social services or border control. We will invest in long-term efforts to improve the quality, coverage and coordination of governments' administrative data systems that concern children.

*:: Leave no country behind.*

Global support to data monitoring and capacity resembles a messy patchwork. We will urge systematic and coordinated efforts to ensure all countries have minimum data coverage for children, irrespective of their resources and capabilities. This will require greater cooperation with industrialized economies to ensure reporting to custodian agencies, and investing in new data solutions in conflict- and disaster-affected areas, where reliance on regular surveys and routine data systems may not be feasible.

*:: Shared norms, beginning with open data.*

The monitoring framework of the SDGs represents a formidable exercise in agreeing on universal approaches to measurement, while still recognizing the value of local adaption for country ownership. The need for stronger shared norms on data remains great, especially when it comes to children. We will advocate for common approaches to measuring emerging threats facing children, capturing missing child populations such as those in institutions or migrating, and to sharing data to enable vulnerable children to be more effectively identified, while protecting children's privacy.

To support countries in mainstreaming data on children and adolescents into national statistical systems and plans, UNICEF is already working to develop needed indicators and measurement tools, and support national capacities to monitor and use SDG indicators, especially the 17 indicators that UNICEF has a particular duty to support (see Box 6.1). This work is undertaken as part of the United Nations Development Group and the broader development community.

The agenda is expansive, and only by working together can it be fulfilled.

*Press release*

**[UNICEF report: Over half a billion 'uncounted' children live in countries unable to measure SDG progress](#)**

*Latest data on development progress for children shows over half a billion more live in countries where the SDGs are quickly falling out of reach.*

NEW YORK, 7 MARCH 2018 – Early assessment of progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals confirms an alarming lack of data in 64 countries, as well as insufficient progress toward the SDGs for another 37 countries where the data can be tracked.

The UNICEF report, [Progress for Children in the SDG Era](#), is the first thematic report assessing performance toward achieving the SDG global targets that concern children and young people. The report warns that 520 million children live in countries which completely lack data on at least two-thirds of child-related SDG indicators, or lack sufficient data to assess their progress – rendering those children effectively “uncounted.”

Where sufficient data is available, the scale of the challenge posed by the SDG targets remains daunting. The report warns that 650 million children live in countries where at least two-thirds of the SDGs are out of reach without accelerated progress. In fact, in those countries, even more children could face bad outcomes in life by 2030 than now.

“More than half the world’s children live in countries where we either can’t track their SDG progress, or where we can and they are woefully off-track,” said Laurence Chandy, UNICEF Director for the Division of Data, Research and Policy. “The world must renew its commitment to attaining the SDGs, starting with renewing its commitment to measuring them.”

The report tracks progress on five dimensions of children’s rights: health, learning, protection from violence and exploitation, a safe environment and equal opportunity. The report quantifies how far short of the global goals the world is currently expected to fall, measured in human costs.

Projections show that between now and 2030:

- :: 10 million additional children would die of preventable causes before their fifth birthday;
- :: 31 million children would be left stunted due to lack of adequate nutrition;
- :: 22 million children would miss out on pre-primary education;
- :: 150 million girls will marry before their 18th birthday;
- :: 670 million people, many of them children, will still be without basic drinking water.

“Two years ago, the world agreed on an ambitious agenda to give every child the best chance in life, with cutting-edge data analysis to guide the way,” said Chandy. “And yet, what our comprehensive report on SDG progress for children reveals plainly is an abject lack of data. Most countries do not have the information even to assess whether they are on track or not. Children around the world are counting on us – and we can’t even count all of them.”

The report calls for renewed efforts to address the global data-deficiency, while recognizing that strong national data institutions and capacity take time and investment to develop. The report identifies three principles to underpin this work:

- :: Building strong measurement into service delivery systems, whether in health or education, social services or border control;
- :: Systematic and coordinated efforts to ensure all countries have minimum data coverage for children, irrespective of their resources and capabilities;
- :: Establishing stronger shared norms on data concerning children, including common approaches to measuring emerging threats facing children, capturing missing child populations, and sharing data to enable vulnerable children to be more effectively identified, while protecting children’s privacy.

While each government is ultimately accountable to generate the data that will guide and measure achievement of the goals, the international community has an obligation to partner with them to make sure the SDG targets are met.

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### **Global Health 50/50 Report (2018)**

*How gender-responsive are the world's most influential global health organisations?*

*First report 2018*

The Global Health 50/50 initiative is housed by the University College London Centre for Gender and Global Health.

March 2018 :: 56 pages

PDF: [https://globalhealth5050.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/GH5050-Report-2018\\_Final.pdf](https://globalhealth5050.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/GH5050-Report-2018_Final.pdf)

*This report was supported by a grant from Wellcome Trust, Grant reference number: 210398/Z/18/Z*

The Global Health 50/50 Report, the first of its kind, provides a comprehensive review of the gender-related policies of more than 140 major organisations working in and/or influencing the field of global health. The initiative is focused at the intersection of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including on health (3), gender equality (5), inequalities (10) and inclusive societies and institutions (16).

Gender equality has seemingly been embraced as a priority in global health. The report is inspired, however, by a growing concern that too few global health organisations walk the talk by defining, programming, resourcing or monitoring gender, either as a determinant of health, or as a driver of career equality in their own workplaces.

The Global Health 50/50 Report provides a benchmark across the sector to catalyse shifts in organisational and management culture and practice, the adoption of gender-responsive policies, and ensuring adequate resources for programmes focusing on the gendered dynamics of global health. It seeks to provide evidence of where the gaps lie, while shining a light on ways forward.

*Excerpt*

#### ***GH50/50 High Scorers - 2018***

Based on the findings across the seven domains explored above, GH5050 identified nine very high-scoring organisations and a further ten high-scoring organisations (some of which missed out on a top 'score' since they provide little or no information for one key variable, such as gender composition of Board).

*Highest scorers:* BRAC; Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); Gavi; Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; Population Reference Bureau; Save the Children International; Sida; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); UNICEF.

*High scorers:* CARE; European Commission; FHI360; Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO); Jhpiego; Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH); Stop TB; UNFPA; UN Women; WHO.

Organisations have been scored based on whether they have gender-responsive policies in place, and some indicators of practice—namely sex-disaggregation of data and parity among

senior management and boards. Such a review provides a critical initial understanding of whether an organisation has an adequate policy foundation in place to guide gender-responsive programming and foster a gender-equitable workplace. Looking forward, however, a much better understanding of the extent to which effective policies and accountability mechanisms to promote gender equality are implemented is urgently needed.

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## **OXFAM Impact**

### **Open Letter From Women in the Aid Sector**

*On Friday 2nd March, 2018, the letter below was circulated through private emails and messages to women working within the aid sector throughout the world. The letter was drafted by Sarah Martin (@smartindc), Alexia Pepper de Caires (@Je ne tweet pas), Anne Quesney (@anneqy) and Danielle Spencer (@daniellewas). However, it was also informed by many other women who chose to remain anonymous whom we thank for their input.*

*Just five days after the letter was launched, as of the afternoon of March 7th, the letter has been signed by 1,111 women. 897 women signed and felt it was safe to use their names, 214 women felt they needed to sign on anonymously. Women living and working in 81 countries around the world signed on in support - from the US and UK, to South Sudan, Haiti, Jordan and Bangladesh. The breadth of women working within the aid industry has been truly reflected in the signatories and the content of the letter they have signed should be taken seriously by men and decision makers in humanitarian and development organisations. Thank you to everyone who raised their voices to demand change.*

### **TO: Senior Managers, CEOs and Board Members of Humanitarian and Development Organisations,**

Violence Against Women and Girls is endemic across all societies.<sup>[1]</sup> The #MeToo and #TimesUp movements have exposed the level of sexual harassment experienced by women in the film industry, but this is just the tip of the iceberg. Thanks to the work of women acting in solidarity with their sisters around the world, in recent weeks it has become increasingly apparent that the international aid sector has its own shortcomings. We, the undersigned, demand that the aid sector is reformed and the patriarchal norms which dominate it are rooted out.

We stand together to speak out about the violence and abuse perpetrated against women and girls by men who work within charities. We stand together because our voices are stronger in unison and have often not been heard when we have stood alone.<sup>[2]</sup> We acknowledge that not all women have the same amount of power - race, class, sexual orientation, economic realities and other forms of discrimination and oppression all play a part in women's ability to be heard. Patriarchy impacts women and girls from the global South and women of colour hardest. We acknowledge that these women are most affected and vulnerable to exploitation and abuse by aid workers, yet are also the least likely to be heard and least likely to be able to sign on to support this letter.

It is the behaviour of these men, not our complaint of their behaviour, which damages the sector's reputation and public trust. The women who are speaking out now hope to make international aid a better place for the women who work within it, and for those whose rights we campaign and advocate for. We speak out now in the hopes that in future, the blame for the abuse or for "not doing enough" to stop the abuse will no longer fall on women. The



twisted logic of blaming women and girls for the violence and abuse they experience has to end and it is everyone's responsibility to end it – within the aid sector and beyond.

We are gravely concerned that the culture of silence, intimidation and abuse will continue as soon as the media spotlight on this issue begins to dim. Trust in our sector can only be restored when we ask and answer the difficult questions and openly challenge those who exploit and hide behind the good work of many. We encourage everyone who has seen issues which are contrary to the principles of equality and justice, which are the bedrock of our work, to step forward and speak out and we ask aid agencies to support them.

We ask for 3 fundamental reforms to shift the patriarchal bias in aid:

**1. Trust women:** organisations need to take action as soon as women report sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse; allegations must be treated with priority and urgency in their investigation; the subject of a complaint of this nature must be immediately suspended or removed from their position of power and reach of vulnerable women and girls.

**2. Listen:** foster a culture where whistleblowing is welcome and safe - the way to win back trust of donors, the public and the communities we work with is to be honest about abuses of power and learn from disclosures. Sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse should no longer have to be discussed in hushed tones in our offices.

**3. Deeds not words:** We need effective leadership, commitment to action and access to resources. It is not enough to develop new policies which are never implemented or funded - with the right tools we can end impunity at all levels in the sector.

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### **Message from UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore on efforts to address sexual misconduct**

Statement

NEW YORK, 9 March 2018 - This is an important moment in time for UNICEF and all the aid sector – a moment to make swift and tangible changes that guarantee a safe environment for all of those who work at – and with – our organizations.

Our current data indicates there were 27 reports of sexual misconduct against UNICEF staff members over the last five years. Of these 27 cases, three are currently under investigation, and nine ended with the staff member's dismissal or separation. In three cases, no formal complaints were filed, or they were withdrawn. Twelve other complaints could not be substantiated.

Even one case of sexual misconduct is one too many; each one bolsters my determination to change the culture at UNICEF.

We have processes in place, but they are not enough. This is why I announced last week a number of immediate changes to ensure that the 13,000 people who work for us are safe, heard and empowered. More measures will follow in the months to come, but these are our initial steps.

:: I am engaging an outside firm to conduct an independent review of how the organization has dealt with claims of sexual misconduct and harassment in the past. Their report, with lessons learned and recommendations on the way forward, will be made public.

:: We have enhanced our investigation process to ensure that reports of sexual misconduct can be promptly investigated, even if the victim does not file a formal complaint.

:: I will assemble a task force of external and internal advisors – including representatives from UN and non-UN women’s organizations, private sector and civil society – that will make recommendations on how UNICEF can improve our culture and policies.

:: I am providing our staff with more and easier ways to report harassment – and we have made new resources available so staff members can more easily obtain stronger ethics, legal, and medical support, as well as counselling services.

:: We launched a one-touch button on a new webpage to make it easier for our people to anonymously alert managers if they have experienced or witnessed sexual misconduct.

:: We will improve our screening for recruitment to ensure our new hires and promotions meet the highest standards of conduct.

We are committed to a new era at UNICEF – one anchored by our strong, enduring commitment to achieving results for children and young people, and one grounded in openness, transparency and respect.

Please know that speaking up and speaking out is encouraged at all levels – and that is what we need most right now. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

*Sincerely,  
Henrietta H. Fore*

***Editor’s Note:***

*In last week’s edition, we published the full text of the message below:*

NEW YORK, 28 February 2018

Message from UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore to staff about ending sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

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**[Actions to tackle exploitation and abuse agreed with UK charities](#)**

5 March 2018 DFID Press release

**[Safeguarding Summit: Statements by the International Development Secretary and DFID’s Permanent Secretary](#)**

5 March 2018 DFID and Charity Commission Press release

**[Mordaunt leads aid sector action on sexual exploitation at landmark summit](#)**

5 March 2018 DFID Press release

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**[Action Against Hunger tightens their procedures for preventing and fighting against sexual violence.](#)**

5 March 2018

*Action Against Hunger reiterates that they firmly condemn any illegal or unethical conduct involving humanitarian aid workers. For this reason the Association reaffirms its determination to fight against any situation of sexual violence, exploitation, or harassment that occurs in the humanitarian sector through tightening up its procedures for preventing and handling the same.*

Action Against Hunger has decided to implement an Action Plan that focuses on three priorities: awareness and training of employees, improve the escalation process for reporting incidents and handling cases (beneficiaries, employees), as well being more exigent in that required from third-parties of the organization (partners, suppliers). This plan is an extension of the long-term



commitment Action Against Hunger has shown for many years now. It underpins internal progression, constant improvements in good practices, and recognized international standards in this matter.

This Action Plan aims to tighten up existing procedures for preventing, detecting, reporting and managing abuse that are already in place and that apply to all employees, leaders, administrators, or anybody acting on behalf of Action Against Hunger.

In the case of an incident, there is a whistle blowing system, using emails setup for this purpose that facilitate reporting the events. Moreover, these notifications are handled with the greatest of care and diligence by a Unit dedicated to this purpose to assure, on the one hand, the confidentiality and security of possible victims and their confidants, and on the other, assure that the analysis and investigation process finds out the truth about the matter. After the investigation, if the case is verified, disciplinary measures are taken, ranging from a warning to the termination of employment or dismissal of the indicted person(s).

Between 2012 and 2017, Action Against Hunger has handled 19 verified cases of abuse or sexual and/or unethical violence (harassment, violence and abuse of power of a sexual nature) out of 8,000 collaborators in more than 47 countries over the world. In all cases disciplinary action was taken against them or their contract terminated. Action Against Hunger sincerely regrets that these incidents have occurred and wish to express their profound solidarity towards the victims.

Furthermore, an independent investigation is going to be deployed in Bangladesh over the next few days for the period comprising August 2012 to August 2014. This investigation to be carried out in the field aims to find out the truth about what our collaborators were doing during this period.

The fight against all types of sexual violence, exploitation, and harassment is a priority for Action Against Hunger who shall continue working relentlessly and firmly towards fighting any deviation from the norm or permutation. Individual acts, deplorable as they may seem, are not a reason for placing the blame on all humanitarian aid workers or a particular organisation as a whole. Indeed, it is the duty of all stakeholders in the humanitarian sector to do everything they can to pre-empt and prevent any type of unacceptable behaviour amongst its humanitarian aid workers who are committed to improving and saving the life of the most vulnerable. It is through this spectrum of related aspirations and exigencies that we are able to improve our mission.

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## **Heritage Stewardship**

### **World Heritage Review**

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/84/>

n°86 - March 2018

### **World Heritage and Reconstruction**

While conflicts continue to inflict damage – much of it intentional – on heritage sites, reconstruction becomes a critical topic for discussion. The recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged sites are complex. They involve questions that go beyond authenticity and integrity. As the architect Jad Tabet says in his introductory article to this issue of World Heritage, "No one could have imagined that the coming century would, in its early

years, witness a new cycle of violence that would spread from Afghanistan and Iraq to Mali, Libya, Syria and Yemen and lead the world to this state of generalized latent warfare that we know today.

The formulation of sound guidance is urgently required on issues related to recovery, taking into account the need to support the affected local communities. To this end, expert meetings have been convened by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and ICOMOS, and seminars are being held at universities to develop plans for thoughtful and effective action. UNESCO is also currently preparing a 'White Paper' in partnership with the World Bank on the reconstruction of cities following a conflict or major natural disaster. Reconstruction projects at World Heritage sites also need to address the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of each site – the reason for which it was inscribed on the World Heritage List – but within the context of a larger vision for recovery that addresses socioeconomic questions as well as the needs of the local communities. Solutions must be sensitive to questions of reconciliation and cannot rewrite history.

In this issue, we look at the cases of intentional destruction of sites in Syria and of the Buddhas in the Bamiyan Valley of Afghanistan. We take into account the devastating impact on local communities and their identities, as well as the implications of different approaches to reconstruction. We look at the inspiring cases of Timbuktu (Mali), where the mausoleums were rebuilt after their destruction in 2012, and the Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina), where the rebuilt bridge has become a symbol of perseverance and unity among communities. We are also pleased to present an interview with heritage expert Christina Cameron, who explains the concept of reconstruction in the framework of the World Heritage Convention and considers the emotional and psychological consequences for the related communities.

As we move forward, the World Heritage Committee will continue to support the preparation and dissemination of guidance on reconstruction, which includes facing the multifaceted challenges it brings. The Committee will continue as well to offer other options – such as exhibits, or virtual projections – that can satisfy the needs of communities to preserve and express their identities without marring the authenticity of what remains. New questions must also be addressed in the future. They include commemoration of the loss, and remembrance of community members and site managers who have given their lives to defend our shared World Heritage.

I would like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank Francesco Bandarin, Assistant Director-General for Culture, who is leaving UNESCO after 15 years of service and who contributed greatly to safeguarding World Heritage around the world. I would also like to express my gratitude to Vesna Vujicic-Lugassy, our Managing Editor from the inception of this magazine in May 1996 to the present, for her personal engagement to make the Review globally known.

*Mechtild Rössler*

*Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre*

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## **Featured Journal Content**

### **European Journal of Public Health**

Advance Publication - 03 March 2018

## **A socioecological measurement of homophobia for all countries and its public health impact**

Erik Lamontagne Marc d'Elbée Michael W. Ross Aengus Carroll André du Plessis Luiz Loures  
European Journal of Public Health, cky023, <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cky023>

### *Abstract*

#### Background

Measuring homophobia at country level is important to guide public health policy as reductions in stigma are associated with improved health outcomes among gay men and other men who have sex with men.

Methods: We developed a Homophobic Climate Index incorporating institutional and social components of homophobia. Institutional homophobia was based on the level of enforcement of laws that criminalise, protect or recognise same-sex relations. Social homophobia was based on the level of acceptance and justifiability of homosexuality. We estimated the Index for 158 countries and assessed its robustness and validity.

#### Results

Western Europe is the most inclusive region, followed by Latin America. Africa and the Middle East are home to the most homophobic countries with two exceptions: South Africa and Cabo Verde. We found that a 1% decrease in the level of homophobia is associated with a 10% increase in the gross domestic product per capita. Countries whose citizens face gender inequality, human rights abuses, low health expenditures and low life satisfaction are the ones with a higher homophobic climate. Moreover, a 10% increase in the level of homophobia at country level is associated with a 1.7-year loss in life expectancy for males. A higher level of homophobia is associated with increased AIDS-related death among HIV-positive men.

#### Conclusion

The socioecological approach of this index demonstrates the negative social, economic and health consequences of homophobia in low- and middle-income countries. It provides sound evidence for public health policy in favour of the inclusion of sexual minorities.

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## **PLOS Medicine**

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

### *Policy Forum*

## **Global child and adolescent mental health: The orphan of development assistance for health**

Chunling Lu, Zhihui Li, Vikram Patel

Policy Forum | published 09 Mar 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002524>

### *Summary points*

:: One-quarter of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for mental disorders and substance abuse is borne by those 24 years old or younger, the age group that accounted for more than 40% of the world population. Using the aid activities database from the Creditor Reporting System (CRS), we estimated the level of development assistance for child and adolescent mental health (DAMH\_CA) in 132 developing countries between 2007 and 2015.

:: The total amount of DAMH\_CA with a primary target on child and adolescent mental health was US\$190.3 million over the 8 years, accounting for 12.5% of total development assistance for mental health (DAMH) and 0.1% of development assistance for health (DAH).

:: The largest investments in DAMH\_CA over this 8-year period were disbursed to the humanitarian assistance sector for children and adolescents in disasters or conflicts (US\$77.2 million [41% of DAMH\_CA]), followed by the sector of government and civil services (US\$58.6

million [31%]), the health sector (US\$38.0 million [20%]), and the education sector (US\$15.6 million [8%]).

:: Donors invested little in child and adolescent mental health, in both absolute amount and fraction.

:: The donor community should substantially increase DAMH\_CA to establish and enhance the capacity for delivering mental health care to this demographic group.

### *Background*

More than 40% of the world population is 24 years old or younger, the vast majority of whom live in low- and lower middle-income countries [1]. Globally, a quarter of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for mental disorders and substance abuse is borne by this age group [2], and about 75% of mental disorders diagnosed in adulthood have their onset before the age of 24 years [3]. Most children and young people in developing countries, however, do not have access to mental health care.

Lack of financial commitment is amongst the major barriers for improving access to mental health interventions in developing countries. Unsurprisingly, the least resourced regions and countries in the world rely heavily on development assistance, typically from high-income countries or foundations, to support the health sector. Our previous study on development assistance for mental health (DAMH) demonstrated that DAMH remained low both in absolute terms and as a proportion of development assistance for health (DAH) between 2007 and 2013 [4].

This analysis extends our previous analysis by investigating development assistance for child (below age 10) and adolescent (between age 10 and 24) mental health (DAMH\_CA). We tracked the level of DAMH\_CA in 132 countries between 2007 and 2015...

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### **JAMA**

March 6, 2018, Vol 319, No. 9, Pages 843-943

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

#### *Viewpoint*

### **Retreat From Human Rights and Adverse Consequences for Health**

Diederik Lohman, MA

JAMA. 2018;319(9):861-862. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.0271

#### *Abstract*

The international environment for human rights has rapidly deteriorated in recent years. Populist leaders have come to power in an increasing number of countries, often on political platforms that are explicitly hostile to human rights. These leaders tend to portray respect for human rights as an inconvenient obstacle to their agendas rather than as an essential limit on their power. Meanwhile, many governments that have traditionally been proponents of human rights, although often with records that do not entirely reflect human rights, have encountered internal challenges from authoritarian populists or far-right political parties that have turned their focus inward and weakened their willingness to stand up for human rights internationally.

This development has serious consequences. As the Human Rights Watch 2018 World Report, released on January 18, notes, this trend has left an “open field for murderous leaders and their enablers.”<sup>1</sup> The report details mass atrocities carried out with near impunity in Yemen, Syria, Burma, South Sudan, and elsewhere. It also provides ample examples of rapidly decreasing political space in many countries as governments seize the opportunity to eliminate free speech, the political opposition, and nongovernmental groups as a fragmented international community stands by paralyzed.

Populist and authoritarian leaders have had civil and political rights, first and foremost, as their focus, rather than economic and social rights, including the right to health. In some cases, populists have exploited public frustration about health care and other social policies to gain electoral support for their anti-rights agendas. However, the retreat from human rights is also a threat to health because it inevitably undermines key building blocks for good public health policy such as the ability to have robust public discussion on complex health issues and to critique government policies that affect public health.

### *Effects on Health During Conflict*

Perhaps the most glaring example of the effect of this retreat from human rights on health globally is the failure of countries and multilateral organizations to effectively counteract the rapid increase in recent years in attacks on health care facilities during conflict. Although international humanitarian law explicitly grants health care facilities protected status, reports of attacks on these facilities and on health care workers during conflict have become so common that many incidents do not even attract media attention.

Last year, a report from the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition documented attacks on health care facilities and workers in 23 countries across 3 continents.<sup>2</sup> The report indicated that hospitals and clinics had been bombed or shelled in 10 countries, health care workers had been killed or abducted in 15, and military or police forces had occupied health care facilities in 7. The report documented 108 attacks on health care facilities in Syria, identified the Syrian and Russian governments as the worst offenders, and noted that the level of violence inflicted on health care facilities and health care workers was “remarkably high” as well in Afghanistan, Iraq, South Sudan, and Yemen.<sup>2</sup>

Due to a lack of data, it is impossible to quantify the full effects of these attacks on the health of the population of these countries. However, those effects are sure to be substantial. Many attacks described in the coalition report led to the suspension of essential health programs, destruction of health care infrastructure, flight of health care workers, and disruptions in deliveries of essential medicines and supplies. In Pakistan, one of the last remaining countries where polio is endemic, attacks by militants on individuals who provide vaccinations for polio led to a temporary suspension of the vaccination program in 2016, although enhanced security measures allowed the program to resume in 2017 without further incident.<sup>2</sup>

A Human Rights Watch review of 25 attacks on hospitals and health care workers in 10 countries between 2013 and 2016 documented that the attacks resulted in the deaths of more than 230 people, injuries to 180 more, and the closure or destruction of 6 hospitals.<sup>3</sup> Yet the review found that no individuals faced criminal charges for their role in the attacks and most of the attacks were not investigated, even though at least 16 of the attacks may have constituted war crimes.<sup>3</sup> The attacks involved military forces or armed groups from Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, and the United States.<sup>3</sup> Even though the adverse effects of these attacks on a population can be enormous, most governments showed no greater willingness to investigate alleged attacks on health care facilities than they have with other potentially unlawful attacks in which their forces were involved, and instead apparently ignored, denied, or even justified them.<sup>3</sup>

The United Nations, which has been weakened by divisions and a retreat from rights norms (moral principles), has responded to these attacks with rhetoric but almost no action. In 2016, the UN Security Council adopted a strong resolution condemning attacks on health care facilities, and former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon made 13 recommendations for preventing attacks on medical personnel, as requested by the Security Council.<sup>4</sup> The World Health Organization will begin systematic data collection on these incidents (albeit without

identification of those responsible). The UN Security Council held a follow-up meeting in May 2017 devoted to protecting civilians, with a special focus on attacks on health care facilities. However, attacks on health care facilities in conflict have continued.

### *Health Rights Under Authoritarian Regimes*

The anti-rights zeal of populist and authoritarian leaders may not specifically target the right to health—and some such leaders have been credited with significant advances in the health of their countries—but good health policy withers without space for robust discussion on policy issues and government accountability. While populist and authoritarian leaders usually first seek to restrict the voice of political opponents or the media, it rarely stops there. Government restrictions intended to hamper the work of civil rights groups also tend to adversely affect groups working on health and other social and economic issues. While international resolve to protect rights has at times been a restraint on the behavior of authoritarian leaders, the global retreat from human rights has given them a freer hand.

A 2017 analysis by Human Rights Watch involving several countries has demonstrated how a lack of public domestic and international accountability can have major negative consequences for health. For example, in the early years of the rule of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela, primarily between 2003 and 2006, the country made significant progress in improving health. However, it also gradually restricted political freedoms, becoming increasingly intolerant of criticism. Since 2015, Venezuela's health care system has slid into crisis as a result of government mismanagement and dwindling oil revenues, and intolerance of criticism now extends to physicians who publicly discuss the state of the health care system.<sup>4</sup> For instance, several Venezuelan physicians reported that government officials had threatened reprisals, including dismissal, after they raised concerns about the scarcity of medicines and medical supplies.<sup>4</sup>

According to official statistics from Venezuela, in 2016 infant mortality increased 30% (from 8812 to 11 446 infant deaths) and maternal mortality increased 65% (from 457 to 756 deaths).<sup>5,6</sup> Human Rights Watch analyses suggest that these increases were related to the severe shortages of basic medicines and medical supplies.<sup>4</sup> Yet the government insists that Venezuela is not facing a humanitarian crisis.<sup>7</sup>

In Equatorial Guinea, with the world's longest surviving president (since 1979), a lack of political freedoms and accountability has allowed the ruling elite to realize billions of dollars in oil revenues while largely ignoring the dire state of public health. Equatorial Guinea was one of the poorest countries in Africa when large oil reserves were discovered in the early 1990s, but its per capita income increased from US \$330 in 1991 to a peak of US \$24 304 in 2012.

Yet in 2017, an analysis by Human Rights Watch found that 20 years of oil wealth had done little to improve the country's health indicators.<sup>8</sup> Life expectancy has increased and was 57.5 years in 2015, the latest year for which data are available, but merely kept pace with that of other, much poorer, sub-Saharan African countries. Access to safe drinking water remains the same as in 1995 while it has improved in many other countries in the region. Vaccination rates for children have actually declined since the late 1990s and are among the worst in the world, with only 35% estimated to have received the first dose of the diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccine in 2016, the second lowest vaccination rate in the world for that year.<sup>9</sup> Meanwhile, research by Human Rights Watch shows that the president and his inner circle have accumulated incredible wealth while the government frequently harasses members of civil society and political opposition groups.<sup>8</sup>

Today's often hostile climate for human rights threatens to undermine health gains the world has achieved in recent decades. Governments and civil society groups concerned with global



health should push back against the populist tide and advocate for a firm commitment to human rights and accountability as an integral part of their agendas.

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*Published Online: January 18, 2018. doi:[10.1001/jama.2018.0271](https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2018.0271)*

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## **Emergencies**

### **POLIO**

#### ***Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)***

##### **Polio this week as of 06 March 2018** [GPEI]

:: New on <http://polioeradication.org/>: Japan has provided additional funding to support the Regional Reference Laboratory in Pakistan, whilst we looked at how one family in Afghanistan is helping to vaccinate every child in their community.

:: The Global Commission for Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication met in Geneva, reviewing the criteria that will need to be met in order to achieve global certification of wild poliovirus (WPV) eradication.

:: On International Women's Day, we highlighted some of the incredible women working to reach every last child.

:: We are pleased to announce the launch of the Gender and Polio section on our website.

:: Minda Dentler, a champion triathlete, advocate for polio eradication, and polio survivor, spoke at TEDWomen about conquering the world's toughest triathlon, and what it inspired her to do next.

:: Also released this week are new translations of our animation on the two polio vaccines, now available in Dari and Pashto, and Urdu

#### *Summary of newly-reported viruses this week:*

***Afghanistan:*** One new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental sample has been reported in Nangarhar province.

***Pakistan:*** Two new WPV1 positive environmental samples have been reported, one collected in Sindh province, and one in Punjab province.

***Democratic Republic of the Congo:*** One case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) reported, from Tanganyika province.

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#### **Global Commission for Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication (GCC) reviewed criteria for certification** [page link not loading content]

March 2018 – With fewer cases of WPV reported from fewer countries than ever before, the GCC is accelerating its work to prepare for the eventual certification that WPVs have been eradicated from the world.

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#### **WHO Grade 3 Emergencies** [to 10 March 2018]

##### **Nigeria**

:: Lassa Fever – Nigeria Disease outbreak news 1 March 2018

From 1 January through 25 February 2018, 1081 suspected cases and 90 deaths have been reported from 18 states (Anambra, Bauchi, Benue, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, Ekite, Federal Capital Territory, Gombe, Imo, Kogi, Lagos, Nasarawa, Ondo, Osun, Plateau, Rivers, and Taraba). During this period, 317 cases have been classified as confirmed and eight as probable, including 72 deaths (case fatality rate for confirmed and probable cases=22%). A total of 2845 contacts have been identified in 18 states.

Fourteen health care workers have been affected in six states (Benue, Ebonyi, Edo, Kogi, Nasarawa, and Ondo), with four deaths (case fatality rate= 29%). As of 18 February, four out of the 14 health care workers were confirmed positive for Lassa fever...

Iraq - *No new announcements identified*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified*

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### **WHO Grade 2 Emergencies** [to 10 March 2018]

#### **Central African Republic**

:: Central African Republic: Rapid health assessment

March 2017 -- The purpose of this report is to analyze the capacity of the health systems and minimum health needs of the population on the way to early recovery.

Bangladesh/Myanmar: Rakhine Conflict 2017 - *No new announcements identified*

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified*

Democratic Republic of the Congo - *No new announcements identified.*

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Libya - *No new announcements identified.*

Niger - *No new announcements identified.*

Ukraine - *No new announcements identified.*

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### **UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies**

*The UN and its humanitarian partners are currently responding to three 'L3' emergencies. This is the global humanitarian system's classification for the response to the most severe, large-scale humanitarian crises.*

#### **Syrian Arab Republic**

:: 9 Mar 2018 UNHCR's Grandi appalled at suffering of civilians in Syria

:: The UN and partners plan to deliver humanitarian assistance to eastern Ghouta [EN/AR]  
Damascus, 4 March 2018

#### **Yemen**

:: 8 Mar 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Update Covering 26 February - 04 March 2018 | Issue: 05

#### **DRC**

:: Media Advisory: Humanitarian Chief to visit the Democratic Republic of the Congo 11-13 March 2018

Iraq - *No new announcements identified.*

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## **UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies**

*When the USG/ERC declares a Corporate Emergency Response, all OCHA offices, branches and sections provide their full support to response activities both at HQ and in the field.*

### **Somalia**

:: Humanitarian Bulletin Somalia, February 2018 Published on 05 Mar 2018

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

*Localized drought conditions worsen as hotspot areas bear the brunt.*

*Over 1.2 million children will be malnourished in 2018.*

*London conference draws attention to Somalia crisis.*

*Somalia Humanitarian Fund supports early action, but more is urgently needed.*

Ethiopia - *No new announcements identified.*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified.*

Rohinga Refugee Crisis - *No new announcements identified.*

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## **Agency/Government/IGO Watch**

*We will monitor a growing number of relevant agency, government and IGO organizations for key media releases, announcements, research, and initiatives. Generally, we will focus on regional or global level content recognizing limitation of space, meaning country-specific coverage is limited. Please suggest additional organizations to monitor.*

## **United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly**

[to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.un.org/en/unpress/>

8 March 2018

SC/13240

### **Security Council Adopts Resolution 2405 (2018), Extends Mandate of United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan amid Calls for Women's Empowerment**

The Security Council today extended for another year the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) ahead of a debate during which speakers — on International Women's Day — placed women's vital role front and centre in achieving a sustainable peace and security after years of conflict.

8 March 2018

SG/SM/18928-OBV/1775-WOM/2132

### **Secretary-General Declares 'Time Is Now' for Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, in Remarks on International Day**

**UN OHCHR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

*Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"*

[Accusations against UN expert a retaliation by Philippines, say fellow rapporteurs](#)

[Hungary: Opinion Editorial by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein](#)

[North Korea detente: UN expert urges opening for human rights](#)

[Liberia: UN expert urges new Weah Administration to advance freedom of expression](#)

[Myanmar: Senior UN human rights official decries continued ethnic cleansing in Rakhine State](#)

[#MeToo: "A transformative moment, liberating and empowering"](#)

[Mali: UN expert to assess critical human rights picture amid worsening security situation](#)

**Human Rights Council** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/pages/hrcindex.aspx>

9 March 2018

[Council hears presentation of 18 thematic reports on all human rights and report of working group on transnational corporations](#)

[Human Rights Council holds general debate on all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development](#)

9 March 2018

[Council holds interactive dialogue with the High Commissioner for Human Rights on his annual report and oral update](#)

8 March 2018

[Human Rights Council debates access to justice for persons with disabilities](#)

07/03/2018

[Human Rights Council concludes interactive dialogues on children and armed conflict and violence against children, and on the rights of persons with disabilities and persons with albinism](#)

07/03/2018

[Human Rights Council hears presentation of High Commissioner Zeid's annual report and oral update](#)

07/03/2018

[Council holds interactive dialogue with Experts on the rights of persons with disabilities and on the rights of persons with albinism](#)

06/03/2018

[Human Rights Council holds interactive dialogue on violence against children and on children and armed conflict](#)

06/03/2018

[Human Rights Council discusses the right to privacy, and commercial surrogacy in the context of the sale of children](#)

06/03/2018

[UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria: Amid the ruins of Ar-Raqqa and Dayr al-Zawr, calls for justice and accountability by victims and families must be urgently addressed](#)

06/03/2018

**Committee on the Rights of the Child** [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CRC/Pages/CRCIndex.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children**  
[to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Children/Pages/ChildrenIndex.aspx>  
6 March 2018  
[Children risk being “commodities” as surrogacy spreads, UN rights expert warns](#)

**SRSG/CAAC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 10 March 2018]  
<https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/virtual-library/press-release-archive/>  
06 Mar 2018  
[Human Rights Council: UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict Calls for Stronger Protection of the Most Vulnerable in War](#)

**Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Health/Pages/SRRightHealthIndex.aspx>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**SRSG/SVC** Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>  
05 Mar 2018  
[Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict Ms. Pramila Patten Concludes Visit to Iraq and Stresses Need to Do More to Protect and Support Victims of Daesh’s Sexual Violence Crimes](#)

**UN OCHA** [to 10 March 2018]  
<https://www.unocha.org/media-centre/press-releases>  
*Selected Press Releases*  
9 March 2018  
[Humanitarian Coordinator calls for urgent action to avert worsening food crisis in South Sudan](#)

[Avis aux médias: Visite du Chef de L’humanitaire de L’ONU en Republique Democratique du Congo - 11 au 13 mars 2018](#)

[Media Advisory: Humanitarian Chief to visit the Democratic Republic of the Congo 11-13 March 2018](#)

[Donors agree measures to prevent famine in Somalia in 2018](#)

7 March 2018  
[Somalia: Donors agree measures to prevent famine in 2018](#)

5 March 2018

[Remarks for Assistant Secretary-General Ursula Mueller at the Dubai International Humanitarian Aid and Development Conference and Exhibition \(DIHAD\): "Doing better with the resources at hand"](#)

[London Conference: High-Level Event for the Humanitarian Situation in Somalia, 6 March 2018](#)

**UNICEF** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.unicef.org/media/>

9 March 2018

[\*\*Message from UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore on efforts to address sexual misconduct\*\*](#)

NEW YORK, 9 March 2018 - This is an important moment in time for UNICEF and all the aid sector – a moment to make swift and tangible changes that guarantee a safe environment for all of those who work at – and with – our organizations.

[\*\*UNHCR and UNICEF chiefs, on joint visit to Lebanon, call for more action to protect and empower Syrian refugee women and girls as world marks International Women's Day\*\*](#)

BEIRUT, 8 March 2018 – With women and girls making up more than half of the registered Syrian refugee population in Lebanon, and with nearly 40 per cent of refugee households in the country headed by women, Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director of UNICEF, called for stronger action to protect and empower women refugees.

[\*\*UNICEF report: Over half a billion 'uncounted' children live in countries unable to measure SDG progress\*\*](#)

NEW YORK, 7 MARCH 2018 – Early assessment of progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals confirms an alarming lack of data in 64 countries, as well as insufficient progress toward the SDGs for another 37 countries where the data can be tracked.

*[See Week in Review above for more detail]*

[\*\*25 million child marriages prevented in last decade due to accelerated progress, according to new UNICEF estimates\*\*](#)

NEW YORK, 6 March 2018 – The prevalence of child marriage is decreasing globally with several countries seeing significant reductions in recent years, UNICEF said today. Overall, the proportion of women who were married as children decreased by 15 per cent in the last decade, from 1 in 4 to approximately 1 in 5.

**UNHCR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

*Briefing Notes*

[Rekindled tension in DR Congo's Kasai region poses new threat to civilians, displaced](#) 6 Mar 2018

[Wildlife risks add challenges to refugee response in Bangladesh](#) 6 Mar 2018

*Press releases and news comments*

[Syria conflict at 7 years: 'a colossal human tragedy'](#) 9 Mar 2018



[UNHCR and UNICEF chiefs, on joint visit to Lebanon, call for more action to protect and empower Syrian refugee women and girls as world marks International Women's Day](#) 8 Mar 2018

[Her Turn: UNHCR report reveals critical gap in education for refugee girls](#) 7 Mar 2018

**IOM / International Organization for Migration** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.iom.int/press-room/press-releases>

*Selected Announcements*

**[UN Migration Agency in Iraq Appeals for Funding to Assist IDPs and Returnees](#)**

2018-03-09 16:23

Iraq – The number of internally displaced Iraqis is currently more than 2.3 million, and those who have returned to their place of origin over 3.5 million. Responding to the needs of these vulnerable groups is a top priority for IOM, the UN Migration Agency in Iraq, as...

**[UN Migration Agency: Lack Of Data Perpetuates Invisibility of Migrant Women's Deaths](#)**

2018-03-09 16:19

Berlin – Since IOM, the UN Migration Agency, began collecting data through the [Missing Migrants Project](#) in 2014, it has recorded the deaths of 1,234 women, more than half of whom died while attempting to cross the Mediterranean...

**[Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 10,949 in 2018; Deaths Reach 442](#)**

2018-03-09 16:07

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 10,949 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first nine weeks of 2018, with just under 51 percent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece (27%) Spain (22%) and Cyprus (less than 1%)....

**[Aid still not Reaching Displaced People in one of the most Underfunded Crises: DR Congo](#)**

2018-03-09 10:33

Kinshasa – Since the last quarter of 2017, violence carried out by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has led to a steep rise in the number of people displaced in the country - more than 4.5 million - and the humanitarian assistance that they need.

**UNAIDS** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unaids.org/en>

8 March 2018

**[Measuring homophobia to improve the lives of all](#)**

*A new index to measure levels of homophobia that can show the impact that homophobia has on countries has been developed.*

Homophobia—defined here as any negative attitude, belief or action towards people of differing sexual orientation or gender identity—has long been known to affect public health. Gay men and other men who have sex with men who face stigma are more likely to engage in sexual risk behaviours, are less likely to adhere to antiretroviral therapy and have lower HIV testing rates. Knowledge of levels of homophobia, especially in low- and middle-income countries, is scant, however.

The new index, published in the [European Journal of Public Health](#), combines both data on institutional homophobia, such as laws, and social homophobia—relations between people and groups of people. Data for the index were taken from a wide range of sources, including from the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund and the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association. More than 460 000 people were asked questions on their reactions to homosexuality through regionwide surveys that were also used as sources for the index...

8 March 2018

### **[UNAIDS a top-nine gender-responsive organization](#)**

*UNAIDS has emerged as a top performer in the first [Global Health 50/50 report](#).*

Global Health 50/50, an initiative that monitors the gender-responsiveness of influential global health organizations, reviewed 140 major organizations working in or influencing global health. According to the new report, UNAIDS is among the top nine health organizations in the world. Published on 8 March, [International Women's Day](#), the Global Health 50/50 report was inspired by a growing concern that too few global health organizations define, programme, resource or monitor gender in their work on health or in the workplace. The report aims to show both the challenges and the way forward.

The report shows that UNAIDS has not only policies that address gender, but also concrete and time-bound gender parity targets, as set out in its Gender Action Plan. Under the plan, UNAIDS has seen the proportion of female staff rise, so that women account for 54% of UNAIDS staff. And female leaders in the field are increasing, with women accounting for 48% of UNAIDS country directors, up from 27% in 2013.

"The Global Health 50/50 survey has shown that UNAIDS' commitment to gender equality is strong. I am resolved to building on our results and achieving all the targets of the UNAIDS Gender Action Plan," said Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS...

7 March 2018

### **[Communities at the heart of the AIDS response in Zambia](#)**

7 March 2018

### **[New tool to Fast-Track the AIDS response in Zambia](#)**

5 March 2018

### **[Commemorating Zero Discrimination Day at a panel on HIV and human rights](#) [Read](#)**

**WHO & Regional Offices** [to 10 March 2018]

#### ***Latest News***

### **[WHO issues new guidance on tobacco product regulation](#)**

9 March 2018 – Many countries have developed advanced policies to reduce the demand for tobacco, which kills over 7 million people annually, but governments can do much more to implement regulations to control tobacco use, especially by exploiting tobacco product regulation. WHO has launched new guidance on the role tobacco product regulation can play to reduce tobacco demand, save lives and raise revenues for health services to treat tobacco-related disease, in the context of comprehensive tobacco control.

### **[Gender equality must be at the core of 'Health for All'](#)**

8 March 2018 – Today, for International Women's Day, we imagine a world where every woman and girl has access to quality and affordable health care, a world in which women and girls can freely exercise their sexual and reproductive health rights, and one where all women

and girls are treated and respected as equals. At WHO, we're speaking up for women and girls' right to health.

*Statement by Director-General*

### **Highlights**

**Global Commission for Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication (GCC) reviewed criteria for certification** *[page link not loading content]*

March 2018 – With fewer cases of WPV reported from fewer countries than ever before, the GCC is accelerating its work to prepare for the eventual certification that WPVs have been eradicated from the world.

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### **WHO Regional Offices**

*Selected Press Releases, Announcements*

#### **WHO African Region AFRO**

*Selected Featured News*

:: Kenya Eliminates Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus 10 March 2018

:: Federal Government of Nigeria repositions Polio Committees towards meeting eradication certification standards 09 March 2018

:: Filling the gaps in healthcare services in conflict-affected North-east Nigeria 07 March 2018

:: Dr Moeti Matshidiso awarded the Honorary Fellowship of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine 06 March 2018

:: WHO convenes a three-day meeting to review the National response to the recent Marburg Virus disease outbreak in Uganda 05 March 2018

:: WHO convenes a three-day meeting to review the National response to the recent Marburg Virus disease outbreak in Uganda 05 March 2018

#### **WHO Region of the Americas PAHO**

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO**

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **WHO European Region EURO**

:: Call for more women in public health leadership roles 07-03-2018

:: WHO calls on partners to respond to the health and humanitarian needs of Ukrainians 05-03-2018

#### **WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO**

:: WHO responds to humanitarian needs of people living with HIV in Benghazi 8 March 2018

:: Japan to provide substantial support to regional polio laboratory 04 March 2018

#### **WHO Western Pacific Region**

*No new digest content identified.*

### **World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2018/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unfpa.org/press/press-release>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNDP** United Nations Development Programme [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter.html>

*Selected Press Releases/Announcements*

Posted on March 9, 2018

### **UNDP and International Alert launch a new toolkit**

Programmes aiming to prevent violent extremism need to be grounded in the context in which they are intervening, be based on evidence and have a realistic monitoring framework, according to a new...

### **Improving the Impact of Prevention of Violent Extremism**

At UNDP, we contribute to the prevention of violent extremism by supporting development solutions that target the root causes and structural drivers of violent extremism.

Posted on March 9, 2018

### **UNDP and partners assess progress and challenges for Caribbean recovery six months after massive hurricanes**

Six months after two of the most powerful hurricanes recorded over the Atlantic wreaked havoc in the Caribbean, women and men in island countries like Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, British Virgin...

Posted on March 9, 2018

### **Government of India, UNDP and UNOPS partner to expedite reconstruction in Nepal**

The Government of India, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) signed, on 8 March, a partnership agreement to expedite the...

Posted on March 8, 2018

**UN Division for Sustainable Development** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

7 Mar 2018

### **New partnership to explore sustainable water and energy solutions**

*A novel partnership to find solutions to globally pressing energy and water challenges was launched today by the United Nations and the bi-national company ITAIPU (Brazil-Paraguay) at UN Headquarters in New York.*

The new partnership between UNDESA and ITAIPU Binacional, the "Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions partnership initiative," will work over an initial 4-year period to promote water and energy sustainability and other Sustainable Development Goals in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Energy and water are closely interlinked and interdependent, with about 90 per cent of global power generation being water intensive, while about 8 per cent of the global energy generation is used for pumping, treating and transporting water to various consumers. Both energy and water are used in the production of crops, including those used to generate energy through biofuels.

Growing populations and economies place additional demands on water and energy, while several regions around the world are already experiencing significant water and energy shortages. Today, 1.1 billion people lack access to electricity, while water stress is affecting

more than 2 billion people. By 2035, energy consumption will increase by 50 per cent, which in turn will increase the energy sector's water consumption by 85 per cent...

**UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://unsdsn.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission.htm>

<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>

**United Nations Statistical Commission 49th Session (2018)**

New York 6-9 March 2018.

**Seventh meeting of the IAEG-SDGs**

The seventh meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) will be held from 9 to 12 April 2018 in Vienna, Austria. The meeting will be hosted by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

**UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.unenvironment.org/>

08 Mar 2018 *Press release*

**World scientists, local leaders map research agenda for cities and climate change for coming years**

The Cities IPCC Cities and Climate Change Science Conference, hosted by the City of Edmonton, culminated today with the establishment of a global blueprint to better understand climate change, its impacts on cities

06 Mar 2018 *Press release*

**UN Environment calls on governments and business to promote, protect and respect environmental rights**

In 2017, almost four people a week were killed defending their right to a clean and healthy environment.

**UNISDR** UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unisdr.org/archive>

8 Mar 2018

**Sendai Framework Monitor takes off**

Just one week after the launch of the Sendai Framework Monitor to capture data on disaster losses and strengthen disaster risk management, fifty countries have already logged on to use the online tool to report on 2017.

7 Mar 2018

**International Women's Day: Call for better data on impacts of disasters on women and girls**

For International Women's Day, UNISDR chief, Ms. Mami Mizutori, made an appeal for UN Member States to use the Sendai Monitor to provide better data on the impact of disasters on women and girls.

**UN DESA** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/en/news.html>

9 March 2018, *New York*

**Interconnected data hubs and public participation: the data revolution is underway**

On our path to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 169 targets and 232 global indicators to track the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the global data community is facing one of the greatest challenges of all times. And to meet it, a “revolution” of the current statistical system is underway. Rather than belonging to statisticians alone, including policy makers, civil society, academia and private sector.

At the Friday seminar on 2 March, convened by UN DESA’s Statistics Division in the lead up to this year’s Statistical Commission, experts in the fields of policy, technology, data and statistics discussed ways to better integrate national data platforms together and build a new global data ecosystem to improve decision-making at all levels and achieve the SDGs.

“What we really want to think about is a new data architecture. Geographically we need data from all different levels: regional, national, continental and global; at different levels we need different types of data, that come from official government, business sectors, academia, and all our other partners,” said Stefan Schweinfest, Director of the Statistics Division, in his opening remarks...

**UNESCO** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://en.unesco.org/news>

07 March 2018

**Child marriage allowed in 20 countries impeding the right to education, says UNESCO on International Women’s Day**

07 March 2018

**Project to map ocean floor by 2030 now operational**

**UNODC** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/allpress.html?ref=fp>

07/03/2018 –

**Statement of the UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, on International Women's Day**

05/03/2018 –

**While in Bangkok, UNODC Executive Director Yury Fedotov highlights the need to strengthen criminal justice to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**

**UN-HABITAT** United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 10 March 2018]

<http://unhabitat.org/media-centre/news/>

Posted March 9, 2018

**Refugee and Host Communities Receive Training on the “Green Toilet System”**



Nairobi 9 March 2018 – UN-Habitat and Lixil Corporation have jointly conducted one week of training on the 'Green Toilet System' – a waterless and sustainable sanitation solution to be piloted at the Kalobeyei refugee settlement in...

### **UN-Habitat Executive Director Joins Global Network of Gender Champions**

To mark International Women's Day on March 8th, UN-Habitat Executive Director Mme Maimunah Mohd Sharif joined the International Gender Champions Network, at the launch of the Nairobi Hub. With the UN-Environment Executive Director and the Director-General...  
Posted March 7, 2018

### **UN-Habitat's Executive Director, Mme Maimunah meets Kenya's Cabinet Secretaries; reaffirms UN-Habitat's commitment to supporting host country priorities**

UN-Habitat Executive Director Mme Maimunah Mohd Sharif recently met with Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Trade Amb. Dr. Monica Juma. The Executive Director also met with Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban...  
Posted March 7, 2018

**FAO** Food & Agriculture Organization [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.fao.org/news/archive/news-by-date/2018/en/9-03-2018>

### **USAID and FAO working together to pre-empt the next global pandemic**

A United States-FAO partnership working to strengthen the capacity of developing countries to manage outbreaks of diseases in farm animals has in just 12 months trained over 4,700 veterinary health professionals in 25 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as part of an ongoing effort to deal with diseases at their source - in animals.

### **Information and communications technologies are essential to the empowerment and success of poor rural women**

IFAD, together with FAO and the WFP, will highlight the role that innovations in information and communications technologies (ICTs) can play in expanding rural women's opportunities in value chains and enterprise development, while increasing their access to education and information.  
7-03-2018

### **FAO chief sounds the alarm on obesity in Latin America and the Caribbean**

FAO Director-General Jose Graziano da Silva urged governments around Latin America and the Caribbean to keep the fight against hunger at the top of their policy agendas, calling also for a "radical transformation" of food systems to combat the spreading scourge of overweight and obesity.  
6-03-2018

### **FAO Director-General: Time for a big regional effort to push hunger levels back down in Latin America and the Caribbean**

A big regional effort to bolster social protection policies in Latin America and the Caribbean is essential to lower rural poverty and reverse the recent uptick in hunger, FAO Director-General Jose Graziano da Silva said today.  
6-03-2018

### **Conflicts and weather patterns strain food security**

High levels of food insecurity persist in the world, due largely to conflicts and to adverse climatic shocks that are taking a toll, particularly in East Africa and the Near East, the new FAO Crop Prospects and Food Situation report notes. 37 countries are in need of external assistance for food.

5-03-2018

### **New tools for reporting on world's forest resources launched**

FAO has launched today a new online platform for reporting on the status and trends of the world's forest resources. The platform enables countries to increase the efficiency of their reporting process and improve the consistency, reliability and transparency of forest data.

5-03-2018

**ILO** International Labour Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/lang--en/index.htm>

*Domestic Work*

### **Reforming the migrant domestic work sector in the Arab region vital to welfare of both workers and employers – ILO report**

08 March 2018

An ILO White Paper outlines policy recommendations to reform the migrant domestic work sector and establish a professionalized and high-quality care economy in the region.

*International Women's Day*

### **ILO: Women still less likely to be active in the labour market than men in most of the world**

08 March 2018

Despite notable progress over the past 20 years, updated ILO figures show persistent inequalities between women and men on access to the labour market, unemployment and conditions at work.

*Ship to Shore Rights*

### **Measuring progress towards decent work in Thai fishing and seafood industry**

07 March 2018

A new ILO report on labour conditions of fishers and seafood workers in Thailand provides an overview of the latest progress and remaining challenges.

*Research for Global Justice*

### **ILO launches online access to legal research and training for developing countries**

06 March 2018

Researchers, law students, policymakers, judges and legal experts in low- and middle-income countries can now get free or low-cost online access to legal information and training from the world's leading academic publishers.

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.icao.int/>

*Website not responding at inquiry.*

**IMO** International Maritime Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Home.aspx>

05/03/2018

### **MARPOL amendments enter into force - ship fuel oil reporting requirements, garbage classification and IOPP certificate**

Requirements for ships to collect fuel oil consumption data entered into force on 1 March, along with other amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

**WMO** World Meteorological Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release>

*No new digest content identified.*

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.unido.org/news-centre/news.html>

6 MARCH 2018

### **Quality infrastructure: UNIDO's unique role**

VIENNA, – The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has published "Quality Infrastructure: UNIDO's unique role", a short report highlighting UNIDO's extensive experience in strengthening quality infrastructure (QI) systems.

### **International business and investment forum boosts partnerships for Africa's pharmaceutical industry**

BONN, 2 March 2018 - An international business and investment forum on "Mobilizing investment, technology and partnership opportunities for Africa's pharmaceutical industry" gathered some 70 participants at the UN Campus in Bonn from 1 - 2 March.

The forum offered a platform for African pharmaceutical manufacturers, who have been part of a United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)-supported mentoring process, to explore partnership opportunities with German pharmaceutical companies and potential investors.

**International Organization for Standardization (ISO)** [to 10 March 2018]

[https://www.iso.org/news\\_archive/x/](https://www.iso.org/news_archive/x/)

By Sandrine Tranchard on 9 March 2018

### **New version of ISO 14024 on ecolabelling just published**

Consumers have high concerns about what they buy and environmental labels and declarations can help them identify those products or services proven "environmentally preferable". But the world's environmental context has changed dramatically since 1999 when ISO 14024 laid down the first international...

**UNWTO** World Tourism Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://media.unwto.org/news>

9 March 2018

### **New UNWTO Agenda for Africa moves ahead in Berlin**

Berlin, Germany, 9 March 2018 – An African ministerial working meeting conveyed by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) during this year's Berlin International Tourism Fair ITB (8 March) agreed to move ahead with a new ten-point UNWTO Agenda for Africa. The final document will be adopted at the UNWTO Commission meeting for Africa, taking place in Nigeria in June this year

7 March 2018

## **Silk Road: The Most Important Transnational Tourism Route of the 21st Century**

The 8th UNWTO Silk Road Ministers' Meeting held during the ITB Berlin Travel Trade Show, focused on the long-term tourism vision for the historic Silk Road routes and how to establish the Silk Road as the most important transnational tourism route of the 21st century.

6 March 2018

## **Tourism can and should lead sustainable development: UNWTO Secretary-General opens ITB 2018**

Berlin, Germany, 6 March 2018 – The tourism sector's role and responsibility in contributing to sustainable development on a global scale was the central message delivered at the opening of the 2018 edition of the ITB Berlin travel trade show by Zurab Pololikashvili, Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). Speaking in the presence of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, tourism ministers from around the world and the leaders of the tourism sector, Mr. Pololikashvili stressed how tourism not only needs to consolidate current growth rates, but "to grow better

**WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CBD** Convention on Biological Diversity [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.cbd.int/press-releases/>

2018-03-05

## **Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress comes into force**

*:: Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity*

*:: Groundbreaking treaty requires response measures to be taken in the event of damage resulting from living modified organisms*

*:: Forty-one Parties have contributed towards entry into force.*

5 March 2018 – The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety enters into force today, 5 March 2018.

Adopted on 15 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, as a supplementary agreement to the Cartagena Protocol, the Supplementary Protocol aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by providing international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress relating to LMOs. A groundbreaking international treaty, the Supplementary Protocol requires that response measures are taken in the event of damage resulting from living modified organisms or where there is sufficient likelihood that damage will result if timely response measures are not taken. The Supplementary Protocol also includes provisions in relation to civil liability.

"The entry into force of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol represents a milestone in the history of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The entry into force of this important instrument provides a key piece of the international regulatory regime applying to living modified organisms. It provides practical rules to respond to damage resulting from living modified organisms that find their origin in a transboundary movement and gives effect to the polluter pays principle," said Mr. Rafael Pacchiano Alamán, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico, and President of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)...

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**USAID** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.usaid.gov/news-information>

*Selected Press Releases*

**Statement by Administrator Green on International Women's Day**

March 8, 2018

Today, on International Women's Day, we celebrate achievements on the journey to gender equality and women's empowerment around the world. No country can succeed if it excludes the talents and voices of half its population. At USAID, we believe gender equality and women's empowerment are not just a part of development, but are the core of development. We are committed to breaking down the barriers that keep women from reaching their full potential.

**USAID Launches the WomenConnect Challenge**

March 8, 2018

Today, USAID Administrator Mark Green and Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump launched USAID's latest initiative to empower women around the world, the WomenConnect Challenge. The Challenge will identify and support solutions to increase the access to, and the use of, digital technology, by women and girls to drive positive health, education, and livelihood outcomes for themselves and their families.

**USAID Administrator Green's Meeting with Mark Lowcock, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs**

March 8, 2018

Readout

U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Mark Green met yesterday with the United Nations (UN) Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Mark Lowcock, who serves as UN Emergency Relief Coordinator and head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Administrator Green expressed the U.S. Government's support for OCHA's ongoing reform process, and the importance of pursuing strong initiatives to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse in the humanitarian sector.

**DFID** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development>

*Selected Press Releases*

**International Women's Day: Penny Mordaunt pays tribute to Jo Cox and calls for gender equality to be made a reality**

7 March 2018 DFID Press release

**International Development Secretary calls on the global community to 'end the cycle of crisis' in Somalia**

6 March 2018 DFID Press release

**Actions to tackle exploitation and abuse agreed with UK charities**

5 March 2018 DFID Press release

**Safeguarding Summit: Statements by the International Development Secretary and DFID's Permanent Secretary**

5 March 2018 DFID and Charity Commission Press release

## **Mordaunt leads aid sector action on sexual exploitation at landmark summit**

5 March 2018 DFID Press release

**ECHO** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://ec.europa.eu/echo/en/news>

08/03/2018

### **EU aid brings relief to the victims of earthquake in Papua New Guinea**

Following the 7.5-magnitude earthquake which struck Papua New Guinea on 26th February, the European Union is providing €110 000 to channel emergency assistance to the affected communities in the heavily impacted areas of Southern Highlands and Hela...

### **International Women's Day 2018**

08/03/2018

To mark the occasion of International Women's Day 2018, the European Commission issued a joint statement to reaffirm the EU's commitment to gender equality. "Equality between women and men is one of the fundamental values of the European Union..."

### **Statement by Commissioner Christos Stylianides and High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini on the situation in Eastern Ghouta and elsewhere in Syria**

06/03/2018

"Eleven days ago, on 24 February 2018, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted Resolution 2401, which requires all parties to the Syrian conflict to immediately cease hostilities for at least 30 consecutive days throughout Syria to enable the..."

### **EU and Tunisia agree to boost civil protection & disaster management cooperation**

06/03/2018

Today the European Commission signed an administrative arrangement with Tunisia to boost ties in civil protection and disaster risk management. The document, signed at this year's European Civil Protection Forum in Brussels, outlines key areas of...

.....

**African Union** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.au.int/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

March 08, 2018

### **High Level Meeting Between AUC Chairperson and U.S. Secretary of State**

Addis Ababa (8 March 2018): African Union (AU) Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat today hosted U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa. Both sides reaffirmed their strong commitment to the shared goal of a stable and prosperous Africa. Their conversation today builds upon their previous meeting in November on the margins of the annual U.S.-AU High Level Dialogue in Washington D.C. The United States was the first country to establish a mission uniquely dedicated to the AU in 2006.

During their meeting, Chairperson Faki and Secretary Tillerson reinforced their commitment to common priorities. The AU has made significant progress on its institutional reform process and on regional integration, including the planned signing of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, and the launch of the Single African Air Transport Market. The United States applauds the work of the AU's Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), which has successfully tracked and responded to disease outbreaks on the continent.



The AU has named 2018 as the year of "Winning the Fight against Corruption," and the United States supports the AU's fight against all forms of corruption to improve the conditions for free and fair trade and enable the environment for business and good governance.

Meeting against the backdrop of International Women's Day, the AU and the United States wish to join their efforts to those who decry gender-based corruption, inequality of opportunity, harassment, and gender-based violence...

March 05, 2018

**Briefing of the African Union and European Union Member States to update on the situation of African Migrant in Libya**

**ASEAN** Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.asean.org/news>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

**ASEAN Secretary-General calls for holistic approach to inclusiveness**

TOKYO, 8 March 2018 – Speaking at the OECD Southeast Asia Ministerial Forum, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dato Lim Jock Hoi, highlighted the need for a holistic and multidimensional approach to ensure inclusiveness in ASEAN Community building. Addressing the topic of Inclusiveness through Connectivity, the Secretary-General emphasised the need for cross-pillar and cross-sectoral interactions in ASEAN, with [...]

**European Commission** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://europa.eu/rapid/search-result.htm?query=18&locale=en&page=1>  
06/03/2018 -

**Statement by High Representative/Vice-President Federica Mogherini and Commissioner Christos Stylianides on the situation in Eastern Ghouta and elsewhere in Syria**

European Commission - Statement Brussels, 6 March 2018

Eleven days ago, on 24 February 2018, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2401, which requires all parties to the Syrian conflict to immediately cease hostilities for at least 30 consecutive days throughout Syria to enable the delivery of humanitarian assistance and evacuation of the critically sick and wounded...

**OECD** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.oecd.org/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*Website not responding at inquiry*

**Organization of American States (OAS)** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.oas.org/en/>

March 9, 2018

**OAS and IIN to Present Report on Empowerment and Protection of Child and Adolescent Rights on the Internet**

The Organization of American States (OAS) and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) will launch on Monday, March 12 at 11:00 EDT (15:00 GMT) in Washington DC the regional report: "Guidelines for Empowering and Protecting Child and Adolescent Rights on the Internet

in Central America and the Dominican Republic.” The event seeks to encourage the adoption of public policies to protect the rights of children and adolescents focused on closing digital gaps that include cross-cutting and coordinated actions...

March 8, 2018

### **Secretary General's Statement on Oswaldo Paya Prize**

Freedom is idea and action, it is our essential human right without which the right to life has no meaning and completely loses its dignity.

Freedom gives us the possibility of political dissent, which is the very essence of the working of a society and a basic right for the construction of a political system. The Cuban regime has robbed its country, its society and its citizens of the basic principle of Martí: the greatness of peoples depends upon the independence of individuals.

Today, at the Oswaldo Payá Award ceremony, IDEA International has been recognized for its unceasing work for democracy in the region. It is a fair and deserved tribute to IDEA, who was going to be represented by the ex Presidents Andrés Pastrana and Jorge Quiroga; but more than that, much more, it is a tribute to a free Cuban, whose life was marked by opposition to totalitarianism and the search for a future of peace in which values that we take as guaranteed, like democracy and human rights, are a reality for the millions of Cubans who live in their country. This commitment to achieve freedom of conscience and the search for wellbeing for millions of Cubans was the reason for which he gave his life. Literally.

There is nothing mystical about hate, or the lack of freedoms, or imposed misery.

But there is a future for Cubans that they have been able to achieve in other countries where, due to their wonderful talent and ability, they have become the essence of the vigor and development of these societies. We are sure that all Cubans will be able to build this in their own country once they are free to decide their political, economic, and social destiny.

The worst kind of interventionism that exists in the international community is giving impunity to a dictatorship.

To silence the voice of the people, to stop them from deciding their own future is neither revolutionary nor leftist. Revolutionaries that our history has taught us - whether Artigas or Martí - fought to return to the sovereign its voice and power.

The left that is a point of reference, for me, is the one that faced dictatorships demanding the rights of the people.

March 7, 2018

### **Message from the OAS Secretary General on International Women's Day**

**Organization of Islamic Cooperation** (OIC) [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.oic-oci.org/home/?lan=en>

07/03/2018

### **OIC Calls upon Government to take immediate action to protect Muslims in Sri Lanka**

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), expresses serious concern at the repeated incidents of violence by extremist mobs against Muslims in Sri Lanka on 28th February and 4th March 2018.

07/03/2018

### **Celebration of Women's International Day**

On the occasion of the Women's International Day on 8 March, Dr. Yousef bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), stressed that this day is of special importance for the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which makes it a priority to support the role of women in the development of society and to help them overcome difficulties and the challenges they face in achieving their rights.

07/03/2018

### **OIC rejects Guatemala's decision to relocate its Embassy to the occupied city of Al-Quds**

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) condemned Guatemala's decision to relocate its Embassy to the occupied city of Al-Quds in mid-May, considering it an illegal step and a violation of UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 487, and the UN General Assembly resolutions on Al-Quds, which reject any actions that might prejudice the historical and legal status of the occupied city of Al-Quds.

06/03/2018

### **Group of 77** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.g77.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

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### **UNCTAD** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/AllPressRelease.aspx>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives]*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **World Customs Organization – WCO** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.wcoomd.org/>

06 March 2018

### **The WCO commemorates the 30th Anniversary of the Harmonized System Convention**

"... the importance of the HS as the flagship product of the WCO and as a universal language for international trade. He gave a review of the long history of the development of a common nomenclature around the world, first as a Customs tariff for revenue collection and then as a multi-purpose tool for a wide range of uses beyond Customs domain. He highlighted its uses including international trade statistics, WTO market-access negotiations, trade facilitation and enforcement, protection of the civil society, commercial policies and economic growth..."

### **WTO - World Trade Organisation** [to 10 March 2018]

[http://www.wto.org/english/news\\_e/news\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/news_e/news_e.htm)

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives]*

8 March 2018

### **WTO event highlights the need for inclusive trade on International Women's Day**

Trade can help accelerate the economic empowerment of women, speakers at a high-level event held at the WTO said on the occasion of International Women's Day (8 March). However,

more must be done to increase women's participation and unlock trade's potential to deliver a more inclusive society, they said.

Remarks by DG Azevêdo

### **WTO chairpersons for 2018**

7 March 2018

The WTO General Council, on 7 March 2018, noted the consensus on a slate of names of chairpersons for WTO bodies.

### **Azevêdo calls on members to avoid triggering an escalation in trade barriers**

5 March 2018

Speaking at a meeting of the whole WTO membership on 5 March, Director-General Roberto Azevêdo responded to a series of announcements from WTO members in recent days which suggested that a range of new, unilateral trade barriers could soon be put into force. DG Azevêdo warned of the risks posed by such measures, calling on members to reflect and avoid escalation.

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### **IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.ipu.org/news/press-releases>

8 March 2018

### **IPU celebrates International Women's Day and calls for action to advance gender equality**

Statement by Senator Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

### **International Court of Justice** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.icj-cij.org/en/press-releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **International Criminal Court (ICC)** [to 10 March 2018]

*Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity*

<https://www.icc-cpi.int/>

09 March 2018

### **Six new judges sworn in today at the seat of the International Criminal Court**

Today, 9 March 2018, six new judges of the International Criminal Court (ICC) were sworn in at a ceremony held at the seat of the Court in The Hague (Netherlands). Judges Luz del Carmen Ibañez Carranza (Peru), Solomy Balungi Bossa (Uganda), Tomoko Akane (Japan), Reine Alapini-Gansou (Benin), Kimberly Prost (Canada) and Rosario Salvatore Aitala (Italy) were elected for nine-year terms during the sixteenth session of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) to the Rome Statute in December 2017...

.....

### **World Bank** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/all>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

### **Europe Needs to Boost Skills and Unshackle Firms as Tech Revolution Risks Leaving Poorest Behind**

BRUSSELS, March 8, 2018 – The rise of technology risks leaving Europe's poorest countries, lagging regions and unskilled workers behind, deepening economic divides within the EU, says a new World Bank...

Date: March 08, 2018 Type: Press Release

### **World Bank Invests US\$3.2 Billion in Adolescent Girls' Education in 2 Years**

Investment surpasses April 2016 commitment three years ahead of schedule

WASHINGTON, March 7, 2018 – The World Bank Group (WBG) has invested US\$3.2 billion over the past two years in education projects...

Date: March 07, 2018 Type: Press Release

### **Managing Fragility Risks and Forced Displacement in Middle-Income Countries: A Focus on Prevention to Build Resilience and Stability**

Fragility, Conflict and Violence: A Global Challenge Fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) has emerged as a critical development challenge for middle-income countries (MICs). This challenges long-held...

Date: March 05, 2018 Type: Brief

### **Africa Can Tackle Its "Severe Learning Crisis," Needs to Focus on Access and Quality, Says World Bank**

DAR ES SALAAM, March 5, 2018 - Africa faces a "severe learning crisis" that undermines economic growth and the well-being of its citizens, according to a new World Bank study. The region has made considerable...

Date: March 05, 2018 Type: Press Release

**IMF** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.imf.org/en/News/Search?type=News+Article>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**African Development Bank Group** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional or Africa-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

### **African Development Bank at the centre of "a great Africa moment": North African Governors**

07/03/2018 - "This is no longer business as usual," African Development Bank President Akinwumi Adesina, said at the start of meetings with Finance Ministers from North African countries, held at the Bank's headquarters.

### **East African Ministers share African Development Bank's vision for the continent**

07/03/2018 - In a historic first, East African Governors of the African Development Bank met with the President Akinwumi Adesina and Executives to discuss economic challenges, opportunities and successes in the continent's fast-growing powerhouse region.

### **Africa's population explosion is a ticking time bomb - African Development Bank Governors**

07/03/2018 - The African Development Bank and its East and North African Governors have stressed the need for urgent measures to match the continent's growing population and youth unemployment, which they likened to a "ticking time bomb."

**Asian Development Bank** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.adb.org/news/releases>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional or Asia-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

10 March 2018

**ADB, ISA Commit to Promote Solar Energy in Asia and Pacific Region**

ADB and ISA signed a cooperation arrangement today to promote solar energy deployment in Asia and the Pacific, including solar power generation, solar based mini-grids, and transmission systems.

8 March 2018

**ADB President Reaffirms Commitment to a More Gender Equal Asia-Pacific**

ADB President Takehiko Nakao today marked International Women's Day by reaffirming his commitment to make ADB a champion of gender equality both in its operations and as an institution.

6 March 2018

**ADB to Extend \$5 Billion for Next 3 Years for Regional Cooperation in South Asia**

Senior officials of member countries of the SASEC program met on 5-6 March in Singapore to review progress of regional projects in transport, trade facilitation, and energy.

**Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.aiib.org/en/news-events/news/index.html>

*[We generally limit coverage to regional or Asia-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of country-level announcements are added each week]*

*No new digest content identified.*

**IFAD** International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.ifad.org/web/latest/news>

05 Mar 2018

**Sweden strengthens partnership to accelerate economic empowerment for rural women**

5 March, ROME – Recognizing the multiplying effects of investing in rural women, the Swedish Government – through its development agency Sida – announced a US\$5 million commitment to the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (JP RWEE).

JP RWEE is an initiative implemented in partnership between the Rome-based United Nations Agencies — the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) – along with UN Women. By joining forces, the four agencies, in collaboration with implementing partners, have generated significant results on the ground...

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## **:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch**

*We will monitor media releases and other announcements around key initiatives, new research and major organizational change from a growing number of global NGOs, collaborations, and initiatives across the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action.*

*This Watch section is intended to be indicative, not exhaustive. We will not include fund raising announcements, programs, events or appeals, and generally not include content which is primarily photo-documentation or video in format.*

### **Action Contre la Faim – Action Against Hunger** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/en>

5 March 2018

#### **Action Against Hunger tightens their procedures for preventing and fighting against sexual violence.**

*Action Against Hunger reiterates that they firmly condemn any illegal or unethical conduct involving humanitarian aid workers. For this reason the Association reaffirms its determination to fight against any situation of sexual violence, exploitation, or harassment that occurs in the humanitarian sector through tightening up its procedures for preventing and handling the same. [See Week in Review above for full text]*

### **Amref Health Africa** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://amref.org/news/news/>

March 7th, 2018

#### **Amref and GE Healthcare Partner to Strengthen Healthcare Systems in Africa**

*GE plans 20 programs, from 13 currently, to reach 3.5 million expectant women, mothers and new-borns and train over 3,000 primary healthcare workers by 2020, together with partners including Amref.*

LONDON, United Kingdom, March 7, 2018/APO Group/

Amref Health Africa and GE to develop joint programs aimed at improving primary and referral care with initial focus on reducing preventable maternal and infant mortality;

First joint program in Ethiopia will equip and develop a sustainable delivery model in 24 healthcare facilities and aims to increase number of healthy mothers and healthy births, expand access to family planning and sustain lower rates of under-five mortality;

Early GE pilot study in Ethiopia shows a 24% reduction in neo-natal mortality in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU);

GE plans 20 programs, from 13 currently, to reach 3.5 million expectant women, mothers and new-borns and train over 3,000 primary healthcare workers by 2020, together with partners including Amref.

March 9th, 2018

#### **Amref joins the world in marking World Kidney Day in Nakuru**

Amref Health Africa in Kenya in partnership with the County Government of Nakuru and AstraZeneca joined the world in marking this year's World Kidney Day on Thursday in Nakuru with calls on residents to enroll on the National Hospital Insurance Fund ([NHIF](#)).

### **Aravind Eye Care System** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.aravind.org/default/currentnewscontent>

*No new digest content identified.*



**BRAC** [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.brac.net/#news>  
March 7, 2018

**A letter from Sir Fazle for International Women's Day**

by Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG

There is one thing we need to understand clearly: patriarchy is an enemy to both men and women. Men need to be saved from patriarchy just as much as women. If we are able to defeat patriarchy, both women and men will gain.

March 6, 2018

**Keeping the kids in school: 200 learning centres for Rohingya children**

by Shamsul Alam

March 4, 2018

**IamBRAC: How to stop child marriage**

by Zaian Chowdhury

"The root of much abuse is child marriage. It has taken a considerable amount of time for people to understand that, and many souls have suffered unimaginably as a result. There is definitely greater awareness now, but it did not happen easily. We must continue to make sure no one allows it to happen."

**CARE International** [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases>  
8th Mar 2018

**Ending violence at work: CARE welcomes wide government support for global ILO treaty**

CARE welcomes wide government support for first ever global treaty on ending violence and harassment at work

7th Mar 2018

**Yemen: More than 3 million women and girls suffering the brunt of the ongoing conflict, warns CARE**

More than 3.25 million women of reproductive age in Yemen are facing increased health and protection risks

5th Mar 2018

**Cholera outbreak in Uganda poses further risk to Congolese refugees**

**Clubhouse International** [to 10 March 2018]  
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>  
*No new digest content identified.*

**Danish Refugee Council** [to 10 March 2018]  
<https://www.drc.dk/news>  
06.03.2018

**The Danish Refugee Council ranked as the world's third best NGO**

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is number three on this year's list of the world's best NGOs. The humanitarian organization has thereby moved up one position from last year's list.

The annual Top 500 has just been published by NGO Advisor. Number one on the list is the microcredit organization BRAC.

**ECPAT** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ecpat.net/news>

6 March 2018

**Boys and very young children at greater risk of most severe online sexual exploitation says new research**

Brussels, Belgium – Ground-breaking research released by INTERPOL and ECPAT International into the online sexual exploitation of children suggests that when online images or videos of child sexual abuse depict boys or very young children, the abuse is more likely to be severe.

The research included a visual analysis of a sample of images and videos stored by INTERPOL in the "ICSE Database," which is an investigative tool containing media seized by law enforcement around the globe and used as evidence in criminal enquiries. Researchers categorized and analyzed its content to better understand patterns of offending and victimization.

The study "found a link between the age of the victim and the severity of abuse." When victims were younger, the abuse was more likely to be extreme. It was also found that very young children were more likely than older victims to be subjected to abuse and exploitation that featured additional "problematic paraphilic themes," (sexual behaviour that risks causing another person psychological distress, injury, or death).

The researchers made the same link between severity of abuse and gender of the victim. "Boys made up a significant proportion of victims and videos and images featuring boys were more likely to show severe abuse material that features problematic paraphilic themes," says the report.

For the full study: "Towards a Global Indicator on Unidentified Victims in Child Sexual Exploitation Material"

**Fountain House** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.fountainhouse.org/about/news-press>

Posted on: March 8, 2018

**Fountain House Receives \$4 Million Gift in Recognition of its Work Helping People with Schizophrenia Recover through a Community System of Care**

*Gift from The Doris Bry Trust signals the largest single donation received by the pioneering 70-year old organization.*

March 8, 2018 – The Doris Bry Trust has awarded Fountain House \$4 Million – the largest single gift in organizational history – in honor of the unwavering commitment of its Medical Director Dr. Ralph Aquila to improve the lives of people with schizophrenia. Dr. Aquila has worked as a community psychiatrist, specialized in schizophrenia, for over 25 years. Together with Fountain House President Kenn Dudek, Aquila created The Sidney R. Baer, Jr. Center - the first integrated health home for people with serious mental illness in the US. The Baer Center provides psychiatric and primary care, while Fountain House, located blocks away from the center, focuses on social interventions in the areas of employment, education, wellness and housing...

**Humanity & Inclusion** [nee Handicap International] [to 10 March 2018]

[http://www.handicap-international.us/press\\_releases](http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases)

*No new digest content identified.*

**Heifer International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/press/press-releases.html>

*No new digest content identified.*

**HelpAge International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.helpage.org/newsroom/press-room/press-releases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**ICRC** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.icrc.org/en/whats-new>

*Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports*

**Syria: 13 aid-filled trucks offloaded in Douma despite close-range fighting**

Teams from the ICRC, SARC and UN on Friday delivered urgently needed aid in Syria despite fighting that took place extremely close to the humanitarian convoy.

09-03-2018 | Statement

**Iraq: Massive challenges, great opportunity in Iraq's new phase, ICRC president says**

Observations on Iraq's new recovery phase from Peter Maurer, the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), who visited Iraq between 6 and 8 March, where he met with President Fouad Massoum and traveled to Anbar and Salahuddin

08-03-2018 | News release

**China: Future lawyers contend for regional title at Hong Kong moot court**

Beijing (ICRC) – Law students from 18 countries across the Asia-Pacific region are testing their knowledge of international humanitarian law (IHL) at the 16th Red Cross regional IHL moot court competition in Hong Kong from 7 to 10 March.

07-03-2018 | News release

**How can we meet children's needs and rights in humanitarian situations?**

Annual Day of Discussion on the Rights of the Child, 37th of the Human Rights Council.

05-03-2018 | Statement

**IFRC** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ifrc.org/en/news-and-media/press-releases/>

*Asia Pacific, Papua New Guinea*

**Red Cross team attempting to reach epicentre of Papua New Guinea earthquake**

Port Moresby/Kuala Lumpur, 6 March 2018 –A Papua New Guinea Red Cross assessment team is trying to reach communities near the epicentre of a deadly 7.5 magnitude earthquake that struck the remote southern highlands more than a week ago. The Red Cross t ...

6 March 2018

**IRC International Rescue Committee** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.rescue.org/press-release-index>

*Selected Press Releases & Statements*

*No new digest content identified.*

**IRCT** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.irct.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Islamic Relief** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.islamic-relief.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Landsea** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.landesa.org/press-and-media-categories/press-releases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Medecins du Monde** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.medecinsdumonde.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news-stories/press/press-releases>

*Press release*

**[CAR: Survivors Describe Rape and Kidnapping by Local Armed Group Outside Bossangoa](#)**

March 08, 2018

A group of women were taken hostage and raped by a local armed group in western Central African Republic, according to ten survivors who arrived at Bossangoa Hospital for emergency medical care on March 3, said the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) today.

*Press release*

**[Syria: Medics Report Massive Casualties in Eastern Ghouta](#)**

March 08, 2018

BRUSSELS/NEW YORK—A relentless military offensive in [Syria](#)'s besieged eastern Ghouta enclave is causing widespread disaster and massive casualties, with at least 4,829 people wounded and 1,005 dead within two weeks, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today, drawing on data from hospitals and clinics that MSF supports.

*Press release*

**[MSF Response to New WHO Guidelines for HIV-Related Cryptococcal Disease](#)**

March 07, 2018

The international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) welcomes the launch of updated guidance by the World Health Organization (WHO) this week on the diagnosis, treatment, and management of cryptococcal disease, an opportunistic infection mainly affecting people living with advanced stages of HIV/AIDS.

**Mercy Corps** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.mercycorps.org/press-room/releases>

*South Sudan*, March 6, 2018

### **Mercy Corps: Two Options For People In South Sudan – Starve Or Flee**

*Every day, 9,000 people lose access to food*

JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN – The global organization Mercy Corps warns that every day, from now until April, an estimated 9,000 people in South Sudan will lose access to food. Fueled by the protracted conflict and subsequent massive displacement of people, the crisis is on the verge of catastrophic.

"We are horrified to witness the fast deterioration of the crisis in South Sudan," says Francesco Lanino, Mercy Corps' acting country director in South Sudan. "People are running out of time. They have only two options left: starve or flee." ...

### **Operation Smile** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.operationssmile.org/press-office>

#### **Program Schedule**

*Here's what we're doing worldwide to make a difference in the lives of children who deserve every opportunity for safe surgical care.*

### **OXFAM** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases>

6 March 2018

#### **13,000 still trapped on Greek islands**

As the two-year anniversary of the EU-Turkey deal nears on March 18, 2018, thousands of asylum seekers are trapped on the Aegean islands in deplorable conditions and without access to adequate protection and basic services, nine human rights and humanitarian organisations including Oxfam said today. The Greek government should act immediately to end the containment policy that traps asylum seekers in these conditions on the islands and move them to safety on the mainland.

### **Norwegian Refugee Council** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.nrc.no/>

Published 09. Mar 2018

#### **Giving displaced families the freedom of choice**

Ephrem Chiruzi

Thousands of displaced families in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) struggle to make ends meet. With cash distributions made available by our teams in the field over 8,000 families are able to buy exactly what they need.

Published 08. Mar 2018

#### **Women's day: Displaced women face extra hardship**

Hilde Kvinge Skogseth

All displaced people face challenges, but among the most vulnerable of those in search of protection are women and girls. "Being a woman is harder when you are displaced," says Director of NRC's field operations, Magnhild Vasset.

### **Pact** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.pactworld.org/>

February 20, 2018

*No new digest content identified.*

**Partners In Health** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.pih.org/blog>

Mar 05, 2018

**#ThanksToHer: Kazakhstan TB Doctor Has Changed Thousands of Lives**

When asked how many tuberculosis (TB) patients she's treated over the past 20 years in Kazakhstan, Dr. Zhenisgul Daugarina smiled before giving numbers for just the past three. "Over the past three years, 268 patients have been discharged from (our) MDR/XDR-TB treatment department, and another 568 have been transferred to other units to continue treatment," she said.

**PATH** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.path.org/news/index.php>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Plan International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://plan-international.org/about-plan/resources/media-centre>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Save The Children** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.savethechildren.net/news>

*Selected Press Releases*

Wednesday 7 March 2018

**Yemen: Don't Bomb Children**

London, March 7, 2018 – As the UK Government welcomes the Saudi Crown Prince's first official visit to London, Save the Children has unveiled a life-size statue of a child outside Parliament. The bronze-like statue is a reminder of the dangers that Yemeni children face every day and the risks of British-made bombs fuelling the violence.

Tuesday 6 March 2018

**SYRIA ALERT**

March 5, 2018 – A Save the Children partner in Syria has been able to deliver blankets and warm clothing to hundreds of besieged residents in Eastern Ghouta. These winter kits<sup>[1]</sup> came from existing stock and not from a UN aid convoy that arrived today.

**SOS-Kinderdorf International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>

08.03.2018

*International Women's Day 2018*

**Women across SOS Children's Villages push for progress**

SOS Children's Villages is committed to empowering girls around the world, ensuring they have the opportunities, support and confidence to achieve their dreams. Crucial for this is giving girls role models – successful, inspiring and ambitious women who make a difference in the lives of children, families and the communities around them.

To commemorate International Women's Day 2018, inspiring women from across SOS

Children's Villages told us how they, through their various roles in the organisation, are working to press for progress and achieve gender equality.

**Tostan** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.tostan.org>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Women for Women International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.womenforwomen.org/press-releases>

March 8, 2018

**Celebrating International Women's Day with Stories of Courage**

On Wednesday, March 7, 2018, Women for Women International hosted an inspiring event featuring stories of courage from a diverse range of speakers at the National Museum for Women in the Arts.

**World Vision** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://wvi.org/>

Monday, March 5th 2018

**World Vision International Announces CEO Transition**

World Vision International, one of the largest global development and humanitarian NGOs dedicated to the well-being of children and communities, today announced that President and Chief Executive Officer, Kevin Jenkins, will transition out of the organisation in 2019.

"It has been a tremendous honour for me to serve in World Vision with an exceptional team of passionate colleagues," said Jenkins. "I'm confident that the great start on our new global strategy will lead to even greater impact for the well-being of vulnerable children going forward. World Vision's future direction is clear and our momentum is strong."

Over the last eight years, World Vision has expanded its reach and now serves over 40 million children in about 100 countries with life-saving assistance in the wake of humanitarian disasters and longer-term development projects to rebuild some of the world's most vulnerable communities...

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**Center for Media Ethics and Responsibility/CMFR** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://cmfr-phil.org/media-ethics-responsibility/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Electronic Frontiers Foundation**

<https://www EFF.ORG/>

*Deeplinks Blog* by Sophia Cope | March 9, 2018

**Senators Introduce New Bill to Protect Digital Privacy at the Border**

Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Steve Daines (R-MT) introduced a new bill ([S. 2462](#)) that would better protect the privacy of travelers whose electronic devices—like cell phones and laptops—are searched and seized by border agents. While the new bill doesn't require a probable cause warrant across the board...

**Freedom House** [to 10 March 2018]



<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

*Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research  
Press Releases*

**Cuba: Government Denies Entry to Pro-Democracy Figures**

March 8, 2018

Cuban authorities refused to allow two former Latin American presidents to enter the country to attend a democracy-related award ceremony this week.

**Transparency International** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.transparency.org/news/pressreleases/>

10 Mar 2018

**Transparency International condemns intimidation of its national chapter in Republic of the Congo**

Transparency International, the global anti-corruption organisation, strongly condemns the attack against its chapter in the Republic of the Congo, Rencontre pour la paix et les droits de l'homme (RPDH), and calls on judicial authorities to ensure a full investigation.

9 Mar 2018

**New report finds Afghan government's anti-corruption efforts insufficient for its SDG commitments**

The Afghan government's anti-corruption efforts are insufficient to achieve the targets set out by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), according to a new report by Transparency International.

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**ChildFund Alliance** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CONCORD** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://concordeurope.org/news-and-events/>

Mar 7, 2018

**New Report on Funding Global Citizenship Education in Europe**

While Global Citizenship Education is recognised by many as a powerful tool to resolve the current global challenges our world is facing, the level of investment by national governments remains limited. Why is that? To answer this situation, CONCORD launches its new report "Global Citizenship Education – How much do we care?". Based on a research across all EU Member States (+ Norway), this publication reveals the level of funding dedicated to Global Citizenship Education in Europe between 2011 and 2015.

**Disasters Emergency Committee** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.dec.org.uk/media-centre>

*[Action Aid, Age International, British Red Cross, CAFOD, Care International, Christian Aid, Concern Worldwide, Islamic Relief, Oxfam, Plan UK, Save the Children, Tearfund and World  
No new digest content identified.*

**The Elders** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://theelders.org/news-media>

*Press release 7 March 2018*

**The Elders warn against US, Russian nuclear strategy escalation**

The Elders warn against provocative statements from the United States and Russia and urge the leaders of both countries to work together to avoid a dangerous escalation of nuclear tensions.

*News 5 March 2018*

**Celebrating the global movement for women's rights, equality and justice**

As this year's International Women's Day approaches, [Hina Jilani](#) reflects on the impressive achievements of global women's protest movements over the past year and the barriers that remain to overcome.

**END Fund** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.end.org/news>

*Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Evidence Aid** [to 10 March 2018]

[www.evidenceaid.org](http://www.evidenceaid.org)

March 9, 2018

**Evidence Aid is seeking a Chief Executive Officer**

**Gavi** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.gavi.org/library/news/press-releases/>

08 March 2018

**Gavi named amongst highest scorers in gender equality report**

Global Health 50/50 release review of gender-related policies at 140 global health organisations.

**Global Fund** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/?topic=&type=NEWS;&country=>

*News*

**Global Fund Welcomes New Report on Gender Equality**

08 March 2018

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria applauded today's release of the Global Health 50/50 Report, citing steep challenges in global health related to gender equality.

**Hilton Prize Coalition** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://prizecoalition.charity.org/>

*An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients*

*No new digest content identified.*

**ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**INEE** – an international network for education in emergencies [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.ineesite.org/en/news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**InterAction** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.interaction.org/>

Mar 6, 2018

**[InterAction Applauds Introduction of House and Senate Bills to Reauthorize the Global Food Security Act](#)**

WASHINGTON—InterAction applauds the introduction of bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the Global Food Security Act of 2016. Introduced by Senators Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Bob Casey (D-PA) and Representatives Chris Smith (R-NJ) and Betty McCollum (D-MN), these bills both call to extend the vital legislation for multiple years in order to build upon existing programmatic successes and strengthen U.S. agricultural innovation. Reauthorization in 2018 would continue the bipartisan commitment in Congress to invest in life-saving food security programs and fight global hunger...

**Start Network** [to 10 March 2018]

[http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U\\_O7FR98E](http://www.start-network.org/news-blog/#.U9U_O7FR98E)

07 Mar 18 *Blog Post*

**[Developing women leaders in the humanitarian sector](#)**

by Haben Habteslasie

07 Mar 18 *Blog Post*

**[Women's leadership in preparedness – why does it matter?](#)**

By Darja Markek, Project Officer for the Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme Learning Project

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**Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP)** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.alnap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**CHS Alliance** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://chsalliance.org/news-events/news>

05/03/2018

**[What do YOU think is the most important quality or competency a humanitarian worker should have?](#)**

Asa Lelei works with Action Against Hunger in Bungoma, Kenya, supporting a project called Systems Enhancement for Transformative Health (SETH), which focuses on building health systems. On the occasion of the release of the Core Humanitarian Competency Framework (CHCF) and a set of accompanying tools, including ready-made training modules and a video clip, we had a chat with him and asked what competency he considers essential as a humanitarian worker.

05/03/2018

**Process Excellence and the CHS: what are the similarities? - Coffee with Andrew Parris, Medair, Switzerland**

In our previous coffee with Andrew, he shared how the similarity between community development and his area of expertise – Lean – led him to join World Vision in 2008 and Medair in 2017. In this virtual coffee with him, we explore the alignment between Process Excellence and the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS).

05/03/2018

**Using the CHS to strengthen safeguarding mechanisms - CHS Alliance & HQAI issue open letter**

On the occasion of the Safeguarding Summit that is hosted by DFID and the Charity Commission in London today, Judith F. Greenwood, Executive Director of the CHS Alliance, and Pierre Hauselmann, Executive Director of the Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative (HQAI), issued an open letter to invite the sector to use the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) to strengthen safeguarding mechanisms.

**Development Initiatives** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://devinit.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**EHLRA/R2HC** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.elrha.org/resource-hub/news/>

**Annual Call for Proposals**

*R2HC 6TH annual CALL will be launched in June 2018*

R2HC aims to improve health outcomes by strengthening the evidence base for public health interventions in humanitarian crises.

**The Sphere Project** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.sphereproject.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP)** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://phap.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

.....

**Center for Global Development** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.cgdev.org/page/press-center>

*Publications*

**Perspective in Economic Evaluations of Healthcare Interventions in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: One Size Does Not Fit All**

3/9/18

Kalipso Chalkidou , Anthony J. Culyer and Cassandra Nemzoff

As developing nations are increasingly adopting economic evaluation as a means of informing their own investment decisions, new questions emerge. The right answer to the question

“which perspective?” is the one tailored to these local specifics. We conclude that there is no one-size-fits-all and that the one who pays must set or have a major say in setting the perspective.

### **In the Face of China’s Ambition, US Policy Must Be Defined by a Positive Agenda in the Developing World**

3/8/18

Scott Morris

In his appearance before the committee, Morris outlined findings from newly CGD published analysis exploring the debt implications of China’s Belt & Road Initiative—and offered his views on what it should mean for US global engagement.

**ODI** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.odi.org/media-hub/press-room>

*Selected Research/Publications*

### **'We girls also have ambitions!': Exploring opportunities for and challenges to quality education for adolescents in Gaza**

Briefing papers | March 2018 | Bassam Abu Hamad, Ingrid Gercama, Nicola Jones

This briefing paper explores Gazan adolescent girls’ and boys’ access to relevant and quality educational services.

### **Empowering adolescent girls in developing countries: gender justice and norm change**

Research reports and studies | March 2018 | Caroline Harper, Nicola Jones, Anita Ghimire, Rachel Marcus, Grace Kyomuhendo Bantebya

This book explores the detrimental impact of discriminatory gender norms on adolescent girls' lives across very different contexts.

### **10 things to know about climate finance in 2017**

Publication series | March 2018 | Charlene Watson, Neil Bird, Liane Schalatek

This booklet of infographics breaks down the 10 things you need to know about climate finance in 2017.

**Urban Institute** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.urban.org/publications>

*Publications*

### **Collaborating to Expand City Capacity in Baltimore**

Housed in University of Baltimore’s Jacob France Institute, Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance—Jacob France Institute (BNIA-JFI) supports local government through its wide topical expertise, deep knowledge of Baltimore’s neighborhoods, and strong connections to community groups. Examples include informing the federal-local Urban Waters collaborative in its environmental activities, setting ambitious

[Kathryn L.S. Pettit](#)

March 9, 2018

*Brief*

### **Partnering for Better Policy in Central Ohio**

Thoughtwell, a nonprofit research, evaluation, and data center based in Columbus, partners with its city and county governments to provide analysis to guide public decisionmaking and bring together allies on community issues. As one example, Thoughtwell conducted a detailed

survey of conditions for more than two dozen large apartment complexes on the city's north side. Linking data from a field survey, administrative

[Sara McTarnaghan](#)

March 9, 2018

*Brief*

### **Building Public Data Capacity and Partnerships for Racial Equity in Oakland**

Urban Strategies Council, a regional research and advocacy organization in Oakland, California, works alongside its local governments to advance racial equity by coordinating cross-sector action coalitions, offering technical assistance on using data in planning and operations, and providing fresh analysis in key areas such as health, education, and criminal justice. As one example, the Council supports the Oakland-Alameda

[Sara McTarnaghan](#)

March 9, 2018

*Brief*

### **Improving Public Decisionmaking: Local Governments and Data Intermediaries**

Local governments should engage with data intermediary organizations, such as the members of the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, to more effectively identify priority issues, find new allies, and devise data-driven policies and programs. In addition to their topical, analytic, and community engagement expertise, these organizations bring an understanding of local context, a reputation for impartial analysis, and a

[Kathryn L.S. Pettit](#), [G. Thomas Kingsley](#)

March 9, 2018

*Brief*

### **FHFA's Evaluation of Credit Scores Misses the Mark**

This comment letter responds to the Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA) December 2017 request for input on the government-sponsored enterprises' (GSEs') requirements for credit scores used in mortgage underwriting. The authors express their support for FHFA's efforts to upgrade the outdated credit score requirements and point out that FHFA's thinking does not go far enough because it does not encourage greater use of

[Karan Kaul](#), [Laurie Goodman](#)

March 8, 2018

*Brief*

### **A Conversation about Housing Finance Reform**

2 Urban Institute and 3 Milken Institute scholars discuss a draft bill under discussion as of March, 2018 in the Senate Banking Committee to reform the housing finance system. Given the breadth and the complexity of the bill, which would dramatically overhaul the nation's housing finance system, the conversation is not intended to be comprehensive. It is instead an informal dialogue about what this group finds most interesting

[Laurie Goodman](#), [Eric Kaplan](#), [Michael Stegman](#), [Ted Tozer](#), [Jim Parrott](#)

March 5, 2018

*Research Report*

**World Economic Forum** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://agenda.weforum.org/news/>

*News* 06 Mar 2018

**World Economic Forum Convenes New Consortium to Address Fintech Cybersecurity**

- A group of financial service experts, convened by the World Economic Forum, proposes 19 solutions for cybersecurity threats, the number-one risk to the financial services industry
- Acting on the recommendations, a newly created consortium consisting of Citigroup, Zurich Insurance Group, Kabbage, HPE and DTCC will develop cybersecurity assessment for fintechs and data aggregators
- Read more about the new initiative [here](#)

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### **:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch**

*We will primarily monitor press/media releases announcing key initiatives and new research from a growing number of global foundations and donors engaged in the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.*

#### **Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.alleninstitute.org/what-we-do/frontiers-group/news-press/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **BMGF - Gates Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Annie E. Casey Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.aecf.org/newsroom/>

Posted March 10, 2018

#### **[Residents, Partners, Casey Foundation Celebrate Groundbreaking for Atlanta's Pittsburgh Yards](#)**

Residents and development partners reached a much-anticipated milestone today with the groundbreaking celebration for Pittsburgh Yards™, a unique mixed-use project expressly aimed at improving the lives of people in Atlanta's Pittsburgh neighborhood and the surrounding Southside communities.

#### **Blue Meridian Partners** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.emcf.org/capital-aggregation/blue-meridian-partners/>

*Blue Meridian Partners is a new capital aggregation collaboration that plans to invest at least \$1 billion in high-performance nonprofits that are poised to have truly national impact for economically disadvantaged children and youth.*

*No new digest content identified.*

#### **Clinton Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.clintonfoundation.org/press-releases-and-statements>

*Press Release*

March 8, 2018



**MEDIA ADVISORY: Clinton Foundation, The San Diego Foundation, County of San Diego Announce Bold Action Steps to Improve Health and Well-Being of San Diego Children & Families**

**Co Impact** [to 10 March 2018]

[www.co-impact.io](http://www.co-impact.io)

*Co-Impact is a global philanthropic collaborative for systems change focused on improving the lives of millions of people around the world.*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Ford Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>

*News* 27 February 2018

**50th Anniversary of the Kerner Commission Report: Poll Results on the Coverage of Race in the News Media**

Timed to the 50th anniversary of the Kerner Commission Report, the Ford Foundation in collaboration with Quadrant Strategies conducted a study focused on the perceptions about the coverage of race in the media

*Read the full poll report with analysis here.*

**GHIT Fund** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.ghitfund.org/>

*GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that devastate the world's poorest people. Other funders include six Japanese pharmaceutical •*

*No new digest content identified.*

**Grameen Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.grameenfoundation.org/news-events/press-room>

03/07/2018

**Grameen Foundation and Partners Launch Global Initiative: Women and Girls Empowered**

... Grameen Foundation is pleased to announce its engagement in Women and Girls Empowered (WAGE), a new, four-year global programming consortium to advance the status of women and girls worldwide. Led by the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative ([ABA ROLI](#)), other key partners include the [Center for International Private Enterprise](#) (CIPE), and [Search for Common Ground](#). WAGE aims to support women's economic empowerment; improve the prevention of and response to gender-based violence; and advance women's roles in peacebuilding, mediation, and reform processes.

Grameen Foundation will lead, with CIPE, WAGE's work on women's economic empowerment, bringing to bear our deep expertise in the training, education and services needed to strengthen women entrepreneurs and the institutions that serve them...

**William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://hewlett.org/latest-updates/>

March 7, 2018

**Figuring out the future of work: What's missing from the story?**

By Ruth Levine

Robots. The gig economy. Artificial intelligence. Youth unemployment. Demography, open borders, schooling based on last century's needs, and universal basic income. If I had you at "robots," then you might be one of the thousands of people in think tanks, international agencies, global consulting firms, private foundations, and tech giants focusing your intellectual energies on...

**Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news>

*Our News*

**[This National Catholic Sisters Week, check out how Catholic sisters are advancing global human development](#)**

March 8, 2018

**IKEA Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.ikeafoundation.org/category/press-releases/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.hhmi.org/news>

Mar 06 2018

*Research*

**[Mosquito Brain Atlas Aims to Reveal Neural Circuitry of Behavior](#)**

*Summary*

HHMI researchers have built [mosquitobrains.org](http://mosquitobrains.org), the first map of the female mosquito brain. The new resource may ultimately uncover the circuitry behind biting and other behaviors.

**Kaiser Family Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

[http://www.kff.org/search/?post\\_type=press-release](http://www.kff.org/search/?post_type=press-release)

March 6, 2018 *News Release*

**[KFF Relocates to San Francisco](#)**

San Francisco, Calif. – The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) announced today that it has relocated its headquarters to 185 Berry Street in downtown San Francisco. KFF's new headquarters in the city's China Basin neighborhood is located just opposite AT&T ballpark at the water, and will feature an event space...

**Aga Khan Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-foundation>

6 March 2018

**[Global Pluralism Award now inviting submissions from worldwide leaders of inclusion and respect for diversity](#)**

Ottawa, Canada, – The Global Centre for Pluralism has launched a worldwide call for submissions to the Global Pluralism Award from individuals and organisations that champion respect for diversity. Through their remarkable achievements, Award winners are contributing in innovative and high-impact ways to building societies where diversity is respected and valued. Individuals, businesses, academics, civil society and government bodies from around the world are eligible for the Award. Submissions can be made at [award.pluralism.ca](http://award.pluralism.ca) until April 30, 2018.

Three Award winners will be selected by an independent, international Jury chaired by the Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, former Prime Minister of Canada. Each recipient will receive \$50,000 CAD to further their work. Additional in-kind assistance may be provided, including engagements in each recipient's country to raise the profile of their achievements. The Award will be presented in 2019 at the international headquarters of the Global Centre for Pluralism in Ottawa, Canada.

"The Award celebrates the often challenging and overlooked work of those tackling problems of exclusion in societies around the world. These inspiring leaders are seeking to change the negative mindsets and narratives that often shape responses to diversity. Their impressive work treats differences as assets rather than liabilities and directly supports the Global Centre for Pluralism's vision of a world where differences are valued and diverse societies thrive," said John McNee, Secretary General of the Global Centre for Pluralism.

In its first edition, the Global Pluralism Award received over 200 submissions from 43 countries. The finalists came from sectors ranging from human rights law to conflict mediation to indigenous rights to technology. By engaging with a wide range of professionals and fields of practice, the Award affirms that the promotion of pluralism is not the sole responsibility of governments or non-profits, but of society as a whole.

The Global Pluralism Award is an initiative of the Global Centre for Pluralism. Founded in Ottawa by His Highness the Aga Khan in partnership with the Government of Canada, the Centre was created to understand the dynamics of pluralism and to advance positive responses to the challenge of living peacefully and productively together in diverse societies.

**Kellogg Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.wkkf.org/news-and-media#pp=10&p=1&f1=news>

*No new digest content identified.*

**MacArthur Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.macfound.org/>

March 7, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**Human Rights Violations by Mexican Soldiers Met with Impunity**

A report by the Washington Office on Latin America analyzes the Mexican military's participation in human rights violations and finds accountability for crimes committed by soldiers against civilians to be virtually nonexistent. The MacArthur-supported report finds that out of 505 investigations into crimes committed by members of the military between 2012 and 2016, only 16 cases resulted in a conviction. Among other recommendations, report researchers urge the Mexican state to prohibit the participation of military personnel in crime investigation and to reserve this responsibility for civilian authorities.

March 7, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**Advocating for Transparency in Mexico**

A Spanish-language report examines cases of severe human rights violations in which the Mexican state has failed to disclose information, crafted untrue narratives, or engaged in tactics to intimidate victims and their families.

March 7, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**A Fresh Approach to Evaluating Education Systems**

A project by the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution provides an alternative and complementary approach to existing methods of evaluating education quality around the globe.

March 7, 2018 - *Grantee Research*

**[Post-Conflict Bird Tourism Could Bring Economic Benefit to Colombia](#)**

An analysis by the Conservation Strategy Fund finds that more than 278,000 North American bird watchers are interested in visiting Colombia, following a 2016 peace agreement between the government and FARC guerrillas.

**Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.moore.org/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Open Society Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/issues/media-information>

March 9, 2018

**[Q&A: The Upstart Newspaper Exposing Corruption in Afghanistan](#)**

Seizing the opportunity created by a severe lack of independent news organizations, a group of young people in Kabul are using journalism to hold corrupt government officials accountable for abusing their power

**David and Lucile Packard Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.packard.org/news/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Pew Charitable Trusts** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/about/news-room/press-releases>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Rockefeller Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/news-media/>

*No new digest content identified.*

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>

March 7, 2018 *Blog Post*

**[Help Communities Prepare for, Withstand, and Recover From Disaster](#)**

Tracy Costigan

RWJF wants to learn how communities change norms, tackle inequities, and become more resilient. Community-partnered research is needed to understand how change happens so communities can turn the science of resilience into widely adopted practice.

Mar 06 2018

**[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Selects 2018 Culture of Health Prize Finalists](#)**

Ten communities have been chosen as finalists for the 2018 RWJF Culture of Health Prize. The Prize recognizes communities that come together around a shared vision to ensure that better health flourishes for everyone.

### **Science Philanthropy Alliance** [to 10 March 2018]

<http://www.sciencephilanthropyalliance.org/what-we-do/news/>

*"...a group of organizations working together to increase philanthropic support for basic scientific research on a global basis..."*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **SDG Philanthropy Platform**

<http://sdgfunders.org/>

*SDG Philanthropy Platform is a collaboration between philanthropy and the greater international development community led by Foundation Center, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, and supported by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Ford Foundation and the MasterCard Foundation, the Brach Family Foundation, and other key organizations such as Asociación de Fundaciones Empresariales (AFE) in Colombia, Brach Family Charitable Foundation, CAF America, Council on Foundations, East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG), European Foundation Centre, Filantropi Indonesia (FI), GlobalGiving, The Humanitarian Forum, World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists, and Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS).*

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**

<https://sloan.org/about/press>

*No new digest content identified.*

### **Wellcome Trust** [to 10 March 2018]

<https://wellcome.ac.uk/news>

*News / Published: 9 March 2018*

#### **The story of a superbug from genome to advocacy**

*A 'typhoid superbug' in Pakistan has been in headlines around the world. Researchers identified a typhoid strain that has become resistant to multiple antibiotics. Elizabeth Klemm, one of those researchers, tells the story behind the headlines.*

The genetic structure of a strain of the bacteria that causes typhoid which is resistant to five classes of antibiotics has been uncovered by scientists at the [Wellcome Sanger Institute \(opens in a new tab\)](#) with collaborators at Public Health England and Aga Khan University, Pakistan.

There is currently a major outbreak of this highly resistant typhoid fever in Pakistan, and there has been a single case in the UK following travel, which was isolated and treated.

This new study shows that the typhoid strain behind the outbreak has acquired an additional piece of DNA and so has become resistant to multiple antibiotics, including a third-generation antibiotic.

The results, [published in mBio \(opens in a new tab\)](#), suggest that treatment options are running out for typhoid, and there is an urgent need for more stringent preventative strategies including vaccines...

*News*

**[Sir John Sulston \(1942-2018\)](#)**

9 March 2018

*We were deeply saddened to hear about the death of Sir John Sulston this week. John was an outstanding figure in UK biological and medical science and in Wellcome's history.*

For his remarkable work on the development of cells within the nematode worm *C. elegans*, he was rightfully recognised with the Nobel Prize in 2002.

But it was his leadership of the UK's contribution to the Human Genome Project that was fundamental not only to the success of the project but also to the sequence being made freely available for all to use.

John's close relationship with Wellcome began in the early 1990s when he was awarded the Trust's biggest grant up to that point – £46.5m – to establish a genome sequencing centre at Hinxton near Cambridge. Over the next decade, he developed the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute into one of the world's leading centres for genome science.

John was adamant that the human DNA code should be released into the public domain so that other researchers could study and use it. This principle was adopted at the 1996 meeting of HUGO in Bermuda, and two years later John led the acceleration of the project – with funding from Wellcome to deliver one-third of the genome – to ensure that private interests did not threaten this accessibility.

The completion of the human genome in 2003 (a draft having been published in 2001) was a triumph for John, his team at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, and the global community of researchers who worked on the project.

Eliza Manningham-Buller, Chair of Wellcome, said: "I am deeply saddened to hear of John's death. His contribution to genetics was unparalleled and in setting up the Wellcome Sanger Institute he changed the course of genomics research. It was an honour to know him and sympathies go to his family."

Jeremy Farrar, Director of Wellcome, said: "John was a brilliant scientist and a wonderful, kind and principled man. His leadership was critical to the establishment of the Wellcome Sanger Institute and the Human Genome Project, one of the most important scientific endeavours of the past century.

"His dedication to free access to scientific information was the basis of the open access movement, and helped ensure that the reference human genome sequence was published openly for the benefit of all humanity. It's just one of the ways that John's approach set the standard for researchers everywhere."

9 March 2018

Sir John Sulston and the Human Genome Project

*News* 8 March 2018

### **8 projects to increase vital knowledge about women's health**

*To mark International Women's Day 2018, Charli Colegate from our Humanities & Social Science team highlights eight projects Wellcome is funding to explore the health experiences of women from different backgrounds around the world.*

*News* 7 March 2018

### **Jeremy Farrar reappointed as Wellcome's Director**

*Dr Jeremy Farrar, the Director of Wellcome, has been reappointed by Wellcome's Board of Governors for a second five-year term.*

Jeremy's second term as Director will begin in October 2018 and run until 2023.

He joined Wellcome in 2013, succeeding Sir Mark Walport. Jeremy is a world-renowned clinical scientist and a leading figure in the field of infectious disease. Between 1996 and 2013, he was Director of the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit in Vietnam, which is supported by Wellcome...

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### **:: Journal Watch**

*The Sentinel will track key peer-reviewed journals which address a broad range of interests in human rights, humanitarian response, health and development. It is not intended to be exhaustive. We will add to those monitored below as we encounter relevant content and upon recommendation from readers. We selectively provide full text of abstracts and other content but note that successful access to some of the articles and other content may require subscription or other access arrangement unique to the publisher. Please suggest additional journals you feel warrant coverage.*

#### **American Journal of Infection Control**

March 2018 Volume 46, Issue 3, p245-362, e13-e24

<http://www.ajicjournal.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Preventive Medicine**

March 2018 Volume 54, Issue 3, p325-478, e41-e58

<http://www.ajpmonline.org/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Public Health**

March 2018 108(3)

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/toc/ajph/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

#### **American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene**

Volume 98, Issue 3, 2018

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/98/3>

Perspective Piece

#### **[Are Infants Less than 6 Months of Age a Neglected Group for Anemia Prevention in Low-Income Countries?](#)**

Authors: [Cinta Moraleda](#), [Regina N. Rabinovich](#) and [Clara Menéndez](#)

<https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.17-0487>

Anemia is a major public health problem that affects mainly children, predominantly in low-income countries and most often due to iron deficiency (ID). Administration of iron supplements to prevent and treat ID anemia in malaria endemic areas has been controversial for decades; however, recent World Health Organization guidelines recommend universal iron supplementation for children in highly prevalent anemia settings, including those where malaria is endemic. However, infants younger than 6 months of age have been exempted from this



recommendation because ID is not considered prevalent at this age and because of assumptions—without evidence—that they are protected from ID through breast milk. To achieve full impact of anemia prevention targeting infants less than 6 months of age who are at highest risk of ID, operational studies that conclusively demonstrate the effectiveness and safety of delivering iron supplements to young infants in settings with a high burden of infectious diseases, including malaria, are needed.

### **[Reimagining the Research Approach to Tuberculosis](#)**

Authors: [Anthony S. Fauci](#) and [Robert W. Eisinger](#)

<https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.17-0999>

Controlling and ultimately ending tuberculosis (TB) as a public health scourge will require a multifaceted and comprehensive approach involving the intensification of public health efforts, including scaling-up the delivery of current diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic tools. However, a critically important element in the effort to end TB is an accelerated biomedical research effort to address the many unanswered questions about the disease process itself and to develop improved and innovative countermeasures. An intensive effort toward these research goals will facilitate the achievement of the aspirational goal of ending TB.

### **Annals of Internal Medicine**

6 March 2018 Vol: 168, Issue 5

<http://annals.org/aim/issue>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation**

<http://resource-allocation.biomedcentral.com/>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

*Research*

9 March 2018

### **[Global health worker salary estimates: an econometric analysis of global earnings data](#)**

Authors: Juliana Serje, Melanie Y. Bertram, Callum Brindley and Jeremy A. Lauer

### **BMJ Global Health**

December 2017; volume 2, issue 4

<http://gh.bmj.com/content/2/4?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **BMC Health Services Research**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

### **BMC Infectious Diseases**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcinfectdis/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMC Medical Ethics**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmedethics/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

*Research article*

### **Patient data and patient rights: Swiss healthcare stakeholders' ethical awareness regarding large patient data sets – a qualitative study**

Authors: Corine Mouton Dorey, Holger Baumann and Nikola Biller-Andorno

Citation: BMC Medical Ethics 2018 19:20

Published on: 7 March 2018

*Abstract*

Background

There is a growing interest in aggregating more biomedical and patient data into large health data sets for research and public benefits. However, collecting and processing patient data raises new ethical issues regarding patient's rights, social justice and trust in public institutions. The aim of this empirical study is to gain an in-depth understanding of the awareness of possible ethical risks and corresponding obligations among those who are involved in projects using patient data, i.e. healthcare professionals, regulators and policy makers.

Methods

We used a qualitative design to examine Swiss healthcare stakeholders' experiences and perceptions of ethical challenges with regard to patient data in real-life settings where clinical registries are sponsored, created and/or used. A semi-structured interview was carried out with 22 participants (11 physicians, 7 policy-makers, 4 ethical committee members) between July 2014 and January 2015. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed, coded and analysed using a thematic method derived from Grounded Theory.

Results

All interviewees were concerned as a matter of priority with the needs of legal and operating norms for the collection and use of data, whereas less interest was shown in issues regarding patient agency, the need for reciprocity, and shared governance in the management and use of clinical registries' patient data. This observed asymmetry highlights a possible tension between public and research interests on the one hand, and the recognition of patients' rights and citizens' involvement on the other.

Conclusions

The advocacy of further health-related data sharing on the grounds of research and public interest, without due regard for the perspective of patients and donors, could run the risk of fostering distrust towards healthcare data collections. Ultimately, this could diminish the expected social benefits. However, rather than setting patient rights against public interest, new ethical approaches could strengthen both concurrently. On a normative level, this study thus provides material from which to develop further ethical reflection towards a more cooperative approach involving patients and citizens in the governance of their health-related big data.

## **BMC Medicine**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

## **BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

*Research article*

**Initiation of traditional birth attendants and their traditional and spiritual practices during pregnancy and childbirth in Ghana**

*Prior to the advent of modern obstetric services, traditional birth attendants (TBAs) have rendered services to pregnant women and women in labour for a long time. Although it is anticipated that women in cont...*

Authors: Lydia Aziato and Cephas N. Omenyo

Citation: BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth 2018 18:64

Published on: 7 March 2018

**BMC Public Health**

<http://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

*Research article*

**Infection prevention behaviour and infectious disease modelling: a review of the literature and recommendations for the future**

*Given the importance of person to person transmission in the spread of infectious diseases, it is critically important to ensure that human behaviour with respect to infection prevention is appropriately repre...*

Authors: Dale Weston, Katharina Hauck and Richard Amlôt

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:336

Published on: 9 March 2018

*Research article*

**Community perception regarding childhood vaccinations and its implications for effectiveness: a qualitative study in rural Burkina Faso**

*Vaccination has contributed to major reductions in global morbidity and mortality, but there remain significant coverage gaps. Better knowledge on the interplay between population and health systems regarding ...*

Authors: M. Kagoné, M. Yé, E. Nébié, A. Sié, O. Müller and C. Beiersmann

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:324

Published on: 6 March 2018

*Research article*

**Above chaos, quest, and restitution: narrative experiences of African immigrant youth's settlement in Canada**

*African Immigrant and refugee youth represent an increasing group of newcomers in Canada. Upon their immigration, youth experience challenges that have the potential to lead to poor health, yet little is known...*

Authors: Roberta Lynn Woodgate and David Shiyokha Busolo

Citation: BMC Public Health 2018 18:333

Published on: 7 March 2018

**BMC Research Notes**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcresnotes/content>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

**BMJ Open**

March 2018 - Volume 8 - 3

<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Bulletin of the World Health Organization**

Volume 96, Number 3, March 2018, 145-224  
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/96/3/en/>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Child Care, Health and Development**

March 2018 Volume 44, Issue 2 Pages 173–341  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cch.v44.2/issuetoc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Clinical Therapeutics**

February 2018 Volume 40, Issue 2, p181-352, e1-e2  
<http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Conflict and Health**

<http://www.conflictandhealth.com/>  
[Accessed 10 March 2018]

#### *Research*

#### **[Risk factors for unsafe behaviors toward grenades among rural populations affected by explosive devices in Colombia](#)**

*Following decades of armed conflict, Colombia remains highly affected by explosive device (ED) contamination, especially in rural areas. Many victims are injured by EDs despite knowing their dangers.*

Authors: Andrew T. Boyd, Kristin Becknell, Steven Russell, Curtis Blanton, Susan T. Cookson, Oleg O. Bilukha and Mark Anderson

Citation: Conflict and Health 2018 12:4

Published on: 5 March 2018

### **Contemporary Clinical Trials**

Volume 66 Pages 1-92 (March 2018)  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/66/suppl/C>

*Study Design, Statistical Design, Study Protocols*

#### **[Clinical trials recruitment planning: A proposed framework from the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative](#)**

Open access - Original research article

Pages 74-79

Grant D. Huang, Jonca Bull, Kelly Johnston McKee, Elizabeth Mahon, ... Jamie N. Roberts

#### *Abstract*

Patient recruitment is widely recognized as a key determinant of success for clinical trials. Yet a substantial number of trials fail to reach recruitment goals—a situation that has important scientific, financial, ethical, and policy implications. Further, there are important effects on stakeholders who directly contribute to the trial including investigators, sponsors, and study

participants. Despite efforts over multiple decades to identify and address barriers, recruitment challenges persist.

To advance a more comprehensive approach to trial recruitment, the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative (CTTI) convened a project team to examine the challenges and to issue actionable, evidence-based recommendations for improving recruitment planning that extend beyond common study-specific strategies. We describe our multi-stakeholder effort to develop a framework that delineates three areas essential to strategic recruitment planning efforts: (1) trial design and protocol development, (2) trial feasibility and site selection, and (3) communication. Our recommendations propose an upstream approach to recruitment planning that has the potential to produce greater impact and reduce downstream barriers. Additionally, we offer tools to help facilitate adoption of the recommendations. We hope that our framework and recommendations will serve as a guide for initial efforts in clinical trial recruitment planning irrespective of disease or intervention focus, provide a common basis for discussions in this area and generate targets for further analysis and continual improvement.

### **Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases**

April 2018 - Volume 31 - Issue 2

<http://journals.lww.com/co-infectiousdiseases/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Developing World Bioethics**

March 2018 Volume 18, Issue 1 Pages 1–64

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dewb.2018.18.issue-1/issuetoc>

***Special Issue: Rebuilding Patient-Physician Trust in China, Developing a Trust-Oriented Bioethics***

*GUEST EDITORIAL*

**[Rebuilding patient–physician trust in China, developing a trust-oriented bioethics \(pages 4–6\)](#)**

Jing-Bao Nie, Joseph D. Tucker, Wei Zhu, Yu Cheng, Bonnie Wong and Arthur Kleinman

Version of Record online: 18 SEP 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/dewb.12172

In a short period of nearly four decades, China, with one fifth of the world's population, has rapidly evolved from a predominantly agricultural, poor and developing country to an upper middle-income country. At the same time, China faces numerous daunting social challenges. One of them is the widespread, profound, and advancing crisis of patient–physician trust. Among the many manifestations of this crisis is an unprecedented process characterized by rapidly increasing levels of violence involved in disputes between patients and their relatives against medical professionals and institutions.

Like many other challenges that China faces, this crisis of trust in the health sector is by no means merely a Chinese problem. There is much convincing evidence that it is a global issue, emerging in developing and developed societies alike, although the scale and depth of such a crisis may vary considerably from one place to another. More generally, a serious crisis of trust can be observed across geographic areas and societal sectors. It affects all professions, businesses, the media, governments, and international affairs.

Though its significance often goes unrecognized, trust plays a vital role for interpersonal and social life as well as healthcare. In the field of bioethics, however, attention paid thus far to the question of trust in general, and to patient–physician trust in China in particular, is far from sufficient in spite of some pioneering studies.<sup>1</sup> Such deficits in bioethical scholarship is in

marked contrast to the fields of social and political sciences, where trust has been a key subject for the past few decades, with a large and growing literature. Due to its essential role for good social life and good healthcare, trust deserves a place in the central agenda of bioethics in China and globally.

..The first two papers are anthropological and sociological studies of the broader socio-political, cultural and healthcare context of patient–physician mistrust and its major sources in contemporary China. Yunxiang Yan demonstrates how patient–physician mistrust, and patient–physician relations in general, has been a part of a grand moral and political transformation unfolding in China over the past few decades; this include the growth of individualization and the rising awareness of the values of human dignity, respect, and individual rights. Based on two years of ethnographic research, Cheris Chan examines the major sources of medical mistrust at societal, institutional, and interactional levels. She highlights the role of funding mechanisms behind China's healthcare system, whereby public hospitals and health professionals alike are largely forced to finance themselves, in generating mistrust.

...To conclude, it should be emphasized that the situation in China and the crisis of trust now unfolding on a global scale should not be framed in totally negative terms. As the two Chinese characters for crisis, *weiji*, aptly reflect, any crisis presents both dangers and opportunities simultaneously. In the Chinese context, distrust and mistrust of medical professionals and healthcare systems amongst individual patients and patient populations means that people are developing higher expectations of competence, caring, respect, dignity, recognition, rights, high-quality services, and active participation. In spite of its immediate and long-term negative consequences, the widespread and profound mistrust therefore presents opportunities to reform existing but ethically unsound medical practices and institutions, and ensure the moral accountability of institutions and individuals in power.

### **Development in Practice**

Volume 28, Issue 1, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cdip20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Development Policy Review**

March 2018 Volume 36, Issue 2 Pages i–iv, 153–261

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2018.36.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology**

Volume 13, Issue 3, 2018

<http://informahealthcare.com/toc/idt/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness**

Volume 11 - Issue 6 - December 2017

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Disasters**

April 2018 Volume 42, Issue 2 Pages 205–404

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/disa.2018.42.issue-2/issuetoc>

*Papers*

### **[Compliance with recommended protective actions during an H7N9 emergency: a risk perception perspective \(pages 207–232\)](#)**

Fei Wang PhD, Jiuchang Wei PhD and Xing Shi

Version of Record online: 11 AUG 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/disa.12240

*Papers*

### **[Monitoring and reporting attacks on education in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia \(pages 314–335\)](#)**

Cyril Bennouna, Elburg van Boetzelaer, Lina Rojas, Kinyera Richard, Gang Karume, Marius Nshombo, Leslie Roberts and Neil Boothby

Version of Record online: 9 AUG 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/disa.12245

*Abstract*

The United Nations' Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism is charged with documenting six grave violations against children in a time of conflict, including attacks on schools. Many of these incidents, however, remain unreported across the globe. This study explores whether or not a local knowledge base of education and child protection actors in North and South Kivu Provinces, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in Mogadishu, Somalia, could contribute to a more complete record of attacks on education in those areas. Hundreds of semi-structured interviews were conducted with key informants across the three settings, and in total 432 attacks on education were documented. Purposive samples of these reports were verified and a large majority was confirmed. Local non-governmental organisations and education institutions were most knowledgeable about these incidents, but most never reported them to a monitoring authority. The study concludes that attack surveillance and response were largely insufficient, and recommends investing in mechanisms that utilise local knowledge to address these shortcomings.

## **EMBO Reports**

01 March 2018; volume 19, issue 3

<http://embor.embopress.org/content/19/3?current-issue=y>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

## **Emergency Medicine Journal**

March 2018 - Volume 35 - 3

<http://emj.bmj.com/content/35/3>

*Guest editorial*

### **[Looking back and forward: emergency medicine in its 50th year](#)**

(20 February, 2018)

Tajek B Hassan

## **Emerging Infectious Diseases**

Volume 24, Number 3—March 2018

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/>

*Research*



**[Use of Influenza Risk Assessment Tool for Prepandemic Preparedness PDF Version](#)**  
**[\[PDF - 831 KB - 7 pages\]](#)**

S. A. Burke and S. C. Trock

**Epidemics**

Volume 21, Pages 1-88 (December 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/17554365>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Epidemiology and Infection**

Volume 146 - Issue 4 - March 2018

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/latest-issue>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

**Ethics & International Affairs**

Winter 2017 (Issue 31.4)

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2017/winter-2017-issue-31-4/>

[Reviewed earlier]

**The European Journal of Public Health**

Volume 27, Issue 6, 1 December 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/27/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Food Policy** Volume 75

In progress (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/75/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Food Security**

Volume 10, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/10/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Forced Migration Review (FMR)**

February 2018

<http://www.fmreview.org/syria2018/contents.html>

***Syrians in displacement***

With 2018 marking the 7th anniversary of the Syrian conflict, this issue of FMR explores new insights and continuing challenges relating to the displacement of millions of Syrians both internally and in neighbouring countries. What we learn from responses to this large-scale, multi-faceted displacement is also relevant to other situations of displacement beyond as well as within the Middle East. FMR 57 contains 27 articles on 'Syrians in displacement', plus six 'general' articles on other topics.

**Forum for Development Studies**

Volume 45, Issue 1, 2017

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Genocide Studies International**

Vol. 11, No. 1, Spring 2017

<http://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/11/1>

***Special Issue: Starvation and Genocide***

**Geoheritage**

Volume 10, Issue 1, March 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/10/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Health Action**

Volume 10, 2017 – Issue 1 [In Progress]

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/10/1?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)**

December 2017 | Volume 5 | Number 4

<http://www.ghspjournal.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Global Public Health**

Volume 13, 2017 Issue 4

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rgph20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Globalization and Health**

<http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

*Short report*

7 March 2018

**[Planning and preparing for public health threats at airports](#)**

Authors: Greg Martin and Mairin Boland

*Abstract*

The ever-increasing speed and scope of human mobility by international air travel has led to a global transport network for infectious diseases with the potential to introduce pathogens into non-endemic areas, and to facilitate rapid spread of novel or mutated zoonotic agents.

Robust national emergency preparedness is vital to mitigate the transmission of infectious diseases agents domestically and to prevent onward spread to other countries. Given the complex range of stakeholders who respond to an infectious disease threat being transmitted through air travel, it is important that protocols be tested and practised extensively in advance

of a real emergency. Simulation exercises include the identification of possible scenarios based on the probability of hazards and the vulnerability of populations as a basis for planning, and provide a useful measure of preparedness efforts and capabilities.

In October 2016, a live simulation exercise was conducted at a major airport in Ireland incorporating a public health threat for the first time, with the notification of a possible case of MERS-CoV aboard an aircraft plus an undercarriage fire. Strengths of the response to the communicable disease threat included appropriate public health risk assessment, case management, passenger information gathering, notification to relevant parties, and communication to passengers and multiple agencies.

## **Health Affairs**

March 2018. Vol. 37, No. 3

<https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/current>

### ***Advancing Health Equity***

*EntryPoint*

#### **For People With Disabilities, A Fight For Access To Housing**

Marilyn Werber Serafini

The City of Los Angeles continues to struggle to make available housing that is both affordable and accessible.

*Research Article Determinants Of Health*

#### **Conditional Cash Transfers And Health Of Low-Income Families In The US: Evaluating The Family Rewards Experiment**

Emilie Courtin , Peter Muennig , Nandita Verma , James A. Riccio , Mylene Lagarde

Opportunity NYC–Family Rewards was the first conditional cash transfer, randomized controlled trial for low-income families in the United States. From 2007 to 2010, Family Rewards offered 2,377 New York City families cash transfers that were conditional ...

## **Health and Human Rights**

Volume 19, Issue 2, December 2017

<http://www.hhrjournal.org/>

### ***Special Section on Romani People and the Right to Health***

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Health Economics, Policy and Law**

Volume 13 - Issue 1 - January 2018

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Health Policy and Planning**

Volume 33, Issue 2, 1 March 2018

<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Health Research Policy and Systems**

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Human Rights Quarterly**

Volume 40, Number 1, February 2018

<http://muse.jhu.edu/issue/37973>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Humanitarian Exchange Magazine**

<https://odihpn.org/magazine/lake-chad-basin-overlooked-crisis/>  
<https://odihpn.org/magazine/lake-chad-basin-overlooked-crisis/>

Number 70 October 2017

#### ***Special Feature: The Lake Chad Basin: an overlooked crisis?***

by Humanitarian Practice Network October 2017

The 70th edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Joe Read, focuses on the humanitarian crisis in Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin. The violence perpetrated by Boko Haram and the counter-insurgency campaign in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger has created a humanitarian crisis affecting some 17 million people. Some 2.4 million have been displaced, the vast majority of them in north-eastern Nigeria. Many are living in desperate conditions, without access to sufficient food or clean water. The Nigerian government's focus on defeating Boko Haram militarily, its reluctance to acknowledge the scale and gravity of the humanitarian crisis and the corresponding reticence of humanitarian leaders to challenge that position have combined to undermine the timeliness and effectiveness of the response...

[Reviewed earlier]

### **IDRiM Journal**

Vol 7, No 1 (2017)

<http://idrimjournal.com/index.php/idrim/issue/view/17>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Infectious Agents and Cancer**

<http://www.infectagentscancer.com/content>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Infectious Diseases of Poverty**

<http://www.idpjournals.com/content>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **International Health**

Volume 10, Issue suppl\_1, 1 March 2018

<http://inthealth.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

#### ***Special Issue: Onchocerciasis: The Beginning of the End***

[Reviewed earlier]

### **International Human Rights Law Review**

Volume 6, Issue 2, 2017

<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/22131035/6/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health**

Vol 5, No 3 (2018) March 2018

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/36>

*Original Research Articles*

#### **[The effect of female genital mutilation on couple sexual function](#)**

*Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a procedure that had physical, social, psychological, and sexual complications. The study aimed to assess effect of FGM on couple sexual function.*

Talal A. Abdel Raheem, Samar M. R. El-tahalawi, Nesreen M. Abo Raia, Asmaa Younis Elsary, Kairman Mahmoud Ibrahim

DOI: [10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20180745](https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20180745)

### **International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction**

Volume 27, Pages 1-648 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22124209/27>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **International Journal of Epidemiology**

Volume 46, Issue 6, December 2017

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/46/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **International Journal of Heritage Studies**

Volume 24, Issue 5 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjhs20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**

Volume 11 Issue 1 2019

<https://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/ijhrh/11/1>

*Case study*

#### **[Health promotion in a prison setting: an exploratory study on why and how to do it](#)**

Andreia de Castro Rodrigues, Glória Jóluskin, Isabel Silva (pp. 65 - 80)

### **International Journal of Infectious Diseases**

March 2018 Volume 68, In Progress

[http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(18\)X0002-2](http://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(18)X0002-2)

*Perspective*

#### **[Medical and health risks associated with communicable diseases of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh 2017](#)**

Emily Y.Y. Chan, Cheuk Pong Chiu, Gloria K.W. Chan

p39–43

Published online: January 9, 2018

### *Highlights*

- :: Urgent health emergency disaster risk management (H-EDRM) is needed in the camp setting.
- :: Limitations in access to water and poor water quality, food poisoning, hepatitis A and E, and nutritional deficiencies are pending health risks.
- :: Environmental health risks include fire, poor indoor air quality, vector-borne diseases, injury, and floods.
- :: There is a lack of non-food items to protect health, e.g., footwear, and to maintain dignity, e.g., female hygiene packs.
- :: Portable medical documentation should be provided, e.g., immunization card and basic medical history summary card.

### *Abstract*

Complex emergencies remain major threats to human well-being in the 21st century. More than 300 000 Rohingya people from Myanmar, one of the most forgotten minorities globally, have fled to neighboring countries over the past decades. In the recent crisis, the sudden influx of Rohingya people over a 3-month period almost tripled the accumulated displaced population in Bangladesh. Using the Rohingya people in Bangladesh as a case context, this perspective article synthesizes evidence in the published literature regarding the possible key health risks associated with the five main health and survival supporting domains, namely water and sanitation, food and nutrition, shelter and non-food items, access to health services, and information, for the displaced living in camp settlements in Asia.

### *Original Reports*

#### **Mapping of new HIV infections in Morocco and impact of select interventions**

Silva P. Kouyoumjian, Houssine El Rhilani, Amina Latifi, Amina El Kettani, Hiam Chemaitelly, Kamal Alami, Aziza Bennani, Laith J. Abu-Raddad  
p4–12

Published online: December 15, 2017

## **International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology**

Volume 25, 2018 - Issue 3

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tsdw20/current>

### *Article*

#### **Greening the structural change process: ranking sustainability of countries in climate change**

Nicola Cantore, Stefano Olivari, Alejandro Lavopa & Michele Clara

Pages: 195-205

Published online: 19 Dec 2017

### *Article*

#### **Characteristics associated with high and low levels of ecological literacy in a western society**

Sheryn D. Pitman, Christopher B. Daniels & Paul C. Sutton

Pages: 227-237

Published online: 28 Sep 2017

### *Article*

#### **Identifying future research directions for biodiversity, ecosystem services and sustainability: perspectives from early-career researchers**

Md Sarwar Hossain, Sarah J. Pogue, Liz Trenchard, Alexander P. E. Van Oudenhoven, Carla-Leanne Washbourne, Evalyne W. Muiruri, Aleksandra M. Tomczyk, Marina García-Llorente,

Rachel Hale, Violeta Hevia, Tom Adams, Leila Tavallali, Siân De Bell, Marian Pye & Fernando Resende

Pages: 249-261

Published online: 09 Aug 2017

### **International Migration Review**

Winter 2017 Volume 51, Issue 4 Pages 821–1030, e50–e66

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/imre.2017.51.issue-4/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Intervention** – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas  
November 2017 - Volume 15 - Issue 3

<http://journals.lww.com/interventionjnl/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

***Special Issue Linking mental health and psychosocial support and peacebuilding***

[Reviewed earlier]

### **JAMA**

March 6, 2018, Vol 319, No. 9, Pages 843-943

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

*Viewpoint*

**[Retreat From Human Rights and Adverse Consequences for Health](#)**

Diederik Lohman, MA

JAMA. 2018;319(9):861-862. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.0271

*Abstract*

The international environment for human rights has rapidly deteriorated in recent years. Populist leaders have come to power in an increasing number of countries, often on political platforms that are explicitly hostile to human rights. These leaders tend to portray respect for human rights as an inconvenient obstacle to their agendas rather than as an essential limit on their power. Meanwhile, many governments that have traditionally been proponents of human rights, although often with records that do not entirely reflect human rights, have encountered internal challenges from authoritarian populists or far-right political parties that have turned their focus inward and weakened their willingness to stand up for human rights internationally.

### **JAMA Pediatrics**

March 2018, Vol 172, No. 3, Pages 205-303

<http://archpedi.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx>

*Viewpoint*

**[Informed Consent Training in Pediatrics—Are We Doing Enough?](#)**

Alan R. Tait, PhD; Raymond J. Hutchinson, MD, MS

JAMA Pediatr. 2018;172(3):211-212. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.4088

*Abstract*

As ethics educators, we are continually struck by the wide variability in residents' reported formative training in informed consent. Many trainees have expressed a lack of preparation and anxiety when asked to obtain consent, particularly for procedures and interventions for which they have no planned involvement. One intern remarked that he sometimes Googles the risks before meeting a patient. A lack of training in obtaining informed consent is not only legally tenuous but may also devalue its significance and lead to the perception that consent is simply a way to achieve the parent's or patient's acquiescence.



## **JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports**

March 2018 - Volume 16 - Issue 3

<http://journals.lww.com/jbisrir/Pages/currenttoc.aspx>

*Systematic Review Protocols*

### **Experiences of transgender individuals when accessing health care: a qualitative systematic review protocol**

Valenta, Tamera; Shade, Kate; Lieggi, Michelle

JBI Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports. 16(3):628-634, March 2018.

#### *Introduction*

As the transgender population gains visibility and social acceptance, the number of individuals willing to disclose their gender identity on a government administered survey has increased.<sup>1</sup> Obtaining population estimates has become increasingly available, but there is a wide variety of approaches to extrapolate data and their quality varies significantly.<sup>2</sup> As of June 2016, an estimated 0.6% of adults in the United States (about 1.4 million people) identify as transgender.<sup>1</sup> Population estimates from New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Belgium were used to estimate a global prevalence of transgender people by birth assigned sex. With an estimated worldwide population of 5.1 billion, an estimated 25 million people identify as transgender.<sup>3</sup>

Experiences of harassment, discrimination and stigma when accessing health care have been described and continue to persist for many transgender people.<sup>4</sup> Even when legal protections exist, enforcement of non-discrimination remains a problem.<sup>5-9</sup> Previous traumas experienced when accessing health care often lead to a distrust of the system. Even when access is not the problem, the stigma associated with disclosure of one's gender identity may result in avoidance of health care services.<sup>3,10-14</sup> Despite flaws in the health care system, many transgender people have had positive experiences when accessing health care. These positive experiences were facilitated by health care providers who were respectful and knowledgeable about transgender health care and were willing to refer them to specialists, as needed.<sup>15</sup> ...

### **Perceptions of blood donation among people in Africa: a qualitative systematic review protocol**

Tanywe, Asahngwa; Matchawe, Chelea; Fernandez, Ritin; More

JBI Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports. 16(3):648-652, March 2018.

## **Journal of Adolescent Health**

March 2018 Volume 62, Issue 3, p249-358

[http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(17\)X0018-9](http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(17)X0018-9)

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Journal of Community Health**

Volume 43, Issue 2, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/43/2/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Journal of Cultural Heritage**

Volume 30 Pages 1-210 (March–April 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/30/suppl/C>

*Original articles*

**Proposal for the improvement and modification in the scale of evidence for virtual reconstruction of the cultural heritage: A first approach in the mosque-cathedral and the fluvial landscape of Cordoba**

Original research article

Pages 10-15

Rafael Ortiz-Cordero, Enrique León Pastor, Rafael Enrique Hidalgo Fernández

**Characterization of airborne particulate matter and microbes inside cultural heritage collections**

Original research article

Pages 136-146

Mihalis Lazaridis, Eleftheria Katsivela, Ilia Kopanakis, Louiza Raisi, ... Georgios Panagiaris

**A measurement framework to increase transparency in historic preservation decision-making under changing climate conditions**

Original research article

Pages 168-179

Sandra Fatorić, Erin Seekamp

**Economic valuation of museums as public club goods: Why build loyalty in cultural heritage consumption?**

Original research article

Pages 190-198

Jonathan Daniel Gómez-Zapata, Nora Elena Espinal-Monsalve, Luis César Herrero-Prieto

**Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development**

2018: Volume 8 Issue 1

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jchmsd/8/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Development Economics**

Volume 131 Pages 1-150 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/131/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Education in Emergencies**

Vol. 3, Num. 1, July 2017

<http://www.ineesite.org/en/journal/vol3-num1>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics**

Volume 13, Issue 1, February 2018

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/jre/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health**

March 2018 - Volume 72 - 3

<http://jech.bmj.com/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine**

February 2018 Volume 11, Issue 1 Pages 1–67

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jebm.2018.11.issue-1/issuetoc>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Global Ethics**

Volume 13, Issue 2, 2017

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjge20/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved (JHCPU)**

Volume 29, Number 1, February 2018

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/38046>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Human Trafficking**

Volume 4, Issue 1, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uhmt20/current>

***Special Issue: Media and Human Trafficking: Negotiating Meaning, Representation, and Change***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management**

Volume 7 Issue 3

<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/7/3>  
[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health**

Volume 20, Issue 2, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/20/2/page/1>

*Original Paper*

**[Prevalence and Correlates of Psychological Distress and Psychiatric Disorders in Asylum Seekers and Refugees Resettled in an Italian Catchment Area](#)**

Michela Nosè, Giulia Turrini, Maria Imoli... Pages 263-27

*Original Paper*

**[The Impact of Refugee Mothers' Trauma, Posttraumatic Stress, and Depression on Their Children's Adjustment](#)**

Patricia L. East, Sheila Gahagan... Pages 271-282

*Original Paper*

**[Challenges in the Provision of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care to Refugee and Migrant Women: A Q Methodological Study of Health Professional Perspectives](#)**

Zelalem B. Mengesha, Janette Perz, Tinashe Dune... Pages 307-316

*Original Paper*

**Emotional Distress, Medical Utilization, and Disability Claims in Adult Refugees**

Peter Cronkright, Christina D. Lupone Pages 339-344

**Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies**

Volume 16, 2018\_ Issue 1-2

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/wimm20/current>

***Special Issue: Mediatization and Politicization of Refugee Crisis in Europe***

Articles focused on Austria, Slovenia, Poland, Sweden. Germany, U.K., Italy

**Journal of Infectious Diseases**

Volume 217, Issue 6, 5 March 2018

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue>

*EDITORIAL COMMENTARIES*

**Waxing Understanding of Waning Immunity**

Benjamin A Lopman; Virginia E Pitzer

The Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 217, Issue 6, 5 March 2018, Pages 851–853,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jix670>

*Extract*

*(See the major article by Rogawski et al, on pages 861–8.)*

...Of the approximately 150000 deaths due to rotavirus infection that occur globally every year, >90% are among children in settings of low and low/middle incomes [1, 2]. To counter this burden, the World Health Organization recommends that rotavirus vaccination be included in the immunization program of all countries. Despite the clear signs of progress in reducing the rotavirus disease burden globally [3], there are 2 related challenges specific to lower-income settings that hamper rotavirus vaccines from preventing more deaths and severe diarrheal disease [4]. First, rotavirus vaccines are less effective in low-income as compared to high-income...

*MAJOR ARTICLES AND BRIEF REPORTS*

*VIRUSES*

*Editor's Choice*

**Quantifying the Impact of Natural Immunity on Rotavirus Vaccine Efficacy Estimates: A Clinical Trial in Dhaka, Bangladesh (PROVIDE) and a Simulation Study**

Elizabeth T Rogawski; James A Platts-Mills; E Ross Colgate; Rashidul Haque; K Zaman ...

The Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 217, Issue 6, 5 March 2018, Pages 861–868,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jix668>

In clinical trials of rotavirus vaccines, high rotavirus incidence leads to predictably lower vaccine efficacy estimates due to the acquisition of natural immunity in unvaccinated children. This phenomenon contributes to the low vaccine efficacy observed in trials in low-resource settings.

**Journal of International Development**

January 2018 Volume 30, Issue 1 Pages 1–158

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jid.v30.1/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Medical Ethics**

March 2018 - Volume 44 - 3

<http://jme.bmj.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Medical Internet Research**

Vol 20, No 3 (2018): March

<http://www.jmir.org/2018/3>

JMIR Mhealth Uhealth 2018 (Mar 07); 6(3):e59

**[Evaluation of a Mobile Phone–Based Intervention to Increase Parents’ Knowledge About the Measles-Mumps-Rubella Vaccination and Their Psychological Empowerment: Mixed-Method Approach](#)**

Marta Fadda, Elisa Galimberti, Maddalena Fiordelli, Peter Johannes Schulz

**Journal of Operations Management**

Volumes 53–56 Pages 1–70 (November 2017)

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-operations-management/vol/53/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews**

Volume 5, Issue 1 (2018)

<https://digitalrepository.auorahealthcare.org/jpcrr/>

***Health Disparities and Inequities: Part II***

[Reviewed earlier]

**Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society (JPIDS)**

Volume 7, Issue 1 March 2018

<https://academic.oup.com/jpids/issue>

*SPECIAL ARTICLE*

**[A Time to Save](#)**

Carol J Baker

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, Volume 7, Issue 1, 19 February 2018,

Pages 1–5, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpids/piw080>

*Abstract*

Group B Streptococcus (GBS), characterized by Lancefield in 1933, was not recognized as a human pathogen until the early 1970s when it emerged and replaced Escherichia coli as the most common cause of sepsis and meningitis among neonates and young infants. This article briefly gives a personnel account of the discovery of clinical syndromes of GBS distinguished by age at onset, vertical mode of transmission for early-onset disease, meningeal tropism for GBS capsular (CPS) type III strains, and protective CPS epitopes. It also reviews the difficult evolution of the now routine program for antenatal GBS culture screening and intrapartum antibiotic prophylaxis, development of the first GBS candidate vaccines, clinical trials documenting the immunogenicity and safety of CPS tetanus toxoid conjugate vaccines, ongoing need to prevent morbidity and mortality in neonates and young infants, and critical need for commercial vaccines for routine use in pregnant women.

*ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND COMMENTARY*

## **Use of Internet Search Data to Monitor Rotavirus Vaccine Impact in the United States, United Kingdom, and Mexico**

Minesh P Shah; Benjamin A Lopman; Jacqueline E Tate; John Harris; Marcelino Esparza-Aguilar

...

Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, Volume 7, Issue 1, 19 February 2018, Pages 56–63, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jpids/pix004>

Internet searches for “rotavirus,” as measured by Google Trends, correlated well with laboratory-confirmed rotavirus disease and hospitalizations for acute gastroenteritis in the United States, United Kingdom, and Mexico. Internet searches declined after the introduction of national rotavirus vaccination programs, mirroring rotavirus disease activity.

### **Journal of Pediatrics**

March 2018 Volume 194, p1-270

<http://www.jpeds.com/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice**

<https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Journal of Public Health Management & Practice**

March/April 2018 - Volume 24 - Issue 2

<http://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/default.aspx>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Journal of Public Health Policy**

Volume 39, Issue 1, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/39/1/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Journal of the Royal Society – Interface**

March 2018; volume 15, issue 140

<http://rsif.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Journal of Travel Medicine**

Volume 25, Issue 1, 1 January 2018

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/25/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **The Lancet**

Mar 10, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10124 p911-998 e7-e8

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

*Editorial*

## **The Global Fund under Peter Sands**

The Lancet

Within the space of a few short weeks, the reputation of Peter Sands, incoming Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, has gone from respected to reckless according to some critics. In an Offline column last November, The Lancet's Editor offered an unreserved welcome to Sands, praising his "credibility" and "refreshing new vision". Sands had assiduously built a compelling argument for governments to take the economic costs of infectious diseases more seriously. His background as the former CEO of Standard Chartered strengthened his case still further. But then Heineken hit the headlines.

Before Sands had even taken up his appointment, he was being implicated in the decision by the Global Fund to enter into partnership with, among others, the alcohol beverage manufacturer, Heineken. Photographs of Sands shaking hands with company executives caused dismay among global health advocates. An open letter from a group of civil society organisations, led by Katie Dain (Executive Director of the NCD Alliance and a member of WHO's Independent Global High-Level Commission on NCDs), pointed out that such an alliance "redirects attention from the costs of harmful use of alcohol and positions Heineken to governments, the public, and the global community as a legitimate partner in implementing sustainable development solutions".

Peter Sands' response has been robust. He accepts that the broader global health community is sceptical of the value of partnerships with businesses such as Heineken. He is willing to listen to critics. But he is also unapologetic about engaging with the private sector. Partnerships with business will be his signature *raison d'être*.

Sands is pursuing a strategy of constructive disruption at the Global Fund. A shake-up is welcome. The Global Fund needs new energy and thinking. But alienating large parts of the global health community, with whom the Global Fund should be forging productive alliances, is an error. Sands needs to take a remedial course on global health diplomacy and balance his passion for the private sector with respect for the pluralism of the global health community. The diversity of global health is a strength for the Global Fund. Draw on it, don't dismiss it.

### **Lancet Global Health**

Mar 2018 Volume 6 Number 3 e229-e350

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Infectious Diseases**

Mar 2018 Volume 18 Number 3 p227-356 e64-e106

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Lancet Respiratory Medicine**

Mar 2018 Volume 6 Number 3 p161-230 e8-e10

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/issue/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Maternal and Child Health Journal**



March 2018, Issue 3, Pages 283-437

<https://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/10995>

***Special Issue: Confronting Adversity: MCH Responds to ACEs***

*Original Paper*

**Factors Associated with Vaccination Status of Children Aged 12–48 Months in India, 2012–2013**

Luke M. Shenton, Abram L. Wagner, Deepti Bettampadi... Pages 419-428

India has more unvaccinated children than any other country despite provision of free vaccines through the government's Universal Immunization Program. In this study, we calculated the proportion of children aged 12–48 months who were fully vaccinated, under-vaccinated, or who had not received any vaccines. Childhood, household, and sociocultural factors associated with under-vaccination and non-vaccination were evaluated.

*Original Paper*

**Adverse Childhood Experiences and Child Health Outcomes: Comparing Cumulative Risk and Latent Class Approaches**

Paul Lanier, Kathryn Maguire-Jack, Brianna Lombardi... Pages 288-297

*Original Paper*

**Economic Hardship in Childhood: A Neglected Issue in ACE Studies?**

Paula Braveman, Katherine Heck, Susan Egerter...

**Medical Decision Making (MDM)**

Volume 38, Issue 2, February 2018

<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

**The Milbank Quarterly**

*A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy*

December 2017 Volume 95, Issue 4 Pages 683–896

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/milq.2017.95.issue-4/issuetoc>

*Original Scholarship*

**Geographic Variation in Household and Catastrophic Health Spending in India: Assessing the Relative Importance of Villages, Districts, and States, 2011-2012 (pages 167–206)**

SANJAY K. MOHANTY, ROCKLI KIM, PIJUSH KANTI KHAN and S.V. SUBRAMANIAN

Version of Record online: 5 MAR 2018 | DOI: 10.1111/1468-0009.12315

In India, health care is a local good, and households are the major source of financing it. Earlier studies have examined diverse determinants of health care spending, but no attempt has been made to understand the geographical variation in household and catastrophic health spending. We used multilevel modeling to assess the relative importance of villages, districts, and states to health spending in India.

**Nature**

Volume 555 Number 7695 pp141-274 8 March 2018

[http://www.nature.com/nature/current\\_issue.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html)

*Review*

**Meta-analysis and the science of research synthesis**

Jessica Gurevitch, Julia Koricheva, Shinichi Nakagawa & Gavin Stewart

Meta-analysis—the quantitative, scientific synthesis of research results—has been both  
Abstract

Meta-analysis is the quantitative, scientific synthesis of research results. Since the term and modern approaches to research synthesis were first introduced in the 1970s, meta-analysis has had a revolutionary effect in many scientific fields, helping to establish evidence-based practice and to resolve seemingly contradictory research outcomes. At the same time, its implementation has engendered criticism and controversy, in some cases general and others specific to particular disciplines. Here we take the opportunity provided by the recent fortieth anniversary of meta-analysis to reflect on the accomplishments, limitations, recent advances and directions for future developments in the field of research synthesis.

### *Editorials*

#### **Chinese project offers a brighter farming future**

A massive, decade-long experiment involving millions of Chinese farmers demonstrates an evidence-based approach to sustainability.

In 1958, China under Mao Zedong embarked on a nationwide political project to increase agricultural productivity by collectivizing small farms across the country and forcing them to share agricultural tools. It was a disaster and contributed to a famine in which tens of millions died.

Now science has succeeded where ideology failed. A huge, decade-long experiment involving millions of farmers reports its results this week. Writing in *Nature*, scientists in China describe how they identified and passed on evidence-based techniques to make smallholder farming in the country more efficient ([Z. Cui et al. Nature http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature25785; 2018](http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature25785)). No sharing of agricultural tools was required; just the gathering and pooling of scientific data on local conditions and agricultural needs.

Running from 2005 to 2015, the project first assessed how factors including irrigation, plant density and sowing depth affected agricultural productivity. It used the information to guide and spread best practice across several regions: for example, recommending that rice in southern China be sown in 20 holes densely packed in a square metre, rather than the much lower densities farmers were accustomed to using.

The results speak for themselves: maize (corn), rice and wheat output grew by some 11% over that decade, whereas the use of damaging and expensive fertilizers decreased by between 15% and 18%, depending on the crop. Farmers spent less money on their land and earned more from it — and they continue to do so.

The results offer hope in the search for a more sustainable future on a crowded planet. After all, some 2.5 billion smallholders together farm 60% of the world's arable land. Beyond that, the project provides many lessons. First, that a scientific approach can increase agricultural productivity and cut damage to the environment. Second, that such success requires investment in what economists call the intangibles — the creation of networks to spread information and give scientists access to essential data. The scale of the research network created is impressive: 1,200 scientists, 65,000 local officials, 140,000 industry representatives and 21 million farmers across 37.7 million hectares.

Maintaining the people in those networks — in this case, the technicians and bureaucrats in local government offices — is a must. The study shows how these posts can produce benefit, both economic and environmental, far beyond what they cost. Unfortunately, in many countries,

such jobs and the networks that depend on them are being cut back, often, paradoxically, in the name of efficiency.

The third lesson is that the same methods could, in principle, be used to boost agricultural efficiency elsewhere. But that will not be easy. China has well-developed regional infrastructure and relatively efficient central control, both of which allowed this project to operate on such a large scale. India and Africa — two regions that could benefit from a similar approach — do not. That makes it difficult, although not impossible, to translate the study and the results beyond China.

Fourth, the programme must be monitored and updated. Its recommendations were fine-tuned to the needs of farmers in specific regions, but these can change, especially as the climate alters. To consolidate their success, the farmers and scientists involved should continue to adapt the recommended methods.

China must now build on this project. Some 200 million smallholdings are not yet plugged into the information networks set up and so are not applying the recommendations. There is scope for easy wins here. For example, researchers could piggyback on existing but separate networks. One is the Science and Technology Backyard platforms, which operate in 21 provinces and cover a wide range of crops. They bring agricultural scientists to live in villages, and use demonstrations to show farmers better techniques. Such projects could ensure that farmers continue to learn. They could also be expanded to investigate the best use of other agricultural options, such as pest management and the use of legumes as alternatives to fertilizers.

Perhaps the most important lesson is that better use of existing technology can help to produce more food in a sustainable way. None of the recommendations given to China's farmers would have surprised agronomists. Still, the scientists involved deserve great credit for having the vision and the wherewithal to make the project happen.

There is a thrill in finding that expectations hold up over so grand a scale. And, ultimately, it was that scale that made the difference. It allowed the project to go where even the best smaller studies (and Mao Zedong) could not: persuading often intractable rural farmers to change their practices, and so improve efficiency and productivity.

*Letter*

### **Social norm complexity and past reputations in the evolution of cooperation**

Fernando P. Santos, Francisco C. Santos & Jorge M. Pacheco

*Abstract*

Indirect reciprocity is the most elaborate and cognitively demanding<sup>1</sup> of all known cooperation mechanisms<sup>2</sup>, and is the most specifically human<sup>1,3</sup> because it involves reputation and status. By helping someone, individuals may increase their reputation, which may change the predisposition of others to help them in future. The revision of an individual's reputation depends on the social norms that establish what characterizes a good or bad action and thus provide a basis for morality<sup>3</sup>. Norms based on indirect reciprocity are often sufficiently complex that an individual's ability to follow subjective rules becomes important<sup>4,5,6</sup>, even in models that disregard the past reputations of individuals, and reduce reputations to either 'good' or 'bad' and actions to binary decisions<sup>7,8</sup>. Here we include past reputations in such a model and identify the key pattern in the associated norms that promotes cooperation. Of the norms that comply with this pattern, the one that leads to maximal cooperation (greater than 90 per cent) with minimum complexity does not discriminate on the basis of past reputation; the relative performance of this norm is particularly evident when we consider a 'complexity cost' in the

decision process. This combination of high cooperation and low complexity suggests that simple moral principles can elicit cooperation even in complex environments.

### **Nature Medicine**

March 2018, Volume 24 No 3 pp247-374

<https://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v24/n3/index.html>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **New England Journal of Medicine**

March 8, 2018 Vol. 378 No. 10

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly**

Volume 47, Issue 1, February 2018

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration**

VOL. 7, NO. 1 (AUGUST 2017)

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Pediatrics**

March 2018, VOLUME 141 / ISSUE 3

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/3?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **PharmacoEconomics**

Volume 36, Issue 2, February 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/36/2/page/1>

*Review Article*

#### **Modern Treatments of Haemophilia: Review of Cost-Effectiveness Analyses and Future Directions**

Paolo A. Cortesi, Lucia S. D'Angiolella, Alessandra Lafranconi... Pages 263-284

*Abstract*

Background

Cost is currently one of the most important aspects in haemophilia care. Factor concentrates absorb more than 90% of healthcare direct costs of haemophilia care, and the debate regarding the high cost of haemophilia treatments and their different use across different countries is increasing.

Objective

The objective of this study was to review cost-effectiveness analyses conducted on treatment options in haemophilia, focusing on their results and their strengths and limitations; to highlight the possible issues associated with economic evaluations of new treatment options.

Methods

Electronic searches in PubMed and EMBASE were performed to retrieve papers published between November 2015 and September 2017 to update the previous review of economic evaluations of haemophilia treatments by Drummond et al. Reference lists of included articles and reviews were examined for relevant studies, which were assessed for their quality and their empirical results.

#### Results

Twenty-six relevant economic analyses were identified; 15 (57.7%) were conducted in patients with haemophilia with inhibitors while 11 (42.3%) involved patients without inhibitors. There were methodological variations among the included studies, and differences in the treatment schemes make a comparative assessment of interventions for patients with haemophilia difficult. Only immune tolerance induction showed consistent results in its cost-saving profile compared with the treatment with bypassing agents.

#### Conclusions

Economic evaluations of haemophilia treatments are increasing, but the identification of general cost-effectiveness trends is still difficult in these studies. We are now facing a new era in haemophilia management with a soaring need for high-quality economic evaluations, performed through proactive collaboration between clinical experts, budget holders and health economists.

#### *Original Research Article*

#### **Using Real-World Data in Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Practice: A Comparative Study of Five HTA Agencies**

Amr Makady, Ard van Veelen, Páll Jonsson, Owen Moseley, Anne D'Andon...

Reimbursement decisions are conventionally based on evidence from randomised controlled trials (RCTs), which often have high internal validity but low external validity. Real-world data (RWD) may provide complimentary evidence for relative effectiveness assessments (REAs) and cost-effectiveness assessments (CEAs). This study examines whether RWD is incorporated in health technology assessment (HTA) of melanoma drugs by European HTA agencies, as well as differences in RWD use between agencies and across time.

#### **PLOS Currents: Disasters**

<http://currents.plos.org/disasters/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

#### **PLoS Currents: Outbreaks**

<http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

#### **PLoS Medicine**

<http://www.plosmedicine.org/>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

*Policy Forum*

#### **Global child and adolescent mental health: The orphan of development assistance for health**

Chunling Lu, Zhihui Li, Vikram Patel

Policy Forum | published 09 Mar 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002524>

*Summary points*

:: One-quarter of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for mental disorders and substance abuse is borne by those 24 years old or younger, the age group that accounted for more than 40% of the world population. Using the aid activities database from the Creditor Reporting System (CRS), we estimated the level of development assistance for child and adolescent mental health (DAMH\_CA) in 132 developing countries between 2007 and 2015.

:: The total amount of DAMH\_CA with a primary target on child and adolescent mental health was US\$190.3 million over the 8 years, accounting for 12.5% of total development assistance for mental health (DAMH) and 0.1% of development assistance for health (DAH).

:: The largest investments in DAMH\_CA over this 8-year period were disbursed to the humanitarian assistance sector for children and adolescents in disasters or conflicts (US\$77.2 million [41% of DAMH\_CA]), followed by the sector of government and civil services (US\$58.6 million [31%]), the health sector (US\$38.0 million [20%]), and the education sector (US\$15.6 million [8%]).

:: Donors invested little in child and adolescent mental health, in both absolute amount and fraction.

:: The donor community should substantially increase DAMH\_CA to establish and enhance the capacity for delivering mental health care to this demographic group.

### *Background*

More than 40% of the world population is 24 years old or younger, the vast majority of whom live in low- and lower middle-income countries [1]. Globally, a quarter of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) for mental disorders and substance abuse is borne by this age group [2], and about 75% of mental disorders diagnosed in adulthood have their onset before the age of 24 years [3]. Most children and young people in developing countries, however, do not have access to mental health care.

Lack of financial commitment is amongst the major barriers for improving access to mental health interventions in developing countries. Unsurprisingly, the least resourced regions and countries in the world rely heavily on development assistance, typically from high-income countries or foundations, to support the health sector. Our previous study on development assistance for mental health (DAMH) demonstrated that DAMH remained low both in absolute terms and as a proportion of development assistance for health (DAH) between 2007 and 2013 [4].

This analysis extends our previous analysis by investigating development assistance for child (below age 10) and adolescent (between age 10 and 24) mental health (DAMH\_CA). We tracked the level of DAMH\_CA in 132 countries between 2007 and 2015...

## **PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases**

<http://www.plosntds.org/>

(Accessed 10 March 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

## **PLoS One**

<http://www.plosone.org/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

*Research Article*

**[Growth, developmental achievements and vaccines timeliness of undocumented migrant children from Eritrea compared with Israelis](#)**

Zohar Mor, Anat Amit Aharon, Rivka Sheffer, Haim Nehama

| published 08 Mar 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0193219>

Israel has absorbed >40,000 Eritrean undocumented migrants since 2007, while the majority live in the southern neighborhoods of Tel-Aviv. As non-citizens and citizens infants in Israel receive free preventive treatment at the mother and child health clinics (MCHC), this study aimed to compare development and growth achievements between children of Eritrean mothers (CE) to children of Israeli mothers (CI), and assess their compliance to routine follow-up and vaccination-timeliness.

### **PNAS - Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America**

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/>

[Accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Prehospital & Disaster Medicine**

Volume 33 - Issue 1 - February 2018

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/latest-issue>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Preventive Medicine**

Volume 108 Pages 1-144 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/108/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

### **Proceedings of the Royal Society B**

10 January 2018; volume 285, issue 1870

<http://rspb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/285/1870?current-issue=y>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health**

March 2018 Volume 156, p1-152

<http://www.publichealthjrnal.com/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Ethics**

Volume 11, Issue 1, 1 April 2018

<http://phe.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Public Health Reports**

Volume 133, Issue 1, January/February 2018

<http://phr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Qualitative Health Research**



Volume 28, Issue 4, March 2018  
<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Refugee Survey Quarterly**

Volume 37, Issue 1, 1 March 2018  
<http://rsq.oxfordjournals.org/content/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Research Ethics**

Volume 13, Issue 3-4, July-October 2017  
<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/reab/current>  
[Reviewed earlier]

### **Reproductive Health**

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>  
[Accessed 10 March 2018]

*Research*

#### **Knowledge and perspectives of female genital cutting among the local religious leaders in Erbil governorate, Iraqi Kurdistan region**

*Religious leaders are one of the key actors in the issue of female genital cutting (FGC) due to the influential position they have in the community and the frequent association of FGC with the religion. This s...*

Authors: Hamdia M. Ahmed, Mosleh S. Kareem, Nazar P. Shabila and Barzhang Q. Mzori

Citation: Reproductive Health 2018 15:44

Published on: 7 March 2018

*Research*

#### **Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods among sexually active women in low- and middle-income countries: who is lagging behind?**

*Family planning is key for reducing unintended pregnancies and their health consequences and is also associated with improvements in economic outcomes. Our objective was to identify groups of sexually active w...*

Authors: Fernanda Ewerling, Cesar G. Victora, Anita Raj, Carolina V. N. Coll, Franciele Hellwig and Aluisio J. D. Barros

Citation: Reproductive Health 2018 15:42

Published on: 6 March 2018

*Research*

#### **Values clarification workshops to improve abortion knowledge, attitudes and intentions: a pre-post assessment in 12 countries**

*Women's access to abortion care is often denied or hampered due to a range of barriers, many of which are rooted in abortion stigma. Abortion values clarification and attitude transformation (VCAT) workshops a...*

Authors: Katherine L. Turner, Erin Pearson, Allison George and Kathryn L. Andersen

Citation: Reproductive Health 2018 15:40

Published on: 5 March 2018

*Review*

### **Group antenatal care models in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic evidence synthesis**

*In high-income countries, group antenatal care (ANC) offers an alternative to individual care and is associated with improved attendance, client satisfaction, and health outcomes for pregnant women and newborn...*

Authors: Jigyasa Sharma, Meaghan O'Connor and R. Rima Jolivet

Citation: Reproductive Health 2018 15:38

Published on: 5 March 2018

*Commentary*

### **Research gaps and emerging priorities in sexual and reproductive health in Africa and the eastern Mediterranean regions**

*In-country research capacity is key to creating improvements in local implementation of health programs and can help prioritize health issues in a landscape of limited funding. Research prioritization has shown...*

Authors: Moazzam Ali, Madeline Farron, Leopold Ouedraogo, Ramez Khairi Mahaini, Kelsey Miller and Rita Kabra

Citation: Reproductive Health 2018 15:39

Published on: 5 March 2018

### **Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)**

[http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=featured&Itemid=101](http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101)

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Risk Analysis**

March 2018 Volume 38, Issue 3 Pages 427–634

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/risa.2018.38.issue-3/issuetoc>

*Perspectives*

### **A Risk Analysis Approach to Prioritizing Epidemics: Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa as a Case Study (pages 429–441)**

Whenayon Simeon Ajisegiri, Abrar Ahmad Chughtai and C. Raina MacIntyre

Version of Record online: 15 AUG 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/risa.12876

*Abstract*

The 2014 Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak affected several countries worldwide, including six West African countries. It was the largest Ebola epidemic in the history and the first to affect multiple countries simultaneously. Significant national and international delay in response to the epidemic resulted in 28,652 cases and 11,325 deaths. The aim of this study was to develop a risk analysis framework to prioritize rapid response for situations of high risk. Based on findings from the literature, sociodemographic features of the affected countries, and documented epidemic data, a risk scoring framework using 18 criteria was developed. The framework includes measures of socioeconomics, health systems, geographical factors, cultural beliefs, and traditional practices. The three worst affected West African countries (Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia) had the highest risk scores. The scores were much lower in developed countries that experienced Ebola compared to West African countries. A more complex risk analysis framework using 18 measures was compared with a simpler one with 10 measures, and both predicted risk equally well. A simple risk scoring system can incorporate measures of hazard and impact that may otherwise be neglected in prioritizing outbreak response. This framework can be used by public health personnel as a tool to prioritize outbreak investigation and flag outbreaks with

potentially catastrophic outcomes for urgent response. Such a tool could mitigate costly delays in epidemic response.

## **Risk Management and Healthcare Policy**

Volume 10, 2017

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Science**

09 March 2018 Vol 359, Issue 6380

<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>

*Policy Forum*

### **The science of fake news**

By David M. J. Lazer, Matthew A. Baum, Yochai Benkler, Adam J. Berinsky, Kelly M. Greenhill, Filippo Menczer, Miriam J. Metzger, Brendan Nyhan, Gordon Pennycook, David Rothschild, Michael Schudson, Steven A. Sloman, Cass R. Sunstein, Emily A. Thorson, Duncan J. Watts, Jonathan L. Zittrain

Science 09 Mar 2018 : 1094-1096 Full Access

*Summary*

The rise of fake news highlights the erosion of long-standing institutional bulwarks against misinformation in the internet age. Concern over the problem is global. However, much remains unknown regarding the vulnerabilities of individuals, institutions, and society to manipulations by malicious actors. A new system of safeguards is needed. Below, we discuss extant social and computer science research regarding belief in fake news and the mechanisms by which it spreads. Fake news has a long history, but we focus on unanswered scientific questions raised by the proliferation of its most recent, politically oriented incarnation. Beyond selected references in the text, suggested further reading can be found in the supplementary materials.

*Reports*

### **The spread of true and false news online**

By Soroush Vosoughi, Deb Roy, Sinan Aral

Science 09 Mar 2018 : 1146-1151 Full Access

*Lies spread faster than the truth*

There is worldwide concern over false news and the possibility that it can influence political, economic, and social well-being. To understand how false news spreads, Vosoughi et al. used a data set of rumor cascades on Twitter from 2006 to 2017. About 126,000 rumors were spread by ~3 million people. False news reached more people than the truth; the top 1% of false news cascades diffused to between 1000 and 100,000 people, whereas the truth rarely diffused to more than 1000 people. Falsehood also diffused faster than the truth. The degree of novelty and the emotional reactions of recipients may be responsible for the differences observed.

*Science, this issue p. [1146](#)*

*Abstract*

We investigated the differential diffusion of all of the verified true and false news stories distributed on Twitter from 2006 to 2017. The data comprise ~126,000 stories tweeted by ~3 million people more than 4.5 million times. We classified news as true or false using information from six independent fact-checking organizations that exhibited 95 to 98% agreement on the classifications. Falsehood diffused significantly farther, faster, deeper, and more broadly than the truth in all categories of information, and the effects were more pronounced for false political news than for false news about terrorism, natural disasters, science, urban legends, or financial information. We found that false news was more novel than true news, which suggests

that people were more likely to share novel information. Whereas false stories inspired fear, disgust, and surprise in replies, true stories inspired anticipation, sadness, joy, and trust. Contrary to conventional wisdom, robots accelerated the spread of true and false news at the same rate, implying that false news spreads more than the truth because humans, not robots, are more likely to spread it.

### **Social Science & Medicine**

Volume 198 In progress (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/198/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Stability: International Journal of Security & Development**

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 10 March 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

### **Stanford Social Innovation Review**

Winter 2018 Volume 16, Number 1

[https://ssir.org/issue/winter\\_2018](https://ssir.org/issue/winter_2018)

The only way that climate change will be reversed is by continuing to develop new technologies and turning them into products and services. Philanthropists play an important role in that process, particularly by investing in risky, early-stage, science-based startups that traditional investors shy away from. Read more about this in "[The Investment Gap That Threatens the Planet](#)," the cover story in the Winter 2018 issue.

*Health*

#### **[Health Insurance for Migrants](#)**

By Kristine Wong

The M-FUND offers affordable health insurance to the vulnerable Burmese migrant population on Thailand's western border.

### **Sustainability**

Volume 9, Issue 10 (October 2017)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Torture Journal**

Volume 27 - Issue No. 3

<http://www.irct.org/publications/torture-journal/128>

[Reviewed earlier]

### **Trauma, Violence, & Abuse**

Volume 19, Issue 2, April 2018

<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/tvaa/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases**

January-February, 2018 Volume 21

<http://www.travelmedicinejournal.com/>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **Tropical Medicine & International Health**

February 2018 Volume 23, Issue 2 Pages i–iv, 121–250

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tmi.2018.23.issue-2/issuetoc>

[Reviewed earlier]

## **UN Chronicle**

Vol. LIV No. 4 2017 January 2018

<http://unchronicle.un.org/>

### ***Global Citizenship***

This issue focuses on global citizenship, which has been defined as the concept that one's identity transcends, even as it respects, geographical and national borders, and that our social, political, environmental and economic actions occur in an interconnected world. The articles examine, among other things, the nexus between reducing inequality and global citizenship, safeguarding cultural and linguistic diversity, and the rights and responsibilities derived from being a global citizen.

In this issue of the UN Chronicle, we have invited a number of distinguished contributors to share with us their perspectives on what global citizenship is and how this concept can be translated into solutions to global challenges and concerns.

## **Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies**

*An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care*

Volume 13, Issue 1, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current>

### ***Special Section: Increasing Understanding for Syrian Refugee Children with Empirical Evidence***

[Reviewed earlier]

## **World Heritage Review**

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/84/>

n°86 - March 2018

### **World Heritage and Reconstruction**

While conflicts continue to inflict damage – much of it intentional – on heritage sites, reconstruction becomes a critical topic for discussion. The recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged sites are complex. They involve questions that go beyond authenticity and integrity. As the architect Jad Tabet says in his introductory article to this issue of World Heritage, “No one could have imagined that the coming century would, in its early years, witness a new cycle of violence that would spread from Afghanistan and Iraq to Mali, Libya, Syria and Yemen and lead the world to this state of generalized latent warfare that we know today.

The formulation of sound guidance is urgently required on issues related to recovery, taking into account the need to support the affected local communities. To this end, expert meetings

have been convened by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM and ICOMOS, and seminars are being held at universities to develop plans for thoughtful and effective action. UNESCO is also currently preparing a 'White Paper' in partnership with the World Bank on the reconstruction of cities following a conflict or major natural disaster. Reconstruction projects at World Heritage sites also need to address the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of each site – the reason for which it was inscribed on the World Heritage List – but within the context of a larger vision for recovery that addresses socioeconomic questions as well as the needs of the local communities. Solutions must be sensitive to questions of reconciliation and cannot rewrite history.

In this issue, we look at the cases of intentional destruction of sites in Syria and of the Buddhas in the Bamiyan Valley of Afghanistan. We take into account the devastating impact on local communities and their identities, as well as the implications of different approaches to reconstruction. We look at the inspiring cases of Timbuktu (Mali), where the mausoleums were rebuilt after their destruction in 2012, and the Old Bridge Area of the Old City of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina), where the rebuilt bridge has become a symbol of perseverance and unity among communities. We are also pleased to present an interview with heritage expert Christina Cameron, who explains the concept of reconstruction in the framework of the World Heritage Convention and considers the emotional and psychological consequences for the related communities.

As we move forward, the World Heritage Committee will continue to support the preparation and dissemination of guidance on reconstruction, which includes facing the multifaceted challenges it brings. The Committee will continue as well to offer other options – such as exhibits, or virtual projections – that can satisfy the needs of communities to preserve and express their identities without marring the authenticity of what remains. New questions must also be addressed in the future. They include commemoration of the loss, and remembrance of community members and site managers who have given their lives to defend our shared World Heritage.

I would like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank Francesco Bandarin, Assistant Director-General for Culture, who is leaving UNESCO after 15 years of service and who contributed greatly to safeguarding World Heritage around the world. I would also like to express my gratitude to Vesna Vujicic-Lugassy, our Managing Editor from the inception of this magazine in May 1996 to the present, for her personal engagement to make the Review globally known.

*Mechtild Rössler*

*Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre*

## **World Journal of Emergency Medicine**

2018 - Vol. 9 - No 2 June 2018

<http://wjem.org/journal/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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