

Program

[updated 09/10/2023]

DAY 1: TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2023

08:30 - 10:00

Foyer

REGISTRATION

10:00 - 11:00

Münzenbergsaal + Salon

WELCOME

Dr. Parnian Parvanta | President, Doctors Without Borders Germany

OPENING KEYNOTE CONVERSATION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ruona Meyer | Journalist and Manager, Africa Initiative, Solutions Journalism Network

Isabel Schayani | Journalist, Commentator and Moderator, Westdeutscher Rundfunk

CHAIR

Dr. Glenda Cooper | Researcher, Department of Journalism, University of London

11:00 - 11:30 | **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30 - 12:30

Münzenbergsaal

Shaping the decade ahead: Interconnections of attention and humanitarian principles

The panel delves into social, political, health and climate change concerns. It examines the uneven attention that crises receive, and considers whether humanitarian principles evolve from morality, conventions or operational needs. These explorations shed light on both humanitarian work and society. The discussion highlights global responsibilities and the future of the humanitarian system.

Nikolaus Blome | Journalist and Political Editor, RTL/NTV

Dr. Fiona Terry | Head of Centre for Operational Research and Experience, ICRC

Prof. Michael Onyebuchi Eze | Lecturer, California State University

Chair:

Annie Slemrod | Journalist, The New Humanitarian

11:30 - 12:30

Salon

From Ebola to Tuberculosis: Understanding deadly neglect in global health

This session aims to shed light on the critical issues of neglect and inadequate responses to long-known infectious diseases. While the reasons for the lack of access to life-saving vaccines, medicines, and tests for various diseases can vary regionally, there are common threads of neglect and inadequate access that span different infectious diseases. The panel will explore the different dimensions of structural neglect in Global Health and actionable measures to address the neglect.

Fatima Hassan | Director and Founder, Health Justice International
Dr. Abdulkarim Ekzayez | Senior Research Associate, King's College London
Michelle Childs | Policy Advocacy Director, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)

Chair:

Katri Bertram | Global Health Consultant

12:30 - 13:30 | LUNCH

13:30 - 14:30

Münzenbergsaal

Neglected, forgotten, historic: What good do crises categorizations do?

This event will look at who holds authority over categorizations like “neglected crisis” or superlatives like “unprecedented crisis” and what good or harm they actually do. It deep-dives into the power and role of different actors in driving dominant narratives. It will also discuss the usefulness of such categorizations and narratives, and whether attention created that way actually translates into real support.

Zahra Nader | Editor-in-Chief, Zan Times

Martin Suvatne | Managing Director, Norwegian Refugee Council Germany

Gemma Connell | Chief, Assessment, Planning & Monitoring Branch, OCHA

Chair:

Sophie Desoulieres | Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Doctors Without Borders Netherlands

13:30 - 14:30

Salon

Time to change: Climate change and the temporalities of the humanitarian sector

Connecting interdisciplinary perspectives this panel will both look at the humanitarian sector's attention on immediate, sudden-onset contingencies requiring swift responses as well as at the climate crisis impacts spanning over decades. By applying a temporal lens, the past, present and future of humanitarianism will be looked at – including its concepts and tools and interconnectedness with global inequalities. Also, the need and benefits of new alliances and cross-learning opportunities with climate scientists and the climate movement will be reflected upon.

Maria Theresa Niña Espinola-Abogado | Program Manager, B-READY Global Scale-up, Oxfam

Nina Treu | Managing Director Economy and Society, Greenpeace Germany

Dr. Andrea Steinke | Research Fellow, Center for Humanitarian Action

Chair:

Dr. Remco van de Pas | Researcher, Centre for Planetary Health Policy

14:30 - 15:00 | COFFEE BREAK

15:00 - 16:00

Münzenbergsaal

Ukraine: Perpetuating structural injustices in times of crises

While the humanitarian situation in Ukraine is receiving attention, this in-depth examination of Ukraine will primarily concentrate on the precise definition of 'vulnerability' as a fundamental humanitarian criterion and the mechanisms that concern vulnerable and marginalized populations, who often fall through the cracks in the sectoral divisions established by the humanitarian system. It will delve into the perspectives of humanitarian actors, researchers, and affected individuals regarding the necessary changes to address structural injustices affecting neglected vulnerable populations and their relationship to additional disasters.

Elena Voskresenskaya | Executive Director, AIDS Foundation East-West

Lisa Eckenwiler | Associate Professor of Philosophy and Director of Health Care Ethics, George Mason University

Zainab Moallin | Research Officer, Overseas Development Institute

Dmytro Drizhd | Country Representative, arche noVa Ukraine

Chair:

Renaud Boulet | Board Member, Médecins du Monde France

15:00 - 16:00

Salon

Colombia: Impact of migration, climate crisis and internal conflict on health needs and services

Exploring advancements in healthcare provision within a humanitarian crisis setting amidst concurrent challenges arising from migration, climate crises, and conflicts, this session uses Colombia as a case study to reveal pitfalls in public and financial attention. The experts involved will examine the reasons behind the lack of sustainable recognition and funding for effective initiatives and how this correlates with public attention shifting towards crises or downturns.

Dr. Francisco Moreno | Secretary General, Colombian Red Cross

Jessica Chaix | Technical Assistant, ECHO

Chair:

Margarita Arias | Director of Strategic Partnerships, Colombian Red Cross

16:00 - 17:30 | RECEPTION AND GET-TOGETHER

17:30 | END OF DAY 1

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2023

08:30 - 10:00

Foyer

REGISTRATION

10:00 - 11:00

Münzenbergsaal + Salon

WELCOME

François De Keersmaecker | Executive Director, Médecins du Monde Germany

OPENING KEYNOTE CONVERSATION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Tirana Hassan | Executive Director, Human Rights Watch

Sorcha O'Callaghan | Director, Humanitarian Policy Group, Overseas Development Institute

CHAIR

Ed Schenkenberg van Mierop | Executive Director, HERE-Geneva

11:00 - 11:30 | **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30 - 12:30

Münzenbergsaal

Fatal side effects: Historical gendering in medical science, practice and drugs

The centerpiece of this session is an exploration of how the historical gendering of medicine prioritizes specific types of knowledge and creates barriers for critical and feminist research. The panel will delve into the medical framework's impact on current gender inequalities by examining the roles of biological differences and socio-cultural power structures in healthcare research and services. It will also address how specific groups are particularly neglected within the fields of medical education, drug development, and healthcare.

Sarah Graham | Journalist and Author

Dr. Sitra Nuredin | Program Officer, Woman in Global Health

Prof. Sabrina Schmitt | Lecturer, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences

Chair:

Elisa Visconti | Executive Director, Médecins du Monde Italy

11:30 - 12:30

Salon

The Rohingya: Neglected in plain sight for decades

The plight of the Rohingya people, facing a crisis characterized by its protracted nature and recurring spikes in violence, desperation, and marginalization, will be used as an illustration of compassion fatigue and humanitarian neglect. In addition to analyzing the current situation, panellists will discuss and demonstrate why and how humanitarian actors seek new strategies to raise awareness and

implement lasting solutions. This includes methods such as creative advocacy, community engagement, and reframing narratives.

Andrea Marshall | Program Director Displacement and Dialogue South Asia, DW Akademie
Dr. Ambia Perveen | Chairperson, Rohingya Medics Organisation
Chris Melzer | Senior External Relations Officer, UNHCR Germany
Jason Mills | Regional Humanitarian Advisor, Doctors Without Borders Southeast, East Asia & Pacific

Chair:

Hannah Newbery | Migration and Integration Policy Advisor, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

12:30 - 13:30 | LUNCH

13:30 - 14:30

Münzenbergsaal

When the world moves on, local actors stay: How to face humanitarian challenges of forgotten crises

In a series of TedTalk-style presentations, local humanitarian actors from contexts often considered neglected (Lebanon, Chad and the Philippines) will emphasize the detrimental impacts of the currently attention-driven humanitarian system. They will also explain how, despite these challenges, they continue to provide assistance to communities in need. Together with the audience, they will present and reflect upon systemic solutions to address the humanitarian attention spiral.

Fatima Khaddour | Head of Programs, Basmeh and Zeitoonah
Nanette Antequisa | Executive Director, Ecosystems Work for Essential Benefits
Mahamat Moussa Djibert | Manager, Help Chad Development Association

Chair:

Badra Yusuf | Managing Director, RAAGSAN Consulting

13:30 - 14:30

Münzenbergsaal

The digital dilemma: Balancing efficiency and ethics in humanitarian action

This panel delves into pivotal questions: who shapes tech norms, us or tech? Does society honour human dignity or see people as mere data? Digital tools do and will further boost humanitarian aid provision in terms of efficiency but equally so raise trust, exclusion and bias issues. It's a double-edged sword for humanitarianism, promising progress and posing doubt. Efficiency meets ethics in this discourse.

Karl Steinacker | Lecturer, Alice Salomon Polytechnical University, Berlin
Grace Mutung'u | Research Fellow, Centre for IP and IT Law, Strathmore University Nairobi
Massimo Marelli | Head of Delegation for Cyberspace, ICRC Luxembourg
Dr. Benjamin Herfort | Product Manager, HeiGIT

Chair:

Astrid Ziebarth | Senior Fellow Tech and Society, German Marshall Fund

14:30 - 15:00 | COFFEE BREAK

15:00 - 16:00

Münzenbergsaal

South Sudan: Leaving no one behind in neglected crises

This panel looks at how neglected, forgotten, and/or underfinanced crises' contexts result in reduced efforts to reach those most at risk, for whom humanitarian action requires more specific targeting and attention to underlying risk factors. The panel will discuss how these constraints impact the much-needed capacity development and technical support to ensure that no one is left behind. The panel will also explore opportunities to strengthen the capacity of local actors and persons with disabilities to be empowered actors of change and will apply an intersectional lens throughout.

John Kimani | Advisor, United Disabled Persons of Kenya

Umikalthum Shukri Noor | Humanitarian Affairs Officer, UNOCHA

Mauot Anyang | South Sudan Union of the Visually Impaired and International Disability Alliance

Grace Awino | Head of Gender, Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations, WFP South Sudan

Chair:

Haakon Spriewald | Project Coordinator, Handicap International

15:00 - 16:00

Salon

Building support while ensuring dignity: How to professionalize humanitarian attention

This workshop session offers a distinctive blend of practical and theoretical perspectives to delve into the ethics of ensuring dignity in the use of media as an awareness raising tool in humanitarian action. In order to understand how visual media can serve as a tool for raising awareness in humanitarian efforts, practical issues, best practices and potential guidelines about who, when, and why one should use what medium will be explored.

Mareike Günsche | Photographer, The Human Perspective

Nils Carstensen | Humanitarian Worker and Documentarist, Local to Global Protection

Chair:

Dr. Lars Löfqvist | President and Director, Network on Humanitarian Action

16:00 - 16:30

Münzenbergsaal + Salon

CLOSING REMARKS AND RECAP

Badra Yusuf | Managing Director, RAAGSAN Consulting

Nancy Balfour | Managing Trustee, Centre for Humanitarian Change

DAY 3: Thursday 12 OCTOBER 2023

11:00 - 11:30

Online

WELCOME

Dr. Peter Bobbert | President, Berlin Chamber of Physicians

OPENING KEYNOTE

Patrick Gathara | Senior Editor for Inclusive Storytelling, The New Humanitarian

CHAIR

Badra Yusuf | Managing Director, RAAGSAN Consulting

11:30 - 12:30

Online

Feelgood Narratives for harsh realities: The origins and consequences of oversimplification

With ever increasing, all pressing, interconnected crises and in absence of political will to solve crises, we are constantly targeted by diverse actors bargaining for our attention and money, both online and offline. This session will look at the implications and consequences of humanitarian actors using oversimplistic and corporate messaging for fundraising and attention.

Hala Al-Karib | Regional Director, Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa

John Bryant | Research Fellow, Humanitarian Policy Group, Overseas Development Institute

Mina Jaf | Refugee Advocate and Founder, Women's Refugee Route

Frances Nguyen | Journalist and Editor, Women's Media Center - Women Under Siege

Chair:

Paul van den Berg | Political Adviser, Cordaid

12:30 - 13:00 | COFFEE BREAK

13:00 - 14:00

Online

Notorious ignorance: Anthropology and Attention in the Humanitarian Sector

Humanitarian attention disparities, rooted in different priorities and implicit hierarchies, carry significant costs and risks. Understanding humanitarian practitioners' and institutional donors' shifts in attention, including whose voices are prioritized and why, especially in the context of local communities, is crucial. This panel explores these dynamics and their impact, drawing from anthropological critique to reshape humanitarianism's future.

Pedro Silva Rocha Lima | Convenor of the Anthropology, Humanitarianism Network

Jean-François Véran | Senior Humanitarian Advisor, Doctors Without Borders France

May Zin Win Soe | Researcher, Covenant Development Institute

Chair:

Anne-Meike Fechter | Professor in Anthropology and International Development, University of Sussex

14:00 - 14:30 | COFFEE BREAK

14:30 - 15:30

Online

Social media, Activism and Advocacy: Advantages and limitations

Social media has undoubtedly become a central and indispensable tool for international NGOs, political and social movements and activists, all of whom are trying to achieve the main goal of drawing global attention to certain issues and causes. This panel therefore aims to discuss in depth the strengths and weaknesses of social media and online activism, drawing a comparison with more 'traditional' forms of activism, and finally exploring the question of advocacy on behalf of other communities through online means.

Lateef Johar | Human Rights Advocate and Social Media Activist

Sharmila Hashimi | Activist and Journalist, Handbook Germany

Maryna Hovorukhina | Advisor, Common Sense Communications

Chair:

Fatouma Belarbi | Head of Communications, Médecins du Monde France