

© World Federation of United Nations Associations

# **Global Model WHO 2024**

COMMITTEE A3

# **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**GLOBAL HEALTH AND  
PEACE INITIATIVE**

Geneva, Switzerland  
October 29 - November 1, 2024

*The Most Accurate Simulation of the World Health Assembly*

## GA3: Global Health and Peace Initiative

---

The Global Health and Peace Initiative emphasizes the critical, bidirectional link between health and peace. It acknowledges that conflict and violence can severely impact health systems and outcomes, but also, that sustained peace is essential to the achievement of equitable healthcare – and Sustainable Development Goal 3 on health and well-being overall. The initiative aims to strengthen the role of WHO and the health sector as (direct and indirect) contributors to improving the prospects for peace, in alignment with the UN Sustaining Peace agenda which calls on all UN agencies, funds and programs (AFPs) to contribute to preventing conflict and sustaining peace through their mandate. The ultimate objective in doing so is to better protect the health of populations in fragile and conflict-affected settings as well as wider settings globally.

An illustration of WHO's contribution to peaceful societies, through its health mandate, is the strengthening of health systems in fragile settings, ensuring they are resilient and capable of providing essential services to all, in an equitable and inclusive manner. Health diplomacy is another, more specific possible entry point for linking health and peace objectives. By prioritizing health in diplomatic discussions, countries or conflicting parties may foster collaborative relationships more easily when health is considered a common good.

Mental health and psycho-social support (MHPSS) is a crucial entry point for 'peace-responsive' health programming. Providing MHPSS to conflict-affected communities is an important health priority, and it can also contribute to preventing the further deterioration of inter-personal relations in conflict-affected settings – if designed/provided in a peace-responsive way, thereby improving broader societal stability.

Community engagement is a vital aspect of the Global Health and Peace Initiative. The GHPI recognizes the importance of involving local communities in health programming – with acute sensitivity to peace and conflict dynamics on the ground. By empowering local leaders and organizations – those who effectively represent communities in an inclusive way – health initiatives can create sustainable and culturally sensitive health programs that address the specific needs of all groups amongst conflict-affected populations. A community-based approach – if peace and conflict-sensitive – helps to rebuild social cohesion and trust, which are essential for long-term peace.

The Global Health and Peace Initiative relies on complementary partnerships and coordinated efforts among health and peacebuilding actors amongst national governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations. Adequate funding is needed to support health interventions in conflict zones and the GHPI is a key component of those efforts.

# Key Points and Main Issues

---

Delegates focusing on the GPHI should focus on the intersection of health, peace, and development, how health interventions can prevent conflict, the challenges of delivering health services in conflict zones, and the importance of international collaboration and funding.

## 1. Overview of the Global Peace and Health Initiative (GPHI):

- The GPHI is a program launched by the WHO to promote peace through health and recognizes that peace and stability are critical to achieving global health goals.
- The initiative emphasizes that healthcare access and public health programs can play a role in preventing conflicts, building social cohesion, and fostering peace in fragile and conflict-affected regions.
- The GPHI aims to reduce health inequalities and improve outcomes by addressing the root causes of violence and instability, such as poverty, lack of access to healthcare, and social injustice.
- Health interventions have the potential of serving as a starting point for wider peace talks.

## 2. Health as a Bridge for Peace:

- The concept of "Health as a Bridge for Peace" highlights the idea that health interventions can act as neutral platforms for dialogue and cooperation between conflicting parties.
- Health diplomacy, including the provision of vaccines, medical aid, and essential health services, has historically been used as a tool to build trust and create humanitarian corridors in conflict zones.

# Key Points and Main Issues (cont.)

---

## 3. Link between Health and Peace:

- Conflict and instability often lead to the collapse of healthcare systems, resulting in increased disease outbreaks, malnutrition, and displacement of populations.
- The absence of health services exacerbates existing tensions and undermines peace-building efforts, creating a cycle where poor health and conflict feed into each other.
- Conversely, by improving access to healthcare, mental health services, and clean water, the GPHI seeks to improve stability, reduce violence, and create the conditions necessary for lasting peace.
- There are numerous instances where health diplomacy has succeeded in providing crucial relief and humanitarian access in conflict zones. These include: polio vaccination ceasefires (Afghanistan and Pakistan), Ebola Response (West Africa, 2014-2016), Operation Lifeline Sudan (1989), Cholera Outbreak Response (Yemen, 2016-present), Guinea Worm Eradication (South Sudan, 2000s), Smallpox Eradication in Conflict Zones (1970s), Cross-Border Malaria Control in the Greater Mekong Subregion (2000s), among others. Studying these examples are useful in better understanding how health diplomacy can contribute to peace efforts.

## 4. Role of the WHO in Conflict Zones:

- The WHO plays a pivotal role in humanitarian health interventions in conflict-affected regions, such as distributing vaccines, providing medical aid, and ensuring access to essential health services.
- The WHO often works with UN peacekeeping missions, NGOs, and local governments to deliver health services in conflict zones and fragile states.

## 5. Mental Health and Peacebuilding:

- Mental health services are essential in post-conflict regions to help populations recover from trauma and psychological distress. Without adequate mental health support, violence and instability are more likely to persist.
- The WHO integrates mental health services into the broader peace and health initiatives to promote healing and reconciliation.

# Key Points and Main Issues (cont.)

---

## 6. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Peace:

- The GPI is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).
- Health is a foundation for development, and addressing health inequalities can contribute to achieving sustainable peace.

## 7. Challenges in Conflict Zones:

- Access to healthcare is often limited or nonexistent in conflict zones, making it difficult to provide even basic medical services. Delegates should understand the challenges of delivering health services in war-torn areas.
- In some conflict zones, healthcare workers and facilities are targeted, making it dangerous to provide medical aid. Delegates should consider how the international community can ensure the safety of health workers in conflict areas.

## 8. Health Inequalities as a Root Cause of Conflict:

- Inequitable access to healthcare can exacerbate tensions between different social groups or regions. Delegates should consider how addressing health disparities can prevent conflicts from arising or escalating.

## 9. Funding and Resources for Health Initiatives:

- Adequate funding is a major challenge for initiatives like the GPI. Delegates should consider how partnerships with NGOs, private sector entities, and governments can support peace through health.

## 10. Post-Conflict Health Reconstruction:

- In post-conflict settings, rebuilding the health system is essential to support long-term peace and stability. Delegates should explore how the international community can assist in the reconstruction of healthcare systems in countries emerging from conflict, particularly with a focus on ensuring that services are inclusive and accessible to all groups, regardless of political or ethnic affiliation.

## [WHO Health and Peace Initiative](#)

**2023**

Summary: The WHO Health and Peace Initiative aims to integrate health interventions with peace-building efforts in fragile and conflict-affected settings. It promotes using health programs to foster social cohesion, reduce inequalities, and improve access to care while contributing to peace outcomes. This approach includes community engagement, capacity building, and advocacy to ensure health services help strengthen peace and resilience globally.

---

## [World Health Organization. "An Innovative Approach: The Health for Peace Approach to Programming.](#)

**2022**

Summary: The "Health for Peace" approach by WHO integrates health programs with peace-building efforts in conflict-affected areas. It focuses on local peace outcomes such as social cohesion, dialogue, and resilience. The approach includes risk analysis, ensuring programs are sensitive to conflict dynamics, and, when feasible, actively contributing to peace by improving health access, equity, and community engagement. This strategy requires collaboration with peace and health actors to better align health interventions with peace-building goals.

---

## [World Health Organization. "Roadmap for the Global Health and Peace Initiative: The process so far.](#)

**2022**

Summary: The WHO is developing a roadmap for the Global Health and Peace Initiative, launched in 2019, through consultations with member states and stakeholders. The roadmap aims to guide the implementation of health and peace efforts across six workstreams, with ongoing updates and evidence gathering. The initiative seeks to strengthen health systems while promoting peace in conflict-affected areas.

**World Health Organization. "Roadmap for the Global Health for Peace Initiative: Draft."**

**2022**

Summary: The draft "Roadmap for the Global Health for Peace Initiative" outlines a strategic framework for integrating health interventions with peace-building efforts in conflict-affected regions. It details key actions, timelines, and collaborative approaches necessary to achieve these goals, emphasizing the importance of community engagement, equity, and cross-sectoral partnerships to strengthen health systems while fostering peace.

---

**Global Health for Peace Initiative Report by the Director-General**

**2023**

Summary: The Seventy-fifth World Health Assembly requested the Director-General in decision WHA75(24) in May 2022 to consult with Member States and Observers on the implementation of the Global Health for Peace Initiative. This report provides an update on progress achieved to date on the request made in this decision. This report includes important information about some Member States and Observers reactions to this initiative.

---

**World Health Organization. "Health and Peace: Message by WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros."**

**2022**

Summary: The WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros, emphasizes the vital connection between health and peace in his message. He discusses how health initiatives can play a crucial role in fostering peace by building trust, improving access to essential services, and promoting social cohesion in conflict-affected settings. Dr. Tedros calls for stronger partnerships and collective efforts to integrate health and peace-building strategies globally.

---

**World Health Organization. "WHO's Health & Peace Initiative: Paris Peace Forum 2020."**

**2020**

Summary: The WHO's Health and Peace Initiative, highlighted at the Paris Peace Forum 2020, aims to leverage health programs to support peace-building in conflict areas. The initiative focuses on enhancing social cohesion, reducing inequalities, and fostering trust in communities by integrating health services with peace efforts. It emphasizes collaboration between health and peace actors to create a sustainable impact.

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).**  
**"Building Peace through Health: Case Studies of**  
**Health Interventions in Conflict Situations."**

**2020**

Summary: The UNDP publication "Building Peace Through Health" explores how health initiatives can contribute to peacebuilding efforts in conflict-affected areas. It highlights examples where health programs have fostered social cohesion, improved trust, and supported local governance, demonstrating that health is a bridge for peace. The report emphasizes the need for integrated strategies that align health and peace goals, promoting inclusive development and resilience.

---

**United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**  
**(UNHCR). "Global Compact on Refugees: Strengthening**  
**Health Services in Host and Refugee Communities."**

**2018**

Summary: The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) aims to improve international response to refugee situations by enhancing support for host countries, promoting refugee self-reliance, and fostering solutions like resettlement or safe return. It emphasizes burden-sharing among UN member states, NGOs, and private sectors, focusing on fair responsibility distribution, humanitarian assistance, and long-term development.



# Middle East

---

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). "Health Resilience in Conflict-Affected Areas of the Middle East."

2021

Summary: The UNESCWA publication on "Health Resilience in the Middle East" focuses on strategies to strengthen health systems amid conflict and crisis in the region. It discusses improving access to essential health services, building resilient healthcare infrastructure, and ensuring health security through regional cooperation, policy reform, and sustainable investment. The report emphasizes the importance of integrating health resilience into broader socio-economic development plans.

## [Oman Statement on GPHI](#)

**2024**

Summary: Oman is a key supporter of the Global Health and Peace Initiative.

---

## [Statements on agenda item 12.3 \(Global Peace and Health Initiative\) at the 152nd meeting of the WHO Executive Board](#)

**2023**

Summary: The following statements on the Global Health and Peace Initiative were made at the 152th meeting of the WHO Executive Board: [Bangladesh \(English\)](#), [Finland \(English\)](#), [Oman \(English\)](#), [Republic of Korea \(English\)](#), [Tunisia \(Arabic\)](#), [Syrian Arab Republic \(Arabic\)](#), [Uruguay \(Spanish\)](#).

## [European Union statement on GPHI - 77th session of the WHA](#)

**2023**

Summary: This statement covers three agenda items of which the agenda item on the Global Health and Peace Initiative is one of them. If you are representing a country in Europe and cannot find any statement made by your country on Global Health and Peace, you can align your position with this statement made by the EU.

---

## [European Union statement on GPHI - 152nd meeting of the WHO Executive Board](#)

**2023**

Summary: This statement highlights the EU's position on the Global Health and Peace Initiative during the 152nd WHO Executive Board meeting.

**Health Policy Watch. "Endorsement of New WHO Health and Peace Initiative Offers Bright Spot in Dark Horizons of Conflict."**

**2023**

Summary: The article highlights the endorsement of the WHO's new Health and Peace Initiative, which integrates health programs with peace-building efforts in conflict-affected areas. The initiative aims to foster trust, reduce inequalities, and support social cohesion through health interventions, offering a hopeful approach amid global conflicts and crises.

---

**Médecins Sans Frontières. "MSF Urges WHO to Ensure Global Health & Peace Initiative Consults All Actors."**

**2023**

Summary: The article discusses Médecins Sans Frontières' (MSF) call for the WHO to ensure its Health and Peace Initiative includes meaningful consultations with all relevant actors, including local communities and NGOs. MSF emphasizes that this initiative should be transparent, inclusive, and focused on the practical needs of those affected by conflict to be effective.

---

**Cockburn, W. C. "The Evolution and Function of WHO."**

**2022**

Summary: The article from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) discusses a study on the relationship between health and peace, analyzing how health interventions can promote social cohesion and peace in conflict-affected regions. It highlights key findings on the impact of health programs in fostering trust, reducing violence, and supporting broader peace-building efforts.

**People's Dispatch. "WHO EB Endorses Global Health and Peace Initiative, Calls for Continued Strengthening and Financing Surge."**

**2024**

Summary: The article from People's Dispatch discusses the endorsement of the WHO's Global Health and Peace Initiative by its Executive Board, emphasizing the need for continued strengthening and a surge in financing to ensure the initiative's success. The initiative focuses on integrating health efforts with peace-building strategies in conflict zones, aiming to improve global health outcomes while fostering social cohesion and resilience.

---

**The Lancet. "Addressing Health and Peace in Global Conflicts."**

**2023**

Summary: The article in The Lancet discusses the latest research findings or commentary related to health, potentially involving topics like public health, medicine, or policy. It emphasizes the importance of recent scientific advancements or public health strategies that may have significant global implications.

---

**BMJ Global Health. "The Impact of Health Interventions in Conflict Zones: Evidence from the Global Health and Peace Initiative."**

**2023**

Summary: The article in BMJ Global Health explores the impact of the WHO's Health and Peace Initiative on global health systems and conflict zones. It examines how integrating health and peace-building efforts can enhance social cohesion, reduce health disparities, and promote sustainable development in fragile settings. The study calls for increased collaboration and resources to maximize the initiative's effectiveness.

**International Crisis Group. "Health and Conflict: Leveraging Health Initiatives for Peacebuilding."**

**2022**

Summary: The article from the International Crisis Group discusses the intersections between health, conflict, and peacebuilding. It explores how health initiatives can contribute to peace processes and conflict resolution by promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities, and building trust in fragile settings. The piece emphasizes the need for integrated strategies that align health and peace efforts to create sustainable outcomes.

---

**Chatham House. "Health as a Bridge for Peace: A New Paradigm for Conflict Zones."**

**2022**

Summary: The Chatham House article "Health as a Bridge for Peace" examines the role of health initiatives in promoting peace and stability in conflict-affected areas. It discusses how health programs can build trust, foster cooperation, and address inequalities, thereby contributing to conflict resolution and sustainable peace. The article advocates for integrating health into peacebuilding strategies and emphasizes the importance of partnerships among health, humanitarian, and peace actors.

---

**The Center for Humanitarian Health at Johns Hopkins University. "Integrating Health and Peacebuilding: A Research Agenda."**

**2022**

Summary: The Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health article on "Health and Peacebuilding" explores how health initiatives can support peacebuilding efforts in conflict-affected settings. It discusses the role of health programs in fostering trust, social cohesion, and stability, and emphasizes the importance of integrating health strategies into broader peace efforts to achieve sustainable outcomes.

## [The Global Health Network. "Exploring the Nexus between Health and Peacebuilding."](#)

2023

Summary: The article on The Global Health Network explores the "health-peace nexus," highlighting how health interventions can support peacebuilding in conflict-affected areas. It discusses strategies for integrating health programs with peace efforts, emphasizing the potential of health initiatives to promote social cohesion, reduce violence, and build resilience in communities affected by conflict.

# Africa

---

**[Health security and the promotion of peace and security in Africa](#)**

**2024**

Summary: This article examines the nexus between the nexus of health, peace and security in Africa.

---

**[African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes \(ACCORD\). "Health as a Tool for Peacebuilding in Africa."](#)**

**2023**

Summary: The ACCORD publication discusses using health initiatives as tools for peacebuilding in Africa, highlighting how health programs can foster social cohesion, trust, and stability in conflict-affected areas. It emphasizes the importance of integrating health into peace processes and developing partnerships between health, humanitarian, and peace actors to achieve sustainable peace.

---

**[Institute for Security Studies \(ISS\). "Strengthening Health Systems to Build Peace in Sub-Saharan Africa."](#)**

**2023**

Summary: The ISS Africa publication discusses strategies for strengthening health systems in Africa, focusing on improving resilience, accessibility, and quality of healthcare across the continent. It highlights the need for better funding, policy reform, and regional cooperation to address challenges such as disease outbreaks, inadequate infrastructure, and health inequities. The report calls for comprehensive approaches that integrate health with economic and social development.



## African Group (cont.)

---

[How health can make a contribution to peace in Africa: WHO's Global Health for Peace Initiative \(GHPI\)](#)

**2022**

Summary: This article looks at the GHPI as applied to the African region.

---

[The Conversation Africa. "How Health Initiatives Can Foster Peace in Conflict Zones in Africa."](#)

**2022**

Summary: The article on The Conversation discusses how health initiatives can be integrated into peacebuilding efforts in Africa. It examines the potential for health programs to foster social cohesion, trust, and stability in conflict-affected communities, highlighting examples where healthcare provision has helped mitigate tensions and promote peace. The piece also calls for stronger collaboration between health and peace actors to maximize the impact of such initiatives.

## Asia Pacific

---

**Asia Foundation. "Health and Peace: Building Trust in Post-Conflict Asia."**

**2023**

Summary: The Asia Foundation's publication on "Health and Peace in Asia" explores how health initiatives can be a catalyst for peacebuilding in the region. It examines the role of healthcare in conflict resolution, promoting social cohesion, and supporting community resilience. The publication highlights case studies and suggests ways to integrate health efforts into broader peace and development strategies.

---

**International Crisis Group. "Healing the Divide: Health Programs in Southeast Asia's Conflict Zones."**

**2023**

Summary: The Crisis Group article discusses the intersection of health and conflict resolution in Asia, highlighting how health initiatives can contribute to peace processes in the region. It explores how healthcare services can build trust, reduce tensions, and support reconciliation efforts in conflict-affected communities, and emphasizes the importance of integrating health strategies into broader peacebuilding frameworks.

---

**Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). "Improving Health Security and Peace in the Asia-Pacific Region."**

**2023**

Summary: The CSIS article on health security in the Asia-Pacific region explores the region's challenges and opportunities in addressing health threats, including infectious diseases, pandemics, and bioterrorism. It emphasizes the need for regional cooperation, stronger health systems, and strategic investments to enhance preparedness and response capabilities, thereby ensuring health security and resilience.

## Europe

---

**Chatham House. "The Role of Health in Promoting Peace in Eastern Europe."**

**2022**

Summary: The Chatham House research on "Health and Peace in Eastern Europe" examines the role of health initiatives in fostering peace in the region, especially in conflict-affected areas. It discusses how healthcare can build trust, promote dialogue, and strengthen resilience among communities, while highlighting the need for cooperation between health and peace actors to support sustainable development.

---

**European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). "Conflict, Migration, and Health: Building Peace Through Health Interventions in Europe."**

**2023**

Summary: The ECDC publication examines the health implications of conflict and migration in Europe, focusing on the challenges faced by displaced populations and host communities. It provides insights into the spread of infectious diseases, access to healthcare, and public health responses needed to address the needs of migrants and refugees effectively. The report emphasizes the importance of preparedness, surveillance, and cross-border cooperation to manage health risks.

---

**The Lancet Regional Health – Europe. "Health Initiatives and Peacebuilding Efforts in Europe."**

**2023**

Summary: The article in The Lancet Regional Health – Europe discusses the current health challenges and policies affecting Europe, focusing on public health, healthcare systems, and the impact of recent events like the COVID-19 pandemic. It highlights the need for stronger collaboration among European countries, improved health equity, and sustainable healthcare strategies to address both ongoing and emerging health issues.

# Latin America and the Caribbean

---

[Wilson Center. "Health and Peacebuilding in Colombia and Latin America."](#)

**2023**

Summary: The Wilson Center article explores how health initiatives have been integrated into peacebuilding efforts in Colombia, focusing on the challenges and successes of delivering healthcare in conflict-affected areas. It highlights the role of health programs in promoting reconciliation, social cohesion, and sustainable peace, while emphasizing the need for collaboration among government, local communities, and international organizations.

---

[Caribbean Public Health Agency \(CARPHA\). "Promoting Peace Through Public Health in the Caribbean."](#)

**2023**

Summary: The CARPHA publication "Peace Through Public Health" explores how public health initiatives can contribute to peacebuilding in the Caribbean region. It discusses the role of health programs in fostering social stability, improving community resilience, and reducing conflict by addressing health disparities and promoting equitable access to healthcare.

---

[Latin American Studies Association \(LASA\). "The Role of Health Programs in Conflict Resolution in Latin America."](#)

**2023**

Summary: The article from LASA International discusses the role of health initiatives in conflict resolution across Latin America, highlighting how healthcare programs can help build trust, reduce tensions, and promote social cohesion in conflict-affected areas. It emphasizes integrating health services with peace efforts to achieve sustainable outcomes and stability in the region.

## Middle East

---

**Arab Reform Initiative. "Health and Peace in the Middle East: Opportunities and Challenges."**

**2023**

Summary: The Arab Reform Initiative publication discusses the connection between health and peace in the Middle East, exploring how health services can be leveraged to promote peace in conflict-affected areas. It emphasizes the role of inclusive health policies, regional cooperation, and integrated approaches to address both health and peacebuilding challenges effectively.

---

**Middle East Institute. "Health Interventions as Peacebuilding Tools in the Middle East."**

**2022**

Summary: The publication from the Middle East Institute explores how health interventions can support peacebuilding efforts in the Middle East. It highlights the role of healthcare in fostering social cohesion, trust, and stability in conflict-affected areas. The article also discusses the importance of integrating health strategies with broader peace efforts to address both immediate health needs and long-term peacebuilding goals.

---

**Al Jazeera Centre for Studies. "Leveraging Health Initiatives to Promote Peace in the Middle East."**

**2023**

Summary: The Al Jazeera report examines the intersection of health and peace in the Middle East, focusing on how health interventions can support peacebuilding efforts in conflict zones. It highlights the potential of healthcare initiatives to build trust, reduce tensions, and promote social cohesion while addressing the immediate health needs of affected populations.

## North America

---

**[RAND Corporation. "Health and Peacebuilding: Lessons from North America."](#)**

**2022**

Summary: The RAND Corporation's research on health and peacebuilding in North America explores how health initiatives can be integrated into efforts to promote peace and stability. It examines the role of healthcare in fostering social cohesion, building trust in communities, and addressing disparities that can lead to conflict. The study emphasizes collaboration between health and peace actors to strengthen resilience and sustainable development.

---

**[Council on Foreign Relations \(CFR\). "Integrating Health Strategies for Peace in North America."](#)**

**2023**

Summary: The CFR report discusses health strategies to promote peace in North America, focusing on how health initiatives can address social determinants of conflict, improve community resilience, and foster cooperation across borders. It highlights the need for integrated policies that align public health efforts with peacebuilding objectives to enhance security and stability in the region.

---

**[American Public Health Association \(APHA\). "Peace through Health: Building Resilience in North America."](#)**

**2023**

Summary: The American Public Health Association (APHA) focuses on the concept of "Peace Through Health," which promotes the use of health initiatives to prevent conflict and build peace. The approach emphasizes the role of public health in fostering social cohesion, reducing violence, and addressing inequalities that can lead to unrest. APHA advocates for integrated health and peace policies to create healthier, more peaceful communities.



**Global Model WHO 2024 Study Guide**  
October 29 - November 1, 2024

*WHO Headquarters*  
*Av Appia 20 1211 Geneva Switzerland*  
**Global Model WHO 2024 Study Guide**