

International Health Governance

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International Workshop

„The Contested Authority of International Institutions in Global Health: National Decouplings, Regional Stumbling Blocks and International Collisions“

Heidelberg, Germany, 13 -14 November 2019

- [Call for Abstracts](#) -

Project management

- [Thomas Lange](#) (FEST)
- [Pedro Villarreal](#) (MPIL)

The Forschungsstätte der Evangelischen Studiengemeinschaft e.V. / Institute for Interdisciplinary Research ([FEST](#)) and the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law ([MPIL](#)) are engaged in a research project on International Health Governance. It will use the International Public Authority ([IPA](#)) approach in order to characterize and explain IHG in the face of ongoing structural changes in public international law.

International organizations play a central role in the formation of structures – organizations also have a considerable influence on the governance of international policy areas. This is also the case in international health policy. Despite many successful cases, the action of organizations can be associated with complications and blockages. For this reason, International Health Governance faces a growing set of obstacles in several topics, such as the protection against non-communicable diseases, or public health emergencies. This applies equally to the multilateral, regional and national levels.

In the ongoing project phase, thematic priorities are oriented along these three levels (multilateral, regional, national) of international health governance. These range from a hardly comprehensible field of actors with resulting coordination problems at the international level to poorly developed health systems at the national level, which can often be found in countries with a weak state monopoly on the use of force or even a defensive stance against the international health policy.

Research topics:

1. *Multilateral Level:* Interinstitutional links between international organizations and its challenges for the international promotion of health
2. *Regional Level:* Regional organisations and inter-state cooperation as a „Stepping Stone“ or a „Stumbling Block“ for the international promotion of health
3. *National Level:* The challenges of relations between international organizations and weak and post-liberal states – consequences for the international promotion of health

Previously

An initial international workshop took place on March 3-4, 2016. The workshop's theme was International Health Governance of Disease Outbreaks, with Professor Michael Marx (managing director „evaplan International Health“ at the University Hospital in Heidelberg, Germany) as keynote speaker.

Contents: This IHG perspective purports to recognize the relevant actors involved in the goal of providing an adequate standard of health for persons. While the human right to health still focuses on the home-states to guarantee internationally agreed standards, IHG encompasses the broader picture of States, International Organizations, NGOs, private actors and public-private partnerships, all of them acting within the purview of their legal norms as well as under ethical convictions. The recent West African Ebola crisis provides a relevant example for examining the response of different actors who aid States unable to safeguard their own citizens. What are the responsibilities of IHG actors and how does law coordinate their actions? Does the human right to health include research in health issues as an obligation of States? With the ultimate goal of delivering timely and effective aid, the interplay between regulatory provisions and structural shortcomings and their effect on coordinated aid delivery by various actors requires further scrutiny.

For the initial phase of our research, we selected three sub-areas of IHG:

1. Responsibilities of IHG actors
2. Coordination of IHG actors
3. Publicly-financed research

Please find a long concept paper for our IHG project [here](#).

International Workshop for Researchers, Post-docs, Doctoral Students and International Health Practitioners in general:

Infectious Disease Epidemics Control from an IPA perspective

3 and 4 March 2016 at the MPIL in Heidelberg, Germany

Keynote speaker: Prof. Dr Michael Marx (Managing director evaplan International Health at the University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany)

It is possible to join the workshop without a paper. However, it is necessary to register with Ute Koder-Binder, Ass. jur., M.A.: sekreavb@mpil.de;

Phone: +49 6221 482-602 ;Fax: +49 6221 482 288 (early registration is advised as there are limited places)

Project Management:

- [Leonie Vierck](#) (MPIL)
- Pedro Villarreal, UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México / National Autonomous University of Mexico)
- Dr. iur. [A. Katarina Weilert](#), LL.M. (FEST)

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