

Agenda

09:00 – 09:30

Opening: Global Governance and Public Health

Thierry de Montbrial, Founder and Chairman of Ifri and the WPC

Keynote Speech

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO

09:30 – 11:30

Session 1: The lessons of COVID-19

Chair:

Michel Kazatchkine, Special Advisor to the Joint United Nations Program on AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Senior Fellow at the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Speakers:

Antoine Flahault, Director of the Institute of Global Health at the University of Geneva

Alexandre de Gernay, Senior Vice President Global Head of Cardiovascular and Established Products at Sanofi

Jean Kramarz, Head of Business Line Health at Axa Partners

Elhadj As Sy, Co-chair of the WHO/World Bank Global Pandemic Preparedness Monitoring Board, Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation Board

Juliette Tuakli, Medical Director, Chief Executive Officer of Family, Child & Associates, Chair of the Board of Trustees of United Way Worldwide

The main fact of globalization in 2020 is obviously the COVID-19 pandemic, which has spared no country. It took all the planet's leaders by surprise, not because public health experts had not issued warnings about the possibility, but because, since nobody in living memory had ever experienced such a cataclysm (except to some extent in certain Asian countries), no government was seriously prepared for it. Consequently, a shock is resounding around the whole world, continuing to accelerate and dramatize pre-existing trends, including helter-skelter deglobalization. And yet, because of its low mortality, COVID-19 is not the worst pandemic that could have happened. The key question here is whether the WHO's present statutes allow it to adequately meet the global health governance challenge. This is a thorny issue, comparable to arms control in that it entitles the international community to look into the domestic affairs of States. The many lessons of COVID-19 will be examined from four complementary points of view: that of recognized public health experts at the global level; one specialist at the regional level (Africa); industry at large (pharmaceuticals, insurance, etc.); and the UN as a whole.

11:30 – 13:30

Session 2: Technology, Economics, Health Ethics

Chair:

Patrick Nicolet, Capgemini's Group Chief Technology Officer

Speakers:

Daniel Andler, Emeritus Professor at Sorbonne University, Member of the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences

Jacques Biot, Board Member and Advisor to companies in the field of digital transformation and artificial intelligence, former President of the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris

Carlos Moreira, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of WISEKey, former United Nations Expert on Cybersecurity and Trust Models

Alexandra Prioux, President of Alcediag, Founder of SkillCell
Arthur Stril, Chief Business Officer and member of the Executive Committee of Collectis

The running thread of the second session, *Technology, Economics, Health Ethics*, starts with technology, whose breathtakingly swift developments are critical in all governance issues. The issues of information in the broadest sense (including fake news) and access to, control and processing of big data are at the heart of technology. This raises major economic and ethical concerns. The more traditional aspects of the conditions of access to technology, such as machinery in the broad sense, is also a key factor in access to healthcare, especially in developing countries. Neither technology nor the economy should be reduced to the digital dimension. For example, the COVID-19 pandemic has raised awareness of the extreme delocalization, during decades of liberal globalization, of the manufacturing of even the most common medicines. Today this raises serious geopolitical and even geostrategic issues that must be thoroughly analyzed. The introduction of ethics in this session is necessary because no global health strategy is conceivable if it is not socially acceptable. Tracing is an obvious example. But this already huge challenge is complicated by cultural differences from one country to another. If we stick to the COVID-19 pandemic, ethical questions have arisen around more or less implicit trade-offs between the economy in the medium term and health in the short term, between the lives of the young and the old, etc. All the issues discussed in this section are therefore effectively interrelated.

14:30 – 16:00

Session 3: Mental Health and Addiction

Chair:

Thierry de Montbrial, Founder and Chairman of Ifri and the WPC

Speakers:

Michael van den Berg, Health Economist and Policy Analyst at the OECD

Roberto Burioni, Professor of Microbiology and Virology at the Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, Milan

Jean-Pierre Lablanchy, Medical Doctor and Psychiatrist, member of the Supervisory Board of Edeis

Mental health conditions constitute a major group of NCDs, with ties to cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular and respiratory illnesses. Yet throughout the last few decades, programs addressing a range of mental illnesses have been woefully under-supported and under-funded, often due to stigmatization and a lack of trained mental health workers in many countries. The number of people suffering from some form of mental illness, including depression, is in the hundreds of millions globally. Moreover, the double-edge sword of mental illness and substance abuse contributes to the rising number of suicides globally, especially among young people. The number of people living with one or more chronic conditions increases in most developed countries and will continue to do so in the coming decades. People with such conditions, particularly those with multiple conditions, have significantly raised rates of depression, anxiety and other mental health problems. More in general, chronic conditions can have a major impact on people's ability to live a meaningful life and on their overall wellbeing. Many developed countries are spending around 10% of their GDP on health. Health systems collect massive amounts of data on inputs, spending and activities. However, we know extremely little about whether health systems are truly delivering what people need and help improving their quality of life. In a shared effort, OECD countries have started to move toward a next generation of health reforms, supported by an international data collection on patient-reported outcomes. This session will explore the urgent need to raise as an international priority the interlinked threats of poor mental health, rising substance abuse and addiction.

16:00

Closing