



WHS News

NEWSLETTER 09/2025:

Setting the stage for the WHS 2025

Dear World Health Summit Community,
The Fourth High-Level Meeting on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and Mental Health concluded last week – but without the adoption of the long-negotiated political declaration. Despite broad international support, the declaration was blocked when the United States vetoed its adoption by consensus, requiring the draft to be put to a formal member state vote. This outcome starkly highlights once again the fragmentation and crisis of multilateralism at a moment when global cooperation is urgently needed.

Under the leitmotif 'Taking responsibility for health in a fragmenting world', the World Health Summit 2025 will be exactly the right platform to confront the pressing question: How can we improve our joint work for better health across borders and divisions in time where support for multilateral processes is dwindling? NCDs and mental health will remain central for our debates, but the conversation must go further: towards laying the foundations for a new global health architecture that is resilient, fair, inclusive, and truly fit for the challenges of our time.

It is the responsibility of all of us, from all sectors and all regions to contribute. I invite you to bring your ideas, your energy, and your commitment to the World Health Summit 2025 and join us on stage, in panels, and throughout every conversation.
Stay safe, stay healthy
Axel R. Pries
President
World Health Summit

Register now



In this Newsletter:

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Meet the speakers of keynote session 5

**Women's Health – Global Wealth:**
Catalyzing Returns on Bold Investments

 Nigina Muntean UNFPA Chief of Innovation & Transformation Moderation	 Kriti Sanon UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador for Gender Equality, Actor, Producer & Entrepreneur	 Diene Keita United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director	 Ru Cheng Gates Foundation Women's Health Innovations Director	 Mary Muthoni Muriuki Public Health and Professional Standards Principal Secretary
 Felicitas Riedl European Investment Bank Director for Innovation and Competitiveness	 Hiroyuki Okuzawa Daichi Sankyo President & CEO	 Bärbel Kofler Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Parliamentary State Secretary Germany	 Ebere Okereke Mohammed bin Zayed Foundation for Humanity Chief Program Officer	 David Whineray Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office Director of Global Health

Investing in women's health is one of the most effective ways to drive global progress. It strengthens health systems, boosts economies, and advances equity. Yet despite recent gains, global funding for sexual and reproductive health research and development nearly doubled between 2018 and 2023, but less than 1% of investment is directed toward female-specific conditions beyond oncology. In this keynote session, **Women's Health – Global Wealth: Catalyzing Returns on Bold Investments**, co-hosted by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), leaders from government, multilateral organizations, philanthropy, and the private sector will explore how bold investments and innovative financing can break this cycle and unlock transformative returns for women and societies worldwide.

[Find out more](#)



The WHS 2025 Patrons



WORLD
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OCTOBER 12–14, 2025
BERLIN, GERMANY
& DIGITAL

The Patrons of WHS 2025



Friedrich Merz
Federal Chancellor
Germany



Emmanuel Macron
President
French Republic



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization

#WHS2025

We are honored to welcome the **Patrons of the World Health Summit 2025**:

- Friedrich Merz, Federal Chancellor of Germany
- Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic
- Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO)

Their support reflects the global importance of the World Health Summit as a leading platform for dialogue and action on health. In a time of rising fragmentation and uncertainty, their shared commitment highlights the urgency of this year's leitmotif: Taking Responsibility for Health in a Fragmenting World.

Read the welcoming message of Chancellor Merz



Global Health Matters Podcast — Live at #WHS2025

For the first time, the World Health Summit will host a podcast live production. The Global Health Matters podcast is going live at the WHS 2025. This special episode will explore how to bridge the knowledge divide in



in collaboration with



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**LAUNCHING SEASON 5 AT THE
WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT IN BERLIN 2025!**

**GLOBAL HEALTH MATTERS PODCAST LIVE:
BRIDGING THE KNOWLEDGE DIVIDE**

Join us *live* in Berlin!
Hub 2, Oct. 12, 2025, CEST: 12:45 – 13:45 (GHL 02b)

Live Stream:
<https://www.youtube.com/live/7xMSku0r7IY>

Or find it on our website!
<https://tdr.who.int/global-health-matters-podcast>



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global health. You will hear directly from Monica Bharel, clinical lead of public sector at Google, and Joy Phumaphi, executive secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance. Join live in Berlin or tune in online for an engaging conversation.

[Find out more](#)



Explore the #WHS2025 Side Meetings

WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT | OCTOBER 12-14, 2025 | BERLIN, GERMANY & DIGITAL

Explore the #WHS2025 Side Meetings

Open to all WHS Participants

Upon Registration

Invitation Only

Alongside the #WHS 2025, a diverse range of side meetings, launches, and partner sessions will take place. The side meetings will offer unique opportunities to collaborate across sectors and explore bold solutions for global health priorities.

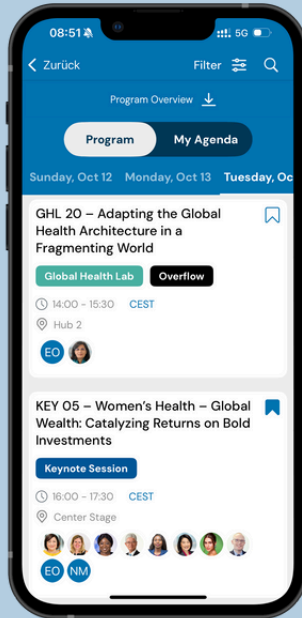
[WHS 2025 Side Meetings](#)



Get the WHS 2025 App

Stay connected throughout the World Health Summit with the new WHS 2025 app. Designed for easier access to the program, speakers, and venue details, the app helps you navigate the WHS 2025 in real time. You can even create your own agenda to make the most of the WHS days.

Download the WHS 2025 App



A tree for every WHS 2025 participant

Sustainability remains a cornerstone of the WHS 2025. This year, we are proud to continue our impactful partnership with [Tree Adoption Uganda](#), planting one tree for every registered participant. These trees are planted at health facilities in Uganda, where local community health workers are also trained on the effects of climate change on health.



Learn more about our sustainability initiatives



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Deutsche Welle is Germany's international broadcaster, offering unbiased journalism in 32 languages for a global audience and striving to reflect diverse regional perspectives. By innovating delivery channels and responding to censorship, DW works to maintain access to independent information on global health, science, and democracy. DW's TV, online and radio services reach 337 million users every week.



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For more than 50 years, [Foreign Policy](#) (FP) has provided rigorous analysis and award-winning journalism that goes beyond the day's headlines to explore key international issues. Through our print magazine, website, newsletters, research, events, and podcasts, FP explains how decisions on policy, security, and economics are made—and by whom—for our readers around the world.

TAGESSPIEGEL

The [Tagesspiegel](#) is number one in Berlin in terms of circulation and journalistic significance, both in print and digitally. It is one of the most cited newspapers in Germany and reaches more political decision-makers in the capital than all national subscription newspapers combined. Tagesspiegel belongs to Dieter von Holtzbrinck's DvH Medien GmbH.



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