



World Health Summit 2026 – Opportunity to Host a Side Meeting Free of Charge for Civil Society Organizations and Youth Groups

The World Health Summit offers civil society organizations and youth groups the opportunity to host one of three available side meetings free of charge during the World Health Summit 2026 in Berlin. Side meetings provide a platform for focused discussions on topics selected by the hosting organization, fostering in-depth dialogue in a more interactive and intimate setting.

This opportunity is part of the World Health Summit's efforts to increase diversity and inclusivity by expanding access to the Summit's opportunities and supporting the participation of civil society organizations and youth groups.

Selected side meeting hosts will receive:

- A 90-minute time slot to host a side meeting during the WHS 2026
 - Self-organized session for up to 30 participants
 - Sessions can be held in either a roundtable or theater-style setup
 - Hybrid format is possible
 - Technical support will be available in case of emergencies
 - Time slots will be determined in consultation between the World Health Summit and the host depending on availability
- A registration code for 15 free WHS 2026 registrations to be used for the organizers, speakers, or participants of the side meeting
- Side meeting information will be listed on the WHS website

Responsibilities of successful candidates in hosting a side meeting are:

- Creation of a feasible session concept
 - Define topic and target audience
 - Demonstrate (1) a connection to one or more WHS 2026 central topics, or (2) a valuable thematic contribution addressing a relevant niche topic beyond them:
 - Global Health Architecture
 - Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response
 - Advancing Health Equity for Women, Children, and Youth
 - Future-Ready Health Systems
 - Conflict and Health
 - Environmental Drivers of Health
- Speaker and participant management
 - Timely outreach to speakers and chair/moderator



- Determining participant access: Open to all, Upon registration, By invitation only
- Ensuring all invited participants are registered for the World Health Summit 2026 conference in Berlin; participation in a side meeting is not possible without prior registration
- Provide a two-page report on the content, key learnings, and impact of the event to the WHS Foundation GmbH until the end of 2026
- Support the communication activities of the World Health Summit through both WHS channels and their own channels. This may include written coverage, video content, or social media posts related to the hosted side meeting and participation in WHS 2026. The World Health Summit Communications team will coordinate and support these activities in close collaboration with the selected host organizations.

Application Process:

- Applications must be submitted via the official online application form.
- The application form will be available from **5 June 2026**. The application deadline is **30 June 2026**.
- Eligible are civil society organizations¹ and youth groups.
- Applicants must complete the official application form, including the:
 - Title
 - Session concept
 - Innovative value-add for WHS 2026 participants
 - Connection to one or more WHS 2026 central topics, or making a valuable thematic contribution beyond them

Important notes:

- Applications will be evaluated for completeness and quality of content. If more fitting applications are submitted than side meeting slots can be awarded, the World Health Summit will employ a lottery to determine the recipient organizations. All decisions are final and not subject to appeal.
- The World Health Summit does not provide travel and accommodation to side meeting hosts nor to the speakers or participants selected for the side meetings.
- Side meeting hosts are responsible to ensure timely speaker invitation and their registration to the World Health Summit to ensure sufficient time for a possible visa process.
- The World Health Summit is not able to support in visa applications. Upon registration for the World Health Summit 2026, an automated registration confirmation will be provided which may be used to apply for a visa.

¹ Does not include International Non-Governmental Organizations.



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- As part of our commitment to advancing inclusivity and diversity across all levels of the World Health Summit, we particularly encourage applications from underrepresented groups and initiatives. Our goal is to foster meaningful and equitable participation throughout the WHS community.
- The selected host organizations will receive detailed guidelines for the organizing of a side meeting and shall adhere to these guidelines. In case of questions or clarifications, a timely outreach to the World Health Summit team via whs-organization@charite.de must be initiated.
- In case of any last-minute cancellation/forfeiture of the side meeting after August 31, 2026, the World Health Summit reserves the right to charge a cancellation fee of 200€.