



Research for Health in Conflict
in the Middle East and North Africa

R4HC-MENA International Policy Conference

'Health in conflict'

Assessing research and policies for populations affected by conflict & humanitarian
crises in the Middle East and North Africa

Frankopan Hall, West Court, Jesus College, Cambridge

21 and 22 March 2022

With thanks to our sponsors:



With thanks to our collaborators:



Monday 21 March 2022
Research and policy challenges for the region
Frankopan Hall, West Court, Jesus College

- 0830 Refreshments, West Court Foyer
- 0900 Introductions and welcome to the conference
Dr Julian Huppert, Intellectual Forum, Jesus College, Cambridge
Professor Richard Sullivan, King's College London
Professor Rita Giacaman, Birzeit University
Dr Asem Mansour, King Hussein Cancer Centre
Professor Simon Deakin, Centre for Business Research, University of Cambridge
- 0925 Introduction of Her Royal Highness Princess Dina Mired
Mr James Watt, CVO, Chair, R4HC-MENA International Advisory Board
- 0930 Opening Keynote, Her Royal Highness Princess Dina Mired
The current context: An overview of the key health and policy challenges facing people in the Middle East and North Africa affected by conflicts past and present.
- 1000 Policy Challenges: Non-Communicable Diseases in conflict affected settings
Chairs: Professor Richard Sullivan and Dr Saleyha Ahsan
Panellists: Dr Hanna Kienzler, King's College London on mental health
Dr Debbie Mukherji, American University of Beirut on cancer
Professor Tezer Kutluk, Hacettepe University on cancer
Professor Richard Harding, King's College London on palliative care
Dr Omar Shamieh, King Hussein Cancer Centre on palliative care
Discussants: Dr Alexandra Chen, Consultant to United Nations
Professor Cengiz Kiliç, Hacettepe University
Ms Christina Bethke, World Health Organization, Lebanon
Dr Asem Mansour, KHCC
- 1130 Refreshment Break: West Court Foyer
- 1145 Policy challenges: Emerging research and policy issues in conflict affected settings
Chairs: Professor Richard Sullivan and Dr Saleyha Ahsan
Panellists: Professor Sevkat Bahar-Ozvaris, Hacettepe University on structural barriers
Dr Ghassan Abu Sittah, American University of Beirut on ecology of war
Professor Rita Giacaman, Birzeit University on necropolitics
Discussants: Dr Sophie Roborgh, University of Manchester
Professor Preeti Patel, King's College London
Dr Mac Skelton, IRIS, American University of Iraq, Sulaimani
Dr Nassim El Achi, King's College London

1320 Lunch, West Court Dining Room

1430 Policy Challenges: Politics and the Pandemic

Chairs: Professor Richard Sullivan and Dr Saleyha Ahsan

Panellists: Dr Fouad M Fouad, American University of Beirut on political economy of health in the Middle East and North Africa
Professor Kalipso Chalkidou, Head of Finance, Global Fund on economics of health in conflict
Dr Gemma Bowsher, King's College London, COVID-19 in conflict zones

Discussants: Dr Ferdinand Eibl, King's College London

Mr Arkan El-Seblani, UNDP Arab states

Professor Melani Cammett, Weatherhead Center, Harvard University

1600 Refreshments: West Court Foyer

1630 Roundup 'Question Time' debate of key issues with audience

Chair: Mr Andrew Jack, Financial Times

Panellists: Her Royal Highness Princess Dina Mired
Mr James Watt CVO, Chair, R4HC-MENA International Advisory Board
Professor Richard Sullivan, King's College London

1700 Film screening

Lebanon: How politics made a nation sick

Film to provide regional context of the issues.

1730 Panel discussion: What next for the Middle East and North Africa?

Chair: Lindsey Hilsum, International Editor, Channel Four News

Panellists: Sir Stephen O'Brien, Former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations
Salman Shaikh, CEO, Shaikh Group
Saba Almubaslat, Asfari Foundation
Fadi Quran, Senior Campaigner, Avaaz
Samya Kullab, Iraq correspondent for the Associated Press based in Baghdad

1830 Reception and live music: Bawden Room and West Court foyer
Kiwani's Family - Syrian orchestral band

Kiwani's Family is a highly acclaimed and much beloved Middle Eastern folk band from Syria. Formed by Osama Kiwan, Eleen, Hatem, and Hanen have performed as a family all over the UK since 2017, delighting crowds at events that include The Cambridge Festival and The Academy of Arts Arab Heritage Choir in London, and have collaborated with the likes of The Liverpool Philharmonic and Damon Albarn. Their talent is of the highest order, and their joyous spirit and warmth is absolutely infectious.

Tuesday 22 March 2022

The policy options: How to strengthen research capability, sustain policy impact and improve people's lives
Frankopan Hall, West Court, Jesus College

0830 Refreshments, West Court Foyer

0900 The 'R4HC model' for health research in conflict and humanitarian contexts - building sustainability into our network

Mr James Watt, International Advisory Board Chair

Mr Brad Robinson, King's College London

0930 Strengthening health research in conflict zones through real world interventions: disease surveillance and health security

Panel One: Strengthening health systems in conflict affected settings

Panellists: Dr Abdulkarim Ekzayez, King's College London

Dr Zedoun Al Zoubi, Research for Health Systems in North-West, Syria, R4HSSS

Dr Munzer Khalil, R4HSSS and UOSSM (Union of Medical Care and Relief Organisations)

Panel Two: Security Sector-Civil health co-operation in conflict zones

Panellists: Professor David Whetham, King's College London

Dr Chiu-Yi Lin, King's College London

Dr Saleyha Ahsan, University of Cambridge

1100 Refreshments, West Court Foyer

1110 Solutions for building capability: supporting leadership in global health

Panel Three: Women Leaders in Conflict and Global Health

Panellists: Ms Kristen Meagher, King's College London

Ms Sali Hafez, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Dr Nassim El Achi, Research for Health Systems in North-West Syria, R4HSSS

Dr Zedoun Al Zoubi, R4HSSS

Dr Maria Van Kerkhove, World Health Organisation

1220 Refreshments, West Court Foyer

1230 Roundtable discussion: Reimaging Research – Academia, Practice and People

Moderator: Ms Lina Abou Habib, Asfari Institute for Citizenship and Civil Society, American University of Beirut

Panellists: Dr Weeam Hammoudeh, University of Birzeit [REMOTE]

Ms Mona Itani, Riyadh

Ms Marianne Boqvist, Head of Youth, Peace, Security and Support to Civil Society Programme, Folke Bernadotte Academy

Ms Liz Sieck, Sanad Association

Dr Rabie Nasser, Syrian Centre for Policy Research

1330 The Future, Next Steps – what have we learned over four years and where next?

Professor Richard Sullivan, King's College London
Professor Rita Giacaman, Birzeit University
Professor Preeti Patel, King's College London

1400 Lunch, West Court Dining Room

1430 Closed policy briefing sessions and workshops

Facilitated by CSAP and Asfari Foundation. In person and dial-in.

1. Health security and pandemic preparedness
2. Knowledge translation for on-the-ground civil society organisations
3. Building and sustaining an academic-policy response network for conflict prevention and peace building

1630 Networking and afternoon tea with workshop participants

1730 End

Links to speaker biographies can be found at: bit.ly/XYZ
or scan the QR code



Participants

[Lina Abou Habib](#), Asfari Institute for Citizenship and Civil Society, American University of Beirut

[Dr Ghassan Abu Sittah](#), American University of Beirut

[Dr Saleyha Ahsan](#), University of Cambridge

[Saba Almubaslat](#), Asfari Foundation

[Dr Zedoun Alzoubi](#), R4HSSS

[Dr Tasnim Atatrah](#), Head of Office, WHO Bahrain

[Professor Sevkat Bahar-Ozvaris](#), Hacettepe University

[Christina Bethke](#), World Health Organization, Lebanon

[Marianne Boqvist](#), Head of Youth, Peace, Security and Support to Civil Society Programme, Folke Bernadotte Academy

[Dr. Gemma Bowsher](#), King's College London

[Nicola Buckley](#), Associate Director at Centre for Science and Policy, University of Cambridge

[Professor Melani Cammett](#), Director, Weatherhead Center, Harvard University

[Professor Kalipso Chalkidou](#), Head of Finance, Global Fund

[Dr Alexandra Chen](#), Consultant to United Nations

[Dr Adam P. Coutts](#), University of Cambridge

[Professor Simon Deakin](#), Centre for Business Research, University of Cambridge

[Dr Ferdinand Eibl](#), King's College London
[Dr Abdulkarim Ekzayez](#), King's College London
[Dr Nassim El Achi](#), King's College London
[Arkan El-Seblani](#), Regional Manager Anti Corruption, UNDP Arab state
[Dr Fouad M. Fouad](#), American University of Beirut
[Professor Rita Giacaman](#), Birzeit University
[Sali Hafez](#), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
[Dr Weeam Hammedouh](#), University of Birzeit
[Professor Richard Harding](#), King's College London
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[Mona Itali](#), Riyada
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[Samya Kallub](#), Iraq correspondent for the Associated Press based in Baghdad
[Professor Tezer Kutluk](#), Hacettepe University
[Dr Chiu-Yi Lin](#), King's College London
[Dr Asem Mansour](#), King Hussein Cancer Centre
[Kristen Meagher](#), King's College London
[Her Royal Highness](#), Princess Dina Mired
[Dr Debbie Mukherji](#), American University of Beirut
[Rabie Nasser](#), Syrian Centre for Policy Research
[Sir Stephen O'Brien](#), Former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and
Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations
[Professor Preeti Patel](#), King's College London
[Fadi Quran](#), Senior Campaigner, Avaaz
[Mr Brad Robinson](#), King's College London
[Dr. Sophie Roborgh](#) University of Manchester
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[Mr James Watt](#), CVO, Chair, R4HC-MENA International Advisory Board
[Professor David Whetham](#), King's College London

Rapporteur

[Dr Sarah Steele](#), Intellectual Forum Deputy Director, Jesus College, Cambridge

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