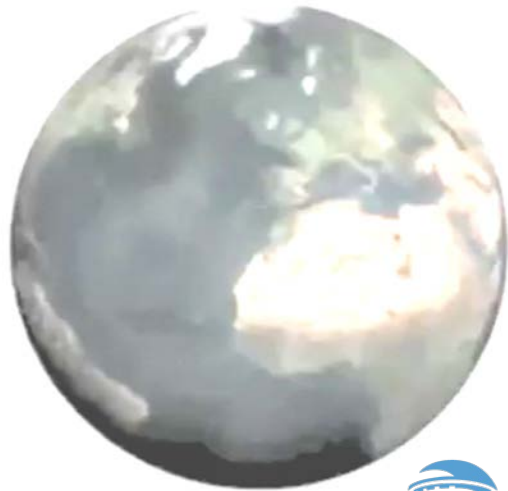
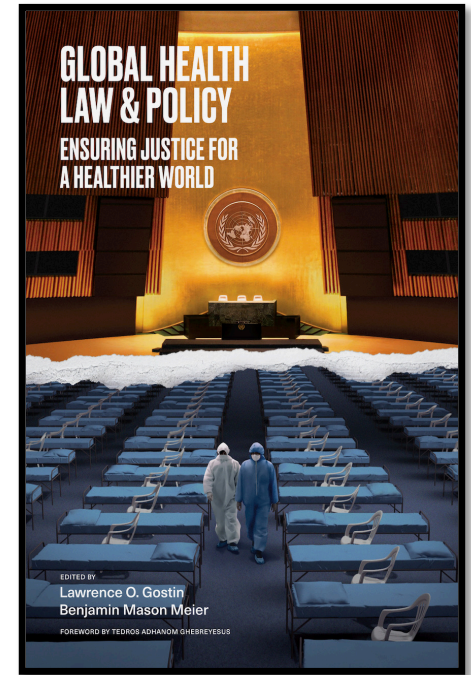


Global Health Law & Policy

Ensuring Justice for a Healthier World



Benjamin Mason Meier, JD, LLM, PhD
Book Launch & Discussion
O'Neill Institute Colloquium Series
October 25, 2023



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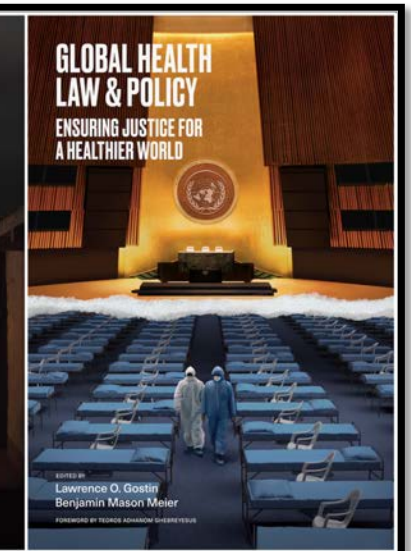
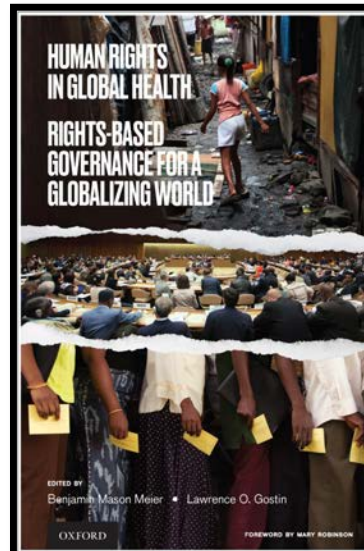
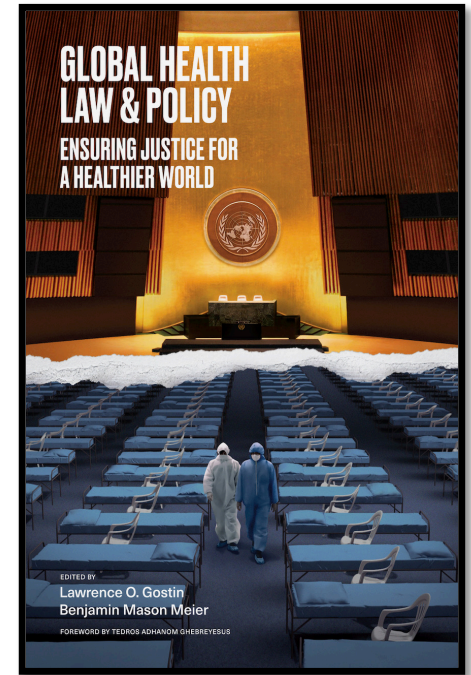
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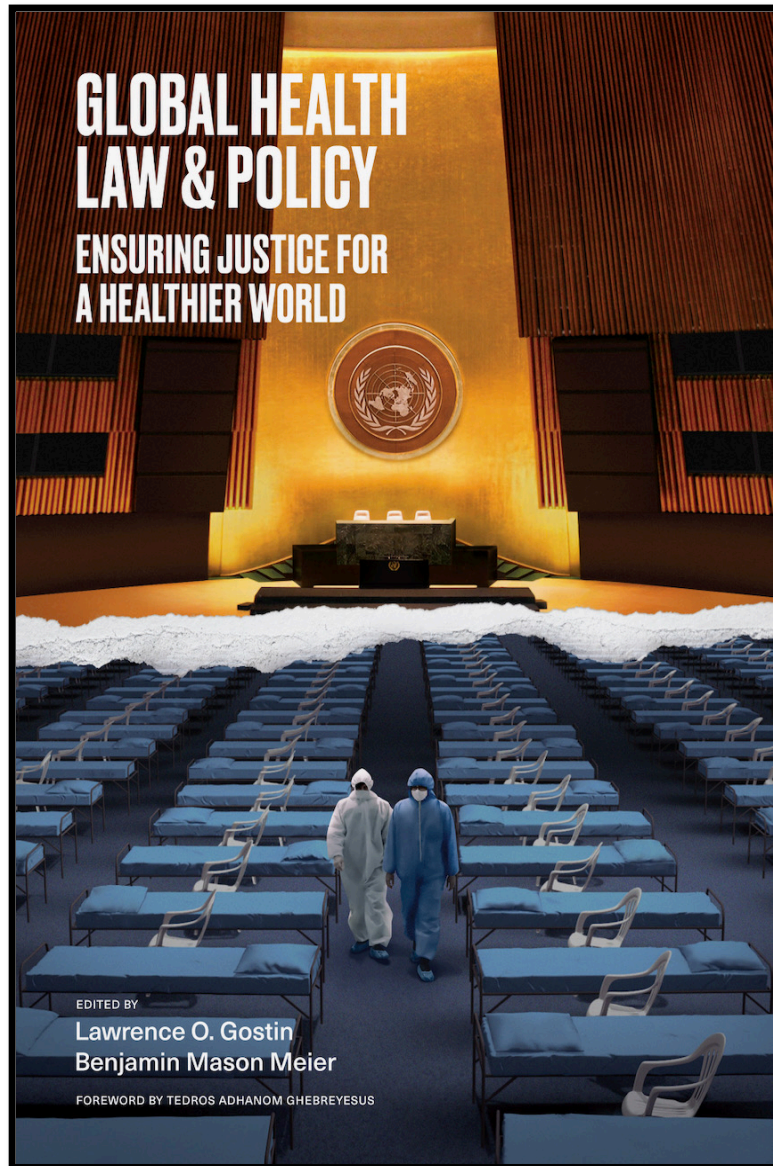


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Global Health Law & Policy

Ensuring Justice for a Healthier World





Global Health –
Promoting Public
Health through
Global Governance

Global Law – From
Hard Law to Soft Law

Global Health Law –
The Field, This Book,
Your Future

Global Health is Public Health

Globalization
Impacts
Public Health

Public
Health
Vision of
Global
Health



Global Health Requires Global Governance

“The promotion of global health necessitates global governance beyond the reach of national governments, requiring international organizations, national governments, and non-governmental actors to come together under law to respond to globalized health threats.”

Foreword: The Law as a Fundamental Determinant of Global Health

In 1948, as nations sought to build a new world order in the aftermath of World War II, they adopted a foundational instrument of global health law: the Constitution of the World Health Organization. In its unprecedented preambular declaration, the Constitution affirmed that “the enjoyment of the highest

attainable standard of health is one that can be achieved by all people, being without distinction of race, religion, or social condition.” In the decades since, global health has become central to addressing major health threats, including infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, and

Having long championed the importance of law in global health, late Professors Lawrence Gostin and David Gieseler co-edited the book on *Global Health Law & Policy*. This book is a product of the Global Health Law Consortium to promote the next generation of global health leaders.



Global Law through Global Institutions

Justice
under
Global
Law

- Collective Global Action
- Hard AND Soft Law



A New Field Emerges

Introducing Global Health Law

Global Health Law

Lawrence O. Gostin and
Benjamin Mason Meier

Global health law describes the legal frameworks that structure global health. Laws and regulations, when based on the best available evidence, can promote healthy behaviors, regulate hazardous activities, and ensure socially responsible corporate marketing and products. These regulatory frameworks operate in virtually every realm of health, including infectious and noncommunicable diseases, mental health, injuries, and the safety and effectiveness of vaccines, pharmaceuticals, and medical products. Law can help structure universally affordable, accessible, and equitable health systems that promote universal health coverage. Beyond discrete attention to health risks, the rule of law and good governance are crucial for ensuring health and well-being.

Where global health has come to frame efforts to advance public health across countries, law has become crucial to addressing the global health threats that have arisen in a rapidly globalizing world. Globalization has unleashed the spread of disease, connected societies in shared vulnerability, and highlighted the limitations of domestic law in ensuring global determinants of health. In this interconnected world, no country acting alone can stem health hazards that go beyond national borders. Yet if globalization has presented challenges to disease prevention and health promotion, global health law offers the promise of bridging national boundaries to advance global norms and alleviate health inequities.

Arising out of international health law — which has long structured

multilateral cooperation to respond to infectious disease threats — global health law seeks to structure the contemporary governance architecture for global health. In responding to health harms throughout the world, global health law has “evolve[d] beyond its traditional confines of formal sources and subjects of international law” to advance global health with justice.¹ This focus on global health has necessitated action beyond the reach of national governments, requiring both state and non-state actors to come together to respond to globalized health threats. Global health law seeks to frame this new governance to respond to the major health challenges of the twenty-first century.

The field of global health law has thus become a basis to conceptualize the legal institutions that apply to the changing public health threats, non-state actors, and regulatory norms that structure global health. Beyond the traditional purview of international health law, global health law describes evolving legal efforts to address:

- New health threats — including non-communicable disease, injuries, mental health, dangerous products, and other globalized health threats,
- New health actors — including transnational corporations, private philanthropists, civil society, and other non-state actors, and
- New health norms — including “soft law” instruments, global strat-

- From International Health Law to Global Health Law
- An Academic Discipline
 - Rising Health Threats
 - Proliferating Health Actors
 - Expanding Policy Instruments
- The Rise of a Field of Global Health Law

About This Column

Lawrence O. Gostin and Benjamin Mason Meier serve as the section editors for Global Health Law. Professor Gostin is University Professor at Georgetown University and the Founding Linda D. & Timothy J. O'Neill Professor of Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center and Director of the World Health Organization Center on National and Global Health Law. Professor Meier is an Associate Professor of Global Health Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Scholar at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. This column will feature timely analyses and perspectives on law, policy, and justice in global health.

Lawrence O. Gostin, J.D., LL.D. (Hon.), is University Professor at Georgetown University and the Founding Linda D. & Timothy J. O'Neill Professor of Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center and Director of the World Health Organization Center on National and Global Health Law. Benjamin Mason Meier, J.D., LL.M., Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Global Health Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Scholar at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law.

Existential Threats

Populist Nationalism

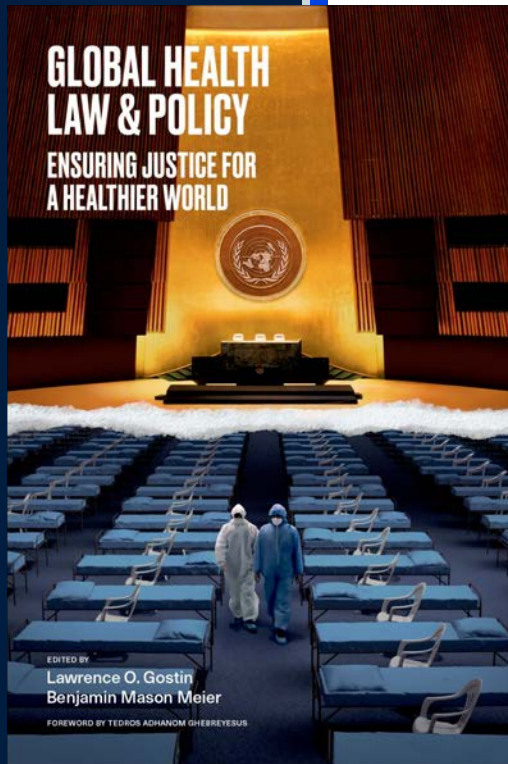
- Rejecting Public Health Science
- Violating Fundamental Rights
- Undermining Global Solidarity

Cataclysmic Pandemic

- Unprecedented Health Threat
- Widespread Inequities
- Limitations of Global Health Governance

Law & Policy for Global Health

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