# Reforming Global Health Law to Ensure Human Rights in Global Health



#### **GLOBAL HEALTH LAW CONSORTIUM**

The Global Health Law Consortium (GHLC) is a collaborative interdisciplinary research initiative focused on advancing global health law.

Global health law describes the legal institutions that structure global health. In a globalizing world, connecting societies in shared vulnerability and highlighting the limitations of domestic law, global health law offers the promise and opportunity of bridging national boundaries through public international law to alleviate health inequities around the world. The Global Health Law Consortium brings together academics in the field to:



- develop the academic field of global health law and mentor emerging scholars in the field;
- provide authoritative interpretations of legal instruments in global health; and
- . facilitate global health law research projects that draw on collaborative scholarship.

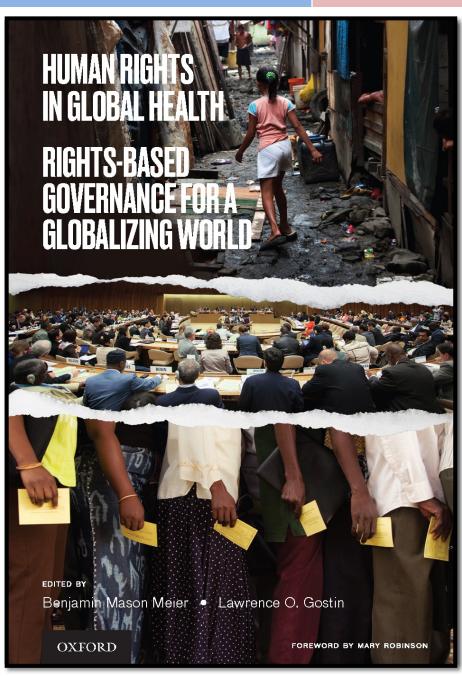


Benjamin Mason Meier, JD, LLM, PhD
Consortium of Universities for
Global Health
March 9, 2024

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL







### Advancing Global Health Governance –

Implementing Human Rights through Global Governance

#### **Violating Human Rights**

Human Rights Limitations
 in the COVID-19 Response

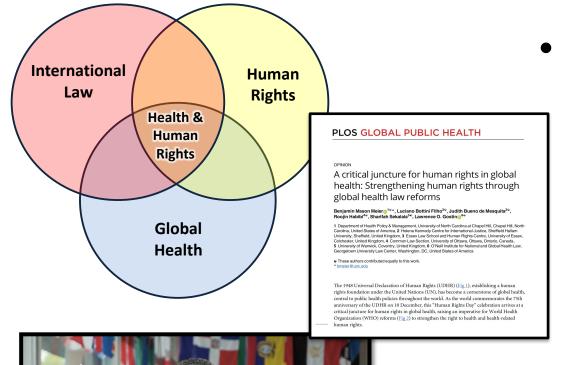
### Reforming Global Health Law

- IHR Amendments
- Pandemic Agreement
- Strengthening WHO

#### **Human Rights in Global Health**

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

**DIGNITY, FREEDOM & JUSTICE FOR ALL** 



Health & HumanRights Movement

- Human RightsDeclaration
- Human RightsEvolution
- Human RightsFrame Policy
- Global Governance Implements Rights-Based Policy

#### **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

# Human Rights Limitations in COVID-19 Response

Outbreak Notification



**Violative Nationalist Responses** 







**December** 

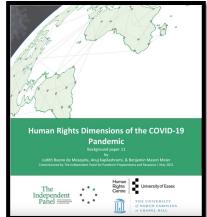
January

**February** 

March

**April** 

- Weaknesses of Right to Health and Social & Economic Rights
- Limitations of Civil & Political Rights to Promote Public Health
- Obligations of International Assistance & Cooperation



Global Solidarity?



#### **Reforming Global Health Law**

New Legal Authorities under WHO Governance

- Amending IHR
- DevelopingPandemicAgreement
- Strengthening
   Human Rights in
   Global Health



# A Rising Imperative for Human Rights in Global Health Law

## Human Rights Principles

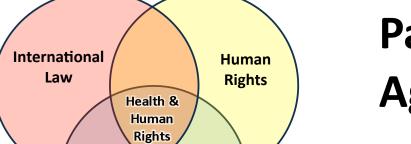


Roojin Habibi

International Health Regulations



Lawrence Gostin



Public Health

Pandemic Agreement



Safura Abdool Karim

**WHO Reforms** 



Sofia Gruskin