



Second Humanitarian Congress in Vienna / Program University of Vienna

08:00 Registration opens

08:45 Opening Speech / Main Ceremonial Chamber / *Großer Festsaal*

Welcome Speech

Michael Bubik Chairman of the Board, AG Globale Verantwortung

Gender Perspective in Humanitarian Aid – Why Gender Matters

Opening Speech

Kristalina Georgieva European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response

09:15 – 10:30 / Main Ceremonial Chamber / *Großer Festsaal*

Women, Girls, Boys and Men – Different Needs, Equal Opportunities?

In the rush to provide humanitarian response when a disaster hits or a conflict erupts, gender issues are often neglected and may even seem irrelevant. Mainstreaming gender does, however, not imply, addressing or focusing primarily on the needs of women or girls. Putting on a “gender lens” quite simply means recognizing the different needs, capacities and contributions of women, girls, boys and men alike. To be effective, humanitarian actions have to be centred on the needs of individuals and communities. The best way to know their needs and solutions, and to design and assess interventions, is through direct dialogue with persons targeted for humanitarian action – women, girls, men and boys – and involving them in programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Collecting sex and age disaggregated data is an important starting point.

This panel will present different challenges in humanitarian aid and discuss whether humanitarian interventions can be effective and accountable without addressing the different needs of women, girls, men and boys.

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Moderator & Master of Ceremony

Ulrike v. Pilar Humanitarian Aid Consultant

Panel Members

Kristalina Georgieva European Commissioner

Mbuyiselo Botha Gender Justice Network Cape Town, South Africa, Gender Activist

Anne Street Caritas England, Senior Humanitarian Policy Advisor

11:00 – 12:30 / Main Ceremonial Chamber / *Großer Festsaal*

The Security Challenges of Refugee Camps in Borderlands

Border areas are increasingly important spaces of humanitarian aid projects, such as refugee camps run by humanitarian organizations. These camps are often located in border areas close to the conflict regions from which the refugees had to flee. These regions tend to be militarized by state actors and/or non-state actors, and humanitarian actors are confronted with specific challenges: One of these challenges is what can be called the securitization of humanitarian aid in borderlands. On the other hand the permeability of borders allows for both cross-border attacks, which may even lead to a spill-over of the conflict, as well

as for illegal cross-border activities, such as the smuggling of drugs, arms and people. Furthermore, new conflicts may also arise from xenophobia and attacks against refugees by security forces, border guards and the local population. As in many situations of political and social instability, sexual and gender-based violence is prevalent and pose major challenges to women, children and humanitarian organizations. Last but not least, one can observe a tendency to construct refugee camps in borderlands as a security problem in order to justify further control of borders.

Against the backdrop of the problems outlined above, the planned panel will discuss the following questions:

Militarization & Protection: How does the militarization of borders during conflict affect refugees, locals and humanitarian organizations? How can refugees and locals be protected from assault, rape and attacks by state and non-state actors of security and violence (militias, soldiers, policemen, border guards, smugglers of drugs, arms and people.

Gender: How does the militarization/securitization of borders affect gender relations in refugee camps? How can humanitarian agencies act in order to prevent both gender discrimination in the area of the distribution / provision of material goods and social benefits as well as in the area of sexual and gender-based violence in the camps?

Keynote Speech

Najla Chahda Caritas Libanon

Moderator

Petra Dannecker University of Vienna, Head of International Development Studies

Panel Members

Stefanie Kron University of Vienna, Professor at Department of Development Studies

Jose Luis Rocha Jesuit Refugee and Migrant Service

Caroline Abu Sada Coordinator Research Unit, MSF Switzerland

11:00 – 12:30 / Small Ceremonial Chamber / Kleiner Festsaal

Health Care in Danger

Conflict and armed violence take more and more space in urban and populated settings. When the fighting starts, access to health care becomes a vital issue for people who are sick or wounded. Often access is delayed or made impossible by endless obstruction such as an ambulance held up at a checkpoint.

Many conflicts have generated discrimination against people who are trying to access health care, based on their ethnic or religious origin. This goes straight to the heart of medical ethics: you don't ask wounded people which side, ethnic group or religious confession they are from when they are losing blood. You just treat them, period.

In rural areas, additional obstacles to health care claim many lives where lack of safety and conflict prevail: lack of transport, looting of health centres, among others.

Violence preventing the delivery of health care is primarily a security rather than a health problem. It is vital to engage with the military, with armed groups, with States, with the health community, with the Red Cross and Red Crescent partners and other non-governmental partners to find practical solutions to this important humanitarian concern.

Wars are bad enough; let's at least ensure that all measures are taken to minimize the negative impact on people needing health care.

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Keynote Speech

Yves Daccord Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross

Moderator

Robert Dempfer Austrian Red Cross, Head of Social Policy Unit

Panel Members

Jasveen Ahluwalia CARE International, Senior Gender in Emergencies Coordinator

Yves Daccord Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross

Alistair Dutton Caritas Internationalis, Humanitarian Director

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:00 / Main Ceremonial Chamber / *Großer Festsaal*

Humanitarian Aid – All Inclusive?

Humanitarian crisis and natural disasters hit people with disabilities hardest. They are at risk of staying behind because they are either hidden as a result of stigma or they are not able to cope when their family networks break apart. In recent years humanitarian aid organizations have increasingly realized the need to include people with disabilities in their emergency work - but many of the institutions lack the expertise and confidence to consider people with disabilities in their disaster preparedness work let alone including them in their relief work when a disaster strikes. As a consequence Humanitarian Aid usually isn't inclusive. What changes have to take place to include People with Disabilities in the planning and implementation of Humanitarian Aid? These and other questions will be discussed at the panel and in the booklet titled "Leave no one behind – how to include people with disabilities in humanitarian aid", which will be presented on the occasion of this conference.

Moderator

Marianne Schulze Human Rights Consultant

Keynote Dialogue – Panel Members

Ola Abú Al Ghaib Founder and Chairperson of Stars of Hope Society, Palestine

Valérie Scherrer CBM Emergency Response Unit, Senior Manager

13:30 – 15:00 / Small Ceremonial Chamber / *Kleiner Festsaal*

Humanitarian Aid and Media

At the point of a humanitarian crisis, a complex set of obligations and interests arise in media and humanitarian agencies, and become interlocked. Relief agencies rely heavily on the media to get the humanitarian message out, to inform the world of unfolding disasters and to harness the power of donors to raise funds and respond to the crisis.

The relationship between providers of news and providers of humanitarian aid can influence public perceptions and capture political attention. They can trigger, inform, critique and, in some cases, undermine international responses. They can also fundamentally shape information flows and aid allocations. In time of crisis, the relationship can be essential and complementary, but it is also often uncomfortable and ambiguous.

While their distinct functions may be clear, their distinct interests, structures and limitations relative to humanitarian action are not. The questions that follow are intended to enhance debate and improve understanding of the complex interactions that occur among these institutions:

How does the media influence the dynamics of emergency crises and the jockeying for position which results? What are the interests of each institution, as well as their range of responses to humanitarian crises, and their limitations? Can journalists and aid workers trust each other? Are there on the same side, or just in the same place at the same time? It's easier to sell a famine than to sell good news out of developing countries: Why journalism continues to portray Africa as a continent of unending horrors? Or do NGOs prefer bad news to sustain themselves? The language of images: How does the media use images of children, women and poor people? Should journalists accept the invitations of NGOs to a press-trip? Humanitarian agencies are actively using social media to raise awareness on their activities and ongoing crises in the world: Are the classic (traditional) media becoming less importance for the efforts of humanitarian reporting?

Keynote Speech

Margit Maximilian ORF, Foreign Policy

Moderator

Margit Maximilian ORF, Foreign Policy

Panel Members

James East World Vision, Emergency Communications Director

Monika Kalcsics Ö1 Radio Journalist

Carla Haddad Mardini International Committee of the Red Cross, Spokeswoman

15:30 – 17:00 / Main Ceremonial Chamber / *Großer Festsaal*

Ensuring Reproductive Health in Conflict and Emergencies

Although reproductive health services are among the most important life-saving interventions in times of crisis, these services were long overlooked in the traditional humanitarian response to complex emergencies. Response agencies argued that these services were not as critical as other life-saving interventions, and that they were more appropriate in long-term development contexts. And yet, the need for family planning and reproductive health services is particularly acute in disaster-affected and post-conflict settings; in these settings, health systems may have collapsed, families and communities may be dispersed, health workers and supplies may be scarce, and sexual violence is common.

How will we meet the unmet need for family planning and reproductive health services when disasters and chronic conflict threaten to wipe out any gains we make?

Keynote Speech

Jesse Rattan CARE, Director of the SAF-PAC Initiative (Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Abortion Care in Emergencies)

Moderator

Thomas Haunschmid CARE, Ö1

Panel Members

Beris Gwynne World Vision

Jesse Rattan CARE

Liz Sime Mary Stopes Australia

15:30 – 17:00 / Small Ceremonial Chamber / *Kleiner Festsaal*

Women Working in Humanitarian Crisis

Key Strategy towards ending Poverty and Conflict

This panel is focussing on the experiences women gained through working in humanitarian crisis and explore the question whether gender matters. By talking directly to female aid workers working in the field, they will share their experiences and lessons learnt with us. Thus, we will examine advantages and challenges of female humanitarian aid workers in different contexts.

The panel will be held in a special format: „Humanitarian Cafe“. It is planned to have four table settings with a female expert from the field of humanitarian aid each and a limited number of participants at each table (about 10-15 people). The speaker will give a short presentation on her experiences in the field and her respective expertise. Then the floor is open for questions and discussions.

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No Keynote Speech

You can meet the following female experts in our “Humanitarian Cafe”

Najla Chahda Caritas Libanon

Carla Haddad Mardini International Committee of the Red Cross, Spokeswoman

Jannat Durrani HOPE'87 Pakistan, Gender and DRR Specialist

Zeina Ghantous Assistant Head of Mission, MSF Lebanon

Biljana Stankovic Independent Consultant on Humanitarian Aid and Community Development

**HUMANITARIAN AID
GENDER MATTERS!**