

GLOBAL RESPONSE 2010

Violent Conflict and Health



Copenhagen, Denmark, January 22nd-25th 2010

Global Doctors invites you to join Global Response 2010 – the first major international conference on **Violent Conflict and Health**

CO-ORGANIZED BY:

Global Doctors (Globale Læger, GL)

Danish Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear Weapons (DLMK), member of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)

International Medical Cooperation Committee (IMCC), member of the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)

IN COOPERATION WITH:

Copenhagen School of Global Health (CSGH), University of Copenhagen

Centre for Advanced Security Theory (CAST), University of Copenhagen

The Danish Medical Association

The following journals will publish theme articles in connection with the conference:

The Lancet

Medicine, Conflict and Survival

Social Science and Medicine

The Journal of the Danish Medical Association



All scientists, field workers, and students with knowledge and/ or interest in the field of health and violent conflict are welcome to participate in the conference as well as the online discussion forum which is running prior to the conference. For more information, please visit

www.globalresponse2010.dk

See you in Copenhagen in January!

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE

Violent conflict has a profound impact on the health of a population. Apart from causing direct injury, it often leads to deterioration of the health sector, food shortages and displacement of people to epidemic-prone refugee camps. Many factors influence the risk of conflict, most notably poverty and inequalities between ethnic groups, while poverty also is associated with ill-health. Health professionals seem to be in a key position to exert a positive influence in areas threatened by, undergoing, or recovering from conflicts. The medical profession thus has a responsibility to address the impact of conflict on health and to work with other actors to discover ways of contributing to peace.

Currently there is no global cohesion between organizations addressing global health, humanitarian actors, the peace movement and organizations addressing the health effects of violent conflict. There is thus an urgent need for these disparate actors to be brought together, so that the interconnections between violent conflict and health can be intellectually scrutinized and a coherent strategy developed to work towards a healthier and more peaceful world.

The programme of Global Response 2010 will be organized according to 3 different themes that run in parallel during the conference. Each theme will cover one aspect of violent conflict and health which is in need of thorough analysis. The themes in question are:

1. Root causes of violent conflict and determinants of health.
2. Documenting the health consequences of violent conflict.
3. The role of the health sector and health workers before, during and after violent conflicts.

PURPOSE

The aims of the conference are:

- to create an international network of researchers and field workers with experience in the area of health and violent conflict
- to obtain an overview of existing knowledge on the subject and thereby contribute to the intellectual development of the field
- to identify future challenges for prevention of violent conflicts and their impact on health, and develop plans of action to meet the challenges

A NEW WAY OF DOING CONFERENCES

– An all round experience!

Global Response 2010 seeks to employ innovative methods to achieve a good outcome. These include:

- Prior to the conference, an internet-based discussion forum that is open for everyone to contribute to. The aim is to collect all existing knowledge and identify challenges to discuss during the conference sessions.

SPEAKERS

Confirmed speakers:

Prof. **Debarati Guha-Sapir**, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), *Theme 2:*

Documentation of health consequences

Marshall Wallace, Project Director, Do No Harm Project and Steps Toward Conflict Prevention Project, *Theme 3:*
Role of health sector

Dr. **Neil Arya**, University of Waterloo, IPPNW, *Theme 3: Role of health sector*

Invited speakers, yet to be confirmed:

Prof. **Christopher Murray**, University of Washington, developer of the concept of 'Disability Adjusted Life Years' (DALY) for WHO and the World Bank

Prof. **Michael Marmot**, University College London and Chair of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health

Prof. **James Orbinski**, University of Toronto and President of Médecins Sans Frontières 1998-2001

Prof. **Richard Garfield**, Columbia University, co-author of The Lancet Iraq studies

Dr. **Egbert Sondorp**, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

- A conference structure based on a mix of short key-note speeches and small working groups based on topics chosen by the conference participants themselves. At the end of each day the various working groups will be asked to join a mixed interactive session to bring input from one group to the other. In this way active participation by all attendees is encouraged.
- Global solidarity: Participants who can support themselves will cover some of the expenses of those who cannot do so, thereby enabling greater participation by especially students and people from the Global South.
- Eyewitness accounts of the effects of violent conflict: talks by health workers who have experienced violent conflict and cooperation with Jan Grarup, a renowned Danish war photographer who will set up a public exhibition with his photos from conflict areas during the conference.
- Interaction with the political establishment: for instance, the Lord Mayor of Copenhagen will invite the conference participants to a reception at the Copenhagen City Hall.
- Cooperation with the media to present the issues which the conference deals with to the public before and during the conference.
- A creative environment around the conference before and during reaching out to the general public, in cooperation with e.g. CPH:DOX (the Copenhagen Documentary Festival) with movie screening, debates and world music.
- A conference café where all participants will be able to meet each other in a less formal setting to discuss, network or just relax and enjoy world movies and music.

With these initiatives, we wish to increase the chances of a good outcome of the conference both on an individual and a collective level, and to optimally involve professionals working on issues of violent conflict and health as well as decision-makers and the general public in the process for a healthier and more peaceful world.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Conference participants are invited to submit abstracts for presentation. Abstracts can be sent by e-mail to info@globalresponse2010.dk and will be printed in the conference programme if chosen by the selection committee. Deadline is **November 16th**. Please note guidelines on the website.

SPONSORSHIPS

Participants who are not able to raise support for these expenses themselves may apply to have them sponsored partially or in full. Applications for sponsorship are subject to limited resources and individual assessment. The deadline for sponsorship application is **15th of October 2009**. Please note further information on the website under the headline "Practical Information."

STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION

2 scholarships for the conference are available for the winners of the student essay competition, kindly provided by the University of Copenhagen. The competition will be open for students at college and university level. Please check the website for details.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Friday, January 22nd:

15.00 – 15.45: Opening ceremony with welcome and the first eyewitness account.

16.00 – 17.30: Introduction to the three themes by keynote speakers

- Theme 1: Root causes of violent conflict and health
- Theme 2: Documenting health consequences in violent conflict
- Theme 3: The role of the health sector and health workers

17.30 – 18.00: Selection of themes by the participants

18.00 – 19.00: Formation of working groups

Saturday, January 23rd (the three themes run in parallel):

9.00 – 10.20: 2 keynotes and a short eyewitness account incl. discussion

10.40 – 12.00: Working Groups

12.00 – 13.30: Lunch break

13.30 – 14.50: 2 keynotes incl. discussion

15.10 – 16.30: Working Groups

16.45 – 18.00: Open space-interaction between Working Groups

18.00 – 19.00: Dinner

19.00 –?: Social Programme

Sunday, January 24th (the three themes run in parallel):

9.00 – 10.20: Abstract and poster presentation

10.40 – 12.00: Working Groups

12.00 – 13.30: Lunch break

13.30 – 14.50: 2 keynotes incl. discussion

15.10 – 16.30: Working Groups

16.45 – 18.00: Identifying the way forward and evaluation

18.00 – 19.00: Dinner

19.00 –?: Social Programme

Monday, January 25th:

9.00 – 11.00: Summarizing and action plans

11.00 – 11.30: Break

11.30 – 13.00: Public Debate

14.00 – 15.00: Reception at the City Hall

REGISTRATION FEES

Early registration (deadline 15 th August 2009):	€ 275
Late registration (later than 15 th August 2009):	€ 300
Student fee:	€ 150

The registration fee includes participation fee, conference package, and lunch. Participants will be expected to raise support for their own expenses for travel, board, and accommodation. Participants who cancel their registrations after 15th December 2009 will not receive a reimbursement of their registration fee.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

15th August 2009: Early registration

15th October 2009: Sponsorship application and student essay competition

16th November 2009: Abstract submission

15th January 2010: Online registration closes

VENUE

University of Copenhagen, City Campus, Centre for Health and Society (CSS). A perfect conference environment full of small gardens and green areas and located in central Copenhagen. The campus is a former hospital, now in use as university and research institution.

ACCOMMODATION

The conference group kindly recommends all conference participants to stay at the Hotel Europa as the hotel offers reduced prices for participants in Global Response 2010. Furthermore, we believe that the hosting of all conference participants in the same place will contribute to better networking and socializing opportunities. Comfort Hotel Europa is located in the city centre, just a few hundred metres from the Central Station, Tivoli, the Town Hall and the main shopping streets. From the hotel to the conference venue at the University, City Campus it is a 20 minutes' walk along the lakes of Copenhagen.

When staying at Comfort Hotel Europa, you have every opportunity to experience the authentic Copenhagen which offers an abundance of restaurants, museums, sights such as the Little Mermaid, the old town, the Zoo, Nyhavn (New Harbour), relaxing at the waterfront, canal tours, and shopping in Copenhagen's many shopping centres and cosy boutiques.

ABOUT THE HOST CITY

Copenhagen is the capital and largest city of Denmark, with a population of 1,167,569 (2009). Its existence was first documented in 1043 and it became the capital of Denmark in the beginning of the 15th century, rapidly developing into one of the most important cities in Northern Europe. Copenhagen is the centre of the economically important Øresund Region, encompassing Eastern Denmark and Southern Sweden, with around 3.7 million inhabitants. It is the most visited city of the Nordic Countries with around 1.4 million international tourists every year.

Copenhagen is a major regional centre of culture, business, media and science. In 2008, it was ranked 4th by the Financial Times-owned Fdi magazine on their list of *Top 50 European Cities of the*

Future after London, Paris and Berlin. Its strategic location and excellent infrastructure, including the largest airport in Scandinavia, has made it a regional hub and a popular location for regional headquarters as well as conventions.

CITY OF COPENHAGEN INFO

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Copenhagen has repeatedly been recognized as one of the cities with the best quality of life. It is also considered one of the world's most environmentally friendly cities with the water in the inner harbour being so clean that it can be used for swimming and 36% of all citizens commuting to work by bicycle. Moreover, it has recently been voted the cleanest city in Europe. Since the turn of the millennium, Copenhagen has seen a strong urban and cultural development, partly due to massive investments in cultural facilities as well as infrastructure and a new wave of successful designers, chefs and architects.

Copenhagen is a worthy capital of a country which has repeatedly been ranked as the country in the world with the happiest population. Denmark has also won notoriety for its generous aid policy (0.8% of GDP is spent on development aid) and its progressive environmental policy. In December 2009, Copenhagen will host the United Nations Climate Change Conference, where the world's leaders will discuss the coming years' global environmental policy.

GETTING TO COPENHAGEN

Copenhagen can be easily reached from most European cities by various means of transportation. The international airport is 14 minutes by train or metro from the city centre. Trains depart every ten minutes for the Central Station (*Hovedbanegården*), which lies near our partner hotel. The Metro also departs every ten minutes for Nørreport Station in the heart of the city, five minutes' walk from the conference venue. Taxis and various buses are also available. Copenhagen is well connected to both the European motorway and railway network.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Language

The official language of the conference is English and no simultaneous translation will be provided.

Visa

It is your responsibility to check if you need a visa for entering Denmark – further information can be found at: www.um.dk/en/menu/ConsularServices or on our web site.

Please consult the Danish embassy or consulate in your country for details.

No visa is needed for nationals of the European Union and USA.

If you need an invitation letter please contact us at: info@globalresponse2010.dk

CONTACT

For further information,
please contact:
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WEB PAGE

www.globalresponse2010.dk
Also, join our Facebook group
'Global Response 2010'

CONFERENCE OFFICE

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