THE CONSORTIUM FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Consortium for Health and Human Rights is comprised of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights; Global Lawyers and Physicians; International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW); and Physicians for Human Rights (PHR). These four nongovernmental organizations joined together in 1997 to promote the link between health and human rights internationally by providing education, research, and advocacy for professionals working in health and human rights, students, educators, and the general public. The priority concern for the Consortium in 1998 is to promote observance and activism around the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Consortium website may be found at: www.healthandhumanrights.org

Consortium Members

François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights

The François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights was founded in 1993 at the Harvard School of Public Health to promote and catalyze the health and human rights movement; to influence policies and practices in health and human rights; and to expand the knowledge about linkages between health and human rights in specific contexts such as HIV/AIDS, children’s rights and health, and women’s health and rights.

The Center seeks to influence policy and programs through its collaboration with various UN agencies and in partnership with NGOs, international agencies, and governments worldwide. The Center has developed and conducts a variety of academic and professional training courses on health and human rights.
Daniel Tarantola, MD, is the Acting Center Director and the Director of the International AIDS Program. Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA, is the Director of the Human Rights Program.

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Global Lawyers and Physicians

Global Lawyers and Physicians’ (GLP) mission is to work collaboratively toward the global implementation of the health-related provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, with a focus on health care ethics, patients’ rights, and human experimentation. GLP was founded in 1996 at an international symposium held at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Nuremberg Doctors Trial. GLP was formed to reinvigorate the collaboration of legal and medical/public health professionals to protect the human rights and dignity of all persons.

The founders are George J. Annas, JD, Edward R. Outlay Professor and Chair, Health and Law Department, Boston University School of Public Health and Michael A. Grodin, MD, Professor and Director of Law, Medicine, and Ethics Program, Health Law Department, Boston University School of Public Health.
International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) is a non-partisan international federation of physicians’ organizations dedicated to research, education, and advocacy relevant to the prevention of nuclear war. To this end, IPPNW seeks to prevent all wars, to promote non-violent conflict resolution, and to minimize the effects of war and preparations for war on health, development, and the environment. For its work to educate the public about the medical consequences of nuclear war, IPPNW was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on December 10, 1985.

Founded in 1980, in the midst of the Cold War, IPPNW came together with the vision that physicians, sharing a common duty to protect human health, could unite globally in opposition to nuclear weapons and nuclear war. IPPNW's mission has evolved from a singular focus on the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear arsenals to broader concern with three major components of global violence and the measures that can address them: military conflict and the need for disarmament; poverty and economic inequality and the need for justice and equitable development; and environmental destruction and the need for universal stewardship of the earth’s fragile resources. As with its founding work on nuclear abolition, IPPNW believes that primary prevention is the only approach to remedy global violence.
Physicians for Human Rights

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) mobilizes the health professions and enlists public support to protect and promote the human rights of all people. PHR believes that human rights are essential preconditions for the health and well-being of all members of the human family.

Since 1986, PHR members have worked to stop torture, disappearances, and political killings by governments and opposition groups; to improve health and sanitary conditions in prisons and detention centers; to investigate the physical and psychological consequences of violations of humanitarian law in internal and international conflicts; to defend medical neutrality and the right of civilians and combatants to receive medical care during times of war; to protect health professionals who are victims of violations of human rights; and to prevent medical complicity in torture and other abuses. As one of the original steering committee members of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, PHR shared the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, awarded to the Campaign and its coordinator, Jody Williams. PHR currently serves as co-chair for the U.S. Campaign to Ban Landmines.

The President is Charles Clements, MD; Vice President is Carola Eisenberg, MD. The Executive Director is Leonard S. Rubenstein, JD; Deputy Director is Susannah Sirkin; Advocacy Director is Holly Burkhalter; Senior Program Associate is Richard Sollom; Director of Communications is Bar-
bara Ayotte; Development Coordinator is Steve Brown; Campaign and Education Coordinator is Gina Cummings; Media Relations Coordinator is Caitriona Palmer; and Senior Medical Consultant is Vincent Iacopino, MD, PhD.

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