

Master Class Ep. 138 II"

Global Health Diplomacy in Fragile and Conflict-Hit Countries"II Friday, July 18, 2025, 10.30 AM - 11:30 AM IST
(Online)

From: IIHMRU President Office

presidentoffice@iihmr.edu.in

To: Dini Mohamed, dini.mphis02@iihmr.in

Sent: Monday, February 2 at 2:32 PM

Dear Dini Mohamed,

Greetings for the day.

Hope this email finds you in great health.

IIHMR University takes the lead to organize a series of Master Classes specially curated for the students to enlighten and share insights on issues and initiatives of current interest. The University is conducting a session on July 18, 2025– from 10.30 AM – 11:30 AM IST (Online).

The masterclass will help students to understand “[Global Health Diplomacy in fragile and conflict hit countries](#)”.

Title – “[Global Health Diplomacy in fragile and conflict hit countries](#)”

Guest Speaker: Dr. Garry Aslanyan, Manager Partnership & Global Engagement, TDR, Geneva, Switzerland.

Moderator: Dr. Piyusha Majumdar, Associate Professor, SD Gupta School of public health, IIHMR University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

Student Coordinator – Dini Mohamud MPH (IS)
Cohort 2, IIHMR University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India.

Date: Friday, July 18, 2025

Time: 10.30 AM – 11:30 AM IST

Mode: Online

The Session will be of Approx 45 minutes followed by 15-minute question-answer session (1 Hour duration). The target audience will be MBA MPH students along with Faculties and Team Members of Placements & Alumni Relations.

Thanks and Regards



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IIHMR UNIVERSITY, JAIPUR
EVENT OUTCOME REPORT
“Master Class Episode 138”

“Master Class Episode 138”
TOPIC: <i>Global Health Diplomacy in Fragile and Conflict-Hit Countries.</i>
DATE: 18 July 2025 – from 10:30 AM to 11:30 PM IST.
VENUE: IIHMR University, Jaipur (ONLINE MODE)
SPEAKER: <i>Dr. Garry Aslanyan (Manager, Partnerships and Global Engagement at TDR; Head of Secretariat, ESSENCE on Health Research)</i>
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 25 students from MPHIS/JHU students
<p>INTRODUCTION: The Master Class 138 session titled “<i>Global Health Diplomacy in Fragile and Conflict-Hit Countries</i>” was held on 18th July 2025 at IIHMR University in online mode. The session was coordinated by Dini Mohamed, an MPH-IS student from Somalia, and was moderated by Proff . Piyusha Majumdar, Associate Professor and Program Coordinator, SD Gupta School of Public Health.</p> <p>The guest speaker, Dr. Garry Aslanyan, is a leading figure in global health, currently serving at the WHO-TDR and heading the ESSENCE on Health Research Secretariat. His work focuses on strengthening global partnerships and supporting health research in low- and middle-income countries.</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE: The objective of this session was to introduce participants to the concept and practice of global health diplomacy, especially within the context of countries experiencing conflict, political instability, or fragile governance systems. The class aimed to inspire future public health professionals to understand how diplomacy, negotiation, and collaboration are used as tools to advance health equity in complex settings.</p>
<p>SALIENT NOVEL POINTS COVERED</p> <p>1)Introduction to Global Health Diplomacy Dr. Aslanyan defined global health diplomacy as the intersection of public health, foreign policy, and international relations, highlighting its relevance in fragile and conflict-hit regions.</p> <p>2)Fragile Health Systems: The Cases of Somalia, Yemen, and Iran In Somalia and Yemen, health diplomacy has enabled access to humanitarian aid and coordinated responses amid conflict. In Iran, it has helped navigate sanctions to secure essential medicines and uphold the right to health.</p> <p>3)Health Diplomacy in Action Real-world applications of health diplomacy were shared, such as negotiating access for humanitarian aid, aligning donor priorities, and supporting research partnerships that are respectful of local context.</p>

4) Global Health Instruments by WHO:

Dr. Aslanyan explained that the **World Health Assembly** adopts three main instruments:

Recommendations (Article 23 – soft law),

Regulations (Article 21 – hard law), and

Conventions and Agreements (Article 19 – hard law).

These instruments guide global health governance and state compliance in public health emergencies and long-term cooperation.

5) WHO) First Treaty the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control FCTC):

Dr. Aslanyan discussed the **FCTC** as a landmark example of global health diplomacy. Adopted as a **global response to the tobacco epidemic**, it was backed by strong scientific evidence that tobacco kills and addressed the growing cross-border factors in the 1990s—such as trade liberalization, foreign investments, global advertising, and illicit trade. The FCTC demonstrates how international cooperation can shape legally binding instruments to protect public health.

Q&A and Interactive Session: The session featured a lively Q&A where students asked questions related to the practice of diplomacy in public health emergencies, lessons from fragile states, and career opportunities in global health policy. Dr. Aslanyan addressed all questions with clarity and encouraged students to think globally while acting locally

The session concluded with reflections on the growing importance of **global health diplomacy** in an increasingly interconnected and politically complex world. As global crises—such as pandemics, climate-related disasters, protracted conflicts, and forced displacement—continue to escalate, the need for skilled professionals who can navigate the intersection of **health, politics, humanitarian aid, and foreign policy** is more urgent than ever.

Future leaders in public health will need to be equipped not only with technical knowledge but also with **diplomatic, negotiation, and cross-cultural communication skills**. Global health diplomacy will play a vital role in ensuring that health remains a central pillar of foreign policy and international cooperation, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Students were encouraged to explore career pathways in **international organizations** like WHO, UN agencies, and global NGOs, as well as in **governmental foreign service, humanitarian missions, health policy think tanks, and global health advocacy platforms**. They were also advised to strengthen their interdisciplinary learning, including in law, politics, ethics, and economics, to better prepare for roles that require cross-sectoral coordination.

The session emphasized that young public health professionals, particularly from the Global South, have a critical role to play in shaping **equitable, inclusive, and sustainable global health systems**—and that diplomacy is one of the most powerful tools to do so

Global Health Diplomacy in fragile and conflict hit countries

Friday, July 18, 2025 10:30 – 11:30 AM IST / 7:00 – 8:00 AM Geneva Time



MODERATOR

Dr. Piyusha Majumdar

Associate Professor
SD Gupta School of Public Health
IIHMR University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India



SPEAKER

Dr. Garry Aslanyan

Manager Partnership & Global Engagement
TDR, Geneva
Switzerland



STUDENT CO-ORDINATOR

Dini Mohamud

MPH (IS) Cohort 2
IIHMR University
Jaipur, Rajasthan, India



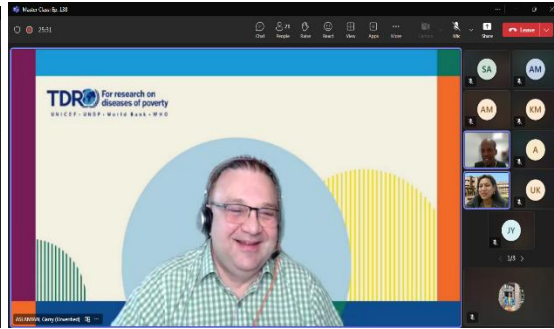
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Global health instruments: *WHO*

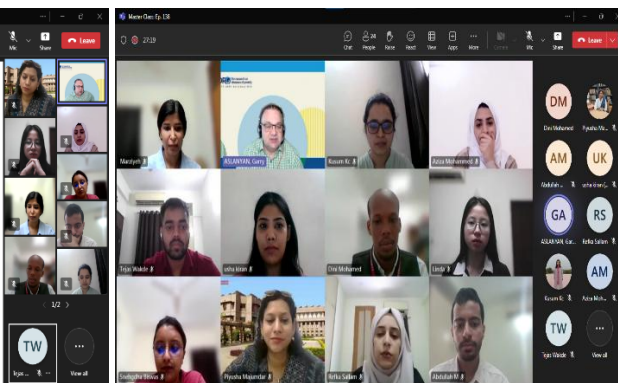
World Health Assembly can adopt:

- Recommendations (Art 23 of WHO Constitution)
- Regulations (Art 21)
- Conventions and agreements (Article 19)

Recommendations - "soft law", regulations and conventions/agreements - "hard law"

Enhancing Surveillance and Response

- Enables cross-border data sharing and coordination.
- Supports deployment of rapid response teams.
- Facilitates access to diagnostics, medicines, and vaccines.



Sr. No.	1. Summary		
	Meeting title	Master Class: Ep. 138	
	Attended participants	25	
	Start time	7/18/25, 10:08:28 AM	
	End time	7/18/25, 11:41:54 AM	
	2. Participants		
	Name	First Join	Role
1	Abdifatah	7/18/25, 10:09:45 AM	Presenter
2	abdifatah (Unverified)	7/18/25, 10:10:00 AM	Presenter
3	Shraddha Arora	7/18/25, 10:10:54 AM	Presenter
4	Piyusha Majumdar	7/18/25, 10:15:14 AM	Presenter
5	Tejas Wakde	7/18/25, 10:19:45 AM	Presenter
6	Aziza Mohammed	7/18/25, 10:21:23 AM	Presenter
7	Nadeen Abduljabbar	7/18/25, 10:22:03 AM	Presenter
8	Dini Mohamed	7/18/25, 10:22:54 AM	Presenter
9	Abdullah M	7/18/25, 10:23:42 AM	Presenter
10	Kusum Kc	7/18/25, 10:25:56 AM	Presenter
11	Marziyeh (Unverified)	7/18/25, 10:26:06 AM	Presenter
12	Linda (Unverified)	7/18/25, 10:26:43 AM	Presenter
13	Snehgdha Biswas	7/18/25, 10:27:24 AM	Presenter
14	Mandakini DigiSwasthya	7/18/25, 10:28:03 AM	Presenter
15	usha kiran	7/18/25, 10:28:17 AM	Presenter
16	Refka Sallam	7/18/25, 10:28:39 AM	Presenter
17	Amrita Sharma	7/18/25, 10:28:41 AM	Presenter
18	Ayan Mohamed Salad	7/18/25, 10:28:55 AM	Presenter
19	ASLANYAN, Garry	7/18/25, 10:29:50 AM	Presenter
20	jawaahir yuusuf	7/18/25, 10:30:19 AM	Presenter
21	read.ai meeting notes (Unv	7/18/25, 10:30:24 AM	Presenter
22	kalyani kumari	7/18/25, 10:32:52 AM	Presenter
23	Aisha Abdullahi Gure	7/18/25, 10:34:15 AM	Presenter
24	Neetu Purohit	7/18/25, 10:34:19 AM	Presenter
25	Akansha Tyagi	7/18/25, 10:34:24 AM	Presenter