

“The relationship between Security and Health: a new paradigm for the UN Security Council?”

Abstract: One of the aspects related to biolaw is that related to security and health. In other words, using the expression of relevant authorities on this subject, “the securitization of health” and, those situations connected with the Security Council labour in the last decades, may constitute an interesting subject. Beginning with the role of the UN blue helmets in many countries where the expansion of HIV/AIDS is usual, followed by the expansion of some diseases in Haiti, together with the Ebola “crisis” in 2014 and connected with the efforts of the World Health Organization to fight against the zika...what is the role played by the United Nations Security Council on this field, trying to establish a relationship between security and health? This is the proposal of this communication that we submit to the ESIL Biolaw group meeting in Riga.

Keywords: Ebola, Health, Security Council, United Nations.

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The relationship between Security and Health: a new paradigm for the United Nations Security Council?

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Securitization of Health: Myth or Reality?

- Article 39 of the United Nations Charter and Health...



First step...



- 10 January 2000: First Security Council meeting of the new millennium as an open debate on “The situation in Africa: the impact of AIDS on international peace and security” (S/PV.4087)
- Resolution 1308 (17 July 2000): HIV/AIDS.
“HIV/AIDS and international peacekeeping operations”
 - Number of people living with HIV (WHO estimated data):
<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main.22100WHO?lang=en>

Global summary of the AIDS epidemic | 2015

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Number of people living with HIV in 2015 | Total | 36.7 million | [34.0 million – 39.8 million] |
| | Adults | 34.9 million | [32.4 million – 37.9 million] |
| | Women (15+) | 17.8 million | [16.4 million – 19.4 million] |
| | Children (<15 years) | 1.8 million | [1.5 million – 2.0 million] |

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| People newly infected with HIV in 2015 | Total | 2.1 million | [1.8 million – 2.4 million] |
| | Adults | 1.9 million | [1.7 million – 2.2 million] |
| | Children (<15 years) | 150 000 | [110 000 – 190 000] |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| AIDS deaths in 2015 | Total | 1.1 million | [940 000 – 1.3 million] |
| | Adults | 1.0 million | [840 000 – 1.2 million] |
| | Children (<15 years) | 110 000 | [84 000 – 130 000] |

21st International AIDS Conference

- Durban (South Africa), 18-21 July 2016

<http://www.aids2016.org/>



Second round...

Haiti



And the Ebola crisis

- 28 November 2011: Pandemics and the Ebola crisis; Security Council debate (S/PV/6668), under the initiative of Portugal
- -15 September 2014: Resolution 2176 was adopted (see Preamble, 2nd indent).
- -18 September 2014: Resolution 2177 was adopted (see Preamble, 5th indent),
“*Determining that the unprecedented extent of the Ebola outbreak in Africa constitutes a threat to international peace and security*”.

1 April 2014: Guinea/Liberia - Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Outbreak

Information Sources:
 ECDC: WHO (1, 2, 3);
 UNICEF Liberia Ebola Outbreak:
 SRRep#6



- Confirmed Ebola cases (WHO)
- Spread of cases (both confirmed and unconfirmed ones)
- Country Capital
- Main towns
- Main roads
- Railroads
- Country borders
- AREAS
- Areas with suspected EHF cases
- Areas with confirmed EHF cases

Facts about EVD (WHO)

- Five distinct species of the Genus Ebolavirus exist, one of which is Zaire ebolavirus.
- In Africa, fruit bats of the Pteropodidae family are considered possible natural hosts of the Ebola virus.
- Contact with carcasses of wild infected animals increase the risk of EVD occurrence.
- The mortality rate is 50%-90%.
- The virus spreads through person-to-person transmission.

SITUATION

- As of 31 March, the number of confirmed and unconfirmed cases in **Guinea** reached 132 in total, including 80 deaths. In **Liberia**, there have been four deaths in a total of eight cases and in **Sierra Leone** two, both of whom died.
- Out of these total numbers, 24 in Guinea and three in Liberia have been confirmed as Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever (now known as Ebola Virus Disease - EVD) cases and they have all tested positive to the same species, namely Zaire ebolavirus.

- Guinea**
- The situation in the forested area of south-eastern Guinea seems to be stabilizing, notably due to active case finding, active contact tracing, effective case management in isolation wards and public awareness measures.
 - In Conakry, there have been 11 confirmed cases so far. All cases concerned people coming from south-eastern Guinea. Health staff in the hospital are among these cases. They were contaminated before measures for disease spread prevention were taken. The Guinean Ministry of Health, together with Médecins Sans Frontières, is currently identifying a location for the establishment of a single Isolation and Treatment Centre for all Conakry. While additional assistance, such as protective equipment and additional specialist teams, continue to reach Conakry, logistics and coordination remain challenging.
- Liberia / Sierra Leone**
- In Liberia, confirmed or suspected cases have been identified in Lofa, Nimba and Margibi counties, while in Sierra Leone cases under investigation are from Kailahun district. All of the initial reported cases in these two countries had traveled to Guinea before the onset of the Ebola outbreak.

- ECHO response**
- ECHO is supporting the humanitarian response to the Ebola outbreak with EUR 500 000 for case identification and management. Two ECHO experts are present in Conakry and an additional expert is arriving in Monrovia. Further support is presently being considered.

And...what about zika?



Thank

you

