

VIRCHOW
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2025





THE VIRCHOW PRIZE 2025

The Virchow Prize 2025 was awarded to Quarraisha Abdool Karim from South Africa and Zulfikar A. Bhutta from Pakistan for their pioneering, lifelong leadership in advancing maternal, newborn and child health equity through community-centred, evidence-based research.

The Virchow Prize Ceremony was hosted by the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Kai Wegner, at Berlin City Hall (Rotes Rathaus). The ceremony was held on Saturday, 11 October 2025 and welcomed around 300 international guests from across the health sector, from civil society, academia, politics, private sector as well as development cooperation.

“ PREFACE

From the Book “Rudolf Virchow, The Virchow Foundation, The Virchow Prize – Towards Health for All”, September 2025



Photograph: Federal Government / Steffen Kugler

FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER

President of the
Federal Republic of Germany

High Patron | Virchow Prize 2022

Rudolf Virchow's work on social medicine has earned Berlin a special reputation as a centre for health sciences. Virchow's insight that medicine is a social science and that societal conditions have a decisive influence on health remains more relevant today than ever. At a time when global health cooperation is coming under pressure, the prize named after him builds on this recognition and supports initiatives that contribute to health for all in a spirit of international solidarity.

Schloss Bellevue (Bellevue Palace), official residence of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany



“ WELCOME NOTE

HIGH PATRON OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

Governing Mayor Kai Wegner has been a steadfast supporter of the Virchow Foundation and its flagship initiative, the Virchow Prize. Since assuming office in 2023, he has delivered keynote remarks at each of the Prize's annual award ceremonies and has been instrumental in elevating Berlin as a leading global health hub.



Photograph: Senatskanzlei Berlin / Yves Sucksdorff

Since 2022, the prestigious Virchow Prize has been awarded in Berlin. I am very pleased that our city hosts this distinguished ceremony. Thanks to its worldwide reputation, interdisciplinary profile, and clear ethical position, the Virchow Prize has long been one of the leading awards in global health research.

The Virchow Prize goes hand in hand with Berlin: Rudolf Virchow, a physician, researcher, and politician in our city, epitomised the virtues of medical excellence and social responsibility. Today, Berlin remains committed to his goal of combining scientific advancement with good healthcare for everyone.

As a modern healthcare hub, Berlin stands for the ideal combination of research excellence, leading hospitals, and an innovative healthcare economy. About 400,000 people work in Berlin's healthcare sector – at Charité and Berlin's many other hospitals, at universities and research institutes, and at startups and companies in the life sciences. Together, they make healthcare an engine of growth and employment for Berlin. And they all contribute to advancing medical progress – with new treatments, digital solutions, or innovative healthcare ideas.

With all this in mind, I am delighted that the Virchow Prize honours individuals and organizations who exemplify the approach that distinguished Rudolf Virchow: linking research with social responsibility and science with empathy.

I offer my warmest congratulations to all the recipients of the Virchow Prize for this honour. And thank you to the Virchow Foundation for awarding a prize that highlights scientific excellence and global commitment – and, as a result, further strengthens Berlin's standing as an international centre for healthcare.



Kai Wegner
Governing Mayor of Berlin

*From the Book "Rudolf Virchow,
The Virchow Foundation,
The Virchow Prize –
Towards Health for All",
September 2025*

“ WELCOME NOTE

The Virchow Prize highlights the importance of international, interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral cooperation for global health. It is a testament to the power of global collaboration and the critical need for innovative approaches to the many challenges we face in health today. The pioneering efforts of the Virchow Prize laureates not only advance our understanding of complex health systems but also underscore the importance of collaborative solutions and the interconnectedness between resilient health systems and planetary health. Strong health systems are the backbone of our response to health emergencies and the delivery of equitable health services.



Building societies and economies that put health at the centre requires decisive action in three key dimensions: promoting, providing and protecting health.

First, promoting health means an emphasis on preventing disease and addressing its root causes. The axiom that prevention is better than cure remains as true now as when it was first uttered. Because health is not created primarily in hospitals or clinics, but in homes and communities, streets and markets, workplaces and our environment – in the air people breathe, the food they eat, and the conditions in which they live and work.

Second, providing health means ensuring that when people do need care, they have equitable access to the essential health services they need, without facing financial hardship. This entails reorienting health systems towards primary healthcare, as the foundation of universal health coverage. In turn, that entails strengthening the health workforce; improving the quality and safety of health services; increasing access to essential medicines and vaccines; and reducing out-of-pocket health spending.

Third, protecting health means making populations safer from epidemics and pandemics by strengthening health emergency preparedness and response, nationally, regionally and globally. Much work has been done in this area since the COVID-19 pandemic to strengthen the many dimensions of health security: financing, surveillance, accountability, emergency workforce, equitable access to vaccines and other tools, and more. The new WHO Pandemic Agreement, and the amended International Health Regulations, are vital instruments of international law to ensure a more coordinated and equitable response to future pandemics.

In the tradition of the great Rudolf Virchow, Germany has been a critical partner and standout leader in supporting health system strengthening to build a healthier and more equitable world, and to catalysing positive change on the path towards the Sustainable Development Goals. It has demonstrated exceptional political leadership and vision in helping to strengthen the global health architecture for future generations, including hosting the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin and being home to 27 WHO Collaborating Centres that provide critical research to improve health and well-being.

The steadfast commitment of Germany and of the Virchow Foundation to global health are vital contributions to fulfilling the vision on which WHO was founded in 1948: the highest attainable standard of health for all people, as a fundamental human right.

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization (WHO)

From the Book “Rudolf Virchow, The Virchow Foundation, The Virchow Prize – Towards Health for All”, September 2025



FOREWORD

FOUNDERS OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

As we look back on 2025, we are reminded that Rudolf Virchow's legacy is more relevant than ever. In a world increasingly shaped by geopolitical confrontation, armed conflicts, humanitarian crises, climate change, new threats of pandemics and growing social inequalities, the principles that guided Virchow's life and work offer both orientation and hope. Inspired by the ideals of the Enlightenment, he understood that scientific knowledge, freedom of thought, social responsibility, and respect for human dignity are inseparable foundations of peace and progress. His conviction that health is not merely the absence of disease but a prerequisite for justice, prosperity, and societal stability continues to guide the mission of the Virchow Foundation.

In this spirit, we were deeply honoured to celebrate Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta as the Virchow Prize 2025 Laureates. Through their pioneering contributions to maternal, newborn, and child health, their commitment to scientific excellence, and their tireless advocacy for health equity, they have improved the lives of millions of people around the world. Their work exemplifies the holistic and interdisciplinary approach that lies at the heart of the Virchow Prize. They now join an exceptional community of laureates comprising John N. Nkengasong (2022), Rose Gana Fomban Leke (2023), and Lucy Gilson together with Johan Rockström (2024). Collectively, these distinguished scientists and leaders demonstrate how visionary research, courageous leadership, and international collaboration can help address the complex challenges facing humanity.

The Virchow Prize 2025 Award Lectures and Ceremony on the eve of the World Health Summit in Berlin once again brought together outstanding representatives from science, medicine, politics, diplomacy, philanthropy, business, and civil society. Through inspiring lectures, high-level discussions, and personal encounters, participants reaffirmed a shared commitment to advancing global health as a common good. Our continued engagement with international partners and leading institutions strengthened the dialogue between research, policy, and society and highlighted the importance of evidence-based decision-making in addressing the interconnected challenges of our time. The growing international visibility of the Virchow Foundation reflects a shared recognition that sustainable solutions can only emerge through cooperation across disciplines, sectors, and borders.



FOREWORD

FOUNDERS OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

These achievements are only possible because of the dedication of many individuals who generously contribute their expertise, experience, and commitment to our mission. On behalf of the Virchow Foundation, we express our sincere gratitude to the members of the Board of Trustees, the International Council, and the independent Virchow Prize Committee, and all those serving in our advisory bodies and working groups. Their thoughtful deliberations, intellectual independence, and unwavering commitment have been essential to maintaining the scientific excellence, integrity, and international reputation of both the Virchow Foundation and the Virchow Prize. We are equally grateful to our partners, supporters, ambassadors, and the Foundation team, whose enthusiasm and professionalism have made 2025 another successful year.

As this Yearbook documents, the Virchow Foundation continues to build bridges between disciplines, institutions, cultures, and generations. At a time when division and uncertainty threaten international cooperation, we remain convinced that health can serve as a unifying force for peace, sustainable development, and human dignity. We thank all those who have accompanied and supported us throughout the past year. Together, we will continue to uphold Rudolf Virchow's enduring vision and work towards a healthier, more just, and more peaceful world.

Yours sincerely,

CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES

GERALD H. HAUG

FRIEDE SPRINGER

ROLAND GÖHDE

DETLEV GANTEN



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Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches | Welcome Note at the Virchow Prize Dinner 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2025 marked a significant phase in the continued development of the Virchow Foundation, reinforcing its position as an independent international not-for-profit platform dedicated to advancing 'Health for All' with the highly endowed Virchow Prize stimulating science, policy dialogue, interdisciplinary collaboration, and public engagement. Guided by Rudolf Virchow's conviction that health is inseparable from its social, political, economic and environmental determinants, the Virchow Foundation continued to strengthen its contribution to the global health architecture at a time of much increasing geopolitical uncertainty and growing challenges to multilateral cooperation.

In particular, continuous emphasis was placed on promoting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, highlighting health as both a fundamental human right and a prerequisite for sustainable development as well as serving as predestined entry point, compass and proof of efficacy and success to all 17 SDGs.

Through advocacy initiatives the Foundation further strengthened awareness of the importance of science-informed policymaking and cross-sectoral collaboration. In this context, the Virchow Foundation played a leading role in initiating and shaping the 'Joint Call on Migration and Health', bringing together distinguished representatives from science, international organisations, policy, civil society and the private sector. The initiative emphasises that migration and health are inseparable from global public health, health security and sustainable development, and calls for renewed international leadership at a time of increasing displacement, geopolitical turmoil and financial constraints. It urges reinforced cross-sectoral partnerships and investment in migrant-inclusive health systems, improved preparedness for humanitarian crises, and sustained protection of the right to health.

A further joint call with active participation of the Virchow Foundation underscored the importance of maintaining Germany's political focus on global health.

The central highlight of 2025 was the announcement and the celebration of the Virchow Prize 2025, awarded jointly to Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta in recognition of their pioneering lifelong leadership in advancing maternal, newborn and child health through community-centred, evidence-based research.

Important institutional milestones were the assumption of the High Patronage of the Foundation by the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Kai Wegner, underscoring the city's growing role as an international hub for global health, and the appointment of Professor Christoph Marksches as Foundation President, following Founding President Professor Gerald Haug and further enriching the Foundation's interdisciplinary profile by strengthening the integration of scientific excellence with ethical, historical and societal perspectives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Further dedicated activities comprised the joint fight against sepsis with our close partner, the Global Sepsis Alliance, contributions of our laureates at the German Bundestag and the World Health Summit, co-shaping a new level of the French-German-European axis in global health cooperation closely together with our colleagues from the One Sustainable Health for All Foundation, and co-organising the International Urban Health Summit 2025 together with the InterAcademy Partnership, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and VolkswagenStiftung.

Leading representatives of the Virchow Foundation have actively participated at events during the World Health Assembly, travelled with the German Federal President to three African countries and were engaged in global health dialogues, e.g. at UN organisations in New York and with members of US Congress in Washington, D.C.

Taken together, the activities of 2025 demonstrate the continued commitment of the Virchow Foundation as an influential global actor connecting the different sectors and its major actors through the prestigious Virchow Prize. By celebrating transformative scientific achievement and fostering international cooperation and public engagement, we advance Rudolf Virchow's enduring vision.

Close to our 5th anniversary, we summarised the Foundation's and Prize's evolution in the book "Rudolf Virchow, The Virchow Foundation, The Virchow Prize – Towards Health for All" featuring a Preface by the German Federal President as well as Welcome Notes by the Governing Mayor of Berlin and the Director-General of the World Health Organization, published by MWV – Medizinisch Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft.

We remain sincerely grateful to all our friends, colleagues, partners and supporters, the esteemed honorary Virchow Foundation and Virchow Prize Committee Members, and our team at the Foundation Secretariat.

Thanks to your continued spirit, commitment, support, partnership and trust, we are absolutely confident to successfully enter and shape the next 5 years while jointly celebrating with you our 5th anniversary in the year 2026.



ROLAND GÖHDE
CO-FOUNDER & CEO
VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

RUDOLF VIRCHOW

1821-1902

Rudolf Virchow is a unique example of a great scientist, medical doctor, pathologist, anthropologist, sociologist and influential politician who, with his ideas, discoveries and activities, had profound impact on the health and well-being of people during his time through the present day.

Born over 200 years ago on 13 October 1821, Virchow worked as a physician at Charité. As the founder of the famous Berlin School of Medicine, he became one of the most influential scientists at the beginnings of modern medicine.

Virchow united in one person the interdisciplinary, intersectoral and humanistic concept of well-being which is needed today to improve health at a global scale.

Rudolf Virchow is thus a role model and inspiration to overcome complexity and to bridge the great variety of challenges within health and related areas.



OUR MISSION

The Virchow Foundation's mission is to promote global and public health. This shall be realised in particular through the following measures:

- Awarding the Virchow Prize accompanied by expedient public relations work.
- Promotion of research projects and the application of research results.
- The networking of actors, groups of actors and sectors (civil society, NGOs, science, politics, business) relating to global health and public health at the national and international levels. Symposiums and conferences can be supported for this purpose.

The Virchow Foundation strives to promote and raise awareness of global health issues in a targeted and comprehensive manner among the general public, both nationally and internationally, and to contribute to the improvement of global health.

The Virchow Foundation acknowledges, supports and relates its work in particular to the efforts of the United Nations to preserve our planet Earth and make possible a healthy life in the meaning of the comprehensive Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on the UN 2030 Agenda.

In this spirit, the Virchow Prize, established and supported by the Virchow Foundation, recognises innovations of outstanding significance having a positive and sustainable impact on the broad field of global health.





Sustainable Development Goals



With only a few years remaining to achieve the United Nations 2030 Agenda, the urgency to accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has never been greater.

Recognising health as a unifying thread across all SDGs, the 2030 Agenda frames it as an entry point to social justice, gender equity, and planetary stewardship. The Virchow Foundation remains committed to championing holistic, cross-sectoral solutions that promote equitable health and well-being for all.

In 2025, we honoured Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta for their pioneering, lifelong leadership in advancing maternal, newborn and child health equity through community-centred, evidence-based research. Their work illuminates the vital connections between SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

Through our continued engagement with policy leaders, research institutions, and civil society partners worldwide, the Virchow Foundation fosters inclusive dialogue, long-term collaboration, and innovative thinking as we navigate the final stretch towards 2030.



VIRCHOW FOUNDATION COMMITTEES

The committees of the Virchow Foundation comprise leading international experts with broad expertise and exceptional track record covering a broad range of sectors and disciplines in global health.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees steers the Virchow Foundation's general policy and strategy, aiming to realise the Foundation's purpose and mission as laid down in the Statutes of the Foundation. Current composition: virchowprize.org/board-of-trustees/

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Comprised of leading, international experts with a shared dedication to improve health worldwide, the International Council provides strategic guidance on the direction of both the Foundation and the formation of the Virchow Prize Committee. Members of the Council are committed to ensure the Foundation's success through cross-sectoral cooperation and aligning activities with the United Nations 2030 Agenda SDGs. Current composition: virchowprize.org/council/

VIRCHOW PRIZE COMMITTEE

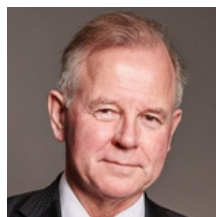
The Virchow Prize Committee is the independent jury that elaborates and provides the laureate selection of the Virchow Prize, awarded annually by the Virchow Foundation. The Virchow Prize Committee members show full loyalty to the eligibility criteria of the Virchow Prize and to the Virchow Foundation's overall mission and goals. Current composition: virchowprize.org/virchow-prize-committee/

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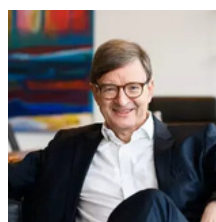
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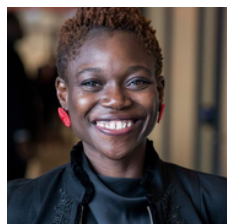
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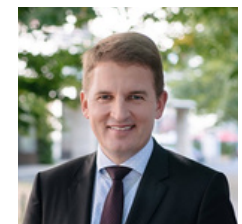
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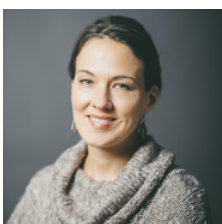
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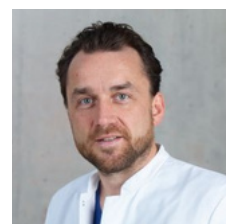
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2025



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THE YEAR IN A REVIEW



In 2025, the Virchow Foundation advanced its mission "Towards Health for All" through international engagements, strategic partnerships, and a broad range of activities spanning global health diplomacy and research.

A particular emphasis was placed on women's and child health. The Virchow Prize Laureates, Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, stood at the heart of this year's recognition with their groundbreaking work on advancing maternal, newborn, and child health equity through community-centred, evidence-based research.

The Virchow Prize festivities took place in October, bringing together global health leaders for an inaugural academic lecture, a high-level dinner, and the award ceremony at the Rotes Rathaus Berlin.



Top left: Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches and Dr. h.c. Friede Springer, at the Virchow Prize Ceremony 2025

Top right: Laureate Zulfiqar A. Bhutta with his Trophy, Governing Mayor Kai Wegner, Prof. Dr. Gerald H. Haug, at the Virchow Prize Ceremony 2025

Bottom Left: Kyra Constanze Pauly, Michael Müller, Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches, at the Virchow Prize Dinner 2025

Bottom right: Laureate Quarraisha Abdool Karim with her partner Prof. Dr. Salim S. Abdool Karim, at the Virchow Prize Ceremony 2025

VIRCHOW PRIZE LAUREATES 2025

Quarraisha Abdool Karim

Quarraisha Abdool Karim is an internationally acclaimed clinical epidemiologist and global health leader, whose groundbreaking research has transformed the scientific understanding of HIV prevention in women, with far-reaching implications for maternal and adolescent health.

Her work has had a profound and lasting impact on public health policy and practice in South Africa and globally.

As Associate Scientific Director of CAPRISA (Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa), Professor Abdool Karim led the landmark CAPRISA 004 trial (2007-2010), which provided the first proof of the concept that antiretroviral drugs could prevent HIV infection in women.

Recognised by *Science* as one of the top ten scientific breakthroughs of 2010, this pivotal study laid the foundation for the development of microbicides and other female-controlled HIV prevention methods, critical tools in protecting adolescent girls and young women, who remain disproportionately affected by the epidemic.

This breakthrough also empowered women with tools to protect their own health, an essential step towards gender equity in healthcare.



The Centre for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) 004 trial for the prevention of HIV acquisition in women

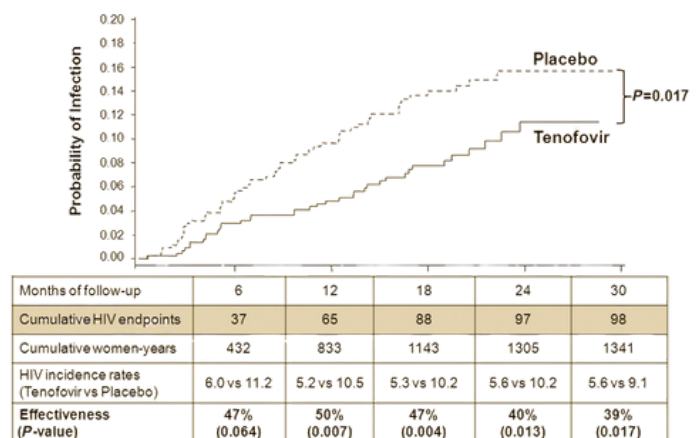


Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier estimates of cumulative probability of HIV infection in the tenofovir and placebo gel arms. The table provides the cumulative number of HIV endpoints, corresponding HIV incidence rates and effectiveness of tenofovir gel for each additional 6-months of follow-up.

Source: Abdool Karim et al, *Science* 329(5996), 1168-1174 (2010).

The Centre for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) 004 trial for the prevention of HIV acquisition in women

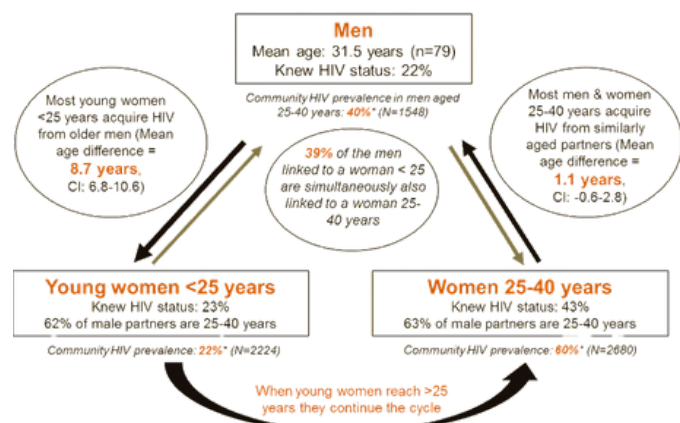


Figure 2: Cycle of Transmission

Source: de Oliveira et al., *The Lancet HIV* 4(e41-e50), 2017.

VIRCHOW PRIZE LAUREATES 2025

Zulfiqar A. Bhutta

Zulfiqar A. Bhutta is a globally recognised paediatrician, epidemiologist, and public health scientist whose pioneering research over the last several decades has advanced maternal, newborn and child health, improving millions of lives around the world.

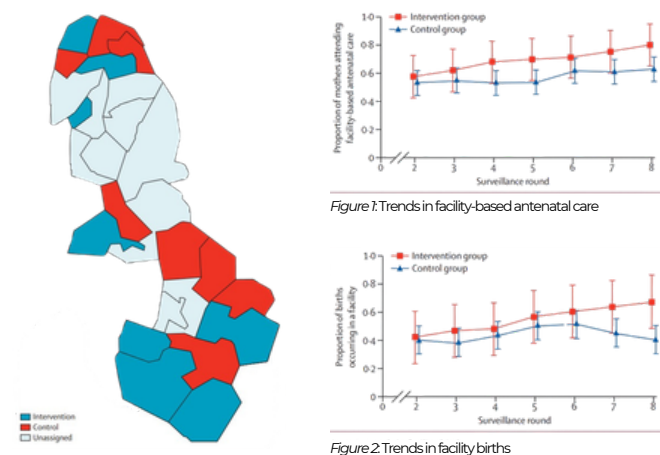
His work has been instrumental in shaping global health guidelines and influencing national policies for maternal, child health and nutrition in low- and middle-income countries.

As the Founding Director of the Institute for Global Health and Development at Aga Khan University and Co-Director of the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health, Dr. Bhutta has championed community-based primary care models, large-scale randomised trials, and implementation research within vulnerable communities and fragile settings.

His work demonstrated the effectiveness of locally embedded interventions, empowering community health workers and nutrition programmes targeting the most critical first 1,000 days of life.

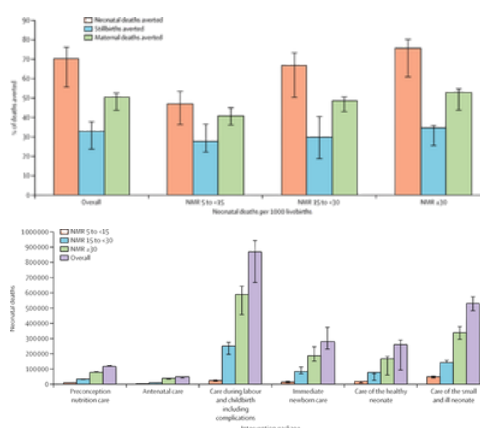


Improvement of perinatal and newborn care in rural Pakistan through a community-based cluster-randomised effectiveness trial



Source: Bhutta et al., *Lancet* 377(9763):403–412, 2011.

Can available interventions end preventable deaths in mothers, newborn babies, and stillbirths, and at what cost?



Source: Bhutta et al., *Lancet* 384(9940):347–370, 2014

VIRCHOW PRIZE CEREMONY 2025

MASTER OF CEREMONY

Dr. Miriam Orcutt
Member of the Board of Trustees,
Virchow Foundation
Senior Research Fellow,
University College London
Former Executive Director,
The Lancet Migration



WELCOME NOTES



Kai Wegner
Governing Mayor of Berlin
High Patron of the Virchow Foundation



Prof. Dr. Otmar Wiestler
President of the Helmholtz Association
of German Research Centers



Nina Warken
German Federal Minister of Health



Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization (WHO)

VIRCHOW PRIZE CEREMONY 2025

LAUDATION

- Winnie Byanyima | Executive Director, UNAIDS
- Dr. Sania Nishtar | CEO, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance

LAUREATES

Zulfiqar A. Bhutta | Quarraisha Abdool Karim



Trophies pictures on the right:

- Quarraisha Abdool Karim, Winnie Byanyima, Dr. h.c. Friede Springer
- Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, Governing Mayor Kai Wegner, Prof. Dr. Gerald H. Haug

CLOSING WORDS

- Prof. Dr. Ole Petter Ottersen | Chair, Virchow Prize Committee, Former President, Karolinska Institutet
- Roland Göhde | Co-Founder & CEO, Virchow Foundation
- Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten | Co-Founder & Member of the Board of Trustees, Virchow Foundation
- Carsten Schicker | CEO, World Health Summit
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches | Co-Founder & President, Virchow Foundation



VIRCHOW PRIZE LECTURE 2025

HOSTED BY ESMT

Friday 10 October 2025 :
Opening Event of the Virchow Prize 2025

The Virchow Foundation and ESMT Berlin (European School of Management and Technology) hosted the Virchow Prize Lecture 2025, honouring Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta for their lifelong leadership in advancing maternal, newborn, and child health equity through community-centred, evidence-based research.



Academic Lectures

Each laureate delivered a 20-minute lecture: Abdool Karim traced her groundbreaking HIV prevention research in South Africa, while Bhutta demonstrated how targeted community interventions drove rapid reductions in child and newborn mortality across South Asia. Both emphasised that **lasting impact requires science to be co-created with the communities it serves**. Their lectures were published simultaneously in *The Lancet* and can be accessed over the links on **page 26** of this Annual Report.

*Advancing
maternal,
newborn, and
child health
equity through
community-
centred,
evidence-based
research*



Panel discussion

A panel discussion moderated by Prof. Dr. Ole Petter Ottersen, with panellists Dr. Rana Hajjeh and Dr. Mariam Jashi, broadened the conversation to the political and systemic dimensions of health equity, exploring how leaders must engage across sectors, counter misinformation, and ensure domestic ownership of health solutions.

VIRCHOW PRIZE DINNER 2025

On the evening before the Award Ceremony, the Virchow Prize Dinner was hosted to honour the 2025 Laureates, Quarraisha Abdool Karim and Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, within the historic ruins of the Charité Medical History Museum.



Top left: Dr. Johannes Stellmann (Software AG Stiftung), Prof. Dr. Ole Petter Ottersen (Virchow Foundation) and Yasmeen Basir, Zulfiqar A. Bhutta's partner

Top right: Kyra Constanze Pauly (Bayer Foundation), Michael Müller (former Mayor of Berlin), Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches (both Virchow Foundation)

Bottom Left: Dr. Mariam Jashi (Global Sepsis Alliance), Dr. Ricardo Baptista Leite and Guilherme Duarte (both UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health), Dr. Georg Kippels (German Ministry of Health)

Bottom right: Dr. Khaled Atef Abdel Ghaffar (Deputy Prime Minister for Human Development and Minister of Health and Population of the Arab Republic of Egypt)

LAUREATES' CONTRIBUTIONS AMID THE WHS



Quarraisha Abdool Karim at the Parliamentary Breakfast



Zulfiqar A. Bhutta at the WHS Keynote Session

Following the Virchow Prize Ceremony, the laureates remained engaged in Berlin throughout the World Health Summit. Quarraisha Abdool Karim delivered a keynote, "Science and Equity in Action," at the Parliamentary Breakfast on Strengthening Political Leadership to End AIDS, alongside UNAIDS Executive Director Winnie Byanyima and Deputy Executive Director Christine Stegling. She also took part in the VIP Lunch Dialogue "Global Perspectives on Women's Health," organised by the German Federal Ministry of Health, and to a WHS side-event organised by Friends of the Global Fund Europe. Meanwhile, Zulfiqar A. Bhutta spoke at a keynote session of the WHS launching the Global Burden of Disease Study 2023, presenting comprehensive findings on global mortality, morbidity, and disease trends drawn from a worldwide network of over 16,500 collaborators.

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Media coverage of the Virchow Prize



Deutsches
Ärzteblatt

Frankfurter
Neue Presse



mdr
WISSEN

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Deutschlandfunk

DER TAGESSPIEGEL



dpa



ÄrzteZeitung



DER SPIEGEL



Süddeutsche Zeitung

Handelsblatt

Berliner Zeitung

WN Westfälische
Nachrichten

WELT



Badische Zeitung

ZEITUNG

POLITICO

STUTTGARTER
NACHRICHTEN



EL PAÍS

VIRCHOW PRIZE TROPHIES

This one-of-a-kind design provides a bridge between the past and future of global health. Its central feature is the glass specimen jar, curated from the Pathology Laboratory of the Charité – Universitätsmedizin in Berlin. Estimated to be more than 100 years old, similar specimen jars were utilised by Rudolf Virchow himself to preserve medical discoveries and contribute to the advancement of science and education. Suspended within each Virchow Prize trophy is a “specimen” that represents or symbolises the longstanding work of the laureates and their unique contribution to global health.



Zulfiqar A. Bhutta

The combination of the child growth chart and the measuring tape on the trophy symbolizes a lifelong dedication to understanding the growth and development of children, combating malnutrition, and transforming scientific insight into practical strategies for global health.



Quarraisha Abdool Karim

This specimen jar holds a long red strip, coiled in loose loops. From it, a section is lifted and shaped into the Red Ribbon — the global symbol for AIDS awareness, created by New York artists in 1991. The coiled strip evokes the vast, often unseen presence of AIDS, while the emerging loop calls for visibility, compassion, and action.



Description and pictures of the trophies by the artists:
Noa Lerner and Professor Axel Kufus.

VIRCHOW BOOK PUBLICATION



Prof. Dr. Axel Pries (World Health Summit), Roland Göhde (Virchow Book Co-author), Dr. Chikwe Ihekweazu (World Health Organization) and Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten (Virchow Book Co-author) at the Virchow Prize Lecture 2025.

Preface
by the President of the Federal Republic of
Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Welcome Notes
by the Governing Mayor of Berlin and High
Patron of the Virchow Foundation, Kai
Wegner, and the Director-General of the
World Health Organization (WHO), Dr.
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Detlev Ganten, Roland Göhde:
"Rudolf Virchow, The Virchow
Foundation, The Virchow Prize –
Towards Health for All"
1st Edition | September 2025

© 2025 Virchow Foundation and MWV
Medizinisch Wissenschaftliche
Verlagsgesellschaft, Berlin
ISBN: 978-3-95466-966-0



VIRCHOW PRIZE LECTURE PUBLICATIONS

Since 2024, establishing a new tradition, the Virchow Prize Lectures are published in international, peer-reviewed science journals. This milestone makes the insights of globally leading health researchers accessible to the wider scientific community and, through open access, to the world at large. Delivered annually before the festive Virchow Prize Ceremony, these lectures bring together Laureates and internationally renowned experts to address the world's most serious health challenges and accelerate progress towards health for all. Through their publication, the lectures extend their impact far beyond the auditorium, cementing their place as outstanding contributions to global health research.

The Virchow Prize Lecture 2025

THE LANCET

**QUARRAISHA ABDOOL KARIM,
ZULFIQAR A. BHUTTA**

**Advancing women, maternal, newborn,
and child health equity.**

Lancet 2025; published online Oct. 10 2025
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(25\)01920-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(25)01920-8)

Ole Petter Ottersen, Omnia El Omrani,
Roland Göhde, Detlev Ganten

**The Virchow Prize: honouring progress
towards health for all**

Lancet 2025; published online Oct. 10 2025
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(25\)02021-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(25)02021-5)



The Virchow Prize Lecture 2024



LUCY GILSON

**Health systems as human
systems: reflexivity, relationships,
and resilience in the pursuit of
the SDGs**

Front. Public Health 13:1653839
published online Aug. 20 2025

[doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653839](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653839)

JOHAN ROCKSTRÖM

**Diagnosing earth's tipping
points: where we stand in the
Anthropocene**

Front. Public Health 13:1653860
published online Sept. 01 2025

[doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653860](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653860)

Ole Petter Ottersen, Victoria
Grandsoult, Roland Göhde, Detlev
Ganten

**Safeguarding planetary and
human health—reflections on the
Virchow Prize 2024**

Front. Public Health 13:1653872
published online Aug. 13 2025

[doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653872](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1653872)



VIRCHOW PRIZE AMBASSADOR

John N. Nkengasong



"I am deeply honored to serve as an inaugural laureate of the Virchow Prize for Global Health and as a Virchow Prize Ambassador. This is a responsibility that resonates deeply with my own journey in global health."

Ambassador Dr. John N. Nkengasong | Virchow Prize Laureate 2022

In September 2025, the Virchow Foundation appointed Dr. John N. Nkengasong as its Ambassador.

As the inaugural Virchow Prize Laureate (2022), awarded under the High Patronage of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Dr. Nkengasong brings singular credibility to this role.

A distinguished career spanning the founding of Africa CDC (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention), leadership of PEPFAR (The United States President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief), and senior diplomatic roles in global health security has placed him at the forefront of pandemic preparedness, resilient health systems, and equitable healthcare access. He currently serves as Executive Director for Higher Education, Collaboratives, and Strategic Initiatives at the Mastercard Foundation.

In his new role, Dr. Nkengasong will champion the work and voices of current and future Laureates, strengthening their collective advocacy and amplifying the shared mission of health for all.



"The Virchow Prize Laureates embody a shared vision of advancing health as a human right and global good. It is a privilege to serve as their spokesperson and to support the Virchow Foundation's mission of fostering lasting health impact worldwide."





GLOBAL SEPSIS ALLIANCE

BILL PULLMAN DOCUMENTARY VISIT

On 28 February 2025, the Virchow Foundation, in partnership with the Global Sepsis Alliance (GSA), welcomed American actor and filmmaker Bill Pullman to Berlin as part of the production of his upcoming documentary on Sepsis and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

For his documentary, Bill Pullman interviewed leading global experts to highlight the scale and urgency of the fight against AMR and Sepsis.

Dr. Georg Kippels, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Health, was interviewed alongside Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten and Mr. Roland Göhde, Co-Founders of the Virchow Foundation.

Global Symposium on Sepsis and AMR

On the same day, the Virchow Foundation supported the livestreamed International Symposium "Overcoming Silos by Synergizing the Fight Against Sepsis and AMR" at the Berlin Museum of Medical History, where Bill Pullman delivered a keynote address highlighting his commitment to advocacy and global action.



WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY, GENEVA

On 24 May 2025, the Virchow Foundation supported the Official Side Event on Sepsis at the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva. Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, Co-Founder of the Virchow Foundation, contributed to the strategic partnership statement, highlighting the Virchow Foundation's commitment to global collaboration in the fight against Sepsis.



Dr. Mariam Jashi, CEO of the GSA and Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, Virchow Foundation

World Sepsis Day | Central Press Conference, hosted by the Virchow Foundation, September 12, Berlin, 2025, Berlin Global Health Collective

DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT



Michael Krake, Executive Director, World Bank, Hermann Gröhe, Deputy Chairman, Konrad Adenauer Foundation
Roland Göhde, Co-Founder & CEO, Virchow Foundation



Roland Göhde, Virchow Foundation, Dr. Hardy Ostry, Head of the Washington D.C. Office, Hermann Gröhe, Deputy Chairman, both Konrad Adenauer Foundation,

TRAVEL WITH HERMANN GRÖHE TO THE UNITED STATES 15-20 SEPTEMBER, 2025

In September, Roland Göhde, Co-Founder & CEO, Virchow Foundation, attended high-level engagements in Cadenabbia, Italy, at the invitation of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. He subsequently travelled to Washington D.C. and New York alongside former Federal Minister of Health, Hermann Gröhe. During the trip, they met with leaders from the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of State, and the World Bank at the Pentagon, as well as representatives from UN agencies including UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, UNAIDS, and other leading global health institutions. A memorable moment came when Dr. Michelle Morse, Acting Health Commissioner and Chief Medical Officer of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, protecting and promoting the health of more than 8 million people, spoke of Rudolf Virchow as a "social reformer" who continues to inspire public health work today. A powerful testament to Virchow's enduring relevance globally.

H2O SUMMIT GENEVA | 19-20 JUNE 2025

At the H2O Summit, organised by the G20 & G7 Health and Development Partnership and hosted by the World Health Organization, Roland Göhde represented the German Health Alliance and the Virchow Foundation. Roland Göhde was a panellist in Panel 4, "How Will the Future Determinants of Health Help Enable and Finance Innovation in Healthcare and Support Evidence-Based Policymaking for a Whole-of-Society Approach?".



DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT

OFFICIAL VISIT WITH GERMAN FEDERAL PRESIDENT STEINMEIER TO EGYPT, GHANA, ANGOLA | 1-7 NOVEMBER 2025

In November, Roland Göhde, Co-Founder & CEO of the Virchow Foundation, accompanied the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, on his 7-day official travel to Egypt, Ghana, and Angola, visiting a range of African experts across the fields of health, research, and innovation.

The Virchow Book was presented to President Steinmeier on this trip, which features his dedication message and highlights his role as inaugural High Patron of the Virchow Prize.



John Dramani Mahama (second from right), President of the Republic of Ghana, Frank-Walter Steinmeier (center), President of the Federal Republic of Germany, together with members of the German delegation including Roland Göhde (back row, center), Virchow Foundation, at the Jubilee House during the German President's official visit to Ghana in November 2025.



German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier (third from left) and João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço (third from right), President of Angola, pose for a group photo with the German delegation including Roland Göhde (back row, left), Virchow Foundation, following their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Luanda during the German President's official visit to Angola in November 2025.

GERMAN–FRENCH–EUROPEAN COLLABORATION

BEOne Flagship initiative



BEOne – Building Europe’s Future on One Sustainable Health

The Virchow Foundation is actively promoting BEOne, a flagship initiative designed to strengthen global resilience by integrating human, animal, plant, and environmental health into a unified One Health framework. BEOne brings together leading scientists, policymakers, civil society, and international partners to develop shared data standards, advanced early-warning systems, digital twins, and cross-sector governance models. By turning complex data into actionable intelligence, the initiative aims to improve prevention, accelerate response to health and climate threats, and support more sustainable, equitable decision-making.

Paris

24 September 2025

German Embassy in Paris

Berlin

14 October 2025

French Embassy in Berlin

Lyon

3-5 November 2025

OSH - BeOne Forum



GO WITH THE SLOW



Panellists and organisers of the conference at the French Embassy, Berlin

On 26 May, 2026, Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, co-founder of the Virchow Foundation, participated in a panel discussion at the French Embassy in Berlin addressing the theme “Go with the Slow: Slow Movement and Democracy.” The discussion explored how the One Health approach—highlighting the interconnection between human, animal, and environmental health—can contribute to more sustainable public health strategies. The event was organised by Generation Europe, a programme of the Franco-German Youth Office (OFAJ/DFJW).

INTERNATIONAL URBAN HEALTH SUMMIT 2025



From 9 to 11 April 2025, the International Urban Health Summit (IUHS) 2025 took place in Hanover, convening over 200 participants from 30 countries. The Summit brought together international researchers from a wide range of disciplines, practitioners, policymakers, and civil society representatives to explore key challenges and solutions for improving urban health, within the broader context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and under ongoing geopolitical challenges.

Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten (Co-Founder, Virchow Foundation) served as Chair and co-initiator of the Summit. In this role, he thanked all co-organisers and outlined how the Summit's innovative format was designed to foster sustained interaction, strengthen international partnerships, and promote interdisciplinary exchange for healthier cities.



From left to right:

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Christoph Marksches, President, Virchow Foundation, President, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, BBAW

Dr. Nora Kottmann, Head of Team Societal Transformations, Volkswagen Foundation

Dr. Annette Welling, Programme Director, Virchow Foundation

Ellen Haußdörfer, State Secretary for Health and Care, Berlin

Belit Onay, Mayor of Hanover

Henning Wehmeyer, Urban Health Project, CEO EXPO 2035 Berlin

Dr. Henrike Hartmann, Member of the Executive Board, Volkswagen Foundation

Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten, Co-Founder, Virchow Foundation

The Summit was a joint project of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, in close cooperation with the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), The Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities, and the Virchow Foundation, with generous support from the VolkswagenStiftung. This strong partnership framework underscored the importance of cross-academic and cross-sectoral collaboration in addressing complex urban health challenges.

BERLIN MUSEUM OF MEDICAL HISTORY AT CHARITÉ

VIRCHOW
PRIZE
TOWARDS HEALTH FOR ALL

©Framewerk



TROPHIES ROTATION

As part of our tradition, we are rotating the Virchow Prize trophies at the Berlin Museum of Medical History at Charité (Berliner Medizinhistorisches Museum der Charité, BMM). Each trophy is inspired by Rudolf Virchow's historic specimen jars, kindly donated by the BMM and transformed into a work of art. This unique design gives a second life to the jars and to Virchow's legacy, connecting history with the ongoing work to improve global health. The trophies of the 2025 Laureates, will be showcased at the BMM in the course of year 2026.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On 2 July 2025, the Virchow Foundation and the Berlin Museum of Medical History at Charité (Berliner Medizinhistorisches Museum der Charité, BMM) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, building on a partnership that has long celebrated Rudolf Virchow's legacy and highlighted the importance of global health.

From the very beginning, the BMM has been a valuable partner, displaying the Virchow Prize trophies and sharing information about our laureates, helping to engage the public and educate people about the Prize.

The BMM is also the home of the annual Virchow Prize Dinner, held in the remarkable Hörsaalruine (Lecture Hall Ruin) on the Charité campus, a venue full of history and character.



From left to right:

Dr. Annette Welling (Virchow Foundation/VF), Rebecca Ohanes (VF), Dr. Sabine Damm (Berliner Medizinhistorisches Museum/BMM), Prof. Dr. Manfred Dietel (Charité and BMM), Isabel Coleman (BMM), Prof. Dr. Monika Ankele (BMM), Mutine Jeanneret (VF), Prof. Dr. Thomas Schnalke (BMM), Prof. Dr. Detlev Ganten (VF)

JOINT CALLS

Continuing Virchow's legacy of action-oriented global health leadership, the Virchow Foundation seeks to bridge medical innovation and social equity. In 2025, the Foundation initiated three joint calls for political responsibility, addressing urgent global health challenges.

NATIONAL CALLS | GERMAN GENERAL ELECTIONS 2025

Global Health Concerns Everyone Party Positioning in the 2025 Election Campaign

The Virchow Foundation's appeal urges Germany's political parties to prioritise global health in their election campaigns, reinforcing Germany's role as a leader in advancing global health through public discourse. Recognising that global health—including planetary health—is far from a niche issue, the appeal emphasises the need for sustained, high-level attention. Global health is intrinsically connected to the well-being of citizens, national security, and economic growth, making it a strategic priority for policy agendas.

Joint Call for the Continuation of the Subcommittee on Global Health at the German Bundestag

The Virchow Foundation, together with 12 leading institutions, urged all democratic parliamentary groups in the German Bundestag to ensure the continuation and strengthening of the Subcommittee on Global Health. The Subcommittee plays a vital role in safeguarding Germany's global health leadership, policy coherence, and accountability. Amid growing health threats, climate change, and geopolitical instability, strong and strategic parliamentary structures remain essential.

INTERNATIONAL JOINT CALL | LAUNCHED DURING WHA IN MAY 2025

Reinforcing the Commitment to Addressing Refugee & Migrant Health as a Global Public Health Priority

The call for Migration in Health urges governments and international organisations to uphold migrant and refugee health as a global public health priority. Supported by nearly 40 international organisations, the call highlights the disproportionate health risks faced by over one billion migrants and displaced people worldwide. The statement emphasised that protecting migrant, refugee and displaced people's health is not only a humanitarian obligation but a strategic imperative for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, Universal Health Coverage, and global health security. Issued in the context of the 78th World Health Assembly and ahead of the UN Summit on the Future, the call reinforced the Virchow Foundation's role in mobilising political commitment and international cooperation for inclusive global health.

INITIAL PARTNERS



SUPPORTING PARTNERS



MIGRATION & HEALTH

WHS SIDE EVENT

No Public Health Without Migrant Health: Reinforcing Global Commitment Amidst Geopolitical and Funding Shifts



On 14 October 2025, the Foundation co-organised a high-level side event on the margins of the World Health Summit, in partnership with the WHO and the German Health Alliance. The event brought together global health stakeholders to highlight the central role of migrant and refugee health within resilient public health systems.

The discussion was opened by Dr. Santino Severoni, Head of the WHO Special Initiative on Health and Migration, and Roland Göhde, Virchow Foundation CEO and Co-Founder. The event was followed by a panel discussion and interactive exchange with the audience. Moderated by Dr. Miriam Orcutt, the session explored institutional priorities and opportunities for joint action in a context of geopolitical uncertainty and shifting funding landscapes. The discussion delivered a clear and unified message: migrant health must remain a global priority, even and especially in times of political uncertainty.

This engagement reflects the Foundation's commitment to inclusive health systems for all and will continue to guide collaboration on migrant and refugee health.



Bottom right picture, from left to right:
Dr. Miriam Orcutt, Member of the Board of Trustees, Virchow Foundation
Dr. Santino Severoni, Head, Special Initiative on Health and Migration, WHO
Roland Göhde, Co-Founder & CEO, Virchow Foundation
Angela Bähr, Chief Program Officer and Member of the Board of Directors, Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung
Prof. Dr. Kayvan Bozorgmehr, Vice-Dean, School of Public Health Bielefeld University
Dr. Goran Zangana, Member of the Board, Health Systems Global; Member of WHO TAG on Health, Migration and Displacement
Guilherme Duarte, Executive Director, UNITE
Roland Hansen, Senior Business Partnership Advisor, Malteser International

Global Health Policy Lab

The Global Health Policy Lab (GHPL) is a collaborative initiative launched in 2024 and hosted under the umbrella of the Virchow Foundation. GHPL works jointly with the Charité Center for Global Health, the Health Systems Innovation Lab at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and a growing global network of partners. **Its core mission is to accelerate the translation of science-informed recommendations into concrete laws, policies and interventions.**

In 2025, with the support of our funders and partners, this mission took a decisive step forward. We are pleased to share key highlights from across the GHPL portfolio over the past year.

Launch of a first-of-its-kind, AI-enabled digital platform

A key achievement was the launch of the GHPL Digital Repository for Health Policy at the World Health Summit 2025. The Repository is a free, searchable, AI-enabled platform designed to help policymakers access and use validated policy documents globally for evidence-based decision-making.

Its corpus of documents is guided by a [health policy document glossary](#), and its overall design was shaped by a landscape analysis of existing digital health policy repositories, in partnerships with the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) and SICABO Consulting.

At year end, the Repository covers health areas including cardiovascular health, cancer, and other non-communicable diseases, with the scope set to grow in 2026. AI-generated summaries are available for each policy document.



Explore the Digital Repository at
globalhealthpolicylab.org/ghpl-digital-repository

17
COUNTRIES

2,725
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

155
CURATED POLICY DOCUMENTS

Engaging the policy & practice community

Meaningful engagement with policymakers and wider the ecosystem was central to GHPL's approach in 2025. Key activities included:

- A high-level AI-themed dinner, convening experts for candid discussion on opportunities and risks at the intersection of AI and health policy.
- A global policy survey, conducted in collaboration with Nature Research Intelligence, capturing first-hand perspectives from policymakers
- Two interactive co-design workshops, bringing together participants from 11 countries to test the Digital Repository. Feedback from these sessions was directly incorporated into platform development.



Consistent outputs and thought leadership

2025 was a year of steady intellectual output:

Published policy briefs and reference guides linked to the Digital Repository

Maintained a regular cadence of digital communications

Contributed to peer-reviewed publications

Appeared in media coverage

A full overview of GHPL's resources can be found at globalhealthpolicylab.org/resources

Looking ahead: The Health Policy Trend Report

GHPL is now building toward its next milestone: the launch of the Health Policy Trend Report 2026. The first edition of the Report will provide the global health community with evidence-based insights into the evolving challenges, opportunities, and solutions in health policymaking. Its findings draw on a global policymaker survey conducted in collaboration with Nature Research Intelligence capturing perspectives from 109 respondents across 49 countries and all continents.

These are complemented by real-world insights and case studies from the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) and the UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health. The Health Policy Trend Report will be launched in March 2026.



Strengthening the team

Finally, 2025 was a year of organisational growth. GHPL welcomed several new team members, expanding its capacity across policy analysis, artificial intelligence, research, communications, and partnerships.

Michael Bayerlein strengthens the team's analytical core, bringing expertise in health systems research and quantitative policy analysis. Rebecca Ohanes contributes to GHPL's external presence, with a background spanning communications and partnership development. Hendrik Oye supports the team as project manager, ensuring coherence and continuity across GHPL's workstreams.

Together, these additions have positioned GHPL to deliver more ambitious outputs in the coming years.

Follow GHPL's work via

globalhealthpolicylab.org

[linkedin.com/company/global-health-policy-lab](https://www.linkedin.com/company/global-health-policy-lab)



2025 was a year of momentum

None of this progress would have been possible without the support of our funders, partners, and collaborators. As we look ahead, GHPL remains committed to supporting better health policy through practical tools, credible analysis, and sustained dialogue.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2025

ACCOUNTING STATEMENT on the balance sheet from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2025

Assets

Purchased property rights, similar rights and assets, licences	14,049.56	€
Bank Accounts, Credit Cards, Cash	126,780.31	€
Global Health Policy Lab Bank Account, Credit Cards, Cash	503,444.32	€
Total Assets	644,274.19	€

Liabilities

Basic Foundation Capital	100,000.00	€
Annual Result	19,072.01	€
Restricted Reserves	430,000.00	€
Free Reserves	95,000.00	€
Other Liabilities	202.18	€
Total Liabilities	644,274.19	€

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2025

ACCOUNTING STATEMENT on the surplus account from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2025

Income		
Donations & Grants	636,500.00	€
Grants and Project Funding	84,643.46	€
Project Execution	65,000.00	€
Global Health Policy Lab	587,500.00	€
Operative Income	1,373,643.46	€
Interest from Fixed-Term Asset Account	6,189.86	€
Reversal of Restricted Reserve from Previous Year	789,000.00	€
Reversal of Free Reserve from Previous Year	0.00	€
Total	2,168,833.32	€

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2025

ACCOUNTING STATEMENT on the surplus account from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2025

Cost		
Cost of Staff	144,273.00	€
Office Rent & Premises Cost	11,478.40	€
Office Supply, Portage & Phone, Banking Fees	4,174.16	€
EDP & Software Licences, Webhosting	11,655.56	€
PR & Communication	19,423.57	€
Travel Cost, Accommodation, Hospitality Expenses	19,049.84	€
Insurances, Legal Cost & Consulting Fees	10,393.57	€
Membership Fees	2,000.00	€
Virchow Prize: Ceremony, Lecture & Events	165,190.25	€
Virchow Prize Endowment	500,000.00	€
Friends of Virchow Foundation	12,495.00	€
Miscellaneous	2,796.05	€
Operative Cost	902,929.40	€
Global Health Policy Lab Cost* (details below)	770,698.18	€
Total Cost	1,673,627.58	€

*Detailed Cost Overview | Global Health Policy Lab

Cost of Staff	157,188.46	€
Office Supply, Portage & Phone, Banking Fees, Miscellaneous	1,706.93	€
EDP & Software Licences, Webhosting	1,279.84	€
PR & Communication	5,628.16	€
Travel Cost, Accommodation, Hospitality Expenses	12,972.05	€
Overhead incl. Office, Legal & Consulting fees, Administration	151,627.86	€
Digital Repository, Policy Engagement, Partners, Chair	440,294.88	€
Operative Cost Global Health Policy Lab	770,698.18	€

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2025

ACCOUNTING STATEMENT on the surplus account from Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2025

Operative Cost	1,673,627.58	€
Depreciation on Purchased Property Rights, Assets, Licenses	5,944.00	€
Tax from Received Interest of Fixed-Term Asset Accounts	- 3,815.30	€
Total Cost	1,675,756.28	€

Total Income	2,168,833.32	€
Total Cost	1,675,756.28	€
Annual Result	493,077.04	€
Profit Carried Forward from Previous Year	15,994.97	€
Allocation to Restricted Reserves	(430,000.00)	€
Allocation to Free Reserves	(60,000.00)	€
Profit Carried Forward	19,072.01	€

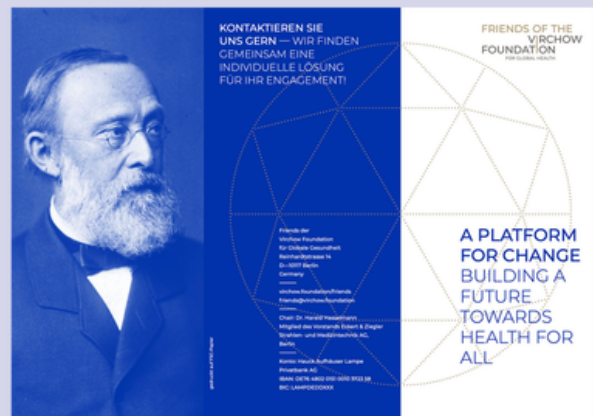
FRIENDS OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

A PLATFORM FOR CHANGE BUILDING A FUTURE TOWARDS HEALTH FOR ALL

The Virchow Foundation is a non-profit foundation that promotes the understanding of global health in all its medical, political, economic, and social dimensions. Through the annual awarding of the Virchow Prize it raises public awareness of global health issues and showcases innovative, exemplary solutions that contribute to the long-term goal of “health for all”. In close cooperation with the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, as well as other national and international organisations, the Foundation promotes cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in the field of global health – in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Agenda 2030.

Friends of the Virchow Foundation is a change driven platform which brings together highly committed individuals, companies and institutions who support the Foundation's goals, both ideally and financially. Key activities of Friends include:

- Raising awareness on the importance of global health among the broader public
- Networking actors, sectors and disciplines related to global health on a national and international level
- Elevating the recognition of the Virchow Prize



Would you like to support the health of future generations worldwide and help shape our future in a sustainable way?

We invite you to become part of a very special national and international network for global health.

Feel free to contact us!

Together we will find an individual solution for your engagement.

FRIENDS OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

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10117 Berlin | Germany
friends@virchow.foundation
<https://virchowprize.org/friends/>

Dr. Harald Hasselmann
Chair
Friends of the
Virchow Foundation



FRIENDS OF THE VIRCHOW FOUNDATION

A PLATFORM FOR CHANGE BUILDING A FUTURE TOWARDS HEALTH FOR ALL

The Virchow Foundation cordially thanks our friends and partners in sharing and supporting our joint aims in line with the health-related United Nations 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals since establishing the Virchow Foundation and the Virchow Prize in 2021:



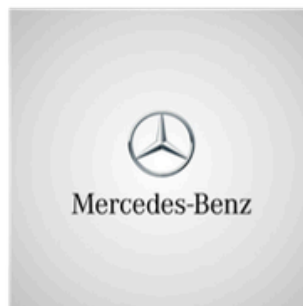
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