



World Health Summit with EU-Commission President, Finland's Prime Minister, WHO DG, BioNTech Founder opens Sunday

World Health Summit President: "We must act as a global community."

Berlin, October 21, 2021

The World Health Summit, one of the most important international forums for global health, begins on Sunday in Berlin and online. This year's meeting will focus on topics such as global strategies for pandemic control and prevention, the role of Germany, Europe and the WHO in global health, vaccine equity, as well as climate change and health. More than 6,000 participants and 300 speakers from around the world are expected, partly on-site and partly online. The entire program is available for free online.

In the run-up to the three-day meeting, **World Health Summit President Prof. Dr. Axel R. Pries** calls for sustainable strategies for international cooperation in health research and pandemic prevention:

"We need sustainable strategies for international health research cooperation, pandemic preparedness and response. Responding to threats like COVID-19 requires a broad societal approach and worldwide collaboration among all sectors. We must act as a global community, to achieve better health for all, this is in our common interest."

Speakers 2021 (among others):

- Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission
- Sanna Marin, Prime Minister, Finland
- Jens Spahn, Minister of Health, Germany
- António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations (video)
- Olivier Véran, Minister of Solidarity and Health, France
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)
- Charles Michel, President of the European Council
- Christian Drosten, Director, Institute of Virology, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- Özlem Türeci, Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech
- Seth Berkley, CEO, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- Peter Sands, Executive Director, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Agnès Callamard, Secretary General, Amnesty International
- Heyo Kroemer, CEO, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- Jane Halton, Chair of the Board, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
- Bernd Montag, CEO, Siemens Healthineers
- Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organization (WHO)
- Lia Tadesse Gebremedhin, Minister of Health, Ethiopia
- Awa Marie Coll-Seck, Minister of State, Ministry of State, Senegal
- Lothar H. Wieler, President, Robert Koch Institute
- Chikwe Ihekweazu, Incoming Assistant Director-General, WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence
- Inger Ashing, CEO, Save the Children International



- Paul Stoffels, Vice Chair of the Executive Committee & Chief Scientific Officer, Johnson & Johnson
- Jeremy Farrar, Director, Wellcome Trust
- Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF
- Bill Anderson, CEO, Roche Pharmaceuticals
- Stefan Oelrich, Member of the Board of Management and Head of the Pharmaceuticals Division, Bayer AG, Germany
- Eckart von Hirschhausen, Physician and Comedian
- John Nkengasong, Director, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
- Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General, World Trade Organization (WTO)

More on [speakers](#) and [program](#)

Digital participation in the World Health Summit is free and possible without prior registration. The Zoom links can be accessed directly in the respective sessions: www.conference.worldhealthsummit.org/Program/WHS2021

All session recordings: www.youtube.com/user/WorldHealthSummit1

On-site participation is limited and by invitation only due to COVID-19. Access to the venue requires proof of EU-approved vaccination, recovery or negative test, not older than 24 hours. On-site, hygiene and distancing rules apply.

The World Health Summit is one of the world's most important strategic forums for global health and brings together leaders from politics, science, civil society, and the private sector, aiming to set the course for a healthier future. It was founded in 2009 to mark the 300th anniversary of Charité and is held under the patronage of German Chancellor **Angela Merkel**, French President **Emmanuel Macron**, President of the European Commission **Ursula von der Leyen** and **Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, WHO Director-General. President of the World Health Summit is Axel R. Pries, Dean of Charité. International President 2021 is Charles Ibingira, Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda.

Press information: www.worldhealthsummit.org/media/presskit.html

Press accreditation for on-site participation has been closed.

For further inquiries, please contact communications@worldhealthsummit.org

Digital participation is possible without accreditation. Video and audio material can be used upon request. Source: World Health Summit

World Health Summit

October 24-26

Kosmos, Karl-Marx-Allee 131a, 10243 Berlin, Germany & Digital

www.worldhealthsummit.org

#WHS2021

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