

Annual Report 2018



international
Humanitarian  **Studies**
association

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About the International Humanitarian Studies Association

The International Humanitarian Studies Association is a network engaged with the study of humanitarian crises caused by disaster, conflict or political instability. Humanitarian studies concern how humanitarian crises evolve, how they affect people and their institutions, communities and societies, and the responses they trigger.

IHSA forms a platform for the different disciplines that address humanitarian studies. It offers a venue where these scholarly communities can meet and debate their different insights and understanding of humanitarian crises, in dialogue with policy actors and implementing agencies. IHSA equally welcomes academic scholars, consultants, policy researchers, and reflective practitioners among its membership.

Governance

Executive Committee



Dorothea Hilhorst
- President



Susanne Jaspars
- Secretary



Julia Steets
- Treasurer

Board Members



Christopher Cushing



Bertrand Taithe



Kristin Bergtora Sandvik



Andrew Cunningham



Mihir Bhatt



Kirstin Johnson



Tanja Müller



Fabrice Weismann



Wendy Fenton



Alex de Waal



Dennis Dijkzeul



Joost Herman



Luis Artur

2018 Activities

IHSA Conference on Humanitarian Studies

Our main activity in 2018 was the 5th edition of the IHSA Conference on Humanitarian Studies. This year the event took place in the city of The Hague, The Netherlands from 27-29 of August. The conference was hosted and co-organized by the International Institute of Social Sciences of Erasmus University Rotterdam. The title of the conference was: *(Re-) shaping Boundaries in Crisis and Crisis Response*.

The 4 themes in which the panels were divided:

- Changing Actors, Views and Challenges from Below
- Humanitarian Studies and the WHS Humanitarian Scholar Commitments
- The Changing Realities of Crisis and Responses to Crises, Including Humanitarianism
- The Impact of Technology and Innovation in Coping with, Responding to and Transforming Crisis

Keynotes during the opening were held by:

- Sigrid Kaag - Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
- David Keen - Professor of Complex Emergencies in the Department of International Development at the LSE
- Khaled Mansour - Writer and expert on communications, human rights, humanitarian aid, development and conflict Inhumanity

3 Days
320 Participants
65 Panels sessions
275 Papers presentations



Member Institutions

With the launch of the new website and as part of the professionalization of the association, we added the option for institutions to become members as well. Benefits for the institutional members are:

- 1) Four to seven of your staff members can participate in the bi-annual IHSA Conference on Humanitarian Studies at the discounted fee for members
- 2) Discount of 20% on any book in the IHSA/ Routledge Humanitarian Studies series
- 3) Free advertisement for jobs, training courses and publications on our social media pages (2500+ followers)
- 4) Free advertisement of events on IHSA related topics in the three-monthly newsletters (about 1200 recipients)
- 5) Your membership, including the logo will be visible on the website
- 6) Access to members database to connect with professionals with similar interests (members will be asked for permission to share their name, country and area of expertise)
- 7) Attend other IHSA activities paying the member discount fee

Institutional (small: <10 staff members) membership fees 100 euro

Institutional (large >10 staff members) membership fees 250 euro

The following institutions joined IHSA in 2018:



New Board Elected

During the general assembly meeting, at the 2018 IHSA conference, a new board was appointed. We are continuing the Executive Committee with Thea Hilhorst as President, Susanne Jaspars as the Secretary and added Andrew Cunningham as the Treasurer. We warmly welcome our newly elected board members: Mohamed Jelle, Virginie Troit, Diego Otegui, Rodrigo Mena, and François Grünewald.



François Grünewald



Rodrigo Mena



Virginie Troit



Diego Otegui



Mohamed Jelle

A special thank you to the board members that are leaving us this year: Wendy Fenton, Alex de Waal, Joost Herman, Bertrand Thaite, Luis Arthur, Dennis Dijkzeul, Fabrice Weiss and Kirstin Johnson. You have helped us grow into the association that we are today!

Institutional Members on the Board

This was also the year that we introduced institutional members on the board. These members do not only represent themselves but also their organization while on the board.



Julia Steets
- The Global Public Policy
Institute (GPPi)



Mihir Bhatt
- All India Disaster
Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)



Tanja Müller
- Humanitarian and Conflict
Response Institute (HCRI)

Security Guidelines - French Translation

In August 2018, a panel was held in honor of the publication of the French translation of the *Security Guidelines - for field research in complex, remote and hazardous places* (Dorothea Hilhorst, Lucy Hodgson, Bram Jansen, Rodrigo Mena). Newly appointed board member Virginie Troit and her team at Fondation Croix-Rouge worked on the French translation of the guidelines.

About the book: When conducting field-based research or fieldwork, researchers often operate within complex and dynamic social and political contexts, and derive their data from that environment. Both the quality of research and the security of the researcher are a function of how well-planned the research is, taking into account the local context and the risk environment.

This manual is designed to assist researchers in conducting their research in hazardous, remote or complex environments as safely and securely as possible, both for those working within their home country, or as foreigners. The focus of this manual is on the individual researcher, yet takes into account that the researchers' security planning is usually within the organisational procedures and processes of home or host organisations, designed to enhance the security of research staff and programmes.

The Security Guidelines can be freely downloaded on our website in English, French, Arabic and Spanish.



29-08-2018 - Dorothea Hilhorst, Rod Mena and Virginie Troit at the launch of Recommandation Securitaires

Working Groups

New working groups were created in 2018:

Working Group on Ethics

The group has three main objectives: Firstly, it will interrogate and help advance ethical commitments in the field of humanitarian studies as formulated for example at the first World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. This objective includes more generally the study of the ethics of humanitarian actors and actions. Secondly, the group hopes to become a key point of reference for the ethical conduct of humanitarian research, in the Global North and the Global South. Thirdly, the group aims to advance the ethics of humanitarian studies with a special focus on fostering humanitarian studies in the Global South and encouraging responsible research uptake by its members but also across the humanitarian sector as a whole.

Members of this group are: Thea Hilhorst, Tanja Muller and Leonard van Duijn.

Working Group on Media

This group consist out of people who are interested in humanitarianism and the media. The objectives are to communicate the complexities of humanitarian crises to better educate and inform practitioners, academics, and ultimately the public at large. The group does this through IHSA's social media accounts, art, and the gathering of film and docs on humanitarian issues. Furthermore we aim to have an open and critical discussion with the other members about the role of media in the humanitarian field.

Members of this group are: Marloes Viet and Timothy Wolfer

Committee on Diversity and Outreach

This new committee has three main objectives revolving around the themes of diversity and outreach. The first involves finding ways to diversify the composition of the IHSA board itself, to give voice to different perspectives in strategic planning for the association. The second is to support the diversification of the IHSA membership, in order to provide opportunities to a wide range of practitioners and academics engaged with humanitarian studies. And finally, the third objective is to develop innovative outreach activities to meet the first to objectives. As a general principle, diversity is not a goal in itself, but rather the creation of a vibrant and inclusive humanitarian studies community, one which is mutually supportive and sensitive to a wide range of voices.

Members of the committee are: Chris Cushing, Mohamed Jelle, Andrew Cunningham and Julia Steets.

Roundtable debate on the State of the Humanitarian System report

Every three years, after extensive research, ALNAP publishes the State of the Humanitarian System report. This December ALNAP will publish the 2018 edition, and KUNO, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UN OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data, the International Humanitarian Studies Association (IHSA) and the Dutch Coalition for Humanitarian Innovation (DCHI) organized its Dutch presentation to talk about its possibilities and pitfalls. This event took place at the Humanity Hub in the Hague on Dec 20.

Conference Publication

In April 2019, a collection of papers from the 2016 IHSA conference in Addis Ababa came out as a special issue of the journal Disasters.

Disasters is a major, peer-reviewed quarterly journal reporting on all aspects of disaster studies, policy and management. It provides a forum for academics, policy-makers and practitioners to publish high-quality research and practice concerning natural catastrophes, anthropogenic disasters, complex political emergencies and protracted crises around the world. The journal promotes the interchange of ideas and experience, maintaining a balance between field reports, case study articles of general interest and academic papers.

The Disasters journal is managed by the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) and published on behalf of Overseas Development Institute (ODI) by Wiley-Blackwell.

Abstract

This special issue of Disasters on humanitarian governance focuses on risk and order. Its contributions show the tensions between humanitarian normative ideals and practical consequences, as many of the ordering effects are associated with either intended or unintended consequences. This introduction offers a conceptual framing of humanitarian governance. Defining humanitarian governance as a subset of global governance, the paper shows how humanitarians have attempted to improve the consequences of their work by fighting instrumentalisation and instituting rationalisation processes. It adapts four questions, originally formulated by Michael Barnett (2013), to examine the ways in which humanitarian governance functions in more detail: what kind of world is being imagined and produced through the specific concern with order and risk? Who governs? How is this a form of humanitarian governance and how is it organised? And finally, what are the principal techniques of such governance? The conclusion summarises the main findings and sets an agenda for further research.

- A world in turmoil: governing risk, establishing order in humanitarian crises

Dennis Dijkzeul and Kristin Bergtora Sandvik

- Humanitarian governance and resilience building: Ethiopia in comparative perspective

Dorothea Hilhorst, Isabelle Desportes, and Cecile W.J. de Milliano

- Citizen feedback in a fragile setting: social accountability interventions in the primary healthcare sector in Sierra Leone

Pieterella Pieterse

- Rethinking access: how humanitarian technology governance blurs control and care

Katja Lindskov Jacobsen and Larissa Fast

The futility of rights-based humanitarian aid to the Occupied Palestinian Territories

Jacob Høigilt

- Humanitarian governance and the consequences of the state-fragility discourse in the Democratic Republic of Congo's health sector

Bwimana Aembe and Dennis Dijkzeul

- The Protection of Civilians and ethics of humanitarian governance: beyond intervention and resilience

Kristoffer Lidén

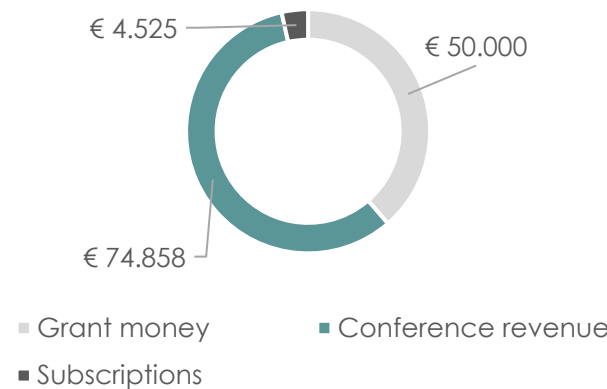
Financial Summary

In 2018, IHSA received the final part of the grant money from the Municipality from the Hague. The majority of this money was used towards the organization of the 5th IHSA conference on Humanitarian Studies.

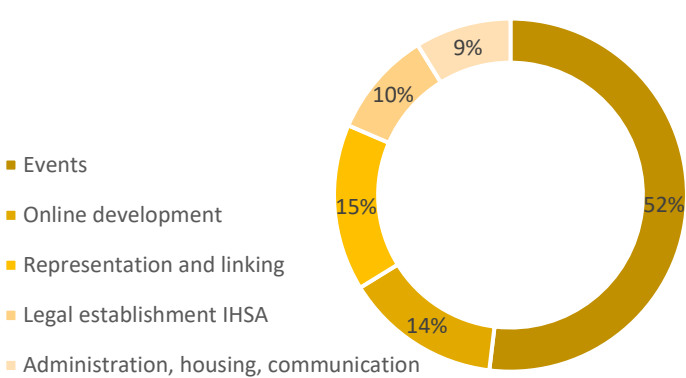
In 2018, we also started with the sale of subscriptions. Since a subscription gives a discount on a conference ticket we noticed that almost every individual attending the conference would also buy a subscription. We generated 4525 euros in subscriptions this year.

The majority of the income generated in 2018 came from the sales of the conference tickets. This means at the same time that most of the used funds went to the organization of the conference as well.

Origin of funds 2018
(+€ 41.123)



Use of funds 2018
(-€ 88.260)



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