

Georgetown Global Health Center issues pandemic preparedness report and COVID-19 lessons

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In a new report commissioned by the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB), Georgetown global health experts say the success of any

effort to redress pandemic preparedness failures demonstrated by COVID-19 requires a re-centering of governance that would include greater accountability, transparency, equity, participation and the rule of law.

The report, *Governance Preparedness: Initial Lessons from COVID-19*, was published today by the Center for Global Health Science and Security at Georgetown University Medical Center.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed a failure in preparedness arising from a failure of governance in global collective action, including coordination and engagement with multilateral systems, and financing, including chronic underinvestment in preparedness as well as states withdrawing [financial support](#)," write the report's authors, global health legal and policy expert Alexandra Phelan, SJD, LL.M., LL.B. and global [health](#) security expert Rebecca Katz, Ph.D., MPH.

The work of this report informed the GPMB 2020 Annual Report also released today.

Phelan and Katz have identified key strategies to re-center and improve governance preparedness:

1. Re-establish global norms of solidarity and multilateral cooperation, including through critical reform of the International Health Regulations;
2. Consider new mechanisms to support data sharing, research and development, and equitable access to diagnostics, treatments, vaccines, and medical goods;
3. Immediately address funding constraints on the World Health Organization through increases in assessed contributions;
4. Develop frameworks and processes for more cohesive and responsive coordination between international institutions and

- instilling pandemic preparedness in all policies at the international level; and
5. Actively incorporate principles of good governance into international and national decision-making bodies and processes.

Using lessons from [governance](#) of other global challenges, the authors say these strategies would ensure better preparedness for collective action and financing in the medium- and long-term future.

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors. They do not purport to reflect the opinions, views, or recommendations of the GPMB.

More information: Governance Preparedness: Initial Lessons from COVID-19: apps.who.int/gpmb/assets/thematic_papers/

Provided by Georgetown University Medical Center

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