
Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination & Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop

September 9-10, 2021

Program and Speaker Biographies





Welcome Letter

On behalf of the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies (CHRHS) at the Brown University Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, the Humanitarian Response Program (HRP) at the U.S. Naval War College (NWC), and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) Civil-Military Coordination Service (CMCS), we welcome you to our second annual Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination and the fifth Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop. Due to the continuing travel restrictions imposed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, these twin events will be held virtually this year on Thursday, September 9th and Friday September 10th.

Our Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination features five presentations of recently completed original research studies from a variety of disciplines. The research questions covered in these studies have grown out of working group discussions at our prior Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshops that identified them as some of the most pressing and important topics in the realm of civilian-military coordination during humanitarian emergencies. This includes research on best practices in civil-military coordination in conflict settings; civil military engagement in public health emergencies; humanitarian assistance in great power conflict; humanitarian leadership in urban emergencies; and humanitarian notification systems for deconfliction.

The 2021 Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop is the fifth in a series of workshops designed to explore current and future challenges in humanitarian response, including disasters and pandemics, complex emergencies, and routine humanitarian engagements. The theme of this year's workshop will be "Civil-Military Coordination in the Next Pandemic." Participants will be grouped into a series of working groups that will meet prior to and after the workshop to discuss and refine an agenda for six major themes within the civ-mil humanitarian space, as described in greater detail below.

As a follow-on to the four previous workshops, this event aims to improve humanitarian coordination by supporting a Community of Practice in civilian-military issues and promoting information sharing that can inform policy and processes during crises; highlight key opportunities for professional education, training, and development for key decision makers to identify the best practices associated with overcoming cultural, policy, technical, and legal challenges to coordination and information sharing; and continue to develop and refine a comprehensive research agenda in order to build the evidence base for this field and better inform practice.

On behalf of Brown University and the NWC, we would like to thank the R. Dudley Harrington, Jr. Charitable Foundation, the US State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, the U.S. Naval War College Foundation, the Widgeon Foundation, and UN OCHA's CMCS for their support of our Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination and Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam C. Levine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Adam C. Levine, MD, MPH, FACEP
Director, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies
Brown University Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heath 'Hank' J. Brightman". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Heath "Hank" J. Brightman, Ed.D., A.P.A.
Acting Director & Professor
Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Program
College of Maritime Operational Warfare
U.S. Naval War College
EMC Informationist Chair
Commander, U.S. Navy Reserve

- Program Agenda -

Thursday, September 9, 2021 | 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT/ UTC-4

Zoom Registration Link: https://brown.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ylrt_nDmSSGarJDJhCaInw

Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination

8:00am – 8:15am	Welcoming Remarks <i>Adam Levine and Hank Brightman</i>
8:15am – 9:00am	Presentation #1: Civilian-military interaction in conflicts: a preliminary analysis of best practices and perceptions from the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Jordan <i>Zein Tayyeb, Samuel Boland, & Rob Grace</i>
9:00am – 9:40am	Presentation #2: Humanitarian Leadership in Urban Communities: An Exploratory Study on the Role of Community Leaders in Humanitarian Coordination during the COVID-19 Pandemic in the Philippines <i>Maria Carinnes Alejandria</i>
9:40am – 10:20am	Presentation #3: Civil-Military Engagement During Public Health Emergencies: A Comparative Analysis of Domestic Responses to COVID-19 <i>Samuel Boland, & Rob Grace</i>
10:20am – 10:30am	Break
10:30am – 11:10am	Presentation #4: China and The Future of HA/DR Operations in Great Power Competition <i>Robin Watters & Alex Tripplet</i>
11:10am – 11:50am	Presentation #5: Humanitarian Notification Systems for Deconfliction: Purposes and Stakeholders <i>Brittany Card, Jonathan Robinson, Bailey Ulbricht, & Allen Weiner</i>
11:50am – 12:00pm	Closing Remarks

- Program Agenda -

Friday, September 10, 2021 | 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT / UTC-4

Zoom Registration Link: https://brown.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RB5RxyMiQRWxv7N77-WNnQ

5th Annual Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop

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| 8:00am – 8:30am | Welcoming Remarks <i>Edward Steinfeld, Bediako Buahene, Adam Levine, & Hank Brightman</i> |
| 8:30am – 10:10am | Panel: Civil-Military Coordination in COVID-19 and the next Pandemic <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr. Mike Ryan & Paul Molinaro, World Health Organization</i>• <i>Dr. Maria Guevara, Médecins Sans Frontières</i>• <i>Colonel Gloria Berlanga, Rhode Island National Guard</i> |
| 10:10am – 10:20am | Break |
| | Working Group Leads Discussion |
| 10:20am – 10:35am | • <i>Outbreaks Working Group</i> |
| 10:35am – 10:50am | • <i>Climate Change & Resilience Working Group</i> |
| 10:50am – 11:05am | • <i>Aid Worker Security Working Group</i> |
| 11:05am – 11:20am | • <i>Humanitarian Access Working Group</i> |
| 11:20am – 11:35am | • <i>Protection of Civilians Working Group</i> |
| 11:35am – 11:50am | • <i>Urbanization Working Group</i> |
| 11:50am – 12:00pm | Closing Remarks <i>Bediako Buahene, Hank Brightman, & Adam Levine</i> |

Speaker Biographies

Thursday, September 9, 2021

Research Symposium on Civilian-Military Humanitarian Coordination



Maria Carinnes Alejandria

Maria Carinnes Alejandria is an anthropologist who researches on issues relating to health inequalities in the Global South. Dr. Alejandria is the lead of the Social Health Studies of the University of Santo Tomas where she is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology. She currently serves as the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Social Health. She completed her PhD in Anthropology from the University of the Philippines Diliman where she explored Food insecurity among older adults in an informal settlement in Manila. She is also affiliated with Brown University Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies as a Global Fellow, Philippine's Health Technology Assessment Council as a Core Committee Member, Social Weather Station as a Fellow, and the Association for Asian Studies-Philippine Studies Group as an international advisory board member.

Her most current publications include the edited volumes *Disaster Archipelago: Locating Vulnerability and Resilience in the Philippines* and *Aging in the Global South: Challenges and Opportunities*. She also published journal articles that explored issues on food security, pediatric tuberculosis, mental health, and older adult health among informal settlers in Metro Manila. Dr. Alejandria has led projects related to social health, disaster resilience, and food security that were funded by World Health Organization, Brown University, UNDP, UNAIDS, the Philippine's Department of Science and Technology, and the National Research Council of the Philippines.

Samuel Boland

Samuel Boland is a global health researcher and consultant specializing in epidemic, humanitarian, and public health emergency response. Among others, Samuel has worked for the World Health Organization, UK-Med (on behalf of the Department for International Development), Brown University, Mercy Corps, GOAL Global, and the Massachusetts General Hospital Division of Global Health and Human Rights. Samuel's ongoing research at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine focuses on the role and perception of military and security services in their support to epidemic, humanitarian, and public health emergency responses. Samuel is a Truman ('15) and Marshall ('16) scholar.





Brittany Card

Brittany Card is a Visiting Scholar at Brown University's Center for Human Rights and Human Studies. Her research focuses on humanitarian civil-military coordination, with an emphasis on humanitarian response challenges likely to arise in future conflicts. She is also the Deputy Director of the Providence Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), where she helps lead Providence, Rhode Island in its preparation, response, and recovery from disasters, including COVID-19. Prior to joining PEMA, Brittany was an assistant professor in the Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Program at the U.S. Naval War College, where she led the development of curriculum and research on the protection of civilians and humanitarian action in complex emergencies. She also previously worked for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), where she served as the lead researcher for OCHA's flagship publication series *World Humanitarian Data and Trends*. Brittany holds a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Saint Anselm College.



Rob Grace

Rob Grace is a researcher focused on the politics and practice of international humanitarian action. He is an affiliated fellow at the Centre for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies at Brown University, where he leads and contributes to research projects on humanitarian civil-military coordination, as well as the humanitarian dimensions of great power conflict. Previously, he was a USIP-Minerva Peace Scholar at the U.S Institute of Peace, a Graduate Research Fellow at the Harvard Program on Negotiation, and a researcher at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. At the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, he led research projects on humanitarian negotiation and international fact-finding. He is the co-editor of the *HPCR Practitioner's Handbook on Monitoring, Reporting, and Fact-finding*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2017. His work has also been published by the *Journal of Humanitarian Affairs*, *Journal of Conflict & Security Law*, *World Health & Population*, *Conflict and Health*, *Journal of International Humanitarian Legal Studies*, *Negotiation Journal*, Centre for Humanitarian Leadership, European Society of International Law, Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection, the Foreign Policy Association, and Foreign Policy in Focus. He also co-teaches a graduate course on international disaster management at the Heller for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. He is a doctoral candidate in political science at Brown University, where he is working on a dissertation analyzing humanitarian access negotiations.



Jonathan Robinson

Jonathan began supporting the U.S. Naval War College's Humanitarian Response Program in 2020 after spending almost a decade living in the Middle East. Specializing in aid worker security, conflict analysis, and humanitarian access, he previously focused on Syria through his work as a senior research consultant for The Carter Center's Syria Conflict Resolution Program and as a safety advisor for The International NGO Safety Organization (INSO) Syria team. Prior to joining the humanitarian sector, Jonathan worked as a security analyst for a British private security company in Qatar, The United Arab Emirates, and southern Iraq. He has also supported the work of the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in Syria, The Halo Trust's Yemen Program, and Caritas Switzerland's Jordan, Lebanon and Syria Programs with security advice and research. Jonathan holds a MSc in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies from The University of Edinburgh and BA (hons) in Archaeology from Durham University



Zein Tayyeb

Zein Tayyeb is a Humanitarian Affairs Officer at the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Jordan. Her role is focused on establishing and maintaining contacts with other humanitarian agencies to plan and evaluate complex humanitarian and emergency assistance programmes. Zein works closely with the security and military authorities on the humanitarian operations under the civil-military coordination umbrella. She also worked with UNICEF for over three years, where she was based in the Syrian refugee camps in Jordan. Her work was focused on providing quality education, psychosocial support, and life skills development for all the Syrian children in and out of schools. More recently, Zein has been contributing to the CHRHS research study *Civilian-Military Interaction in Conflicts: Best Practices and Perceptions* to further develop new tools for evaluating community perceptions of military humanitarian assistance. Tayyeb holds a Master's degree in International Relations and Human rights from the University of East London, UK. Her research interests focus on human rights-based issues, migration, integration, education, and youth.



Alexander Triplett

Alexander Triplett served in the Army for 14 years as an infantry and foreign area officer, including multiple combat deployments and overseas assignments. He currently serves as the Army Section Chief in the US Embassy Manama's Office of Military Cooperation. He earned a BBA from Southern Methodist University, MBA from Georgetown University, and MPA from Brown University. During his time at Brown University, he supported the research project *China and The Future of HA/DR Operations in Great Power Competition* which seeks to define the likely People's Republic of China approach to future humanitarian assistance/disaster relief operations and initiate the development of an appropriate US response.



Admiral Robin Watters

Robin Watters is a retired two-star U.S. Navy admiral who served in Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom and in several senior commands in the Asia-Pacific theater. His final assignment was as the Chief of Staff to the senior military commander of all U.S. forces in the Asia-Pacific region. In his civilian career, Robin was the COO at the Boston-based non-profit Seeding Labs, Inc., a company dedicated to ensuring talented research scientists in developing countries have access to equipment, training, and partners. Robin was also a vice president at the entrepreneurial, high technology company, Sonalysts, focusing on initiatives in training, decision-making tools, and anti-submarine and mine warfare. Robin has an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Nebraska and an MBA from Bryant College.



Bailey Ulbricht

Bailey Ulbricht is a third-year law student at Stanford Law School, where she focuses on international humanitarian and human rights law. Before coming to law school, she spent two years studying Islamic Law in London as a Marshall Scholar and a year teaching English in Turkey. She is the founder of Paper Airplanes, a nonprofit providing virtual educational services to refugees in the Middle East.



Allen Weiner

Allen S. Weiner is Senior Lecturer in Law at Stanford Law School, where he is the Director of the Stanford Program in International and Comparative Law and Director of the Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation. Before joining the Stanford Law School faculty in 2003, he served as a career attorney in the U.S. State Department, first as an Attorney Adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser and later as Legal Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in The Hague.

Friday, September 10, 2021

5th Annual Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Workshop



Dr. Heath “Hank” Brightman, U.S. Naval War College

Dr. Heath “Hank” Brightman is a full professor within the College of Maritime Operational Warfare at the United States Naval War College and the Acting Director of the Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Program (HRP). He also serves as the distinguished EMC Informationist Chair. From 2008-2016, he served as an Associate Professor, Professor, and Director of Applied Research & Analysis in the War Gaming Department of this institution. From 2000-2008, he served as a tenured Associate Professor and Chair of the Criminal Justice Department at Saint Peter’s University in Jersey City, New Jersey.

In his Navy Reserve career, Commander (CDR) Heath “Hank” Brightman serves as Commanding Officer of Navy Reserve, Cryptologic Warfare Group SIX - FT DEVENS. He previously served as Executive Officer, Navy Information Operations Command – Texas, as a future operations planner and the Unit J7 at Navy Reserve, U.S. European Command J3 Operations located at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He served as twice as Commanding Officer of Navy Reserve Security Force units located at Weapons Station Earle and Submarine Base New London.

Hank also spent more than ten years in a wide range of environmental law enforcement, supervisory resource protection, emergency response and white-collar crime investigation with the U.S. Department of the Interior and the United States Secret Service. Hank presently serves as an adjunct faculty member at Salve Regina University and Saint Peter’s University.

Hank received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, a Masters in Criminal Justice Administration from Boston University, two master’s degrees from Salve Regina University and a Doctorate in Educational Administration & Leadership from Seton Hall University. He is also a graduate of Air University, Air Command and Staff College.



Bediako Buahene, UNOCHA

In November 2020, Bediako Buahene joined OCHA as the Chief of the Civil-Military Coordination Service – based in Istanbul and Geneva. Bediako joined the United Nations in 2005, as a protection officer for UNHCR in Kenya and then joined OCHA Somalia in 2008. In 2012, Bediako returned to UNHCR as a Protection Cluster Coordinator in Somalia, and in 2014 returned to OCHA as the Head of the Coordination Unit for the Syria Cross Border Operation based in Gaziantep, Turkey. His Unit focused on cluster coordination, protection, civil military coordination and humanitarian access. During his tenure with OCHA Turkey he also served as the Deputy Head of Office, as well as, Head of Office, a.i.

In 2018, Bediako joined OCHA Yemen as a Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer overseeing the Amman support hub for Yemen with time spent in Sana'a, Yemen. Prior to joining the UN, Bediako was a private practice lawyer for eleven years in Vancouver, Canada. He has a law degree as well as a graduate degree in International Relations specializing in Strategic Studies.



Colonel Gloria Berlanga, Rhode Island National Guard

Gloria has over 31 years service to the United States as a member of the US Army, serving in a number of key leadership roles with the Rhode Island National Guard. Her professional experiences focus on national security, crisis planning, talent management, organizational leadership, organizational culture, and emergency preparedness.

Since September of 2019, Gloria has served as the Rhode Island Army National Guard Chief of Staff. Her duties have included the development, implementation and continued assessment of Rhode Island Army National Guard unprecedented COVID – 19 response efforts (which includes the activation of over 1100 personnel to support Rhode Island citizens in the fight against COVID), revigoration of the RI Army National Guard's Talent Management program, providing assistance to state and local law enforcement officials during the Providence riots of 2020, and continued coordination of all full time resources (over 400 people) to support mobilizing and demobilizing units. Gloria's previous assignments include Army Counternarcotics Non – Commissioned Officer, Engineer Company Commander, Battalion Commander and Brigade Operations Officer and Administrative Officer In Charge. Additionally, Gloria served as an Combat Engineer Brigade Assistant Operations' Officer and Operations' Officer in combat operations in Iraq.

Gloria earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature from Wheaton College and a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Naval War College (in residence). She is also a member of the Yale University School of Management's Global Executive Leadership Program Class of 2020. She is the recipient of various awards and decorations to include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Bronze DeFleury Engineer Regimental Award, and the Rhode Island Star.



Dr. Maria Guevara, Médecins Sans Frontières

Dr. Maria Guevara is the current International Medical Secretary for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)/Doctors Without Borders. Previous to this, she was the Senior Advisor on Global Health from 2018 to 2020 and Senior Coordinator for Attacks on Healthcare from 2017 to 2018. From 2012 to 2017, she held the position of MSF Regional Humanitarian Representative in Asia, during which time she served as a member of the Advisory Group on Reform of WHO's Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies with Health and Humanitarian Consequences in 2015. She is also a SAFE STEPS First Aid Ambassador for a collaborative pan-Asia program to promote awareness and increase knowledge of first aid skills across the region.

Her work in the humanitarian sector began with MSF in Liberia in 2004. Since then she has held field roles in Guatemala, Haiti, DRC, Nigeria, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, South Sudan, and recently in the US for COVID, in both emergency and stable settings.

In her role as International Medical Secretary, she serves as a key member of the MSF International, in a trio with the Secretary General and the International President, working to promote medical leadership, advise and ensure accountability for defined medical priorities and innovation and operational strategies across the movement, as much as provide key direction and input on positioning and representation.

Dr. Guevara was trained in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Florida in Gainesville and holds a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene/DTMH from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and a Master of Science/MSc in Global Health Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Her special interests are Global Health, Response in Emergencies and Planetary Health.

Dr. Adam Levine, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies

Dr. Adam C. Levine is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Director of the Division of Global Emergency Medicine at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He received his Medical Doctorate from the University of California, San Francisco and his Masters of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley before completing his specialty training in Emergency Medicine at the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency in Boston. He has previously led research and training initiatives in East and West Africa and South and South-East Asia.

Dr. Levine currently serves as the Director for the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, whose mission is to promote a just, peaceful, and secure world by furthering a deeper understanding of human rights and humanitarian challenges around the globe, and encouraging collaboration between local communities, academics, and practitioners to develop innovative solutions to these challenges. He also serves as the Primary Investigator for the Global Emergency Response and Recovery Partner Engagement Cooperative Agreement between International Medical Corps and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is focused on improving international and local capacity for responding to future epidemics and pandemics. His own NIH and foundation-funded research focuses on improving the delivery of emergency care in resource-limited settings and during humanitarian emergencies.





Paul Molinaro, WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Paul Molinaro has more than 25 years of experience managing international emergency response operations. In his current role, he directs and manages WHO's global operations for the procurement, allocation and delivery of critical healthcare supplies worldwide for the COVID-19 response. He also led WHO support operations during the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Prior to joining WHO in 2018, Paul was the Supply and Logistics Chief in the UNICEF Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa. Other roles within the UNICEF Supply Division included projects within the Emergency Department and subsequently with the Change Management Unit as project lead to transform the global supply function.

Paul's professional experience includes earlier assignments with emergency supply and logistics operations in various parts of the world with UNICEF, UNHCR and CARE International.

Paul holds a master's degree in Defence Logistics Management from Cranfield University in the UK.



David Polatty, Brown University

David Polatty is a Senior Fellow at Brown University's Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve, professor at the U.S. Naval War College, and strategic advisor to humanitarian nongovernmental organizations. He has nearly 30 years of professional experience with a focus on national and human security, crisis planning, and humanitarian response.

He served as a civilian professor at NWC for 14 years where he designed and taught a number of postgraduate courses. He also founded and directed NWC's Humanitarian Response Program, which aims to improve the U.S. Navy's and international militaries' effectiveness in conducting humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations through innovative education, research, and simulation activities. He currently teaches undergraduate courses at Brown University that explore the intersection of human and national security.

He is a fourth-generation Naval Officer and currently serves as an O-6 in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He has commanded five Navy Reserve units that focus on planning and operations - U.S. Forces Korea, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. Fourth Fleet, U.S. Strategic Command Center for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction, U.S. European Command J3 (Operations), and Chief of Naval Operations, N3/N5 (Operations and Plans). Dave's research primarily focuses on civil-military coordination in humanitarian response and his active research efforts include the protection of civilians in future conflict, humanitarian notification systems for deconfliction, and pandemic response.



Dr. Mike Ryan, WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Dr Mike Ryan has been at the forefront of managing acute risks to global health for nearly 25 years. He served as Assistant Director-General for Emergency Preparedness and Response in WHO's Health Emergencies Programme from 2017 to 2019.

Dr Ryan first joined WHO in 1996, with the newly established unit to respond to emerging and epidemic disease threats. He has worked in conflict affected countries and led many responses to high impact epidemics. He is a founding member of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), which has aided the response to hundreds of disease outbreaks around the world. He served as Coordinator of Epidemic Response (2000-2003), Operational Coordinator of WHO's response to the SARS outbreak (2003), and as WHO's Director of Global Alert and Response (2005-2011),

He was a Senior Advisor on Polio Eradication for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative from 2013 to 2017, deploying to countries in the Middle East.

He completed medical training at the National University of Ireland, Galway, a Master's in Public Health at University College Dublin, and specialist training in communicable disease control at the Health Protection Agency in London and the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training.

2021 Civilian-Military Working Groups

Aid Worker Security

Explore the range of challenges facing humanitarian aid workers and medical responders in conflict settings and complex emergencies - including attacks by militaries, non-state armed groups, law enforcement, and criminal actors - within a broader context of threats to health, inclusivity, and the erosion of humanitarian norms. This group will explore the future of aid worker security at the operational level, proactively addressing challenges to inclusivity in aid worker security, the role of technology in aid worker security, and the impact of changing humanitarian contexts on aid worker security, such as COVID-19 and the weakening of humanitarian notification systems.

Climate Change & Resilience

Explore climate change challenges to humanitarian response and resilience, particularly in disaster response contexts and also in application to military installations. Previous group meetings have highlighted that climate change will have broad impacts, including on long term planning on military bases, deployment of mitigation resources, escalation of global conflicts, and its complications on military and humanitarian disaster response.

Humanitarian Access

Explore the range of challenges to full and unimpeded humanitarian access which is a fundamental prerequisite to effective humanitarian action. This group aims to focus on improving humanitarian access in complex emergencies. Discussions will focus on the two-pronged UN concept, comprising:

- Humanitarian actors' ability to reach populations in need
- Affected populations' access to assistance and services

Outbreaks

Aims to to conceptualize and explore humanitarian civil-military coordination challenges in preparing for and responding to pandemics, epidemics, and other global public health emergencies.

Protection of Civilians

Explore the range of challenges that prevent parties in armed conflict from more effectively recognizing the dignity and rights of civilians, including through preventing civilian harm, protecting civilians caught in conflict, and responding to harm when it occurs. This group aims to help armed actors and civilians in conflict develop and implement solutions to prevent, mitigate, and better respond to civilian harm.

Urbanization

Aims to improve the coordination between civilian and military actors given specific challenges and opportunities presented by the urban environment in conflict and natural disaster settings. Urbanization is forcing a shift in traditional humanitarian practice towards more locally-driven, long-term planning and development operations, and away from short-term, in-kind aid to market interventions.