

Notes on Center related to peace and health

- In an inter-connected world, many challenges are inter-linked. For example, improving health depends on stability and development.
- Peace is the primary condition for health. It is also a prerequisite for development.
- At the same time, healthier societies are less vulnerable, and therefore in a better position to grow, prosper and implement the Millennium Development Goals.
- Therefore, peace is necessary for health, and health is needed for peace.
- This point has been realized by a few governments, international organizations, and philanthropists. But their initiatives have been disjointed.
- Short-term independent initiatives are necessary but not sufficient.
- In order to be sustainable, preventive and remedial measures need to be part of a coordinated, comprehensive and long-term global process that unites all stakeholders and ensures a multi-disciplinary and evidence-based approach.
- To be effective and sustainable, this process should be centralized and institutionalized.
- At the moment, no such institution exists. That is why the International Peace Institute (IPI) proposes to create one.
- IPI has more than forty years of experience analysing conflicts and other global threats as well as peace-related issues. It also has convening power to bring together experts from a wide range of backgrounds to discuss international problems and seek innovative, multi-lateral solutions.
- IPI is interested in partnering with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, because of the latter's commitment to, and engagement in, global efforts to improve global health and development.
- The proposal is to create a new inter-disciplinary Center in Vienna looking in particular at promoting peace through health, and health through peace.