



World Health Summit 2024: M8 Alliance becomes WHS Academic Alliance

Introducing the new name of the academic network of the World Health Summit and the WHS brand family with a new look

Berlin, October 12, 2024

The international academic network of the World Health Summit, has a new name. The former M8 Alliance is now the WHS Academic Alliance. The World Health Summit is presenting itself with a new CI and a refreshed logo. With the renaming and the comprehensive rebranding, the World Health Summit created a close brand family which signals a significant development of its global network and underlines the central role of science and research in global health.

“The renaming of the M8 Alliance to 'WHS Academic Alliance' signals three key developments: The Alliance now includes 30 leading institutions worldwide, it represents academic institutions with both medical and public health programs, and it serves as the central academic network of the World Health Summit, working with political and societal actors to develop innovative solutions for the most pressing health issues,” says Axel R. Pries, President of the World Health Summit.

Carsten Schicker, CEO of the World Health Summit, explains: “We are excited to present the World Health Summit 2024 with a refreshed visual identity. The evolution of our brand underscores WHS's role as a central summit for the leading figures in global health and as an inclusive forum for all stakeholders. By renaming the M8 Alliance to the WHS Academic Alliance, we are making this core element of our platform even more visible. The World Health Summit remains the key meeting point for science, politics, the private sector, and civil society to develop solutions to the most pressing health challenges,”

The WHS Academic Alliance also welcomes three new members, further enhancing the network's international reach and expertise: LKS Faculty of Medicine of Hong Kong University, one of the most renowned universities in the world, Trinity College Dublin, one of Europe's leading universities and Ireland's oldest, and the Africa Academy for Public Health, an organization addressing public health policy via research, training and practice.

The inclusion of these institutions strengthens the WHS Academic Alliance's commitment to global and inclusive collaboration. Particular emphasis is placed on further integrating the Global South into the core of the alliance. This orientation underscores the need for a comprehensive approach that brings together science, politics, civil society and the private sector to work in unison for a healthier future for all.

The WHS Academic Alliance aims to promote academic knowledge and research as the foundation for evidence-based decision-making in global health policy. The network currently consists of 30 [members](#) worldwide, including the Inter Academy Partnership (IAP), which represents the national academies of medicine and science in more than 100 countries.

Among other activities, the alliance organizes annual WHS Regional Meetings in the home countries of the member institutions and the International Presidency of the World Health Summit rotates annually among the members. The network was initiated by Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin in 2009 on the occasion of the first World Health Summit.



More on the [WHS Academic Alliance](#)

The World Health Summit is the international platform for global health. It brings together stakeholders from politics, science, the private sector, and civil society from around the world to set the agenda for a healthier future and well-being for all. The World Health Summit strengthens exchange, stimulates innovative solutions to health challenges, fosters global health as a key political issue, and promotes the global health debate in the spirit of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The World Health Summit as a conference and strategic forum takes place every year in October in Berlin. The World Health Summit 2024 is held under the theme "Building Trust for a Healthier World". Over 3.000 participants from all regions of the world are expected to attend, including numerous ministers, government officials and representatives from science, the private sector, civil society and international organizations. The agenda includes topics such as health equity, climate change, pandemic threats, Mpox, and antimicrobial resistance. The President of the World Health Summit is Prof. Axel R. Pries, the International Presidents 2024 are Prof. Sophia Zoungas and Prof. Christina Mitchell, Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

Information on the World Health Summit and the WHS Academic Alliance:

www.worldhealthsummit.org

Press Kit:

www.worldhealthsummit.org/media/presskit.html

World Health Summit 2024

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JW Marriott Hotel Berlin

Stauffenbergstraße 26, 10785 Berlin

www.worldhealthsummit.org

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