

# The Future of Humanitarian Aid

#HuCo2019

Humanitarian Congress Vienna

29 March 2019  
[www.humanitariancongress.at](http://www.humanitariancongress.at)

University of Vienna  
Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna

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# The Future of Humanitarian Aid

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# The Future of **Humanitarian** Aid

09:00

## **Welcome and Opening Congress Keynote Address**

**Mark Lowcock** *Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator,  
United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA*

MAIN CEREMONIAL CHAMBER | GROSSER FESTSAAL

09:30

## **The Future of Humanitarian Aid**

Humanitarian needs are increasing around the world. We are confronted with new geo-political directions, new patterns of natural disasters and a shift in expenditure priorities. The need to safeguarding quality and improving effectiveness as well as efficiency of humanitarian interventions has been recognized. In this panel you will be invited to consider whether the global humanitarian system is ready for the future and what the responsibilities of states, international institutions and humanitarian organisations are in this context.

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11:45

## **The Humanitarian Sector in the Media: Worthwhile Struggle or Lost Cause?**

We are all influenced by how the media creates narratives or how media are used by those in power to reframe perceptions when targeting certain groups. We invite you to discuss what the consequences of such narratives for humanitarian actors and civil society are.

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11:45

## **Triple Nexus = Triple Challenge?**

This panel will let you explore and unpack the challenges, risks and opportunities for principled and effective humanitarian action in protracted crises within the triple nexus (humanitarian action, development and peacebuilding), especially at the country and regional level. Can humanitarian action avoid being politicized, when being drawn into highly political processes such as peacebuilding and state-led development?

SMALL CEREMONIAL CHAMBER | KLEINER FESTSAAL

14:15

## **International Law in Tomorrow's Wars**

In armed conflicts International Humanitarian Law protects all those not involved in fighting (anymore). Today's wars are changing and will continue to change in the future.

How do Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law have to evolve to accommodate issues such as combat robots, nuclear war and counter-terrorism? When projecting the way today's wars are fought further into the future, how do Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law have to change?

MAIN CEREMONIAL CHAMBER | GROSSER FESTSAAL

14:15

## **Tech For Good – Or Not?**

Our life has been fundamentally changed by technologies such as blockchain, data mining, reality apps, drone technology, artificial intelligence and will continue to change in the future. In this panel we will elaborate both the power as well as pitfalls of future technologies for the humanitarian sector. Who is responsible for ensuring that emerging technologies are used for the greater good?

SMALL CEREMONIAL CHAMBER | KLEINER FESTSAAL

16:15

## **Investing in Humanity**

More than 134 million people are still in desperate need of humanitarian aid. The World Humanitarian Summit 2016 called for greater investments, more efficiency and effectiveness in dealing with humanitarian crises. The panel will discuss what is needed to achieve those aims, and how new financing models, cash-transfer programmes or grass roots savings – among other methods – can contribute to these goals.

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17:45

## **Closing Statement**

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The Humanitarian Congress Vienna brings together international stakeholders from humanitarian aid, politics, media, academia, civil society and business, to engage in dialogue on policy, good practices, recent developments and future visions in the field of humanitarian aid. Join us to shape the debate on “The Future of Humanitarian Aid”, engage with leaders, experts and practitioners, contribute experiences and insights, and participate in peer-to-peer networking at the

# 5<sup>th</sup> **Humanitarian** Congress Vienna