

A Knowledge Dialogue:

5 May 2020, For The UN General Assembly, New York

Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University

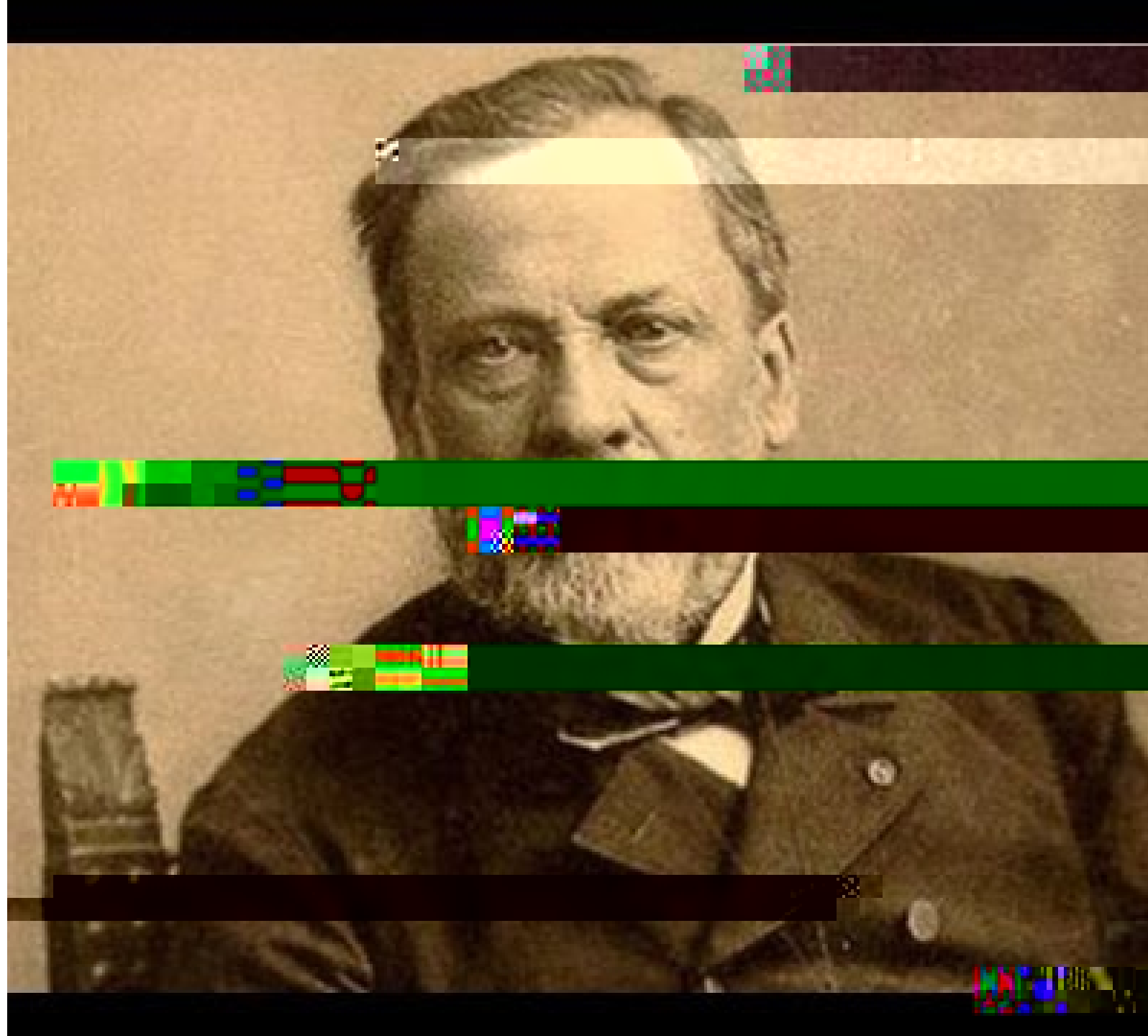
Executive Governor,

Secretariat: Pascual Madoz Institute
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Louis Pasteur : *“Le
microbe n’est rien,
le terrain est tout”*

COVID-19 gives new
meaning to Pasteur’s
“last words”: Caring
for the EARTH’S
terrain everything!

To sustain human
health, we must care
the health of all of
Nature:

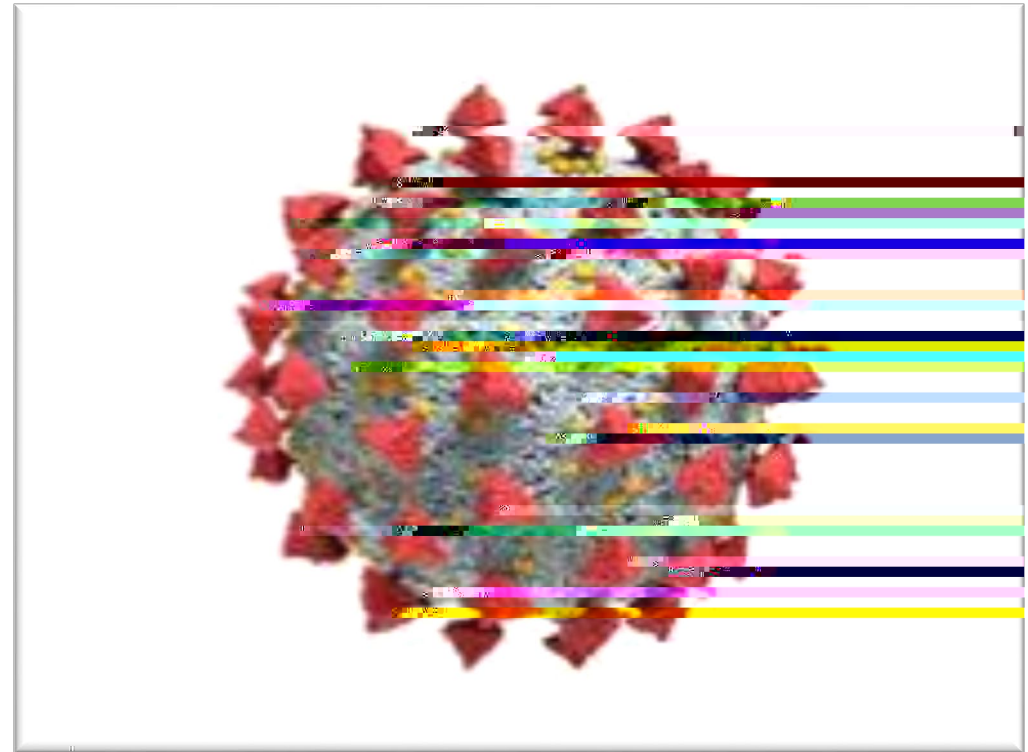


HOW DO WE PREVENT THE NEXT PANDEMIC ?
After this crisis, will it again be “out of sight out of mind”? Is it different this time?

COVID-19: UNGA Res.
74/270 calls for
“Global solidarity”

Past Epizootic epidemics
came and went, felt locally
but not globally

Can States contain
the next epidemic?



OUR URGENT CHALLENGE:

COVID-19 IS A NON-TRADITIONAL
THREAT TO SECURITY AND
INTERNATIONAL PEACE

COVID-19 DISRUPTS THE WORLD'S
ECONOMIC ORDER

COVID-19 UPSETS PATHWAYS FOR
ATTAINING THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS: 2030 SDG
PATHWAY IS AT RISK

THERE BE ANOTHER
EPIDEMIC – WHEN? AND
HOW CAN STATES
MITIGATE ITS IMPACT?

“ This is the fight of a generation

STATES HAVE
IN PLACE THE
BASIC LEGAL
FRAMEWORK
FOR
AVERTING
THE NEXT
DISEASE

INTERNATIONAL
LAW PROVIDES
THE LEGAL
INSTRUMENTS TO
AVERT THE
"NEXT"
PANDEMIC

ALL STATES HAVE
NATIONAL LAWS
AND PROGRAMS
TO IMPLEMENT
THESE
INTERNATIONAL
LEGAL
AGREEMENTS

CAPACITY-
BUILDING IN
STATES

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AGREEMENTS EXIST TO GUIDE STATE PRACTICE TO THE IMPERATIVES OF "ONE HEALTH"

THE

UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER

1972 UN STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE DECLARATION ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT:
HUMANS HAVE A

UNGA Res. 2994 (XXVII)

1982 WORLD CHARTER FOR NATURE,

UNGA RES. 37/7

1992 Convention on Biological Diversity –

1992 Principles of the UN Rio de Janeiro Conference Declaration and Agenda 21

2015 Sustainable Development Goals - **SDGS ARE ALL INTERDEPENDENT**

2019 _____ HAS BEEN URGED by CBD SBSSTA, FAO, WHO, and others

THE OVER-

EARTH TODAY EXPERIENCES
INTERTWINED ENVIRONMENTAL
CRISES (see UNEP

UNSUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES
EVERYWHERE
BROKE THE
ESSENTIAL LINKS –
CAUSING THE
PANDEMIC

THE UN ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY HAS ENDORSED **ONE HEALTH** [UNEP/EA.3/RES 4,2017]

Recognize that

health risk multiplier

Recognize that “

TO AVERT THE
NEXT SPILLOVER
FROM ANIMALS
THAT INFECT
HUMANS:

#1 – STEWARDSHIP OF PROTECTED AREAS

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN NATURAL AREAS – Examples: ZAPOVEDNIKI
RUSSIA; NATIONAL PARKS IN USA (each protected for 100+ years), NATURA 2000

Conserve and Protect 50% of Terrestrial & Inland Water Natural Areas

(NOW AT 14/7%; CBD's 2010 *Aichi Target 11: Protect 17% by 2020*)

Edward O. Wilson (Harvard), Half Earth (2016)

2 – Enhance best practices for coping with zoonotic diseases – See WHO, FAO, OIE *Guide* (March, 2019) and WCS & Germany's “Berlin Principles” (October 2019) for:
ONE WORLD - ONE HEALTH - ONE WATER



Tripartite Guide: Disease Control at the human-animal-environment interface

Offers Best Practices for handling zoonotic disease outbreaks as part of over-all disaster preparedness (e.g. UN Sendai Framework) = a continuous cycle of engaging all relevant sectors

Focuses on veterinary aspects of animal husbandry, the food chain (production, transport, slaughter and selling), hunting and trade in wild animals; animal or human healthcare workers

Highlights Surveillance: because zoonotic diseases can be transmitted between people and animals (including vectors) or via the environment they share, surveillance must include the ambient environment

Recognizes “The SDGs themselves reflect a One Health approach, ensuring healthy people and animals living on a healthy planet”

TRIPARTITE GUIDE INCLUDES National Case Studies of ONE HEALTH Systems (examples)

Comprehensive Africa

#3 WORLD TRADE – TRADE LAW ENABLES PHYTO-SANITARY SAFEGUARDS FOR ZOOONOTIC DISEASES

(30

October 1947) [United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 55, p. 187]

“Subject to the requirement that such measures are not applied in a manner which would constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between countries where the same conditions prevail, or a disguised restriction on international trade,

...

(b)

(g)

States Can Prioritize Cooperation Curbing The Spread of Zoonotic Diseases

("SPS Agreement")

Article 1. "

."

Annex A: Sanitary and phytosanitary measures include acts to protect the health of fish and wild fauna, as well as of forests and wild flora, and to protect human or animal life from risks arising from disease-causing organisms in food or to protect humans or animals from plant- or animal-carried diseases, such as zoonotic diseases, and to prevent or limit other damage to a country from the entry, establishment or spread of pests. States make formal
to harmonize ONE HEALTH protections through the existing SPS Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

Close Down Unlawful Wildlife Trade. Enforce CITES

SEE UNGA RES. 68/215, 69/314
AND 70/301 AND 5 SEPTEMBER 2017 (A/71/L.88).

States could enforce the 1973 Convention on the
International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), by
assigning priority to preventing trade in species that ae8 (y)-4d8:833.1 (t)-1.7 (r)20

#4 – STRENGTHEN USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS {"EIA"}

“Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority.”

EIA = an effective means to sustain ONE HEALTH. Virtually all States mandate use of Environmental Impact Assessment to make a holistic analysis of any potentially significant adverse environmental impacts and the means to avoid or mitigate the adverse impacts.

Pulp Mills on the River Uruguay (Argentina v. Uruguay) (20 April 2010)

U.N. International Court of Justice, Paragraphs 203-219
<https://www.icj-cij.org/en/case/135/judgments>

ENSURING ONE HEALTH THROUGH EIA

EIA IS READILY AVAILABLE TO DETERMINE:

HOW TO KEEP NATURAL
ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY, TO
CONTAIN SPILLOVERS OF
CORONAVIRUSES.

HOW TO MONITOR FOR
ZOOONOTIC RISKS

HOW TO AVOID
FRAGMENTATION OF INTACT
HABITATS

HOW TO SUSTAIN ALL
OTHER INDICATORS OF

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
Benjamin Franklin (1736)

The costs of the COVID-19 Pandemic are incalculably high. What are the costs of averting the "next" pandemic? What would we pay to have averted HIV/AIDS?

If we care for nature, nature cares for us:

States currently provide quite small budgets for nature conservation and the health of wild and domesticated animals

These are perhaps a mere 25% of the small sums that States allocate for Health Ministries

The funds to pay for CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR ONE HEALTH exist to be allocated It is not expensive (vastly smaller than the cost of the search for a vaccine)

FINANCING EXISTS TO ALLOCATE for ONE HEALTH

International Monetary Fund:

AFFAIRS: Kristalina Georgieva, 29 April 2020 (IMF FISCAL April 2020) - IMF needs to include ONE HEALTH

Realign traditional security budgets to fund non-traditional security budgets for ONE HEALTH objectives

Assign traditional forces to protect habitats and police wildlife crime

Go beyond a sovereign debt payment "moratorium" for States in Africa, Asia & South America, and endow protected habitats & capacity building for SDG 15 and averting zoonotic disease spillovers

To cope with COVID-19, the International Monetary Fund should issue additional "Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)", conditioned on States achieving benchmarks toward attaining the Sustainable Development

THE PROGNOSIS: MORE ZOOONOTIC SPILLOVERS ARE INEVITABLE – *States Can Prepare*

THE LARGE HUMAN POPULATION IS DISTURBING NATURAL AREAS IN ALL REGIONS, DISRUPTING THE RESERVOIRS FOR VIRUSES AND BACTERIA. A NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, DISLODGED FROM ITS TRADITIONAL HOME, WILL FIND A NEW HOST RESERVOIR IN A HUMAN, AND HUMANS WILL SHARE THIS INFECTION, LOCALLY AND, WITH TRAVEL AND TRADE, GLOBALLY.

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW DOES NOT YET EXPRESSLY ADDRESS ZOOONOSIS & NATURE CONSERVATION. This is a “gap,” as is the lack of any agreement of forest stewardship (proposed for 1992, it might have averted zoonotic spillovers). Since States require 5-10 years to negotiate any new international environmental conventions, to avert zoonotic spillovers, States need to implement existing laws beginning with the

Thank You and Be well!