In 2018, the Global Health Centre (GHC) has celebrated its 10th anniversary as an applied research Centre, affiliated to the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, and as such has continued to provide academic and policy analysis in the changing landscape of global health. The strength of the GHC as an associated WFPHA member is its intersecting role in applied research, executive education and its platform function at the heart of “International Geneva” that can feed into and support the policy and advocacy processes of WFPHA: in 2018, more than 25 public events and webinars were organized by the GHC in Geneva itself, covering a wide-range of topics, such as outbreaks, anti-microbial resistance (AMR), non-communicable diseases (NCDs), access to medicines, innovative financing, Health-in-All-Policies (HiAP), and digital health, and attracting more than 1’500 participants over the year. In particular, the GHC has not only hosted the WFPHA General Assembly before the 71st session of the World Health Assembly (WHA) but also organized a “Geneva Global Health Week” during this period of time with more than 10 meetings within one week.

In today’s complex world, public health is intrinsically linked to global health and therefore, the local, regional and global levels cannot be separated in silos. The active participation of the GHC in the Global Network for Health-in-All-Policies (HiAP), as well as the participation in the Medicus Mundi Switzerland Network are important ways to link these levels together. Some of the research projects, such as “Overcoming the final barriers and ensuring lasting legacy for health systems in polio eradication”, “AMR in conflict zones” and “Improving health systems for NCDs and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)” have also targeted a cross-level and/or intersectorial analysis. Finally, in 2018, the GHC organized 11 executive courses in global health diplomacy that allowed more than 150 professionals to get a deeper understanding of the complexity of health and foreign policy. The online course on “NCD Diplomacy in a Globalized World” is worth emphasizing as the course was held as preparation for the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs and therefore, was also closely linked to one of the WFPHA’s areas of engagement. The Global Health Centre has benefited from the support from WFPHA and looks forward to continuing its collaboration and membership in 2019.

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