

Global Health Diplomacy and Multilateralism Crisis: analysis and impacts of COVID-19

Caetano Dallora

Modern diplomacy is facing a shortage of legitimacy and trust for the past few decades and specially after the end of Cold War. However, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic it is more necessary than ever. Likewise, scholars also agree that multilateralism has entered a period of crisis. Recent developments in political and economic realities and geopolitical power shifts in the international system are driving to concerns about the foundational pillars of the institutions that sustain multilateral system. At the same time, moving restrictions imposed by the pandemic have enforced a digital transformation in diplomacy relations.

Global health diplomacy is one of the most important gear of the multilateral system that aims to promote a better global order governance. It is rooted in the acknowledgement that both science and politics are essential to inform negotiations. The main goal of global health diplomacy is to bring about agreements that are scientifically credible and politically achievable.

This unprecedented global health security crisis has emphasized the importance and necessity of international cooperation in health as never before, and so it has the role of global health diplomacy. Convinced of the paramount significance of global health diplomacy, the intention of this proposed essay is to briefly explore the pillars of global health (governance, instruments, and diplomacy), challenges of modern diplomacy, address and understand systems and methods in global health diplomacy, the multilateral system and its developments in international system, and the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic in both global health diplomacy and multilateralism.

The proposed essay will be developed based on existing literature and reports from multilateral institutions.