



THE  
GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE  
GENEVA

GLOBAL  
HEALTH  
CENTRE

**THE INEQUALITY PANDEMIC:  
A CONVERSATION WITH WINNIE BYANYIMA**

**BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS**



## SPEAKERS

### WINNIE BYANYIMA

Executive Director, UNAIDS



Winnie Byanyima is the Executive Director of UNAIDS and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. A passionate and longstanding champion of social justice and gender equality, Ms. Byanyima leads the United Nations efforts to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030. Ms. Byanyima believes that health care is a human right and has been an early champion of a People's Vaccine against the coronavirus that is available and free of charge to everyone, everywhere. Before joining UNAIDS, Ms. Byanyima served as the Executive Director of Oxfam International, a confederation of 20 civil society organisations working in more than 90 countries worldwide, empowering people to create a future that is secure, just, and free from poverty. Ms. Byanyima was elected for three terms and served eleven years in the Parliament of her country, Uganda. She led Uganda's first parliamentary women's caucus, championing ground-breaking gender equality provisions in the country's 1995 post-conflict constitution. She led the establishment of the African Union Commission's Directorate of Gender and Development and also served as Director of Gender and Development at UNDP. She founded the Forum for Women in Democracy, an influential Ugandan NGO, and has been deeply involved in building global and African coalitions on social justice issues. A global leader on inequality, Ms. Byanyima has co-chaired the World Economic Forum and served on the World Bank's Advisory Council on Gender and Development, ILO's Global Commission on the Future of Work and the Global Commission on Adaptation.

### SARA MEG DAVIS

Senior Researcher and Special Advisor, Global Health Centre



Sara Meg Davis is principal investigator of a multi-country participatory action **research project** on digital health and human rights, and special advisor on strategy and partnerships at the Global Health Centre. Dr. Davis has twenty years' experience in global health and human rights as a scholar and practitioner. She earned her PhD at the University of Pennsylvania, and held postdoctoral fellowships at Yale University and UCLA. She was China researcher at Human Rights Watch, and founding executive director of Asia Catalyst. At the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, she led early work to operationalise the Fund's commitments on human rights. She has held visiting fellowships at New York University, Columbia University, and Fordham University. She has taught at the Geneva Centre for Humanitarian Studies, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Temple University, Yale University, and University of Pennsylvania; and has consulted for UN agencies, Global Fund Board delegations, and civil society networks. She is the author of two scholarly books and numerous articles, and is an expert listed on **Shesource**. In 2017, she was one of three winners of the International Geneva Award.