

Xavier Burke, Margot Mayoraz, Willem Cant

Podcast Reflection

Xavier: As an avid podcast listener learning how to plan, conduct, and edit a podcast was a welcomed opportunity to learn a new skill that has already proven useful. I am thankful Professor Billaud took the initiative to randomly assign groups. Working with Margot and Willem was a delight, and the group nature of the project required us to be sensitive and respectful of each other's time. Overall, it was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our engagement with the course literature in a creative way while simultaneously requiring academic and technical rigor.

Willem: I personally do not listen to podcasts as much and it was therefore a great opportunity to delve deeper into the world of podcasts by creating one! Most of my friends always talk about specific podcasts they listen to and it was really a great experience to produce a podcast and learn more about how they are structured and created. Overall, the support and feedback from all the course instructors was excellent and allowed us to develop our podcast further. Ian was always available to answer our questions over email and I found the workshop sessions helpful and engaging. Working with Margot and Xavier was wonderful, and despite some difficulties with working remotely and across different time zones I am very happy with our final podcast. Margot was truly the group leader during our group sessions and took responsibility for the difficult coordination as we tried to schedule non-conflicting times to work on our podcast. Xavier brought a lot of creative ideas and valuable insight into our group discussions that tied the class readings to the content of our podcast. In general, I could not have wished for a better group to work with and the podcast group work also allowed me to feel more included as a remote student within the IHEID community because I was able to further develop relationships with Xavier and Margot, both of whom I am very excited to meet in person when I finally arrive in Geneva.

Margot: I was really excited about this assignment as it enabled me to see how academic knowledge can be useful to concretely understand the humanitarian response to the pandemic. I am really grateful to my teammates Xavier and Willem for their great work and for having mobilized their professional network to gather two very talkative and competent guests. This assignment enabled me to practice skills such as conceptualising an interview plan with various guests and topics ideas, conducting interviews as a group, podcast editing and remote teamwork. The support and availability of Victoria and Prof. Billaud as well as the very educational workshops of Ian made the process smooth and motivating. I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for this bold initiative as it made me step out of my comfort zone and made me eager to produce more podcasts in the future!