

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

DIGITAL COLONIALISM: A DISCUSSION

2 December 2021

THE
GRADUATE
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GENEVA

GLOBAL
HEALTH
CENTRE



Transform
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INTERNATIONAL GENEVA
GLOBAL HEALTH PLATFORM

SPEAKERS

ULISES A. MEJIAS

Professor and Director, Institute for Global Engagement, State University of New York

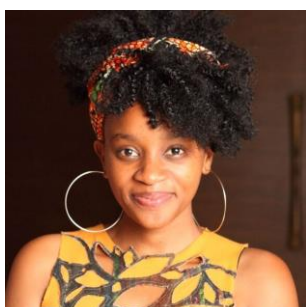


Ulises A. Mejias is professor and director of the Institute for Global Engagement at the State University of New York, Oswego. His research interests include critical data studies, philosophy and sociology of technology, and political economy of digital media. He is the author of "Off the Network: Disrupting the Digital World" (2013, University of Minnesota Press), and with Nick Couldry, of "The Costs of Connection: How Data is Colonizing Human Life and Appropriating it for Capitalism" (2019, Stanford University Press). He serves on the board of Humanities New York, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and has been named a Fulbright

Specialist from 2021 to 2025.

NOMTIKA MJWANA

Project Manager, Digital Health Rights, Global Network of People Living with HIV



Nomtika Mjwana is a health advocacy & communications practitioner, with experience in HIV and sexual & reproductive justice programmes. She is currently working as a Project Manager for Digital Health Rights at the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+).

DANIEL OTZOY

Co-Founder and Executive Director, Central American Health Informatics Network



Daniel Otzoy is a Digital Health Technical Advisor at John Snow, Inc., a public health consulting firm dedicated to improving health equity for better health outcomes. He is a digital transformation specialist with more than 15 years of experience working in Latin America and the Caribbean in digital health projects funded by PAHO/WHO, the Global Fund and others, implementing digital technologies in public health and healthcare sectors, and promoting the adoption of digital health strategies. He has worked in digital transformation and cybersecurity projects in the security and justice sector of Guatemala and other Latin American countries, funded by USAID and UNODC.

He is Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Central American Health Informatics Network (RECAINSA), expert member of the digital health working group of the Broadband Commission and Co-chair of the Executive Council of the Centre of Studies for the Equity and Governance of the Health Services.

SHARIFAH SEKALALA

Reader, School of Law, University of Warwick



Sharifah Sekalala is a Reader in the Law School at the University of Warwick. She is an interdisciplinary researcher whose work is at the intersection of international law, public policy, and global health. She is particularly focused on the role of human rights frameworks in addressing global health inequalities. Her work has been published in leading legal, international relations and public health journals. She is also an Associate Fellow of Chatham House' Global Health Programme. She is currently leading a pilot project funded by the Wellcome Trust on the migration of digital health data in Sub Saharan Africa.

MODERATORS

SARA (MEG) DAVIS

Senior researcher, Digital Health and Rights Project, Global Health Centre



Sara (Meg) Davis is principal investigator of the Digital Health and Rights Project at the Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute, Geneva. She has twenty years' experience in global health and human rights as a scholar and practitioner, and is the author of two books, most recently *The Uncounted: Politics of data in global health* (Cambridge 2020). 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, which trained hundreds of community-based organisations on governance and human rights.

At the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Dr. Davis 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 an expert listed on Shesource. In 2017, she was one of three winners of the International Geneva Award.

MANDY GOVENDER

Business Development Manager, Transform Health Coalition



Mandy Govender is Business Development Manager at the Transform Health Coalition. She is a South African public health specialist with rich experience in digital health and public health across multiple African countries and Singapore. She previously worked with I-DAIR at the Graduate Institute, and was the Director of Operations for Digital Health at HealthEnabled and a Senior South African Programme Manager for Digital Health at Jembi Health Systems. Her interests focus around working out how public health innovations like digital health and Artificial Intelligence support the call for Universal Health Care.



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