

THE LANCET



## Commission on Syria

Health in Conflict



Electronic newsletter from the Lancet-AUB Commission on Syria

December 2016 to January 2017

## Spotlight

### Commission formally launched at AUB

On 1-2 December 2016, the *Lancet-AUB Commission on Syria: Health in Conflict*, was formally launched at the American University of Beirut (AUB). The meeting was hosted by AUB's Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) which is leading the Commission. We were delighted to host Commissioners, experts from the region and further afield in addition to *The Lancet* team. We agreed on the objectives of the Commission, its scope, and a plan of work leading to the launch of the final report in May 2018. [Read More](#)



## Offline: Syria - ending the state of denial

Richard Horton, Editor-in-Chief of *The Lancet*, reflects on the first meeting of the *Lancet-AUB Commission on Syria: Health in Conflict*. With quotes from Yassin al-Haj Saleh, this short and impactful piece summarizes the need for this Commission. "The world is in a state of denial. What has taken place is not acceptable for humanity. If you want to know something about the world, look at Syria." [Read more](#)



## A new role for global health in conflict and a call for papers

Our introductory piece in *The Lancet* where we introduce the Commission, describe its objectives and approach, and call on the international community to submit evidence and research to inform the Commission's inquiry. "Recognising the urgency of the Syria question, the Commission has scheduled a number of publications, including a paper on the plight of health professionals, and side events at forthcoming global health meetings in 2017 to present interim findings, encourage a dialogue on Syria, and push for change." Paper submission (deadline June 1, 2017): [Health & the Syria Conflict: call for papers & evidence](#). [Submit other evidence here](#).



**Meet the  
Commission**



**Commission  
Updates**



**Issues in Focus:  
Trump**

### Commissioners

Commissioners are a multidisciplinary group of regional and international thought leaders, researchers and practitioners. Profiles of individual Commissioner can be found [here](#).

**Secretariat:** Drs [Samer Jabbour](#), [Jennifer Leaning](#), and [Iman Nuwayhid](#) co-chair the Commission and are responsible for overall strategic direction of the program of work. Research Fellows Drs Fatima Ghaddar and Mohammed Jawad lead the research work while Gina Cordahi coordinates administration. [More](#)

### Collaborators and

**Partners:** The Commission carries its work collaboratively engaging a network of institutions, experts and stakeholders. More details on the institutional collaborators and partners can be found [here](#).

### Research Work Kicks Off

After meeting in London on January 6, 2017, we agreed on [six thematic groups](#) whose work would inform the Commission's final report. Each thematic group is led by Commissioners and includes a network of regional and international experts in addition to researcher volunteers from AUB and elsewhere.

### Commission launches outreach campaign

If you clicked on some of the above links, you already know that we have launched a new [website](#). We hope this website can inform you of our progress and plans. Please send feedback to help us improve the website.

### Get involved

Email us at [ics-info@aub.edu.lb](mailto:ics-info@aub.edu.lb) or [click here](#) to find out how you could get involved.

### The academic case for repealing Trump's refugee and travel ban.

A comment by Paul Spiegel in *The Lancet*. [More](#)

### How ISIS benefits from Trump's Ban on Syrians

"Terrorist networks like Al Qaeda and the Islamic State use discriminatory acts such as Mr. Trump's ban to depict the West as fundamentally anti-Muslim", writes Yassin Al-Haj Saleh in the New York Times . [More](#)

### FXB's Commitment to Global Health and Human Rights

"We are all immigrants in the United States" says Jennifer Leaning in a podcast released on 2<sup>nd</sup> February denouncing Trump's heavy handed approach to immigration. [More](#)



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