



## **An Explainer:** The ICRC Health Care in Danger Strategy, HCiD Regional Meetings & the 2021 Asia-Pacific Regional HCiD Meeting

### The International Committee of the Red Cross Health Care in Danger Strategy

The current strategy emphasizes the practical implementation and operationalization of concrete measures at the local and national level. In alignment with the strategic orientations, the Health care in Danger Initiative has transitioned from holding annual meetings of global stakeholders to bi-annual regional ones. The focus on the five ICRC regions provides a forum that allows stakeholders to share experiences on approaches and develop and reinforce local, national and global partnerships to prevent and address violence against health care.

The partnership with the Global Community of Concern, a global network of health care providers promoting the protection of health care nationally and globally, is a central pillar of advancing this common agenda. The partnership with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is also critical to the continued and long-term success of this work. The current ICRC strategy for Health Care in Danger 2020-22 is available [here](#).

### Regional Meetings

Regional meetings were held in 2019 in the Asia-Pacific Region in Manila, and the Near and Middle East Region in Beirut. Participants appreciated the opportunity to share experiences, dynamics and cultural issues with stakeholders from neighboring countries. Due to COVID-19 related restrictions the face-to-face meeting planned with the Africa Region was held online in June 2020 and the same was the case with the Eurasia Region in February 2021.

### The Asia-Pacific Health Care in Danger 2021 Meeting

The Asia-Pacific meeting is being held virtually and, in contrast to the first meeting, will be open to the public. Participants will include invited stakeholders, but the approach will also take advantage of the online format to allow the public to join the meeting through registration. The report from the meeting will be made publicly available.

The 2021 meeting is being co-organized in partnership with Jinnah Sindh Medical University and Khyber Medical University in Pakistan. The ICRC is grateful for this ongoing partnership and shared commitment.

The Health Care in Danger Initiative is focused on reducing violence and mitigating the effects of violence in zones of conflict and other emergencies.

# HEALTH CARE IN DANGER IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE & DEATH

Many partners are working on the protection of health care in the region, including in awareness raising, national implementation and research. The protection of health care is universally relevant, and the ICRC seeks to advance a common agenda and facilitate regional and global partnerships including two-way collaboration and exchanges of experiences. Tools and approaches developed to prevent violence and mitigate in one context can be inspiration and facilitate learning and adaptation in another.

The COVID19 pandemic has further demonstrated the durability and importance of the central tenet of Health Care in Danger - the inviolability of health care - and the cascading negative consequences of its non-respect. There is scope and, in light of the novel situation, a need to exchange on recent experiences working to protect health care from violence, including during the pandemic, review promising practices and reinforce partnerships.

