

Governing Global Health Diplomacy: The Politics of Global Health Governance

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Global Health Diplomacy Workshop

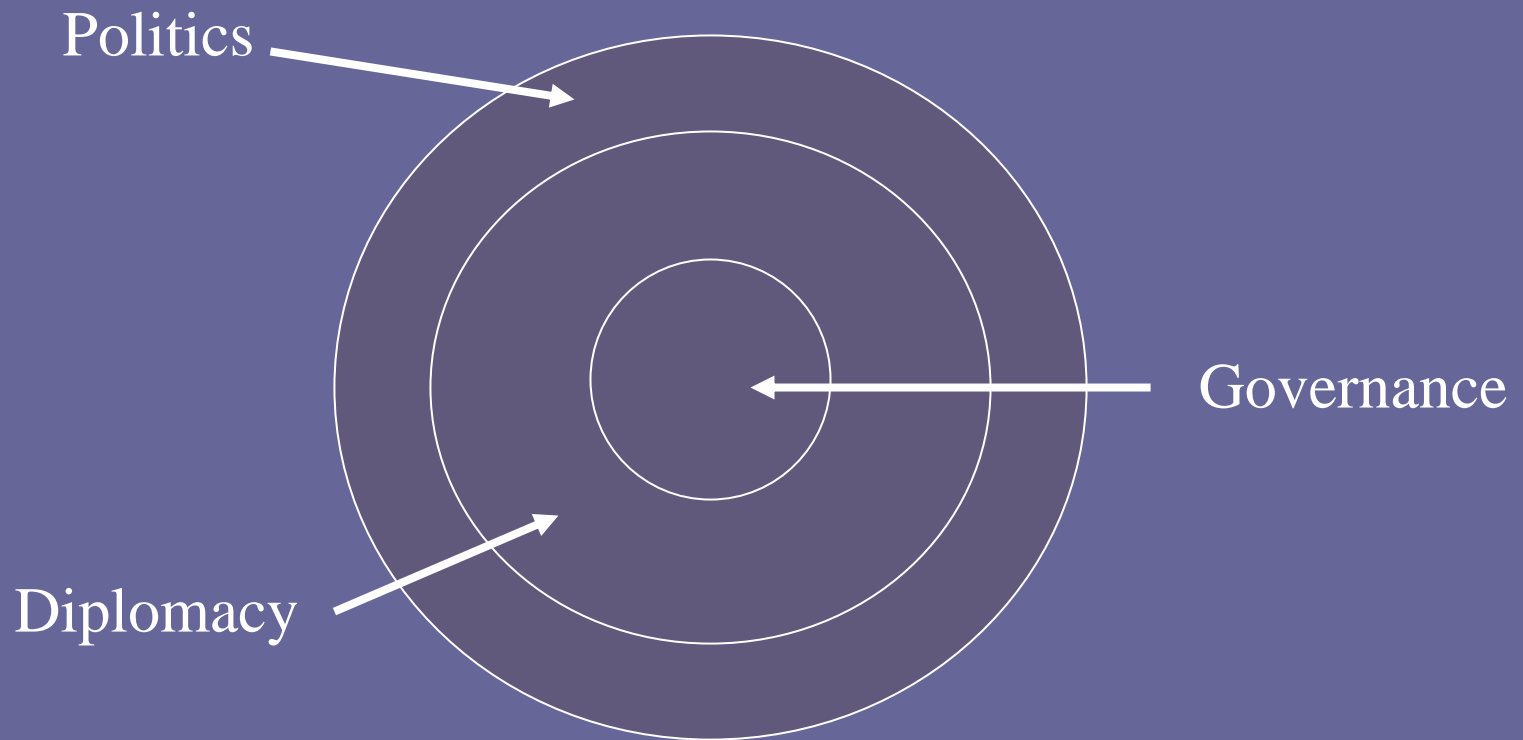
San Diego, CA

March 13, 2007

Overview

- Governing “global health diplomacy”
 - How to conceptualize “global health diplomacy”
 - How to build governance mechanisms to bring global health diplomacy under control
- The paradox of traditional diplomacy -> Need for governance mechanisms
- Reality check on “global health diplomacy”
- From diplomacy to governance: the dual anarchy problem
- Some global health diplomacy and governance challenges

Politics, Diplomacy, and Governance



Diplomacy, Interests, and Anarchy

- What is diplomacy?
 - A diplomat is a person sent abroad to lie for his or her country.
- Traditionally, a diplomat is an official representative of a State in its dealings with other States
 - Articulate, advance, and defend the national interest
 - Protected by international law
- If so central and critical, why such cynicism?
 - Diplomacy functions in anarchy
 - Anarchy produces divergent interests

From Diplomacy to Governance (I)

- Normative thinking in international relations
 - Create institutions/mechanisms/processes that would allow States to settle disputes authoritatively (IGOs, international courts)
 - Generate political conditions among States that reduces the divergence of national interests
 - Economic interdependence
 - Ideological homogeneity or likemindedness
- Diplomacy **is not** transformative without intervening governance mechanisms that minimize divergence of interests and/or resolve clashes of interests authoritatively

Global Health Diplomacy Political Reality Check

- Extraordinary claims made about global health diplomacy
 - Political change activity
 - Can assure good global governance, proper utilization of resources, and sensible international relations between rich and poor
 - Handle rogue States
 - Produces harmony of enlightened self-interest
 - Reduce conflicts when politics fail
 - Global health diplomacy is non-political at its core

Global Health Diplomacy Political Reality Check

- Working Paper conflates global health diplomacy with governance
- Rise of health issues in foreign policy should not be confused with a capability to transform diplomacy and international politics
- Similar transformative claims have been made for trade, rule of law, communism, human rights, democracy, environmentalism--How global health transcends these normative ideas in its international political impact is never explained

Global Health Diplomacy Political Reality Check

- Taking diplomacy out of global health diplomacy
 - Working Paper presents global health diplomacy as an activity that will eliminate the clash of divergent national interests and produce convergence around global health as “enlightened self-interest”
- How many times have you heard that one?
- Fallacy of the “harmony of interests” doctrine
- Health’s rise in foreign policy and international relations reveals both convergence and divergence of political interests--political negotiation in a condition of anarchy
- Idea that global health diplomacy is non-political at its base is an illusion

From Diplomacy to Governance (II): Tragedies of the Global Health Commons

- From diplomacy to governance
 - International governance (States): international organizations, international law, regimes
 - Global governance (States + non-State actors)
- Global health has been fertile area of development of global governance mechanisms, perhaps too fertile
- Tragedies of the global health commons
 - Over-exploitation
 - Under-exploitation

From Diplomacy to Governance (II): Old-School and Open-Source Anarchy

- Global health governance and the tragedies of the global health commons
 - Horizontal management
 - New governance architecture
- The anarchy problemss
 - Old-school anarchy
 - Open-source anarchy

Global Health Diplomacy/ Governance Challenges

- New world of public health governance
 - New International Health Regulations (IHR)
 - Pandemic influenza preparedness
- New world of biological weapons governance
 - From State-centric arms control to a global biosecurity concert
- Antimicrobial resistance
 - Containing XDR-TB
- Intellectual property and access to health technologies
 - Indonesia's withholding of H5N1 samples
- Women's health issues
 - New UN Women's Organization (?)