

Session 6: Science and Openness

Gundo Weiler: *Health as a Driver for Turning Crisis into Solutions*

In a time marked by converging existential threats—from climate disruption to geopolitical instability—health emerges not merely as a casualty, but as a catalyst for transformation. Drawing inspiration from Kierkegaard’s existential urgency and his insight into suffering as a gateway to action, this keynote explores how health uniquely translates global crises into personal experience, awakening the moral and political imagination. In the spirit of Bohr’s call for openness, this is a call to action: to place health at the heart of our response to crises, and to harness its power to turn suffering into solutions.

Health is no longer a closed domain; it is an open system—interdisciplinary, intersectoral, and intergeographical. It mirrors the megatrends of our age, from the objective devastation of war to the subjective anxiety of climate change, making abstract threats tangible and urgent.

This presentation will explore three dimensions: (1) Health as a personalized manifestation of existential risk; (2) Health’s transformative power to drive systemic solutions—through “Health in All Policies,” “One Health,” and the “Economy of Well-being”; and (3) Health as a frontier for open research, capable of uncovering realities, proposing actionable solutions, and guiding implementation in a world where facts alone no longer suffice.