Global Health Law

Lawrence O. Gostin

“Larry Gostin’s Global Health Law is more than the definitive book on a dynamic field. Gostin harnesses the power of international law and human rights as tools to close unconscionable health inequities—the injustices that burden marginalized populations throughout the world. Gostin presents a forceful vision, one that deserves a wide embrace.”

—Paul Farmer

“The fusion of human rights and social movements is a powerful theme running throughout Lawrence Gostin’s absorbing book. Global Health Law shines a light on the inspiration of the AIDS movement, bringing the ingenuity of civil society to achieve health justice for all.”

—Michele Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS

“The fight against apartheid in South Africa inspired a Constitution that guarantees everyone the right to health. Lawrence Gostin’s groundbreaking Global Health Law replicates that struggle globally, employing wider principles of social justice and international law. His book is rich in scholarship, and inspiring in its generous-spirited reach.”

—Justice Edwin Cameron, Constitutional Court of South Africa

The international community has made great progress in improving global health. But staggering health inequalities between rich and poor still remain, raising fundamental questions of social justice. In a book that systematically defines the burgeoning field of global health law, Lawrence Gostin drives home the need for effective global governance for health and offers a blueprint for reform, based on the principle that the opportunity to live a healthy life is a basic human right.

Today’s pressing health needs worldwide are a problem not only for the medical profession but also for all concerned citizens. Designed with the beginning student, advanced researcher, and informed public in mind, Global Health Law will be a foundational resource for teaching, advocacy, and public discourse in global health.

Lawrence O. Gostin is University Professor and Founding O’Neill Chair in Global Health Law at Georgetown University.