

The Centre for Humanitarian Action e.V.

The Centre for Humanitarian Action e.V. (CHA) is a think tank founded in 2018, which engages in independent analysis, initiates critical debate and spreads the word about issues of humanitarian assistance and its for key principles: humanity, impartiality, independence and neutrality. It is Germany's first think tank on humanitarian aid.

The CHA is an initiative of humanitarian non-governmental organisations to strengthen German and international humanitarian action. The NGOs Caritas Germany, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Doctors without Borders Germany and the German Red Cross (DRK) are the institutional partners of CHA and provide the basic funding. In addition to its institutional partners, CHA is financially and non-materially supported by other organisations, including Help – Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V., Islamic Relief Deutschland e.V., Action against Hunger gGmbH, Oxfam Germany, Handicap international and the International Rescue Committee (IRC).

The CHA cooperates with aid organisations such as German and international non-governmental organisations or UN agencies, with governments and with actors from academia and politics. It is not meant to be a purely academic institution, nor to represent humanitarian organisations vis-à-vis the German Federal Government. The Centre rather builds a bridge between academic analysis of humanitarian action and projects and programmes in the field. It also bridges and connects international discussions and the debate in Germany. The results of its work and the related recommendations are freely accessible to all actors.

In 2019-2021, the Centre's work focussed in particular on:

- the question of strategic capacity of German Humanitarian Action, which has broken further financial records since 2019;
- the challenges of a „Shrinking Humanitarian Space“ in Europe as well as in the Global South, which were analysed and debated;
- the Triple „Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus“ and its opportunities and risks in times, in which around 80% of humanitarian action has to be delivered in regions hit by wars and conflicts.

The work programme 2021-2023 will be published soon. The priorities and strategies of German and European humanitarian action will continue to be important pillars, but the Centre will also address the efforts to localise aid, which have been largely unsuccessful so far. Furthermore, the digitalisation of humanitarian action and its programmes will play a prominent role.

Publications:

An introduction to the international humanitarian system:

<https://www.chaberlin.org/en/publications/introduction-to-the-international-humanitarian-system/>

Further scientific publications:

<https://www.chaberlin.org/en/publications/>

CHA in the media

Selected articles and interviews:

<https://www.chaberlin.org/en/media-hub/#cha-in-the-media>

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