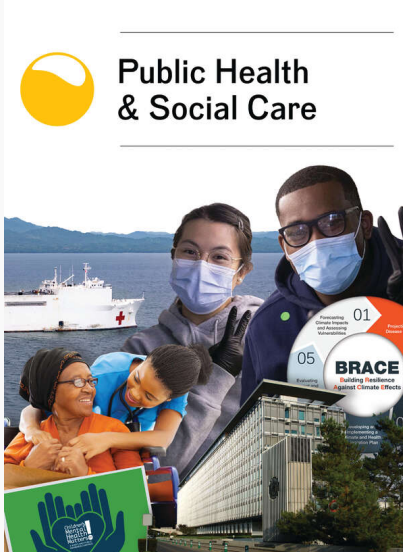


Policy Matters



Your weekly digest of policy reports that **matter**.
Edited by [Toby Green](#) and [Gary Price](#) of *Policy Commons*.



What's new in our *Public Health and Social Care* module?

And the diagnosis is: market failure

As hospital acquisitions of medical practices accelerate in the US, [hospitals are at the center of a massive market failure](#) that's leading to reduced competition and increased prices.

A quarter of young children are going hungry

Globally, one in four children is living in severe child food poverty in early years, and progress to fix this is slow, according to the latest [UNICEF Global Nutrition Report](#).

Getting Aboriginal children out of child protection

The [final report of the Inquiry into the removal and placement of Aboriginal children in South Australia](#), has just been released. It provides findings and recommendations to reduce the number of Aboriginal children in the child protection system and ensure Aboriginal children grow up safe and strong within family, community, and culture.

Read more about our new *Public Health and Social Care* module [here](#).

Other reports that caught our eye this week:

Might China quarantine Taiwan?

A blockade is when a country uses military force to ring-fence an opponent. Quarantine is when the country uses law enforcement to control maritime and air traffic to seal the other off. [This report lays out China's potential motivations to quarantine Taiwan](#) and maps out two plausible scenarios of how it could conduct such operations.

The SDGs are way off track

Just 15% of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are still on track, and 36% of the targets, including those on poverty, hunger, and GHGs, show signs of stagnation or regression, according to the UN Secretary General's annual progress report. The document is due for formal release later this month—but [it's available now via Policy Commons](#).

Conflict in Gaza: also a cost to the climate

One aspect of the conflict that's less discussed is its environmental impact. For example, [the carbon cost](#) of rebuilding Gaza will be greater than the annual greenhouse gas emissions of 135 countries, similar to Portugal's and Sweden's. This paper also looks at the carbon cost of military and supply activities in Gaza over the first 120 days.

Circular economy: finding value in fashion waste

[This report interprets findings from the Sorting for Circularity USA](#) project and explores opportunities to maximize recovery of unwanted textiles for reuse and recycling, through improved collection programs that distinguish the textiles suitable for recycling.

How big finance holds back biodiversity in the Global South

[This report looks at the structural drivers of biodiversity loss](#).

Zooming in on five case studies around the world, it looks at the international monetary system, the global debt architecture, and transnational tax rules.

Airport noise: many complaints, few complainants

London's Heathrow Airport [publishes data on complaints about noise](#). Last year, one person complained 1,210 times (averaging just over 3 complaints a day), and 0.5% of complainants generated 85% of the 71,041 complaints received. The good news is that, overall, complaints are going down as aircraft become quieter.

Post-pandemic work

This year will mark an important transition from a troubled, pandemic-driven economy to a new, post-pandemic world. [In this new version of work, the pandemic imprint lingers, but technological advances \(hello, AI\), changing demographics, and shifting workplace norms will drive seismic change](#).

Encryption versus privacy

[A new report by the EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security](#) looks into how to uphold citizens' privacy while enabling criminal investigation and prosecution.

Responsible AI

Artificial intelligence (AI) is creating novel challenges for governance. Technical advances and widening use of AI have increased concerns about the risks of such technology, while also underscoring its transformational potential. [This collection of nine essays](#) assembled by Chatham House explores pathways towards responsible AI and proposes both broad principles and specific ideas for future-proof AI governance.

Mentions--a new tool for measuring impact

"There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about." – Oscar Wilde

Until now, it's been very hard to measure how often an organization is being talked about and by whom. Now, with our new *Mentions* tool, you'll know.

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Toby Green & Gary Price
Policy Matters

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