

# GLOBAL



# HEALTH



# WATCH

AN ALTERNATIVE WORLD HEALTH REPORT

4

## The 2014 Alternative World Health Report

Understanding  
the Global Health  
Crisis to take  
decisive actions

The Global Health Watch, now in its fourth edition, is perceived widely as the definitive voice for an alternative discourse on health.

It integrates rigorous analysis, alternative proposals and stories of struggles and change to present a compelling case for the imperative to work for a radical transformation of the way we approach actions and policies on health.

# Global Health Watch

- Conceived in 2003 as a collaborative effort by activists and academics from across the world.
- Designed to question present policies on health and to propose alternatives, through new analysis.
- Previous editions published in 2005, 2008 and 2011.
- GHW4: Co-ordinated by six civil society organisations
- Published by Zed Books.



# GHW 4: Structure

- **Political and economic architecture of the Globe:** structure of global power relations and economic governance
- **Health systems:** current issues and debates on health systems
- **Beyond health care:** social, economic, political and environmental determinants of health.
- **'Watching':** scrutinises global processes and institutions that impact on peoples' health and health care.
- **Alternatives, Action and Change:** stories of struggles and how people are already making change happen

## Section A: Global political and economic architecture

- Neoliberal globalization and the global health crisis
- Recent changes in global power relations and economic governance?
- How these changes influence decisions and choices that impact on health?



# A.1: The Health crisis and neoliberal globalisation

Political strategies and policy options for public health activists to challenge the current system?

- Re-regulate global finance
- Reject austerity
- Increase progressive taxation
- Close tax heavens
- Support global tax systems
- Confront the limits of growth
- Reclaim the public



# A.2: Crisis in Europe and austerity

While the economic crisis is eroding livelihoods of millions, public investment on welfare is under attack

Post-crisis Europe is a clear reminder of the need to defend public services



## A.3: Political changes in Latin America

- 'Progressive' governments mark a new phase of transformation in Latino America.
- New ways of defining what is 'socially good' are taking shape, such as the idea of 'living well' (vivir bien)





## A.4: After the Arab Spring

- The fall of major Arab leaders in 2011 was part of the struggle against economic deprivation and political suffocation
- In the aftermath of the 'Arab Spring', the struggle has to contend with renewed attacks by global capital on welfare and social services





## Section B: Health systems

- Debates on Universal Health Coverage: limitations of the mainstream discourse
- Evidence from country experiences
- The global health workforce crisis
- Key issues facing health systems that are not foregrounded in the mainstream discourse?