

DOI <https://doi.org/10.30525/978-9934-26-514-3-29>

**THE CHALLENGES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC  
AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY**

**ВИКЛИКИ ПАНДЕМІЇ COVID-19 ТА ЇХ ВПЛИВ  
НА РОЗВИТОК ДИПЛОМАТІЇ ГЛОБАЛЬНОГО ЗДОРОВ'Я**

**Korolenko V. V.<sup>1</sup>**

*Assistant Professor at the Epidemiology  
and Evidence-based  
Medicine Department  
Bogomolets National Medical  
University  
Kyiv, Ukraine*

**Короленко В. В.**

*асистент кафедри епідеміології  
та доказової медицини  
Національний медичний університет  
імені О. О. Богомольця  
м. Київ, Україна*

**Korolenko V. V.<sup>2</sup>**

*Doctor of Medical Sciences,  
Professor at the Department  
of Applied Medicine  
KROK University  
Kyiv, Ukraine*

**Короленко В. В.**

*доктор медичних наук,  
професор кафедри  
прикладної медицини  
Університет «КРОК»  
м. Київ, Україна*

In December 2019, the world faced a fundamentally new global challenge – the emergence of a new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 [1].

The Director-General of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of the new coronavirus a Public Health Emergency of International Concern – PHEIC, and in March 2020, WHO declared a global pandemic of COVID-19 [2, 3].

The spread of the new coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 at the global level has led to significant economic, social and public health consequences. Countries and health systems were not fully prepared for such a global crisis and faced serious challenges [4, 5].

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the focus of the health system, which has not only been overloaded, but also limited in its ability to provide services, in particular, logistics and the supply of materials and equipment have been disrupted. The impact of this pandemic has been felt in all spheres of human life and has slowed down the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [6].

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<sup>1</sup> Korolenko Viktoriia Viktorivna

<sup>2</sup> Korolenko Volodymyr Vasylovych

The aim of the work is to analyze the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the development of Global Health Diplomacy.

The study used the bibliosemantic method and a systematic approach to collect and analyze scientific publications on the topic.

The UN General Assembly, in its resolution of November 26, 2008 A/RES/63/33, recognized the close relationship and interdependence between foreign policy and the health of the world's population, and also called on Member States to take into account health issues when developing foreign policy [7]. In the modern world, the diplomatic component is an integral part of the global health governance system [8, 16]. Global health diplomacy (GHD) combines practices through which governments and non-governmental organizations coordinate and organize global policy decisions to improve public health [16]. In the course of countering the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, GHD has for the first time become an integral part of geopolitics. In 2021, mass vaccination against COVID-19 began, during which time more than 13 billion doses of the vaccine were administered worldwide [9].

This has created the need for new concepts of international relations to shape global policies in health management.

On May 5, 2023, the WHO recognized that COVID-19 is no longer a PHEIC [10], but the challenges associated with the so-called “disease X” [11,17] remain relevant. A kind of marker of the extreme importance of this problem was the keynote speech of WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on January 17, 2024. The WHO Director-General emphasized that the COVID-19 pandemic has not only demonstrated the incredible power of modern medical technology, but “it also exposed the vast inequities of our world. Narrow nationalism and hoarding by high-income countries meant that many low-income countries got too little, too late” [12]. The impact of “disease X” could potentially have a deeper impact even on the economies of high-income countries, especially in the context of changing the system of balances of international security – the international order – established to preserve peace after World War II [13].

During the overcoming of the COVID-19 pandemic, we first encountered the global impact of the phenomenon of pharmaceutical nationalism on the economy of each country in the world. Kashyntseva O. (2021) determined that pharmaceutical nationalism has qualitative and quantitative aspects. The qualitative aspect is manifested in the formation of a new protectionist policy of states towards local drug manufacturers, the creation of preferences and advantages, exemption from patent monopoly through international legal instruments – this is the localization of pharmaceutical enterprises, the introduction of parallel imports, etc. The quantitative aspect consists in

prioritizing the needs of the national market for medicines in volumes that correspond to the biosecurity of a particular state, regardless of the interests of the rest of the world [14]. This also influenced the normative practice of Ukraine, in particular, in 2024 the law “On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine Regarding Parallel Import of Medicines” [15] was adopted, which comes into force on January 1, 2025 and is designed to help provide the population with affordable medicines.

Thus, the experience of overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic has shown new trends in the development of global health diplomacy, its impact on both building international relations and the formation of national policies in the socio-economic sphere, including public health and pharmacy.

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