

International Symposium: Solidarity in Health & Healthcare

From May 19 to 22, CeSCoS hosted an international symposium on solidarity in health. This event was the culmination of a long and intensive journey of exploring the many ways solidarity manifests across different areas of health and healthcare. It brought together leading thinkers, researchers, and practitioners to engage in a rich and dynamic exchange of ideas.

We were honoured to welcome Professor Sally Scholz, one of the most prominent philosophers of solidarity, who shared reflections on the concept and its relevance in today's world. Equally inspiring was the contribution of Professor Silke Schicktanz, a leading bioethicist, who offered a compelling perspective on how solidarity and collectivity intersect in the realm of healthcare.

To ensure meaningful dialogue, the symposium papers were pre-circulated, allowing participants to dive straight into identifying theoretical and empirical connections between the contributions. Speakers were invited to address three central questions: How do they define solidarity? What gap in the existing literature does their definition address? And how can their conceptualization of solidarity be applied to other cases? These questions sparked vibrant and thought-provoking discussions, and we are excited to announce that all the papers presented will soon be published in a special issue of *Social Theory and Health*.

In a world where social and political divides continue to cause immense suffering and loss of life, discussing solidarity is more urgent than ever. The symposium underscored the critical importance of grounding solidarity as a guiding value to navigate the challenges of our time. Solidarity is not just an abstract ideal; it is a practical and moral compass for building more just and inclusive societies.

We are grateful to everyone who participated and contributed to this important conversation. Together, we are taking steps toward a deeper understanding of solidarity and its transformative potential in health and beyond.

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