



STOP THE SURRENDER OF U.S. SOVEREIGNTY TO THE W.H.O.

On January 18, 2022, the Biden Administration submitted at the last moment 13 amendments to the World Health Organization International Health Regulation (IHR) Treaty in advance of a meeting of the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva from May 22-28. Taken together, these amendments would materially alter the Treaty to which the U.S. Senate gave its advice and consent in 2005 by surrendering national sovereignty and independence to an international organization that is under the influence of the Chinese Communist Party.

All other things being equal, the WHA is expected to approve the amendments. That must not be allowed to happen lest a CCP henchman like Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director General of the WHO, be able to dictate not only public health policy but whatever other events he decides constitute “public health emergencies of international concern.” As U.S. government officials have depicted gun violence and climate change as threats to public health, it is not hard to imagine the extent of the overreach the administration’s amendments would enable.

Even in the medical domain, the WHO would have the authority to invoke the amended IHR to order how diseases other-than-pandemics will be treated. Imposing lockdowns, mask- and vaccine-mandates and vaccine passports – in other words, promoting the “China Model” – will likely be at top of the agenda for Tedros, as it is for his masters in Beijing.

These arrangements, if adopted, would deny the American people the accountability inherent in their representative form of government, including on matters of life and death. They would also fatally compromise that government’s ability to have national interests, rather than supranational directives, drive policy choices.

The Biden administration’s amendments as submitted by Loyce Pace, the Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs of the Department of Health and Human Services, can be found [here](#). Specific problems with these amendments include:

- The Director General of the WHO will be empowered to declare unilaterally “Public Health Emergency of International Concern.”
- Such declarations can be set in motion by nothing more than information “in the public domain,” without regard to the authority or credibility of such information.
- There will be no sovereign ability to override, reject or veto the Director General’s decision.
- The Director General’s decision can be delegated to the WHO’s regional directors who are authorized, in turn, to declare Public Health Emergencies of Regional Concern.
- Emergency and Compliance Committees are established with seemingly benign charters, but the potential to take on compulsory functions.
- Any country can declare itself to be an “affected party,” affording it standing in connection with the declaration of public health emergencies.

It is unclear whether and how the U.S. Senate would consider and treat such material changes to the 2005 IHR Treaty. As a result, a concerted effort must be made now to prevent the Biden amendments’ adoption during the upcoming World Health Assembly in Geneva.