



Saskia Popescu, PhD, MPH, MA, CIC, FAPIC, is a senior infectious disease epidemiologist and global health security leader with over 15 years of experience spanning government, international organizations, academia, and the private sector. She currently serves as CEO of the Global Health Security Network (GHSN) and as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, where she researches and teaches on global health

security, bioresilience, AMR, and high-consequence disease epidemiology. She also serves as an Adjunct Policy Researcher at the RAND Corporation, where her work spans biosurveillance system evaluation, biosecurity, CBRNE risk assessment, and biological threat analysis across defense and global health security portfolios.

Earlier in her career, Dr. Popescu built a strong foundation in healthcare biopreparedness and outbreak investigation as a hospital epidemiologist, leading high-consequence infectious disease preparedness programs, Ebola readiness initiatives, and syndromic surveillance integration across large health systems. She subsequently led global pandemic prevention and response for Netflix, coordinating infectious disease policy, outbreak response, and risk mitigation across dozens of international productions spanning more than 30 countries.

A Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Fellow of the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative, Dr. Popescu's expertise sits at the intersection of outbreak investigation, health security capacity building, biosurveillance, and healthcare biopreparedness. She has represented civil society at the Biological Weapons Convention, served on several NASEM working groups, and remains an active contributor to WHO's Civil Society AMR Working Group and PREZODE Pillar 3.