D.7: Offshoring clinical trials

- There is a growing trend of clinical trials being ‘offshored’ to developing countries.
- Case studies reflect common trends in preferred destinations: weak regulatory systems and vulnerable populations – as pliant pool of clinical trial subjects.
- Gross rights and ethical violations reflect a nexus between pharmaceutical MNCs, domestic regulatory agencies, doctors leading the trials and regulatory agencies in the North.

Most frequent ethical violations:
- Exploitation of people's vulnerability;
- Absence of free and informed consent;
- Improper use of placebos;
- Absence of compensation norms in cases of serious adverse events;
- No access to treatment at the end of the trial.
Section E: Resistance, actions and change

• Where is change taking place and what are the challenges ahead?
• Which are some of the inspiring struggles to support and learn from?
• How are people organising themselves to make health for all a reality?
Several Latin American countries have witnessed significant social and political changes. They represent different kinds of experiments attempting to chart a course that challenges and rejects the neoliberal framework.

This contestation plays out in the health sector as well, with entrenched neoliberal ideas being questioned and replaced by ‘communitarian’ and 'intercultural' approaches.

Julia Ramos, executive secretary of the Bolivian Peasant Women’s Confederation Bartolina Sisa; indigenous people now lead social transformation in Bolivia.
Social Change and Health

**E.1: In Bolivia** the concept of ‘living well’ (vivir bien) is contributing to the dismantling of colonial and neoliberal legacies of the past.

**E.2: El Salvador** is embarking on a challenging process to ensure the irreversibility of the achievements made after the installation of a ‘left’ government in 2009.

**E.3: Venezuela** faces the onslaught from the imperial US government and its allies in the country (the oligarchy, private media, the Catholic Church hierarchy, and a section of conservative political parties).
Resistance to Neoliberal Reforms

- In Colombia (E.4) and Peru (E.5) neoliberal hegemony is being challenged by popular movements; contestation is apparent in the struggles against reforms to the health system.

- Key lessons lie in the new social alliances that have been forged and the role played by health professionals.
Resistance to Neoliberal Reforms

**E.6:** The global economic crisis has impacted people’s lives in Europe. Waves of protests and resistance movements have swiped large parts of the continent.

- These target austerity packages imposed by the ‘Troika, as well as EU–US negotiations for a new free trade agreement - the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, TTIP.

**E.7:** A linked case study of Halkidiki – a community in Greece which collectively rose up against a gold mining project.

- Experience has led people to believe that the natural state of humans is not selfishness, but cooperation and solidarity.
E.8: Right to Food in India

‘Everyone has a fundamental right to be free from hunger and the primary responsibility for guaranteeing basic entitlements rests with the state’.

- The RTF campaign’s experience highlights the strengths of a wide network - with members across the country representing different social groups - coming together on one issue.
- Experience also points to difficulties in engaging with the state and the public at large on structural causes.
E.9: Aboriginal community controled health services (ACCHS)

- The movement for ACCHS has been a key vehicles for the community's engagement in the struggle for health.

- This struggle combines collective actions to access healthcare with those that address social determinants of health. Through ACCHS, Aboriginal peoples have developed the PHC model in Australia.
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