

Sania Nishtar, FRCP, PhD

Founder and President, Heartfile, Pakistan

Former Minister, Science and Technology, Education and Training, and Information Technology and Telcom of Pakistan

Sania Nishtar is the founder of many health institutions in Pakistan, the NGO think tank Heartfile, Pakistan's Health Policy Forum and the award-winning Heartfile Health Financing program.

In 2013, she served as a Federal Minister in Pakistan's Interim Government, where she held four portfolios. Internationally, she is part of many Global health initiatives.

She was recently appointed as co-chair of a WHO Commission, which is a great honor for Pakistan. In the press release, World Health Organization described her as a "widely considered thought leader on health policy, a key drafter of several global health declarations"

Sania Nishtar is member of the board of several international agencies. She is vice Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council, a member of Harvard University's Ministerial Leadership Initiative, and member of the Clinton Global Initiative, and chairs the Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative's Evaluation Advisory Committee.

In addition to being a regular plenary speaker or chair at global health meetings, she is also a key voice in health policy and governance reform in Pakistan.

Sania Nishtar is the author of six books, more than 100 peer review articles and around the same number of op-eds.

She is the recipient of Pakistan's Sitara e-Imtiaz, the European Societies Population Science Award, and many accolades of the International Biographical Centre, Cambridge and the American Biographical Center. In 2011, she received the prestigious Global Innovation award, which was given only to four individuals in the world, one of them being President Bill Clinton.

Sania Nishtar holds a Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and a Ph.D from Kings College, London. She was a college best graduate and received 16 gold medals a record, which remains unbroken to date.