Dr. Mukesh Kapila is presently Under Secretary General for National Society and Knowledge Development at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva, having served in other senior roles there since 2006. Previous roles include: Special Advisor to the United Nations in Afghanistan and to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Sudan; Director in Health Action in Crises at the World Health Organization; Senior Policy Adviser to the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery; and Head of Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs at the UK Government Department for International Development.

Dr. Kapila is a Senior Member of Hughes Hall College at Cambridge University, Associate Fellow of the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at The University of Manchester and an Associate at the Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria, Canada. He is Chair of the Council of Minority Rights Group International, was an early member of the U.N. Disaster Assessment and Coordination system, and served on the Boards of the U.N. Institute for Training and Research, and the International Peace Academy.

Dr Kapila was born in India and came on a Commonwealth scholarship to high school (Wellington College) in the United Kingdom. He went on to qualify in medicine and public health from the Universities of Oxford and London. He was honored for international service with a CBE and has also received the Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award of the Institute for Global Leadership.
As defined in the strategy *Advancing the Manchester 2015 Agenda*, The University of Manchester has a clear goal for social responsibility such that it will make the institution a force for good, locally, nationally and internationally, by bringing knowledge to bear on the great issues facing the world in the 21st century, and by producing graduates prepared to exercise social leadership and environmental responsibility. We are proud to invest in the pioneering collaborative venture with IFRC and thus realize this goal on a global scale using our own Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) to deliver practical and affordable online postgraduate teaching in global health. HCRI is inspired by the need to conduct rigorous research and support postgraduate training on the impact and outcomes of contemporary and historical crises, and embraces this opportunity to develop a scholarly and professional agenda for humanitarians around the world.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest volunteer-based humanitarian network, reaching 150 million people each year through our 186 member National Societies. Together, we act before, during and after disasters and health emergencies to meet the needs and improve the lives of vulnerable people. We do so with impartiality as to nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class and political opinions. IFRC is developing a learning and knowledge sharing network whose main aims are to boost access to accredited learning and training and to promote analysis and research on humanitarian and development concerns of importance to its network. IFRC are collaborating with HCRI to begin the realization of this vision.

University Place is a large round building located on Oxford Road (see photo). Buses from Piccadilly Bus Station (14, 16, 41, 42, 43, 43a, 44, 45a, 48, 111, 140, 142, 157, 250) all go past the building. If you arrive at Oxford Road train station simply get any bus from the Oxford Rd bus stop opposite The Cornerhouse. The nearest car park is multi-storey car park D (seen on map) which is accessed via Booth Street West next to the Manchester Business School.

To register your place please email hcri@manchester.ac.uk