



WORLD POLICY

CONFERENCE

8th Edition, Nov. 20-22, 2015 - Montreux



WORLD POLICY CONFERENCE

— EIGHTH EDITION —
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Foreword



The mood at the eighth WPC in Montreux was steeped in gravity and serenity. It was grave because of the attacks the so-called “Islamic State” had carried out in France a week earlier. It was serene because the members of the club that the WPC is increasingly clearly becoming continue to share the hope for successful globalisation, in other words a sufficiently flexible yet firm world order. It must be flexible enough to allow a gradual move in the direction expressed by the philosophy of human rights while acknowledging, and even respecting, on the one hand the constraints inherited from history and on the other the new prospects that the acceleration of an unprecedented technological revolution is opening up. Striking the right balance between forces buried deeply in the collective unconscious and others springing up from an intense burst of creativity is extremely difficult. But the world order must also be firm enough to counter new revolutionary ideologies especially those based on the most perverse interpretation of the Quran’s message. Those ideologies are the antithesis of the Enlightenment and the idea of progress. Groups proclaiming themselves to be more fundamentalist than their competitors already on the scene are continuously popping up.

A world order meeting the dual demands of flexibility and firmness does not exist yet, far from it. Terrorism continues to thrive. The established powers that are asserting their desire to fight it look more like rivals

than allies. As I write these lines, this can be seen in the rivalry between Iran and Russia, both of which back Bashar al-Assad’s regime in Syria, or the ulterior motives of those supporting the Sunni world, where Saudi Arabia has become a pivotal player. The lack of shared rules — international disorder by another name — also worsens a humanitarian disaster. The least of its collateral damage is not the European Union’s destabilisation by the uncontrolled flow of refugees. Even worse, certain established powers, unable or unwilling to see beyond their short-term goals, may believe that that destabilisation actually serves their interests.

If we add that many observers believe the global economy is on the brink of another major financial crisis, the only possible conclusion is that hope for successful globalisation today must rest on an unshakeable faith in humankind’s ability to defeat the demons that are constantly assailing it. Faith always has a quasi-mystical aspect. But it amounts to nothing without a willingness to act in a lucid, realistic way. That is what drives the WPC’s friends. They know that to act well, first it is necessary to think well and remain open-minded and tolerant no matter what.

Although the 13 November attacks disrupted the organisation of the eighth WPC in Montreux, the overwhelming majority of participants consider last year’s gathering the best ever. That encouraging message gives us the strength to persevere.

Thierry de Montbrial
Founder and Chairman
February 11, 2016



Friday, November 20
08:30 – 09:45 OPENING SESSION
Thierry de Montbrial , Founder and Chairman of the WPC Didier Burkhalter , Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
09:45 – 11:00 PLENARY SESSION 1 Global economic order at the Crossroads
Moderator: Virginie Robert , Foreign desk editor, <i>Les Echos</i>
Speakers: John Lipsky , Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS); former First Deputy Managing Director, IMF Il Sakong , Chairman of the Institute for Global Economics, former Finance Minister of Korea Motoshige Itoh , Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo, Advisor to the Prime Minister Mario Monti , Chairman of the High Level Group on Own Resources, European Commission, former Prime Minister of Italy
11:00 – 11:30 COFFEE BREAK
11:30 – 12:45 PLENARY SESSION 2 The future of central banking
Moderator: Arthur Rutishauser , Editor-in-Chief, <i>SonntagsZeitung</i>
Speakers: Jean-Claude Trichet , former President, ECB Jacob Frenkel , Chairman of JPMorgan Chase International, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Group of Thirty (G-30), Former Governor of the Bank of Israel Marek Belka , President, National Bank of Poland Mugur Isarescu , Governor of the National Bank of Romania, Former Romanian Prime Minister
13:00 – 14:30 LUNCH DEBATE with Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah , Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar
14:45 – 15:30 PLENARY SESSION 3 Washington's view of the political and geopolitical implications of November 13th attacks in Paris
Jim Hoagland , Contributing Editor to <i>The Washington Post</i> Nelson Cunningham , President, McLarty Associates; former Special Advisor to President Clinton
15:30 – 16:30 PLENARY SESSION 4 Trade Agreements from the Viewpoint of Middle Powers
Moderator: Kemal Dervis , Vice President and Director of Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution, former Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey
Speakers: Bark Taeho , Professor at Seoul National University, former Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea Jonathan T. Fried , Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the WTO; former Associate Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade; former Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister, Canada.
16:30 – 17:30 PLENARY SESSION 5 Do Firms have a Nationality?
Moderator: Nicolas Barré , Managing Director, <i>Les Echos</i>
Speakers: Charles-Edouard Bouée , Chief Executive Officer, Roland Berger Strategy Consultants Nelson Cunningham , President, McLarty Associates; former Special Advisor to President Clinton Tadakatsu Sano , Attorney-at-law at Jones Day; Former Chief Executive Assistant to Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama
17:30 – 18:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:30 – 17:30 PLENARY SESSION 6 The future of the Middle East
Moderator: Thierry de Montbrial , Founder and Chairman of the WPC
Speakers: Elisabeth Guigou , President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the French National Assembly Youssef Amrani , Royal Cabinet, Morocco Mona Makram Ebeid , Egyptian Senator and Member of the Senate Constitutional Committee Vitaly Naumkin , Scientific Director of the Oriental Studies Institute, Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences Jim Hoagland , Contributing Editor to The Washington Post Bernard Siman , Senior Fellow of the Geopolitical Information Service AG.
20:30 DINNER DEBATE with Patrick Pouyanné , Chief Executive Officer and President of the Executive Committee, Total
Saturday, November 21
08:30 – 09:30 PLENARY SESSION 7 Security in Asia in a Historical Perspective
Moderator: Dominique Moïsi , Special Advisor, Ifri
Speakers: Kim Hak-joon , President of the Northeast Asian History Foundation; Chairman of the Asia Journalist Association, Republic of Korea Mayankote Kelath Narayanan , Former Governor of West Bengal, India Yukio Okamoto , Founder and President of Okamoto Associates, Inc., former Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan Igor Yurgens , Chairman of the Management Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development, professor of the Higher School of Economics, Russia Zhang Yunling , Professor of International Economics, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS)
09:30 – 10:00 COFFEE BREAK
10:00 – 10:45 PLENARY SESSION 8 Peaceful coexistence of religions?
Moderator: Thierry de Montbrial , Founder and Chairman of the WPC
Guest of honor: Lionel Zinsou , Prime Minister of Benin
16:30 – 17:30 PLENARY SESSION 9 Food and water security
Moderator: Kemal Dervis , Vice President and Director of Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution, former Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey
Speakers: Mostafa Terrab , Chairman and CEO, OCP Group Arkebe Oqubay , Minister and Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia Kostas Stamoulis , Director, Strategic Programme Leader, Food Security and Nutrition, FAO
12:15 – 13:45 LUNCH DEBATE with Planning Staff Directors
Moderator: Thierry de Montbrial , Founder and Chairman of the WPC
Speakers: Thomas Bagger , Head of Policy Planning, German Federal Foreign Office Peter Hill , Director, Strategy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office Justin Vaisse , Director of the policy planning staff, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
14:00 – 14:45 PLENARY SESSION 10 Israeli-Palestinian dialogue
Moderator: Jim Hoagland , Contributing Editor to <i>The Washington Post</i>



Speakers: Itamar Rabinovich , President of the Israel Institute, Distinguished Global Professor at New York University (NYU) and Distinguished Fellow at the Brookings Institution Manuel Hassassian , Ambassador from Palestine to the United Kingdom; former representative at the Ministry of Higher Education and at the Association of Arab Universities
14:45 – 16:00 PLENARY SESSION 11 The global challenges of the digital technologies
Moderator: François Barrault , Chairman of Idate/DigiWorld Institute; former CEO of BT Global Services and a BT Group PLC board member
Speakers: Patrick Nicolet , Member of the Group Management Board, Capgemini Fyodor Lukyanov , Editor in Chief, Russia in Global Affairs Mari Kiviniemi , Deputy Secretary-General, OECD, former Prime Minister of Finland Susan Liautaud , Vice Chairman of the London School of Economics and Political Science Council and Court of governors, Visiting Scholar at the Stanford Center of Philanthropy and Civil Society
16:15 – 19:15 PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
Workshop 1: Energy
Chair: Bertrand Badré , Managing Director and Group Chief Financial Officer, World Bank
Speakers: Olivier Appert , President, Conseil Français de l'Energie; former President, IFP Energies Nouvelles Masood Ahmed , Director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department Tatsuo Masuda , Visiting professor at the NUCB Graduate School Antoine Rostand , Senior Advisor, Schlumberger Pierre Sigonney , Chief Economist, Corporate Strategy Department, Total Nobuo Tanaka , former Executive Director of the International Energy Agency; President, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation Lee Hye-Min , G20 Sherpa, Ambassador for International Economic Affairs, Republic of Korea
Workshop 2: Economy and Finance
Chair: Jean-Claude Trichet , former President, ECB
Speakers: John Lipsky , Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS); former First Deputy Managing Director, IMF Korn Chatikavanij , former Finance Minister of Thailand Akinari Horii , former Assistant Governor, Bank of Japan, Special Adviser of The Canon Institute for Global Studies Daniel Daianu , member of the Board of the Central Bank of Romania; former Finance Minister of Romania Jean-Pierre Roth , Chairman of the Cantonal Bank of Geneva (BCGE) Bozidar Djelic , Managing Director, Head of Central & Eastern Europe, Lazard Sovereign Group; former Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia Marek Belka , President, National Bank of Poland
Workshop 3: China
Chair: Park In Kook , President of the Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies; Co-chairman of the Beijing/Shanghai Forum
Speakers: Jia Qingguo , Dean of the School of International Studies of Peking University Zhang Yunling , Professor of International Economics, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS) Richard Cooper , Professor of International Economics at Harvard University Qiao Yide , Vice President & Secretary General, Shanghai Development Research Foundation Bark Taeho , Professor at Seoul National University, former Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea Michel Foucher , Chair of applied Geopolitics at College of World Studies; Former French Ambassador to Latvia; Former Director of the policy planning staff of the French Foreign Ministry
19:30 – 20:00 COCKTAIL
20:00 GALA DINNER

Sunday, November 22
08:00 – 08:45 REPORTS FROM PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
08:45 – 09:45 PLENARY SESSION 12 Health and global governance
Moderator: Christian Bréchet , President of the Institut Pasteur
Speakers: Bertrand Badré , Managing Director and Group Chief Financial Officer, World Bank Louise Fresco , President of Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands
09:45 – 11:30 PLENARY SESSION 13 Climate and Environment
Moderator: Richard Cooper , Professor of International Economics at Harvard University
Laurent Fabius , French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development (recorded message)
Speakers: Yukari Niwa Yamashita , Board Member, Director, The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ) Bruno Lafont , Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors, Lafarge Holcim Group Jean-David Levitte , Distinguished fellow, Brookings Institution and member of the International Advisory Board of the Atlantic Council of the United States; Former Senior Diplomatic Adviser and sherpa of President Nicolas Sarkozy Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo , Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences
11:30 – 12:15 PLENARY SESSION 14 Iran and Middle East
Moderator: Thierry de Montbrial , Founder and Chairman of the WPC
Speakers: Hossein Amirabdollahian , Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Countries, Iran
12:15 – 13:45 PLENARY SESSION 15 Europe's refugee crisis
Moderator: Karl Kaiser , Director emeritus of the German Council on Foreign Relations, Harvard University
Speakers: Haïm Korsia , Chief Rabbi of France Kemal Dervis , Vice President and Director of Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution, former Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey Vuk Jeremic , President of the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development (CIRSD), former President of the UN General Assembly, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia Sergei Karaganov , Honorary Chairman of the Presidium of the non-governmental Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, Russia Hubert Védrine , Former French Foreign Minister
14:00 – 15:00 LUNCH
15:00 – 16:45 PLENARY SESSION 16 Final debate
Moderator: Dominique Moïsi , Special Advisor, Ifri
Speakers: Ribal Al-Assad , Founder and Director of the Organisation for Democracy and Freedom in Syria and Chairman of the Iman Foundation Meir Sheetrit , Member of the Israeli Knesset Miguel Ángel Moratinos , Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain Bilahari Kausikan , Ambassador-at-Large and Policy Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore Narendra Taneja , Chairman, Energy Security Group of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Renaud Girard , Journalist at <i>Le Figaro</i> , Editor at <i>Questions Internationales</i>
16:45 ENVOI



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Thierry de Montbrial

Founder and Chairman of the WPC



Neither terrorism nor any of the contemporary world's other ills will be defeated by expressing emotions alone. Only a genuinely international policy in the highest sense of the term will allow the world to make it through the 21st century without repeating tragedies on the scale of those that wracked the 20th. These thoughts led us to launch the WPC on the other side of the lake, in Evian, in 2008. Our goal is to help to improve governance, in all its aspects, in order to foster the emergence of a world that is more open, more prosperous, more just and respectful of the diversity of States and nations. Respect is essential. Any ideology bent on conquest, even in the name of human rights, is harmful to peace. Every people has its own history. Every people has its culture and traditions. Every people develops at its own pace and devises its own solutions. That is why we seek to gather senior figures from the five continents, always a limited number — political and economic leaders, representatives of civil society, researchers and journalists — in a climate of trust and a spirit of tolerance to think about, debate and put forward constructive solutions to major regional and international challenges. We give the floor to representatives of medium-sized powers, whose views are too often not heard enough in the debates, even though we need to know more about them in order to avoid making the same kinds of historic mistakes that have occurred in the recent past.

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Didier Burkhalter

Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland



Today's world has become more unstable, more complex and more dangerous. The resurgence of armed violence — of armed conflicts and terrorism — affects all our societies. It causes tremendous human pain and jeopardises security and prosperity around the world. A barrier of fire is burning on Europe's southern and eastern edges, kindling flames in the heart of our continent. [...] In our 21st century world, crises are no longer the exception but the rule. That in itself is unacceptable — and must be fought — but nobody can deny the obvious. To meet this challenge, the need for diplomacy has reached a level unparalleled in many years. Diplomacy, especially creative diplomacy, needs to take centre stage. For today the situation looks grim. We are living in uncertain times and governments are almost always operating in crisis mode. Strong dialogue and creative diplomacy can change things. Switzerland can make useful contributions in that regard. The Lake Geneva area and the city of Montreux, which are hosting us today, are a symbol of that and a reality. Many peace conferences and diplomatic meetings, public or low-profile, have taken place on the shores of this lake — even in this hotel, which hosted the second peace conference on Syria early last year. Switzerland has a specific history and role. It feels all the more responsible on account of this specificity, while standing shoulder to shoulder with the world. That is what I wish to talk to you about today: the changes occurring in the world and Switzerland's response to them.

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MODERATOR :
Virginie Robert
Foreign desk editor,
Les Echos



John Lipsky

Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS); former First Deputy Managing Director, IMF

[...]The operations of the ad hoc, G20-led system have tended to undermine the effectiveness and legitimacy of the post-World War Two organisations. The G20 Leaders process seems to have lost traction:[...]The G20 as it is constituted potentially is extremely powerful when it represents the expression of a very broad consensus. Its problem is the lack of an internal structure or a voting rule, and – to a certain degree – its lack of legitimacy, [...]Part of the problems of both effectiveness and of legitimacy in part is that there is a disjunction between the leadership of the G20 and the leadership of the multilateral institutions. For example, the composition of the IMF and World Bank Executive Boards are not the same as the G20's membership. Therefore, it has tended to confuse the system, and when there is lack of consensus among the G20, especially among the principal members, the G20 finds it very hard to make progress. In contrast, the multilateral institutions have voting rules, and legitimacy through their universal membership, that allows them to reach decisions that can be effective and have legal standing even in the absence of full consensus[...]It is not inappropriate that there is a filling out of regional institutions, but they need to be consistent with actions at a global level agreed by global governance institutions.[...] the US has hardly provided a leadership role in the area that I discussed, namely, the reform of the international systems and a defence of the multilateral institutions. [...]

Global economic order at the Crossroads



Il Sakong

Chairman of the Institute for Global Economics, former Finance Minister of Korea

After the 2007/8 global crisis, global leaders felt that the G7 was not representative and credible enough, so they decided to initiate the G20. The G20 was not meant to be a formal global institution; it was an informal “steering committee”, so to speak, for the world, to exert collective leadership for global economic affairs[...]Currently, the Bretton Woods institutions do not reflect the current constellation of global economic power. So, G20 leaders in Seoul 2010 agreed to substantially reform the Bretton Woods institutions, particularly the IMF, with a historic shift of 6% of quota from overrepresented to underrepresented countries. Unfortunately, its implementation has been stalled by the US Congress. [...]According to McKinsey, the world needs USD 57 trillion of infrastructure investments. The AIIB with its expected capitalization of USD 100 billion and the World Bank together are not enough to meet the vast global infrastructure investment demand. So the initiation of AIIB is good for the global community, as long as this institution is to become complementary and supplementary to existing institutions such as the World Bank and the ADB. [...]The emerging world is more concerned with the Fed's imminent interest rate hike because it comes at the time when the Chinese economic slowdown is inevitable. [...]So a closer global economic and financial cooperation is critical and the G20 should take leadership in this regard. The G20 has an agreed mechanism called the MAP (Mutual Assessment Process) to be utilized for this.



Motoshige Itoh

Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo, Advisor to the Prime Minister

The IMF, the World Bank, GATT and the WTO are still very important, but it has to be admitted that the world community has become much more sophisticated now than when it was established. [...]the role of these international institutions is very important, and we have to change them further in order to cope with immediate issues. For example, regional trade negotiations may be necessary, and as someone said, negotiation itself is very important for promoting movement in domestic politics. When the WTO negotiations are in stalemate, we have to find something else to create movement. [...] What we are now seeing in Japan is a very important kind of transformation from the original first phase of expansion to its transmission to the real economy, and two things are very important. One is the labour market, where there is increasing demand, so if it triggers an increase in wages, that will be a very good trigger as it promotes consumption, and it is also very important for a continuing process of mild inflation. The other is investment. The corporate sector has accumulated huge amounts of cash, because they are now earning a lot, but they are probably not using it, so again inflation is important, because Japan may get into a negative interest range for the first time in the last 40 years, which may be very important for promoting that kind of action by the corporate sector. [...]



Mario Monti

Chairman of the High Level Group on Own Resources, European Commission, former Prime Minister of Italy

My personal view is that globalisation is going on in terms of technological and business aspects, but it has indeed ceased to advance, and indeed started to regress, concerning the policy and institutional aspects. We see that at the global level; just think about the WTO. We have seen clear symptoms of integration fatigue well before the economic crisis also at the European level. Therefore, it is not just a side-effect of the crisis that people want to integrate less. [...]Will the march of integration resume when growth is back? I am not sure at all. While we are proud of our democracies, there is a gradual degeneration of our national political systems into populism[...] We have short-termism not only as the time horizon of decision making but also as the timeframe of the debate. As a matter of fact, in our political systems, in order to win the case in debates and, eventually, to win elections, you have to present arguments that can be made and explained in ten seconds. The nationalists, the populists, the protectionists can make these arguments – “the country is not growing enough, there is too much youth unemployment, so let us close borders to foreign goods”. Instead, in order to explain the virtues of integration, which is just the opposite of that, it takes much more time. If you are very good, you still need one or two minutes, just enough to be already out. That is why integration, being the opposite of populism in terms of its inevitable complexity, will lose out. [...]





MODERATOR :
Arthur Rutishauser
Editor-in-Chief,
SonntagsZeitung



Jean-Claude Trichet
Former President, ECB

One can say that from its inception the Euro, as a currency, was considered with great skepticism. The dominant idea was that it would be a total failure. What happened in reality? We had the stress test: we had to cope with the worst financial crisis since World War Two, a crisis which could have been the worst financial crisis since World War One, had the central banks not reacted very boldly and swiftly everywhere in the world. What happened was exactly the contrary of what was anticipated. Firstly, the currency proved to be credible, to inspire confidence and to preserve stability, to the extent that the main criticism against the currency during the crisis was that it was too strong. For a currency which was supposed to disappear, this was very paradoxical! Secondly, how many countries were in the Euro area when Lehman Brothers collapsed in September 2008? There were 15 at that very moment when the worst crisis since World War Two started. How many of the 15 are still there? The 15 are still in, including Greece. On top of that, four new countries got in, the three Baltic States and Slovakia, so we are 19 now, with four new countries joining in at the time of the crisis. The Euro endeavor is much more resilient than was anticipated by the overwhelming majority of observers. Growth per capita and job creation will be key for declaring victory in the future, which calls for courageous and bold structural reforms in Europe and in the Euro area.

The future of central banking



Jacob Frenkel
Chairman of JPMorgan Chase International, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Group of Thirty (G-30), Former Governor of the Bank of Israel

[...]The basic mandate of central banks should still be medium-term price stability, that the mechanism by which central banks can exercise their capabilities is by having central bank independence from political pressures. However, it must be recognised that we are in a world in which financial markets are so important that financial stability must also be part of the mandate of central banks. However, we also observed that too many articles say that central banks are the only game in town. We do not like it because there is no way, that without the strong support of governments in both the fiscal side and, more importantly, the structural side, that we can generate growth. Sustainable growth is the ultimate objective at the end of the day, so one of the pleas in the report that, yes, the mandate should be extended to include financial stability, that the instruments should be extended to include what are called macro prudential instruments, but to recognise, however, that central banks cannot do it alone, and so we need to have much greater involvement from governments. It should be recognised that, in the setting of an international system, the best way to shield you and others from financial shocks that happen elsewhere is through flexible exchange rates, and we should make sure that all of this is done in a very transparent and accountable way. Therefore, communication between central banks and the economic system is key. [...]



Marek Belka
President, National Bank of Poland

We should remember that Europe has taken and absorbed, broadly successfully, tens of millions of immigrants, or refugees if you prefer, in the last few decades. It happened not without problems, of course, and I do not need to say this to the French or the Swiss, but this phenomenon was mostly a source of dynamism, alleviating to a certain extent the demographic misery of Europe. [...] This is a very serious stress test for the European integration, for whether Europe will address this issue from a communitarian perspective. You may say that the Euro has been a great success, and it has. It survived the crisis, and yes, we have certain problems with cohesion among the Eurozone countries, divergence being the key issue, but whenever Europeans do something together, like trade policy, they become a superpower, and Google is more afraid of Ms Vestager than of anyone else in the world, so maybe it is time to rethink Europe foreign and military policy. I am not an expert, and you should not have provoked us central bankers into this, but if there is any similarity between the refugee crisis and the Euro stress test, it is that whenever we do something together we are much more successful than if we try to do it one by one. [...]



Mugur Isarescu
Governor of the National Bank of Romania,
Former Romanian Prime Minister

Given the specific features of economic and political developments in the country, the National Bank of Romania has always had to strike a balance between the three aspects of stability (if I may quote Charles Goodhart) – price stability, financial stability and external (currency) stability. To be specific, the NBR never had the luxury of being concerned exclusively with price stability and interest rate setting in the belief that financial stability and exchange rate stability will follow. In a world with freely-moving capital, the idea of being able to manage aggregate demand exclusively via interest rates would have been an illusion, at least for a small open economy in transition. By considering the country-specific circumstances, we gradually developed what we called, before the crisis broke out, an unorthodox monetary policy. Some of the instruments we employed back then are now part of the macroprudential toolkit of central banks. As regards Romania's position vis-à-vis euro adoption, I see the Euro Area as an unfinished project – a successful single currency requires more than the monetary policy pillar. We will join the Monetary Union, but we should do that when we are sufficiently prepared and when the Monetary Union itself is in better shape. We have been made acutely aware by the recent Greek crisis that meeting the nominal convergence criteria is by no means enough - the sustainability of this achievement requires a sufficient degree of real convergence.





Washington’s view of the political and geopolitical implications of November 13th attacks in Paris



Jim Hoagland
Contributing Editor to *The Washington Post*



Nelson Cunningham
President, McLarty Associates;
former Special Advisor to President Clinton

I would like to offer a few thoughts on the reaction in the US to the horrible events in Paris on Nov. 13, a week ago. The initial reactions - and the enduring reaction - by the American people and the American Government are naturally of horror and revulsion at the barbaric savagery committed in the streets of Paris. Clearly, the killers hoped to change the nature of Paris with these terrible crimes. I am confident they will not succeed.

There are, of course, echoes of 9-11 in what has happened in Paris. It will change the way France looks at things and how she acts, just as it changed the ways the US looked at the world and reacted. We all have to guard against overreacting, but the need for action has become very clear. There is intent interest in the U.S. on what Europe does, how the governments that have been attacked re-establish the trust of their populations. That is one of the essential issues that Europeans will now face, that is, how people can feel safe again.

The horrific events in Paris and what has followed will accelerate the narrowing of the fields of candidates on both the Republican and Democratic sides. [...] If I am right, we will have the least experienced pair facing off for the Republican nomination, in an establishment versus anti-establishment vote, and on the Democratic side we will see a quick consolidation in favor of Hillary Clinton. I worry very much that it will be difficult to make serious, nuanced policy in the presidential election season that lies ahead. [...] I believe that President Obama is moderate about what he believes the US can do in the Middle East, in part because history has shown that we have to be moderate, at least under current circumstances. This does not mean that he is not committed to finding a sustainable framework. He just does not see arms as the focal point of that framework. [...] the diplomatic effort that Secretary Kerry is undertaking right now to get the Russians, the Turks, the Saudis, the Europeans and the Iranians all at the table is very earnest and has every chance of success. [...] It was clear to me from that interaction that Rouhani is sincere. The problem is that he does not control the entirety of his government. [...] the Republicans remain adamantly opposed to Iran and the Iran deal, and it will continue to be a fissure going forward. [...] Finally, I will say that I have known John Kerry for a long time, and he will not leave the State Department without another strong effort to lead to a Palestinian-Israeli accord.



Trade Agreements from the Viewpoint of Middle Powers



Kemal Dervis

Vice President and Director of Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution, former Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey



Bark Taeho

Professor at Seoul National University, former Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea



Jonathan T. Fried

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the WTO; former Associate Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade; former Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister, Canada

The negotiations on the TPP, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, were successfully concluded, which does not mean that it is all over, because it needs to be ratified, not least by the US Congress, and it will be very difficult if it gets stuck there. The TTIP trade partnership between Europe and the United States and other North American countries is not yet at that stage, it will take more time, but if these two things get put into place I believe the framework not only for trade but for regulation industrial policies will be organized in a way by default through these two treaties. Thierry de Montbrial has always said that we must somehow get to global governance but trade is usually the only tool. There is a trade agreement and the WTO in some sense through its adjudication and legal mechanisms that were followed, in some ways was the most successful international organisation because there was international law under the WTO. If we want to go further with globalisation, there has to be more harmonisation and competition regulation; otherwise we are stuck. If we want to have monetary cooperation, we have to acquire new instruments to succeed. I think that is why we are really at a very crucial moment where in fact if we do not go forward we may actually be pushed backward.

Based on the preparation for the remaining Doha Round issues in Geneva, we cannot expect much to be achieved from the next Nairobi MC10 meeting. The multilateral trading system is really at a critical crossroads. In response to the slow progress in the Doha Round, in Asia-Pacific, there have been several developments for regional trade integrations like the TPP, RCEP and China-Japan-Korea FTA. Until recently, none of these RTAs have been concluded but, in the last month, the TPP negotiations have been completed. Given the very uncertain picture of the global trading system, this was the welcome news. However, you can easily see that the TPP does not include more dynamic economies in East Asia such as Indonesia, Thailand or Philippines, and of course Korea and China. Therefore the potential economic gains from the TPP would be limited. In other words, sooner or later after they complete the ratification of the TPP agreements by the member states, they should open the door to additional members and certainly Korea will try to join the TPP with other countries. There are also good news from the G20 meeting held in Antalya in Turkey last week. Leaders agreed that the Trade Ministers of the G20 countries will meet regularly meaning that there will be a high level communication channel between Geneva and the G20 participating countries.

Today's trade agenda is characterized by the need to address impediments to the way business is conducted in today's world. Negotiations have moved beyond tariffs to have "beyond the border" issues of non-tariff barriers and domestic regulation as an increasing focus. With the advent of supply chains, there is increasing recognition of the interplay between trade and investment, and of the importance of services as an inherent element of goods trade. In this light, regional and mega-regional agreements such as the TPP seek to facilitate competitive supply chains, by addressing goods and services, trade and investment, and regulatory convergence. But there is more to be done, including reconciling trade rules with social choices. More fundamentally, as the moniker of the "Doha Development Agenda" suggests, trade needs to be understood as but one element of promoting sustainable economic growth. Neither the WTO nor regional agreements alone can give countries a path to lasting development unless accompanied by sound macroeconomic policies and structural reforms, including transparent regulation. Greater coherence and collaboration between relevant international organizations is needed to this end.



MODERATOR :
Nicolas Barré
Managing Director,
Les Echos

Do Firms have a Nationality?



Charles-Edouard Bouée

Chief Executive Officer, Roland Berger
Strategy Consultants



Nelson Cunningham

President, McLarty Associates;
former Special Advisor to President Clinton



Tadakatsu Sano

Attorney-at-law at Jones Day; Former Chief Executive
Assistant to Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama

I think we have all seen this globalisation trend since the eighties, which seems to have diluted the notion of nationality for companies, especially large ones.[...]Today, a new milestone is reached in this apparent dilution of companies' nationality through digitization: what I call the seventh continent, which is this world of data connecting billions of people, is ruled by global companies, with worldwide footprints, that seem to have no nationality.[...]Any company is based upon three ingredients in the way it is thinking and operating: its Land, its people & Energy, and its Spirit.[...]The link between companies and their mother country's government is, paradoxically, of growing importance. And it is reciprocal.[...]On the one hand, especially in tough times companies need their countries to support them, and on the other hand, they should be used by governments as a source of global leadership. Understanding this is a challenge we have as Europeans. So far, some of our countries and some of our institutions have not yet completely understood that this is a two-way street.[...]What is interesting about China is the way it pursues a dual goal. On the one hand, we need to set global rules for the 7th continent, so that large digital companies can operate in a fair way everywhere, in Europe, in Asia, etc. And on the other hand, we need to rebalance the game, and let new champions – that are not American – emerge. This is exactly what China is doing.

The first piece of advice we always give them is to try to be as local as they can be when operating in a particular country. [...] Even though data lives nowhere, a company like Google has to be local in order to comply with local laws.[...]However, despite companies wanting to be local, it is impossible for them to run away from their national origins and from the flags that they carry. [...]Suddenly, any tech company is seen as carrying the American flag and embodying American values. Some of the values that are associated with them are very good ones: the free flow of information, robust discussion, etc. But there are also behaviours that are now associated with them. [...]We learned then that the most important thing is actually not to be with an institution that is too big to fail, but rather to be with an institution that has its home in a country that is too big to fail. [...]I believe President Obama's statement reflects national pride.[...]The question of China is an interesting one because I think those of us outside China – both Americans and Europeans, as well as many of the countries other than China that are rising up in the developing world – feel we can benefit from one set of rules that is a global set of rules that everybody can sign onto. However, I think many Chinese believe they benefit from having a separate set of rules, and that China is a walled garden in which their rules can prevail. This is going to feed some conflicts about who regulates the Internet.

The global companies have multiple-headquarters with many factories or subsidiaries within a network and at the same time we cannot really identify the nationality based on who the shareholders are. [...]The global companies took advantage of such a legal framework by, at the same time as the global trading system was developing, taking advantage of information technology and also of very convenient airplane transportation and cheap sea transportation of goods using the digital data and so on. [...]The global companies have not yet succeeded in being really global without having any kind of nationality, and maybe will never succeed. The reason is because there are many, many kinds of regulations we need from the public, and those are developed by each nation state.[...]in relation to a national security requirements, you cannot really escape all obligations imposed by the national governments. The second thing is, perhaps, safety. Safety to the public and in the working environment and so on. This is the second issue. The third issue which is becoming very popular in Europe is the data protection issue.[...]Many global companies cannot be completely without any nationality even if they are becoming global [...]An important point for the global company is that their competitive edge is really their ethics. Keeping very good ethics is the most important thing.



The future of the Middle East



Elisabeth Guigou

President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the French National Assembly



Youssef Amrani

Royal Cabinet, Morocco



Mona Makram Ebeid

Egyptian Senator and Member of the Senate Constitutional Committee

Paris: 129 people killed and 352 wounded, from 19 different countries.[...] I am grateful for the magnificent outpouring of international solidarity,[...] I obviously believe that we must move beyond our emotions and see what can be done.[...] the main thing is to become aware that Europeans and Africans must work together. From Mauritania to the Sahel, from Libya to Egypt and Lebanon, the same nebulous terrorism is coming together. The future of Europe, Africa and the Middle East is more interconnected than ever[...] we have a common enemy, an ideology of death and destruction that clearly has nothing to do with Islam, but takes Islam hostage.[...] military force remains necessary. But the real solution is political. Now, we have the inception of a political process with specific goals[...] We must also go after Daesh's funding. But afterwards, how can we ensure that it will not happen again? How can we ensure lasting stability? The first is a much more intense, coordinated fight against radicalisation. Faced with radicalisation messages, mainly spread on the Internet, I think citizens, the huge silent majority whose voices go unheard, must be given the means to express themselves on the Internet to develop a counter-message that would come from the people, from the bottom up. Lastly, we must work towards social cohesiveness, because unemployment, inequality and corruption are breeding grounds for deadly ideologies. What is happening in Europe and the Middle East shows that the start of a joint response might be under way.

Everybody knows that the region is collapsing. When I talk about the region, I mean the Middle East plus the Maghreb and beyond to Africa, especially the Sahel, because all the issues are connected and we cannot have peace and stability in the region if we do not work to put the Israel-Palestine peace process back on track. There is a lesson from all this geopolitical mess, which is that no state or multilateral actor alone has the power to manage or to solve the crisis. We need to assume our shared responsibility if we want to solve this issue. We need to work on three dimensions: in the political sphere by ensuring the stability of all countries and building up democratic countries based on good governance. In security matters, it is important that we have cooperation in the field of security and the exchange of intelligence, by implementing effective, multifaceted security cooperation to stem the threat of terrorism and Islamic extremism. The third dimension is economic development. It is essential to create wealth and perspectives for shared prosperity. Today the priority should be to deconstruct the jihadi narrative. We need coherent and sustained counter-messaging, strategic communication to be able to do this. Morocco is undertaking religious training programs currently benefitting hundred imams from Africa, to help provide them with an education that is fully respectful of the traditional moderate precepts shared by all countries adhering to the Malekite Rite.

The main question and challenge in Egypt today is how the government can effectively counter terrorism without threatening civil liberties. What reforms are needed to make Egypt's security sector effective, accountable and in line with international human rights? How can the international community play an effective role in encouraging and facilitating the reform efforts instead of accusing Egypt of oppressive measures? Until now the government has struggled to find an appropriate response to counter the threat of terrorism and faced significant challenges both inside and outside as the country faces major terrorist attacks that have negatively affected the country's security and economic stability[...] The international community should give the region the tools to enable it to solve some of the problems it faces today, including unemployment and education[...] That is what the international community must do today, to try to find out what are the roots of this frustration today[...] If Egypt falls, the whole region falls, and I am not saying this as an Egyptian but as an Arab. We want to succeed, and I know we will. However, it takes time, and not just five or ten years[...] we are in the midst of parliamentary elections, and in the new constitution we are more in favour of women and of Christians, something that has never happened before. President Sisi made a point in his discourse about the reform of Islam when coming from the plane from Kuwait to go to the Coptic cathedral on Christmas day. That was the first time an Egyptian president has done so. Try to see the positive aspects.



The future of the Middle East



Vitaly Naumkin
Scientific Director of the Oriental Studies Institute,
Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences



Jim Hoagland
Contributing Editor to *The Washington Post*



Bernard Siman
Senior Fellow of the Geopolitical
Information Service AG

It is clear that the Arab world is a set of deeply divided societies that are witnessing a very deep crisis of identity and in the whole concept of nation state.[...]We have to understand the future of the Middle East not only through the lens of terrorism and extremism but also through the lens of this crisis and how to solve it. We have several failed states, especially Libya, Yemen, Syria and to a certain degree Iraq. I am in favour of finding some sort of comprehensive solution to the Syrian and Iraqi crises together, because I am afraid that only finding a solution to the Syrian crisis will not be enough to deal with this part of the world. [...]We can repeat endlessly the mantra that this has nothing to do with Islam, that Islam is nice, but all religions are nice, and Islam of course is a great religion, but these people are presenting exclusivist interpretations of Islam. [...]Let us not forget that out of two million Christians only a tenth are left, not more than 200,000. [...]we all agree about the nature of the future Syrian state. It is secular, but a lot of forces within Syrian society who are against this secular vision of the state. We are speaking about the rights of ethnic minorities, and by the way, our President in his recent speech on Syria also mentioned the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, but Arab nationalists, who are a very significant segment of Syrian society, including the regime forces, are against this vision. They say it is a unitary state, meaning that there are no minorities; this word cannot be used, only “components”, mukawwinat.

Public opinion in the U.S. largely supports the President’s policies in the Middle East. That has a lot to do with the fact that he has great power to shape opinion on foreign affairs in the American system. But people are war-weary and eager not to get more deeply involved, and the President for his own reasons has augmented that support. We have just heard from my co-panellists an impressive list of the difficulties facing the Middle East right now, and it falls to me to tell you that it is even worse, or at least that it is even broader than what you have heard so far. We are witnessing the beginning of an era of very violent backlash, and primarily backlash against globalisation. We saw this amazing flow of goods, people, ideas and business across borders that we call globalisation at the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century. What it has begun to do, particularly in the Middle East and particularly in the Arab world, is to begin to exert enormous pressure, not simply on national borders and nation states, but on the fundamental elements and units of society, the family system, the clan system, the tribal system that exists in different parts and different ways in the Middle East. We have to recognise that this is a cultural problem which is extremely deep and difficult, in the Arab world most of all, that has to be at least recognised if we are to make any progress.

I would like to focus on the tectonic shifts that have taken place and are taking place in the relationship between the global powers and the regional state actors, particularly divorcing regional stability from regime security. The implicit contract for decades was to safeguard regime security in return for regional stability. The fall of President Mubarak led to a perception, and subsequently a reality, creeping in for the regional state actors that that contract was over. Therefore, the regional state actors have clearly taken the position of abandoning the globalist agenda and the global game in favour of a classical zero-sum power struggle in their own back yards[...]It is particularly interesting to explore what the future relationship between the regional state actors and the global powers will look like in the absence of a proactive and dominant American position that all the actors used as a benchmark to position themselves periodically against[...] The key question is what grand plan, if any, that Europe as a bloc and the various European states have for reengagement in their own back yard. There seems to still be a lack of realisation in Europe that the US has disengaged, and therefore it is very clearly a problem that Europe will have to deal with as a bloc and as individual states. I do not see any indication of any particular Europe-wide strategy, or for that matter national European strategies, to re engage with the Middle East strategically.



MODERATOR :
Dominique Moïsi
Special Advisor, Ifri

Security in Asia in a Historical Perspective



Kim Hak-joon
President of the Northeast Asian History Foundation;
Chairman of the Asia Journalist Association,
Republic of Korea



Mayankote Kelath Narayanan
Former Governor of West Bengal, India



Yukio Okamoto
Founder and President of Okamoto Associates, Inc.,
former Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan

It is the one and only sub-region where the world's four major powers, that is, the US, Japan, China and Russia, can easily meet and interact and their respective interests compete. Northeast Asia is also the region of the world's heaviest concentration of military capabilities, with the three largest nuclear states, that is, the US, China and Russia, and one semi-nuclear state, Japan, demonstrating their respective military strengths in this highly-contested strategic crossroads.[...]What are the positive elements? They are increasing economic interaction, as well as independence and partnership for specific interests and issues. [...]Multilateral conferences at the highest political level are also held frequently at the ASEAN Plus Three summit, the East Asia Summit, EAS, and the China, Japan and Korea trilateral summit. However, on the other hands, there exist negative elements as well that present a wide range of security challenges. Firstly, competition and rivalry between China, Japan and others over regional political influence has become salient since China's surpassing Japan in GDP in 2010. Secondly, there are continuing disputes over maritime territory, including territorial disputes over small islands, maritime delimitation between adjacent and/or opposite coastal states, and allocation of marine resources.[...] The third is the lingering of past history and the rise of nationalism,[...]More serious is the undeniable fact that through the revision of laws Japan has become the country that can execute a war; [...]Many experts have pointed out the inadequacy of existing institutions to address the various challenges effectively[...]

Peace, everywhere, tends to be highly elusive. [...]China seeks to expand its 'maritime claims' in the South China and East China Seas, augmented further through 'aggressive island building', ignoring rule based international systems. [...]China is perceived as the new regional hegemon today. Issues of 'freedom of navigation' and 'freedom of the seas' have become critical. As reliance on the 'Blue Economy' grows, disputes relating to freedom of access to Sea Lanes, and to Oil and Gas Reserves, are set to gain further momentum. Three aspects cause deep seated concern. One, is the rise of an 'aggressive' China, whose awesome military buildup, specially of its Naval capabilities, is matched by new militaristic tendencies; Two, the determination displayed by Chinese President, Xi Jinping, to pursue his 'Chinese dream', which encompasses his 'One Belt One Road' initiative alongside a revival of the Maritime Silk Route, dwarfing and curtailing the ambitions of every other Asian nation; and Three, China's disdain for a viable security structure for Asia, on the lines of that which existed in Europe in the 18th Century. This has already led to a split ASEAN.[...]The US would need to demonstrate strength, rather than just resolve to employ power, if China is to be restrained. Countries in the region are, consequently, readjusting their priorities. [...]While conflicts have not yet reached a flash point, there are nevertheless certain dangerous possibilities. [...]rivalry and distrust will dominate the Asian debate for long.

Mr Abe deserves credit for bringing Japan more towards a situation of normalcy, as even with that new legislation Japan will be unable to possess the full-fledged right of collective defence, as other countries,[...]The new legislation will fortify the Japanese position and secure the latitude of the Japanese Self-Defence Forces to contribute more to international peace, such as engaging in PKO.[...]It is a big step forward, but please, , do not forget that Article 9 of the Constitution is still there, untouched, and is the backbone of Japan's peaceful military policy.[...]This July I went to the US with a delegation of a Japanese company to apologise to American prisoners of war,[...]I had a very strong feeling that the apology must be met with forgiveness. Forgiveness can only be given by the victims themselves, not by their children or their families. [...]while survivors are still there, we really have to come to a rapprochement with China and Korea as well,[...]However, as I said, there has to be forgiveness.[...]The Japanese people are deeply remorseful and of course are pledging that they will never again engage in such atrocious activities. However, we are not engaging in the kind of education Germany is giving to children and we will revise the history curriculum to teach kids more about the history since 1931, when we engaged in our Manchurian war. [...]Concerning the safety of Northeast Asia and settling the territorial disputes[...]we will be the status preservation forces. I only hope that there will be only a small step forward. Now we are at the low point in the Japan-Korea relationship, but within a year from now, or in the short term, there will be a change to a better environment.



Security in Asia in a Historical Perspective



Igor Yurgens

Chairman of the Management Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development, professor of the Higher School of Economics, Russia



Zhang Yunling

Professor of International Economics, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS)

The ideal role for Russia in Asia would be a balancing one, role of mediator between our strategic ally and friend China and the rest of the Asian countries. To play this role we have to be more persistent in our Asian strategy, first of all to work it out, and secondly, we have to figure out what we want to do with our South Korean friends, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and other U.S. allies.[...]Therefore, I would say that the Russian turn to Asia is inevitable and impossible at the same time. It is a very difficult task which Russia has to face. We started with the overextension of Russia, and I am afraid that, given our involvement in the conflict in Ukraine, and now our involvement in the conflict in Syria, we could overextend ourselves if we are excessively involved into the security and economic development of the Far East.[...]Mr Medvedev – formerly the President and now the Prime Minister, at the Asia-Europe Summit today promotes the idea of a comprehensive, binding security treaty in Asia. It is a very vague idea from my point of view, because from what we have just heard at this podium, to be binding, comprehensive and secure is very difficult in Asia this time around.[...]We have to find our peaceful and proper role in Europe, and we have to come back with the same ideas to Asia; this balancing role of Russia would be ideal.

Looking at the region now, when we talk about security, we really have a new situation and concept. We are living in a time of globalisation, and the region, whatever differences we have, is highly economically integrated apart from North Korea. All the other members are deeply involved or integrated, which means we have shared common interests together. We have very strong interest group pressures for policymakers to continue such trends. [...]Talking about security, we have broader dimensions beyond individual countries, apart from issues of national security. We have regional security, global security, non-traditional security, especially now with the new terrorist threat, and so on. That means that we have to think of security in terms of creating new ideas rather than falling into conventional security thinking. The future regional security order will not be dominated by the US. It will not be dominated by China, because it is not able to do that[...]China calls this cooperative security a new security concept, and under this kind of new framework and architecture, it is not possible for the region to create a totally unilateral security arrangement. [...]the rise in China tends to raise a lot of issues and the worst expectations for the future. The future of the security agenda in the region has two aspects. The first is how to understand, accept and deal with the rise of China. The second is that China will continue to be active in participating in all kinds of initiatives, arrangements and existing sub regional organisations, and that is the strongest hope for the future.



Peaceful coexistence of religions?



MODERATOR :
Thierry de Montbrial
Founder and Chairman
of the WPC



Lionel Zinsou
Prime Minister of Benin

Benin is one of the West African countries where coexistence between religions is extremely fertile and, traditionally, extremely calm and peaceful, which has not always been a matter of course. We are in a situation where coexistence is fruitful and peaceful. This is not because the intensity of spirituality is low. Benin is the land where voodoo originated. It is likely one of the world's most deeply spiritual countries. Voodoo originated in the area stretching from the Yoruba country, the site of Benin's historic kingdoms, from Abeokuta to Togo. But its epicentres, the most active hubs, are obviously in the former kingdom of Dahomey and the centre of Benin. We are very good at spreading voodoo and absolutely willing, in the end, to proselytise and syncretise. Syncretism is very strong. The beautiful Roman Catholic basilica in Ouidah is another very strong symbol. Very early on, Ouidah's somewhat rudimentary port provided access from the sea to a region that was already very vibrant in the late 16th century. Missions long predated colonisation. One thing is particular in Benin. The fetish priest convents, Quranic madrasas, Protestant churches, Catholic churches and seminaries are full. And if you take a look at migratory flows, a very important category of migrants is in demand in Europe: clergymen. How does everybody manage to live together so peacefully? Three factors come into play. First, acceptance and a welcoming attitude have been entrenched in our history for a very long time. That is why I brought up the Ouidah basilica. Second, we have no colonial past marked by the desire to divide peoples along ethnic or religious lines. Above all, there is political will. The religious identity card has never been played in the past 60 years. Since 2007, we have hosted every possible conference on these issues because they require tremendous efforts. The most natural tendency is to slide downward into religious warfare.



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MODERATOR :
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Vice President and
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Economy and
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Food and water security



Mostafa Terrab
Chairman and CEO, OCP Group



Arkebe Oqubay
Minister and Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia



Kostas Stamoulis
Director, Strategic Programme Leader,
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In 2050, we will have a global population of 9 10 billion. [...] That means that we are going to have to double food production without doubling available arable land. [...] That is a big challenge and it would probably mean more production or yield per fixed amount of arable land. [...] If you look at the figures, you come very quickly to the conclusion that Africa will be part of the solution globally. 60% is the estimate for the remaining arable land unused is in Africa. We need a global approach on the agricultural front, with a strong focus on Africa. Africa can help feed the world[...] Imagine if we did not address the rural and agricultural development challenge in Africa. Then we would be strengthening the rural exodus which is already happening. That rural exodus to the cities is translating into the exodus through the Mediterranean. [...] How do we address the agricultural development challenge of Africa? [...] 60% of land is still arable and not used. Some say “let us move to intensive, mechanised, large scale agriculture.” This is probably going to be part of the solution. Let us bring technology in to solve the problem. However, I would submit that this will only increase the rural and security issues, because this type of agriculture dramatically shrinks the agricultural labor force and thus accelerates the rural exodus. The other solution, and it is probably the right one, is a mix of this. It is to address the small farmer challenge, with more precision and more small scale farming and agriculture. I know many African countries are addressing that challenge and Ethiopia is one of them, to give an example.

African policymakers should focus on the transformation of agriculture, in particular by developing smallholder farming and improving the livelihood of farmers. This does not preclude large-scale commercial farms to ensure food security. A shift from rain fed to irrigated, high-value and high productivity farming is essential. One good example is Ethiopia, which has relied on its agricultural sector for its economic take-off. Agriculture has been a key driver of the economic growth so far registered; and growth has been shared, contributing to poverty reduction (from 54% to 22%) and increased life expectancy (from 47 to 64 years) between 1991 and 2014. Although much remains in this area, Ethiopia has also made substantial progress towards attaining food security. African countries need to make long-term investments in infrastructure, education and skills development for sustained economic growth and structural change. These are key for the successful transformation of agriculture and development of the industrial sector, and structural change. Africa's economic transformation can be achieved if African countries focus on the development of manufacturing, as it has larger spillover effects, and is complementary to transformation of agriculture. A state committed for Africa's development is critical for the success of Africa's economic transformation. Policy independence is essential and international partners should not press for universal adoption of international prescription. Africans themselves should be in the driver's seat.

Agriculture and the food system in general, is a major extractor of renewable water. By 2050 we expect to have an increase food production by about 60% for the world. This is the result of a combination of population growth, increases in incomes and the accompanying dietary changes. Such growth will require increasing amounts of water. Urbanisation will mean that some of the stresses on water resources will come from competition between agricultural water and water for municipalities. Climate change will tend to exacerbate water scarcity and the competition for water resources. Especially in some of the world's more thirsty regions the solution to the problem of allocation of scarce water resources will have important implications for food security and nutrition and on the progress to eliminate hunger in a sustainable manner. The fight against hunger will depend on the growth in agriculture, but also on the capacity of countries to put in place social protection systems for the more vulnerable. Fragmentation in the governance of food security at country and at global levels will compromise such efforts.



Israeli-Palestinian dialogue



Itamar Rabinovich
President of the Israel Institute, Distinguished Global Professor at New York University (NYU) and Distinguished Fellow at the Brookings Institution



Manuel Hassassian
Ambassador from Palestine to the United Kingdom; former representative at the Ministry of Higher Education and at the Association of Arab Universities

It is vital for us to separate from the Palestinians and to have a two state solution. At present, we seem to be deadlocked and the question is, how do we come out of the deadlock and move again onto an open highway? Right now, if you open a peace conference tomorrow that tries to reach a two state solution, I am afraid it will fail. We have a right wing Government in Israel and we unfortunately have weak leadership in the Palestinian authority. [...]If you cannot reach a final status agreement that we could go for an interim agreement in order to stop the current mayhem and bloodshed. This is not acceptable to the Palestinian side, because they would say that an interim solution would just perpetuate the status quo. It would serve to preserve Israeli control, so it is not acceptable. If it is not acceptable, what can we do? In the late spring and early summer of 2014, Secretary Kerry presented Abu Mazen, President Abbas, with a paper that included concessions he had obtained from Netanyahu. He said, 'Let us work with this,' but it was not accepted by Mahmoud Abbas. My proposal is this: take this paper, in which Netanyahu made significant concession. Accept it as a framework and say, 'This could be the endgame,' and in the meantime, let us talk about an interim solution with the endgame in sight. This should resolve the issue of Palestinian concern regarding an interim solution becoming a permanent solution. It would enable us to open a negotiation on the many possibilities that we have for dealing with the immediate problems.

It is important to bear in mind that we cannot continue the dialogue as we did for the last 22 years, because it proved to be a dismal failure. Why? It is due to the simple fact that the Palestinian side was not considered on a parity level. We have been in a situation where the top dog is constantly dictating the terms of reference to the underdog. The third party, which was supposed to be an honest broker for peace, unequivocally supported the top dog over the underdog. [...]There is a crisis of leadership in Israel. We do not see that bold move coming forward in the context of concession. Israel is not conceding. Israel is denying the right to self-determination to Palestinians who have been under occupation for so many years now. [...]The desperation in the peace process has led to the rise of such militancy among Palestinians, who think the only way towards a solution is through using convulsive violence. I say we will never be able to find a military solution to this conflict. Israel has won five major wars in the Middle East, but it has failed dismally in bringing security to its own individuals. [...]Unless the Israelis look eye to eye at the Palestinians at the negotiating table, nothing will move forward. As long as we have such a fascist regime today in Israel, we do not have any chance for moving forward in the peace process. [...]The problem does not lie in how to move forward with the negotiations, it is the lack of will on the part of Israel to move forward. [...]I believe that the Palestinians today are ready to go back to the negotiating table. [...]We believe that the role of honest broker of peace cannot be continued by the United States. It has proved its failure for the last 22 years, because its approach was always focused on crisis management rather than conflict resolution.



MODERATOR :
François Barrault
Chairman of Idate/
DigiWorld Institute;
former CEO of BT Global
Services and a BT Group
PLC board member



Patrick Nicolet
Member of the Group Management Board, Capgemini

What are the main drivers of both digital technologies and economy? It all starts with the availability of an unprecedented and large volume of data. Three periods can be particularly considered since the inception of Information Technology: the development of structured data, the boom of unstructured data and the new big data era. This is progressively generating wholly new perspectives on how we can organize and manage both our personal and professional lives. The digitalization of our world has also serious implications on the way we govern it. Some of the challenges are already known and discussed, notably: Knowledge Worker & Shared Economy; Democracy & Privacy; Extraterritoriality; Cybersecurity & Cyberwarfare. What follows now is artificial intelligence, a complex and abstract topic that must be extensively debated starting with ethics similarly to the approach of biotechnology.

The global challenges of the digital technologies



Fyodor Lukyanov
Editor in Chief, *Russia in Global Affairs*

Worldwide technological advances are leading to the rise of regulatory zeal at every level, so Russia is not unique[...] Russia is not the only largest Internet market in Europe, but also, strangely enough, the leading user of social media. As of 2014, Russia boasted 47 million social media users, well ahead of the UK with 36 million and France and Germany with 28 million[...] Cybersecurity is a big issue in Russia nowadays, as everywhere else, but beyond the traditional approach of cyber warfare and hacker attacks, the Russian side is very much afraid and concerned about the content. It is not only the technical ability to intervene, but the content, and of course, this is a reaction to all this hysteria about Twitter revolutions and the role social media played in the Arab Spring, the Orange Revolution and all possible revolutionary developments. I think it is very much exaggerated[...] what Russia is trying to propose now as part of the whole debate about cyber warfare is an electronic non-aggression pact. In a way, the discussion now is like the debate about nuclear security 40 years ago because at that time, the major powers came to the conclusion that without the rules of the game, the whole existence of mankind was endangered. Despite the Cold War, despite all the differences, the Soviet Union and the United States came to formulate those rules. Now, in cyberspace, we have a similar situation because the damage which could be done by cyberattacks, maybe even wars, were similar to nuclear.



Mari Kiviniemi
Deputy Secretary-General, OECD,
former Prime Minister of Finland

The OECD has five main policy recommendations with regard to the outlined challenges of digital technologies: First, keep the Internet open. An open and accessible Internet, with high fixed and mobile bandwidth, is essential for innovation in the 21st century. Second, digitally-enabled innovation requires investment in modern infrastructure like broadband, spectrum, and new Internet addresses. Policies are also needed to encourage investments in data, promote data sharing and reuse, and reduce barriers to cross-border data flows. Third, there are still many barriers to the use of digital technologies and the development of new digitally-enabled businesses. With respect to the Internet of Things, for instance, removing regulatory barriers to entry in the mobile market would allow the million-device customer to become independent of the mobile network and would boost competition. Fourth, it critical that governments strike a balance between the economic and social benefits of the digital economy and legitimate concerns about security, privacy and intellectual property. The OECD can help in this regard, with guidelines and recommendations on privacy and digital security risk management. Finally, we need to foster the skills that can help people succeed in the digital economy. This is a real challenge, because our 2013 Survey of Adult Skills found that less than 40 % of people in OECD countries have the skills to succeed in an environment rich in technology.



Susan Liautaud
Vice Chairman of the London School of Economics and Political Science Council and Court of governors, Visiting Scholar at the Stanford Center of Philanthropy and Civil Society

To start, digitalisation is not just about technology. It is really about people, but it also has infiltrated all of the other global risks that come out in our discussions in this conference and in our worries more generally, whether it is antibiotic resistance or financial system meltdown. When we are dealing with the ethics of digitalisation, by definition, we are also dealing with the ethics of all of these other risks[...] We have to legislate and make ethical decisions far beyond our understanding because our understanding is not likely to catch up with reality any time soon[...] The other problem with blurred boundaries is that it gives opportunities for many people to have power[...] However, the problem with that power being spread, again, thanks to these dissolving boundaries, is that very often, it is assumed without taking any responsibility[...] We can spread positive ethics with a lot of effort. I work with corporations and governmental leaders to do that. But negative ethics will spread all on its own. Unethical behaviour will have a life of its own, whether or not we engage with it. However, keeping all these points in mind, I think we have continually failed to cite ethics as one of the most important global systemic risks. [...] Ethics is the risk that underpins all of the others and indeed how many of them react to each other.



Health and global governance



Christian Bréchet
President of the Institut Pasteur



Bertrand Badré
Managing Director and Group
Chief Financial Officer, World Bank



Louise Fresco
President of Wageningen University and Research,
The Netherlands

Now we have entered the era of what we call the two genomes, the whole genome and the intestinal bacteria, and this is one of the major foci which we have to embrace globally. [...]we need a combination between preparedness, education and training, communication between local, regional and central offices, co-ordination and onsite capacity and infrastructure. The main difference between SARS and Avian Flu is that there was onsite capacity and infrastructure in China, although there were challenges, obviously. There was the problem, in the case of Ebola in Africa, of a lack of onsite capacity and infrastructure, and you can have the most sophisticated research institutes, the best will and the best financial support, but if you are not able to convey actions to the field, you are useless. [...] I am not saying that the Institut Pasteur is the only solution, but it is an example of how you need to combine basic research, public health, education and industrial partnerships with real contact and trust from local government. This is the situation of the Institut Pasteur with regard to the major public health threats. [...]We need to have a global view, a global vision, where we provide capacity onsite for bio-banking and sample analysis, which means sharing by bio-informatics, the integrative biology of the data, and this is key to having a real impact in terms of governance.

Healthcare is one of the most interesting world governance questions today.[...]The World Bank group, as instructed by its shareholders, has two objectives for 2030. The first one is to end poverty, which also implies ending poverty vis-à-vis health, and the second is what we call boosting shared prosperity, which means basically minimising inequalities. Therefore, we want to make sure that the poorest people on earth share in the benefits of global growth and advancement, that it is not just reserved for a small proportion of the population. We believe, and this is extremely important, that investing in health offers one of the best opportunities to achieve this goal in this generation. I am not talking about 2050 or 2100 but in the next 15 years.[...] the UN endorsed the 17 Global Sustainable Goals. Their ambition is high, is universal, and incidentally quite costly. The new global goal for health is a healthy life for all. This is about universal health coverage, so every person everywhere can get essential, quality, life-saving healthcare[...]What is clear is that if we are to achieve these ambitious global goals, we need to think and act differently; it will not be more of the same. Therefore, let us start to think differently on health, technology and innovation. We will have to innovate within the public sector as well as to enable the public sector to embrace and leverage innovation in the private sector. [...]We believe that over the next five years technology development, connected with digital health solutions such as m-health and e-health, mobile and electronic health, will revolutionise how health services are delivered and offer new ways to address gaps in access to and affordability of care.

We need investment in modern digital, chemical and genetic technology to understand the complexities of food chain, toxicity, and the ecosystem together, and above all we need the political will to integrate that and to get ministries and sectors to work together. Health is linked to the way we function as a planet. Pathogens have always been there. The ecosystem as a whole needs to be understood in order to get a sense of pathogens and infection routes. It also leads us to the awareness that we need to understand the whole food chain to be safe.



MODERATOR :
Richard Cooper
Professor of International
Economics at Harvard
University

Climate and Environment



Laurent Fabius
French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International
Development (recorded message)



Yukari Niwa Yamashita
Board Member, Director, The Institute of Energy
Economics, Japan (IEEJ)



Bruno Lafont
Co-Chairman of the Board of Directors,
Lafarge Holcim Group

A week before the [Paris] Conference starts, where do we stand, in a few words? [...] Progress has also taken place in recent weeks on the crucial issue of funding, which is the key to trust and, therefore, to the agreement that is necessary in Paris. We must show that the wealthy, developed countries are willing to follow through on the pledge they made in Copenhagen in 2009 to contribute \$100 billion a year by 2020[...] But the wealthiest countries must still make crucial additional efforts. [...] In addition to funding efforts, which are a key element to reaching an agreement in Paris, we must set highly ambitious goals to develop and share technologies, in particular to boost performance and bring down the cost of renewable energy sources [...] A huge challenge lies before us. The commitment of governments is therefore essential but not enough. The commitment of all is indispensable. [...] There will be initiatives and strong commitments, especially from companies and local governments, all of which will become public knowledge at COP 21 in Paris.

[...]the current INDCs submitted are not enough to mitigate GHG emissions. The parties meeting at the upcoming COP21 should reduce their emissions further. 450ppm scenario is an ideal target which we may ultimately need to aim at but for more practical point of view, it maybe more pragmatic to consider various scenarios and options other than only the 450ppm scenario. [...] Because of a trade-off relationship between “mitigation” and “adaptation” costs, it would be realistic to minimize the total cost. All these points are relevant to the COP negotiations, without bearing these mind, no international agreements would be obtained.

What is at stake is the energy mix, energy consumption, the emissions caused by the industry, and finally, the type of solutions the companies can bring to the system. Therefore, clearly we need to accelerate, and we also need to find breakthroughs through innovation [...] Clearly, governments have a key role to play; they have to set the targets, to put stable and consistent regulations in place [...] They also have to create a landscape which is adjusted to the cycle. [...] The companies are critical to implementing an agreement [...] They bring the technologies and the innovation, they are able to raise money, and they can also interact along all the value chains, which is completely critical [...] We need commitments; COP 21 is bringing these forward [...] We need measurements, reporting and verification. That is a point which is not being underlined enough. [...] Finally, we need adequate tools and systems [...] Carbon pricing is a tool which has shown that it can accelerate emissions reductions; it is also accelerating innovation and is able to create new opportunities. [...] it is a huge challenge. I believe that success [...] will rely on cooperation and on trust, which will be generated by measurement, by visibility and by consistency over time. [...] It will also be generated by innovation, and profitable innovation. [...] the capacity to cooperate and anticipate [...] is completely critical to success. [...] The capacity to raise private money is completely critical and will depend on the type of governance. [...] Finally, on governance, climate change is a subject which I see is linked to other subjects in my business that are very important for the world, such as poverty and cities.



Climate and Environment



Jean-David Levitte
Distinguished fellow, Brookings Institution and member of the International Advisory Board of the Atlantic Council of the United States; Former Senior Diplomatic Adviser and sherpa of President Nicolas Sarkozy



Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo
Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

[...]there is still a long way to go, but I am more optimistic for several reasons. First, the United States and China, today's biggesttwo emitters, have decided to jointly announce that this time they are intent on making an effort. [...] The second, [...] is that, well beyond governments and scientists, there has been a groundswell of awareness about the threat of global warming, gradually prompting all the players in civil, economic and political life to start doing their part. [...] The third reason is that Paris will not be the end of the story. Paris will be a key step [...] I am cautiously, but wilfully, optimistic. I think COP 21 will be a limited success, but a decisive step on the way to solving the problem. We are the first generation aware of the fact that global warming poses an existential threat to our planet's future. We are also the last generation that can come up with a decisive solution to that existential threat.

Pope Francis has submitted and integrated all the information from the natural and social sciences to the fundamental teachings of the Bible and faith. As you have said during this forum, scientific data show that if the energy necessary for human activity comes from fossil materials, the outcome will be climate change and global warming. [...] The Encyclical seeks to raise our awareness that this is not just an economic issue or a problem involving only the natural and social sciences, but also and above all a spiritual matter. [...] The Pope speaks of an "ecological conversion". [...]the Pope integrates his new concept of "integral ecology" into the social thought of the Church, on an equal footing with dignity, freedom of conscience, fraternity, the universal destination of goods, solidarity, etc. Integral ecology encompasses ecological balances, social justice and spiritual responsibility.



Iran and Middle East



MODERATOR :
Thierry de Montbrial
Founder and Chairman
of the WPC



Hossein Amirabdollahian

Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab
and African Countries, Iran

1-Tehran believes that regional crises have no military solutions. 2-use of force in the region only will increase hatred and strengthen radicalism and there is no alternative solution for settlement of challenges and political crises derive from Takffireis ideology except political solution. 3-in order to eradicate terrorism there should be joint planning and design by participation of all countries. 4-all financial sources of terrorist group, access to obtain advance weapon and their military training centers should be blockaded and to be destroyed. 5-it is necessary all regional and trans-regional countries through serious dialog and cooperation to find solution for challenges and solving problems. 6-the I.R.Iran seriously believes that the security of all its neighbors is like as the security of the Islamic Republic of Iran and hopes all other regional and trans-regional players response in a positive form and responsible manner for serious plan, actions, dialog and cooperation for combating against terrorism and focusing on political solution. 7-the initiatives of the United Nations on our regional issues will be succeeded parallel to serious combat against terrorism, there should be strengthening of regional political trends and to find solution for them otherwise any other solutions would not have appropriate result. 8-from I.R.Iran's point of view the security of Yemen, Syria and Iraq as well as Security of the Saudi Arabia and security of the region are important but Saudi Arabia cannot endanger the security of others in Syria, Iraq and Yemen in order to provide security for itself, this is a paradox. 9-Tehran is supporting the United Nations plan for political solution, at the same time serious confrontation with terrorism as the main task for the region. 10-the I.R.Iran while condemning any foreign aggression against Yemen territory and rejecting any foreign military intervention for Yemen crisis, supports Geneva talks and the initiative of the Secretary General for Yemeni-Yemeni Talks and establishment of broad based national unity government. 11-the Islamic Republic of Iran within the framework

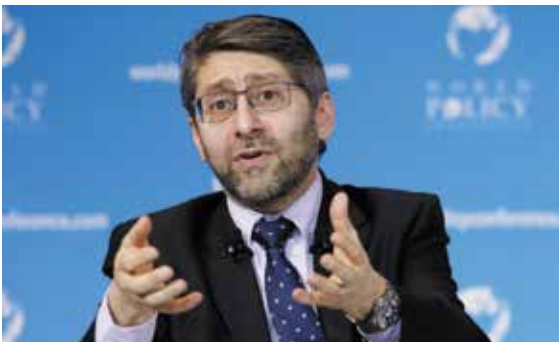
of its doctrine for constructive interaction and wise movement toward its neighbors will apply these policies. Iran's future political movement within regional and international order is trustful. 12-Iran's approach toward trans-regional countries are based on interaction and considered on interaction aspect of working with others, also expect other parties in response to extremism and war mongers to apply wise policies and to be logical in their interactions with Iran in future. 13-sanctioning Iraq will create uncontrolled fault in the region which is not on the benefit of any parties. In order to prevent this incident, Iran had used all its potentials. 14-logically and practically Syria needs a political meaningful movement aiming a political compromise and a rational solution for its crisis. If a democratic situation will be created through a desirable election, we will be witness for a pleasant environment in Syria. Failure of political solution in Syria would provide proper ground for creation of security gap from Syria to its surrounding environment more than before.



Europe’s refugee crisis



MODERATOR :
Karl Kaiser
Director emeritus of
the German Council
on Foreign Relations,
Harvard University



Haïm Korsia
Chief Rabbi of France



Kemal Dervis
Vice President and Director of Global Economy
and Development, Brookings Institution,
former Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey

The refugee issue is essential. It is even vital, insofar as there are two levels, in my opinion. The first is a political level[...] But there is also an individual level. [...] Today, we must make sure these movements are temporary. In other words, the refugees must be taken in because it is our duty to welcome them — whether it is on humanitarian or religious [...], it is a duty to take them in — but then everything possible must be done to secure places where the religious diversity that still vaguely exists in the Middle East can endure. [...] The main goal is to be able to bring those who hope to live their faith, their commitment, back to their land. That is also a long-term commitment — we talked about a medium-term one — to securing places where people can be resettled back home.

Some problems elude quick solutions, unfortunately. Claiming that there is a solution to what is happening, to the drama we are experiencing today, is unfortunately impossible. [...] The first point I would like to make is very macro. We are experiencing one of the dimensions, and Thierry de Montbrial always stressed it when he launched this conference. We are living in a world where the problems really overlap. The world is really interdependent. This world has a huge need for global governance. I do not say “government”, because that is pointlessly utopian, but governance — mechanisms allowing us to cooperate across borders, [...] Seeing what is happening makes us realise on how many levels global governance has not worked, whether in the Middle East, where tragedies have been occurring for years, or in Europe, with major clashes over the euro, the euro zone, Greece and, more recently, the refugee issue. [...] The second point I would like to make [...] is that a very delicate balance must be found between humanity, generosity and the basic tenet that a person is presumed innocent until proven guilty, and taking all necessary steps, including the state of emergency that was declared in France. [...] My third point is that transit countries, such as Turkey and Greece today, and Italy for a long time, need support. I will not go into the details of all that, but they have been carrying a very heavy burden for a long time. In contrast, perhaps the Gulf countries give some money, but take in almost no refugees.



Europe’s refugee crisis



Vuk Jeremic
President of the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development (CIRSD), former President of the UN General Assembly, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia



Sergei Karaganov
Honorary Chairman of the Presidium of the non-governmental Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, Russia



Hubert Védrine
Former French Foreign Minister

The refugee crisis is perhaps the most serious crisis that Europe has come to face since the end of the Second World War. [...] Europe must be able to act decisively on this[...]It would defy the basic norms of human compassion—let alone what Europe aspires to stand for in the world—to deny those people shelter and rights[...]We must work at seeing Europe acting to bring all the interested parties together to the conflict in the contemporary Middle East, centered on Syria, and catalyse the process. This will be partially a diplomatic endeavor, but it needs to be backed up by the readiness to use decisive force if necessary. Otherwise, this conflict will continue, and if it continues, we will not be able to put enough barbed wire and fences around the borders of Europe. [...]let us for a moment look at the three players that are the most significant in many ways in the EU context. These are Great Britain, France, and Germany. They are all now looking in their own direction. The United Kingdom is obsessed with the referendum question and the political class spends most of its time dealing with the referendum debate. France is fully consumed with a dramatic security situation. And Germany is turning increasingly inward, rightfully embittered at the lack of solidarity when it comes to dealing with the refugee issue. All three actors are turning in their own direction, and this could be disastrous. [...]The European Union is, arguably, a slightly bigger international player than Lebanon yet it cannot find a way to cope with one tenth of the refugees that the former has taken in. It is definitely something that we can do as Europe and it is something that we definitely should and I hope will do as Europe.

The source of immigration is not just Syria, but Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq and then there is Africa with a few million waiting. lot of people who come are terrorists or potential terrorists. If any of the younger people in this group were to go to a bazaar in Beirut, as our specialists say, they would buy a Syrian passport for peanuts there, and then they would come here. I assume these passports are being bought en masse and people are coming here already. The problem is long term and it could not be solved in the foreseeable future by economic, cultural or social means. It is a problem of security of our peoples. And it will increasingly be so. My immediate advice is: close the borders as soon as possible. Triple enrolment in your police schools and increase by 10 times the funds used to penetrate all kinds of local Islamic societies[...]Americans are getting out of the Middle East, and we could not rely on them as we used to.[...]At this juncture in Europe, only Russia has the potential to deal with these problems, in terms of security, will, brains and competences[...]The Middle East will continue to fall apart[...]The EU must move immediately to build a united federal Europe with a common army[...]Security and many other problems within Europe like radicalisation cannot be solved on a sub continental basis or on a trans-atlantics basis. Maybe we could find a common Eurasian and Euro-Atlantic solution.

I think we should be careful about barking up the wrong tree when we stress a panic atmosphere. This is the worst time to restart the debate over Europe’s demographic deficit[...]Second, if we have to wait for a united Europe, we might as well stop talking right now! [...]On the other hand, I think there is a real priority: restoring security is an absolute priority[...]Likewise, this is not the time to set about “reconfiguring the Middle East”. That is immensely desirable, but we are incapable of it. Nobody can do it, not even the United States!



Final debate



Ribal Al-Assad
Founder and Director of the Organisation for Democracy and Freedom in Syria and Chairman of the Iman Foundation



Meir Sheetrit
Member of the Israeli Knesset



Miguel Ángel Moratinos
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain

As I have been saying for many years now, we have to come together to tackle Islamic extremism. Unfortunately, this has been ignored, and we have heard lately that some of our allies, including Qatar, have been trying to promote Al Nusra. They have proposed that we should back Al Nusra to fight ISIS. But this is insane. We should not forget that ISIS was not behind the 9/11 attack, the 7/7 bombing in London or the Madrid train bombing. It was Al Qaeda, which is now Al Nusra. Their branch in Syria. I am sure you heard last week that Ayman Zawahiri, the leader of Al Qaeda, came out with a statement, a recorded statement on the Internet. He was very clear and he said that the Americans, the Russians, the Iranians, the Alawites and Hezbollah are coordinating their war against us. He encouraged his people to stop fighting amongst themselves and direct their attacks against that alliance. Unfortunately, nothing was done. We have to know that these Islamic extremists are worse than the Nazis and a lot more dangerous, because they do not recognise international borders. They have no nation state or borders we could invade. There is no single army to fight or ambassador to threaten with sanctions. Their 'nation' is amorphous. They exist in all of our countries and their threat will continue to grow until pluralism, economic development and respect for the law prevail across the world.

I believe that the best way to arrive to peace between Israel and the Palestinians is to negotiate peace agreement, according to the Arab Initiative. There are five reasons: 1. We can have peace and normalisation with 57 Islam countries with the same price to have it only with the Palestinians. 2. This is the only way to circumvent the biggest problem of the Palestinians to have agreement with Israel which is their claim for right of return. 3. An agreement with 57 Islam countries and the end of the conflict will ensure that the agreement will pass in the parliament and in the referendum. 4. This kind of agreement will guarantee the existence of the peace. Because no one will dare to break it. 5. This is the best way to bring back Gaza strip under the Palestinian authority. If this will happen, it will change the Middle East and the world.

Europe must take its project back into its hands. It must review all of its domestic and foreign policies. Within Europe, essential existences and values must be re-assessed. Outside Europe, a big question must be asked. What do we want to do with our neighbours? Do we want to live with them, next to them or in opposition to them? My answer is that we want to live with them, and if we want to live with them, the building blocks of a space of cooperation, stability and prosperity must be shared with them. [...] Europeans, we must act together.



Final debate



Bilahari Kausikan
Ambassador-at-Large and Policy Advisor
in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore



Narendra Taneja
Chairman, Energy Security Group of the Federation
of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)



Renaud Girard
Journalist at *Le Figaro*,
Editor at *Questions Internationales*

Despite tension over the South China Sea and other issues and the difficulties of arriving at a new *modus vivendi* with each other, conflict between the US and China is unlikely. Neither is looking for trouble and the risk is of conflict by accident and not war by design. The strategic issue for other states in East Asia is how to avoid being forced into invidious choices as the US and China adjust their relationship, a process that is likely to take decades. But the most difficult adjustments for the ASEAN countries are internal not external.

I sometimes wonder, while talking about the West, Atlantic, Europe and the region, if we can pay attention to some other equally important regions at the same time. [...] In my opinion, this will be Africa's century, and countries like India, China, Japan, South Korea and Indonesia will play a big role in helping that happen. Therefore, my view is that countries like India, Japan and others in Asia should be joining hands and cooperating with democracies of Western Europe and elsewhere in order to build a modern Africa [...] it would help the Middle Eastern countries if they engaged with fellow Asian countries even more. [...] All democracies should join hands for a stable and prosperous Indian Ocean region. [...] Let us not forget about the country which is very crucial to all the discussions we have had here since the opening [...] Afghanistan.

We consider the attacks on 13 November 2015 extremely serious because they signal the failure of all our systems to educate and integrate French-born citizens from immigrant backgrounds. But it must be remembered that an average of 1,000 Frenchmen died every day in the First World War. During the crucial Marne counter-offensive in September 1914, 20,000 young Frenchmen were killed every day! So I think things must be put into perspective. I think the coercive security measures being imposed on the whole population are counter-productive. I live next to the Luxembourg Gardens. They were closed for three days. I did not understand why, because this hands the terrorists a victory. I think we must avoid the mistake the Americans made in 2001. They thought 11 September was a strategic attack, even comparing it to Pearl Harbor. It was not a strategic attack. The attack on the Bataclan was not a strategic attack. We are collateral damage in a war splitting the Muslim world between a large majority that perfectly adapts to modernity and a violent minority that wants to restore the practices of seventh-century Islam. We must be extremely precise in this war. We must go after the terrorists with precision and nail those spreading hatred. We must contain and ruthlessly destroy them. But let us not take any over-arching steps. If strategic and tactical skill is not used, we might find ourselves gradually and unwillingly drawn into one of those classic wars that, thankfully, have so far spared our world today.





1. Energy



COORDINATOR :
Marie-Claire Aoun
Director,
Center for Energy, Ifri



CHAIR & MODERATOR :

Bertrand Badré

Managing Director and Group Chief Financial
Officer, World Bank

1.1 billion people still live without electricity and another 2.9 billion live without modern fuels for cooking and heating. [...] Modern renewables, including wind, solar and geothermal, grew in terms of total global energy consumption from 8.4% in 2010 to 8.8 in 2012. Again, this is modest but in the right direction. At the same time, global energy intensity fell by more than 1.7% each year. [...] At the World Bank, we think immediate action is needed in six key policy areas, if the world is to achieve this needed energy transition. The first is fixing the sector's fundamentals and the second is getting the incentives right for universal access. The third one is quite sensitive, and it is pricing energy right. The fourth is prioritising energy efficiency, the fifth is scaling up renewables and the sixth, last and certainly not least, is mobilising private capital. [...] Technological development and technology will be key in our conversation. In terms of this, solar, nuclear, carbon capture and storage technology will likely have a significant and profound impact on the future of energy systems. [...] Another issue that continues to garner attention due to low oil prices is fossil fuel subsidies. This is a big theme for the IMF and the World Bank. We will spend some time discussing this, because it is clear that removing subsidies will substantially boost clean energy developments. [...] To attract private investment, we have to get the energy sector fundamentals right at the country level. That means in particular an enabling environment in which contracts are honoured, regulations are enforced and competition is open and fair.



Masood Ahmed

Director of the IMF's Middle East
and Central Asia Department

I want to focus a little bit on what the impact of this has been on the oil exporting countries in the Middle East[...] over the last decade, most of them had built up financial assets[...] This year when they are drawing down the assets they have built up to try and soften the impact of having less money coming into their budgets from oil. [...] As a result, if you look at these economies, there is a little bit of a slowdown in growth, but it is not a huge slowdown. It is the finances that are taking the hit, because in effect, you are now replacing your savings to finance spending[...] If the oil prices were to stay low for only a year or two, that is a very good way to run your business. [...] The problem is what happens to oil prices in the next five years. [...] If there was no change in the current spending plans of the countries for the next five years, this would lead to large, and for some countries unsustainable, fiscal deficits and rising debt. [...] the challenge facing these countries is therefore a difficult one. They are trading off maintaining their financial resilience and ratings on the one side, by trying to cut down spending and not building up debt faster than they can afford it. But they must also do this in a way that does not add to the already serious problem of unemployment amongst nationals and young people in particular.



Olivier Appert

President, Conseil Français de l'Energie;
former President, IFP Energies Nouvelles

The recent decline of the oil prices has been dramatic and the question is, is it temporary or structural? To answer to this question, we need to point out that oil market is related to supply/demand balance but also to geopolitical factors, specifically in the Middle East. From 2010 to 2014 oil prices have been almost stable in a range of 95/120 \$/b: downwards pressures due to uncertainties on the world economic growth have been compensated by upwards pressures related to the political unrest of some producing countries (Iraq, Iran, Libya...). Mid 2014 it appeared clearly that the oil market was over supplied due to the dramatic growth of non conventional oil in United States. Surprisingly OPEC did not decide to reduce its production as it was the case in the past but maintained its production in order to keep its market share. So we enter in a new paradigm of the oil market. The drop of oil prices has a dramatic impact on oil companies and producing countries. As every commodity market the oil market is cyclical. We can see the first signs of rebalancing of the market. In the past it took around 4 years to recover the previous market conditions. Thanks to low prices, demand is increasing. Supply of conventional oil will start to decline significantly at the end of the present decade. Surprisingly US non conventional production is more resilient than anticipated: this is due to significant technological improvements. But LTO production in the US started recently to decline. So we may anticipate that the market will rebalance in the next few years. So Saudi Arabia and OPEC may recover its market power at the end of the present decade. Will this transition be smooth? The present geopolitical destabilisation of the Middle East is creating a huge uncertainty.



Tatsuo Masuda

Visiting professor
at the NUCB Graduate School

Low oil price environment is nothing new in oil market history. What differs this time will be the energy transition due to imminent and perceived climate risks. The systematic shift from fossil fuels to renewables (energy system decarbonization) is gaining momentum for the first time under low oil price environment. The traditional pattern of the impact of low oil prices may no longer apply (HEV, BEV, PHEV in the automotive sector, and policy incentives for renewables). Lowering LNG prices may not also lead to notable demand increase due to weaker economy and the return of nuclear in Japan. This may offer a precious opportunity for Asian consumers to rebalance trading terms with producers (e.g. Asian Premium on crude oil and LNG, and LNG destination clause). An overall positive impact on Asia (as a net-importing region of energy) will largely be offset by weaker economy due to Chinese slowdown and the shift to "new normals".



1. Energy



Antoine Rostand
Senior Advisor, Schlumberger

1. In shale gas, US entrepreneurs are managing to decrease the unit cost of gas at 15 % per annum, leading to a huge supply of gas in the US. 2. Thanks to LTO, regional gas markets are getting interconnected and the price has come down globally in all markets. 3. After the 2008 financial crisis, US shale gas operators moved their drilling rigs to oil plays. 4. They had the same success, driving the unit cost of oil down by 15 % per annum. 5. By 2012, US LTO was adding 1m barrel per day of production every year. The market went oversupplied by mid-2014 and the price collapsed end of 14. 6. US operators are slashing CAPEX and production is coming down, after a 6 months lag, and the US will have lost 1mbpd of production by mid-2016. 7. LTO resources represent only 7 % of global resources when shale and tight gas resources represent around 50 % of global gas resources. 8. In oil markets, there is still a lot of uncertainty: geopolitics, OPEC reaction, technology in supply, technology in demand, regulation.... 9. Today, the scenarios for the cost of oil are wider than at any point in time. 10. According to the US EIA, Energy Information Administration, long term price scenarios for oil have a range of between 30 and 110.



Pierre Sigonney
Chief Economist, Corporate Strategy
Department, Total

I shall speak to you about international oil companies and how an international oil company can adapt to the new energy landscape. [...] costs have been much less reduced than price. [...] big oil companies still have to adapt and still have to continue to reduce costs, to try to ensure a better organisation. They also need to pressure service companies. [...] you still need to invest a lot, as the time life of hydrocarbons fields is limited [...] International companies have sought to adapt their long term visions to the global environment and to the climate change issue. [...] when we look at the transition, the better fossil fuel is gas, so we must give some priority to gas. [...] By replacing coal, we can allow for a fast decrease in CO2 and still maintain the use of hydrocarbons. [...] gas is very often a cheaper solution to limit CO2 emissions in the near future than renewables. [...] So the most efficient scenario for reducing CO2 emissions should be to use gas, until the cost of these renewables has decreased sufficiently for them to be competitive.



Nobuo Tanaka
Former Executive Director of the International
Energy Agency; President, The Sasakawa
Peace Foundation

There is something interesting about the newest world energy outlook, which was revealed recently, about two weeks ago. The growth happens in Asia, in developing economies, and India, not China, will bring the largest increases up to 2040. [...] Another thing is about where the oil comes from. [...] This year's world energy outlook tells us about the low price scenario of about USD 50 per barrel, which will continue far into the 2020s. [...] The demand will grow more and high cost producers like the US, Canada and Brazil will diminish the productions. This means we have to heavily depend on the Middle East in the future. [...] There is also carbon capturing and storage, for coal users as well as gas users, and huge investment in nuclear. For sustainability's sake, this is very difficult. [...] The United States can achieve sustainability and security by itself, thanks to the shale revolution.



Lee Hye-Min
G2o Sherpa, Ambassador for International
Economic Affairs, Republic of Korea

Energy is fundamental to the economic development. That is the reason why it is important for G2o countries to discuss energy issues in order to help address the energy challenges of today and the future. There are five important issues to be dealt with by the G2o countries in 2015 under the Turkish Presidency; energy access for all, energy efficiency, renewable energy, market transparency and inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption. As climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, G2o leaders stressed the importance of the successful outcome of the COP 21. The leaders welcomed that over 160 countries, including all G2o countries, have submitted their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions(INDC). There are two key issues to be tackled at the Paris COP 21 Conference. One is how to establish review mechanism for the implementation of the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) in a transparent manner. The other one is about how to source financing to help developing countries with adaptations and mitigations. These two issues are closely related and will be the key obstacles to the successful outcome of the COP 21 in Paris.



2. Economy and Finance



CHAIR & MODERATOR :

Jean-Claude Trichet

Former President, ECB

The external observers and investors were keen to mention that, despite the slowdown of the emerging economies (it is the fourth year of slowing down in a row, so there is a medium term phenomenon of relaxation of growth), it does not prevent them from remaining the major source of global growth in the years to come, and projections for 2020 are still flattering[...]. We could of course reflect on the reasons that have been observed for this slowdown, as well as the main global risks, in particular China, the geostrategic risks we are observing everywhere, the price of oil and commodities impact on many countries, the rate increases that are highly likely in the US and which might or might not have adverse consequence. I only note that in the presentations made by many, the mood is quite pessimistic and everything is presented in a negative format, where it seems to me that a number of risk factors are more complex; for instance the price of oil and commodities being very low is obviously not a good thing for oil and commodity producers but is good for consumers, and taken together it is both expansionary and deflationary, which is both a positive and a negative aspect. The same goes for the rate increases, which are almost always presented very negatively, particularly by the IMF, whereas it is something which is more complex and has positive and negative aspects.

**John Lipsky**

Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS); former First Deputy Managing Director, IMF

Global growth will remain slightly below its medium- and long-term average. Advanced economy growth has not yet compensated fully for the post-2007 drop in output[...]. The first point is that the advanced economy outlook is somewhat uneven and uncertain with regard to what output gaps remain and how quickly they might be filled[...]. The second point is that the overall growth outlook for emerging and developing economies contains some broad divergences[...]. The implication, of course, of both of these broad developments is that the growth gap between advanced and emerging economies has narrowed, [...]. What has been most striking has been the relatively sluggish pace of business investment in the advanced economies. [...]. The business investment shortfall has to be one of the critical factors that have produced disappointing productivity results. [...]. A critical challenge of the current environment is trying to understand why business investment has not reacted more positively to what has to have been seen as a confluence of positive factors. [...]. Global trade has grown more slowly than GDP in the last few years, but nowhere has it been more noticeable than in intra-Asian trade. [...]. Given the tremendous uncertainties of the post-2007 period, I have been surprised at the stability of the major trading currencies, not the other way around; [...]. I must say I was quite surprised at all the excitement about the movement in the Chinese currency in August. [...]. There is a limit to how much you can have expected from QE.

**Korn Chatikavanij**

Former Finance Minister of Thailand

We are trying to work out what is going on, whether the economic model that propelled our growth over the last several decades is somewhat out of date and in need of revision[...]. That in many ways, on reflection, lulled us into a false sense of security; we kidded ourselves for the last 12 years that we had regained our competitiveness, when in fact it was mostly just price competitiveness. We failed to keep our eye on our competitiveness, and more than anything else, that is proving to be the biggest challenge many of our countries now face. One of the disappointments we have had is the moribund domestic demand in our economies, especially given that oil prices are very low and interest rates historically low, and we cannot help but feel that if we cannot stimulate domestic demand in this environment, we may not cope if interest rates begin to rise or energy prices were to revert to their old levels in the longer term[...]. Lack of investment is in many ways a reflection of this lower domestic demand, and I would put it down to three main reasons. One is the advent of ageing societies. Some of us are suffering from that already, and my own country is already defined as an old society, with 15% of the population in retirement. [...]. The US appears to be considering the potentiality of raising interest rates based on domestic conditions, but the reality is that it is a global issue. [...]. Therefore, when the US makes a decision to reverse that, there will be a multiplier impact, especially on the emerging economies, and that could be very destabilising. [...]. Why is it necessary for rates to be increased at this stage?

**Akinari Horii**

Former Assistant Governor, Bank of Japan, Special Adviser of The Canon Institute for Global Studies

With respect to slow growth of the world economy, I have two hypotheses: the first, persistent balance-sheet adjustment pressures on financial intermediation; the second, diminishing returns on globalization of the market economies and civilian use of military technology, both of which have supported expansion of the world economy and trade since the end of the Cold War. Declines in Japan's economic growth rate over decades are accounted for more by declines in productivity gains than those in population growth. It is wrong to put more burdens, like TLAC requirement, on financial intermediaries at a time when risk taking is depressed in a stagnant economy. Prudent supervision matters more than a set of tight regulations.



2. Economy and Finance



Daniel Daianu

Member of the Board of the Central Bank of Romania; former Finance Minister of Romania

Economic growth rates do not look so bad if long-term series are considered. But, recovery is due, largely, to unconventional policies, which, unfortunately, have worrying side-effects such as the search for yield and continuing resource misallocation. The deep plunge of investment, be it an outcome of necessary readjustment following excesses of recent decades, is a source of concern, for it may hamper growth in the future. Hysteresis, persistent massive unemployment is also a source of worry. Distributional issues have come to the fore and it is telling that central bankers mention them. Policy-makers are groping in the dark as a huge trade-offs confront them and macroeconomic models are of limited help. Globalization has limits and it may have gone too far; current retrenchment, therefore, does make sense. Oversize finance needs to be reined in and reforms have to go on; a new Glass Steagall type legislation is needed. Shadow banking has to be regulated as it entails systemic risks.



Jean-Pierre Roth

Chairman of the Cantonal Bank of Geneva (BCGE)

My feeling is that we currently have a governance mismatch in global terms, a macroeconomic governance mismatch. Too much emphasis has been put on monetary and financial policy and very little has been done by governments on structural reforms. [...]We now see that expansive monetary policy is not enough to generate lasting growth. One element that is missing is trust. Interest rates are at the lowest level possible, even zero in many countries, but people do not invest, and if they do not invest it is because they are not confident in the future, and if they are not confident in the future it is because they do not exactly understand what the macro policy will be in the future, when reform would be implemented and competitiveness would come back, and there is a lack of transparency. Governments are not doing what they should be doing now to improve the climate, transparency, and the vision for the private sector, because money is there, there are a lot of savings, but savings are going into financial investments or low-productivity investments instead of into growth-generating investments[...] will again mention the case of very low interest rates and ultimately poor quality of investment, and if that continues, we could have a poor quality capital stock with a negative impact on future growth. It might be time to start a very strong dialogue between the central bank and government.



Bozidar Djelic

Managing Director, Head of Central & Eastern Europe, Lazard Sovereign Group; former Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia

The independence of the central bank can be seen as one of the great achievements of the past 30 years, because it has helped avoid political meddling in banking but at the same time there is a lot of problems in controlling public expenditure. [...]My assumption is that QE is here to stay, so that issue will not go away, and we would better have the right democratic oversight, [...] Regarding the international issue, of course emerging markets seemed like crybabies, crying when it came and crying when it was taken away. However, it is true that in a world that is managed better and in a more coordinated fashion, here is something that is taking away money and bringing you money, while you are in the middle and not being actually taken to task. [...]Therefore, there is a lot of anticipation; it is hurting a lot of emerging and transition nations without their actually being responsible for it. With this kind of international management, with the IMF as a kind of liquidity guardian, there probably should be a permanent analysis, as there was with current accounts, of what happens with the money that comes out of QE and is taken away in order to manage it better[...] The last thing concerns QE and the bubble. Global market cap in 2000 was USD 53 trillion, USD 36 trillion in 2009, and USD 64 trillion right now, an all-time record. We have been discussing the difficulties of the past few years, and from 2009 to 2015 we almost doubled, [...]Many people who study crises will tell you that this is a very nice forewarning of the forthcoming correction. Investment bankers are doing great, bonuses are doing great, but in one or two years this will change.



Marek Belka

President, National Bank of Poland

Was the unconventional monetary policy effective overall? Asking the economists in main central banks, they would say it was, and they would point to the lowering of interest rates throughout the whole interest rate curve; there is no doubt about it. However, where doubts begin is whether this impact on interest rates really had a big impact on the real economy. We do not know, but it probably did, and there is probably room for discussion. The problem now is the side-effects of that monetary policy, and we have said 10,000 times that this is an uncharted territory and that we do not really know. Ten years ago we would probably have been afraid of hyperinflation looming somewhere, but now we understand that it is not inflation but the possibility of creating asset price bubbles, and not necessarily in the countries that produce the unconventional policy but somewhere else. Unconventional policies are highly destabilising for monetary policies and economic policies generally in many emerging market economies[...]One thing is beyond doubt: unconventional monetary policies amplified the dominance of the financial sector over the real economy all over the world. This is one of the biggest weaknesses of the global economy that has developed over the last 20 or 30 years – unconventional policies did not help, but on the contrary, they exacerbated the problem.



3. China



CHAIR & MODERATOR :

Park In Kook

President of the Korea Foundation
for Advanced Studies; Co-chairman
of the Beijing/Shanghai Forum

The rise of China's economy also raises the question of whether the world is headed towards harmony and co-prosperity – or doomed to fall in the Thucydides Trap. [...] President Xi raised the issue of new type of major power relations during the recent Sino-US summit talk. [...] In the global multilateral arena, both sides found common ground on a variety of issues including combatting climate change, anti-terrorism and curbing cyber-crimes. [...] On the controversial side or volatile side, the US and China have been engaged in maritime and territorial disputes in the South China Sea. [...] But the agreement by the two presidents to improve air-to-air safety and crisis communication are welcomed as good examples of Confidence Building Measures. [...] People outside of China still have chronic complaints. As of now, only 3% of China's stock market is open to foreigners. Until there is an improvement on that basic problem, outsiders will still have lingering hesitations and doubts. [...] It would be very good if China were a member of the TPP and the US were a member of the AIIB.



Jia Qingguo

Dean of the School of International Studies
of Peking University

When people talk about China-US relations, many argue that the relationship is heading for conflict and confrontation and one can find a lot of conflicts to illustrate that point. However, China and the US are cooperating on an increasing range of issues at a greater level of depth and examples are equally abundant. Will China and the US fight each other? The answer to this is that it is very unlikely. First, the stakes of military confrontation are too high. Second, the two countries have better ways to advance their respective interests. Finally, as China becomes a stakeholder of the existing international order, China and the US will find more shared interests with each other. The potential for cooperation between the two countries is strong. First, the trend of change in China suggests that there will be more room for cooperation. Second, as becomes a stakeholder of the existing international order, both China and the US will have more interests to work together to address the various global challenges. To what extent, then, the potential for cooperation between the two countries can be realized depends on how both Beijing and Washington manages their relationship: whether Beijing will be able to define its interest in a forward-looking way and whether it will be able to exercise its newly acquired power prudently and to what extent Washington will be able to adapt to the rise of China and reassure China that what it does means no harm.



Zhang Yunling

Professor of International Economics, Academy
Member and Director of International Studies,
Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS)

I will try to talk about the three priorities for China now and in the near future at least. One is to deepen domestic reform, moving from building a market towards the market deciding. That is a fundamental change and it means that you need to change the role of the Government and the risk structure that is SOEs and many assets of the deepening of reform. This is a very hard work for China. The second thing is the deepening of the opening up, moving from trade expansion to investment and the deeper involvement of this international market. It is also about the liberalisation of the market, moving from a selective opening to a comprehensive opening. [...] The third priority is, I think, to play a greater role in international affairs, with a greater involvement, including the establishment of new institutions which will complement existing one. I once referred to this as China building new temples without destroying the old ones. I therefore think that the Belt and Road (B&R) – the silk economic belt and road – is a part of this kind of priority. The question is always asked why China suddenly put forward this kind of initiative or strategy, but this has not been a sudden thing. It is a summary of a lot of initiatives that existed in the past and they have now been put into one large framework and it plays a new and important role in international affairs, with a greater development focus in particular.



Richard Cooper

Professor of International
Economics at Harvard University

My assignment is to talk about the prospects for Chinese growth looking ahead [...] Chinese growth will continue to decline over the next decade or two. [...] this drop in the growth rate does not signal a failure of policy in China. [...] Why are the growth rates going to decline? I have identified six items. [...] they have been the source of growth over the last 30 years, which has been fantastic. [...] Why was there this great growth? [...] the first factor is education. [...] Secondly, there is the Diaspora. The third factor is the demographic dividend. As a source of growth, the demographic dividend is going to go into reverse as Chinese society ages and people leave the labour force more quickly than they come into it. The fourth factor is rural-to-urban migration. [...] economic development from a position of low income is moving people out of agriculture into more productive economic activity – manufacturing or services. [...] there is still some growth potential there. However, it is much less than it used to be because the most energetic and active people have already moved out. Fifth concerns investment. It is official Chinese policy to de-emphasise investment in favour of public and private consumption. [...] a declining ratio of investment to GDP and a declining rate of return on the investment that takes place -- the growth rate can be expected to decline. My final item is exports. The days of increasing China's share of world trade significantly are over. [...] On all of these counts, we will see a significant decline in the growth rate in the coming years and that will have international impacts.



3. China



Qiao Yide

Vice President & Secretary General,
Shanghai Development Research Foundation

I am using the case of exchange rate reform in August to elaborate the cognition gap between outsiders and Chinese decision makers. The reform is to change the way of central parity fixing as part of reforming exchange rate mechanism, but outsiders wrongly concluded that Chinese government tried desperately to prevent collapse of Chinese economy by RMB depreciation. To reduce these cognition gaps, outsiders have to understand Chinese philosophy for reform is gradualism and distinguish one policy error from general trend of reform while Chinese government has to streamline their decision process and be more and effective communications with the rest of world.



Bark Taeho

Professor at Seoul National University,
former Minister for Trade, Republic of Korea

The relationship between China and the United States in the areas of trade negotiations and agreements does not seem to be very good. In the Doha Round, the United States and China cannot find much common ground. Also, the TPP concluded last month does not include China. On the other hand, Chins participates in the CJK FTA and the RCEP negotiations. China and the United States seem to be competing in the regional trade integration in the Asia Pacific. The G20 meeting to be held in China next year might provide a good momentum to revitalise the Doha Round with a more objective and neutral revised agenda. To be consistent with domestic policy reform directions, China should show more active leadership in reaching high quality RTAs for both CJK FTA and the RCEP. East Asian economies as a group should also consider an idea of integrating their trade relations with the EU in the near future



Michel Foucher

Chair of applied Geopolitics at College
of World Studies; Former French Ambassador
to Latvia; Former Director of the policy
planning staff of the French Foreign Ministry

I will share with you a specific European view of the One Belt, One Road Chinese initiative. Yi Dai Yi Lu has three dimensions. The first has to do with the “new normal” in the economic growth and model, an attempt to master an economic transition from the made in China to the made by China and that leads companies to look at new drivers of growth outside Chinese territory, in short to export their industrial overcapacities. The second dimension has to do with the practical concept of connectivity, particularly in Eurasia, and without any precise geographical limits. The previous WPC in Seoul pointed out this aspect since this is the geoeconomics that will shape geopolitical outcomes. The last point is linked to both geo-economics and geopolitics. The Yi Dai Yi Lu initiative is much more than a mental prop – un effet d'annonce. It is much more than that. It is a grand strategy, not away from the European neighbourhood policy and from economic diplomacy, two notions that make sense in France. But the implementation of this very ambitious grand strategy implies China taking more diplomatic and political responsibility to solve conflicts as many regions included in the project are in very critical situation, starting with Pakistan and Afghanistan.





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Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Attiyah
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar

Last week, we were in Vienna talking about the subject that concerns the entire world today because it is not only an internal issue for Syria or the Syrian people, but it is linked to the whole world. The escalation and the delay in finding a solution for Syria affects the whole world. I am not exaggerating. All of you are well-informed and you see how this is spilling all over the world, whether it is exporting terrorists or whether it is exporting refugees, and this is why we in Vienna were trying to find a political solution. [...] with you, we are the most capable of fighting terrorists in the region and in the world. [...] We have to bear in mind that there are people in Syria. We should not let these people in the middle think about a choice between the tyranny of the regime or the brutality of the terrorists, so we have to keep an eye on these people. These people have been fighting on five fronts for five years now. They did not give up, so they have needs. We have to address their needs and we have to listen to them. This is what we are trying to encourage our colleagues to do. [...] all of us want a ceasefire, but we have to have a political roadmap so that everybody knows what the end game is.





Patrick Pouyanné

Chief Executive Officer and President of the Executive Committee, Total

When I consider the IEA's two-degree objective — a target I agree with — in 2040 the energy mix will consist of 60 % fossil fuels, 10 % wind and solar and 11 % nuclear. That is the reality of the world of energy and of the world in which we are and will be living. At the same time, I am not saying that to defend oil companies because I also always start my speeches by pointing out that oil and gas companies like Total are an integral part of the problem: energy accounts for approximately two-thirds of CO₂ emissions and oil and gas for 40 %. But I am also convinced that some of the solutions are in our hands because energy is our world, and we have the technological and financial means to achieve them. Any energy transition can only take place gradually[...]. A company like Total must always aim to remain one of tomorrow's energy giants so that it can help to develop gas, renewable energy and energy efficiency and make a commitment — this gets us back to geopolitics — to ensuring that oil and gas companies become responsible players. For two years, we have been striving to do just that by spearheading a joint initiative with some other oil companies[...]. And then there are longer-term issues, including climate change. Again, the next 20 years — I would say we think in terms of 20-year timeframes — will undoubtedly be crucial for the world of energy and for energy companies. Therefore, we must have our own medium and long-term visions by trying to become stabilising factors in a world where, unfortunately, short-sightedness and volatility prevail. Towards an eventual unification. There is a good chance of achieving unification.



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LUNCH DEBATE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • 12:15 – 13:45



Thomas Bagger

Head of Policy Planning, German Federal Foreign Office

There is a strong sense in the German debate all along through the years of the Eurozone crisis that what is needed is a pretty fundamental adaptation of our European and our national economic and social systems. It is not just a question of equilibrium within the Eurozone. There is also a question of adaptation to a more competitive world. I think to get that balance right of maintaining internal cohesion, but not as a closed system, as an open Europe in an open and increasingly competitive world, that has been the struggle at the heart of the Eurozone over the past five years. [...] this article that I wrote on the German moment, there is a line in there that says: “the limitation of the German moment is exactly that, that is it only a German and not a European moment”. So, in order to make that viable, we actually need Europe. Germany needs Europe, and we will continue to invest in that. [...] because for us, it is not a matter of choice, it is just a fundamental element of Germany’s post-war success.

Peter Hill

Director, Strategy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

There is no doubt that the external environment for Europe has got a lot worse over the past few years and we have to look again at some of the assumptions we had about the direction of history. It looks a less benign environment for Europe over the next generation. For a community based on law, which is the European community, that is a particular challenge that we have been struggling to deal with. The institutions and the processes of the European Union are playing a positive, stabilising role in managing the challenges facing and tensions between Member States. But it is true that we are collectively struggling to find positive solutions. In terms of longer term global prospects, we should be basically confident in the values and the strength of Europe and the United States. We have a lot of stock - people concentrate on flows, but our stock is pretty strong. And while the international order we value faces difficulties, it is not, as some say, unraveling before our eyes. We can have confidence over the next 15-20 years, but that does require us to confront honestly some of the difficulties we’ve got, and try and deal with them.

Justin Vaïsse

Director of the policy planning staff, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs

I think that the reasons to be worried are well founded. If we look back 15 years ago, when we see Europe’s ambitions and Europe’s burst of enthusiasm in the 1990s, we are obviously in a very, very different place. What worries me in particular is not just the multiplicity of crises, but also how they are combining and, possibly, leading one to the other. When an attempt is made to foresee things, there is a link, a possible link in any case, between the refugee crisis and European cohesion, for example, between the West and the East, the British referendum and whether or not a new momentum can be found.[...]we launched a European Neighbourhood Policy 10 years ago, that was supposed to stabilise and pacify Eastern and Southern Europe. Clearly that policy has not been very successful. [...]instead of exporting stability, we have imported instability.[...]Now, there are many reasons to worry, but at least there are some reasons to hope.[...]When I was at the Brookings Institution, the Peterson Institute and other think tanks in Washington between 2007 and 2012, during the worst part of the euro crisis, most of the analysts there thought the euro zone was going to fall apart. But it did not, demonstrating that there is a rather powerful, underlying logic to carrying on with the European project.













Igor Yurgens

Einstein said that the most serious force is the force of intellect. The WPC is the force of intellect embodied by its leader, its Chairman. Thierry de Montbrial knows how to find people. If you find people and you put intellect in one place, that produces a result which cannot be ignored.

Jean-David Levitte

Year after year after year, we bring together people from different horizons with different experiences. The miracle of the WPC is that we work together; we try to imagine together new solutions or ways and means to push hard in the right direction. This year, I think, is probably one of the best I have attended.

Susan Liautaud

I think the WPC is ideal to address ethics. At the beginning of my talk I mentioned Thierry de Montbrial's words from his speech this time, where he basically launched a call to arms about ethics; he says it has to underpin all of our thinking and global governance, and I believe that the linchpin of global governance is ethical decision-making. So this is the ideal forum.

Itamar Rabinovich

I think the WPC is an excellent venue. It is large enough to be diverse, to have a significant number of knowledgeable, interested and influential individuals. It is not a mass of diversity where one field is lost, and it is not a tiny gathering of the same 25 familiar faces. I think it has the optimal size, and a very good make-up.

Arkebe Oqubay

The WPC is an important platform. The benefit is that, first of all, it is possible to discuss international economic governance systems, which are critical, because least developed countries or even developing countries need an environment where the international economic order is conducive for them. The second one is that it also gives a platform to take experience. It has become a very good source of experience, and also to voice out our concerns and our perspective on how the international environment should look.

Lionel Zinsou

The WPC has been one of the first of that kind of geopolitical important forums where leaders have considered two non-that-fashionable issues: the importance of the religious facts in geopolitics - that has started day 1 in Evian, 2008 - and Africa. It has been one of the rare conferences where you had a permanent advocacy for the role of Africa. The place of the center of gravity will be absolutely key for the world: the conference has anticipated on those problematics.

Yunling Zhang

The WPC's subject, that is global governance, is very in timing: we have emerging global economic issues, especially currently, we have a terrorist threat for all of us. I think the WPC should play a more important, active role to address, through discussions, these global, big issues for which we have a common interest.

M.K. Narayanan

What distinguishes the World Policy Conference from most international conferences is that they get some of the best people to be present; most of them are thinkers, and therefore they bring a great deal of insight as to how to deal with problems. The WPC provides maybe one of the best forums where you can get an exchange of ideas and take back something.

Yukio Okamoto

Japan and China, Japan and Korea cannot tackle issues through bilateral talks and negotiations. There has to be someone - the United States, or even better, the WPC, this objective so-called «third-track» forum - to intervene and talk to us and them. It is going to be a zero-sum discussion if Japan and China only talk to each other. There has to be an umpire.

Charles-Edouard Bouée

The world is changing. There is a convergence between the geopolitical role of states and governments, business, and people and culture. This event is the place where you can engage these three dimensions in a very casual, but also very interesting setting.

Mona Makram-Ebeid

The WPC provides a fantastic platform to express yourself openly, to meet people of intelligence, people who have the experience: citizens of the world.

Kemal Dervis

They choose the topics in a very intelligent and appropriate way. There is real substance, but there is also friendship that evolves over the years. I like the size: it is not a very small conference, but it is not a huge one either; one gets to discuss things in some depth, not just during the sessions but also during social moments. I like the fact that it lasts two and a half - almost three - days: again, one finds the time to enter into some depth. A lot of panels and conferences are squeezed so much in time that one goes for sound bites. There is more scope here for real discussions.

Jacob Frenkel

The WPC is an extremely important organization, for the reason that it brings together the private sector, the public sector, bankers, central bankers, officials from all over the world, and the domain of the integrated world is all over the world: that is the story of globalization. The more you interact, the more you increase the understanding about the way in which the world economy and the world geopolitics operate, the better is the contribution that you make.

John Lispky

In contributing to the dialogue, the WPC is very useful. I come here very happy because I know I am going to hear different voices than the ones I hear typically at home, hear various views represented from all over the world, from folks who have both a lot of knowledge and a lot of experience.

Jim Hoagland

The WPC stimulates new ideas, it stimulates new thinking. It gives us the chance to put forward ideas. It stirs debate. It exerts pressure of an intellectual, political kind. It is an extremely useful forum, particularly since this is one of the few conferences where you have a real bilingual approach, therefore coming together French and English, European and American attitudes.

Manuel Hassassian

I think the WPC helps a lot, because it brings at least the partners to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I believe that political accommodation is the only solution to this conflict.

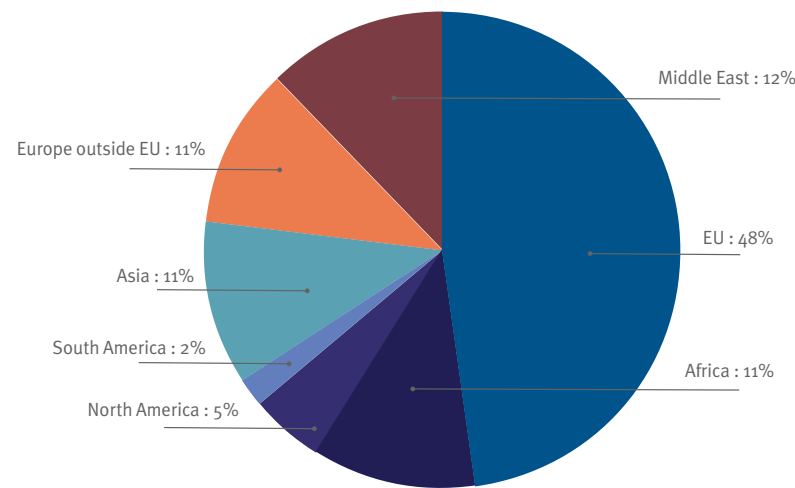
Vuk Jeremic

The composition of the participants is really A-class. The topics that we picked are very pertinent in a moment in which the world is going through a flux.

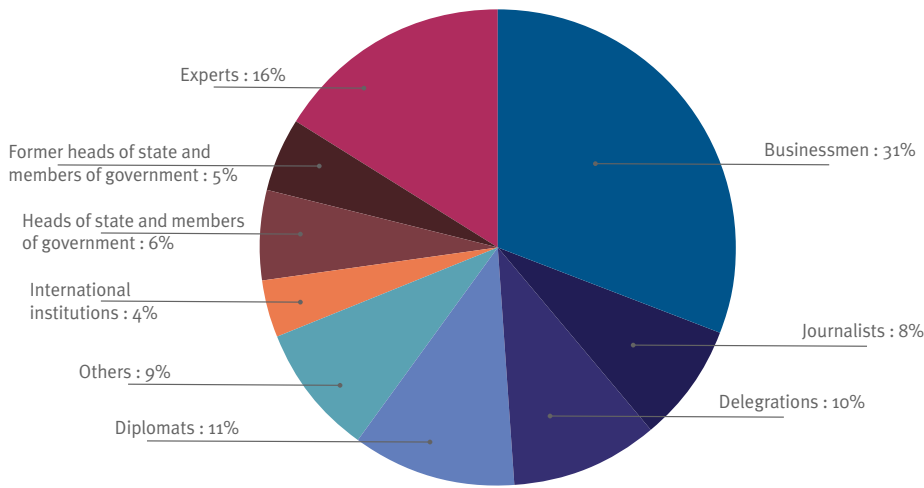




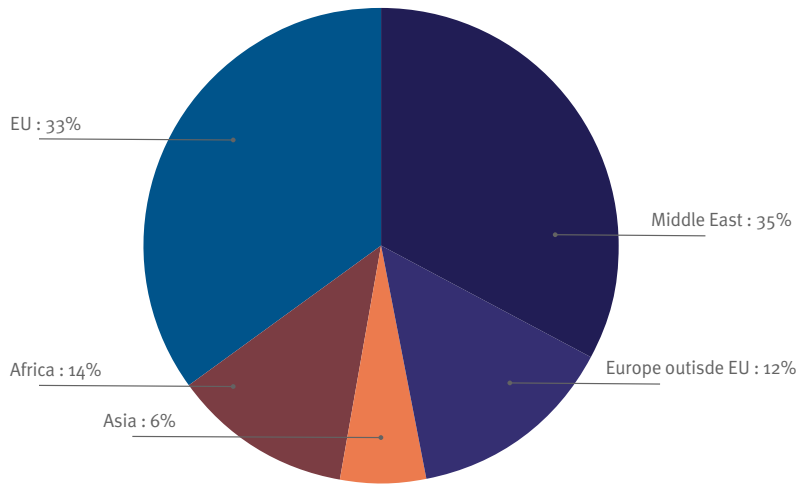
KEY DATA



Participants - Geographical breakdown
(Total: 323 participants from 57 countries)



Participants - Breakdown by function
(Total: 323 participants from 57 countries)



Press review - Geographical breakdown
of main published articles
(Total: 78 articles)

INVITED GUESTS





Abdelatif, Jalal

Head of Capacity Development Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Abdelatif, Soumeiya

Algerian physician. First Vice President of North/South dialogue for Arab countries and the Mediterranean at the Robert Schuman Institute for Europe.

Abiteboul, Jean

President of Cheniere Marketing Ltd, a 100% subsidiary of Cheniere Energy, Inc., a Houston based company specializing in liquefied natural gas importation and exportation. He was among others International Executive Vice President, Gaz de France (now Engie).

Ahmed, Masood

Director of the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department. He was Director of the External Relations Department in the IMF. He also held positions in the World Bank.

Ahsan, Shameem

Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Swiss Confederation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. Former Ambassador of Bangladesh to Brazil.

Akadiri, Saliou

Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Integration, Francophonie and Beninese Diaspora. He served among others as Mayor of the Municipality of Pobè and Chief of Staff of the General Administrator at the International Francophone Organization (OIF).

Aladji Boni Diallo, Mariam

Diplomat, Special Advisor, Diplomatic Affairs, to the President of the Republic of Benin since 2007. She was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador and Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and African Integration.

Al-Assad, Ribal

Founder and Director of the Organisation for Democracy and Freedom in Syria and Chairman of the Iman Foundation. He is particularly involved in promoting interfaith dialogue and relations between Muslims, Jews and Christians around the globe.

Alhajeri, Manaf

Chief Executive Officer of Kuwait Financial Center, better known as Markaz. He held the position of Deputy Director in the Investment department at the Kuwait Fund for Arab and Economic Development.

Al-Henzab, Abdulla

Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in Geneva.

Allard, Patrick

Consultant on international economic issues to the Policy Planning Staff, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France. He held the position of Chief Economist and Senior advisor for international economic issues, Policy Planning Staff, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, France.

Al-Shatti, Abdulmajeed

Member of the Supreme Petroleum Council in Kuwait. An Independent Economics advisor in the field of Public policy, Energy, finance and economics of social media. Former Chairman of the Board of Directors and Managing Director of the Commercial Bank of Kuwait.

Al-Thani, Meshal Bin Hamad Mohamed Jabr

Ambassador of the State of Qatar to France. He served as Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in New York, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Belgium.

Altunaib, Bader Saleh

Ambassador of Kuwait to Switzerland.

Amirabdollahian, Hossein

Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Countries, Islamic Republic of Iran. He was among others Director General for the Persian Gulf and the Middle-East, Iran's Ambassador to Bahrain.

Amrani Youssef

Chargé de mission, Royal Cabinet, Morocco. He was appointed as Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation by His Majesty King Mohammed VI. He served as Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Anguelov, Simeon

Advisor to the President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Former Executive Director of the Balkan Political Club. He was among others Bulgarian Ambassador to France.

Aoun, Marie-Claire

Director of the Center for Energy at the French Institute for International Relations (Ifri) and lecturer at Paris Dauphine University. She served as Economist for the French energy regulator (Commission de Régulation de l'Energie).

Appert, Olivier

Chairman of the Conseil Français de l'Energie and the French committee of the World Energy Council. He is also General Delegate of the French Academy of Engineering. He was among others Chairman and CEO of IFP Energies nouvelles.

Auajjar, Mohamed

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco in Geneva.

Badré, Bertrand

Managing Director and World Bank Group Chief Financial Officer. He served among others as the Group Chief Financial Officer at Société Générale, and before that he served as the Group Chief Financial Officer of Crédit Agricole.

Bagger, Thomas

Head of Policy Planning at the German Federal Foreign Office. He served as Head of the German Foreign Minister's Office in Berlin. He held the position of political counsellor at the German Embassy in Ankara and then in Washington D.C.

Bark, Taeho

Professor and former Dean at the Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) of Seoul National University. He served as Minister for Trade of Korea and Ambassador-at-Large for International Economy and Trade.

Barrault, François

Chairman and founder of FDB Partners SPRL an investment and advisory firm in TMT and publishing. Chairman of Idate/DigiWorld Institute (Institut de l'Audiovisuel et des télécommunications en Europe). Former President and CEO Lucent EMEA.

Barré, Nicolas

Managing Editor of Les Echos. He served as Deputy Managing Editor at Le Figaro, Tokyo Bureau Chief, Les Echos and correspondent for Les Echos in the United States.

Belka, Marek

President, Narodowy Bank Polski and Professor of Economics. He served among others as Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance (twice) and as Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland.

Bensemhoun, Arié

Executive Director, ELNET, since 2011. He made his career in the private sector as a consultant in communications, PR and international relations dealing with middle-eastern and strategic affairs.

Bensz, Joanna

Country Manager and President of the Board of CH2M HILL in Poland.

Bin Mohammed

Al Attiyah, Khalid

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar. He was Chairman of the Board of the Qatar's Stock Exchange, Vice Chairman of the Qatar Financial Center Authority, Acting Minister of Business and Trade and Minister of State for International Cooperation.

Bliznashki, Georgi

Former Prime Minister of Bulgaria. He is professor in Constitutional law at Sofia University since 1983 and visiting professor at South-West University "Neofit Rilski". He was a member of the European Parliament.

Boadu, Prince

CEO and co-founder of MapTech Logistics Limited, a company that uses the power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to solve business problems by developing and deploying GIS based applications.

Bönning, Matthias

Chief Operating Officer and Head of Research, oekom research AG. He is a visiting lecturer at the Technical University of Munich, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management and the University of Zurich.

Bouabid, Othman

Interior Ministry of the Kingdom of Morocco. Former Governor. He was Director of Cabinet of the Interior Minister, chargé de mission at the Cabinet of the Interior Minister and administrator at the central administration of the Interior Ministry.

Bouée, Charles Edouard

CEO of Roland Berger. He joined the firm in 2001 as Senior Partner in the Paris office. He became President & Managing Partner of Roland Berger for Greater China in 2006. Since 2009, he is heading the Asian Leadership Team.

Bouis, François-Xavier

Founder and President of Compagnie Financière Jacques Cœur – CFJC. He started his professional career in 1987 within investment banks.

Bréchet, Christian

President of the Institut Pasteur. He was among others Vice-President of the Institut Merieux, in charge of medical and scientific affairs and Director General of the French institute for health and medical research (Inserm).

Bronza, Boro

Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Switzerland. He served as Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Greece. He is also a Visiting professor at the Department for History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Banja Luka.

Bruelhart, Wolfgang Amadeus

Ambassador, Head Middle East and North Africa Division, Swiss Foreign Ministry since 2012. He was Ambassador of Switzerland to the United Arab Emirates.

Bujon de l'Estang, François

President, FBE International Consultants. Former Senior International Adviser and member of the European Advisory Board of Citi after having been Chairman of Citigroup France. Former Ambassador of France to the United States and to Canada.

Burelle, Jean

Chairman & CEO of Burelle and Honorary Chairman of Plastic Omnium. He was Department Head, General Manager, Chairman & CEO of Plastic Omnium. He was also member of the Executive Committee of Medef.

Burkhalter, Didier

Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Switzerland, since 2012. Former President of the Swiss Confederation (2014). He was elected Federal Councillor in 2009. He served as Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).

Caillé, André

Director of several corporations, including Junex Inc. He is on the Board of Directors of the National Bank of Canada. He was Chancellor of the University of Montreal, Chairman of the World Energy Council and Deputy Minister of the Environment of Quebec.

Carfantan, Jean-Yves

Senior Consultant, he runs AgroBrasConsult, a Brazilian consulting company specialized in agricultural markets and investments and based in São Paulo. He is a member of the Global Food Security Forum (GFSF) steering Committee.

Caspi, Yigal B.

Ambassador of Israel to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. He served as Deputy Director-General for Media and Public Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of Israel to the Republic of Korea.

Chabannes, François

Co-President of the Fondation Alcen pour la Connaissance des Energies (raising awareness and knowledge of energies). President of Technochabs. Former Delegate-General of the Council of French Defense Industries (CIDEF).

Chalmin, Philippe

Professor of Economic History and Director of the Master of International Affairs at Paris-Dauphine University, Founder of the Cercle Cyclope, main European research institute on raw materials markets.

Chatikavanij, Korn

Former Finance Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. He is Chairman of Thailand Democrat Party Policy Unit. He was President and Chairman of JP Morgan Securities (Thailand).

Cherkaoui, Mohamed

Emeritus University Professor and Emeritus Research Director, National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris. He is Professor, Hassan II University of Casablanca and Co-Editor « Sociologies » at Presses Universitaires de France.

Chuquihuara Chil, Luis Juan

Ambassador of Peru to Switzerland.

Cleary, Seán

Executive Vice-Chairman of the FutureWorld Foundation and Chairman of Strategic Concepts (Pty) Ltd. Strategic Adviser to the Chairman of the World Economic Forum, Faculty Member of the Parmenides Foundation.

Cohen-Tanugi, Laurent

Founder and managing partner, Laurent Cohen-Tanugi Avocats. He served as Chairman of French governmental task force on Europe in the global economy (2007-2008). He was a Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP.

Colloc'h, Corinne

Head of Corporate Development, Airbus Group. She led the Airbus Group Internal Audit. She used to work in Airbus Group Inc in Washington DC.

Collomb, Bertrand

Honorary Chairman of Lafarge, who has just merged to form LafargeHolcim. He is a Director of LafargeHolcim. Former Chairman and CEO of Lafarge. Member of the Institut de France and Past Chairman of the Académie des sciences morales et politiques.

Cooper, Richard

Maurits C. Boas Professor of International Economics at Harvard University. He was Chairman of the National Intelligence Council, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

Cunningham, Nelson W.

President and Co-founder of McLarty Associates. Prior to co-founding McLarty Associates in 1998, he served in the White House as Special Advisor to President Clinton on Western Hemisphere affairs at the White House Office of Administration.





Daianu, Daniel

Professor of economics, The School of Political and Administrative Studies in Bucharest and member of the Board of the Central Bank of Romania. Former Finance Minister of Romania.

David, Dominique

Advisor to the Executive Chairman, Ifri, and Editor of Politique étrangère. Former Executive Vice-President of Ifri. Previously, he was in charge of the Security Studies department at Ifri.

Dassas, Pierre

Chairman of The House of the Rising Stars Foundation (Geneva, Switzerland), Chairman of the European Leadership Network (Diplomacy & Defense issues, USA–Europe –Middle East), Chairman of the Africa Alive Foundation (Geneva, Switzerland).

Dejammet, Alain

Ambassador of France. He was among others Ambassador to the UN and then to the Holy See. Today, he is Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the Foundation Res Publica.

Dervis, Kemal

Vice President and Director of Global Economy and Development at the Brookings Institution and Senior Advisor at Sabanci University. He was Minister of Economic Affairs of Turkey and Head of the United Nations Development Program.

Desazars de

Montgailhard, Jean

Special Adviser of LafargeHolcim General Manager. He was, up to the merger between the two groups, Executive Vice-President and a member of the Executive Committee of Lafarge. Former Regional President for Asia Pacific at Lafarge.

Desfilis, José

Lawyer, Desfilis & McGowan.

Desouches, Christine

Honorary lecturer at the Université de Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne) and expert-consultant to international organisations. She was special advisor for political and diplomatic affairs to the Secretary-General of the OIF.

Diop, Marième

Desk Manager, President's Delivery Unit, Senegal. She is in charge of coordinating and monitoring five of the country's twenty-seven flagship development projects. She worked among others as an analyst for BearingPoint Consulting.

Djelic, Bozidar

Managing Director, Head of Central & Eastern Europe, at Lazard Sovereign Group. Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economy of Serbia.

Drouin, François

Chairman of the Board for the Autoroutes et Tunnel du Mont Blanc and of Société Française du Tunnel Routier du Fréjus, Vice President of the French Public Investment Bank (BPI), President of ETI FINANCE. Former CEO of OSEO (the French Agency for Innovation and SMEs financing).

Duchêne, Sandrine

Group Head of Public Affairs, Axa Group. She served as Deputy Director General of the French Treasury. Former Adviser to the President of the French Republic for economic policy and public finance.

El Aynaoui, Karim

Managing Director of OCP Policy Center and advisor to the CEO and Chairman of OCP. He was Director of Economics and International Relations at Bank Al-Maghrib. Former Economist at the World Bank.

Elscheková Matisová, Andrea

Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein. Former Director General of the Section of European Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia.

Fauchart, Emmanuelle

Professor in entrepreneurship and innovation management at the University of Strasbourg. Member of BETA, research unit from CNRS. Associate researcher at EPFL in Lausanne, Switzerland. Partner at JobZippers.

Fofana, Eve

Deputy Country Manager, General Electric, Côte d'Ivoire. She co-led the new implantation of GE in Côte d'Ivoire. Her professional experience includes finance work with American Express in France and operations handling with Air France – KLM in the United States.

Foucher, Michel

Chair of applied Geopolitics at College of World Studies (FMSH-ENS). Senior Advisor to the Compagnie Jacques Coeur. Former French Ambassador to Latvia and Director of the policy planning staff of the French Foreign Ministry.

Frenkel, Jacob

Chairman of JPMorgan Chase International and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Group of Thirty (G-30). Former Governor of the Bank of Israel. He served as Vice Chairman of American International Group, Inc. and as Chairman of Merrill Lynch International Inc.

Fresco, Louise

President of Wageningen University and Research Centre, in The Netherlands. She served for nearly ten years as Assistant-Director General at the food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN.

Fried, Jonathan T.

Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization (WTO). He was Canada's Ambassador to Japan, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Finance and Canada's G7 and G20 Finance Deputy.

Gascón, Lorenzo

Academician and Vice-Chairman of the Royal Academy of Economic and Financial Sciences of Spain. Honorary President of the European League of Economic Cooperation and board Member of the Fondation Jean Monnet pour l'Europe.

Gatej, Alexandra

Executive Director of Maldon & Wat. She served as Advisor to the President of Romania. She was Business Development Director for Unilever Central and Eastern Europe and President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Romania.

Georgelin, Jean-Louis

Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor and Chancellor of the National Order of Merit since 2010. He was admitted to the second section of warrant officers (officiers généraux) on February 28, 2010. He became personal chief of staff of the President of the Republic in 2002.

Germay (de), Nicolas

Chief Operating Officer WPC. He acts as COO of WPC since its first edition in 2008. He is also chairman and founder of Alandia. He seats, or seated, at several Advisory Boards such as British Telecom or PWC.

Girard, Renaud

Senior reporter and war correspondent at Le Figaro. Professor at the Institut d'études politiques de Paris and a member of the editorial board of the Revue des deux Mondes. In 2014, he was awarded the grand prix de la presse internationale.

Gomart, Thomas

Director of Ifri. Former Vice President for Strategic Development at Ifri. He was its Russia/Nis centre director. He was a Lavoisier Fellow at MGIMO (Moscow State Institute for International Relations).

Grbovic, Damir

Ambassador of Montenegro to Switzerland.

Gruffat, Jean-Claude

Managing Director Galileo Global Associates New York. Former Managing Director Citigroup New York. He was Citi Country Officer for France, Executive Vice President and Management Board member of Banque Indosuez.

Guérin, Gilles

Managing Partner, EFG Bank, Geneva. Area of expertise: private asset management. Member of the Board and Treasurer of the WPC Foundation.

Guigou, Elisabeth

Member of the French Parliament and President of the Commission of Foreign Affairs at the Assemblée nationale. She was Deputy Minister for European Affairs, member of the European Parliament, Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seals.

Halalai, Traian

President of Banca de Import Export a Romaniei – EximBank SA. Former Deputy General Manager and Board Member of Romanian Bank SA and Chief Financial Officer of ING Bank in Romania.

Halferty Hardy, Kerry

Lecturer and consultant. She served as Chief Development Officer at the American Hospital of Paris. Both as a consultant and as a board member, she has advised companies and international NGOs.

Hardouin, Philippe

Founder of CSPH International, a public affairs & communications consultancy company. He is a former publisher in social sciences and literature.

Harling, Peter John

Special advisor Middle-East (based in Beirut and Riyadh), International Crisis Group since 2014. He was Advisor to joint United Nations/ Arab League special envoy for Syria Lakhdar Brahimi in 2013.

Hassassian, Manuel

Ambassador from Palestine to London. He served the Palestinian people with distinction for twenty five years and has been a superb representative at the Ministry of Higher Education, at the Association of Arab Universities, and among other international academic organizations.

Hié, Henri

Vice President, Strategy & Partnerships in China, Air France. Before joining Air France, he worked at Bossard Consultants.

Hill, Peter

Director for Strategy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He worked in the Home Office where he was responsible for counter-terrorism and security powers and policy.

Hoagland, Jim

Contributing Editor to The Washington Post since January 2010, after serving two decades as Associate Editor and Chief Foreign Correspondent. He was awarded two Pulitzer prizes and other journalism honors.

Hoesli, Eric

Adjunct Professor, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne.

Horii, Akinari

Special Advisor and member of the Board of Directors of the Canon Institute for Global Studies, a research think tank in Tokyo, Japan. He was Assistant Governor of the Bank of Japan.

Irbec, Yusuf Ziya

Former Member of the Turkish Parliament. He served as a member of the Executive Committee of The Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) and of the Parliamentary Network on the IMF & World Bank.

Isărescu, Mugur

Governor of the National Bank of Romania since 1990. He is Member of the Romanian Academy. Former Prime Minister of Romania.

Itoh, Motoshige

Professor of international economics at the Graduate School of Economics, University of Tokyo. Former dean of the graduate school. Former Advisor to the Prime Minister as well as several Ministers in Japan.

Jankovic, Snezana

Ambassador of Serbia to Switzerland.

Jankowitsch, Peter

Member of the Directorate of the Austro-French Centre for Rapprochement in Europe. Former Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Representative to the United Nations and to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Jansen, Sabine

Senior lecturer at Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (CNAM), Paris, and Research Fellow at Centre d'histoire de Sciences Po (CHSP), Paris. Vice President of the Committee for Parliamentary and Political History.

Jeremić, Vuk

President of the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development (CIRSD). Previously, he was President of the 67th session of the UN General Assembly. He served as Serbia's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Jia, Qingguo

Dean of the School of International Studies of Peking University. He is a member of the Standing Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Jindal, Krishan

Chief Executive Officer of NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS). He has been working at the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for 30 years.

Kabbaj, Mohamed

President of Lafarge Morocco, Chancelor of Euro-Mediterranean university of Fès and member of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology. He was Advisor to His Majesty the King Mohammed VI and Minister of Finance and Foreign Investment.

Kaiser, Karl

Adjunct Professor at the Kennedy School and Director of the Program on Transatlantic Relations of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. He was a Director of the German Council on Foreign Relations, Bonn/Berlin.

Kamhawi, Labib

Chairman and CEO of several firms, including CESSCO, Chemical Supplies & Services Co. and Delta Energy Services Co. Spokesman and Member of the Executive Board, National Reform Front, Jordan.

Karaganov, Sergei

Honorary Chairman of the Presidium of the non-governmental Council on Foreign and Defense Policy. Member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

Kausikan, Bilahari

Ambassador-at-Large and Policy Advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore. Former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

Keller, Pierre

Former Partner, Lombard, Odier & Cie.

Kerguiziau de Kervasdoué, Jean (de)

Emeritus Professor of Economy and Health Management at the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers and founder of the Pasteur/ CNAM School of Public Health, member of the French Academy of Ingeneering. Former Consultant to the OECD.

Kim, Hak-Joon

President of the Northeast Asian History Foundation. He is also Chairman of the Asia Journalist Association.

Kiviniemi, Mari

OECD Deputy Secretary-General. Former Finland's Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Local Government, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, and Minister for European Affairs.





Korsia, Haïm

Chief Rabbi of France since 2014. He was a member of the National Consultative Ethics Committee, General Jewish Chaplain of the Army and the Polytechnic school and Director of the General Chaplain of the Air Force.

Kowal, Pawel

Assistant professor in the Institute of Political Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the European Parliament, Chairman of UE delegation to EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Commission and of Foreign Affairs Committee.

Lafont, Bruno

Co-chairman of the Board of Directors of LafargeHolcim and Honorary Chairman of Lafarge. He was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lafarge. Member of the Executive Committee of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

Laichoubi, Mohamed

Former Minister of Labor and Social protection and Minister of Youths and Sports, Algeria. He also served as Ambassador of Algeria in Romania, Deputy, President of the Finance and Budget Commission at the national Assembly.

Lampe, Otto

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Former Director for the United Nations, Federal Foreign Office, Berlin.

Laourou, Eloi

Ambassador of Benin to Switzerland.

Lebron de Wenger, Liliane

Ambassador of Paraguay to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. She was Vice Minister of Administration and Technical Issues and Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

Lee, Hye-min

G20 Sherpa and Ambassador for International Economic Affairs, Republic of Korea. Former Ambassador to France and Deputy Minister for Trade and Chief Negotiator for the Korea-EU FTA.

Levitte, Jean-David

Distinguished fellow, Brookings Institution and member of the International Advisory Board of the Atlantic Council of the United States. Former Senior Diplomatic Adviser and sherpa of President Nicolas Sarkozy. Former Ambassador to the United States.

Lévy-Lang, André

Member of the board of Institut français des relations internationales (Ifri), affiliate emeritus professor in Finance at Paris-Dauphine University, non-executive Chairman of Les Echos.

Liautaud, Susan

Vice Chairman of the London School of Economics and Political Science Council and Court of governors, Visiting Scholar at the Stanford Center of Philanthropy and Civil Society. Founder of Susan Liautaud & Associates Limited (SLA).

H.S.H. Prince Michael of Liechtenstein

Founder and chairman of Geopolitical Information Service AG, as well as president of the think tank ECAEF (European Centre of Austrian Economics Foundation).

Lipsky, John

Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Former First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and Special Advisor to the Managing Director, IMF.

Loiseleur des Longchamps, Hubert

Senior Vice President Public Affairs, Total. Former Senior Vice President International Relations, Total. Former Deputy Director, Hydrocarbon Division at the French Ministry of Industry.

Lowenstein, James

Co-Founder of the French American Foundation. Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Former U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg.

Lukyanov, Fyodor

Founding editor of Russia in Global Affairs, journal published with participation of Foreign Affairs. Research professor at National Research University Higher School of Economics in Moscow.

Lulache, Daniela

Chief Executive Officer of Nuclearelectrica, the only nuclear energy producer in Romania. Former Counselor of the Vice-Governor of the National Bank of Romania.

Makram-Ebeid, Mona

Egyptian Senator and Member of the Senate Constitutional Committee. Distinguished Lecturer, Political Science Department, American University in Cairo.

Mallikarjun, Manu

Social entrepreneur working in the fields of International Relations & Development. Having founded Amend Media, he is working on the post-production of a series of films that deal with themes of politics and economics.

Mariton, Hervé

French Member of Parliament, former Minister and Mayor of Crest. He is the whip of the Finance Committee.

Masuda, Tatsuo

Visiting professor at the NUCB Graduate School on energy-climate nexus and geopolitics. Former director at the International Energy Agency.

Meyer, Jean-Claude

Vice-chairman of Rothschild Europe. Former Managing Director of Lazard Frères & Cie and adviser to DATAR (Délégation à l'Aménagement du Territoire et à l'Action Régionale), an office of the French Prime Minister.

Moïsi, Dominique

Special Adviser at Ifri. A Visiting Professor at Harvard University he is a regular columnist for Les Echos, and Project syndicate.

Møller, Michael

Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva. He served as Executive Director of the Kofi Annan Foundation and as Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cyprus.

Monti, Mario

Chairman of the High Level Group on Own Resources, European Commission. Former Prime Minister of Italy and President of Bocconi University, Milan. He was also for ten years a member of the European Commission.

Moratinos, Miguel Ángel

Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain. He was Spain's Ambassador in Israel and EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process.

Morel, Pierre

Director of the Pharos Observatory of cultural and religious pluralism. Former EU Special Representative for Central Asia and for the crisis in Georgia.

Moustanjidi, Yassine

Architect and Urban Planner, Klaus Müller GMBH, Germany. He is a practitioner and researcher on the issues of urban sustainability and mega-urbanization.

Narayanan, Mayankote Kelath

Former Governor of the State of West Bengal, Director of the Intelligence Bureau and Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee. He served as Senior Advisor and as National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of India.

Nasr, Samir

President, ECE Capital. He was a consultant at the OECD. He is co-founder and was Chairman of the Economic Department at the Lebanese University.

Naumkin, Vitaly

Director, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS). Professor and Corresponding Member, RAS. He was a Member, High Level Group, UN Alliance of Civilizations project (2005-2006).

Nicolet, Patrick

Member of the Group Management Board, Capgemini. He was Vice President for Global Business Development of the newly formed Telecoms Medias Network (TMN) Global Business Unit of Capgemini Ernst & Young.

Niwa Yamashita, Yukari

Board Member, Director, The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ). She has been leading miscellaneous international and regional programs in the area of energy cooperation through IEA, APEC, ERIA and IPEEC.

Nordmann, François

Former Ambassador of Switzerland to France. He was Ambassador to Guatemala and to other States of Central America, Head of the Swiss Delegation to UNESCO, Ambassador to the United Kingdom.

Oiknine, Dan

Chairman, Chamber of Commerce and Industry France India. He founded the India Trade Centre in 2007. He worked in the high-tech and internet industry.

Okamoto, Yukio

President of Okamoto Associates. He is a Robert E. Wilhelm Fellow at MIT. He was a Special Advisor to Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and to Prime Minister Jun-ichiro Koizumi.

Oqubay, Arkebe

Minister and special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia. Former Mayor of Addis Ababa. He serves as Chair of the board of the Ethiopian Railway Corporation (ERC) and Vice-Chair of the board of Ethiopian Airlines (EAL).

Oshima, Shotaro

Chairman of the Institute for International Economic Studies (IIES) and Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Tokyo. Former Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Korea and to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Oualalou, Fathallah

Economist and Moroccan politician. He served as Minister of Economy, Finance, Privatisation and Tourism and then Minister of Finance and Privatisation.

Park, In-Kook

President of the Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies. He served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, Deputy Minister for Policy Planning and International Organizations.

Platteau, Jean-Louis

EFG Bank, Geneva. He was CEO of Dexia Switzerland, before joining Geneva Cantonal Bank (BCGE) as Head of Private Banking and Member of the Executive Board.

Pleska, Benoit

Seasoned Executive operating in Eastern Europe since the early 90s (Hungary, Bulgaria, Ukraine & Romania). Dual competence in Industrial & FMCG.

Pouyanné, Patrick

Chief Executive Officer and President of the Executive Committee, Total. He joined Total in 1997, as Chief Administrative Officer of Total E&P Angola. In 2012, he was appointed President, Refining & Chemicals and member of the Executive Committee.

Predoiu, Catalin

First Vice President National Liberal Party, member EPP. He served as Minister of Justice of Romania, Interim Prime Minister and Interim Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Prieux, Pierre

President of Alcen, group composed of high technology companies in the fields of defense, energy, medical machines and aeronautics. He served at Matra Group as Senior Vice President.

Qiao, Yide

Vice Chairman & Secretary General of Shanghai Development Research Foundation (SDRF). He was Chief Representative and Managing Director of New York Life.

Quirina, Mireille

Senior Executive Coach and Business Consultant. She started her career as international tax and legal attorney in Paris and joined DuPont de Nemours International in 1985.

Rabinovich, Itamar

President of the Israel Institute (Washington and Jerusalem). Currently he is Professor Emeritus of Middle Eastern History of Tel Aviv University, Distinguished Global Professor at NYU and a Distinguished Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Radu, Răsvan

CEO, UniCredit România. He was President of the Advisory Board of the Prime Minister of Romania.

Rauser, Françoise

Executive Secretary of the IEC Affiliate Country Programme, a free programme that comprises 83 developing countries – half of all countries that participate in the IEC.

Ricquier, Anita

Singaporean entrepreneur. A lawyer by training, she is the founder and chief executive officer of Camelot Trust Pte Ltd, a corporate services company based in Singapore.

Robert, Virginie

Foreign desk editor, Les Echos.

Rostand, Antoine

Senior Advisor, Schlumberger, after serving as President of Schlumberger Business Consulting, an independent business unit of Schlumberger that he founded in 2004. He was CEO for EDS France.

Roth, Jean-Pierre

Chairman of the Board of Directors, Cantonal Bank of Geneva. He is also member of the Board of Directors of Nestlé, Swatch Group and SwissRe. He represented Switzerland as Governor of the IMF, Washington.

Roudaut, René

French Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Former diplomatic counsellor of the French government. He also served as Ambassador to Hungary and Uganda.

Roux-Alezais, Henry

Managing director of Sogeric and honorary consul of Ecuador in Marseille. He is also the president of the Mediterranean Institute he founded in 1993.

Rutishauser, Arthur

Editor in chief of SonntagsZeitung. He was member of the editorship of the Tages-Anzeiger, a daily newspaper from Zurich.

Sakong, Il

Chairman of the Institute for Global Economics. Former Minister of Finance. He was Special Economic Adviser to the President and Chairman of the Korea International Trade Association.

Sánchez Sorondo, Marcelo

Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences since 1998. In 2001, His Holiness John Paul II consecrated him titular Bishop of Vescovio.

Sano, Tadakatsu

Attorney-at-law at Jones Day. He was Director-General of the Trade Policy Bureau, Vice Minister for International Affairs and Chief Executive Assistant to Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama.

Schmid, Claudine

French Member of Parliament.

Schweitzer, Louis

General Commissioner for Investment. Chairman of the French foreign affairs council and special representative of the French foreign minister for the Franco-Japanese partnership. He was Chairman and CEO of Renault.





Serra, Narcís

President of IBEI, Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals. Vice-President de Telefónica Chile and Councillor of Telecomunicaciones de São Paulo S/A –TELESP. He was President of CIDOB.

Sheetrit, Meir

Member of the Israeli Knesset for the Hatnua Party. Former Minister of the Interior, Minister of Housing and Construction, Minister of Finance, Minister of Justice, Minister of Transportation and Minister of Education, Culture and Sports.

Sigg, Olivier

Partner in the Geneva private client practice of Froriep, one of Switzerland’s main law firms. During 2010 and 2011, he was seconded to a prominent London law firm.

Signé, Landry

Founding Chairman of the Global Network for Africa’s Prosperity. Fellow at Stanford University’s Center for African Studies, Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Research and Creative Activity.

Sigonney, Pierre

Chief Economist, Corporate Strategy of Total. He is following the evolution of economic activity and the oil and gas markets in the short term and the long term, on the upstream and downstream sides and their impact on Total strategy.

Siman, Bernard

Senior Fellow of Geopolitical Information Service AG. His experience spans financial services, geopolitical risk analysis and scenarios, cross cultural Management and conflict resolution and mediation, and financial diplomacy.

Simion, Eugen

President of the National Science and Art Foundation. Former President of the Romanian Academy. Professor of modern literature at the University of Bucharest.

Simionescu, Maya

President of the Section of Biological Sciences of the Romanian Academy, Executive President of the National Science and Art Foundation (FNSA) and Head of the Institute of Cellular Biology and Pathology “N. Simionescu” (ICBP).

Simon, Jean-Marc

French Ambassador and Chairman of Eurafrique Stratégies SAS. Former French Ambassador to Central African Republic, to Nigeria, to Gabon, and to Côte d’Ivoire.

Simon, Tobby

Founder and President of Synergia Foundation. President of the Synergia Group and Commissioner with the Global Commission for Internet Governance (GCIG) and a member of the Trilateral Commission.

Sokołowski, Jaromir

Ambassador of Poland to Switzerland. Former Undersecretary of State for International relations at the Chancellery of the President of Poland.

Soret, Thierry

Focal point and policy advisor at UNDP for all G20 related matters. He is Coordinator for G20 and Multilateral Affairs, Strategic Policy.

Stamoulis, Kostas G.

Director, Strategic Programme Leader, Food Security and Nutrition in FAO. Former Director of the Agricultural Development Economics Division of FAO.

Steimer, Julien

Secretary-General of AXA France. Before joining AXA France in 2013, he served the French government for over a decade in the areas of diplomacy, politics, the European Union.

Stoian, Marius

President of Club România. Former Under Secretary of State for Foreign Trade of Romania. Member of Chatham House, London and of the Aspen Institute Romania.

Tabet, Riad

President of Berit International Holding SA, President of Batiliban-France, Franco-Arab Consortium for development. He was Advisor to the Lebanese President for the French-speaking world.

Tan, Kelvin

Deputy Director, Monetary Authority of Singapore. He is the Secretary General (Southeast Asia) and Board member of the Africa-South East Asia Chambers of Commerce (ASEACC), based in Singapore.

Tanaka, Nobuo

President of The Sasakawa Peace Foundation. Former Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA). He served as both Deputy Director and Director for Science, Technology and Industry (DSTI) of OECD, Paris.

Taneja, Narendra

Chairman of Energy Security Group of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). He is also the Founder President of New Delhi-based World Energy Policy Summit.

Tang, Karen

Executive Director of The Better Hong Kong Foundation. She served as Deputy General Manager of the Chinese Television Network and General Manager of the Hongkong Telecom IMS

Terrab, Mostafa

Chairman and CEO of OCP Group. He was an advisor in the Royal Cabinet and also served as Secretary-General of the MENA Economic Summit.

Touraine, Agnès

CEO of Act III Consultants, a management consulting firm dedicated to digital transformation. Former Chairman and CEO of Vivendi Universal Publishing after spending 10 years with the Lagardère group.

Trichet, Jean-Claude

Former President of the European Central Bank and Honorary Governor of Banque de France. He is also Chairman of the Group of Thirty and Chairman of the Board of Bruegel Institute.

Turrettini, Sophie

General Secretary of the Fondation Dr Henri Dubois-Ferrière Dinu Lipatti and board member of several charity foundations in Geneva. Member of the board of the WPC Foundation.

Vaisse, Justin

French historian and Director of Policy Planning at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was among others a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Védrine, Hubert

Founder of Hubert Védrine Conseil, a public affairs consultancy that specializes in foreign, economic, and geopolitical affairs. Former French Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Verellen, Franciscus

Member of the Institut de France, former director of the Ecole Française d’Extrême-Orient, where he holds the chair in History of Daoism and currently serves as director of the Hong Kong Centre.

von Habsburg, Gabriela

Professor at VADS, Free University, Tbilisi. She is also a Senior Fellow at GISS Georgian Institute for Strategic Studies since 2013. She served as Ambassador of Georgia to Germany.

Wat, François

Senior Partner, Co-Head of Global Equity Advisory, Rothschild Paris. He was a Managing Director at Deutsche Bank, Chairman of Equity Capital Market, Asia Pacific, based in Hong Kong.

Weymuller, Bruno

Member of Total Professeurs Associés and of the French Energy Council. He was Executive Vice President at Total in charge of Strategy and Risk Assessment.

Wilhelm, Thomas

Doctor of Laws, lawyer, Founder and Partner in the law firm Wilhelm & Büchel Rechtsanwälte. He also serves as Hon Treasurer of STEP, Vaduz Centre.

Yim, Sung-joon

Senior Advisor at Lee International IP & Law Group. Former President of the Korea Foundation. He was among others Korean Ambassador to Canada and Egypt. Former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea.

Youssouffa, Estelle

Independent broadcast journalist, TV reporter and news presenter. Since 2014, she is a news anchor on BFM TV. She is also an investigative reporter working for the French leading public television network France 2’s foreign affairs programme “Un Oeil sur la Planète” since 2011.

Yurgens, Igor

Chairman of the Management Board of the Institute of Contemporary Development. He is also President of the All-Russian Insurance Association and a member of the Presidential Council for Civil Society Institutions and Human Rights.

Zhang, Yunling

Professor, Academy Member and Director of International Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS), Director of Center of Regional Security, CASS, Member of National Committee of Chinese Political Consultant Conference.

Zinsou, Lionel

Prime Minister in charge of economic development, evaluating public policy and promoting good governance in Benin. Former CEO of the Private Equity firm PAI and Chair of the French-African Foundation for Growth.

Zukane, Mbuih

Teacher, University of Dschang and CEO ICAD – Cameroon. He lectures youth leadership as a transversal course in the University of Dschang, Cameroon and he is a co-founder of the African Network of Youth Policy Experts.

Thierry de Montbrial

Thierry de Montbrial is Executive Chairman of the French Institute of International Relations (Ifri), which he founded in 1979. He is Professor Emeritus at the Conservatoire national des arts et métiers. In 2008, he launched the World Policy Conference. He has been a member of the Académie des sciences morales et politiques of the Institut de France since 1992, and is a member of a number of foreign academies including the Russian Academy of Sciences. He serves on the board or advisory board of a number of international companies and institutions. Thierry de Montbrial chaired the Department of Economics at the Ecole polytechnique from 1974 to 1992. He was the first Chairman of the Foundation for Strategic Research (1993-2001). Entrusted with the creation of the Policy Planning Staff (Centre d’analyse et de prevision) at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he was its first director (1973-1979). He has authored twenty books, several of them translated in various languages. He is a Commandeur of the Légion d’honneur and a Grand Officer of the National Order of Merit and has been awarded many other state honors by the French and foreign governments. He holds nine honoris causa doctorates. Thierry de Montbrial is a graduate of the Ecole polytechnique and the Ecole des mines, and received a PhD in Mathematical Economics from the University of California at Berkeley.







Opening speech

Thierry de Montbrial

The eighth World Policy Conference, or WPC as we call it, opens exactly one week after the so-called “Islamic State” committed the terrorist attacks in Paris. The civilised world, in all its forms that have come down through history, with all its diversity and richness, weeps over and is outraged by this barbarism. Indignation can bring out the best in human aspirations, but it is not enough. Neither terrorism nor any of the contemporary world’s other ills will be defeated by expressing emotions alone. Only a genuinely international policy in the highest sense of the term will allow the world to make it through the 21st century without repeating tragedies on the scale of those that wracked the 20th.

These thoughts led us to launch the WPC on the other side of the lake, in Evian, in 2008. Our goal is to help to improve governance, in all its aspects, in order to foster the emergence of a world that is more open, more prosperous, more just and respectful of the diversity of States and nations. Respect is essential. Any ideology bent on conquest, even in the name of human rights, is harmful to peace. Every people has its own history. Every people has its culture and traditions. Every people develops at its own pace and devises its own solutions. That is why we seek to gather senior figures from the five continents, always a limited number — political and economic leaders, representatives of civil society, researchers and journalists — in a climate of trust and a spirit of tolerance to think about, debate and put forward constructive solutions to major regional and international challenges. We give the floor to representatives of medium-sized powers, whose views are too often not heard enough in the debates, even though we need to know more about them in order to avoid making the same kinds of historic mistakes that have occurred in the recent past. Last year we met in Seoul, where Park Geun-hye, the President of South Korea, gave a landmark speech. This year takes us to Montreux. I would like to thank Didier Burkhalter, the Federal Councillor, the President of the Swiss Confederation in 2014 and the head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, for agreeing to deliver the opening address. Switzerland’s position, stemming from an extraordinary history in the heart of Europe, allows it to play a unique role in the contemporary world. I think it is a prime example of the richness of the idea of a medium-sized power that we hold so dear. In a very broad sense, Switzerland has the ability to exert a positive, stabilising influence on the global or at least the regional environment. I believe in particular that today, as in the past, neutrality can still be a major asset. In this regard, the experience of the Swiss Confederation is a common good of humankind.

The first WPC took place in Evian at the beginning of October 2008, just a few days after Lehman Brothers collapsed, a context illustrating the need to strengthen global governance. It was also a time when the Georgian crisis stoked serious tensions in Europe. Dmitry Medvedev, then President of the Russian Federation, used our conference as a sounding board to develop a proposal to update the Helsinki Charter. In my opinion, this idea is more relevant than ever. Many economic and political crises have rocked the world since 2008. Organising its governance always lags behind growing, poorly controlled interdependencies. That is why our WPC project will never be too ambitious.

As the eighth WPC opens, we are still reeling from the Paris attacks. The peaceful coexistence of religions is now a major geopolitical issue. We will talk about this with Prime Minister Lionel Zinsou . But the fact is that the cynical, hateful and monstrous

political manipulation of Islam by satanic leaders who indoctrinate alienated young people to turn them into suicide bombers has become a global threat. This scourge has just plunged France into mourning, but it can strike anywhere, any time. However, nobody can deny that its main victim is the Muslim world, which it is slowly undermining. This is not the place to examine policing, judicial or intelligence measures or, more generally, the adjustments many countries have to make to deal with this form of warfare, which experts rightly call asymmetrical and low-intensity. On the other hand, here we must address the diplomatic conditions necessary to reverse the trend, uninterrupted since the end of the Cold War, towards increasing chaos in the Middle East. No State in the region can hope to remain unscathed if this continues. I hope the nuclear agreement with Iran has made a reversal possible. It must still be made probable. Many efforts, shared between the main powers concerned both inside and outside the region, are necessary to achieve that goal.

Rebuilding a viable order in the Middle East will take a long time. The endeavour will not succeed without settling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, now over 70 years old. Meanwhile, the influx of refugees pouring into the European Union is putting it to a severe test. The conjunction of the euro zone crisis, which can flare up again, the prospect of Brexit, the refugee crisis and the rise of populism pose potentially existential threats to the Union. But ensuring its survival, and even strengthening it, are essential for bolstering global governance as a whole. We will obviously discuss the refugee crisis, which to a great extent demonstrates the need for a new order in the Middle East, but also the development of Africa, on which I would like the WPC to focus increasing attention. I would also like to stress that education is of primary importance for solving all these problems.

The Middle East in the broadest sense is certainly the main geopolitical concern right now, but there are others. I am thinking of Russia and Ukraine, of course, but also of the tensions in East Asia, which we talked about a lot in Seoul, and that will also be discussed in Montreux. It seems to me that some encouraging signs can be made out on both fronts. But as the French proverb says, one, and I would even say two, swallow does not mean spring is here.

Growing interdependence means that international politics and the global economy increasingly overlap. The usual issues of economic and monetary cooperation are still very important, all the more so since, despite the progress that has been made, the potential for instability from the 2007-2008 crisis lingers on. But it seems to me that we at the WPC must also focus on issues of “geo-economics”, in other words issues where States use economic means to achieve geopolitical ends. I am thinking about sanctions, energy policy — especially oil and gas pipelines —and, typically, the rising number of bilateral or multiregional trade agreements at the expense of the multilateral paradigm of the WTO. That is the context in which the TPP, which has just been concluded, or the TTIP, which has yet to be, should be debated. I am also thinking about China’s vision of the Silk Road and about the creation of the AIIB, which is sending ripples through the Western-dominated order that emerged after the Second World War.

The purpose of these introductory remarks is not to lay out the detailed agenda of the next three days. We will take up many other crucial issues, such as energy, food, water, health and digital technology. All of them have an impact on global governance and, consequently, on the gradual building of a genuine desire to live together on the planetary scale. But I would like to conclude by stressing the need to always keep ethics in mind when dealing with issues involving the gradual construction of a global governance capable, as I said at the beginning, of keeping the world reasonably open and tolerant. In the short term, that project requires

stakeholders to act realistically and pragmatically. It can never be said enough how much ideology is a bad advisor in this area. On the other hand, the conditions for any organisation’s long-term viability are fundamentally ethical. Ideology divides, whereas ethics must bring us closer together. Decision-makers, who must always navigate between more or less compatible and competing demands, take the medium term as their timeframe. That is why we would like the WPC to increasingly take ethical considerations into account, starting this year with the way we take up digital technology and climate change, since we are meeting on the eve of COP21.

Speaking of COP21, there is still one aspect of global governance that should be stressed: the unprecedented political and technical complexity of negotiations that address truly global issues. Despite a thousand years of experience between them, diplomats are still feeling their way, and the climate talks are also vitally important from that point of view.

“There is nothing new under the sun,” it says in Ecclesiastes. Nothing, and certainly not the coexistence of civilisation and barbarism. Nothing, if not an unprecedented acceleration of history, in the heart of which the greatest technological revolution the world has ever seen is continuing to unfold, bringing us, full of trepidation but also hope, into uncharted waters.

Thank you.

Opening speech

Didier Burkhalter

Federal Councillor, Head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Mr. President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for your invitation. And thank you for coming to Switzerland.

A week ago, France was struck at its heart, in Paris. France, our neighbour — not only geographically, but also spiritually, because we share the same values. France, a country with which we have strong ties and a long friendship; very long, even, because next year we will celebrate the 500th anniversary of our treaty of “perpetual peace”...

The recent attacks in Paris, as well as in Beirut, in the Sinai, in Yola, Nigeria, in Baghdad and in other places, were assaults upon liberty, equality and human rights — upon humanity’s bedrock values.

There are hard times in life, for people as well as for countries. We must face them, united and standing tall.

Switzerland condemns these barbaric acts with the utmost firmness. It shares the pain of the countries affected, of their governments and of the victims’ loved ones. We will not give in to terrorist intimidation and are determined to work even harder to protect our peoples and uphold humanity’s basic values. In our view, the prevention of violent extremism must be the priority.

Today’s world has become more unstable, more complex and more dangerous. The resurgence of armed violence — of armed conflicts and terrorism — affects all our societies. It causes tremendous human pain and jeopardises security and prosperity around the world. A barrier of fire is burning on Europe’s southern and eastern

edges, kindling flames in the heart of our continent.

The influx of refugees fleeing the violence and the flames consuming their homes make these crises a challenge for entire regions. Millions of people have fled Syria, the overwhelming majority to neighbouring countries. To Jordan, for example, where we are trying to help by revitalising schools. There are 220,000 Syrian children in Jordan, of whom 120,000 are currently in school, often in dire conditions. Sometimes there are 80 children per class; many go to school on empty stomachs. Another 100,000 children are not in school at all, potentially depriving them of prospects and a future — one more time bomb...

A minority of those refugees — but still, hundreds of thousands — are turning towards Europe, presenting it with a challenge: what are the right human, logistical and security responses? How can we achieve the right balance between controlling risks and upholding our values?

That said, conflicts and terrorism are not the only issues keeping Foreign Affairs ministries busy these days. Another trend is clearly taking shape: the return of geopolitics.

Both factors combined — geopolitics and armed violence — are deeply marking our world. Globalisation has shaped its destiny for at least a quarter century now, and the trend will go on. But these two factors — geopolitics and armed violence — are reshaping the outlines of globalisation, having a clear effect on foreign policy.

In our 21st century world, crises are no longer the exception but the rule. That in itself is unacceptable — and must be fought — but nobody can deny the obvious. To meet this challenge, the need for diplomacy has reached a level unparalleled in many years. Diplomacy, especially creative diplomacy, needs to take centre stage.

For today the situation looks grim. We are living in uncertain times and governments are almost always operating in crisis mode. Strong dialogue and creative diplomacy can change things. Switzerland can make useful contributions in that regard. The Lake Geneva area and the city of Montreux, which are hosting us today, are a symbol of that and a reality.

Many peace conferences and diplomatic meetings, public or low-profile, have taken place on the shores of this lake — even in this hotel, which hosted the second peace conference on Syria early last year. Switzerland has a specific history and role. It feels all the more responsible on account of this specificity, while standing shoulder to shoulder with the world.

That is what I wish to talk to you about today: the changes occurring in the world and Switzerland’s response to them.

Let us start by taking a step back and looking a little more closely at globalisation, a major structural trend. Its main effect has been to diffuse power. Since the end of the Cold War, when we thought the Iron Curtains were behind us for good, the process of globalisation has transformed the world, perhaps more than any other phenomenon.

The world’s increasing economic, social and technological interconnection has strengthened the power of many players, including non-State actors such as NGOs, multinational corporations and megalopolises. But power is also shifting from the developed economies, which have almost monopolised it until now, to the emerging and developing economies of the South and East.





Development gaps between the world's countries are narrowing. The number of people living in extreme poverty in the developing countries has plummeted from 47% in 1990 to 14% today. The proportion has gone down from one in two people to one in seven people in 25 years!

But there's another side of the coin. Globalisation has also brought about new inequality. Economic progress remains uneven. China and India have seen the sharpest drop in poverty, whereas sub-Saharan Africa is still lagging behind.

The swift spread of ideas, goods and capital, as well as the acceleration of population movements, can increase social, economic and political instability. As in numerous other OECD countries, many people in Switzerland are worried about immigration and its consequences in terms of integration, space planning in already densely populated areas and competition for jobs. Matters of identity are a major political issue across Europe today.

Globalisation can be a positive force and -offer humankind great opportunities. But it must be shaped to maximise the benefits and minimise the drawbacks. As always, a balance must be found: globalisation cannot bring about progress if it is perceived as a risk, if it moves too swiftly and if it benefits only the few.

Making progress, and not merely moving forward, is the key.

The agenda of globalisation, then, is to maintain a fair and peaceful order, to ensure the efficiency and legitimacy of national and international institutions and to guarantee the cohesiveness of our societies. Lastly, it is to develop shared responses to the numerous challenges, whether transnational threats or global problems such as climate change, security, water, migration and violent extremism.

The quest to achieve a necessary balance, to “to set the world right”, has always been a major challenge. It is even more so today, because of the two trends I mentioned: the return of geopolitics and the resurgence of armed violence.

The return of geopolitics is a side effect of globalisation. A multi-polar world is not necessarily an obstacle to successful multilateralism, but collective action has become more complex. It requires more commitment, time and energy.

Yet the great powers seem to define their interests more in a spirit of confrontation than of cooperation. International norms and international law are coming under increasing pressure.

Geopolitical competition is growing not just on the planetary scale, but also in regional contexts.

The existing balance is being challenged in several parts of the world, particularly in East Asia (tensions in the South China Sea), Europe (Ukraine) and the Middle East (a series of conflicts). In all these areas of the globe, we are witnessing the upsetting of the regional balance and the re-emergence of nations that had been great powers in a sometimes-remote past, which had made their mark on the world over centuries. Let us think about the return of China and India, two powers that accounted for the world's biggest share of GDP until the mid-19th century. Let us think of Iran, Russia and Turkey, bridges between Europe and Asia.

Geopolitics is a matter of government choices. It is not a given fact. Our task is to demonstrate that all of us would be better off choosing cooperative solutions rather than exclusion.

With regard to the Iranian nuclear deal, Iran and the great powers have chosen diplomacy over confrontation. Switzerland is pleased with the outcome and strongly

backed the process, which unfolded not only in this region, but, once again, in this very hotel.

Will this spirit of coordination and dialogue — beyond immediate differences — manage to prevail in order to find a solution to the Syrian crisis? Will the international community combat the so-called “Islamic State” effectively and on the basis of UN decisions?

Time will tell. But re-establishing consensus and rebuilding a fair and peaceful world order also require recognising that Western universalism has its limits and that globalisation — led by the West for over a century — is shifting towards multipolarity.

The resurgence of armed violence is another obstacle hindering countries from moving forward on the path to development and reaping the benefits of globalisation. Although researchers remind us that the number of violent conflicts is decreasing over the long term, today we must face two trends.

First, the number of victims is soaring. The estimated number of people killed in violent conflicts was set at 56,000 in 2008. That figure rose to 180,000 in 2014. The war in Syria alone claimed 70,000 lives last year. The HCR says that in late 2014, there were 60 million internally displaced persons in the world — a number unequalled since the end of the Second World War!

The second trend is that instability and violence on Europe's borders have considerably increased. In the East of Europe, the Ukrainian crisis has brought war back to the continent, something unthinkable just a short time ago. In the South, the situation has deteriorated in many places. Old, unresolved conflicts, such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and more recent wars in Syria, Yemen and Libya, have plunged the region into deep crisis. And failed States are fertile ground for the growth of jihadist terrorism.

The return of armed violence has had tremendous effects. In areas gripped by conflict, human security decreases, economic activity shuts down — today two-thirds of Syria's population depend on humanitarian aid while over four million people have fled the country — and the progress of development has been shattered.

Nor is Europe spared.

On the one hand, it must face a major influx of refugees attempting to flee that violence. Crafting an appropriate response to this crisis is one of the greatest challenges Europe has had to meet in decades.

On the other — and we must make a clear distinction between these two issues — Europe has become a more likely target of terrorism. By attacking Paris, the “Islamic State” has taken terrorism to a new level.

The insecurity and instability rocking the Middle East are increasingly affecting the situation in Europe. The threat of terrorism will surely continue weighing on our continent, even if we do everything in our power to reduce it.





France,
Les Echos, 20.11.2015

Les attaques terroristes à Paris et la volonté de contrer Daech rebattent les cartes des alliances entre les puissances. L'Europe doit gérer la plus grande crise humanitaire depuis la Seconde Guerre mondiale avec l'exode des réfugiés. Alors que le monde tente de prendre la mesure du choc provoqué par la série d'attentats terroristes à Paris, à Beyrouth et dans le Sinaï, quelque 250 experts des relations internationales et du monde économique se réunissent du 20 au 22 novembre à Montreux, sur les rives du lac Léman.

Serbia,
CIRSD, 22.11.2015

Konferencija o globalnoj politici ove godine okupila je vise stotina ucesnika, medju kojima predstavnike politickih elita iz svih krajeva sveta, poslovne lidere, uticajne intelektualce i aktiviste. Pored izbeglicke krize u Evropi, glavne teme konferencije ove godine bile su buducnost Bliskog istoka, perspektive globalne ekonomije, kao i turbulentna politickoekonomska situacija u istocnoj Aziji.

United Kingdom,
Iman Foundation, 22.11.2015

The World Policy Conference was founded by Mr. Thierry de Montbrial in 2008 and is an independent organisation which aims to contribute to improving all aspects of governance, with a view to promoting a world that is more open, more prosperous, fairer and more respectful of the diversity of States and nations. Its annual meeting, which is on a human scale, brings together leading figures from all five continents – political and business leaders, representatives of civil society, academics and journalists – in a climate of trust and a spirit of tolerance to examine, discuss and suggest constructive solutions to major regional and international challenges.

Syria,
The Syria Times, 23.11.2015

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Amir-Abdollahian has stressed that using terrorism as a tool to serve certain agendas and dividing it into good and bad have worsened the security situation in the Middle East and the entire world. Abdollahian made the remarks while addressing the annual meeting of the World Policy Conference (WPC) in the Swiss city of Montreux.

Lebanon,
An-Nahar, 24.11.2015

لم يخفف هدوء مدينة مونترو الساكنة على ضفاف بحيرة ليمان السويسرية، منسوب الهواجس التي تشغل الغرب من جراء خطر الارهاب الجهادي والذي تعاضم بعد هجمات باريس الأخيرة فشكل هذا الموضوع، إلى ملف اللجوء والتحديات الاقتصادية والمالية أبرز محاور جلسات منتدى مونترو من مؤتمـر "مونترو بالاس"الحكومة العالمية الذي انعقد في طبعته الثامنة في فندق "world Policy Conference".السياسة الدولية،

Switzerland,
Le Temps, 23.11.2015

Le terrorisme, les réfugiés, le Moyen-Orient et la situation économique et sécuritaire en Asie, tels ont été les thèmes principaux de la huitième «World Policy Conference» réunie à Montreux le week-end dernier. Présidée par Thierry de Montbrial, son fondateur, la conférence a été ouverte par le conseiller fédéral Didier Burkhalter. Elle a tenté de dresser un ordre de priorité dans l'enchaînement des crises qui surgissent simultanément dans le monde.

Algeria,
Impact24.info, 24.11.2015

Rien n'a été omis lors des travaux de cette 8e édition de la Conférence sur la gouvernance mondiale (la World Policy Conference) qui s'est tenue du 20 au 22 novembre à Montreux, au bord du lac Léman, en présence d'une centaine de personnalités du monde politique, diplomatique, académique, économique, financier et de la presse. Tout les dossiers liés au terrorisme ont été évoqués et largement débattus, notamment la situation au Moyen-Orient, la guerre syrienne, les rapports avec l'Iran et le blocage du processus de paix israélo-palestinien.

Iran,
Financial Tribune, 24.11.2015

A senior diplomat described the potential establishment of “terrorist regimes” as the most serious threat facing the world. “The acts of Daesh [the so-called Islamic State militant group] confirm that the greatest threat in today’s world is transformation of terrorist organizations into terrorist regimes,” Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said. He made the remarks in an address to the annual meeting of the World Policy Conference in the Swiss city of Montreux.

Palestine,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, State of Palestine, 03.12.2015

His Excellency Manuel Hassassian was invited to speak at the World Policy Conference (WPC), the annual forum of the French Institute of International Relations, in Switzerland last week. The WPC aims to create a forum of discussion and reflection for global and international relations with the aim to improve all aspects of global governance.lowered slightly.

South Korea,
MK, 24.11.2015

향후 글로벌 경제를 위협할 가장 큰 리스크는 정치다. 근시안적인 정치가 경제도 나라도 망치고 있다. 마리오 몬티 전 이탈리아 총리가 포퓰리즘과 민주주의에 휘둘리는 전 세계 정치시스템에 일침을 가했다. 지난 20-22 일 스위스 몽트뢰에서 열린 제 8 차 세계정책콘퍼런(WPC)에 참석한 몬티 전총리는 메일경제와 인터뷰하면서 민주주의를 채택한 상당수 나라에서 근시안적 정치가 활개를 치면서 장기적 시각을 가진 정치를 몰아내고 있다고 말했다. 그는 많은 사람이 주목하지 않고 있지만 글로벌 경제에 부정적인 영향을 미치는 가장 근본적인 문제는 각국 정치에 있다며 각국이 정치적 의사결정을 하는 데 있어 점점 근시안적 결정에 얽매이고 있다고 지적했다. 그렉시트 브렉시트 공포에 이어 최근 전세계를 경악하게 한 이슬람국가 파리 테러까지 발생하면서 단일 유럽에 대한 의구심이 커지는 상황이다. EU 붕괴 가능성에 대해 몬티 전 총리는 유럽은 위기에 대한 반작용을 통해 성장해왔다면 EU 멤버중 하나라는 통합의식이 있기 때문에 염려하는 일이 벌어지지는 않을 것이라고 선을 그었다.

Lebanon,
L'Orient Le Jour, 24.11.2015

La situation au Moyen-Orient, sous l'angle notamment des dossiers du terrorisme, de la guerre syrienne, des rapports avec l'Iran et du blocage du processus de paix israélo-palestinien, a occupé une large place des travaux de la 8e édition de la Conférence sur la gouvernance mondiale (la World Policy Conference) qui s'est tenue du 20 au 22 novembre à Montreux, au bord du lac Léman, en présence d'une centaine de personnalités du monde politique, diplomatique, académique, économique, financier et de la presse.

Morocco,
Les Inspirations ECO, 24.11.2015

L'ombre des attentats de Paris a plané sur les travaux de la World Policy Conference (WPC) qui regroupait, en fin de semaine passée, une pléiade de personnalités du monde politique et économique. Thierry de Montbrial, fondateur et président du WPC, a ouvert les débats en s'arrêtant sur les objectifs de la conférence et les raisons qui justifient les thématiques choisies, mais aussi en insistant sur la pertinence d'ouverture sur toutes les tendances et courants de pensées.

Poland,
Warsaw Business Journal (WBJ), 25.11.2015

Lowering interest rates will be unnecessary and wrong, but it won't be a catastrophe, said head of the central bank, Marek Belka. The Monetary Policy Council (RPP) kept interest rates unchanged at its last sitting, but said that in the coming months rates might be lowered slightly.

Middle East ,
Khaleej Post, 23.11.2015

In a meeting between Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Amir Abdollahian and his Swiss counterpart in Montreux, the two sides exchanged views on a range of issues, including the latest developments in war-hit Syria, Tasnim reported on Monday.[...] Amir Abdollahian traveled to the Swiss city of Montreux to attend an annual meeting of the World Policy Conference (WPC) to express Tehran's stances on regional developments in a special meeting of the conference on the West Asia situation.





“

Thierry de Montbrial

We never had so deep conversations as we had this time. [...] The fundamental mission of the WPC is how to keep the world reasonably open. This implies dialogues, listening to each other - not necessarily agreeing, but at least having respect for the others, and at least agree on one thing: keeping the world reasonably open is in the interest of everyone.

“

Mostafa Terrab

Food security is part of a global agenda [...] There is also, obviously, a security agenda, not just around terrorism, but a global security agenda. What is interesting on a global basis is the relationship between those two agendas and whether we can address it. [...] If we look at the African continent, it is obvious that to address global food security, it will have to address rural and agricultural development probably in a way that put forward the small farmers not just intensive agriculture.

“

Hossein Amirabdollahian

Saudi Arabia is an important country in the region. I personally believe that there is no problem at the level of bilateral issues between Teheran and Riyadh but we have different ideas about the situation in the region, especially in Lebanon, Iraq, Syria and Yemen. [...] We are ready to find best settlement for political solution in the region. [...] We are optimistic about Teheran - Saudi Arabia relation; we received some positive signals recently from Saudi Arabia.

“

Haïm Korsia

There is no anti-Semitism in France, there are people who are anti-Semitic. [...] All these years we have lost time, now the risk is the same for everybody. [...] We have to fight all together, it is the most important thing, to be all the time all together. [...] There is not so many places [like the WPC] to meet together. I think it is very important to meet people, to build something. We have to build bridges and to take a risk to build it because bridges are always stronger than walls.

“

Didier Burkhalter

We have a very clear opinion against terrorism and violent extremism. [...] We are not only neutral, we are also impartial. We want to have the possibility to build bridges between the different opinions and actors in order to give more opportunities for discussion, dialogue and political solution at the end. We need, in this world of crisis, dialogue and action. All gatherings like the WPC are interesting for us [...] in order to bring the different opinions together. This sort of close discussions are also something we like in Switzerland, because we are based on dialogue, compromise, sharing, and a sort of modesty of the individual.

“

Tatsuo Masuda

I think the important thing is to decarbonize our mindset as well [...] there are encouraging signs because there is very sound global competition for better technology to decarbonize the system and it is going to take place in every part of the world. [Carbon capture and storage] is a long term target but that is going to be really one of the options. You cannot decarbonize without CCUS. [...] We need to develop technologies to utilize the CO₂ captured.

“

Mari Kiviniemi

It (the data) is a challenge but it also gives a lot of opportunities for innovations, business models and by using the data, we can build a better world. [...] We should not look out at the data gathering as negative. [...] The younger generations have a different attitude; they have grown up in that new world. I think [the WPC is a useful forum] and that these issues have to be discussed because this world is still a rather new world for all of us.

“

Nelson Cunningham

Foreign policy has affected this election. [...] We will see voters say “in this world, we need a President who is serious, a President who understands the world and a President who stands for the values that we stand for”. [...] It will lead to a consolidation on both sides toward a more experienced, more “serious” candidate. [...] There is nothing like having the ability to sit down with leading thinkers in the US, in Europe and Asia as well as the Middle East one week after Paris Attacks. What a way to capture the very best of thinking on both sides of the Atlantic, from some of the best thinkers, right after the terrorist incidents!

“

Elisabeth Guigou

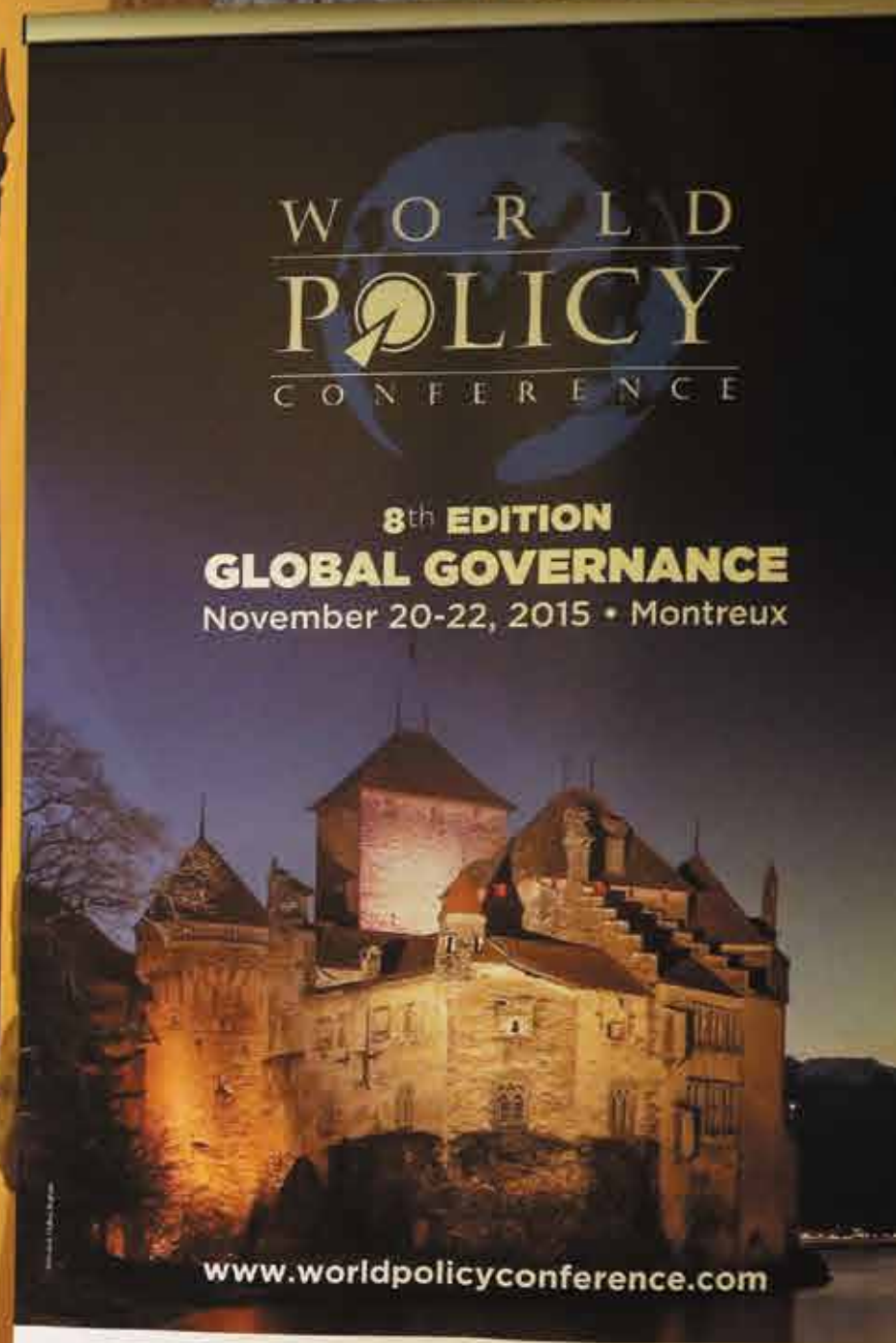
What the governance has to do is to give the tools and help [...] the civil societies and NGOs so that they can express themselves on internet because radicalization is now mainly done through internet. [...] The civil societies are a very large gathering; it goes from very humble NGOs up to the most prestigious think tanks like the World Policy Conference. [...] French people say - although they are frightened - we will remain ourselves, we will not change our way of life. [...] Our Muslim compatriots [...] wanted to express that they were French, they share the same values [...] and this is very comforting.

“

Zhang Yunling

People worry about China's future intentions, future influence and especially the United States, they worry about China's domination in the whole China Sea. But China has no intention to dominate, it is impossible to dominate such kind of a big area. I call it China-US strategic competition, the US tries to show its influence, its role there and pretends to be a protector of the other countries.







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The French Institute of International Relations

Founded in 1979 by Thierry de Montbrial on the model of Anglo-Saxon *think tanks*, Ifri is the principal institution for independent research and debate in France and is dedicated to the analysis of international issues and global governance.

Ifri is the only French institution ranked 16nd among the 100 most influential think tanks in the world, according to the University of Pennsylvania's "Global Think Tank Report 2015" which reviewed 6,486 think tanks from 180 countries.

Ifri enlightens and puts into perspective the most important international events. It serves economic and political decision-makers, academicians, opinion leaders and representatives of civil society.

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W P C

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