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CONFERENCE

PRESS KIT

World Policy Conference 2019
October 12-14, Marrakesh, Morocco



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PRESS RELEASE

12th edition of the World Policy Conference October 12-14, 2019, Marrakesh, Morocco

Paris, France, September 12, 2019 - Founded in 2008 by Thierry de Montbrial, Chairman of the French Institute of Foreign Relations (Ifri), the World Policy Conference (WPC) will be holding its twelfth edition from October 12-14, 2019, in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The WPC's mission is to reflect upon and to come up with solutions to the constant upheavals of today's world and to create lasting bonds between the participants. This international conference gives a voice to political, economic, academic and media players from over 40 countries - from major powers to medium and small countries, including emerging countries, thus ensuring a diversity and plurality of debates.

In 2019, the city of Marrakesh will host the World Policy Conference for the fourth time since its creation in 2008. Beyond the close diplomatic ties between France and Morocco, the choice of this host country reflects the increasingly important role that the African continent is expected to play on the global geopolitical scene.

More than 250 international leading figures will participate, including: Paul Kagame (President of the Republic of Rwanda), Macky Sall (President of the Republic of Senegal), Amadou Gon Coulibaly (Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire), Arkebe Oqubay (Senior Minister and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia), Enrico Letta (Senior Minister and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia), Aminata Touré (president of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Senegal, former Prime Minister of Senegal), Laurent Fabius (President of the Constitutional Council, former Prime Minister of France), Kevin Rudd (President of the Asia Society Policy Institute, former Prime Minister of Australia), Hubert Védrine (former Minister of Foreign Affairs of France), Olivier Blanchard (former President of the American Economic Association, former Chief Economist at the IMF), Jean-Claude Trichet (Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bruegel, European Chairman of the Trilateral Commission, former President of the ECB), Mohamed Ibn Chambas (Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa), Patrick Pouyanné (CEO of Total) and Jean-Paul Agon (Chairman and CEO of L'Oréal).

The work of this twelfth edition will cover issues such as technology in society and in politics, cyber powers, the cyber threat, energy, the environment, world political economic outlook, trade, direct investment, Trust, the future of the international monetary system, the weaponization of Law and globalization. The following topics will also be discussed: Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and especially North/West Africa, new foreign policy trends in East Asia, and many further topics.

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN



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.

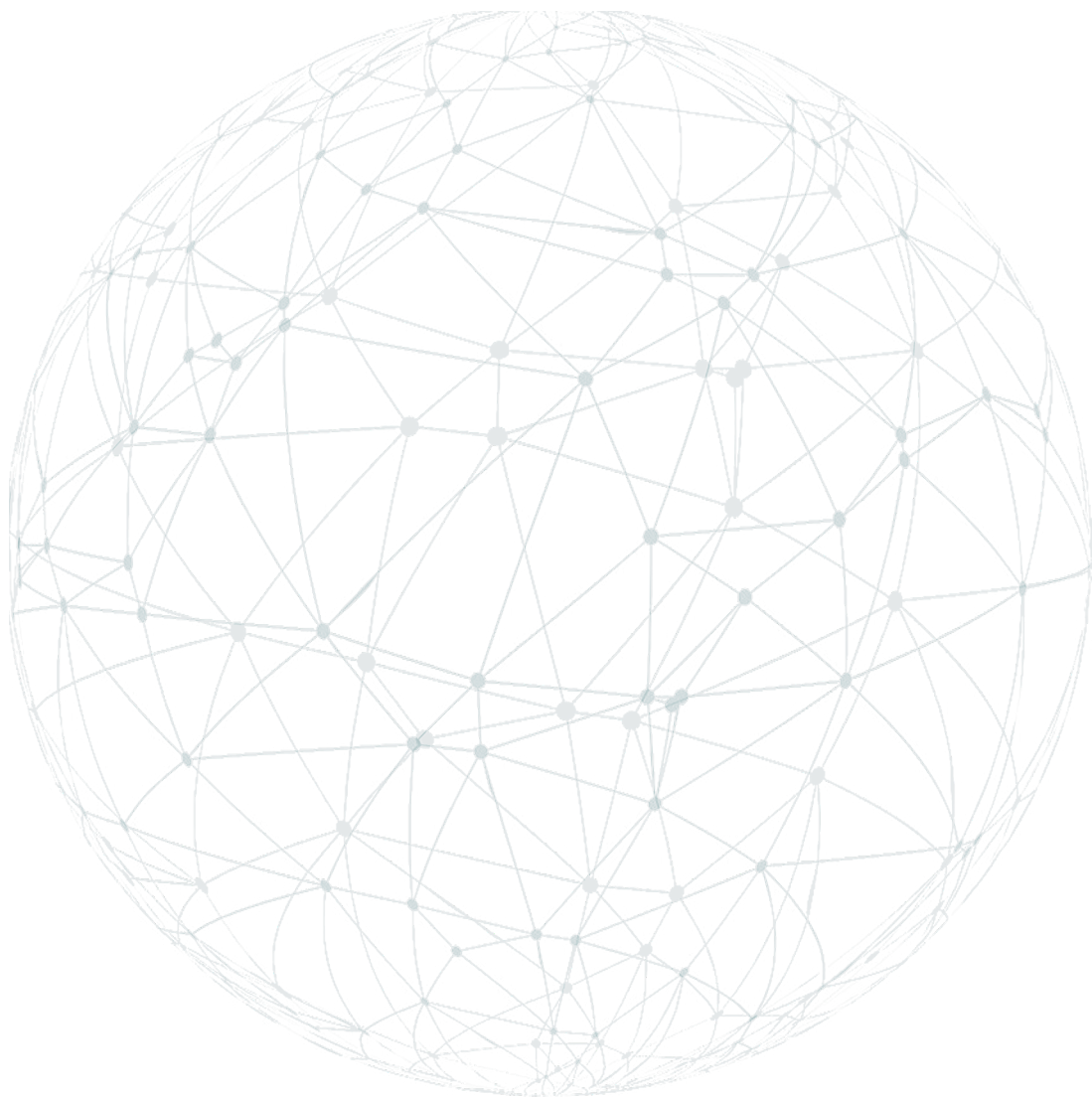
Thierry de Montbrial chaired the Department of Economics at the Ecole polytechnique from 1974 to 1992. He was the first Chairman of the Foundation for Strategic Research (1993-2001). Entrusted with the creation of the Policy Planning Staff (Centre d'analyse et de prevision) at the French Ministry of 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.

MISSION OF THE WPC

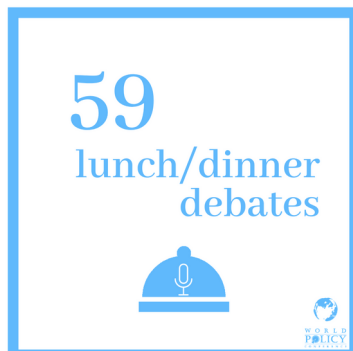
Founded in 2008, the World Policy Conference (WPC) is dedicated to helping promote a world that is more open, more prosperous and fairer. This requires an unremitting effort, to understand the actual forces at play and the interactions between them, as well as to explore non-aggressive ways of adapting how States connect with each other at all levels, while respecting the culture and fundamental interests of each nation.

The annual meeting of the WPC is restricted in size so that participants can create lasting bonds with one another. It brings together leading figures from all five continents – political and business leaders, academics and journalists – in a spirit of tolerance that is the only one conducive to the pursuit of the common good. Beyond the participants, this meeting aims to help all populations affected in a time of constant upheaval.



KEY FIGURES

2008 - 2018



PRESS REVIEW

2008 - 2018

France - Le Monde

09/10/2008 - Invité vedette de la World Policy Conference (WPC), qui a réuni plusieurs chefs d'État ou de gouvernement au bord du lac Léman, M. Medvedev a été le premier à donner un gage, en annonçant le retrait « avant minuit » mercredi des forces russes des zones tampons en Géorgie.

Etats-Unis - Bloomberg Businessweek

12/9/ 2011 - Turkish president criticizes EU 'negligence' - Abdullah Gül also called for revamping the U.N. Security Council, suggesting its permanent members no longer reflected the shift in influence from the postwar equation when the five nuclear powers effectively steered world policy. His comments, to the World Policy Conference's three-day session, were a restatement of Turkey's claim to prominence - in the Middle East, the Mediterranean, and beyond.

Royaume-Uni - The Economist

12/12/2011 - Printemps arabe: «Israël doit changer» CASSANDRA has just been taking part in the World Policy Conference in Vienna—a meeting where the great and good, from the presidents of Turkey and Estonia to the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, swap speeches and ideas on the state of the world and how to improve it. Inevitably, today's reality tended to cast its shadow on tomorrow's possibilities.

Chine – Xinhua

09/12/2012 - Les discussions dans les huit sessions plénières de cette édition portent aussi sur les relations sino-américaines, la finance internationale, l'énergie et l'environnement ainsi que sur la gestion des risques majeurs de la planète. Lancée par l'Ifri en 2008 à l'initiative de Thierry de Montbrial, et devenue depuis un rendez-vous incontournable de la scène politique internationale.

France – Les Echos

15/12/2013 - La sixième édition de la « World Policy Conference » a été l'occasion de faire le point sur l'état de l'économie mondiale. La crise est derrière nous mais les inégalités continuent de croître.

Japon - The Japan Times

08/12/2014 - "The establishment of a framework of trust and cooperation in the East Asian region, including the Korean Peninsula, is very important for the whole world to move into a more peaceful and secure future", Park said in a speech at the seventh World Policy Conference.

Liban - 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.

Sénégal – Xibaaru

22/11/2016 - La « World Policy Conference », un rendez-vous annuel initié, depuis 9 ans par Thierry de Montbrial, Président de l'Ifri, réunit des experts de haut niveau et des membres d'instituts académiques et des leaders de Think Tank de référence de tous les continents pour faire le point sur l'état du monde et proposer des perspectives.

Maroc - Le Matin

03/11/2017 - La dixième édition de la World Policy Conference offre l'opportunité de débattre des grands enjeux régionaux et internationaux. Cette rencontre internationale de grande envergure contribue également à améliorer la gouvernance dans ses dimensions de réflexion, de décision et de contrôle, afin de promouvoir un monde plus ouvert et plus respectueux de la diversité, souligne-t-on du côté des organisateurs.

Côte d'Ivoire – AIP

26/10/2018 - Le Premier Ministre ivoirien, Amoudou Gon Coulibaly, intervenant à la cérémonie d'ouverture de la « World Policy Conference », vendredi à Rabat (Maroc), a indiqué la nécessité pour l'Afrique de prendre part aux réflexions sur les problématiques de gouvernance mondiale.

APPRECIATIONS

2008 - 2018

"I think the WPC is playing such a role as it brings people together. A panel, for example, brings people together to debate about the ideas to discuss, to hear each other, although we're not making decisions here. But by exchanging views we help the decision makers."

Fu Ying (2010)

"It is important to have access to a free, privately managed forum, during which people may express their views in their own name and not in the name of their job function, and where they should be prepared to share their ideas in order to imagine how the world could be governed in a more or less rational way."

Lionel Zinsou (2010)

"The WPC is very helpful because it concentrates, since the very beginning, on global governance - as the title suggests. We trust - and I trust, personally, that global governance is more important than ever in the present world, because we have so many dramatic structural changes. [...] You also have, or course, the new geopolitical challenges, including very unfortunately - terrorism. All of this creates an absolute need for improving global governance."

Jean-Claude Trichet (2015)

"The WPC plays an important role in making the leaderships better aware of the interdependences. Of course, the WPC is not attended by everyday, ordinary citizens; for that, there are other instruments of communication and common awareness-making. This is for the leaders of countries, of cultural movements, of international institutions, and I think it is a very useful exercise because, indeed, this is also an intellectual and a political contribution towards winning the temptation of isolationism."

Mario Monti (2015)

"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."

Igor Yurgens (2015)

"This is a really great opportunity and a great platform, and we have to maintain it. Mongolia, and myself, are really committed to this great endeavour and purpose."

Tsakhia Elbegdorj (2017)

"I hope that the international dialogue on the organisation of our planet will continue, and I know that I can rely on the World Policy Conference to produce better ideas, better policies and to bring the debate forward. An excellent ten-year anniversary to the WPC: it serves a valuable purpose."

Emmanuel Macron (2017)

"We can only rejoice in the fact that, in this country, a new edition of the World Policy Conference is taking place. By inviting us to express these few thoughts at the opening session, its organizers - and here we would like to warmly thank Professor Thierry de Montbrial for his friendship - stressed the fundamental importance of religion in reflecting on world affairs, or, to phrase it otherwise, about international issues. The Ecumenical Patriarchate which we have the honour of representing thanks them, while wishing them every success in their undertakings."

Bartholomée Ier (2017)

"It is an honour to be here and to attend an event with such important participants who are knowledgeable and experts in their domains. It also provides me the opportunity to show something I take pride in, namely the endeavour to reach peace and cooperation in the Balkans."

Edi Rama (2017)

"The World Policy Conference has become one of the most important events in the world of policy and international efforts."

Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani (2017)

"The WPC offers a great opportunity for development actors, political representatives, researchers and leaders to gather and exchange ideas on the current state of the world in order to find common grounds to ensure global peace, security and development."

Amadou Gon Coulibaly (2018)

11th edition of the World Policy Conference October 26-28, 2019, Rabat, Morocco

The 11th edition of the World Policy Conference (WPC) was held in Rabat from the 26 to the 28 October 2018. As always, it brought together political and economic decision-makers, experts, and opinion leaders to debate current problems and global governance. The meeting opened with an introduction by Thierry de Montbrial, a message from General Michel Aoun, President of Lebanon, and His Holiness Bartholomew I, Archbishop of Constantinople, as well as an address by the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire, Amadou Gon Coulibaly

The 16 plenary sessions were devoted to discussing the challenges posed by global governance in areas such as: the future of the Euro, the consequences of Trump and the impacts of a connected world. Among the distinguished speakers to share their insight were Karin Kneissl (Federal Minister of Europe, Integration, and Foreign Affairs, Austria), Amadou Gon Coulibaly (Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire), Jean-Paul Agon (Chairman and CEO of L'Oréal), László Trócsányi (Justice Minister, Hungary), Josep Borrell (Minister of Foreign Affairs, the European Union, and Cooperation, Spain), Tsakhiagiyn Elbegdorj (former President, Mongolia), Jean-Yves Le Gall (President of the French Space Agency, Chair of the European Space Agency Council), Lionel Zinsou (former Prime Minister of Benin, coPresident of SouthBridge), Chun-Ying Leung (Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference), Francis Gurry (Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization), Jean-Louis Bourlanges (Member of European Parliament) and Hubert Védrine (former Minister for Foreign Affairs, France).

The workshops focused on three main subjects – global economy and finance; energy/climate and Africa, considered from the perspective of global governance. The discussions were particularly constructive, with participants including Jean-Claude Trichet (Chair of the Board of Advisors, Bruegel, and former President of the European Central Bank), Richard Cooper (Professor of Economics, Harvard University), Ladislav Paszkiewicz (Vice-President, Strategy and climate, Total), Daniel Daianu (Member of the Board of Advisors, Romanian Central Bank, former Minister of Finance), Olivier Appert (President of the French Energy Council and the French Committee of the World Energy Council), Leila Benali (President of the Arab Energy Forum), Nobuo Tanaka (Chairman of The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, former Executive Director of the IEA) and Bertrand Badré (Founder and CEO of Blue like an Orange Sustainable Capital, former Managing Director and CFO of the World Bank).

With senior figures such as Laurent Fabius (President of the Constitutional Council, former French Prime Minister), Mustapha Bakkoury (President of the Moroccan Agency for Solar Energy), Nasser Bourita (Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Morocco), Hailemariam Desalegn (former Prime Minister of Ethiopia) and Olivier Blanchard (Fred Bergsten Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute, former Chief Economist at the IMF), lunch and dinner debates set the stage for discussion on subjects such as: the global economic situation, renewable energy and the development of Africa.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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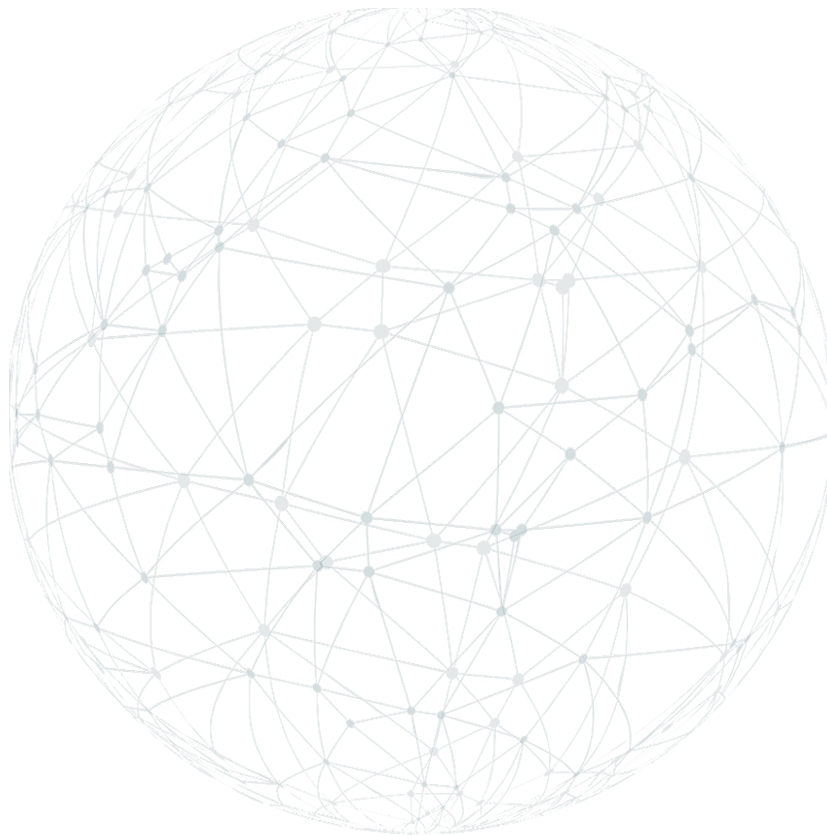
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