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PRESS KIT

World Policy Conference 2022
December 9-11, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



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PRESS RELEASE

15th edition of the World Policy Conference December 9-11, 2022, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Paris, France, November 25, 2022 - Founded in 2008 by Thierry de Montbrial, Chairman of the French Institute of International Relations (Ifri), the World Policy Conference (WPC) will be holding its fifteenth edition on December 9-11, 2022, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Since its first edition in 2008, the WPC's mission has been 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 2022, the city of Abu Dhabi will host the World Policy Conference for the second time.

More than 200 international leading figures will participate, including: His Holiness Bartholomew I (Archbishop of Constantinople - New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch), Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia), Dmytro Kuleba (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine), Vincent Biruta (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Rwanda), Roman Vassilenko (Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan), Reem Al Hashimy (Minister of State for International Cooperation), Romuald Wadagni (Senior Minister in charge of Economy and Finance of Benin), Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak (Chairman of the Executive Affairs Authority, Group CEO and Managing Director of Mubadala), Tsakhia Elbegdorj (Former President of Mongolia), Kevin Rudd (President of the Asia Society Policy Institute, former Prime Minister of Australia), Aminata Touré (Representative of the Senegalese National Assembly, former Prime Minister, former President of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of Senegal), Laurent Fabius (President of the Constitutional Council, President of the COP 21, former Prime Minister of France), Nardos Bekele-Thomas (CEO of the African Union Development Agency/NEPAD), Anwar Mohammed Gargash (Diplomatic Advisor to President of the United Arab Emirates), Serge Ekué (President of the West African Development Bank), Jean-Marie Paugam (Deputy Director General of the WTO), Sam Okwulehie (CEO of LATC), Benedikt Sobotka (CEO of Eurasian Resources Group), Frank Obrist (CEO of OBRIST Powertrain), Franklin Servan-Schreiber (Co-Founder and CEO of Transmutex), Jean-Claude Trichet (Vice President of the Académie des sciences morales et politiques, former Chairman of the ECB).

The work of this fifteenth edition will cover issues such as the International Economic Order, the Sahel and West Africa, US-China Rivalry, the Future of EU, Climate Change and Energy Transition, Public Health, Food Security, 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.

He serves on the Board or Advisory Board of a number of international institutions. Thierry de Montbrial chaired the Department of Economics at the École 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 prévision*) at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he was its first Director (1973-1979). He has authored more than twenty books, several of them translated in various languages, including *Action and Reaction in the World System - The Dynamics of Economic and Political Power* (UBC Press, Vancouver, Toronto, 2013) and *Living in Troubled Times, A New Political Era* (World Scientific, 2018). He is a Grand Officer of the Légion d'honneur, Grand Officer of the Ordre national du Mérite. He has been awarded the Order of the Rising Sun – Gold and Silver Star, Japan (2009), Commander of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (2016) and other state honors by the French and several foreign governments. Thierry de Montbrial is a graduate of the École Polytechnique and the École des mines, and received a Ph.D 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 - 2021



PRESS REVIEW

2008 - 2021

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.

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.

Middle East Monitor

12/10/2019 - In a speech at the WPC in Marrakesh, Morocco, on Saturday, HE the Foreign Minister [Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani] recalled the invitation of HH the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani to conclude a regional security treaty in the Middle East.

Arabie Saoudite – Arab News

02/10/2021 - Economic and strategic competition between the US and China is putting immense pressure on the Arab Gulf states, a top Emirati official told delegates on the second day of the 14th World Policy Conference in Abu Dhabi.

APPRECIATIONS

2008 - 2021

"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)

"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)

"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)

"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."

Paul Kagame (2019)

"In some ways, I would say this is one of some of the best conferences that I have ever attended internationally. When I was sitting in government, I used to be a regular attendee of the Munich Security Conference which is organized with serving officials. Even though I had a platform I could speak on, it is very stereotyped, and the questions were never difficult because everyone was on the same mind, so the WPC is something quite extraordinary."

Mayankote Kelath Narayanan (2021)

EDITION 2021

The fourteenth edition of the World Policy Conference (WPC) was held in Abu Dhabi from October 1 to 3, 2021. Like the previous ones, it brought together political and economic leaders, experts and opinion leaders who debated the global issues of the moment and global governance. The meeting was opened with a welcoming address by the Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan, an introduction by Thierry de Montbrial, addresses by the Archbishop of Constantinople - New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, His Holiness Bartholomew I, by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania, Edi Rama, by the Prime Minister of the Republic of the Côte d'Ivoire, Patrick Achi, and messages from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, and from the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, Jean-Yves Le Drian.

The eighteen plenary sessions were devoted to the challenges to global governance in areas such as: World Political-Economic Outlook After the Pandemic, Transatlantic Relations, The Middle East and External Powers, Stakes of Space Competition. Among the prominent speakers who contributed their insights were Stuart Eizenstat (former Ambassador of the United States to the European Union), Philippe Baptiste (Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the French Centre for Space Studies), Peter Handley (Head of the Energy-Intensive Industries and Raw Materials Unit in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Growth), Carlos Moreira (Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of WISeKey, former UN Expert on cybersecurity), Marcus Noland (Executive Vice President and Director of Studies at the Peterson Institute for International Economics), Bogdan Klich (Senator in the Polish Parliament, Chairman of the Foreign and EU Affairs Committee in the Polish Senate), Mari Kiviniemi (Managing Director of the Finnish Commerce Federation, former OECD Deputy Secretary-General, former Prime Minister of Finland), Lionel Zinsou (Co-Chair of SouthBridge, Chairman of Terra Nova think tank, former Prime Minister of Benin), Ana Palacio (International Lawyer, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain, former Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the World Bank Group), Josep Borrell Fontelles (High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Vice President of the European Commission), Kevin Rudd (President of the Asia Society Policy Institute, former Prime Minister of Australia).

The workshops focused on three main areas - Money and Finance, Energy, Climate and Sustainable Development, and Africa- from a global governance perspective. The discussions were particularly constructive, with participants such as Cheikh Tidiane Gadio (Vice President of the National Assembly of Senegal, President of the Pan-African Institute for Strategies, Peace-Security-Governance), Mariam Al Mheiri (Minister of Climate Change and Environment, United Arab Emirates), Lionel Zinsou (Co-Chair of SouthBridge, Chairman of Terra Nova think tank, former Prime Minister of Benin), Aminata Touré (Senegalese politician, former Prime Minister), Nardos Bekele-Thomas (UN Resident Coordinator in South Africa), Serge Ekué (President of the West African Development Bank), Jacques Michel (Chairman of BNP Paribas Middle East and Africa for Corporate and Institutional Banking), Isabelle Tsakok (Economist, Consultant on Agriculture and Rural Development, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center for the New South).

Around high-level personalities such Louise Mushikiwabo (Secretary-General of the International Organisation of La Francophonie), Paul Kagame (President of the Republic of Rwanda), et Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak (Chairman of the Executive Affairs Authority, Group Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Mubadala), the lunch and dinner debates enabled numerous exchanges on topics such as: the role of the French-speaking world, the development of Africa, as well as the situation in the Middle East.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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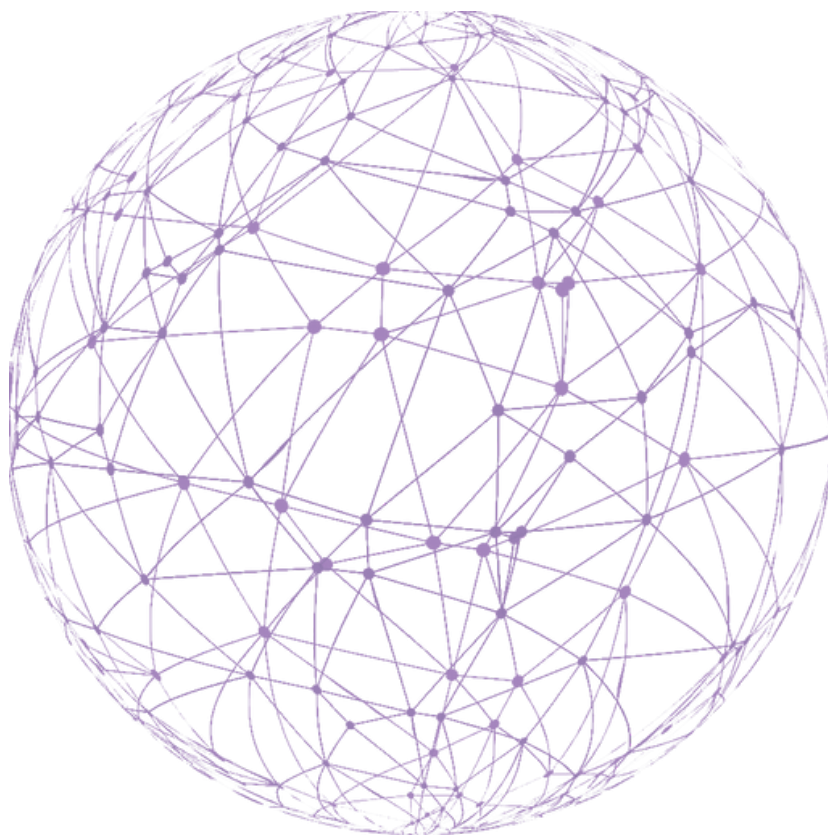
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