



WORLD
POLICY
CONFERENCE

17
years

For a reasonably
open world



Thierry de Montbrial

Founder and Chairman of the WPC

Our mission

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 unrelenting 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.

Among the WPC guests



H.S.H. Prince Albert II (Sovereign Prince of Monaco), H.R.H. Prince Turki Al-Faisal (Chairman of the KFCRIS), Noura Al Kaabi (Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the UAE), Khaldoon Al Mubarak (President of the Executive Affairs Authority), Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al-Thani (PM of the State of Qatar), Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia), Ban Ki-moon (SG of the UN), Ehud Barak (Deputy PM and Minister of Defense of Israel), Serge Ekué (President of the West African Development Bank), Heinz Fischer (President of the Republic of Austria), Fu Ying (Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China), Robert Gates (Former US Secretary of Defense), Abdullah Gül (President of the Republic of Türkiye), Angel Gurría (SG of the OECD), Mo Ibrahim (Chairman of Mo Ibrahim Foundation), Toomas Hendrik Ilves (President of the Republic of Estonia), Dmytro Kuleba (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine), Haruhiko Kuroda (President of ADB), Pascal Lamy (DG of the WTO), Dmitry Medvedev (President of the Russian Federation), Mario Monti (PM of Italy), Kevin McCarthy (55th President of the US Chamber of Representatives), Amr Moussa (SG of the League of Arab States), Joseph Nye (Distinguished Service Professor of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government), Alassane Ouattara (President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire), Park Geun-Hye (President of the Republic of Korea), Mary Robinson (Former President of Ireland), Herman van Rompuy (President of the European Council), Nicolas Sarkozy (President of the French Republic), Jean-Claude Trichet (President of the ECB), Paul Kagame (President of the Republic of Rwanda), Kevin Rudd (26th PM of Australia), Josep Borrell Fontelles (Vice President of the European Commission), Louise Mushikiwabo (Secretary General of the International Organisation of La Francophonie).

Conference venues

From Evian to Abu Dhabi, 17 years of the WPC

Evian, France



Marrakech, Morocco



Marrakech, Morocco



Vienna, Austria



Cannes, France



Monaco, Monaco



Seoul, Korea



Montreux, Switzerland



Doha, Qatar



Marrakech, Morocco



Rabat, Morocco



Marrakech, Morocco



Abu Dhabi, UAE



Abu Dhabi, UAE



Abu Dhabi, UAE



Abu Dhabi, UAE



Appreciations

Japan and China, Japan and Korea cannot tackle issues through bilateral talks and negotiations. There has to be someone - the US, or even better, the WPC, this objective so-called "third-track" forum - to intervene and talk to us and them.

Yukio Okamoto

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.

John Lipsky

Today those who had faith in this adventure in 2008, who believed the WPC would continue through the years with brilliance and distinction, are delighted. And the best is yet to come.

Nasser Bourita

The World Police Conference is a truly multinational global conference. I think that has been the very unique nature of the WPC from its beginning.

Lee Hye Min

The WPC is becoming an institution. It is always a pleasure to come and discuss the world's issues, not just problems, but strategies. It is a great time to exchange experiences and share challenges and solutions to all the world's problems.

Aminata Touré

The WPC has been one of the first of that kind of geopolitical important forums where leaders have considered two not-that fashionable issues: the importance of the religious facts in geopolitics and Africa.

Lionel Zinsou

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.

Kemal Derviş

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.

Jim Hoagland

I think it is a good gathering because the theme of global governance, even though it sounds horribly wonky, sits atop something that is now deeply real for us all.

Kevin Rudd

The whole conference was imbued with a sense of honesty and sincerity. You managed to create a dense and diversified agenda and you invited panelists who knew how to captivate the audience. The conference venue was very comfortable and the logistical organization impeccable.

Karl Brauner

Press review

CASSANDRA has just been taking part in the WPC 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.
[The Economist - Dec. 12, 2011](#)

Israel's official state radio has reported that a "historic meeting" was held between Israeli and Saudi diplomats on the sidelines of the World Policy Conference in Monaco.
[Tehran Times - Dec. 12, 2013](#)

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 WPC.
[L'Orient-Le Jour - Nov. 24, 2015](#)

La rivalité croissante entre la Chine et les Etats-Unis va structurer les relations internationales des trente prochaines années, a déclaré Thierry de Montbrial, président de la World Policy Conference à l'ouverture de la 11e édition.
[Le Temps - Oct. 19, 2018](#)

Since gaining independence, Kazakhstan has pursued a multivector, pragmatic, and balanced foreign policy, Kazakh Deputy Foreign Minister Roman Vassilenko said at the 17th annual World Policy Conference (WPC), organized by the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI), on Dec. 13-15 in Abu Dhabi.
[The Astana Times - Dec. 17, 2024](#)

In a speech on Monday to the World Policy Conference in Evian, France, the Russian President Dmitry A. Medvedev, called for a new global security framework.
[NYT - Oct. 9, 2008](#)

Lancée par l'Ifri en 2008 à l'initiative de Thierry de Montbrial, est devenue depuis un rendez-vous incontournable de la scène politique internationale.
[Xinhua - Dec. 9, 2012](#)

"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 sevent WPC.
[The Japan Times - Dec. 8, 2014](#)

Wang Jisi spoke this week at the WPC, an annual gathering of a hundred or so government officials, international financial experts and other opinion leaders organized by the French Institute of International Relations, a think tank.
[The Washington Post - Nov. 25, 2016](#)

« Les échanges d'idées se font aussi bien lors des débats publics qu'en marge, lors de discussions en petits groupes que nous avons. La WPC nous permet de nous retrouver et d'échanger officieusement », explique au Point Afrique l'un des participants.
[Le Point - Oct. 16, 2019](#)

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WPC in numbers

17
editions



90
countries



1727
participants



600
speakers



507
hours of
debate



248
plenary
sessions



71
lunch/dinner
debates

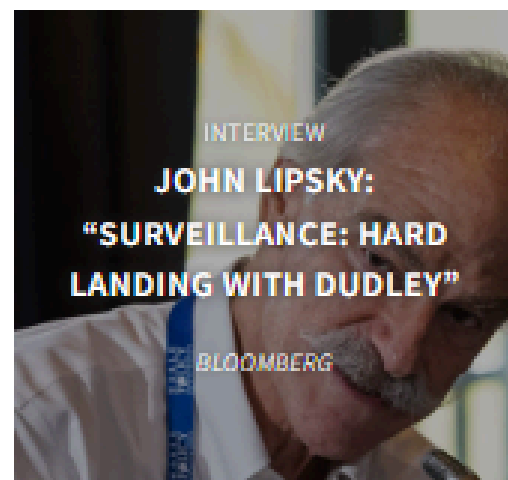
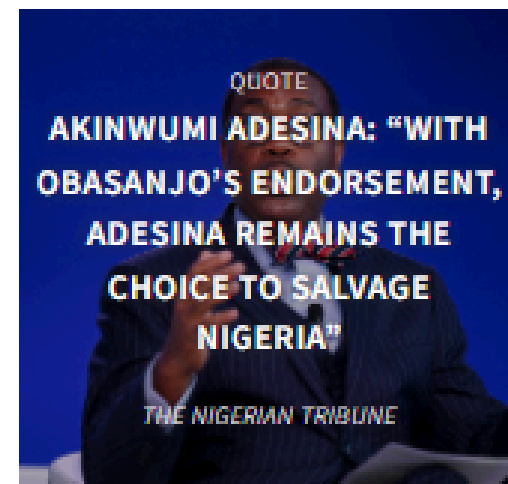


62
workshops



Newsroom

Keep yourself informed on the latest papers written by the members of the World Policy Conference via the [Members Newsroom](#) section of our website. Designed as a showcase for the intellectual activity of the WPC participants, this page is updated regularly with valued content on topics related to global governance, whether in the form of articles, tribunes, working papers or interviews.



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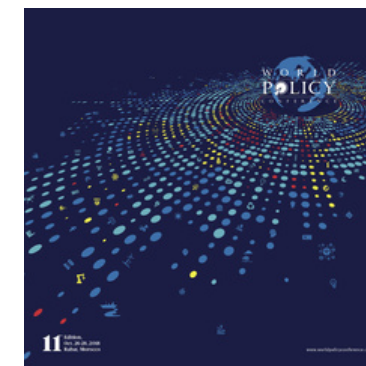
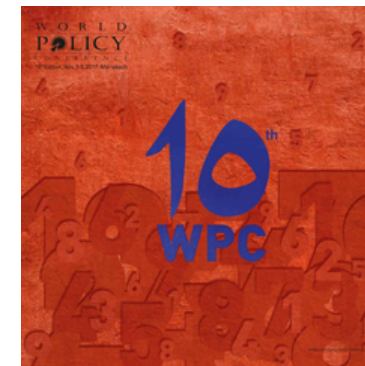
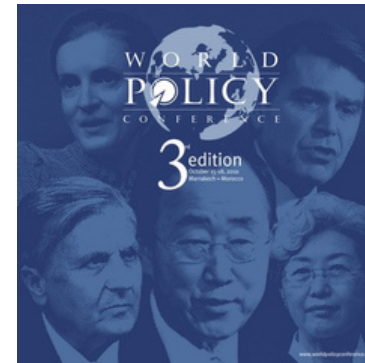
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Follow-up

Annual reports are available online after each conference and printed versions are sent worldwide. Full conference proceedings are available for download on our website all year round in both French and English. This content is also available as videos on YouTube.





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