



SDGs CONFERENCE 2024

In the Margins of the UNGA79

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

23-25 September 2024
NEW YORK

Booklet



**JOURNALISTS AND
WRITERS FOUNDATION**

www.unga-conference.org



JOURNALISTS AND WRITERS FOUNDATION

The Journalists and Writers Foundation (JWF) is an international civil society organization dedicated to culture of peace, human rights, and sustainable development. The JWF promotes diversity and inclusion by creating forums for intellectual and social engagement, generates and shares knowledge with stakeholders, builds partnerships worldwide and develops policy recommendations for positive social change.

- JWF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered in New York State.
- JWF is associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications.

JWF Headquarters - NEW YORK

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www.jwf.org

Global Partners



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India



India



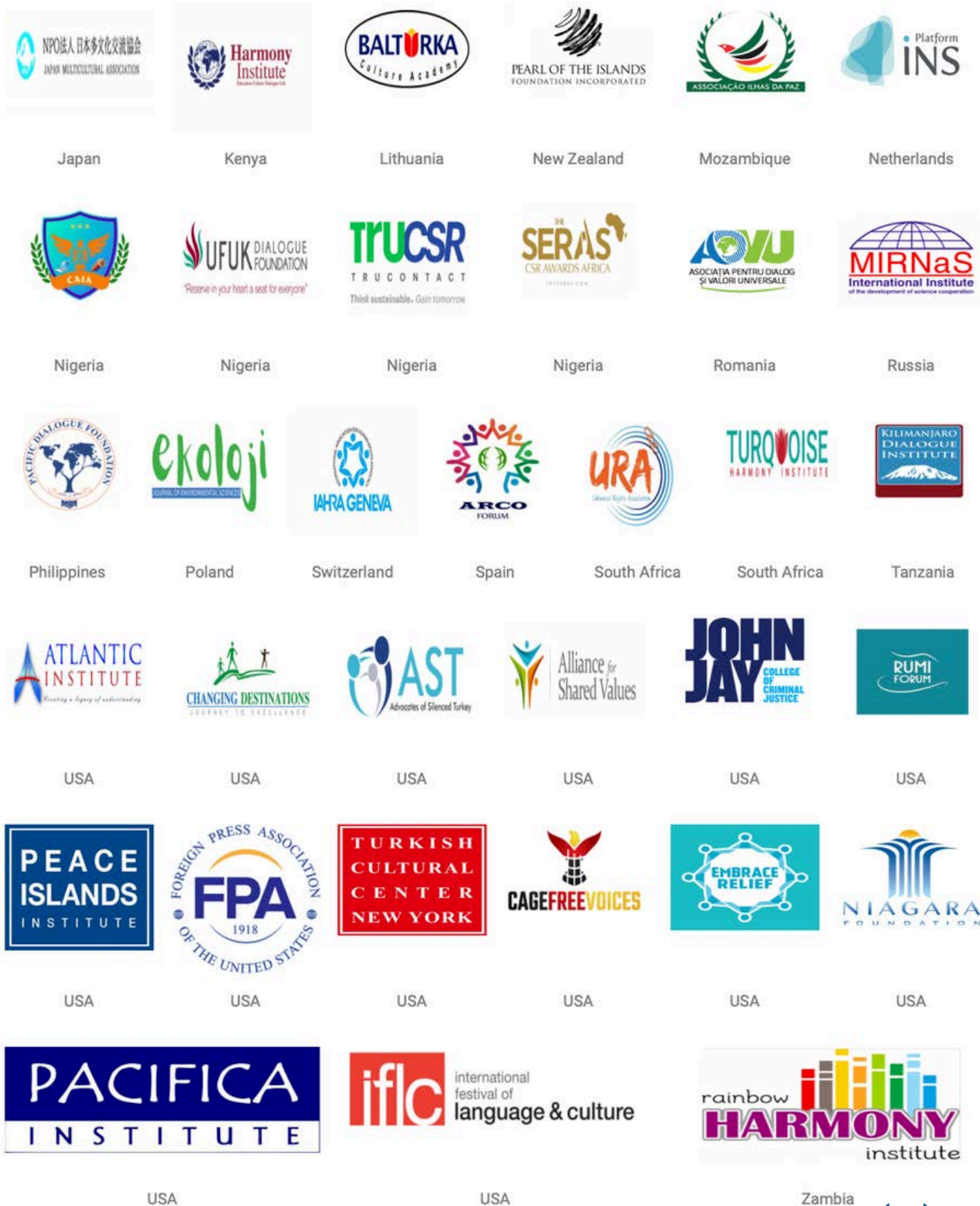
Iraq



Italy



Global Partners



SDGs CONFERENCE 2024

IN THE MARGINS OF THE UNGA79

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

25 September 2024 | www.unga-conference.org

DATE: 25 September 2024 (Wednesday)

TIME: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM EST (New York)

VENUE: > **IN-PERSON** - 630 Second - Grand Ballroom

630 Second Ave New York, NY 10016 (Entrance bet 34th - 35th Streets)

[click HERE](#) for in-person registration

> **ZOOM** - [click HERE](#) for online registration

ORGANIZERS: Journalists and Writers Foundation in collaboration with its Global Partners

PARTICIPANTS: High-Level Representatives of UN Member States, the United Nations and other International Organizations, the Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations, Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Academics, Researchers, and Practitioners.

WORKING LANGUAGE: English

BACKGROUND

In the margins of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA79), the Journalists and Writers Foundation, in collaboration with 52 civil society organizations from 27 countries, will host the 9th Annual SDGs Conference 2024 in New York on Wednesday, September 25, 2024. Since its inception in 2014, the Journalists and Writers Foundation's flagship event has brought together over 171 high-level UN diplomats, heads of state, civil society leaders, and human rights advocates from around the globe. This signature event has generated valuable insights on the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and tackled pressing issues related to peace and security. The three-day program includes side events and diplomatic engagements fostering global partnerships with diverse development stakeholders, creating an inclusive platform for the sharing of best practices from civil society organizations. The thought-provoking discussions held at the JWF UN High-Level Reception, Roundtable Discussions, and SDGs Conference have continued to provide comprehensive solutions to improve global peacefulness and leave no one behind.

As the world reaches the midpoint of the SDGs timeline, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has sounded the alarm for a global response to revitalize the implementation of the Global Goals 2030 and stay on track to achieve them by the 2030 deadline. The challenges of development, peace, and security highlighted at the SDGs Summit during the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA78) remain pressing and are now joined by emerging global complexities and humanitarian crises. In response to these challenges, the UN Secretary-General has called for an emergency platform to launch a New Agenda for Peace and adopt a Pact for the Future. The political declarations and financial commitments made at the Summit of the Future are crucial in building a multilateral governance system that delivers for all people, everywhere. The outbreak of conflicts, humanitarian crises, internal displacements, and declining human rights have been highlighted as major obstacles to sustainable development that must be addressed.



Moreover, achieving prosperity without ensuring global peace and security is a promise that is at risk. The Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 8, "Information Integrity on Digital Platforms", underscores the threat of misinformation and the evolving landscape of information channels, which are emerging security threats hindering development and escalating conflicts. Against this backdrop, the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA79) presents a critical opportunity to commit to taking action-oriented steps to revitalize the multilateral system. Furthermore, 2024 is a pivotal year as half of the world's population will be electing their national and local leaders, amidst a concerning global trend of democratic backsliding that has been unfolding over the past decade.

At this pivotal moment, civil society leaders, human rights advocates, journalists, and intellectuals from diverse backgrounds must intensify their partnerships to amplify the progressive efforts of the United Nations as the world navigates a significant period of transformation. The SDGs Conference 2024 will bring together renowned experts and high-level speakers from various disciplines to tackle three pressing issues: (1) The Summit of the Future: Revitalizing the Pact for the Future, (2) Information Integrity on Digital Platforms and Mainstream Media, and (3) Transforming Inclusive Global Governance.

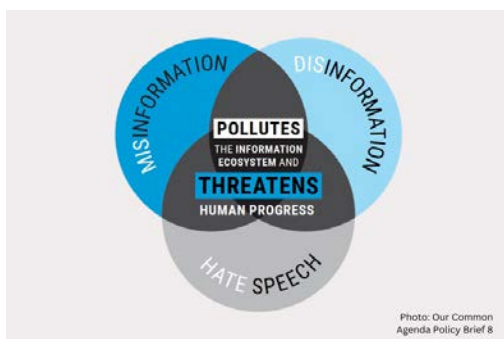
PANELS & THEMES

Panel 1: The Summit of the Future: Revitalizing the Pact for the Future



- UN 2.0: Amplifying Reforms in Multilateral Diplomacy and Strengthening the UN System
- Reflections from the Nairobi Civil Society Conference: Unmuting the Civil Society
- Leveraging Innovation and Emerging Technologies for Sustainable
- Development: Opportunities, Challenges and Regulations
- Building Trust in Youth-led Organizations and Increasing Investment in Youth Empowerment Initiatives

Panel 2: Information Integrity on Digital Platforms and Mainstream Media



- Combatting the Mis/Disinformation in the Age of Information
- Pollution: Transforming the Landscape of Journalism
- Defending the Independency and Authenticity of Elections in 2024 Amidst AI-dominated News Ecosystem
- Establishing a Human Rights-based Global Digital Compact: Principles and Actions by 2030
- Building Sustainable and Resilient Media Outlets: Empowering Investigative Journalism
- The Role of Journalists in Unfolding Humanitarian Crisis and Human Rights Reporting



Panel 3: Transforming an Inclusive Global Governance



- Reviving Multilateralism: Overcoming Global Challenges through Effective Global Cooperation and Preventive Diplomacy
- Decline of Democratic Principles and Erosion of Global Peace and Stability
- Escalating Geopolitical Conflicts: Intensifying Polarization and Reversing Progress of the SDGs
- A Feminist Approach to Global Peace and Security: Unlocking Women's Leadership in Conflict Prevention and Resolution
- Strengthening Public Institutions: Unlocking Multiplier Effects of Sustainable Development and Inclusive Prosperity for All.

SDGs CONFERENCE 2024

IN THE MARGINS OF THE UNGA 79TH SESSION

25 September 2024, Wednesday (10:00 AM – 4:00 PM EST)

PROGRAM

VENUE: In-person – 630 Second Avenue, New York, New York 10016
(Entrance between 34th–35th St.)

IN-PERSON – [click HERE](#) to RSVP | **ZOOM** – [click HERE](#) for registration

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Welcome Remarks and Opening Session

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Panel Session 1: The Summit of the Future:
Revitalizing the Pack for the Future

12:15 PM – 01:45 PM

Panel Session 2: Information Integrity on Digital
Platforms and Mainstream Media

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM

Panel Session 3: Transforming an Inclusive
Global Governance

03:30 PM – 04:00 PM

Closing Session





The Pioneers in SDGs Awards commend remarkable organizations and individuals who steadfastly advance sustainable peace, development, and the preservation of a culture rooted in peace, human rights, and sustainable development. The Journalists and Writers Foundation, alongside our esteemed 52 Global Partners spanning 27 countries, recognizes Pioneers in SDGs whose innovative and imaginative projects contribute to the attainment of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The unwavering altruism, philanthropy, dedication, and commitment exhibited by these Pioneers in SDGs are instrumental in cultivating a better world for all. In the previous year, we witnessed the participation of 30 projects from 20 different countries, each recognized and celebrated for their remarkable endeavors in benefiting their local communities.

Selection Criteria

The selection of projects will be based on four key criteria, each holding substantial significance:

Innovation : This criterion evaluates the project's approach to devising creative solutions to global challenges, emphasizing its innovative contributions to social, economic, and environmental development.

Stakeholders : The involvement of key players in decision-making processes is paramount. This criterion assesses the project's inclusiveness in decision-making, free from any form of discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, or other factors.

Scope : This criterion encompasses the planning, implementation, and evaluation processes of the project. It evaluates the project's goals, objectives, indicators, and tangible outcomes, emphasizing a comprehensive and well-structured approach.

Impact : The project's contributions to individuals, organizations, and society at large are evaluated in terms of their impact on social, economic, and environmental development. This criterion assesses the project's ability to create meaningful and positive changes in the world.

Awards

1st Place: Pioneers in SDGs Award + \$2,000 cash prize

2nd Place: Pioneers in SDGs Award + \$1,000 cash prize

3rd Place: Pioneers in SDGs Award + \$500 cash prize

Additional Awards

Innovation Excellence Award: + \$250 cash prize

Stakeholder Engagement Award: + \$250 cash prize

Scope Achievement Award: + \$250 cash prize

Transferable Impact Award: + \$250 cash prize

Young Changemakers Award: + \$250 cash prize

[Click here to apply for the Pioneers in SDGs Awards 2024](#)



SDGs ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

24 SEPT
2024
TUESDAY

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST
630 Second – Guild Hall
630 Second Ave New York, NY 10016
(Entrance bet 34th – 35th Streets)

RSVP
REQUIRED

ROUND 1: INTERFAITH CONTRIBUTIONS TO SDGs ACHIEVEMENTS

ROUND 2: CIVIL SOCIETY BEST PRACTICES AND INITIATIVES FOR THE SDGs



JOURNALISTS AND
WRITERS FOUNDATION

unga-conference.org | jwf.org

As a part of the SDGs Conference 2024, the Journalists and Writers Foundation and its Global Partners are organizing the SDGs Roundtable Discussion to discuss critical issues to promote and protect sustainable peace and development. This side-event aims to create a platform for the international delegations of civil society members, journalists, academics, experts, and human rights advocates participating at the SDGs Conference 2024 to share their expert opinions, exchange ideas on various development challenges and offer inclusive solutions to the contemporary challenges on social, economic, and environmental issues.

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Round 1: Interfaith Contributions to SDGs Achievements

The discussion will focus on four key areas where interfaith efforts can make a significant impact:

- Breaking the Cycle of Poverty
- Health and Wellness through Interfaith Efforts

- Education and Equality for All through Interfaith Partnerships
- SDG 16 - Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies through Interfaith Dialogue

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Round 2: Civil Society Best Practices and Initiatives for the SDGs

The session will focus on four key areas where civil society collaborations can make a significant impact:

- Building Inclusive Societies through Civic Initiatives:
- Faith Communities as Change-Makers
- Empowering Youth-led Initiatives for Sustainable Peace
- Fostering Gender Equality through Partnerships

Participants

Civil society delegations from our Global Partners from around the world and the United States will participate in the roundtable discussion and the workshops.

[Click here to RSVP](#)



SDGs CONFERENCE 2024

IN THE MARGINS OF THE UNGA79

25 September 2024

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Opening Remarks: **H.E. Agnes Chimbiri-Molande, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Republic of Malawi to the UN | Malawi**



H.E. Agnes Chimbiri-Molande has 15 years of experience in the United Nations. Most recently, she served for over six years as Portfolio Manager for Governance for the UNDP in Malawi from 2015 to 2021, after serving for eight years as Assistant Resident Representative for Millennium Development Goals and Achievement for UNDP in Malawi from 2008 to 2015. Throughout her tenure with UNDP, H.E. Chimbiri-Molande engaged widely in policy development and implementation, advocacy, and programme management across different governance spheres. She also extensively engaged in legal reforms to promote good governance in Malawi. Under her leadership in UNDP Malawi's Governance Portfolio, Her Excellency created three data management platforms and assisted the UN and Malawi Government for policy making in addressing conflicts, violence against women and girls.

Opening Remarks: **Professor Philip Clayton, Ingraham Professor, President, Institute for Ecological Civilization | USA**



Prof. Philip Clayton is the President of the Institute for Ecological Civilization. As a visionary thinker, Prof. Clayton leads EcoCiv in expanding and deepening its mission at the intersections of environment and humanity. With several decades of experience in university-based research, teaching, and lecturing, Prof. Clayton is involved in the conceptual development of all EcoCiv's projects and ensures mission fit. He assists project leaders about intersectional societal changes relevant for their particular projects. Prof. Clayton holds a PhD from Yale University; has held guest professorships at Harvard, University of Cambridge, and University of Munich. He is the author and editor of several dozen books and over 300 articles on science, ethics, religion.

PANEL 1 : SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE: REVITALIZING THE PACK FOR THE FUTURE

Keynote: **H.E. Dr. Hajo Sani, OON, Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of Nigeria to UNESCO | Nigeria**

- *The Role of Education in Achieving the Pack for the Future*



Ambassador Dr. Hajo Sani is an Educationist and Policy Analyst with extensive experience in teaching and public administration. She holds degrees in Education, Guidance and Counseling, and Public Administration. Dr. Sani served as a school principal for twelve years and as Minister of Women Affairs from 1997 to 1998, where she defended Nigeria's CEDAW reports at the UN. She authored influential books on women's issues, including "Women and National Development (WAND)". Her other notable works include "First Ladyship and



Empowerment Programmes in Nigeria" and "Women and Leadership". Ambassador Dr. Sani has been active in various committees and received the Officer of the Order of the Niger in 2006. Her Excellency worked with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and was appointed Senior Special Assistant to the President on Women Affairs in 2015. In 2021, she became Nigeria's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO in Paris.

Moderator: Jesselina Rana, UN Advisor, CIVICUS | USA



Jesselina Rana serves as the United Nations Advisor at CIVICUS New York Hub, where she spearheads research and analysis in international law and policy, advocates for civil society participation, and advises on global trends concerning civic space issues from a multilateral and global governance perspective. By engaging closely with member states, UN personnel, and Civil Society Organizations, Ms. Rana actively collaborates with civil society partners in New York and beyond to drive transformative changes in civic space and civil society engagement at the international level. Jesselina Rana holds a master's degree in law from Harvard Law School.

Panelist: Adj. Prof. Morten Kjaerum, Affiliated Professor, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law | Denmark

- *UN 2.0: Amplifying Reforms in Multilateral Diplomacy and Strengthening the UN System*



Prof. Morten Kjaerum served as Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Sweden from 2015 to February 2024. Prior to this, he was the first Director of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna from 2008 to 2015. Formerly, Prof. Kjaerum was Executive Director at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. He has written extensively on human rights, lectured globally, and held numerous roles, including serving on the UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination from 2002 to 2008. He chaired the European Council for Refugees and Exiles from 2015 to 2023 and was appointed by the UN Secretary-General to the UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation and the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in 2017, serving as chair for three years.

Panelist: Nudhara Yusuf, UN Advisor, Co-Chair, 2024 United Nations Civil Society Conference, Research Associate, Global Governance, Justice & Security, Stimson Center | USA-DC

- *Reflections from the Nairobi Civil Society Conference: Unmuting the Civil Society*



Nudhara Yusuf is a Research Associate at the Global Governance, Justice & Security Program and Executive Coordinator of the Global Governance Innovation Network at Stimson. She previously worked with UNDP's SDG Integration Team and Regional Bureau for Asia Pacific, as well as with the World Federation of UN Associations and the British Shadow Secretary of State for Justice. Ms. Yusuf is the Founder and Trustee of several grassroots NGOs in India and the UK, focusing on governance, globalization, emerging technologies, and youth engagement in multilateral institutions. She is Co-Chair of the 2024 UN Civil Society Conference and a fellow at the the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. Nudhara Yusuf has also been a fellow with UN University's Center for Policy Research and an honorary advisor to the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY.



Panelist: Anil Wasif, Co-Founder, BacharLorai | Canada

- *Best Practices of BacharLorai: A Social Impact Agency led by Young-Professionals*



Anil Wasif is a policy researcher and practitioner with extensive experience in government and non-profit sectors. He is a Research Manager at Infrastructure Ontario. Mr. Wasif has held roles such as Senior Economist at the Ontario Office of the Budget and Senior Policy Advisor to the Associate Deputy Minister of Service Ontario. He holds a Master's in Public Policy from McGill University and a Bachelor's in Economics and Political Science from the University of Toronto. Mr. Wasif serves on the Advisory Board for the Max Bell School of Public Policy at McGill and a Board Member of UofT Mississauga, McGill School of Public Policy. He is a Member of the Board of Governors at the University of Toronto, a Senior Fellow at Bangladeshi Canadian Community Services, and Co-founder of BacharLorai, non-profit focused on empowering Bangladeshis worldwide.

PANEL 2 : INFORMATION INTEGRITY ON DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND MAINSTREAM MEDIA

Moderator: Jenifer Fenton, Journalist, Media Advisor | Switzerland



Jenifer Fenton has been the Spokesperson at the United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for Syria since May 2019. Previously, she worked for Al Jazeera in Doha and New York, and CNN in Atlanta, Jerusalem, London, and Abu Dhabi holding various senior positions. Ms. Fenton also worked for the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Palestine, and the UN Refugee Agency in New York. With 16 years in the television news industry, she has won several major industry news awards, including multiple Peabody Awards. Jenifer Fenton also played a pivotal role in opening the CNN Abu Dhabi bureau and was also the Senior Planning Producer overseeing the Middle East for all CNN networks worldwide. She held the Yale Poynter Fellow-in-Residence for the 2017–18 academic year. Jenifer Fenton participates at the SDGs Conference 2024 in her personal capacity as a media advisor.

Panelist: Prof. Monica Attard OAM, Co-Director, UTS Centre for Media Transition, Professor of Journalism Practice | Australia

- *The Role of Journalists in Unfolding Humanitarian Crisis and Human Rights Reporting*



Prof. Monica Attard is Professor of Journalism Practice and Co-Director of the UTS Centre for Media Transition, a cross disciplinary centre researching the impact of digital change on journalism and media more broadly. Prior to this, Prof. Attard was Head of Journalism at UTS, Sydney. Her career in journalism spans 45 years across both broadcast and digital media. Prof. Attard was awarded the Order of Australia for services to journalism, and is the winner of 5 Walkley Awards for excellence in journalism, including gold. At the ABC, Prof. Monica Attard anchored PM and Sunday Profile on ABC Radio, and hosted Media Watch on ABC TV. She was the ABC's Russia correspondent charting the collapse of Soviet communism and the rise of capitalism, covering 8 civil wars across the old Soviet Union. Prof. Attard wrote a history of the era, "Russia, Which Way Paradise."



Panelist: Silviu Calangiu, Head of Digital Euronews Romania | Romania

- *Building Sustainable and Resilient Media Outlets: Empowering Journalists on Digital Platforms*



Silviu Calangiu is a Digital Media professional with over two decades of experience in content production, digital identity creation, and team management. He is the Head of Digital at Euronews Romania leading efforts to establish the station's digital presence and works with Euronews World to reach a global audience of 145 million monthly viewers. Previously, Mr. Calangiu worked at PRO TV for nearly 18 years, producing successful TV segments and special projects such as "100 Years in 100 Days" and "30 Years After." He played a key role in digital transformation, revamping the stirileprotv.ro website and enhancing the digital presence of "România, Te Iubesc!". Mr. Calangiu has navigated significant media industry changes, including crises, layoffs, and pandemics, learning valuable lessons from these experiences.

Panelist: Kate Hannah, Director and Founder, The Disinformation Project Aotearoa | New Zealand

- *Combatting the Mis/Disinformation in the Age of Information Pollution: Transforming the Landscape of Journalism*



Kate Hannah is the Founder and Director of the Disinformation Project Aotearoa, a research consortium examining misinformation and disinformation in New Zealand since February 2020. As a cultural historian specializing in science and technology, she investigates the internet's role in information disorders, dangerous speech, and hate speech, with particular focus on misogyny, racism, and white supremacy. Experienced in research translation for decision-makers and community co-development of research, Kate Hannah was part of the Te Pūnaha Matatini team awarded the 2021 Prime Minister's Science Prize for their contributions to New Zealand's COVID response. She is a US State Department 2022 International Visitor Leadership Program alum, focusing on Disinformation in the Pacific. Ms. Hannah is also a PhD candidate and research associate at the Centre for Science and Society, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington.

Panelist: Dr. Shahabuddin Yaqoob Quraishi, Author, Former Chief Election Commissioner | India

- *Defending the Independency and Authenticity of Elections in 2024 Amidst AI-dominated News Ecosystem*



Dr. Shahabuddin Yaqoob Quraishi, a distinguished Member of the Indian Administrative Service since 1971, served as the seventeenth Chief Election Commissioner of India. During his tenure, he spearheaded several significant electoral reforms, including the establishment of the voter education division, the expenditure monitoring division, and the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management. Dr. Quraishi also launched National Voters Day. He was appointed Ambassador of Democracy by the International IDEA, Stockholm, alongside Kofi Annan in October 2017. Dr. Quraishi is the author of *An Undocumented Wonder: The Making of the Great Indian Election* (2014) and the editor of *The Great March of Democracy: Seven Decades of India's Elections* (2019).



- *Global Crisis of Press Freedom Enforcing Journalism in Exile*



Mahir Zeynalov has diverse work experience in media and digital marketing. Mr. Zeynalov started his career as a Correspondent at the Los Angeles Times in September 2004 and held this role until December 2006. In September 2008, he joined Today's Zaman as a News Editor and continued in this position until February 2016. In July 2016, he became the CEO of The Globe Post. In December 2017, Mr. Zeynalov transitioned to the role of Executive Manager at The Defense Post. In April 2018, Mahir Zeynalov has founded the MZ Digital Marketing. Throughout his career, Mr. Zeynalov has gained significant experience in media and journalism, as well as leadership and management roles in the digital marketing industry.

PANEL 3: TRANSFORMING AN INCLUSIVE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

Opening Remarks: Darko Zelenika, Minister-Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the UN | Bosnia and Herzegovina

- *Transforming an Inclusive Global Governance: Best Practices of Bosnia and Herzegovina*



Darko Zelenika is an experienced diplomat and economic expert with a diverse background in both international relations and engineering. He currently serves as Minister-Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the UN in New York, a position he has held since October 2023. Formerly, he led the Information Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Throughout his career, Mr. Zelenika has held several key diplomatic positions, including Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Spain, Italy, Jordan, and Sweden. He also served as a non-resident ambassador to countries such as Morocco, Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine, Finland, and Estonia. Darko Zelenika has been a Charge d'affaires a.i. in the Russian Federation and the Swiss Confederation and served as Minister-Counselor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Washington D.C. Darko Zelenika's academic background includes a Master's degree in Economic Sciences from the University of Mostar.

Moderator: Luciana Micha, Director, Center for International Policy Studies, University of Buenos Aires | Argentina



Luciana Micha is an accomplished professional with a distinguished career in political science, public management, and education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, graduating with honors from the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), where she has been a tenured professor since her graduation. She also holds a Master's in Communication and is currently a PhD candidate in Political Science, with postgraduate studies in educational planning, public resource management, human rights, and leadership. Currently, Ms. Micha serves as the Director of the Center for International Policy Studies at UBA, where she is responsible for academic management, research, and fostering international educational cooperation. With 24 years of teaching experience, she has contributed to various academic institutions, including UBA, UADE, and the National Institute of Aeronautical and Space Law (INDAE).



Panelist: Kamran Bokhari, Senior Director, Eurasian Security and Prosperity, New Lines Institute | USA-DC

- *Escalating Geopolitical Conflicts: Intensifying Polarization and Reversing Progress of the SDGs*



Dr. Kamran Bokhari is the Senior Director of the Eurasian Security and Prosperity portfolio at the New Lines Institute. He served as Director of the Analytical Development Department from 2019 to 2023. He is also a national Security and Foreign Policy Specialist at the University of Ottawa's Professional Development Institute. Dr. Bokhari has also served as the Central Asia Studies Course Coordinator at the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service Institute. He has been a Senior Consultant with the World Bank since 2009. He has 15 years of experience in the private sector intelligence space, where he provided intellectual leadership in publishing cutting-edge geopolitical analysis and forecasts. He is the author of "Political Islam in the Age of Democratization". Dr. Bokhari's core areas of expertise include Central and South Asia, the Middle East, Intelligence Analysis, Foreign Policy, National Security, and Counterterrorism. He earned his Ph.D. from the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Westminster after successfully defending his thesis on "Moderation Among Salafists & Jihadists."

Panelist: Ana Carolina Evangelista, Executive Director, ISER, Institute of Studies in Religion | Brazil

- *Decline of Democratic Principles and Erosion of Global Peace and Stability*



Ana Carolina Evangelista is a Political Scientist with MSc in International Relations (PUC-SP), MA in Public Management and Policy (FGV/EAESP) and a PhD Candidate in Social Sciences and Contemporary History at CPDO/FGV. With more than twenty years of experience in civil society organizations and political and technical advisory activities on governmental institutions, she is a Senior Researcher and the Executive Director of Institute of Studies in Religion in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). Her research studies are focused on democratic innovation in Latin America, the Brazilian political system, elections and the role of religious groups in politics. Ms. Evangelista is also a Political Columnist at Revista Piauí and Canal O Meio.

Panelist: Mcebisi Jonas, Former Deputy Minister of Finance, South Africa, Founder, Nucleus | South Africa

- *Sustainable Financing and Public-Private Partnerships for SDGs*



Mcebisi Jonas is the Founder and Director of Nucleus, a non-profit think tank based in Johannesburg, which conducts in-depth, nonpartisan research to improve policy and governance. He leads to drive democratic reform and activate the citizenry behind a new agenda for South Africa geared towards growth and prosperity. Mr. Jonas is the Group Chairperson of the South African multinational mobile telecommunications provider MTN. He is a former Deputy Minister of Finance in South Africa. He served as the Chairperson and Non-Executive Director of Public Investment Corporation Limited. Mr. Jonas served as a Member of the National Assembly in the Parliament of South Africa for the African National Congress. Mcebisi Jonas was previously appointed by the President of South Africa as part of his four special envoys on investment.



Panelist: Prof. Collins Odote, Associate Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi, Chairman, Council of Legal Education | South Africa

- *Strengthening Public Institutions: Multiplier Effects of Sustainable Development and Inclusive Prosperity for All*



Prof. Collins Odote is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with a Doctor of Philosophy in Law from the University of Nairobi. He is an Associate Professor of Law, Associate Dean at the Faculty of Law, and Research Director of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy at the University of Nairobi. He is also an arbitrator, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, and a member of the Law Society of Kenya. Prof. Odote is the Chairman of the Council of Legal Education and the President of the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Africa, which focuses on capacity building and knowledge exchange in environmental law across African universities. His research interests include governance, elections, land law, and environmental and natural resource management. Prof. Odote has consulted various government bodies, non-state actors, and international organizations. His publications include works on Kenya's Community Land Act, the 2013 and 2017 elections, and election technology and political violence in Kenya.

Oral Statement: Firmesk Rahim, Fulbright Scholar, Global Governance and Human Security, University of Massachusetts Boston | Iraq-Kurdistan

- *The Role of Civil Society Organizing in Fostering Inclusive Global Governance*



Firmesk Othman Rahim is currently a Fulbright Scholar pursuing a Master's Degree in Global Governance and Human Security at the University of Massachusetts Boston. She is from the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and holds a Master's Degree in English literature from the University of Sulaimani. Ms. Rahim has served as an Assistant Lecturer at the University of Garmian and as a Project Coordinator at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, where she contributed to numerous initiatives and projects supporting young Iraqi innovators. Beyond academia, her interest in politics has made her an active member of society. Firmesk Rahim has participated in several leadership and development programs, including being a Perennial Leadership Fellow in 2020 and an Iraq Leadership Fellow in 2019. From 2018 to 2019, Ms. Rahim worked as a Political Assistant in the Office of the Presidency of Iraq.



SDGs Conference Former High-Level Speakers



H.E. Sofia Voultepsi

Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum in Charge of Integration
(GREECE)



H.E. Helen Clark

Former Prime Minister
(NEW ZEALAND)



Hon. Prof. Bob Carr

Former Foreign Minister
(AUSTRALIA)



H.E. Celia Parnes

Former Head of the Secretary of Social Development of the State of São Paulo
(BRAZIL)



Dr. Wayne Henry, JP

Director-General of the Planning Institute, Ministry of Finance and Public Service
(JAMAICA)



Hon. Verity Firth

Former NSW Minister for Education and Training
(New South Wales, AUSTRALIA)



H.E. Mark Botomani

Minister of Information, Civic Education and Communications Technology
(MALAWI)



Adama Dieng

Former USG, Special Advisor of the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide



Lakshmi Puri

Former Assistant-Secretary-General, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women



Thomas Gass

Former Assistant-Secretary-General, Policy Coordination & Inter-Agency Affairs of UN DESA



Vivian Heyl

Representative of the Minister of Education
(CHILE)



H.E. Charlotta Schlyter

Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Sweden to the UN
(SWEDEN)



Sasa Jurečko

Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
(SLOVENIA)



H.E. Sophia Tesfamariam

Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the UN
(ERITREA)



Michelle Breslauer

Senior Manager, UN Global Compact
(USA)



Sarmad Khan

Member of the ACUNS Board of Directors
(CANADA)



H.E. Markova Concepcion Jaramillo

Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Panama to the UN
(PANAMA)



SDGs Conference Past Speakers



H.E. ATEFEH RIAZI
Assistant-Secretary-General



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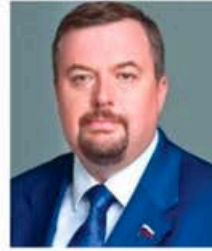
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO
POVERTY



2 ZERO
HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



14 LIFE
BELOW WATER



15 LIFE
ON LAND



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
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17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



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