

YOUTH & LEADERS

SUMMIT REPORT 2020

PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

20 January 2020



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PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

MONDAY 20 JANUARY 2020



#YLSummit2020

YOUTH & LEADERS

SUMMIT

Launched in January 2016 by the **Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po (PSIA)**, the **Youth & Leaders Summit** brings together today's leading international affairs personalities with the next generation of world leaders and thinkers.

YOUTH & LEADERS: A UNIQUE CONCEPT

Bringing a fresh perspective to university organised conferences, the **Youth & Leaders Summit** is an unparalleled event with an innovative underlying concept: fostering discussion and debate between leading global affairs actors and students on complex international issues. The impressive diversity and capacity of the PSIA student body provided the impetus for the Summit, and the idea has been met with great enthusiasm by over 100 of the world's most prominent international actors for the first five editions.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

PSIA students are at the heart of the Summit. Several months ago, students helped choose the topic and shape the list of guest speakers for this fifth edition. Then twelve selected PSIA students took part in a unique simulation exercise and presented their research to the leaders. Finally PSIA students were also greatly involved in the organisation and execution of the Summit, working as a team of 37 dedicated logistics and communications assistants, speaker escorts and on-the-day event assistants. Overall, student engagement is testament to the #PSIASpirit so characteristic of the school, and fundamental to the success of the **Youth & Leaders Summit**.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Every effort has been made for the Summit to be as carbon neutral as possible. Actions include contributions to offset flights taken by speakers. In addition, to help reduce the carbon footprint, speakers' biographies appeared online rather than in print.

SCIENCES PO AND PSIA

Sciences Po has been a pioneer of multidisciplinary education since 1872 and is constantly devising innovative approaches to tackling the most challenging global issues. Today, it is through PSIA that Sciences Po continues to play an active and important role in the international arena. PSIA is one of the most highly regarded International Affairs schools in the world (ranked #3 by the 2019 QS World Rankings), as well as the largest, with 1500 students from across 100 countries. Public debate is at the heart of PSIA life and, each year, the school hosts numerous high-level events and platforms for discussion.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sciences Po and PSIA would like to extend their gratitude to the sponsors, partners, faculty and students who were involved in making the 2020 edition of the Youth & Leaders a resounding success.

We would especially like to thank our main sponsor **Enel** for their generous support, and **The New York Times**, our media partner, for championing and featuring the Summit.

A special word of appreciation must go to Lakhdar Brahimi and Shiv Someshwar for their intellectual contributions and their participation in designing the agenda of the Summit, and to Riva Kastoryano who coached the PSIA student speakers.

Thanks go also to Sciences Po’s Direction for Strategy and Development for their indispensable support.

And, last but not least, a very warm thanks is reserved for the 12 PSIA student speakers and the 37 PSIA student team members, who were all instrumental in the Summit’s success. Without them, the energy of the day simply would not have reflected the same **#PSIASpirit** that we hold dear and are so proud of.

PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

MONDAY 20 JANUARY 2020

#YLSummit2020

MORNING SESSION

08:30 *Welcome and registration*

09:00 WELCOME REMARKS

Frédéric Mion President, Sciences Po

09:10 OPENING REMARKS

Élisabeth Borne French Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition
Enrico Letta Dean, PSIA, Sciences Po • former Prime Minister, Italy

09:30 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Ban Ki-moon Elder • the 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations

Chaired by **Lakhdar Brahimi** Elder •
Chairman, Strategic Committee, PSIA, Sciences Po • former UN diplomat

■ *Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience*

10:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Thomas Friedman Opinion Columnist, The New York Times

Chaired by **Cornelia Woll** Professor of Political Science, Sciences Po

■ *Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience*

10:30 *Break*

11:00 **PANEL 1**

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR ALL

Duncan Austin Environmental economist and sustainable investor
Mari Pangestu Incoming Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank • former Minister of Trade, Indonesia • former Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia
Francesco Starace CEO, Enel Group

Chaired by **Jack Ewing** European Economics Correspondent, The New York Times

■ *PSIA Student Panel*

Alexander Cook, Esther Delrieu, Sarah Pellerin and **Georgia Stanley**
Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience

12:30 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Achim Steiner Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • former Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

■ *Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience*

13:00 *Lunch break*

AFTERNOON SESSION

14:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Gina McCarthy Incoming President and CEO, Natural Resources Defense Council • former Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Chaired by **Laurence Tubiana** Chief Executive Officer, European Climate Foundation • former Special Representative of France for the 2015 COP21

■ *Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience*

14:30 **PANEL 2**

CLIMATE ACTIVISM FOR LASTING CHANGE

Charlotte Halpern Tenured researcher, Centre for European studies and comparative politics, Sciences Po
Carlos Nobre Senior Researcher, Institute of Advanced Studies, University of São Paulo
Youba Sokona Vice-Chair, UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change • Special Advisor for Sustainable Development, South Centre

Chaired by **Sophie Pedder** Paris bureau chief, and France correspondent, The Economist

■ *PSIA Student Panel*

Clément Cardon, Maria Fustic, Eren Can Ileri and **Helena Michalke**
Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience

16:00 *Break*

16:30 **PANEL 3**

INNOVATIONS FOR A CLIMATE-IMPACTED WORLD

Sara Menker Founder and CEO, Gro Intelligence
Ken Newcombe CEO, C-Quest Capital • former Senior Manager at the World Bank
Shiv Someshwar European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition, Sciences Po

Chaired by **Steven Erlanger** Chief Diplomatic Correspondent, The New York Times

■ *PSIA Student Panel*

Chetna Hareesh Kumar, Julian Martinez Bejarano, John Ploeg and **Julie With**
Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience

18:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH

Jeffrey Sachs Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network • UN SDG Advocate • Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Chaired by **Shiv Someshwar** European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition, Sciences Po

■ *Followed by a discussion with PSIA students and the audience*

18:30 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Enrico Letta Dean, PSIA, Sciences Po • former Prime Minister, Italy



“ We won’t be able to adapt to climate change if our biodiversity keeps eroding. Climate and biodiversity are two sides of the same coin. ”

“ Not only do we need an ecological revolution, but we need a systemic revolution. ”

Élisabeth Borne

French Minister for the Ecological
and Inclusive Transition



“ We are all one together. We have to build bridges as global citizens. ”

“ Without global partnerships, nothing can be done. However powerful, however resourceful one country may be, there is nothing one can do alone. This requires all the hands on deck. ”

Ban Ki-moon

Elder • the 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations





Thomas Friedman

Opinion Columnist, The New York Times

Thomas Friedman's 10 climate principles

1/ To name something is to own it:

Therefore, we need to recover and take back the definition of green

2/ Later is too late. Later is officially over

3/ It is important to understand why we're standing at such a crossroads

We must know and understand planetary boundaries

4/ We have to think about our relationship to the whole natural world

We cannot just focus on mitigating carbon in the atmosphere

5/ Your generation is going to have to be the Noah generation, that will have to save the last 2 members of more and more species

6/ We already have the technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change

"It is now cheaper to save the earth than to ruin it"
Hal Harvey

7/ Scale solutions are the only things that matter

8/ We have to adopt a tightly focused strategy of 4 zeros:

- zero-net energy buildings
- zero-waste manufacturing
- zero carbon grid
- zero emissions for transportation

9/ If it isn't boring, it isn't green

10/ We need to treat the future as choice, not fate

"We have exactly enough time, starting now"
Donella Meadows

> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR ALL



“We told ourselves too much, too many times, that markets are infallible”
Duncan Austin

“I am a firm believer that you can achieve development and tackle climate change”
Mari Pangestu

“The evolution of renewables is far from being exhausted”
Francesco Starace

PANEL 1

> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR ALL

Chair

Jack Ewing European Economics Correspondent, The New York Times

With

Duncan Austin Environmental economist and sustainable investor

Mari Pangestu Incoming Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank • former Minister of Trade, Indonesia • former Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia

Francesco Starace CEO, Enel Group

PSIA Student Panel

Alexander Cook, Esther Delrieu, Sarah Pellerin and **Georgia Stanley**

Is it possible to reconcile ecological transition and development? Can a company be profitable and sustainable? These were the main questions addressed by the panel chaired by Jack Ewing, European Economics correspondent for The New York Times.

Addressing both inequalities and climate change

Mari Pangestu, former Minister of Trade of Indonesia, tackled the question of compatibility between addressing climate change and addressing global inequalities. She drew attention to the issues faced by developing countries, where climate change has more impact on the poor because of the disasters that affect their livelihoods and their main income sources, such as agriculture and fishing. According to her, the common narrative relies on a trade-off: either countries choose to develop, or to tackle climate change. However, Pangestu is convinced that it is possible to achieve both, and that it is time to invent the narrative of a new climate economy. She warned that 'if we don't address climate change, the people will be the losers.'

The role of the market and innovations

Environmental advocate and investor Duncan Austin pointed out that there are indeed plenty of 'win-win' opportunities through which investors and entrepreneurs can invest sustainably whilst making profit. However, he warned the audience against what he calls 'green wish', that is a form of wishful thinking that overstates how much of a 'win-win' the economic situation is going to be if the industry and the market scrupulously follow the principles of sustainable development. While remaining fairly optimistic, he nevertheless urged students not to underestimate the efforts that will be necessary in order to carry out the transition. Francesco Starace, CEO and General Manager of Enel Group, has enthusiastically stated that renewables represented a great opportunity to modernise the European economy, revitalise the industrial sector

and ensure sustainable and lasting growth. With renewable electricity gradually penetrating the energy system worldwide, it will be possible to decarbonize other sectors of the economy (e.g. transport). The technology frontier is thus continuously expanding. However, both Austin and Starace reminded the audience that the technological revolution is far from being accomplished and that many challenges still lie ahead..

The relevance of policy choices

All three panellists agreed to say that the market and technological innovations aren't the only levers available to push for change; they believe it requires political commitment and policy framework. One of the most difficult tasks which policy-makers will have to face in the near future is to refuse to invest in certain sectors, such as fossil fuels. They will have to make decisions about what they decide to accelerate and what they want to leave aside. Pangestu elaborated on the importance of thinking through the future impacts on the people. This was also the focus supported by Starace, who declared that people are much more interested in their future than in their past, and that shutting down a power plant for instance is only acceptable if one comes up with new projects and jobs for the local population.

Adopting a systemic approach

The PSIA student panel, composed of Alexander Cook, Esther Delrieu, Sarah Pellerin and Georgia Stanley, laid emphasis on the need for all structures of society, including central banks, political and legal institutions, as well as businesses, to move away from profit as both primary purpose and main indicator of prosperity, and to come up with system-thinking metrics to measure both the social and environmental impacts of human activities. Austin underlined that the word 'system' was indeed key to understanding the issues at stake. He elaborated on the fact that as human beings have elevated the market as a sacrosanct entity, they have simultaneously demoted and delegitimised other mechanisms such as community, government, religion and spirituality.

However, the conclusion of the discussion remained hopeful, as Austin urged for well-managed environmental protection rules, Starace insisted on the need to establish corporate models that are fit for the new challenges ahead, and Pangestu encouraged students to adopt 'systems thinking', and to hereby take into consideration the interdependent systems (water, industry, food...) that underlie our economy when making policy choices.

Panel Summary by
Cloé Dugrillon

Master in Environmental Policy, PSIA





“ I feel it is the moment where we will either end up in a revolution of a very chaotic nature, which means system change by default, or a kind of revolution by design, which is to reinvent a kind of next-economy paradigm. ... Equity and sustainability will define the new paradigms. ”

“ Climate change is one of the many challenges and equations we have to address in the process of development. Development is all about making choices. The societies that emerge out of those choices that we make in the name of development define who we are, and who we do not want to be. ”

Achim Steiner

Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • former Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

“ Climate change isn’t just about climate change, it’s about you and me, it’s about our future. ”

“ It’s not about the planet, it will continue to circle the sun, it’s about whether we will occupy it or not. ”

“ It’s about inspiring people, it’s about giving them hope. ”

“ It is not about diminishing the central problem that we face ... it’s about recognizing that we CAN change. ”

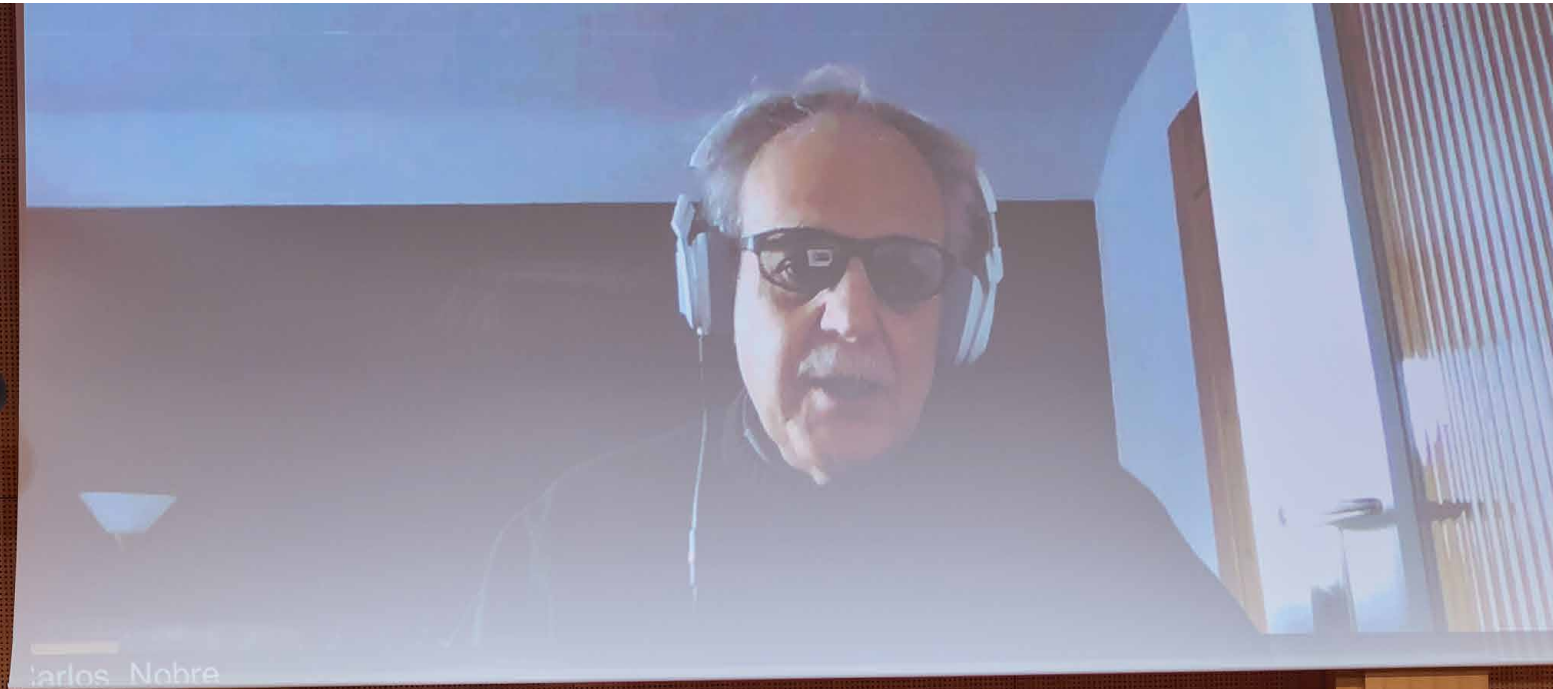
Gina McCarthy

Incoming President and CEO, Natural Resources Defense Council • former Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

CLIMATE ACTIVISM FOR LASTING CHANGE



“We know that partnerships and coordination are essential in order to achieve this common goal. However, what we’re missing is scaling up, putting the earth at the center of our decisions.”

Charlotte Halpern

“Any bit of warming matters. Any year, minute or second matters. Any choice matters.”

Youba Sokona

“Climate activism is essential because it is bridging the big gap between science and action.”

Carlos Nobre



PANEL 2

> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

CLIMATE ACTIVISM FOR LASTING CHANGE

Chair

Sophie Pedder Paris bureau chief and France correspondent, The Economist

With

Charlotte Halpern Tenured Researcher, Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Sciences Po

Carlos Nobre Senior Researcher, Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Sao Paulo

Youba Sokona Vice-Chair, UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change • Special Advisor for Sustainable Development, South Centre

PSIA Student Panel

Clément Cardon, Maria Fustic, Eren Can Ileri and **Helena Michalke**

The second panel followed a strong call to action by keynote speaker Gina McCarthy, and while the room was still buzzing with inspiration following her powerful message, it was time to talk about climate activism, the challenges that the movement faces and how to move forward. Sophie Pedder opened the discussion by asking critical questions on what we can learn from climate activism and how we can turn words into action.

Youth & Climate Activism

Inevitably, an important part of the panel discussion focused on the youth movement. Charlotte Halpern, tenured researcher at the Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, discussed how the current second wave of climate activism communicates a strong sense of urgency informed by a pessimistic worldview and challenges our leaders for not having done enough, in contrast to the more optimistic first wave of climate activism in the previous decades. But to work together across generations and have a positive impact, the movement needs to find a way to reconcile these different approaches.

Carlos Nobre, senior researcher at the Institute of Advanced Studies, applauded the youth activists for their broad vision of sustainability of the earth that goes beyond climate

change to include earth's sustainability and protecting all life on the planet. He hopes that the youth movement will be empowered globally, because "when these young people become adults, they can make change and do what our generation failed to do: direct our planet towards sustainability." He admires the movement for its ability to communicate what scientists have already been saying for 30 years, and demand action.

Youba Sokona, vice-chair, UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, added a critical note by naming some of the main challenges that the climate movement faces. He suggested that every small choice matters, but this requires a profound change in society. Behavioral changes are possible, but require a tremendous effort to inform, regulate and educate practitioners and society at large.

Partnerships & Solidarity

All panelists agreed on the importance of partnerships and solidarity for the movement to succeed in achieving change. Halpern argues that partnerships and scaling up are essential to build a more sustainable world. She emphasized that while individual responses and the incremental changes are useful, it won't be enough without support from governments, companies and communities. Instead, we need to put the earth at the center of our decisions, and think about solutions across all levels of governance.

Also Sokona stressed solidarity and the inclusion of different stakeholders in the decision making process. This requires us to transform on multiple levels and consider all aspects, because there is no one solution and it cannot be achieved within a short time. It is a long-term and enduring effort that requires activists to look beyond policy makers and make the general public an ally.

Nobre further argues for global solidarity to find a different model of development that requires us to redefine what we value in our economy. He uses the example of the rainforest, which has been traditionally valued as the source of all life but is not valued within our current economic system, which prefers to cut the forest down to make way for agriculture. But to reframe this, we need a new power dynamic and ensure that humans stand in solidarity with the forest.

Moving Forward: Inclusivity

The main goal of the panel was to discuss how to move forward and create a lasting change. Halpern called for different forms of governance and re-politicization of the debate, ensuring we can collectively debate about future goals and necessary changes. Similarly, Sokona touched on inclusivity of the movement, and stated it is essential that we make the information more accessible to everyone through language and education. Nobre instead emphasized immediate actions we have to take: transition to renewable energy, and restore the forest. Now.

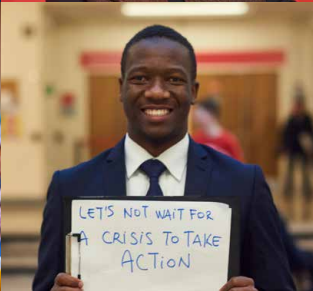
At this point, the student panel, Clément Cardon, Maria Fustic, Eren Can Ileri and Helena Michalke, took the stage and left no doubt: "we are not here to talk, we are here to act." Demonstrating activism, the students called for immediate change, and focused on concerns around inclusivity and questioned the unequal burden that developing countries face. They posed critical questions to the panel on the ethical responsibility of academia and the role of science in the movement. Halpern pointed out that we need to give scientists the time and resources necessary to produce research. When questioned on inclusivity and how to ensure that movements won't be silenced, the panel called for inclusivity at the fringes, humility, finding solutions together, and empowering women as political leaders.

Panel Summary by
Eline Achterberg
Master in Human Rights
and Humanitarian Action, PSIA





YOUTH & LEADERS SUMMIT



> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

INNOVATIONS FOR A CLIMATE-IMPACTED WORLD



“Where I think for us to make progress ... is to deconstruct knowledge so that the average person can understand, in a deep and true sense, what experts are talking about when climate change conversations occur.”

Sara Menker

“Moving away from chemical industrial agriculture to biologically sound agriculture is the solution, and it’s the solution at scale.”

Ken Newcombe

“Any decarbonization pathway has to be done in the context of development, and of place-based development.”

Shiv Someshwar

PANEL 3

> PROSPERING IN A CLIMATE-IMPACTED SOCIETY

INNOVATIONS FOR A CLIMATE-IMPACTED WORLD

Chair

Steven Erlanger, Chief Diplomatic Correspondent, The New York Times

With

Sara Menker, Founder and CEO, Gro Intelligence

Ken Newcombe, CEO, C-Quest Capital • former Senior Manager at the World Bank

Shiv Someshwar, European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition, Sciences Po

PSIA Student Panel

Chetna Hareesh Kumar, Julian Martinez Bejarano, John Ploeg and Julie With

The scene set by Steven Erlanger, the panel chair and Chief Diplomatic Correspondent for The New York Times, was that combating the ongoing climate crisis will require massive technological, economic, and financial innovations. Erlanger began by emphasizing the need to challenge the populist narrative that climate change is an elitist, metropolitan issue. He then started off the panel with a discussion on what innovations have failed, and how we can learn from them, before following up with a bigger question; what are the best pathways to climate neutrality?

Learning from past failures

Sara Menker, Founder and CEO of Gro Intelligence, kicked off the panel by speaking about the failure of innovative market products to scale at a high enough level to have a significant impact. She argued that if we are going to change the path we are currently on, we must study the market attempts that have failed and learn from them. On the question of pathways to a zero carbon world, Menker argued that the deconstruction of knowledge will be key. Scientists need to present their findings in such a way that the average person can understand, rather than writing for other experts. Within climate science, managing uncertainty is a tremendous challenge. However, this must be addressed head on; when uncertainties are presented as certainties, it limits honest conversations.

New carbon markets for soil

Ken Newcombe, CEO of C-Quest Capital, spoke about the failure of markets for trading forestation. Within these types of programs, the great majority of forests that were saved for the purpose of storing carbon were in the hands of weak governments, preventing proper forest protection from occurring. Although in the early 2000s there was a reduction in the rate of deforestation, deforestation is once again increasing. Regarding pathways to carbon neutrality, Newcombe emphasized the essential role that soils play as an atmospheric carbon sink. There are several times more organic carbon stored in soils than in all the forests above ground, and it is essential that this be understood. Newcombe argued passionately for the need to move away from capital industrial agriculture, stating that “industrial

agriculture is a war on nature. What we need to do is join forces with nature, and make a war on climate change.” Creating a market for organic carbon in the soil will be an essential innovation to combat the climate crisis.

Contextualization of knowledge and climate science

Shiv Someshwar, European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition at Sciences Po, argued that a remarkable innovation that has gone unnoticed has been knowledge production. Knowledge on climate has made significant strides, especially knowledge around changes in climate. The way knowledge has been created, reviewed, and distributed has been unprecedented. Someshwar highlighted the fact that a failure within knowledge production has been the framing of climate knowledge as policy neutral, stating that, “we need to not be afraid to tell policy makers what needs to be done.”

Relating to the question of carbon neutrality, Someshwar contextualized the issue in terms of the need to recognize the different capacities of countries in varying stages of industrialization. He argued that any transformational pathway that is solely focused on decarbonization will be a failure, emphasizing the need to put decarbonization pathways in the context of development. In many ways, this echoed Mari Pangestu thoughts from the first panel in the morning.

Innovations to achieve a carbon neutral world

Following this discussion, the panellists were joined on stage by the four student panellists, Chetna Hareesh Kumar, Julian Martinez Bejarano, John Ploeg, and Julie With. Kumar presented a summary of the student panel’s research, which focused on the frameworks and policy changes needed to enable innovations to deal with the climate crisis. This included a discussion on the importance of new gene editing technologies for agriculture and food security; the innovations that are needed in the private sector to make climate innovation projects commercially viable; the opportunity of carbon pricing to limit emissions of carbon dioxide; and the potential impact of a well designed framework for border carbon adjustment.

Finally, the panel concluded with questions from the audience. Students’ questions touched on a number of topics, including: the options to shift to more plant-based diets, technological improvement to increase agricultural yields, the importance of combating food waste, how to ensure climate justice, and the importance of ensuring local ownership of green development.

Panel Summary by
Georgia Stanley

Master in Environmental Policy, PSIA



“ Make the European Green Deal work. It’s practical, it’s targeted: get to zero [carbon emissions] by 2050. It can work here, and it can also work for ... other parts of the world. ”

“ The mysteries on what to do are not that big actually - the big challenge is how to get it done. ”

Jeffrey Sachs

Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network • UN SDG Advocate • Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University



YOUTH AND LEADERS SUMMIT STUDENT SIMULATION

Selected PSIA students simulated the Summit on Friday 17 January 2020 by participating in three mock panel discussions and feeding their key findings in to the corresponding Leaders' panels during the Summit.

> PANEL 1 ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR ALL

Chair

Shiv Someshwar European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition, Sciences Po

With

Alexander Cook Master in International Security

Esther Delrieu Master in International Security

Sarah Pellerin Master in International Public Management

Georgia Stanley Master in Environmental Policy

Georgia Stanley: "Our panel topic focused on the question of how environmental sustainability and economic wellbeing can be achieved together. A key theme in our discussion surrounded the need for all structures of society, including political and legal institutions, businesses, central banks, and individuals, to move away from solely focusing on profit and growth as their primary purpose of being.

Instead, we argue that it is time we expand the metrics and perceptions that we use to measure success to include social and environmental impacts, both globally and locally, in the short and long term. Our discussion presented complementary perspectives on how these structures could be reformed to ensure economic well-being for all, while keeping human activity within planetary boundaries.

Esther Delrieu examined how climate justice represents a decisive instrument to build a fair future with both economic opportunities and a healthy en-

vironment. She argues that we should think about climate and social transitions together, because no one should have to choose between economic survival and environmental protection. Her conclusion is that to achieve climate justice, we must rethink our entire system, not just our economic model.

Sarah Pellerin discussed the role of companies on the world's climate, with just 100 corporations generating over 70% of greenhouse gas emissions since 1988. However, companies



PANEL 1

can also be a force for good, with a new wave of enterprises built around entrepreneur John Elkington's triple bottom line of financial, environmental and social concerns. To go further, we must develop systems-thinking metrics to ensure that companies take into account immediate and longer term environmental and social impacts, rather than restricting themselves to "greenwashing" or "greenwashing". Alexander Cook examined the trade-off between democracy and technocracy in responding to the looming climate catastrophe, concluding that supposedly a-political economic institutions have experienced neoliberal system capture. He made the case that we should give our central banks new flexible, long-term mandates to ensure they are fit for purpose in meeting evolving societal needs. Finally, I focused on the need for our econom-

ic structures to move beyond growth as the driving force behind decision-making. We live in a world of finite resources; thus, unending economic growth is in itself an impossibility. Combating the climate crisis will require a cultural shift toward a more circular economy, which could improve environmental wellbeing while reducing economic inequality.

Taken taken, our research concluded that addressing the climate crisis will require systemic change to our economies and institutions. The ideas we presented represent a few possible changes that could contribute to this shift. We believe that we are past the point of small adjustments, and it is time for current and future leaders to take decisive action to address the climate emergency in a meaningful and holistic way. Thank you."

> PANEL 2 CLIMATE ACTIVISM FOR LASTING CHANGE

Chair

Riva Kastoryano Professor, Sciences Po

With

Clément Cardon Master in Environmental Policy

Maria Fustic Master in International Public Management

Eren Can Ileri Master in International Public Management

Helena Michalke Master in Environmental Policy

Maria Fustic: "This morning, Dean Enrico Letta told us that "we are not here to talk, we are here to act. This summit is about youth and

leaders. So let me tell you about my friend Isabella, an Indigenous youth living on the West Coast of Newfoundland, Canada. The climate

emergency has had a massive impact on her and her community. Exponential erosion has led to her family personally losing more and more land every year. The seasons are shifting, invasive species are arriving, and this past summer, the rivers ran dry and the salmon couldn't swim. These issues among others have led to an overall loss of natural and sustainable food from hunting, fishing, and agriculture. The disintegration of these practices is also a disintegration of culture, community, tradition, and opportunities for youth empowerment.



PANEL 2

Isabella, her mother, and the rest of her community are acting. They are working to gain self-determination and greater autonomy to ensure that their community is recognized and preserved and that the people who are impacted every day, have a say. What are the “leaders” doing?”

Eren Can Ileri: “Indigenous people, people of colour, and low-income communities are worst hurt by global heating. The environmental breakdown is built on a history of oppression: such as racism, colonialism, imperialism, and neoliberal capitalism, perpetuated by powers such as France. This morning Minister Borne told us that she wants action, for us to hold our leaders accountable, that we need a systemic revolution, yet France is behind on its Accord de Paris goals. Developed, wealthy nations prosper, benefitting from two centuries of industrialization and pollution, while developing, least wealthy nations suffer. The climate crisis is a system of oppression. Yet, while racism and colonialism only benefited the powerful; climate breakdown affects everyone. We call everyone to action... Youth, and Leaders. Our mere presence at Sciences Po gives us the privilege of a voice; of being heard and listened to.”

Clément Cardon: “Climate activists are making themselves increasingly visible and heard around the globe. They are challenging current narratives and creating new ones, as well as collectively exploring for new alternatives. Because, let’s face it, there’s no already-made solutions to the climate crisis. We are still treading in the dark, while greenwashing and green tagging might lurk somewhere. The four of us have been given a voice today on this stage, and we’re using it. This is climate emergency. This is an ecological breakdown. We are naming it, we’re owning it, as Thomas Friedman prescribed earlier. We must act together. It is our responsibility, because of our past history, and future possibilities. It is your responsibility, lead-

ers of today and tomorrow, for the sake of our generation, to do everything in your power to fight this crisis and for a just and sustainable future for everyone.”

Helena Michalke: “We stand in solidarity with the millions of people on the streets worldwide fighting for climate justice. We stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and people in the Global South fighting to protect their lands. We stand in solidarity with people who are fighting Western modes of consumption and searching for alternatives in a system working against them. Thomas Friedman inspired us to be mean, a mean green, as mean as the fossil fuel companies. So lastly, we will use this specific space and opportunity to say that we stand in solidarity with Sciences Po Zéro Fossile. Sciences Po cannot be a leading global institution, teaching and researching about the climate crisis, while maintaining partnership with Total, a fossil fuel company whose actions are polluting our water and our air, as well as contributing to atrocious human rights violations. We demand the leaders to do more since the power of your voice is much greater than ours. We demand each of us in this room to do more. And we demand Sciences Po to do more. Ending the partnership with Total would be a good place to start.”

ALL: “We demand a fossil free university. Thank you.”



> PANEL 3 INNOVATIONS FOR A CLIMATE-IMPACTED WORLD

Chair

Mark Maloney Vice Dean, PSIA, Sciences Po

With

Clément Cardon Master in Environmental Policy

Maria Fustic Master in International Public Management

Eren Can Ileri Master in International Public Management

Helena Michalke Master in Environmental Policy

Chetna Hareesh Kumar: “Our discussion focused on the frameworks and policy changes needed to enable innovations for tackling the climate crisis.

One such innovation is gene editing. Julian Martinez Bejarano discussed how last-generation gene editing, in particular CRISPR technology, can substantially improve agriculture’s adaptation to climate change by genetically enhancing the resistance of crops to droughts, floods and other extremes - crucial to protect food security. And, thanks to its low costs, it can do so in a way that is accessible to everyone. However, innovation will remain in the lab if diplomacy and politics don’t follow up: there are almost no international norms on gene editing, and the European Union still upholds 2-decades-old legislation blocking it, despite solid scientific consensus on its safety. Therefore, decisive science diplomacy is needed to integrate gene editing in the global agenda against climate change. But, for such climate innovations to thrive, new financing models are also necessary.

Given the scale of investments needed in climate innovation, the private sector will have a substantial role to play. We need to find innovative ways to transform the risk-return profiles of climate innovation projects so that they become commercially viable and attract private investments. To reduce risk side, this includes blended, public-private finance instruments, international standardisation of green taxonomies and mandatory corporate sustainability reporting. Meanwhile, on the returns side, we need to see an industry-wide shift in priorities from shareholder value to stakeholder value maximisation, from short-term profiteering to long-term sustainability considerations. The idea is to facilitate a behavioural revolution, pushing the system towards a new equilibrium where the private

sector makes climate considerations central to its operations.

Julie With argued that Internalising the external environmental costs that remain inadequately priced by the market would be a central pillar to such a revolution and key for formulating policies and taxes that address polluting activities. Therefore, we need to improve and expand upon the framework around environmental taxes. Environmental taxes need to encapsulate the moral and social implications of polluting activities more efficiently, all the while keeping in mind social impacts, distributional equity and other trade-offs. By increasing the use of ETs in a way that invokes social responsibility, we can equip actors to perform a cost-benefit analysis that extends beyond traditional profit maximization to the consideration of environmental, social and well-being costs.

However, John Ploeg highlighted that pricing carbon is a potent way to spur emissions cuts only when the system is well designed. Critically, it should not be possible for firms to avoid paying for emissions simply by moving them offshore. This can be ensured by charging for carbon “embodied” in imports as though they were produced domestically. But many imports come from developing countries. And while Europe can afford to invest trillions of euros in its green transition, most developing countries cannot. For the system to be fair, they need help. And one way wealthy countries could do this is by reinvesting carbon fees collected on imports back into developing countries that make them. In conclusion, our panel found that innovations for a climate-impacted world will not just depend on novel technologies, we will also require innovations in our corporate, financial and policy frameworks.”

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Enrico Letta

Dean, PSIA, Sciences Po • former Prime Minister, Italy