

GLOBAL (DIS)ORDER: TOWARDS DIALOGUE-BASED WORLDVIEWS

The world will soon commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Fukuyama's pronouncement of the "end of history" has not materialised. The Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute, which organises the Rhodes Forum, has emerged as a think tank that counters Huntington's gloomy "clash of civilizations" thesis by coming up with an alternative paradigm. This involves in bringing together proposals, ideas, and strategies from different viewpoints and various parts of the world to address multiple challenges related to the peaceful coexistence of diverse cultures and communities.

Many societies are torn between those who embrace diversity and multilateral cooperation and those who see them as a potential threat to cultural identities and the nation-state. The gap between them is growing. How can they be reconciled?

The Rhodes Forum aims to facilitate a better understanding of the deep changes our societies are undergoing. It will shed light on initiatives that contribute substantially towards sustainable economic development; propose new concepts for the architecture of international governance in the context of shifts in power within the global economy; and examine the restoration of civility and promotion of ethical standards in the digital age.

The Forum is organised around three areas of critical global importance:

1 SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

As the possibility of a global recession looms, the rise of China and India are interesting cases to consider. Against the background of a spectacular record on poverty reduction for millions of Chinese citizens, does the Chinese approach have strong appeal for other struggling economies? Does the Indian model of economic development offer a promising pathway to sustainable development based on democratic foundations? Can solutions be found to solve the problem of global inequality, erase poverty, and simultaneously curb greenhouse gas emissions to meet globally agreed climate policy targets? What would a new model of economic development look like?

2 GLOBAL ARCHITECTURE AND GLOBAL (GEO)POLITICS

Today, we are witnessing a reconfiguration – some would say a disintegration – of international institutions and the rise of potential new orders that could completely change the architecture of international governance. The Belt and Road Initiative finds support but also raises concerns about the emergence of a new system of hubs which may alter the character of multilateral cooperation. New forms of diplomacy in the spheres of science and culture are changing the conventional practices of international relations. The Forum will discuss emerging forms of international governance, the potential leaders of these movements, and the broader question of how to promote inter-civilisational dialogue.

3 DIGITALISED LIVES, ETHICAL STANDARDS, AND THE REVIVAL OF CIVILITY

Many would agree that global public discourse today has moved away from civilised interpersonal exchange into coarse, unrefined, and unrestrained language that undermines norms that have long been considered basic standards of dialogue between people and civilisations. The internet has become a powerful tool in facilitating this form of public exchange. In an era of digitalisation, public policy has yet to adequately address the use of global digital space with the purpose of promoting harmony and social cohesion but without curtailing personal freedom and democratic norms. The return to civility is an important condition for human civilisations to thrive in the era of digitalisation.

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



Ehud Olmert

Prime Minister of Israel (2006-2009)



Alfred Gusenbauer

Federal Chancellor of Austria (2007-2008)



Georgios Katrougalos

Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs Greece



Georges Haddad

President University Pantheon Sorbonne



Kishore Mahbubani

LKY School of Public Policy Singapore



Clive Lee

CEO, Yidan Prize Foundation, Hong Kong



Robin Wright

Senior Fellow at the U.S. Institute of Peace



Gabriela Ramos

OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20



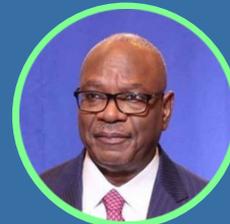
Stefan Grobe

Euronews Brussels Correspondent



Béji Caïd Essebsi

President of Tunisia



Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta

President of Mali



Chris Morris

BBC News Correspondent

INVITED GUESTS

MODERATORS

11-12
OCTOBER

DIALOGUE OF CIVILIZATIONS
RHODES FORUM

2019

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PLENARY SESSIONS

- **30 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall: In search of a roadmap and a compass**
- **Civilisation state: Multilateralism and globalisation**
- **The future of knowledge, education and learning**
- **Examining geopolitical worldviews: Towards the battle of the giants?**
- **Special focus on Africa: Towards a new partnership**
- **Creating shared economic views**
- **Culture and the return to civility**

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- **Chasing the tiger: Economic models of the global south**
- **Our smartphone lives: Of humans and robots**
- **Global architecture in flux: Multilateralism at risk?**
- **Twiplomacy: Diplomacy and governance in the age of social media**



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