

SEPTEMBER 2017

EUROPEAN YOUNG LEADERS (EYL40)

21ST CENTURY PIONEERS:
INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION
FOR A NEW GENERATION

TALLINN SEMINAR

Report of the three-day seminar



The European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme led by Friends of Europe is a unique, inventive and multi-stakeholder programme that aims to promote a European identity by engaging the continent's most promising talents in initiatives that will shape Europe's future.

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This report reflects the seminar rapporteur's understanding of the views expressed by participants. These views are not necessarily those of the organisations that participants represent, nor of Friends of Europe, its board of trustees, members or partners.

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About Friends of Europe



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Friends of Europe is a leading think tank that connects people, stimulates debate and triggers change to create a more inclusive, sustainable and forward-looking Europe.

CONNECT

Friends of Europe is an independent think tank with a difference – we believe innovation is a mindset, behaviour and action. We aim to be catalysts for change and believe that real solutions come from transforming mindsets through the confrontation of ideas and the breaking down of silos between politicians, businesses and civil society.

Believing that change is achieved through inclusive policies and action, we reach out to and work with a wide network of policymakers, international organisations, civil society representatives, business leaders, academics, the media and citizens across Europe and beyond.

We have no national or party political bias and ensure that all viewpoints are represented in our activities and publications.

DEBATE

We foster open, insightful and provocative debates to stimulate fresh ideas and creative thinking.

Our portfolio of events and reports means that Friends of Europe contributes ideas and leads the debate on a wide range of EU-related issues, including:

Energy and Climate | Health and Wellbeing | Asia, Africa and Emerging Economies | Peace, Security and Defence | Education and Skills | Migration and Integration | New Economic Models | Citizens' Europe.

Our European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme connects Europe's most promising talents, and our Board of Trustees brings together the knowledge and experience of European leaders who include Presidents, Prime Ministers, European Commissioners and Presidents of the European Parliament.

The Development Policy Forum (DPF), the Asia programme and the Europe-China Forum build bridges to foster global partnerships.

Europe's World, our policy journal, is the only pan-European publication which offers a unique insight into the views of leading policymakers and opinion-makers on European and global challenges.

Our online platform Debating Europe encourages citizen-led debates with policymakers. In less than five years, it has built up a 3.1m-strong community of citizens across Europe and over 272,000 social media followers who put their questions to high-profile decision makers.

CHANGE

We offer Europe's citizens an opportunity to take an active transformational role in shaping their environment. We use ground-breaking online brainstorming to bring different stakeholder groups together from all over the world and constantly innovate in how we convene and shape discussions. Through our debates, conferences, working groups, reports and recommendations we provide bold and ambitious but practical solutions for a more inclusive, sustainable and forward-looking Europe.

FRIENDS OF EUROPE IN FIGURES

- 5000+ senior participants and speakers
- 60 events
- 50 publications and over 200 op-eds published
- 365,000-strong social media community
- 1.120m unique visitors to its websites

About the programme



www.EYL40.org



[EYL40.org](https://www.facebook.com/EYL40.org)



[@EYL40](https://twitter.com/EYL40)

The European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme led by Friends of Europe* is a unique, inventive and multi-stakeholder programme that aims to promote a European identity by engaging the continent's most promising talents in initiatives that will shape Europe's future.

The European Young Leaders represent a promising European leadership from all over the continent and with a wide variety of backgrounds including politics, business, civil society, academia, arts, science and the media.

From trailblazing biochemists to budding political leaders, and from dot.com entrepreneurs to NGO 'stars' who are shaping the social and environmental policies of tomorrow, the European Young Leaders are a unique community that crafts innovative responses to European challenges and positively affects the lives of future generations.

Every year, they meet during two 3-day seminars that take place in symbolic European cities, joined by decision-makers, stakeholders and key European actors, to discuss issues of common concern and develop concrete proposals and recommendations to tackle the challenges facing Europe and its citizens.

The relaxed tone and out-of-the-box nature of the European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme have brought about salient and open discussions that have facilitated the development of a strong network of committed Europeans.

From two meetings a year to a year-round engagement, this programme also turns ideas into actions. That means ongoing interactions between young leaders, alumni and outside participants to boost innovative ideas and have a bigger impact on the European stage by forwarding projects that matter to the community.

Building on the success of past editions of the EYL40 programme, the Tallinn seminar marked the first step in the programme's outreach to Young Leaders from the Middle East and North Africa to meet and discuss with their European counterparts. The ultimate aim is to create synergies, promote structural dialogue and foster better mutual understanding between established leaders from the three regions and develop an inter-regional, multidisciplinary network of alumni to support the leaders of tomorrow.

**The programme was initially conceived in partnership with EuropaNova, a Paris-based think-tank.*



EYL40 TALLINN PARTICIPANTS



NABEEL ABOUD ASHKAR

Israel · Co-Founder & Artistic Director, Polyphony Foundation · MENA Young Leader 2017

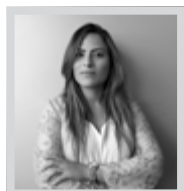
A gifted violinist and visionary champion for youth and community development, Nabeel has led and inspired people from all walks of life across Israel, Europe and the U.S. He performed with, and was a spokesperson for, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra for a decade as well as performing as a soloist with the Jerusalem Camerata and the Haifa Symphony orchestras. In 2006, Nabeel gave up his music career and returned to his hometown, the Arab-Israeli city of Nazareth, where he founded and led the Barenboim-Said Conservatory— now known as the Polyphony Conservatory—to answer the need he saw in the community for quality music programming. Nabeel has been awarded the Yoko Ono Award for Courage in the Arts for his lifelong-commitment to fostering a sense of community between young pan-Arab and Jewish musicians.



ALBERTO ALEMMANO

Italy · HEC Paris; Founder, The Good Lobby
· EYL 2014

Alberto is one of the leading experts in the areas of EU law and policy, risk regulation and global health, teaching EU Law and risk regulation at HEC Paris. He founded ElabEurope a civic start-up, lobbying for the European public interest by filling the gap between academic thinking and reality and also “The Good Lobby”, a pro-bono network. Previously, he clerked at the Court of Justice of the EU and at the European General Court. Alberto received the prestigious Chauncey Starr Award from the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) in 2011 for outstanding achievement by a young risk analyst in science and public policy. He received the 2013 ECTA Award for the Best Paper in Trademark Law.



INES AMRI

Tunisia · Deputy Secretary-General, Maghreb Economic Forum
· MENA Young Leader 2017

Ines has been the Deputy Secretary-General of the Maghreb Economic Forum since November 2015, as well as being a founder and the current Vice-President charged with fundraising and projects of the Organisation Volonté et Citoyenneté, a Youth-led NGO in Tunisia that seeks to promote human rights and social entrepreneurship projects. A passionate social entrepreneur, Ines is also co-founder and team leader of an initiative called Med Voices, a free, independent platform for creative voices from the banks of the Mediterranean, working for social justice and social change. Ines served as a member of the International Jury of the Plural+ Video Festival, hosted by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 2013, and was nominated by the US Embassy in Tunisia to represent Tunisia in the 2014 International Visitor Leadership Program : The Role of NGOs in Promoting Global Women's Issues.



ELENI ANTONIADOU

Greece · Co-Founder, Transplants without Donors · EYL 2017

Eleni has been working on artificial organ technology and regenerative medicine in hospitals in Greece, the United Kingdom and the United States. After graduating in biomedicine, she participated in the first successful artificial trachea transplant operation on a late-stage cancer patient. In 2009, she co-founded the London-based start-up Transplants without Donors, the aim of which is to develop tissue-engineered organs that are transplanted into sick patients. Eleni also studied the effects of changes in atmospheric pressure on the nervous systems of astronauts at the NASA Mars Exploration Lab and trained NASA astronauts in biomedical experimentation for the International Space Station. She is the recipient of multiple prestigious awards and is part of the 2015 Forbes 30 under 30 for healthcare and the BBC's 100 Most Powerful Women.



JENS OLE BACH HANSEN

Denmark · Counsellor, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs · EYL 2017

Jens is Counsellor at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to his current role, He was posted at the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations in New York, in charge of Danish relations and strategic interventions with the UN Development System. Having worked and studied in the United States, France, Palestine, Israel, Denmark and Jordan, Jens Ole defines himself as “a dedicated internationalist and multi-lateralist”. Following 10 years of experience in international relations, he is now focused on the changing international architecture and the role of the United Nations in addressing global challenges. Jens Ole is a graduate in International affairs from the dual degree programme between Columbia University and Sciences Po, Paris and a BA in Public administration from Roskilde University.



TERRY BEECH

Canada · Member of Parliament & Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Oceans, Fisheries and the Canadian Coast Guard
· North American Young Leader 2017

Terry is an accomplished and experienced entrepreneur and advocate for access to education and the expansion of entrepreneurship. He entered public service in 1999 when he was elected to the Nanaimo City Council, becoming British Columbia's youngest-ever elected official. A former Adjunct Professor at Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia, Terry is the author of The In-Credibility Factor, which highlights his desire for Canada to become a global leader in innovation and entrepreneurship. Terry was the founder and CEO of HiretheWorld.com and of Twinbro, a non-profit organisation that has helped over 25,000 students obtain millions of dollars in scholarships and financial aid. He is a past board member of Lift Philanthropy and worked with entrepreneurs to launch and grow businesses at Beech Partners.



IMEN BEN MOHAMED

Tunisia · Member of Parliament, Assembly of the People's Representatives
· MENA Young Leader 2017

Imen Ben Mohamed is a Tunisian politician representing the new face of the moderate Islamist party Ennahda ("Renaissance" in Arabic) in both the Maghreb Shura Council and the Assembly of the People's Representatives where she holds a seat in the Rights, Freedom and Foreign Affairs Committee. Her education in Italy, where her family lived in exile, and strong commitment to youth and family policies have made her a rising political star in a country still struggling to define itself in the increasingly turbulent landscape of the MENA region. Ben Mohamed is a strong supporter of dialogue between cultures and religions.



AHMED BEN MUSSA

Italy · Chief Commercial Officer, Tatweer Research
· MENA Young Leader 2017

Ahmed Ben Mussa is an energy expert with ten years of experience in operations and business development of the oil service industry in the United States, Egypt and Libya. Most recently, Ben Mussa was nominated as the Chief Commercial Officer at Tatweer Research, a leading Libyan technological organisation with a focus on nurturing the country's young potential, supporting entrepreneurs and attracting international expertise and investment. Prior to that, he worked with the UN World Food Programme in Libya where he conducted food security assessments on the field.



KIRSTEN BROSBØL

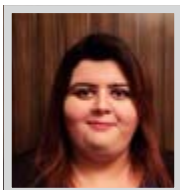
Denmark · Member of Parliament & former Minister for the Environment, National Parliament of Denmark · EYL 2014

Kirsten has represented the Social Democrats in the Danish Parliament since 2005. She was a rapporteur on research and higher education as well as on gender equality and food. She was appointed as Denmark's Minister of the Environment in 2014, during the government of Helle Thorning-Schmidt. As Minister of the Environment, she facilitated the development of sustainable solutions and contributed to the development of industrial growth and workplaces in Denmark. In the 2015 general election, she was re-elected to the Danish Parliament. Kirsten is also the co-founder of the Bilateral Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. The network operates across party lines in the Danish Parliament to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights at a national and international level.

**ALEX BUDAK**

USA · Executive Director, University of California Berkeley Center for Reinventing Leadership · North American Young Leader 2017

Alex Budak is a serial social entrepreneur, Executive Director of the UC Berkeley Center for Reinventing Leadership, and a firm believer that anyone can be a changemaker. Alex cofounded, and now advises, StartSomeGood.com which has helped 700+ social impact organizations in 50+ countries raise \$7M+. He is a mentor, coach and adviser to social entrepreneurs around the world, most recently running Scandinavia's leading social impact incubator, Reach for Change, in Stockholm, Sweden. Alex has given talks on the topics of leadership and social innovation in venues ranging from Ukraine to Cambodia; LA to the Arctic Circle; and at both the World Bank and White House. His writing has been published in Fast- Company, The Guardian and Huffington Post.

**HALA BUGAIGHIS**

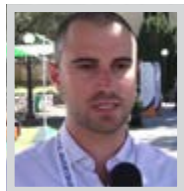
Libya · Co-Founder, Jusoor · MENA Young Leader 2017

Hala Bugaighis is a lawyer and co-founder of Jusoor, a non-governmental organisation committed to independent policy research and human development projects for women with focus on the economic and social empowerment. As a lawyer with 15 years of experience, Hala focuses on commercial, banking, civil and investment laws, and has a sound understanding of law practice in an international context. Through her private companies, Hala has worked as a consultant to many international companies as well as Libyan private and public entities, focusing on development and capacity building. In 2015, Hala was nominated a UN Women Champion for Women Economic Empowerment – an initiative that aims to improve women's economic standing and potential around the world.

**MALCOLM BYRNE**

Ireland · Head of Communications, Higher Education Authority · EYL 2014

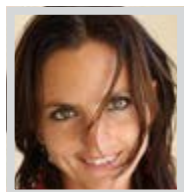
Malcolm is Head of Communications with the Higher Education Authority, the Irish state agency that advises government on higher education and research and funds the higher education institutions. He is also a councillor and former mayor for the centrist Fianna Fail party. He has previously served as Vice-President of the National Youth Council of Ireland, as Education Officer with the Union of Students in Ireland, as an Executive member of the European Students Union and as Youth Spokesperson for the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe. He previously worked as commercial manager of myhome.ie, Ireland's most successful property website and as chief executive of a national children's organisation. A graduate in law and arbitration from University College Dublin, Malcolm is currently completing a Doctorate in Governance at Queen's University Belfast. He has completed 26 marathons.



EDOARDO CAMILLI

Italy · Co-Founder & CEO, Hozint · EYL 2017

A young entrepreneur and security expert, Edoardo started working as a political and security risk consultant after graduating from the University of Bologna. In 2010, he established the International Security Observer, a web-based think tank seeking to foster the next generation of security experts. At the time, he was also working as a research analyst at the Italian Institute of Strategic Studies Niccolò Machiavelli, where his activities focused on insurgency, intelligence, national security policies and organised crime. Edoardo is the cofounder of Hozint (Horizon Intelligence), a consulting firm providing location-based media and social media monitoring services on political, safety and security risks. He is frequently interviewed on security issues by media in Italy and across Europe.



SILVIA CONSOLE BATTILANA

Italy · Co-Founder & CEO, Auctionomics · EYL 2017

Silvia is a young economist and entrepreneur specialising in game theory and interest groups. She has extensive experience as a strategist in auction design. In 2008, she co-founded Auctionomics, a high-stakes auction consulting and software firm with clients ranging from governments to Fortune 500 companies. Silvia has acted as project manager on several high-stakes auctions in Australia, Canada and the United States, in many European countries, and in Africa and Latin America. She is also the co-founder of xSwan, an interactive version of eBay that allows charities to raise more money via online auctions. Silvia frequently speaks at major universities both in the United States (including Berkeley and Harvard) and around the world.



CAROLE DIESCHBOURG

Luxembourg · Minister of the Environment, Government of Luxembourg · EYL 2017

Carole served as a municipal councillor in Echternach from 2011 to 2013, when she was appointed to the government as Minister of the Environment. At the time she was the youngest member of the cabinet and the only Green Minister of the Environment in Europe. Carole represented the European Union during the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP21) in Paris, which coincided with Luxembourg's Presidency of the EU Council. Her role was to ensure that the EU had a coordinated position during the conference. In the run-up to the COP21, she also represented the EU at many bilateral meetings and high-level conferences such as the Petersberg Climate Dialogue and the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate (MEF).



TISHANI DOSHI

UK · Poet, Writer & Dancer · EYL 2014

Tishani is an Indian-Welsh dancer, poet and freelance writer. Currently based in Madras, India, Tishani divides her time between dancing for one of India's leading choreographers, Chandralekha, and writing pieces for publications such as The Guardian, Corriere della Sera, The New York Times, The Hindu, The National, India Today, Outlook, Tricycle, Vogue and Elle. Her written work has garnered her various awards such as the prestigious Forward Prize (UK) for Best First Collection (2006) for her debut collection of poems, and she was selected to represent India at the 2012 Poetry Parnassus Cultural Olympics in London. Her first novel, The Pleasure Seekers, was published to critical acclaim in 2010, and has been translated into multiple languages. Her latest book is a collection of poems, Everything Begins Elsewhere, and has been published in India, the UK and the USA.



LUKASZ DZIEKONSKI

Poland · Member of the Management Board, Marguerite Fund 2020 · EYL 2015/2016

Lukasz is a Senior Manager responsible for European structured finance at the Warsaw based PKO Bank Polski, where he works on projects related to energy, transport and the environment with budgets ranging from €50 million to €1 billion. He is also a member of the management board for the Marguerite Fund 2020 for Energy, Climate Change and Infrastructure in Luxembourg. There, Lukasz oversees the formulation of financial and operational strategies. He is also on the supervisory board of Pomeranka Development, InvestGas and Energa Operator in Poland, and of PZU Ukraine Insurance Company and Kredobank, also in Ukraine. Lukasz began his career as an adviser in the European Parliament, focusing on energy policy and security as well as EU relations with Russia and Ukraine.



OTHMAN EL FERDAOUS

Morocco · Secretary of State for Investment, Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade & Digital Economy · MENA Young Leader 2017

Othman El Ferdaous is a public affairs and strategic communication professional, listed among the 50 most influential Moroccans under 40 by Telquel Magazine in 2016. He is a strong advocate for EU-Maghreb integration and founded clubgibraltar.org, a non-profit organization aiming to provide a "South-North" perspective on European affairs, especially policy and institutions matters regarding the Mediterranean and Africa. He is also a board member of Sciences Po Alumni Morocco, focused on fostering reverse brain drain by mentoring Moroccan students. He releases a monthly newsletter covering Moroccan issues read by +7000 subscribers.

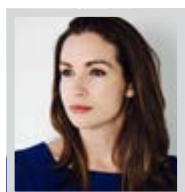


AARON FARRUGIA

Malta · Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds and Social Dialogue, Maltese Government · EYL 2017

Aaron runs the Malta Freeport, which was established in 1988 as the first transshipment hub in the Mediterranean. The company has experienced remarkable growth and currently ranks twelfth among the top European ports.

Aaron served as president of the Labour Youth Forum and was elected deputy mayor of Ta' Xbiex in 2005. During the international financial crisis, he was appointed to a team of economic experts set up by the Young European Socialists and was elected as Education Secretary in the Maltese Labour Party's Central Administration. Aaron also chaired the progressive think tank IDEAT, the party's political foundation. In 2014, he founded the Anton Buttigieg Foundation, which seeks to promote social awareness in Malta, focusing on education as the primary tool for economic and social development.

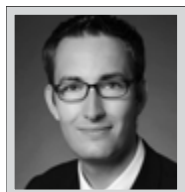


MARY FITZGERALD

Ireland · Libya Analyst; Award-Winning Journalist & Columnist · EYL 2013

Mary is a journalist and analyst specialising in the Euro-Mediterranean region with a particular focus on Libya. She has worked on Libya since 2011 and lived there throughout 2014. Her work has appeared in publications including the Economist, Foreign Policy, the New Yorker, the Washington Post, the Financial Times and the Guardian. She has conducted research

on Libya for the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMED) among others. She is a contributing author to an edited volume on the Libyan revolution published by Oxford University Press. In her previous role as Irish Times foreign affairs correspondent, she reported from 40 countries across the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Europe. She is a member of the Global Women's Forum 'Rising Talents' network.



MARKUS FREIBURG

Germany · Founder & Managing Director, Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship · EYL 2017

Markus is the founder of the Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE), a leading financial intermediary that helps social enterprises scale their social impact by helping them raise hybrid growth capital. FASE has built an open pipeline of investment-ready social enterprises.

Markus is also a member of the Expert Group on Social Entrepreneurship (GECES), a consultative multi-stakeholder group on social business that examines the progress of measures foreseen by the European Commission. He has experience of working with many social enterprises in finding appropriate financing solutions and scaling-up the impact of proven business models. Markus worked for seven years as a management consultant at McKinsey & Company, where one of his roles was providing pro-bono consulting for social entrepreneurs.

**ALESSANDRO FUSACCHIA**

Italy · Strategic Advisor, H-Farm · EYL 2012

Alessandro is a former Advisor to the Italian Economic Development Minister on European Affairs, Innovation and Youth, and former Head of Office at the Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport. Previously he was an official at the Council of the European Union dealing with global economic governance (G20/IMF). He has worked for the Italian Prime Minister's office in Rome as part of the G8 team, as well as for the Italian Ministry of International Trade. He teaches at the LUISS Guido Carlo School of Government in Rome and at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris. He was until recently President of RENA, the Italian association of young professionals promoting innovation, merit, youth empowerment and a new generation of local public policies. He is also the author of two novels.

**MAMOUN GHALLAB**

Morocco · Founder, MakeSense · MENA Young Leader 2017

Mamoun is a Moroccan adviser and activist on sustainable development who founded in 2015 MakeSense, a sustainable development consultancy firm and has over six years of professional experience in environmental strategy consultancy and management. Mamoun gained media attention after launching Zero Zbel Xperience, an environmental association which seeks to educate Moroccan youth on environmental protection, sustainable consumption and recycling through the adoption of a 'zero-waste' lifestyle. In recognition of his efforts and expertise, he was part of the Moroccan delegation to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference. He has often featured in the Moroccan press for his environmental activism and has also given a TED talk on the Zero Zbel Experience.

**EDVARD GLÜCKSMAN**

Sweden · Senior Environmental & Social Specialist, Wardell Armstrong LLP · EYL 2015/2016

A Swedish citizen, Edvard is a Chartered Scientist (CSci) specialising in environmental and social due diligence of large industrial development projects. Edvard has international and cross-sector experience designing site-specific mitigation strategies for high-risk aspects including air quality and noise, hydrogeology, soils, biodiversity and socioeconomics. His work also focuses on designing effective baseline data collection strategies, including near highly sensitive environmental receptors, and designing stakeholder engagement mechanisms to enhance client-community relations. His interests and experience also include integrating emerging cross-cutting aspects into the due diligence process, including archaeology and cultural heritage, ecosystem services, gender and human rights. Edvard is also a lecturer in responsible mining and sustainability at the University of Exeter.



JAVIER GONZALEZ ALVAREZ

Spain · International Director, Digimarc · EYL 2012

Javier is Founder and CEO of aquaMobile SL, a mobile value-added services provider based in Madrid. AquaMobile SL is one of the most successful digital watermarking solutions companies; its products are recognised throughout the field and used in all kinds of media. Aquamobile SL won several prestigious awards, such as the Top Global 100 RedHerring winner and the NETI Award. He has also worked in management roles for various start-ups, such as Alvento and Mobile 365 Inc. He is Co-founder of the tMA Foundation, which encourages innovative and entrepreneurial projects in conjunction with MIT. Javier is a graduate from the Madrid Polytechnic University and ESCP Europe.



JAKOB HAESLER

Germany · Co-Founder, Project Alloy · EYL 2013

Prior to founding Project Alloy, Jakob was the CEO and Co-Founder of Tinyclues SAS, a Paris-based software startup with the objective of industrialising datamining on Big Data with the help of advanced machine learning algorithms in a Cloud Computing environment. Previously he was a partner and consultant at McKinsey & Company in Germany and France where he worked on topics ranging from Banking to Public Sector Reform to Global Public Health issues, notably the creation and distribution of child HIV treatments. Prior to McKinsey he briefly worked at the World Bank. He holds a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a Bachelor of Science from the University of St. Gallen. Jakob is also a founding partner of the "Cercle du Leadership".



SABRINA HERSI ISSA

USA · Chief Executive Officer, Be Bold Media · North American Young Leader 2017

Sabrina is the CEO of Be Bold Media, a digital agency for global advocacy that notably produces a hackathon series to build and improve technology tools used for humanitarian relief and refugee services. She is the co-founder of End Famine, a campaign dedicated to developing sustainable solutions to hunger, food security and humanitarian assistance. Sabrina organises Rights x Tech, a gathering for technologists and activists, and runs Survivor Fund, a political fund dedicated to supporting the rights of survivors of sexualised violence. She currently serves as a Senior Advisor to the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, where she leads research on journalism ecosystems and how philanthropy can support efforts to build diverse, inclusive media ecosystems. In addition, she curates New/s Disruptors, a project working to re-frame the narrative of digital disruption in journalism to champion the experiences and contributions of diverse voices.



SAMI HOURANI

Jordan · Executive Director, Leaders of Tomorrow · MENA Young Leader 2017

Sami Hourani is medical doctor and serial social entrepreneur. He is the founding director of the well-known educational platform For9a.com. Dr. Hourani is also the founder and the executive director of the regional organization Leaders of Tomorrow and the innovative social initiatives; Diwanieh, Mo7aka and the new and creative qualitative research methodology FADFED. He is a fellow at Ashoka, largest hub for social innovators world wide. He received King Abdullah II Demokrati award in 2014 and EUROMED youth award in 2013. He was also elected as the Jordanian Role Model of 2011 and received the Jordanian title "Knight of Change" in 2008.



KLEN JÄÄRATS

Estonia · Director for EU Affairs, Office of the Prime Minister of Estonia
· EYL 2015/2016

As Director of the EU Secretariat in the Estonian government, Klen coordinates and develops all EU policy and acts as the chief European affairs adviser to the Prime Minister. A career civil servant, Klen started out in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, rising quickly to the position of Head of the Refugees Department. In this capacity, he dealt with a variety of NGOs and international organisations including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). He later moved to Brussels where he spent six years working at the Estonian Permanent Representation to the EU during which time he dealt with many issues related to the reparation, ratification and implementation of the Treaty of Lisbon.



DEREK JOHNSON

USA · Executive Director, Global Zero · North American Young Leader 2017

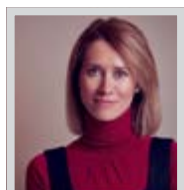
Derek Johnson is the Executive Director of the Global Zero movement for a world without nuclear weapons. Since 2010, he has led an international campaign powered by an eminent group of 300 world leaders and luminaries, a high-impact grassroots action corps and hundreds of thousands of members online. An experienced strategist and creative campaigner, Johnson works on the frontiers of catalytic advocacy, foreign policy and social change. By combining media, online and grassroots campaigns with cutting-edge policy initiatives and direct dialogue with key governments, he has spent the last six years positioning Global Zero as a disruptive force for nuclear disarmament in all of the nuclear-armed regions of the world. Before taking the helm at Global Zero, Johnson worked to enhance access to justice, human rights and rule of law. He also consulted for a number of organisations dedicated to advancing interfaith dialogue and cooperation.



SARAH JONES

USA · Journalist & Producer · North American Young Leader 2017

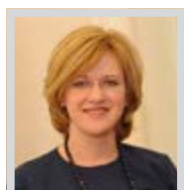
Sarah is an award-winning all platform journalist with a passion for attracting young audiences to hard news. Over 67,000 people are supporters of her Sarah Jones Reports on social media. In 2013, she moved to New York for a full-time news gathering position with Al Jazeera America. She left her job two years later to pursue a fellowship with the International Reporting Project where she was given the opportunity to report on health and development in the Philippines. In 2016, she was selected as one of the top one thousand most influential Twitter profiles from across the worlds of marketing, advertising, digital and media. Prior to joining Al Jazeera America, Jones was freelancing as an International Assignment Editor for CNN at its headquarters in Atlanta; as an online and print journalist for Gulf News (Dubai); and as an online journalist for ITN's Channel 4 (UK).



KAJA KALLAS

Estonia · Member, Committee on Industry, Research & Energy, European Parliament · EYL 2017

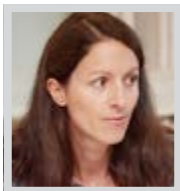
Kaja started her career as a lawyer in Estonia. In 2011, she was elected Member of the Estonian Parliament and Chair of the Committee on Economic Affairs. In 2014, she was elected to the European Parliament, where she sits on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy. A member of the ALDE Group, Kaja is also part of the European Parliament Intergroup on the Digital Agenda, an informal network of MEPs interested in digital technologies and how they can benefit society. She is a proponent of innovation and frequently emphasises that regulations should not hinder the technological revolution. Kaja has been the author of five reports in the European Parliament, including of an own-initiative report on the Digital Single Market.



ZANDA KALNINA-LUKAŠEVICA

Latvia · Parliamentary State Secretary for European Affairs, Government of Latvia · EYL 2017

Zanda started her professional career at Jurmala's city council in 1998. She then worked at the Ministry of Regional Development before joining the Strategic Analysis Commission, where she advised Latvian President Valdis Zatlers on strategic planning. She was elected to the Latvian Parliament in 2011. During her mandate, she chaired the Committee on European Affairs and the Reform Party parliamentary group. In 2014, Zanda was appointed Parliamentary State Secretary in the Latvian government. Her role is to ensure cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Latvian Parliament and the European Parliament – a crucial role during Latvia's Presidency of the EU Council in 2015.



NEŽA KOGOVŠEK ŠALAMON

Slovenia · Director at Peace Institute · EYL 2017

Neža is a human rights advocate working at a national and international level. Since 2012, she has been the Director of the Peace Institute, a non-profit research body that aims to create and preserve an open society capable of critical thought and based on the principles of equality, human rights, responsibility, solidarity and the rule of law. Her work at the institute includes lecturing, legal analysis, project management and research. Neža is a member of several legal expert networks advocating for anti-discrimination, social inclusion and the promotion of better representation of immigrants. She was voted as one of the ten most influential lawyers in Slovenia in 2016.



SANDOR LEDERER

Hungary · Co-Founder & CEO K-Monitor · EYL 2015/2016

Sandor is the Co-Founder and CEO of K-Monitor, a non-profit public funds watchdog based in Budapest. The NGO was founded to improve the current levels of transparency and the rule of law in Hungary. Civic participation and technology driven solutions are among the organizations key instruments. Beside K-Monitor's tech focus, the organization is also active in anti-corruption advocacy and research. Sandor was contributing to the European Commission's Anti-corruption Report as the Local Research Country Correspondent for Hungary. One of the recent projects K-Monitor has been working on is redflags.eu, a program that uses algorithmic indicators to analyze risky public procurements.



ANDRÉ LOESEKRUG-PIETRI

Germany · Former Special Advisor to the French Minister of Defence, Founder & Managing Partner of ACAPITAL · EYL 2012

André Loesekrug-Pietri has leadership positions in private equity, government, industry and as an entrepreneur. He has been appointed Special Advisor to the Minister of Defense in the first Government of President Macron, responsible for European Defense policy, as well as technology and disruptive innovation. Previously, he was Chairman of ACAPITAL, investing in fast-growing European companies with strong global potential, in particular in Europe and China. Prior to that André led several investment funds in Europe and Asia, founded CarBoulevard.com, was assistant to the CEO of Aerospatiale-Airbus in Toulouse and started his career at Roland Berger Strategy Consultants. A graduate of HEC, the Michigan Business School and Harvard Kennedy School, he attended Sup-Aéro aerospace engineering school. Frequently invited as a speaker on disruptive technologies, he is member of several boards as well as on the advisory board of Jiaotong University, Beijing. André is a private pilot and Colonel with the French Air Force People's Reserve.



ADELE LUTA

USA · Research Affiliate, Brain & Cognitive Sciences Dept. Massachusetts Institute of Technology · EYL 2017

Adele is an expert in strategic cognitive skills, advanced theory of mind, and applied physics. Her research focuses on operators in time-limited, life-critical, restricted communication environments and how they employ Theory of Mind (ToM) in their mission. Adele's previous experience includes working

as a NASA Flight Controller/Astronaut Instructor, in which role she provided support for over 90 US Space Shuttle, International Space Station (ISS), and Russian spacewalks, and trained five Shuttle crews and two ISS increments in Extra Vehicle Activity (EVA). In addition to her current work as a Research Affiliate at MIT, she has also recently been appointed by the United States of America as a technical team member to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Science and Technology Organization through its Collaborative Support Office.



ANTONIA MESZAROS

Hungary · Executive Director, UNICEF Hungary · EYL 2014

Before becoming Executive Director of UNICEF Hungary in 2017, Antonia was a well-known Hungarian journalist, television presenter, author and documentary filmmaker. She has interviewed just about every EU politician that visited Hungary in recent years. She hosted Hungary's main evening current affairs programme from 2007 to 2011, but was forced to leave the national public broadcaster MTV,

along with thousands of colleagues after the new government "reorganised" public broadcasting and has been working at ATV, an independent news channel ever since. Antonia has participated in charitable projects and literacy campaigns aimed at helping the Roma population. For the last few years she has also been asked to head a Hungarian foundation recognising and rewarding journalistic achievements and organising events and workshops for media professionals. She is an English Literature graduate from ELTE University in Budapest.



AYMAN MHANNA

Lebanon · Executive Director, Samir Kassir Foundation
· MENA Young Leader 2017

Ayman Mhanna is Executive Director of the Beirut-based Samir Kassir Foundation, one of the leading press freedom NGOs in the Middle East. In this capacity, he oversees the foundation's advocacy, monitoring, research and training activities. Mhanna has previously held the position of Executive

Director of the Global Forum for Media Development, focusing on monitoring violations targeting journalists and providing them with the necessary support. He has also extensively worked with issues related to election observation, electoral reform and civil society involvement. Until recently, he was a lecturer on policy development and communications at Saint Joseph University in Beirut. In 2016, he was appointed Secretary-General of the Democratic Renewal Movement, a secular, social-liberal political party in Lebanon.

**MEGHAN MILLOY****USA** · Co-Founder Republican Women for Progress

· North American Young Leader 2017

Meghan Milloy is the co-founder of Republican Women for Progress (RWFP) and was previously the Chair of Republican Women for Hillary (RWFH). she serves as the Director of Financial Services at the American Action Forum (AAF), a center-right think tank that provides data-driven insight to today's policy challenges where she manages the entirety of AAF's activity in its financial services and housing finance policy portfolios. Previously she was a Presidential Management Fellow working at the Small Business Administration and later at the House Committee on Small Business. She was an intern at the National Republican Senatorial Committee and in the George W. Bush White House. She also worked in the office of Majority Leader Trent Lott and has volunteered on the campaigns of Haley Barbour, George W. Bush, John McCain, Mitt Romney, and Hillary Clinton.

**NEGAR MORTAZAVI****Iran** · Journalist & Media Analyst, MENA Delegate · EYL 2017

Negar Mortazavi (born 1981 in Tehran, Iran) is an Iranian-American journalist covering Iran in English and Persian. She writes, reports and tweets on Iran extensively and is a frequent commentator on Iran at MSNBC, BBC, PRI, New York Times, Aljazeera, Huffington Post, and international outlets across the world in Lebanon, Iraq, Israel, Turkey, Switzerland, and Japan. She worked as a TV presenter at Voice of America Persian where she hosted a daily hour-long interactive show that discussed current affairs with Iranians across the world. Mortazavi was born and raised in Iran and moved to the US in 2002 to continue her studies. She has a Master of Arts from Brandeis University and a Bachelor of Arts from University of Massachusetts.

**KATARZYNA ANNA NAWROT****Poland** · Assistant Professor, Poznan University of Economics · EYL 2017

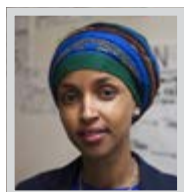
In addition to her position at the Poznan University of Economics, Katarzyna is a member of the Committee for Future Studies at the Polish Academy of Social Sciences. Her research interests include development and international economics, with a focus on East Asian markets. Katarzyna's work also explores challenges to global development. She led several research projects for the National Bureau of Research in Poland and finalised a recent project on the economic potential of developing countries in Africa. Her academic achievements have been recognised by numerous awards, including one for outstanding young scholars from Poland's Minister of Science and Higher Education in 2012. Katarzyna has published numerous articles and books on issues relating to development, governance, integration and regional cooperation.



AOIBHINN NÍ SHÚILLEABHÁIN

Ireland · Lecturer and Science Communicator, University College Dublin
School of Mathematics and Statistics · EYL 2017

Over the past ten years, Aoibhinn has promoted mathematics and science with a particular focus on encouraging more girls to study these subjects. She lectures at University College Dublin as part of a programme that addresses the growing need for qualified mathematics and science teachers in post-primary schools. In 2011, she was awarded the prestigious Ussher Fellowship from Trinity College Dublin for her doctoral thesis on mathematics teacher learning. Named as one of the Top 50 Women in Science in Ireland by Silicon Republic, she is renowned for her role as a science communicator and for promoting STEM subjects in Ireland through various media outlets, including radio and TV. In 2005, she won the Rose of Tralee contest, an international festival celebrated by Irish communities all over the world.



ILHAN OMAR

USA · Representative for District 60B, Minnesota House of Representatives
· EYL 2017

Ilhan Omar is the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party Member of the Minnesota House of Representatives for the 60B district. She is the first Somali American Muslim legislator elected to office in the United States. She is the Assistant Minority Leader, with assignments to three house committees; Civic Law and Data Practices Policy; Higher Education and Career Readiness Policy and Finance; and State Government Finance. In addition to serving in the legislature, Omar is the Director of Policy Initiatives at Women Organizing Women, where she empowers East African women to take civic leadership roles in their community. Born in Somalia, Omar and her family led the country's civil war when she was eight. The family spent four years in a refugee camp in Kenya before coming to the United States in 1990s.



SÉBASTIEN PILARD

France · Member, Pays de la Loire Regional Council · EYL 2017

Sébastien is a young businessman and entrepreneur. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of Terminal du Grand Ouest (TGO), a port operations company in the Nantes-Saint Nazaire port area that covers bulk, container and general cargo activities. He manages a team of more than 150 employees at TGO. Sébastien was former French President Nicolas Sarkozy's special representative on the economy and business during his campaign to win the Republican nomination for the 2017 presidential election. Sébastien is regional councillor in the Pays de la Loire region. He is also the co-founder of Sens Commun, a right-wing youth movement that defends conservative family values.



EDUARDO PORTAL MARTIN

Spain · Conductor & Founder, Antares Ensemble · EYL 2017

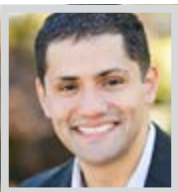
Over the last few years, Eduardo has made a great impression on audiences and orchestras alike. Since graduating as conductor and violinist, he has conducted multiple orchestras across Europe and the Americas, such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Sao Paulo Symphony Orchestra. In 2015, his presentation with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales included a broadcast on BBC Radio 3. For the third season in a row, he has returned on multiple occasions to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to conduct concerts all around England. Widely acclaimed by musical critics, Eduardo is particularly committed to the contemporary repertoire and is the founder of the Antares Ensemble in Spain, whose focus is on the performance of new music and research into its links with historical and rarely-performed masterpieces.



FADI QURAN

Palestine · Senior Campaigner, Avaaz · EYL 2017

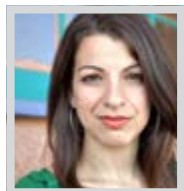
Fadi is the face of the new Middle East. As Senior Campaigner at Avaaz, an international online campaigning network, he has been promoting numerous campaigns on issues such as human rights, poverty and conflict, becoming an unofficial leader of the Electronic Intifada. Quran is also a Popular Struggle community organiser, a policy member of the Al-Shabaka Palestinian Policy Network, and is a leading figure in the burgeoning Palestinian youth movement committed to achieving freedom, justice and dignity for the Palestinian people, having previously served as UN Advocacy Officer with Al-Haq's legal research and advocacy unit. Apart from his work in advocacy and international law, he is also an entrepreneur in the alternative energy field, where he has founded two companies bringing wind and solar energy power to Palestine and other countries in the region.



SAM RASOUL

USA · Delegate for the 11th District, Virginia House of Delegates · EYL 2017

Sam currently represents the citizens of Roanoke in the Virginia House of Delegates, being Virginia's only Muslim legislator. His political ambition is driven by an idea of changing the way politics is conducted by building trust on the left and the right, across political divides, and by improving government services for veterans and seniors in rural areas. Rasoul brings to the position two decades of leadership and management experience gained with both for-profit and non-profit organizations. As Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer of the International non-governmental organization Kissito Healthcare International, Rasoul worked closely with United Nations Agencies and other government officials to strengthen healthcare systems in East Africa. Rasoul is also a proven leader in organizational change and serves as a Transformational Change Agent at ENVIGOR where he delivers pragmatic solutions for organizations facing disruption and change in the Digital Age.



ANITA SARKEESIAN

USA · Founder, Feminist Frequency · North American Young Leader 2017

Anita is an award-winning media critic and the founder of Feminist Frequency, an educational non-profit that explores the representations of women in pop culture narratives. Her work focuses on deconstructing the stereotypes and tropes associated with women in popular culture as well as highlighting issues surrounding the targeted harassment of women in online and gaming spaces. Sarkeesian has featured in publications such as The Guardian, The New York Times, Rolling Stone and The Wall Street Journal. She was named one of TIME's 100 most influential people in 2015 and was the recipient of the 2014 Game Developers Choice Ambassador Award. Sarkeesian has spoken to TEDxWomen, XOXO Festival and the UN Broadband Working Group on Gender. She also appeared on The Colbert Report discussing her experiences of harassment and improving gender inclusivity in gaming culture and the media.



AGNIJA ŠEIKO

Lithuania · Choreographer · EYL 2017

Agnija is an award-winning choreographer and dancer. She is the author of more than 20 choreography works, including dance films, installations and performances. Her compositions have been performed at dance festivals both in her native Lithuania and abroad. Agnija successfully collaborates with creators of various art forms, resulting in dance pieces that feature audio-visual art and sculpture installations. Along with choreographing, Agnija gives lectures at Klaipeda University and runs the dance company PADI DAPI Fish. She was named Best Choreographer of the Year in 2012 and, in 2013, was awarded the Golden Cross of the Stage, the highest Lithuanian theatre award. Her most recent show, 'Dior in Moscow', was presented at the International Contemporary Dance Festival 'New Baltic Dance'.



ROBERT SHIRKEY

Canada · Executive Director, Our Horizon · North American Young Leader 2017

Rob is a recognized authority on the subject of climate change risk disclosures or 'warning labels' for gas pumps. He has given lectures on the topic across North America and has been featured in media all over the world. Rob is a recipient of Canada's 2017 Clean50 Award and was also named a 2016 Agent of Change by the Centre for Social Innovation and Green Shield Canada Foundation. Rob is a lawyer from Toronto, Canada. Prior to founding Our Horizon and launching its unique approach to addressing climate change, Rob operated a private practice in downtown Toronto. He also has experience as an Assistant City Solicitor and Prosecutor.

**KAMILLA SULTANOVA****Finland** · Chairman Global Dignity Finland · EYL 2015-2016

Kamilla has had a very successful professional career in corporate sales, having worked for a number of large companies in Scandinavia. From a young age Kamilla was a high-achiever and in 1999 was awarded a full scholarship from the American Councils for International Education to attend a high school in Texas, USA as part of the “Future Leader Exchange”. One of Kamilla’s achievements has been her work on gender equality. She regularly makes media appearances and writes on this topic and in 2013 was elected to represent Denmark as part of the European Women’s Lobby in Brussels. In this role Kamilla lobbied heavily for the increased participation of women and ethnic minorities in European politics.

**CEZARY TOMCZYK****Poland** · Member of the Polish National Parliament · EYL 2017

Cezary began his political career on Sieradz’s city council in 2006. One year later, he was elected as a Member of the Polish Parliament at the age of 23. He sat in the Committee on National Defence and the Committee on EU Affairs in addition to chairing the Permanent Subcommittee on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014-2020. In 2010, he was awarded the Medal of Merit for National Defence by the Polish Minister of National Defence in recognition of his services to the development and strengthening of the defence of his country. In 2015, he was appointed as a Secretary of State and spokesperson in the government of Ewa Kopacz. After the 2015 parliamentary elections, he was nominated as shadow Deputy Minister of National Defence for the Civic Platform.

**DAVOR TREMAC****Croatia** · General Manager for Southeast Europe, Uber · EYL 2017

Holding a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Zagreb, Davor co-founded and served as COO of Gourmeo, a web start-up dealing in premium restaurant space, which expanded across Brazil, Germany and the United Kingdom. It partnered with the best restaurants in major cities across Europe, South America and Asia. Davor then worked for a leading consultancy firm where he managed media, technology and telecom projects in Europe and South East Asia. He is now General Manager at Uber where he is responsible for developing the transportation network company across Southeast Europe. Davor is also a member of the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Croatia.

**WOUTER VERSCHULDEN**

Belgium · Founder & Publisher, NewsMonkey · EYL 2014

Wouter is the founder of Newsmonkey.be, a social media tailor-made news website, partly funded by a successful crowd-funding action. In 2013, he made a documentary and book about the future of the news business: Stop The Presses: the Golden Age of Journalism starts now. The documentary was partly based on his experience as the Editor-in-Chief of De Morgen that he managed for over 2 years. Before that, he worked at De Standaard, as a political journalist, and won several Belfius-press prizes. During that period he acquired his passion for politics and the inner workings of the system, which resulted in a fiction series about Belgian politics that he co-wrote for television and that will air in Belgium. He holds an MA in Political Journalism from the Columbia School of Journalism in New York. He also has a Master in Business from the Vlerick Management School in Ghent and a Masters in Politics at Ghent University and Université de Bretagne Occidentale.

**YURIY VULKOVSKY**

Bulgaria · Country Manager, Reach for Change · EYL 2014

Yuriy is a Country Manager for Bulgaria of the International Foundation “Reach for Change” which supports social innovators and social entrepreneurs in 18 countries at 3 continents. He has more than 20 years of experience in the non-governmental sector in Bulgaria and Europe working for the capacity building of the independent social and cultural organisations, as well fighting for government transparency and effectiveness. He believes that the change starts from bottom up and the innovation emerges from the periphery, not from the center. German Marshall Fund and Salzburg Global Seminar Alumni. Member of the Strategy Group of the European Initiative “A Soul for Europe”.

**OZAN YANAR**

Finland · Member of Parliament, National Parliament of Finland · EYL 2017

Ozan is a Finnish economist and politician born in Turkey. He has researched issues relating to unemployment and wage differences and worked at the Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions, in the Labour Institute for Economic Research and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment.

He was the Co-Chair of the Federation of Green Youth in 2015. At the age of 27, he was elected as a Green League Member of the Finnish Parliament. As an MP, he campaigns for social equality and spearheads the fight against discrimination. In 2016, Politico put him on their list of 28 influential names in Europe and he was in Forbes' 30 under 30 list in 2017. In addition he was invited to the first Obama Foundation Summit held in November 2017.

**FLORIAN ZINOECKER**

Austria · Head of Corporate Governance & Internal Policies
European Stability Mechanism · EYL 2014

Florian is Head of the corporate governance and internal policies division at the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), where he is responsible for the preparation of decisions and meetings of the Board of Governors (eurozone finance ministers), Board of Directors and Board of Auditors. He has worked in economic and financial affairs in the areas of central banking and monetary policy in various capacities including at the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Central Bank (ECB). He has a Master's in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, as well as a Master's in Advanced European Studies from the University of Vienna.



The John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation is a non-profit organisation established in 2005 to carry on the philanthropic legacy of John Latsis.

The Foundation plans, manages, and funds programmes across a wide range of issue areas, centered around five thematic strands:

**EDUCATION
SCIENCE
SOCIAL WELFARE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ARTS & CULTURE**

An additional, diversified branch of activities fall under the operation of the Neraida Floating Museum. The Museum runs a variety of events and offers free access to visitors, highlighting the maritime and entrepreneurial history of Greece, familiarising the youth with maritime professions, and promoting environmental conservation.

The Foundation implements a venture philanthropy approach to its grant-making, which means prioritizing high engagement with grantees, tailored financing, non-financial support, involvement of networks, organisational capacity-building, performance measurement and remaining responsive to ongoing social needs.



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**John S. Latsis
Public Benefit Foundation**

**LEADERSHIP
IN AN INCREASINGLY
UNPREDICTABLE
WORLD**



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2017 Tallinn European Young Leaders seminar opened with a clash between two strikingly different visions for the world economy and ended with a warning from a tech industry legend on apocalyptic dangers stemming from the rise of Artificial Intelligence.

In between, the more than 60 young leaders discussed dog-fight tactics with an F16 pilot on NATO's Baltic Sea front line; tucked into plates of fish scales and lamb's hearts to help a chef's battle against food waste; and debated the most pressing issues of our time: from climate change to the future of education; from funding for the arts to geopolitics in the era of Putin, Trump and Kim Jong-un.

Estonian Prime Minister [Jüri Ratas](#) spoke to the group of his vision for Europe, a particularly timely talk as his government has stepped in to take the helm of the European Union over the second half of 2017, after Brexit-bound Britain pulled out of its scheduled stint with the EU presidency.

The existential fears on the impact of runaway AI were outlined by another Estonian, Skype founder Jaan Tallinn, who held a lengthy question-and-answer session with the young leaders.

The European Young Leaders (EYL40) programme was launched by Friends of Europe in 2011, with the goal of bringing together 40 of Europe's brightest minds aged under 40 to debate challenges facing the continent and search for solutions.

The Tallinn meeting was the second gathering for the class of 2017. It was also a special event, marking the first time the programme has been expanded to include young leaders both from North America and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Under the banner "21st Century Pioneers: Inter-Regional Cooperation for a New Generation", the seminar held from September 14-16 in the Estonian capital aimed to create synergies and promote dialogue, to foster understanding and cooperation between the young leaders across the three regions.

Economic Alternatives



“Neoliberalism, to define it as a system, is free markets for the poor and socialism for the rich”

Jason Hickel

Anthropologist at the London School of Economics

The Tallinn meeting came six months since the last EYL seminar was held in Lisbon.

Back then, Brexit uncertainties, the inauguration of Donald Trump as US president and fears of rampant populism across much of Europe generated a sense of urgency and a focus on unrolling political events.

In the meantime, political pressure has eased, allowing European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to declare ‘The wind is back in Europe’s sails’ in his State of the Union speech on the eve of the EYL seminar.

While there was little sign of complacency, the easing of political tension created opportunity for a broad sweep to the talks in Tallinn, a chance to examine some of the wider challenges facing Europe and its neighbours in North America and the MENA region.

‘We have a whole series of common challenges,’ [Geert Cami](#), Co-Founder and Managing Director of Friends of Europe said in his opening remarks. “We can talk about energy, jobs, entrepreneurship, climate change, so let’s tackle those challenges in common, without falling prey to this inward-looking mood that certain countries and groups of people have these days.”

The opening debate looked at the world economy. It examined so-called neoliberal ideas which have held sway across much of the world in recent years with



their emphasis on free markets, small government, tight finances and deregulation. Ideas that, supporters argue, offer the best chance of promoting growth, living standards and jobs, but which many, particularly in Europe, associate with the financial crisis of the late 2000s and the subsequent recession and austerity from which much of the continent is only now beginning to emerge.

‘Neoliberalism, to define it as a system, is free markets for the poor and socialism for the rich,’ asserted [Jason Hickel](#), anthropologist at the London School of Economics, a dedicated critic of the neoliberal order.

Hickel locked horns with [Steve H. Hanke](#), Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health & the Study of Business Enterprise in the opening debate. A former advisor to US President Ronald

**“Economic freedom
is really good for
your health, that’s the
bottom line”**

Steve H. Hanke
Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins
Institute for Applied Economics,



“The market economy is a model that has been quite successful in a lot of places, but we need equality in that model too. We have to make a market economy which is equal and which is green”

Ozan Yanar
EYL40 & Member of Finland's
National Parliament

Reagan and other world leaders, Hanke put forward a determined defence of free markets.

‘If you increase economic freedom, you increase GDP per capita and you increase health,’ he insisted. ‘Economic freedom is really good for your health, that’s the bottom line.’

Hanke pointed to the success of host nation Estonia as an illustration of free-market vitality. He rejected the common argument that neoliberalism has increased inequality, stating that the gap between rich and poor has fallen to historically low levels - if consumption rather than income is used as a measure.

Public debt and austerity measures used to correct it are the result of government, rather than market failings, Hanke asserted. Attempts to reject the free market system lead to basket case economics, as witnessed by the woes of Venezuela and Zimbabwe. ‘You get good governance by having small government,’ he concluded





“The idea of a free unencumbered market is a romantic idea, every free market also has rules”

Jakob Haesler

EYL40, Tech entrepreneur
& Co-Founder of Project Alloy

Hickel's view was diametrically opposed.

‘Income equality continues to get worse, this is the legacy of neoliberal globalisation, this is really the reason why our world is shot through with pain,’ he said. ‘It’s going to require major structural reform to make the world fairer for the majority.’

Capitalism needs an overhaul with land reform, a crackdown on tax havens, fairer tariff rules to favour the global south, a global minimum income system. Economic policy should no longer be based on promoting the growth of gross domestic product. ‘We need to abandon GDP growth as a policy objective as it’s completely unscientific, thus freeing ourselves from the tyranny of pursuing unnecessary expansion,’ Hickel said.

From the floor, Young Leaders tended to tread a middle path between the distinctive visions the speakers presented.

‘The market economy is a model that has been quite successful in a lot of places, but we need equality in that model too,’ said Ozan Yanar, a Member of Finland’s National Parliament. ‘We have to make a market economy which is equal and which is green.’

Tech entrepreneur [Jakob Haesler](#), contested the concept of an unfettered free market. ‘There is a naive understanding of the idea of the invisible hand, it is not invisible, the markets are always institutions and as such they are designed,’ said Haesler, Co-Founder Project Alloy. ‘The idea of a free unencumbered market is a romantic idea, every free market also has rules.’

For [Ayman Mhanna](#), Executive Director of the Samir Kassir Foundation, Lebanon, better governance is the key to making an economic system successful.



‘Is there any link with good governance, with equal access to justice, with people fairly informed about what is happening, with making sure that wealth created in the system is not captured unlawfully by some segments of the population?’ he asked. ‘Doesn’t good governance actually contribute to mitigating the risks associated with both of these policies?’

The idea of using other measures of economic success beyond GDP growth was welcomed by several participants, particularly if additional metrics can bring on board environmental or social elements.

‘Gross domestic product as a measure has worried me for some time. It’s very simple to articulate why: it’s not a good long-term measure for growth, it’s relatively short term in fact,’ said [Terry Beech](#), Member of Parliament & Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, & the Canadian Coast Guard.

“Gross domestic product as a measure has worried me for some time. It’s very simple to articulate why: it’s not a good long-term measure for growth, it’s relatively short term in fact”

Terry Beech

North American Young Leader,
-Member of Parliament
& Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, & the
Canadian Coast Guard

“To be an entrepreneur you need to have courage and take risks”

Lukasz Dziekonski

EYL40 & Member of the Management Board of the Marguerite Fund 2020

Economic issues also came to the fore in two of the working group sessions held on day two of the seminar, looking at ways to stimulate entrepreneurship and the importance of integrating migrants into the economy.

Participants stressed the need to change European mindsets on entrepreneurship to create a start-up culture that removes the stigma of failure and promotes risk-taking by investors and young entrepreneurs.

‘To be an entrepreneur you need to have courage and take risks,’ said [Lukasz Dziekonski](#), member of the management board of the Marguerite Fund 2020.

Several speakers called changes to the relationships between the state and business to encourage entrepreneurship. ‘We need to rethink the social contract and state’s role should be reduced to infrastructure only,’ said [Ines Amri](#), Deputy Secretary General of the Maghreb Economic Forum.

From France, [Sébastien Pilard](#), Member of the Pays de la Loire Regional Council and European Young Leader, argued that it’s time to move away from a “dogmatic approach” to entrepreneurship. ‘We need to instead establish a culture of delivery; connecting entrepreneurial ideas with implementation,’ he said.

The working group concluded that better early-stage training in entrepreneurial skills is essential to help young people going into business. ‘Young entrepreneurs don’t know the simplest legal structures needed to set up companies,’ complained [Kaidi Ruusalepp](#), Chief Executive Officer of Funderbeam, an Estonian startup.

In the working group on migration, there was a recommendation for Europe needs to establish a clear



legal framework for the management and integration of migrants from outside the EU.

Maadh Alsammaraien, Market Analyst at Fortum Charge and Drive, recalled his experience as an Iraqi refugee who was granted asylum in Finland. 'The Finnish system fails to place migrants. It makes them dependent on tax money,' he said. Alsammaraien explained how he started a job-placement company to help fellow migrants integrate more quickly into the labour market.

Participants said European governments should provide skills-training programmes during the asylum process in order to speed up the rate of economic integration. They called for improvements in the legal system to promote integration. 'We currently have no legal framework on how to deal with migration at a global level,' said **Jens Ole Bach Hansen**, Counsellor at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

“We currently have no legal framework on how to deal with migration at a global level”

Jens Ole Bach Hansen
EYL40 & Counsellor at the Danish
Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Technology for better or worse



The need for societies to adapt to fast-changing technological developments was a constant theme running through many of the debates, whether in developing military hardware, providing kids with appropriate educational skills or adapting ourselves to a world of work buffeted by disruptive innovation.

‘We stand in the middle of changing realities from the technological point of view ... We must keep pace with technological progress and fully exploit its potential,’ declared Estonia’s Prime Minister [Jüri Ratas](#) who spoke to the group ahead of dinner on the first day.

One area of concern was that governments and public opinion are lagging behind the pace of scientific

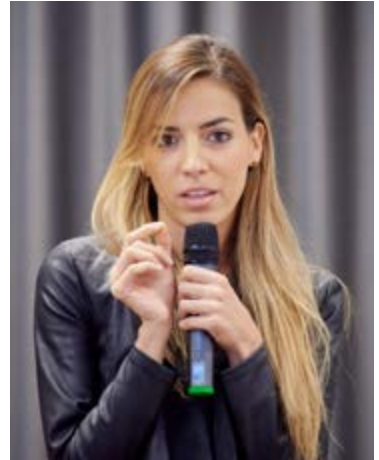
advancement, too timid to seize the opportunities offered and holding back research that could benefit society.

‘There is a new reality with the fourth and the fifth industrial revolutions, a reality that no country, no matter how rich or how poor can escape. Whether you are coming from Greece or the United States disruptive technologies will affect you,’ said scientist [Eleni Antoniadou](#), Co-Founder Transplants without Donors.

Antoniadou gave examples from her own experience in the field of artificial organ technology and regenerative medicine where regulation is lagging behind the science, and urged rule makers to unshackle innovation. ‘How brave are we for the future that we think we want?’ she asked.

The checks and balances of democratic regimes, are leaving them vulnerable to being outpaced in technological developments by authoritarian regimes or even aggressive non-state actors such as terrorist groups. [Kristjan Prikk](#), Undersecretary for Defence Policy at the Estonian Ministry of Defence, pointed to examples – from terrorist use of drones and social networks, to Russia’s wrong-footing over the West with hybrid warfare techniques.

[André Loesekrug-Pietri](#), Founder and Managing Partner of the investment company A CAPITAL, expressed a broader concern of democracies slipping behind ‘What I’m very scared of, is that it’s now authoritarian states that have the luxury of long term, because we in our democratic systems haven’t been able to build this capacity of thinking beyond the next election,’ said Loesekrug-Pietri, recently appointed a special advisor to the French Defence Ministry.



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Eleni Antoniadou
EYL40 & Co-Founder
of Transplants without Donors



“We stand in the middle of changing realities from the technological point of view ... We must keep pace with technological progress and fully exploit its potential”

Jüri Ratas
Prime Minister of Estonia



The debate also touched on the role of government and private investors in promoting innovation. ‘I’m pretty far left economically, but I struggle with innovation,’ said [Sam Rasoul](#), Delegate for the 11th District Virginia House of Delegates. ‘I can’t find really good models where state-sponsored innovation really rivals the free market.’

The impact of technology on the future of work, was a major topic.

‘Automation is continuously pushing in the direction of extracting more value for the richest and unless there is an alternative solution, I think the richest will become even richer and the poorer will become poorer,’ cautioned [Ahmed Ben Mussa](#), Chief Commercial Officer at Tatweer Research, which focuses on nurturing young potential in Libya.



Others were critical of our increasingly tech-driven lifestyles.

‘The faster we go, the bigger the impacts and the less control we have on those impacts,’ warned [Mamoun Ghallab](#), Founder of MakeSense, a sustainable development consultancy firm. ‘Instead of thinking how can we adapt to this world that is less and less easy for humans to live in, why don’t we slow the pace? Why don’t we think about how do we make this world more compatible with human nature?’

[Ivan Juric](#), Programmes & Operations Advisor at the John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation, was another who pointed to the downside of automation. ‘Capitalism seems to be creating bullshit jobs because if people have too much free time on their hands that’s not a good thing. So, I don’t think that automation is the key’

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Ahmed Ben Mussa
MENA Young Leader & Chief
Commercial Officer at Tatweer
Research

Host country Estonia was held up as an example of how society can benefit from the embrace of innovation. Per capita income has almost tripled over the past 20 years – despite being hard hit by the financial crisis in 2008-2010 – as the country transformed from post-Soviet backwater to business-friendly European tech hub.

‘For us innovation isn’t just a trendy word, but a must have,’ said Prime Minister Ratas.

The country of 1.3 million is a leader in e-government allowing citizens to carry out almost all their encounters with the state online. ‘Only for getting married do you need a physical presence,’ the PM joked.

Estonia’s online eradication of red tape is estimated to add 2% to GDP. ‘Estonia provides a social lab for the rest of Europe. Europe needs to think creatively about learning from Estonia,’ said [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe.

Young Leaders received a crash course in the history, economy and geopolitical situation of the Baltic republic. 'We are the most entrepreneurial country in the world; the latest OECD study shows that the smartest kids are here, the best schools – yes you Finns, we got you last year. Here is the freest internet in the world. We have the best digital government and we are the least religious country in Europe,' explained [Klen Jäärats](#), Director for EU Affairs Office of the Estonian Prime Minister.

Prime Minister Ratas, used his speech to run through some of his government's priorities during its stint as European Union president over the second half of 2017.

'Our role is to find a balance between different views, traditions and interests to achieve the best possible outcome for our citizens,' he said.

However, during the seminar there was repeated concern from some about the way Europe is headed. [Alessandro Fusacchia](#), Strategic Advisor H-Farm, was among those who are worried. 'Europe is becoming a land that constrains opportunities, not the land of opportunity ... governments are raising walls today within Europe and this scares me.'



“Europe is becoming a land that constrains opportunities, not the land of opportunity”

Alessandro Fusacchia
EYL40 & Strategic Advisor at H-Farm



Education and the Arts in the Digital Age

The second-day session entitled “The Future of Work in a Digital Age” generated one of the most intense discussions. Debate focused on the role of education in preparing young people for the modern work place and that theme ran over into many of the remaining sessions. While there was broad agreement on the need to adapt the learning process to the rapid pace of technological and societal change, many participants expressed alarm that core values, basic skills and human dignity risked being neglected in a rush to embrace the new.



Tech entrepreneur [André Loeseckrug-Pietri](#) was one of the opening speakers. He had a stark warning on the failure of education to keep up with change: ‘We are all dead ... because the values in which we have been educated are fundamentally wrong.’

Such concerns were echoed in the presentation of [Maive Rute](#), Deputy Director General at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. ‘About 65% of kids who enter primary school now will actually find jobs that don't exist today. We have to make sure that our kids are prepared for that.’

She had more statistics to back up her point. Within Europe there are 100 million people who have never used the internet. That's 20% of the EU population. At a time of high unemployment, more than 40% of employers say they can't find the people with the skill sets they need. The digital transformation has created 2 million

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“We almost aren’t using digital enough in classrooms. What about immersive media and virtual reality and alternative realities? Maybe we should expand our notion of what digital education is and what that might look like”

Anita Sarkeesian

North American Young Leader and
Founder of Feminist Frequency



jobs in Europe, while 40% of Europeans without digital skills are unemployed.

[Mike Feerick](#), Founder & CEO of Alison, one of the world’s largest free learning platforms, explained how his initiative is helping to ensure people around the world are getting the skills they need.

‘What we are trying to do is drive down the cost of knowledge and provide people with skills so that everyone in the world can participate in the knowledge economy,’ he told the group.

Founded in Ireland in 2007, Alison now has more than 10 million learners in 195 countries, providing innovative distance learning free of charge.

Such efforts were lauded, but there was criticism of inertia within governments and the teaching establishment over the pressing need for educational change. ‘There is no



government of a major European country in a position to pass the reforms that will be needed,' complained [Alessandro Fusacchia](#), a former advisor to the Italian government.

[Anita Sarkeesian](#), Founder of Feminist Frequency, an educational non-profit which explores representations of women in pop culture narratives, said schools needed to be more imaginative in their use of digital. 'I think we almost aren't using digital enough in classrooms. What about immersive media and virtual reality and alternative realities?' she asked. 'Maybe we should expand our notion of what digital education is and what that might look like.'

Yet several Young Leaders were anxious that the balance in education was shifting too far toward an emphasis on the virtual. 'In Estonia, teachers complain that we have too much digital,' said [Kaja Kallas](#), a Member of the European Parliament who sits on the Committee on



“To prepare the next generation, I don’t think it’s about giving them digital skills, but actually about causing them to think critically about what they are doing, to reflect on their own learning”

Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin
EYL40 & Lecturer
at University College Dublin

“There is a need to distinguish between the process of accessing knowledge - where, to a certain extent, the computer and digital process can be helpful - and education. Education is much larger than that. Education has to do with us being a complex creature, having feelings, having ambitions, having critical thinking”

Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar
Co-Founder and Artistic Director of
Polyphony Foundation

Industry, Research & Energy. ‘We had a biology teacher who said: “I have to show how I use digital tools in my subject, but nobody has asked me how many times I’ve taken the children into nature”.’

‘My job requires love,’ [Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin](#), Lecturer University College Dublin, told the group. ‘It’s incredibly creative to try and come up with ways to engage with students and it involves critical thought. If I want to prepare the next generation, I don’t think it’s about giving them digital skills, but actually about causing them to think critically about what they are doing, to reflect on their own learning.’

Another of the education specialists in the group also stressed the need to maintain an emphasis on the human touch and ensure that learning is not just about acquiring knowledge. ‘There needs to be a change in the whole narrative, it’s not ‘soft skills’, it’s just skills which are going to keep us human, and this is not being taught,’ said [Kamilla Sultanova](#), Chairman of Global Dignity Finland. ‘People don’t dream today. Students were asked to write down their 10 dreams, they were stuck on number three.’

MENA Young Leader [Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar](#), Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Polyphony Foundation, also saw education as something wider than just gaining knowledge. ‘There is a need to distinguish between the process of accessing knowledge - where, to a certain extent, the computer and digital process can be helpful - and education. Education is much larger than that. Education has to do with us being a complex creature, having feelings, having ambitions, having critical thinking.’

Society’s loss of basic skills was a concern of Maj. MP [Patricia Kast](#), Interagency & Civil Military Chief of Operations at the US military’s European Command.





“The definition of art is getting wider, but for someone who wants to be an artist, is it OK that children are doing everything on a computer and not actually painting or sculpting?”

Adele Luta

Research Affiliate, Brain & Cognitive Sciences Dept. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

‘How do we educate the next generation in the analogue methods, the classical methods of learning, so that they have independence from technology, because ultimately technology fails. It doesn’t fail all the time, but when it does fail, they have to be able to function. Right now, I have concerns that we are creating a generation that cannot function when the technology fails.’

Some of those same concerns were raised in the following debate on the arts.

‘The definition of art is getting wider, but for someone who wants to be an artist, is it OK that children are doing everything on a computer and not actually painting or sculpting?’ asked [Adele Luta](#), Research Affiliate, Brain & Cognitive Sciences Dept. Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The debate looking at the role of art in modern societies - and society’s role in supporting the arts - was led by

a panel that comprised [Alma Selimovic](#), Development Manager at Bunker, which focuses on fund raising and development of the arts in Slovenia; US Author and Playwright [Monica Byrne](#); and [Tishani Doshi](#), a Writer, Poet and Dancer based in India.

Together they questioned how art interacts with wider society and government, how the arts should be funded and the importance of art as a disruptive and constructive force. Speakers warned against government attempts to control or instrumentalise culture.

‘The current political climate shows that what is most valuable about art has been stolen from us,’ lamented Selimovic. ‘The rise of populism is also partly due to the fact that what is most inherent to the arts - which is creating a new narrative, creating something which is new out of the old extremes ... has been snatched away. I think we are on slippery terrain.’

From the audience, however, [Sami Hourani](#), Executive Director of Leaders of Tomorrow from Jordan, said the arts can play a positive political role. ‘In a country where we are fighting violence and extremism, culture and art is one of the entry points where you can start putting forward some sort of alternative in the eyes and the brains of young people.’

[Ilhan Omar](#), Representative for District 60B Minnesota House of Representatives, questioned the limits of arts’ disruptive role, when art can become a force for harm by, for example, promoting intolerance. “When does art become too destructive, when it actually creates controversies or shifts culture to the point of no return?” she asked.

Despite the fast-changing pace of the modern world, Indian-Welsh poet Doshi contended that the poet has



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Alma Selimovic
Development Manager at Bunker



A Fable for the 21st Century

Tishani Doshi

Poet, Writer & Dancer

*"There is no end to unknowing.
We read papers. Wrap fish in yesterday's news,
spread squares on the floor so puppy can pee
on Putin's face. Even the mountains cannot say
what killed the Sumerians all those years ago.
And as such, you should know that blindness
is historical, that nothing in this poem will make
you thinner, richer, or smarter. Myself –
I couldn't say how a light bulb worked,
but if we threw you headfirst into the past,
what would you say about the secrets
of chlorophyll? How would you expound
on the aggression of sea anemones,
the Battle of Plassey, Boko Haram?
Language is a peculiar destiny.
Once, at the desert's edge,
a circle of pilgrims spoke of wonder –
their lives dark with mud and hoes.
They didn't know you could make perfume
from rain, that human blood was more fattening
than beer. But their fears were ripe and lucent,
their clods of children plentiful, and God
walked among them, knitting sweaters
for injured chevaliers. Will you tell them
how everything that's been said is worth
saying again? How the body is helicoidal,
spiriting on and on
how it is only ever through the will of nose,
bronchiole, trachea, lung,
that breath outpaces
any sadness
of tongue"*

an eternal role. 'There is a point to poetry,' she affirmed. 'My role as a poet is to talk about the wonders and to describe them because, as humans, we have all these horrible things going on in the world, but we do have this capacity for wonder.' Doshi silenced the participants by reading a poem she entitled "A Fable for the 21st Century."

The question of arts funding divided the panel and the audience, with arguments for and against state and corporate sponsorship. Byrne explained how she supports her work through crowd-funded contributions from fans. 'Screw government, I'm done waiting for any state aid and I'm done waiting for any corporate aid.' In India, government officials with responsibility for culture often have little appreciation or awareness of the arts, Doshi said. 'It's very hard to be a poet,' she acknowledged. Other participants complained of similar situations in their countries.

One thing all agreed on was the importance of getting more people involved in the arts. 'We all believe that there are not enough people who appreciate the arts, children and teenagers, parents, adults, fund raisers and investors,' concluded Selimovic.

A separate working group session on education, also underscored the need to move away from the industrial-era emphasis on maths and reading towards a broader set of interpersonal and intellectual skills. Education reform needs to include increased investment in teacher training, participants said.

Guest expert [Rafaella Carro](#), from INDIRE, Italy's National Institute for Documentation, Innovation and Educational Research, echoed concerns about stagnation in European education and urged a more creative to promote innovation in schools.



"There needs to be a change in the whole narrative, it's not 'soft skills', it's just skills which are going to keep us human, and this is not being taught"

Kamilla Sultanova
Chairman of Global Dignity Finland



Leadership and Extremism

As established frontrunners in their own fields, the Young Leaders were asked – in an early ice-breaking session – to split up into small groups and brainstorm on the qualities needed to make a good leader.

Considering the diverse backgrounds of the participants, there was a wide consensus on what makes a leader. A typical response came from the group that chose Virginia lawmaker [Sam Rasoul](#) as its spokesman. ‘The leadership process has to begin with the self and with what we call emotional intelligence,’ he said. ‘Those inner capacities include self-awareness, motivation, empathy and social skills. The top leaders in every field have high emotional intelligence.’

Lt. Cmdr. [Thomas Genest](#), Interagency Exercise Planner at the US military’s European Command, explained his group’s advice to aspiring leaders. ‘Do what you love and enjoy; be straight, direct, honest and surround yourself with talent,’ he said. ‘Take care of your people and they will take care of you, trust yourself, be tough and decisive.’

[Ahmed Ben Mussa](#), from Tatweer Research in Libya, noted that false leaders can only get away with bluffing for so long. ‘You have to have integrity and integrity is not something you can fake, in the long run eventually people will realise you are trying to play them.’ A results-based approach was put forward by [Aaron Farrugia](#), Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds & Social Dialogue



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“A leader is judged by the results he or she gets; so you might have the best vision, you might be compassionate, but at the end of the day, if you don’t get the results, you’re fired”

Aaron Farrugia

EYL40 & Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds & Social Dialogue at the Ministry for European Affairs & Implementation of the Electoral Manifesto in Malta

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The quality of current world leadership, was of course an issue. ‘We can define leadership, but how come we’re not getting that leadership in the real world?’ asked

[Wouter Verschelden](#), Chief Executive Officer of the Belgian social media site NewsMonkey.

Many pointed out that, through history and today, being an effective leader does not make somebody a good leader. ‘Leadership can make terrible changes in a community,’ said [Katarzyna Anna Nawrot](#), Assistant Professor, Poznan University of Economics. ‘There are leaders that are out there who have goals that are horrific, but they’re effective,’ added Lt. Cmdr. [Patrick Minshew](#), of the US European Command. ‘You can be effective, you can accomplish your goals, you can do all these things and have all these traits, but at the end of the day, make sure that morality governs part of your actions.’

Apocalypse Soon?

Three potentially existential threats to humanity loomed large over days two and three of the seminar: climate change; nuclear war and runaway Artificial Intelligence.

Nuclear brinkmanship between North Korea and the United States, uncertainty over the Iran nuclear deal, superpower rivalries in the South China Sea and the risk of conflict between NATO and Russia, are all reviving nuclear fears that many had thought dead and buried in the 1990s.

‘In this modern world, we are in a more complex situation than we thought we would be 10 or 15 years ago,’ said [Kristjan Prikk](#), of the Estonian Defence Ministry. ‘The real risk of major state actors getting into conflict with each other is higher than at any time since the end of the Cold War.’

Prikk gave a comprehensive outline of the geopolitical outlook as seen from Estonia. He pointed out that Tallinn is the nearest NATO capital to Pyongyang and warned that, in today’s world, events in one part of the globe can quickly produce a direct impact on another.

Debates on the security situation with Prikk - and, separately, with [Leo Michel](#), Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security - ranged from questions on the foreign policy focus of the Trump administration to the dangers of technologically advanced terrorists and the tensions in East Asia.



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Estonian Defence Ministry



“I hate the term fake news, because it’s really just propaganda in the digital age”

Sarah Jones

North American Young Leader
& award-winning journalist

However, with up to 100,000 Russian and Belarusian troops estimated to be massing on the borders of the Baltic states for war games as the meeting was getting underway, Russia was an unavoidable focus.

Russian hybrid warfare tactics, especially the use of propaganda, cyber-attacks and other means to influence democratic processes in Western nations, was a particular concern.

‘I hate the term fake news, because it’s really just propaganda in the digital age,’ said [Sarah Jones](#), Journalist. ‘How much discussion is there within cyber defence about combatting this, given that it’s a new form of hybrid warfare? What discussion is there about countering propaganda in the digital age?’

Russia’s growing influence in the Middle East and its efforts to expand that influence further into the Mediterranean were a further worry. ‘We’ve seen Russia,



after it tipped the war in Syria in Assad's favour, starting to look around the Mediterranean more generally to see where it can expand its influence, we've certainly been seeing that in Libya over the past year,' said [Mary Fitzgerald](#), Libya Analyst.

[Imen Ben Mohamed](#), Member of Tunisian Parliament, wondered what was the US response. 'Now we see the clear role of Russia in Libya too ... We see confusion in the administration of Trump, the position of the Pentagon is different from the White House, there's a very big confusion,' she said during a working group with Michel.

Iran is another area where the US position is creating uncertainty. 'The Iran nuclear deal was a successful example of international diplomacy in past few years and it's under so much threat from the Trump administration,' said North American Young Leader [Negar Mortazavi](#), an Iranian-American Journalist &

“We’ve seen Russia, after it tipped the war in Syria in Assad’s favour, starting to look around the Mediterranean more generally to see where it can expand its influence”

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EYL40 & Libya Analyst



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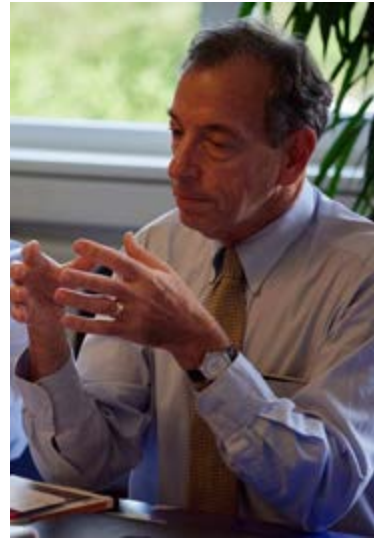
Imen Ben Mohamed
MENA Young Leader & Member
of Tunisian Parliament



Media Analyst. ‘The Europeans are standing strong for continuing the agreement, but the US pressure against it is also very strong.’

Michel, who retired after a long career with the US Defense Dept. in 2015, acknowledged a change of priorities in the White House since Trump came into office. ‘The current administration, with some exceptions, does not seem to place US soft power high on the list of US tools.’

America may no longer be the world’s undisputed superpower. ‘If we were ever in a unipolar world, we certainly are not now,’ said Michel. Yet it wasn’t only American weakness that came up during the geopolitical debates. Fingers were also pointed at Europe failure to respond adequately to security challenges – particularly its intelligence failings in the fight against international terrorism.



Things are improving, however, said security expert [Edoardo Camilli](#), Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer of Hozint, a consultancy. ‘Regarding the intel sharing, there has been a huge improvement over the past one or two years since the Paris attacks,’ said Camilli, a European Young Leader. ‘There is a lot of intelligence sharing at the moment, much more than there was before. There has been an improvement, obviously there is much more to do.’

With the world struggling to comprehend Trump’s position on the Paris Agreement, speakers on climate change focused on how to mobilize public opinion behind the urgent need to halt the rise in global temperatures.

‘How do we make people move? Because we need everyone. It’s not only one actor, it’s all of us, changing our everyday behaviour, changing what we are thinking as consumers,’ said [Carole Dieschbourg](#), Luxembourg’s Minister for the Environment. ‘Everybody has to move, everybody has the responsibility to move.’

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“The Iran nuclear deal was a successful example of international diplomacy in past few years and it’s under so much threat from the Trump administration”

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North American Young Leader
& Iranian-American Journalist
and Media Analyst

Lisa Hanle, Senior Fellow at Greenhouse Gas Management Institute, explained that the technology is available to reach the climate action targets, if there is the will to get it fully up and running. ‘Every single country, the whole world needs to be at zero emissions by 2100,’ she said. ‘It’s a pretty massive effort that needs to be happening, but a lot of the technologies are there, and it’s a matter of building up the economies of scale and getting them up and into the system.’ She too emphasised the importance of widening the debate on climate change to broaden the support base for change.

‘There is a need to go beyond government and bring in civil society, bring in other groups to train professionals ... and go beyond the current team of people who are doing this kind of work,’ Hanle said.

Ideas for mobilizing public opinion behind the required emissions-cutting drive ranged from explaining the economic benefits of green energy to starker warnings



about the life-on-earth-threatening aspects of global warming.

‘We are clearly creating more jobs if we are getting more environment friendly, we are fighting for a fairer world if we are fighting to save our planet,’ said Dieschbourg.

From Palestine, [Fadi Quran](#), Senior Campaigner at Avaaz, was one of those who stressed the importance of winning over public opinion by presenting climate action as a matter of life-or-death for humanity. ‘As important as the science is, we all have to learn how to change the way we speak if we want to transform behaviour and put out a new narrative.’

A concrete idea came from [Robert Shirkey](#), Executive Director of Our Horizon in Canada: placing health warnings on fuel pumps similar to those on cigarette packets. ‘We can get a sticker in every gas pump in Canada for the same price of one residential solar

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Lisa Hanle
Senior Fellow at the Greenhouse
Gas Management Institute



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Carole Dieschbourg
EYL40 & Luxembourg's Minister
for the Environment

installation,’ he said after handing round a sample. “And we’re saying; “my God we’re altering the chemistry of our planet and we can’t even put a sticker on a gas pump?” We are pathetic.’

Beech’s fellow lawmaker, [Kirsten Brosbøl](#), former Danish Environment Minister, saw a similar connection and provided a solution. ‘Population growth and climate change, you cannot separate them, it’s part of the same debate,’ she said. ‘If women have the right to their own bodies, they will have less children. You don’t need a one-child policy, you need to give women the right to decide for their own bodies.’

Another politician, Finnish Green party legislator [Ozan Yanar](#), succinctly summed up what’s required; ‘We have to take saving the world into the top priorities of politics.’

One of the highlights of the seminar was a meeting with [Jaan Tallinn](#), Co-Founder of Skype and Kazaa, on the



final day. Tallinn now spends much of his time looking into the dangers of Artificial Intelligence through the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk. He came with a scary message: a world where AI takes control and humans are surplus to its requirements.

‘We are about to end 100,000-year period where human brains were the most important driving force,’ he explained. ‘Once you have something smarter than humans on the planet and it is directing the direction of the planet, shaping the future of the planet, it’s very possible that it’s not going to care about the environment.’

In the current rush to develop AI, both corporations seeking profits and governments seeking an edge over rivals are neglecting the dangers.

‘I do think that the market economy is really great, but the greatest disservice that the market economy could do for humanity is create a false sense of security about

“The market economy is really great, but the greatest disservice that the market economy could do for humanity is create a false sense of security about technology ”

Jaan Tallinn

Co-Founder of Skype, Kazaa, and the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk and Integration



“Young people care, old people don’t care enough, young people aren’t encouraged enough”

Andrew Critch
Research Scientist at the Centre
for Human-Compatible AI

technology,’ Tallinn warned. ‘We are like in a plane that is about to take off and we see the movement, we feel the acceleration, but we know we don’t have a pilot.’

Once it reaches a certain point, Tallinn said, AI will become self-perpetuating and self-improving, leaving its human progenitors behind and work to find a solution needs to be stepped up now before AI becomes unstoppable. ‘This is a problem that humanity has no experience with and we will never have experience with until it’s too late.’

Unsurprisingly, Tallinn’s bleak scenario triggered quite a response. ‘I need an antidepressant pill after this talk,’ was the reaction from [Kamilla Sultanova](#), of Global Dignity Finland.

Others quizzed Tallinn on possible solutions. ‘If you were to invest in an ability of humans to be able to defeat AI, in which direction would you go? What would people need to do to figure out how to resist?’ asked campaigner Fadi Quran. [Othman El Ferdaous](#), Secretary of State for Investment at Morocco’s Ministry of Industry Investment, Trade and Digital Economy, referenced the “Terminator” movies. ‘Let’s assume it’s too late to stop AI and let’s assume that governments will be too slow to react, have you thought of funding research in the field of time travel?’ he asked. ‘And assuming the answer is “yes”, what would be the reaction of AI?’

[Andrew Critch](#), Research Scientist at the Centre for Human-Compatible AI, bemoaned a lack of interest in the subject from investors and senior researchers. ‘Young people care, old people don’t care enough, young people aren’t encouraged enough.’

Effecting Change

Earlier, the seminar broke up for a series of peer learning roundtables, where the Young Leaders exchanged experiences from their own very diverse fields of expertise.

[Eleni Antoniadou](#), Co-Founder of Transplants without Donors, described the rapid advances in her world of medical research: 'I think this will change everything, being able to say that we can remove a chromosomal anomaly or a congenital anomaly from a baby before it is born.' [Anita Sarkeesian](#), Founder of Feminist Frequency, explained her struggle against gender stereotypes in gaming: 'The games industry has fundamentally shifted ... we are seeing a shift in terms of what is acceptable.'

Other participants also pointed to progress in gender equality in their fields, although it was clear there's a long way to go. 'In my country, a woman has just decided to run for prime minister,' said [Antonia Meszaros](#), Executive Director of UNICEF Hungary and former journalist. 'It's big news. She was interviewed on TV by a female journalist whose initial question was: "I'm sorry, I know I shouldn't ask this, but all I can think about is: what does your husband think of this?"'

[Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar](#), Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Polyphony Foundation, expounded on using music to expand community understanding in the Middle East:



**“The Republican Party
needs to progress
forward. A lot of what
Donald Trump has
done has brought us
backward as a country
and especially
as a party”**

Meghan Milloy
North American Young Leader
& Co-Founder of Republican
Women for Progress



“Let’s make the world a happier place, if people are happier and enthusiastic, economies thrive”

Malcolm Byrne

EYL40 and Head of Communication
at the Irish Higher Education Authority

‘If you achieve a level of excellence it’s difficult to hide it and it can help break through barriers that have been long in existence.’

From Bulgaria, [Yuriy Vulkovsky](#), Country Manager of Reach for Change, talked of his work supporting social entrepreneurs: ‘You are looking for social change, but you have to have a very clear business model that’s the difference between a social entrepreneur and an NGO.’ Serial social entrepreneur [Alex Budak](#), Executive Director, University of California Berkeley Center for Reinventing, stressed the need to think about making an impact: ‘It’s so important to think about system change from the beginning.’

Driving global change through digital advocacy was the theme of [Sabrina Hersi Issa](#), Chief Executive Officer of Be Bold Media. ‘The heart of advocacy is basically telling people what you care about,’ she said. ‘I wanted to be part of building a bridge and telling a fuller story.’

[Edvard Glücksmann](#), Senior Environmental Specialist at Wardell Armstrong LLP, talked of his experience evaluating social and environmental risks for investors in the mining industry. ‘The mining industry is very necessary. For all of your smart phones, computers, cars and so on, we need what it extracts, but on the other hand the environmental and social consequences are huge,’ he said. [Silvia Console Battilana](#), Founder of Auctionomics, explained the role of game theory in building up her high-stakes online auction business: ‘Usually the people who don’t know auctions always think ‘oh it’s about maximising the money’, but that’s not the case.’

Last year’s US election provided the backstory for [Meghan Milloy](#), co-founder of Republican Women for Progress. After her party chose Trump as its candidate,



she chaired a group of Republican women who campaigned for Democratic Party candidate Hillary Clinton. 'The Republican Party needs to progress forward. A lot of what Donald Trump has done has brought us backward as a country and especially as a party,' Milloy said.

“We have to create new social norms”

Alberto Alemanno
Founder of 'The Good Lobby'

The final discussion session opened the way for Young Leaders to look at how best they can use their new-found contacts within the group.

Two Italian EYL alumni [Alberto Alemanno](#), Founder of 'The Good Lobby', and [Alessandro Fusacchia](#) from H-Farm, led the session with a call for the Young Leaders to work together, developing the synergies needed to promote positive change. 'We have to create new social norms,' said Alemanno. After some intense brainstorming, they came up with a range of ideas, much of them centred on education.



“We need to be more practical about woman’s issues and define what are the needs for more inclusivity”

Hala Bugaighis
Co-Founder of Jusoor

Malcolm Byrne, Head of Communications at Ireland’s Higher Education Authority, Ireland, called his group’s plan: “Operation be happy”. He claimed to have the only group to have actually achieved its objectives - by getting everybody up and dancing to Pharrell Williams’ hit “Happy”. He stressed the importance of promoting happiness in the economy and education system. ‘Let’s make the world a happier place, if people are happier and enthusiastic, economies thrive,’ he said.

A concrete project for Young Leaders past and present to leverage their vast and varied experience into promoting education reform is already being developed through Friends of Europe, said Fusacchia.

Speaking for the table that searched for ideas on gender issues, **Hala Bugaighis**, Co-Founder of Jusoor, which promotes economic and social empowerment for women in Libya, called for a more focussed approach. ‘We need to be more practical about woman’s issues and



define what are the needs for more inclusivity,' she said. 'We'll be more focused on the exchange of information, defining the movement's needs and we'll be happy to cooperate with anybody who is interested.'

The fact that only two participants joined the table group on the arts, left Conductor [Eduardo Portal Martin](#) feeling lonely. "Can any of you imagine a world without literature or without music?" asked the European Young Leader from Spain. 'It seems that arts are always relegated to "I'll do it next", yet a world without arts would be a world not fit for humans. The arts deserve attention, now!'

Finally, [Ivan Juric](#), of the John S. Latsis Foundation, offered a rallying cry: 'Let's get active!'

**“A world without arts
would be a world not fit
for humans.
The arts deserve
attention, now!”**

Eduardo Portal Martin
Conductor







fondazione cariplo

Fondazione Cariplo is an Italian grant-making foundation that operates with the sole purpose of pursuing the social good and promoting economic development.

The Foundation does not act in lieu of others: since its establishment, it has played a crucial catalyser role, convening, leveraging resources and fostering a participatory and collaborative approach among key stakeholders from the civil society, the private and the public sector.

Inspired by the principle of subsidiarity, the Foundation fosters the analysis and anticipation of social needs, supports the development, testing and scaling of innovative, more effective and higher impact solutions, as well as the dissemination of successful practices.



Ranked among the most important philanthropic institutions in the international arena, Fondazione Cariplo has enabled the accomplishment of over 30,000 projects of non-profit organizations – operating in the fields of Arts & Culture, Environment, Scientific Research and in the Social realm – providing over €3 billion in grants since 1991.

AGENDA

DAY 1

THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

OVER LUNCH

13.45 - 14.00

Welcome and introduction to the Tallinn seminar:

[Geert Cami](#), Co-Founder and Managing Director, Friends of Europe[Klen Jäärats](#), Director for EU Affairs, Office of the Prime Minister of Estonia

PLENARY SESSION

14.00 - 15.15

NAVIGATING A NEW WORLD ORDER

Re-thinking Neoliberalism

Chief among criticisms of neoliberalism is that placing too much faith in free markets as the sole means to improving living standards has been counterproductive, widening the inequality gap rather than addressing it.

So far, neoliberalism has failed to convincingly address these shortcomings, and without a concrete vision for the future, many citizens dissatisfied with the status quo have reverted to the past for solutions, resulting in the resurrection of conservative populist movements throughout Europe and North America. But if neither populism, nor neoliberalism offers a new vision for the future, then there is a distinct opportunity to build one from scratch: one whose organising principles are restructured around inclusive and sustainable growth, rather than economic profit alone.

Special Guests:

[Steve H. Hanke](#), Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health, & the Study of Business Enterprise; former White House senior advisor

[Jason Hickel](#), Anthropologist at the London School of Economics

Moderator: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe

SIMULTANEOUS GROUP
ACTIVITIES

15.30 - 16.30

ESTONIA'S DIGITAL SUCCESS STORY

Visit to e-Estonia Showroom

They may be more modest than those of North America, but Europe has many success stories in the digital era. Estonia, in particular, has punched above its weight, promoting the use of electronic solutions for a range of public and other services, and incubating new businesses such as Skype and Transferwise.

This visit will cover the underlying mechanisms of digitising a society, including the development of necessary infrastructure, e-solutions and services, as well as providing an overview of the main policy challenges.

EVENING PROGRAMME
 13.00-14.30

“Trash-cooking” dinner hosted by renowned chef Peeter Pihel

According to the European Commission, approximately 33% of all food produced globally for human consumption is lost or wasted each year.

Chef Peeter Pihel invites you to participate in a « Trash Cooking » dinner to learn more about his low-waste approach to high-quality meals, including how to better understand “best before” markings, the differing characteristics of various raw foods, and economical ways to practice sustainable consumption.

Special Guest: [Jüri Ratas](#), Prime Minister of Estonia

DAY 2
FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER
PLENARY SESSION
 09.30- 10.15

WHAT THE ‘CHIEFS’ SAY

This conversation with a top military official will focus on navigating the complexities of the modern geopolitical system, and policing an increasingly dangerous divide between a nervous West and a resurgent Russia.

Special Guest: [Kristjan Prikk](#), Estonian Ministry of Defence

PLENARY SESSION
 14.00 - 15.15

THE FUTURE OF WORK PLENARY SESSION IN A DIGITAL AGE

Digitisation and automation are changing the world of work. They may offer chances to enhance skills and boost productivity; they may also threaten jobs that can be more easily and quickly carried out by robots. These fears are not unique to the so-called ‘4th Industrial Revolution’. Previous industrial revolutions, such as coal-powered manufacturing in the 19th century and mass production in the 20th caused upheaval and dislocation yet they eventually created new types of jobs. But this requires action: a focus on digital skills and offering the kind of educational opportunities that enable people to adapt to rapid changes in the world of work.

Will it be the technical skills to work with intelligent machines? Or nurturing creativity and innovative thinking, to fulfil the roles that robots cannot? With increased automation, how do we avoid creating the type of “jobless society” in which an evergrowing percentage of the population finds itself not just without an income, but without a “stake in society”?

Special Guests:

[Maive Rute](#), Deputy Director General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

[Mike Feerick](#), Founder & CEO of ALISON

[André Loeseckrug-Pietri](#), Founder of ACAPITAL

Moderator: [Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe

PARALLEL SESSIONS

13.00-14.30

**PARALLEL SESSION I
REACHING NEW AUDIENCES THROUGH THE ARTS**

Whether it be dance or theatre, music, film or poetry, the arts are frequently used as a lens through which civil societies examine their beliefs and experiences. But while these cultural aspects of society are accessible to the many, politics is often perceived as being reserved for an elite few, which has contributed to a widening gap between governments and their citizens in many countries around the world. How can the arts help wider audiences to better understand the current political climate? How important is representation of minority, female and LGBTQ experiences and perspectives in the arts in terms of affecting mainstream social attitudes and influencing political change? What lessons can be learned and what role should the arts play in our societies in the 21st century?

Featuring:

[Monica Byrne](#), US American Author & Playwright

[Alma Selimovic](#), Development Manager at Bunker

**PARALLEL SESSION II
CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The USA's pending withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement highlights the question as to whether any country can be relied upon to lead the fight against climate change. Both scientists and political observers have warned that combatting climate change is simply too urgent and complex to entrust to the leadership of any single global actor, but is a multilateral approach, such as that of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the best way forward? Do the environmental pillars of the SDG framework provide adequate means of managing cross-border climate challenges? How can international cooperation on marine issues be improved to mitigate damage caused to shared ocean and polar ecosystems? With some governments already predicted to miss their national targets, what is needed to ensure that the climate change commitments of the Paris Agreement are met by the 2030 deadline?

Chair:

[Kirsten Brosbøl](#), Member of Parliament and former Minister for the Environment, Denmark

Featuring:

[Lisa Hanle](#), Senior Fellow at the GHG Institute

[Terry Beech](#), Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Oceans, Fisheries and the Canadian Coast Guard and North American Young Leader 2017

[Carole Dieschbourg](#), Minister for the Environment, Luxembourg

WORKING GROUPS

15.00-17.00

PUTTING THINGS INTO PRACTICE**Working Group I – Stimulating entrepreneurship**

Entrepreneurship has been democratised. Through digital technologies, crowdfunding, 3D printing and other innovations, turning a good idea into an economic success is possible for a greater number of people than ever before. Still, old barriers to entrepreneurship linger, whilst the changing economic and regulatory environment creates new hurdles for the next generation of entrepreneurs to overcome.

What role should our education and vocational training systems play in encouraging innovation? How do we ensure that new companies – their approach to markets, products and services – maintain a wider social benefit beyond profit?

Guest Expert:

[Kaidi Ruusalepp](#), Founder and CEO of Funderbeam

Chair:

[Malcolm Byrne](#), Head of Communications at the Higher Education Authority of Ireland

Working Group II – Effectively managing human migration

With 65 million refugees and displaced people worldwide, existing migration systems and processes have been tested almost to breaking point. The challenge: how to feed and house large numbers of people arriving, to integrate them and find them work and a purpose? One possibility is to develop a centralised database for highly-skilled refugees to facilitate matching host countries with particular skills deficits with qualified migrant candidates, thus freeing up positions for less-skilled migrants to be integrated into the economy. Would this help to ease the strain on competition for blue-collar positions amongst domestic and migrant populations? What level of screening should be applied, especially in times of acute need? And how do regions such as the Middle East and North Africa - the source of many refugees arriving in Europe - ensure that a 'brain drain' does not irreparably impact its economy and security?

Guest Expert:

[Maadh Alsammarraien](#), Market Analyst at Fortum Charge and Drive

Chair:

[Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe

WORKING GROUPS

15.00-17.00

Working Group III – Security for the 21st century

Security challenges are evolving, encompassing not only long-standing threats (such as conventional warfare and nuclear proliferation) but new threats like cyber-security, asymmetric warfare, climate change and space. The evolving global landscape is further complicated by challenges to the existing world order: the changing purpose of military alliances such as NATO, the uncertain role of global bodies such as the United Nations, the rise of new powers, especially in Asia, and the wide-ranging impact of security challenges in the Middle East and North Africa.

As the world turns towards bilateralism and away from multilateralism, how do we rethink security in the 21st century and address the serious and cross-border threats we face?

Guest Expert:

[Leo Michel](#), Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security

Chair:

[Derek Johnson](#), Executive Director of Global Zero

Working Group IV – Redesigning education in an ever faster changing world

Increased participation, collaboration, and delegation is required to improve our democracies, necessitating a shift in the kind of education which is essential to developing the citizens of the future. Yet in many regions, including the European Union, there is little-to-no in-depth reconsideration of our education systems, nor does a redesign, driven by our future societal and economic needs, seem to be an urgent item on the agenda at any level of governance.

Future education models need to pay increasing attention to: the role and training of teachers; teaching methods; the relationship between technology and education; diversity and inclusive education policies; fostering widespread entrepreneurial spirit.

How should these dimensions be accounted for and prioritised? Should cross-border coordination aim to define educational standards? Where is innovation and investment most needed in education? Which countries are leading the way on education, and why? To what extent can those lagging behind be motivated to invest in replicating successful education models?

Guest Expert:

[Raffaella Carro](#), Researcher at INDIRE

Chair:

[Alessandro Fusacchia](#), EYL40 and Strategic Advisor of H-Farm

DAY 3

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

OVER BREAKFAST

10.00 - 11.00

BEHIND THE SCENES**Peer-learning roundtables**

Short conversations in an informal, roundtable setting with Young Leaders on issues that matter to them, to gain expertise from this useful network. This session will be divided into two 30 minute time slots.

International finance and shared value frameworks - lessons from emerging economies

[Edvard Glücksmann](#), Senior Environmental Specialist, Wardell Armstrong LLP

Auctionomics: applying software solutions to complex auctions

[Silvia Console Battilana](#), Founder of Auctionomics

Social entrepreneurship and social impact investing: What is it about and why should we care?

[Yuriy Vulkovsky & Markus Freiburg](#), EYL40 Alumni

Driving global change through digital advocacy

[Sabrina Hersi-Issa](#), Be Bold Media

Republican women for Hillary and a way forward for the GOP

[Meghan Milloy](#), Republican Women for Progress

Sharing is caring: How music can bridge a social divide

[Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar](#), Polyphony Foundation

The good fight: Why the representation of women in the media matters

[Anita Sarkeesian](#), Founder of Feminist Frequency

Reaching biotechnology holy grails: Creating organs in labs

[Eleni Antoniadou](#), Co-Founder of Transplants without Donors



A CONVERSATION WITH

11.15- 12.15

JAAN TALLINN ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND EXISTENTIAL RISK

The theoretical computer scientist Alan Turing, widely viewed as the father of artificial intelligence (AI), voiced concerns about potential risks of the technology from as early as 1951. Yet the development of AI has progressed largely unchecked, with any discussion on AI safety being underfunded and confined to the fringes of research. Many look enthusiastically towards AI as an existential opportunity, one which will have untold benefits for humankind, but without the appropriate ethical controls in place, could it also be the greatest threat to our future?

Special Guest:

[Jaan Tallinn](#) is the Co-Founder of Skype, Kazaa, and the Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

Interviewer:

[Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe

12.15 - 13.30

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR NETWORK

Young Leaders will discuss and commit to ways to connect, collaborate and change – with the support of the European Young Leaders' programme.

Introductions by:

[Dharmendra Kanani](#), Director of Strategy at Friends of Europe

Presentations by:

[Alberto Alemanno](#), EYL40 & Founder of "The Good Lobby"

[Alessandro Fusacchia](#), EYL40 & Strategic Advisor of H-Farm

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

[Mr. Nabeel Abboud-Ashkar](#), Co-Founder & Artistic Director Polyphony Foundation

[Mr. Alberto Alemanno](#), Professor of EU Law & Risk Regulation HEC Paris

[Mr. Antonio Aloisi](#), Former aide at the Italian Ministry of Education, University of Bocconi

[Mr. Maadh Alsammarrainen](#), Market Analyst, Fortum Charge & Drive

[Mr. Paul Ames](#), Journalist & Lead Seminar Rapporteur

[Ms. Ines Amri](#), Deputy Secretary-General Maghreb Economic Forum

[Ms. Eleni Antoniadou](#), Co-Founder Transplants without Donors

[Ms. Inés Arrimadas García](#), Leader of the Opposition, Parliament of Catalonia

[Mr. Jens Ole Bach Hansen](#), Counsellor Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Denmark

[Mr. Terry Beech](#), Member of Parliament & Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, & the Canadian Coast Guard National Parliament of Canada

[Ms. Imen Ben Mohamed](#), Member of Parliament, Committee on Fundamental Rights, Civil Liberties and Foreign Affairs Assembly of the People's Representatives

[Mr. Ahmed Ben Mussa](#)
Chief Commercial Officer, Tatweer Research

[Ms. Kirsten Brosbøl](#), Member of Parliament & former Minister for the Environment, National Parliament of Denmark

[Mr. Alex Budak](#), Executive Director, University of California Berkeley Center for Reinventing Leadership

[Ms. Hala Bugaighis](#), Co-Founder, Jusoor

[Mr. Malcolm Byrne](#), Head of Communications, Higher Education Authority

[Ms. Monica Byrne](#), Author & Playwright

[Mr. Geert Cami](#), Co-Founder & Managing Director, Friends of Europe

[Mr. Edoardo Camilli](#), Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Hozint

[Ms. Raffaella Carro](#), Researcher, INDIRE

[Dr. Silvia Console Battilana](#), Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Auctionomics

[Dr. Andrew Critch](#), Research Scientist Centre for Human-Compatible AI

[Ms. Carole Dieschbourg](#), Minister for the Environment, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Infrastructure

[Ms. Tishani Doshi](#), Poet, Writer & Dancer

Mr. Lukasz Dziekonski, Member of the Management Board, Marguerite Fund 2020

Mr. Othman El Ferdaous, Secretary of State for Investment, Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade & Digital Economy

Mr. Aaron Farrugia, Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds & Social Dialogue, Ministry for European Affairs & Implementation of the Electoral Manifesto

Mr. Mike Feerick, Social Entrepreneur & Founder, Alison

Ms. Mary Fitzgerald, Libya Analyst

Ms. Myriam François, International News Correspondent, TRT World

Mr. Markus Freiburg, Founder & Managing Director, Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE)

Ms. Nathalie Furrer, Director of Programmes & Operations, Friends of Europe

Mr. Alessandro Fusacchia, Strategic Advisor H-Farm

Ms. Laetitia Garcia Moreno, Senior Events Manager, Friends of Europe

LCDR Thomas Genest, Interagency Exercise Planner, US EU Command

Mr. Mamoun Ghallab, Founder, MakeSense

Dr. Edvard Glücksman, Senior Environmental & Social Specialist, Wardell Armstrong LLP

Mr. Javier Gonzalez Alvarez, International Director, Digimarc Corp.

Mr. Jakob Haesler, Co-Founder, Project Alloy

Prof. Steve H. Hanke, Senior Fellow and Director, Troubled Currencies Project Cato Institute

Ms. Lisa Hanle, Senior Fellow, Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI)

Ms. Sabrina Hersi Issa, Chief Executive Officer, Be Bold Media

Dr. Jason Hickel, Anthropologist London School of Economics

Dr. Sami Hourani, Executive Director Leaders of Tomorrow

Mr. Klen Jäärats, Director for EU Affairs Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. Derek Johnson, Executive Director Global Zero

Ms. Sarah Jones, Journalist

Mr. Ivan Juric, Programmes & Operations Advisor, John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation

Ms. Kaja Kallas, Member, Committee on Industry, Research & Energy European Parliament

Dr. Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Parliamentary State Secretary for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Dharmendra Kanani, Director of Strategy & Lead Seminar Moderator, Friends of Europe

Mr. Konstantinos Karakounis, Member and Deputy Minister of Justice, Transparency & Human Rights, Hellenic Parliament

Maj, MP Patricia Kast, Interagency & Civil Military Chief of Operations, US EU Command

Dr. Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, Director The Peace Institute

Mr. Kalmar Kurs, Head of the European Union & International Cooperation Dept. Estonian Ministry of Education

Mr. Sandor Lederer, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, K-Monitor

Mr. André Loeseckrug-Pietri, Founder and Managing Partner, A CAPITAL

Ms. Elza Löw, Multimedia Executive Friends of Europe

Ms. Adele Luta, Research Affiliate, Brain & Cognitive Sciences Dept. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Mr. Rafa Marti, Features Editor PlayGround Magazine

Ms. Antonia Meszaros, Anchor & journalist, Hungary's ATV

Mr. Ayman Mhanna, Executive Director, Samir Kassir Foundation, Lebanon

Mr. Leo Michel, Non-resident Senior Fellow, Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security

LCDR Patrick Minshew, US EU Command

Ms. Meghan Milloy, Co-Founder, Republican Women for Progress

Ms. Negar Mortazavi, Journalist & Media Analyst

Mr. Olaf Münichsdorfer, Advisor, Dept. of the Environment Ministry of Sustainable Development & Infrastructure

Ms. Katarzyna Anna Nawrot Assistant Professor, Poznan University of Economics

Dr. Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin, Lecturer University College Dublin

Ms. Ilhan Omar, Representative for District 60B, Minnesota House of Representatives

Ms. Claire O'Sullivan, Senior Programme & Development Manager, Friends of Europe

Mr. Sébastien Pilard, Member, Pays de la Loire Regional Council

Mr. Eduardo Portal Martin, Conductor

Mr. Fadi Quran, Senior Campaigner, Avaaz

Mr. Sam Rasoul, Delegate for the 11th District, Virginia House of Delegates

Mr. Jüri Ratas, Prime Minister, Republic of Estonia

Mr. Kaidi Ruusalepp, Chief Executive Officer, Funderbeam

Ms. Maive Rute, Deputy Director General European Commission

Ms. Anita Sarkeesian, Founder, Feminist Frequency

Ms. Agnija Šeiko, Choreographer

Ms. Alma Selimovic, Development Manager, Bunker

Mr. Robert Shirkey, Executive Director Our Horizon

Mr. Jean-Yves Stenuick, Programme Manager, Friends of Europe

Ms. Kamilla Sultanova, Chairman, Global Dignity Finland

Mr. Jaan Tallinn, Co-Founder, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

Mr. Cezary Tomczyk, Member, National Parliament

Mr. Davor Tremac, General Manager, Southeast Europe, Uber

Mr. Wouter Verschelden, Chief Executive Officer, NewsMonkey

Mr. Yuriy Vulkovsky, Country Manager, Reach for Change

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