



World Academy of
Art and Science

WAAS@65

Online Conference | July 21-24, 2025



Human Security
For All



For Plenary Open, Plenary Close, & All Parallel Sessions A

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81669791341>

For all Parallel Sessions B

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83711354801>

For Global Peace Offensive Session on Day 2

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82769527001>

If you have not yet registered, please [click here](#)

The primary objective of WAAS@65 is to develop concrete measures to address the root causes of the unprecedented global challenges and turbulence threatening peace, stability, human security, and sustainable development. The conference will critically examine these challenges, identify their fundamental origins, formulate actionable strategies for their resolution, and explore the potential catalytic role of WAAS and its partner organizations in this endeavour.

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 DAY 1

(9:00–9:50 EST; 13:00–13:50 UTC; 15:00–15:50 CEST)

1. Opening Plenary Session **ZOOM LINK**

Moderator:

Janani RAMANATHAN, Secretary General, World Academy of Art and Science

Speakers:

Garry JACOBS, President & CEO, World Academy of Art and Science

Ismail SERAGELDIN, Co-Chair, Nizami Ganjavi International Center; FWAAS

Peter SCHLOSSER, Vice President and Vice Provost, Arizona State University; FWAAS

Bertie AHERN, Co-Chair, Inter-Action Council; Prime Minister of Ireland (1997-2008); FWAAS (Video Message)

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director and Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 DAY 1

(10.00–10:50 EST; 14:00–14:50 UTC; 16:00–16:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

2. Turbulence of a World in Transition: The Context, Enabling Conditions and Symptoms

This session will explore the global context, evolutionary trends, and enabling conditions that are providing fertile ground for rising levels of uncertainty, insecurity and instability as well as the multiple symptoms by which the turbulence is expressing itself in all regions of global society and all fields of human activity.

Moderator:

Francis O'DONNELL, Former SMOM Ambassador (2009-2013); UN Resident Coordinator, Ukraine (2004-2009)

Panelists:

Elena MUSTAKOVA, Founder and President, IntegraLight Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing; FWAAS

Paul RÉVAY, Former European Director, Trilateral Commission (1981-2017); Member of the Board of Trustees, Friends of Europe

Eden MAMUT, Director, Ovidius University; Secretary General, BSUN; FWAAS

Seshadri R VELAMMOOR, Executive Director(Retd), Foundation For the Future; FWAAS



MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 DAY 1

(11:00–11:50 EST; 15:00–15:50 UTC; 17:00–17:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

3. Root Causes and Deep Drivers of Global Social Turbulence

Addressing the surface symptoms, specific manifestations, and daily newsworthy dramas which are manifestations of global turbulence in different fields of activity and regions of the world will not restore the conditions of peace, stability and security necessary for humanity's future progress. This session delves into the root causes and deep drives of the turbulence related to national and global political, military, economic, technological, social, cultural and ecological forces.

Moderator:

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director and Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

Panelists:

Jo NURSE, Chair, Y-EXIST Working Group, WAAS; Strategic Advisor, InterAction Council; Trustee, WAAS

Steven HARTMAN, Founding Executive Director, BRIDGES Sustainability Science Coalition in UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations Programme; FWAAS

Massamba THIOYE, Project Executive UNFCCC Global Innovation Hub at UN Climate Change Secretariat

Garry JACOBS, President & CEO, World Academy of Art and Science

Rapporteur:

Imran KHAN, Fellow, Institute of Public Accountants, Australia; JFWAAS



MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025 DAY 1**(12.00–12.50 EST; 16:00-16:50 UTC; 18:00–18:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****4. Global Solutions to Raise the World's Platform, The UN SDGs**

Rising levels of insecurity have been identified as root causes of the global turbulence. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted in Agenda 2030 are intended to directly address the major sources of the threats to human security. Therefore, failure to implement the SDGs can be viewed as one of the principal sources of the rising levels of instability humanity is experiencing today and an essential component of any effective strategy to contain and reverse the global turbulence. This session will explore the most effective ways to revive positive momentum for completion of the SDGs in time.

Moderator:

Phoebe KOUNDOURI, Prof., Athens Univ. of Econ. & Bus., and Univ. of Cambridge; President, WCEREA; Chair, SDSN Global Climate Hub; Director, AE4RIA; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Christian HANSMEYER, Head of Research Force for Good

Chantal Line CARPENTIER, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development Branch of UNCTAD; Member, WAAS Advisory Council

Amanda ELLIS, Former New Zealand Deputy Secretary for International Development; Senior Director, ASU Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory; Trustee, WAAS

Thomas REUTER, Asia Institute, University of Melbourne, Australia; Trustee, WAAS

Conrad LANDIS, Post-Doc Researcher, Research Laboratory on Socio-Economic and Environmental Sustainability (RESEES)

Rapporteur:

Evangelia SAVVIDOU, Academic Associate, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; JFWAAS



TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 DAY 2
(7:30-9:00 EST; 11:30-13:00 UTC; 13:30-15:00 CEST)

ZOOM LINK TO JOIN THE MEETING

5. Global Peace Offensive

The Global Peace Offensive is a proactive, dialogue-driven peacebuilding strategy. It is based on a radical innovation and the awareness of the present greatest threats to humanity. The Global Peace Offensive strategy, adopted by WAAS, EASA, AMEU, CoR, GPEN, IACP and GSI, offers practical solutions in crisis contexts that discussants will comment on.

OPENING REMARKS: 30 min

- Donato KINIGER-PASSIGLI
Klaus MAINZER
Ludvik TOPLAK
Carlos ÁLVAREZ-PEREIRA
Ivo ŠLAUS
Paul DZIATKOWIEC
Jonathan GRANOFF

BREAKOUT ROOMS: 30 min

BREAKOUT ROOM 1	BREAKOUT ROOM 2	BREAKOUT ROOM 3	BREAKOUT ROOM 4
MODERATOR: JONATHAN GRANOFF Klaus MAINZER Eden MAMUT David WEINBERG Ugo BARDI	MODERATOR: Carlos ÁLVAREZ-PEREIRA Uroš CVELBAR Goran BANDOV Augusto LÓPEZ-CLAROS Darlene SHELTON	MODERATOR: Mila POPOVICH Arthur DUFOREST Ludvik TOPLAK Moneef ZOU'BI	MODERATOR: Aleksander ZIDANŠEK Paul DZIATKOWIEC Nicolas PETROVITCH-NJEGOS Charlotte ØRNEMARK Dina DRAGIJA

REPORTS FROM BREAKOUT ROOMS: 20 min

JONATHAN GRANOFF	Carlos ÁLVAREZ-PEREIRA	Mila POPOVICH	Aleksander ZIDANŠEK
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CLOSING REMARKS: 6 min

Garry JACOBS

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Global Peace Offensive Session Continued...

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Discussants:

Donato KINIGER-PASSIGLI, Vice President (Social Sciences and Humanities), WAAS; WAAS Representative to the UN in Geneva

Carlos ÁLVAREZ-PEREIRA, Secretary General, Club of Rome, FWAAS

Goran BANDOVIĆ, Professor, University of Zagreb; President, Croatian Club of Rome; FWAAS

Ugo BARDI, National Interuniversity Consortium of Materials Science & Technology, University of Florence, Italy; Full Member, CoR; FWAAS

Uroš CVELBAR, Professor, Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia; FWAAS

Dina DRAGIJA, President, Youth Leadership Network; AFWAAS

Arthur DUFOREST, Disarmament and Conflict Prevention Consultant, Inter-Parliamentary Union; JFWAAS

Paul DZIATKOWIEC, Director of Mediation and Peace Support, Geneva Centre for Security Policy

Jonathan GRANOFF, President, Global Security Institute; Trustee, WAAS

Garry JACOBS, President & CEO, World Academy of Art & Science

Augusto LÓPEZ-CLAROS, Executive Director and Chair, Global Governance Forum

Klaus MAINZER, President, European Academy of Sciences & Arts (EASA)

Eden MAMUT, Professor, Ovidius University of Constanta, Romania; Secretary General, BSUN; FWAAS

Charlotte ØRNEMARK, Founder, CoConsult Collaborative Consulting

Nicolas PETROVITCH-NJEGOS, Crown Prince of Montenegro; Président of the Petrovitch Njegosh Foundation

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Darlene SHELTON, Director of Programming, Global Peace Education Network, Inc.

Ivo ŠLAUS, Professor Emeritus, Ruder Boskovic Institute; Honorary President, WAAS

Ludvik TOPLAK, President, Alma Mater Europaea University, Slovenia

David WEINBERG, Chief Executive Officer, Global Peace Education Network

Aleksander ZIDANŠEK, Vice Dean, Professor of Physics, Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School; Trustee, WAAS

Moneef ZOU'BI, Vice President and Board Member, Arab Scientific Community Organisation (ARSCO); Science Advisor, InterAction Council; Trustee, WAAS



TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 DAY 2

(9:00–9:50 EST; 13:00–13:50 UTC; 15:00–15:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

6A. Planetary Consensus for Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change

Climate change has been identified as the most serious of the threats confronting humanity today, perhaps the greatest of all threats to human security. Yet in spite of several decades of scientific research and multilateral discussions, commitment to addressing climate change seems to be losing momentum. This session will explore ways to raise public awareness and support multilateral initiatives to revive the positive momentum on measures to address climate change.

Moderator:

Phoebe KOUNDOURI, Prof., Athens Univ. of Econ. & Bus., and Univ. of Cambridge; President, WCEREA; Chair, SDSN Global Climate Hub; Director, AE4RIA; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Yannis IOANNIDIS, President of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), Professor at the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications of the University of Athens

Massamba THIOYE, Project Executive UNFCCC Global Innovation Hub at UN Climate Change Secretariat

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director & Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

Anders WIJMAN, Former co-president, Club of Rome, Board Member, Swedish Development Authority

Rapporteur:

Evangelia SAVVIDOU, Academic Associate, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)

6B. Transforming Turbulence into Conscious Social Evolution

The global turbulence we experience today is an expression of an increasingly complex, interconnected world that is changing more rapidly than people, institutions, nations, values, knowledge, skills, attitudes and cultures can keep pace. For the first time in human history, the global community is so closely interrelated and its challenges so tightly interdependent that a global understanding, plan of action, consensus and institutional framework are essential. The long slow process of subconscious evolution through millennia will no longer suffice. A knowledge of the evolutionary process and a conscious commitment for cooperative collective action is an essential requirement for managing global social transformation. This session will examine the knowledge, strategies, institutions and processes necessary to support this radical transition.

Moderator:

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Elena MUSTOKOVA, Founder and President, IntegraLight Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing

Stefan BRUNNHUBER, Medical Director, Diakonie Kliniken Zschadraß; WAAS Trustee

Alison GOLDWYN, Founder & Creative Director, Synchronistory

Lawrence FORD, Founder and CEO, Conscious Capital; FWAAS

Rapporteur:

Yunnus Ibrahim HUSSAIN, Topchubashov Fellow, ADA University, JFWAAS

TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 DAY 2**(10:00–10:50 EST; 14:00–14:50 UTC; 16:00–16:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****7A. Mobilizing Science & Technology as a Force For Good**

Science and technology are powerful drivers for social progress. At the same time the speed with which they are advancing and the power that they generate are growing sources of the uncertainty, insecurity and instability global society is now undergoing. This session will focus on ways to harness the progressive power of science and technology to enhance peace and security while managing and enhancing the capacities of society to adapt and adjust to the revolutionary changes they bring with them.

Moderator:

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director & Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

Panelists:

Glenn GAFFNEY, Chief Strategy Officer, NobleReach Foundation

Nebojša NEŠKOVIĆ, Vice President (Science & Technology), WAAS; Full Member, The Club of Rome; President, Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome

Marianna BOZESAN, Founder & Managing Partner of AQAL Group; Full Member, Club of Rome; FWAAS

Galileo VIOLINI, International consultant, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, Dominican Republic; Former Professor, University of Rome; FWAAS

Rapporteur:

Pooja ASOKAN, HR consultant, SpellBee International; Educator and School Leader, Primrose School; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**7B. Management of Global Social Transformations**

The turbulence generated by the speed and complexity of global social evolution is too great to be managed through existing ideas, policies, national and multilateral institutions, and distributions of social power. This session organized by UNESCO MOST Bridges explores the need for development of a comprehensive transdisciplinary approach to the global process and for formulation of effective institutions and strategies to promote an integrated approach to conscious social evolution.

Moderator:

Steven HARTMAN, Founding Executive Director, BRIDGES Sustainability Science Coalition in UNESCO's Management of Social Transformations programme; FWAAS

Panelists:

Gustavo MERINO, Director for Social Policies, UNESCO

Peter SCHLOSSER, Vice President and Vice Provost, Arizona State University; FWAAS

Harpinder COLLACOTT, Interim Executive Director, Global Public Investment Network; Former Executive Director, Mercy Corps Europe

Petra KUENKEL, Member, Executive Committee, Club of Rome; FWAAS

David HARRIES, Strategic Foresight Coach (Security and Sports), Human Security Engineer (Disaster Awareness and Resilience); FWAAS

TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 DAY 2**(11:00–11:50 EST; 15:00–15:50 UTC; 17:00–17:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****8A. Redesigning Multilateralism and Global Governance**

Rising levels of global turbulence are threatening the peace and development of global society and undermining the multilateralism and global governance in a retreat to competitive national self-assertion. This is occurring precisely at the time when the major challenges confronting humanity can only be successfully addressed with increasing levels of multilateral collaboration and rule of law founded on a universal consensus on human values and goals set forth in Agenda 2030. This session will explore means to restore and enhance the power and effectiveness of multilateral institutions to provide a stable environment for global peace and social evolution.

Moderator:

Paul RÉVAY, Former European Director, Trilateral Commission (1981-2017); Member of the Board of Trustees, Friends of Europe

Panelists:

Augusto LÓPEZ-CLAROS, Executive Director and Chair, Global Governance Forum

Maria ESPINOSA, President of the 73rd Session of the UNGA; FWAAS

Francis O'DONNELL, Former SMOM Ambassador (2009-2013); UN Resident Coordinator, Ukraine (2004-2009)

Amanda ELLIS, Former New Zealand Deputy Secretary for International Development; Senior Director, ASU Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory; Trustee, WAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**8B. The Near Future of AI – Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)**

The AGI race between the United States and China, including several corporations has attracted more capital than any other investment in history. Properly managed AGI promises extraordinary benefits in all fields leading to a magnificent future for all. However, without national and international governance, AGI is expected to create the greatest concentration of power the world has ever known. This is expected to create non-biological species more intelligent than humanity and beyond our control. Current efforts for national AGI licensing and international controls will be discussed as possible solutions, plus the prospects for a decentralized approach to the development and deployment of AGI.

Moderator:

Ibon ZUGASTI, Managing Partner/Director in PROSPEKTIKER; Deputy Director, The Millennium Project; AFWAAS

Panelists:

Jerome C. GLENN, Chair, AGI Panel of the UN Council of Presidents of the General Assembly; Organizational Governance of AI Member, IEEE; CEO, Millennium Project; FWAAS

Mariana TODOROVA, Bulgarian representative in UNESCO's Intergovernmental Group on AI Ethical Frameworks; Member, AGI Panel of the UN Council of Presidents of the General Assembly; Chair, Bulgarian Node of The Millennium Project; FWAAS

Ben GOERTZEL, popularized the term and concept of AGI; CEO of SingularityNET

Paul WERBOS, NSF Research Program Director, Ret.; Millennium Project AGI & Planning Committees; Founder of QAGI LLC

Rapporteur:

Arthur DUFOREST, Disarmament and Conflict Prevention Consultant, Inter-Parliamentary Union; JFWAAS

TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2025 DAY 2**(12.00–12.50 EST; 16:00–16:50 UTC; 18:00–18:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****9A. Rethinking Education for Human Security, Sustainable Development and Conscious Evolution**

Global turbulence is spurred by increasing threats to human security. The rising levels of insecurity are the result of the very rapid pace of social change, uncertainty about the future, technological threats to peace, job security and the future of work, shifts in social power from traditional sources of authority, and challenges to established values. This session will focus on how to highlight the central importance of human security as a standard and guiding light for restoring social stability, emphasize human security as a new way of thinking about social problems, and identify ways to promote a human-centered approach to the academic disciplines through self-evaluation and external certification as World University Consortium is attempting. How do we embed these values into education curricula that are increasingly based on objective facts while ignoring the subjective power of human values? Why is it important to do so? Can WAAS be a supplier of course and educational material for institutions globally in these regards?

Moderator:

Ralph WOLFF, Former President, Western Assoc. Schools & Colleges; President, World University Consortium; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Pavel LUKSHA, Founder & Director of Global Education Futures Initiative; AFWAAS

Peter SCHLOSSER, Vice President and Vice Provost, Arizona State University

Eden MAMUT, Professor, Ovidius University of Constanta, Romania; Secretary General, BSUN; FWAAS

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Devakanni SUBRAMANIAM, CEO, SpellBee International Foundation for Human Excellence; Programme Director, HS4A, India; FWAAS

Rapporteur:

Pooja ASOKAN, HR consultant, SpellBee International; Educator and School Leader, Primrose School; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**9B. Solutions to Reduce Ecologically Rooted Uncertainty and Insecurity**

Rising awareness and concern regarding the threats posed by ecological challenges related to climate, the oceans, land and water are major contributors to the growing sense of insecurity fuelling global turbulence today. This session will examine the most promising strategies for addressing these root causes of the uncertainty and insecurity.

Moderator:

Amanda ELLIS, Former New Zealand Deputy Secretary for International Development; Senior Director, ASU Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Paul WERBOS, Adjunct Professor, Kummer Institute Center for AI and Autonomous Systems

Anitra THORHAUG, President, Greater Caribbean Energy and Environment Foundation, USA; Full Member, Club of Rome

Nicolaos P. THEODOSSIOU, Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Chair of UN SDSN Black Sea; FWAAS

Edward (Ted) MANNING, President of Tourisk Inc., Member, CoR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 DAY 3**(8:00–8:50 EST; 12:00–12:50 UTC; 14:00–14:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****10A. Life-Long Learning for a Rapidly Changing World**

The pace of technological advancement and social change is so rapid that very few can expect to remain employed without continuously undergoing significant enhancements to their knowledge, skills and adaptability throughout their working career. The recent invasion of AI into the mainstream work environment across almost all industries has both accelerated and radically altered worker requirements, eliminating many existing jobs and demanding acquisition of higher order skills in current or new forms of employment. This session will explore the need for continuous learning and effective strategies to address this need for institutions and individuals to adapt to the changing work environment.

Moderator:

Pavel LUKSHA, Founder & Director of Global Education Futures initiative; AFWAAS

Panelists:

Olivia BINA, Principal Researcher, University of Lisbon; FWAAS

Antonio FREITAS, Provost, FGV for Research and Graduate Studies, Brazil; FWAAS

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Moneef ZOU'BI, Vice President and Board Member, Arab Scientific Community Organisation (ARSCO); Science Advisor, InterAction Council; Trustee, WAAS

Rapporteur:

Giulio AMMANNATO, Psychologist, Researcher, Programmer; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**10B. Existential Threats and Risks to All: Introducing the EXTRA InfoHub**

EXTRA, Existential Threats and Risks to All, is a WAAS Working Group addressing the threats and risks to the survival of humanity. The session will provide a brief overview of the major threats and risks and also present the EXTRA "Information Hub" featuring a Directory of abstracted recent items, a monthly Newsletter, a listing of organizations concerned with existential and catastrophic risks, and items in important clusters such as food security and taming AI.

Moderators:

Thomas REUTER, Asia Institute, University of Melbourne, Australia; Trustee, WAAS

Michael MARIEN, Senior Principal, The Security & Sustainability Guide; FWAAS

Panelists:

David HARRIES, Strategic Foresight Coach (Security and Sports), Human Security Engineer (Disaster Awareness and Resilience); FWAAS

Lorenzo RODRIGUEZ, Research Associate and Editor, The Security and Sustainability Guide; JFWAAS

Ortwin RENN, Former Scientific Director, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS); Scientific Director, Research Institute for Sustainability – Helmholtz Center Potsdam

Rapporteur:

Lorenzo RODRIGUEZ, Research Associate and Editor, The Security and Sustainability Guide; JFWAAS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 DAY 3

(9:00–9:50 EST; 13:00–13:50 UTC; 15:00–15:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

11A. Navigating Contradictions between Progressive Social Evolution and Resistance to Change

Agenda 2030 marked a recognition by global society that it was essential for humanity to move beyond the ideas, values and actions that conflict with and oppose a peaceful, prosperous, harmonious and sustainable life for all humanity on this planet. The global turbulence of recent decades represents the resistance and reaction to consciously accept this evolutionary transition. This panel will examine the forces that resist this transformation and how can they be consciously addressed.

Moderator:

Elena MUSTAKOVA, Founder and President, IntegraLight Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing

Panelists:

Adler YANG, Director, Awakening Cooperative Lab; Councilor, International Association for Critical Realism

Glenda EOYANG, Founding Executive Director, Human Systems Dynamics Institute

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Petra KUENKEL, Member, Executive Committee, Club of Rome; FWAAS

Alberto ZUCCONI, President, Person-Centered Approach Institute (IACP); Chair, Board of Trustees, WAAS; Secretary General, WUC

Rapporteur:

Giulio AMMANNATO, Psychologist, Researcher, Programmer; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)

11B. Strategies to Address Job Security and Economic Inequality

Human Security is the essential foundation for a peaceful and stable society. Full and productive employment is an essential condition for human security and equitable distribution of income as set forth in SDG 8. Unemployment is one of the principal sources of the soaring levels of inequality. Neoliberal economic policies have weakened government commitment to full employment. The advent of AI has dramatically increased the need and urgency of addressing the threat of rising unemployment and is fuelling insecurity, social unrest and turbulence globally. Research confirms that the full social, economic, political and environmental costs of unemployment exceed the cost of providing sufficient job opportunities for all job seekers. This session will focus on solutions to address the threat posed by job insecurity and economic inequality.

Moderator:

Phoebe KOUNDOURI, Prof., Athens Univ. of Econ. & Bus., and Univ. of Cambridge; President, WCEREA; Chair, SDSN Global Climate Hub; Director, AE4RIA; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Grigoris ZAROTIADIS, Professor of Economics at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, President of ASECU, Director of ILABSEM; FWAAS

Randall WRAY, Professor of Economics, Bard College; Senior Scholar, Levy Economics Institute

Azita BERAR-AWAD, Chair, UNRISD BOARD; Former ILO Senior Director; Director Policy GLO; Founder of the Global Policy Research Network on Youth Transitions; FWAAS

Daljeet Singh GAHLE, Fusion Energy Consultant, IAEA, and former Head of Data Engineering, UK Health Security Agency

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 DAY 3

(10.00–10:50 EST; 14:00–14:50 UTC; 16:00–16:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

12A. Global Financial Reform

The root causes of global turbulence are associated with rising levels of economic inequality and financial instability, the mispricing of natural resources, a weakening of democratic institutions due to the rising plutocratic power of money and corporations, the growing autonomy of international financial markets and cryptocurrencies from national and global regulation, and neo-liberal policies supporting market fundamentalism, financial deregulation, and the financialization of the global economy. This session will focus on the feasibility and required direction for global financial reform to address the underlying instability in global society related to finance and economy.

Moderator:

Mahmoud MOHIELDIN, Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; former Minister of Investment of Egypt from 2004-2010; FWAAS

Panelists:

Stefan BRUNNHUBER, Medical Director, Diakonie Kliniken Zschadraß; WAAS Trustee

Dragan DJURCIN, Professor, School of Economics, University of Belgrade; FWAAS

Frank DIXON, Founder, Systems Change Investing, FWAAS

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director and Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)

12B. Reversing the Retreat from Democracy and Multilateralism

The end of the Cold War marked a dramatic shift from autocratic societies to young democracies. But the trend of the following three decades appears to be in reserve even in some traditionally democratic nations. Most recently there has been an increasing concentration of political power among the wealthy and major corporations accompanied by a retreat from multilateralism to national self-assertion. This session will explore ways to reverse the movement from democracy to autocracy and plutocracy and from global governance to national self-assertion.

Moderator:

Ismail SERAGELDIN, Co-Chair, Nizami Ganjavi International Center (NGIC), FWAAS

Panelists:

Jon MILLER, CEO, Integrated Media Co.; Trustee, WAAS

Denis NAUGHTEN, Strategic Advisor on Innovation and Governance; FWAAS

Ivana LAZAROVSKI, Senior Advisor for Serbia & Western Balkans, Aretera Public Affairs; AFWAAS

Piero DOMINICI, Professor, Scientific Director of CHAOS; UNESCO IPL Expert; IETI; Executive President of BoD, WCSA; VP, JRC Group Expert-EC; FWAAS

David CHIKVAIDZE, Vice President, Swiss Forum for Intl. Affairs; Former Chef de Cabinet of the DG, UNOG; FWAAS

Rapporteur:

Pooja ASOKAN, HR consultant, SpellBee International; Educator and School Leader, Primrose School; JFWAAS



WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 DAY 3**(11.00–11:50 EST; 15:00–15:50 UTC; 17:00–17:50 CEST)****PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)****13A. Universal Human Values and New Narratives for Global Cooperation**

For centuries values have been a silent guiding force for the evolution of global society. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) affirmed a set of universal values later institutionalized by a consensus of 193 nations which adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (2015). Today we see those values challenged and repudiated by reactionary forces undermining the vision of a peaceful, prosperous world for all. This session will examine the evolution of global society to identify, strengthen and restore the global consensus and forward momentum founded on ethical principles for a sustainable future with reference to peace, technology, climate, international affairs, and human security.

Moderator:

Isabella BUNN, Research Fellow, Regent's Park College, University of Oxford; FWAAS

Panelists:

Jonathan GRANOFF, President, Global Security Institute; WAAS Trustee

Janani RAMANATHAN, Secretary General, WAAS

Saulo BAHIA, Federal Judge in Brazil; Professor of Law, Federal University of Bahia, Salvador; Trustee, WAAS

Mila POPOVICH, Director General, Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Rapporteur:

Federica DONATI, President, FIDU Committee; Partner, Youth Leadership Network; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**13B. The Evolution and Democratization of Social Power**

Social power is shifting from the will of the public to the influence of vested interests and money power, from political parties and the authority of science to social media, from national governments to multinational corporations and concentrations of wealth, and by a reassertion of nationalism undermining the authority of multilateral institutions. What should be the proper distribution of social power and how can it be brought about?

Moderator:

Stefan BRUNNHUBER, Medical Director, Diakonie Kliniken Zschadraß; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Paul RÉVAY, Former European Director, Trilateral Commission (1981-2017); Member of the Board of Trustees, Friends of Europe

Katalin BOGYAY, President, UNA-Hungary; 36th President of UNESCO General Conference and 15th Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations; FWAAS

Denis NAUGHTEN, Strategic Advisor on Innovation and Governance; FWAAS

Jon MILLER, CEO, Integrated Media Co.; Trustee, WAAS

Rapporteur:

Yunnus Ibrahim HUSSAIN, Topchubashov Fellow, ADA University, JFWAAS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 DAY 3

(12.00–12:50 EST; 16:00–16:50 UTC; 18:00–18:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

14A. Restoring Trust in an Age of Uncertainty, Insecurity and Fear

Rising levels of uncertainty and insecurity are fundamental sources of the rising levels of global turbulence. Restoring trust and confidence in all sectors of society is an essential condition for enhancing social stability and progress. It is both fundamental and elusive. From time-to-time singular leaders will emerge who inspire trust in their country or more broadly, but how do we regain (where warranted) trust in institutions that can continue to uphold democratic societies and promote global social cohesion?

Moderator:

Jon MILLER, CEO, Integrated Media Co.; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Denis NAUGHTEN, Strategic Advisor on Innovation and Governance; FWAAS

Glenda EOYANG, Founding Executive Director, Human Systems Dynamics Institute

Alberto ZUCCONI, President, Person-Centered Approach Institute (IACP); Chair, Board of Trustees, WAAS; Secretary General, WUC

Isabella BUNN, Research Fellow, Regent's Park College, University of Oxford; FWAAS

Ryan JACKSON, Board Member, Educate Girls Now; Chief Academics Officer of a medical school; Member, CoR

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)

14B. War and Peace: Issues of Thought and Analysis

The panel critically addresses issues pertaining to War and Peace ranging from Sustainability, Climate, Food, Eco-system, Theory of Change, Diplomacy, Human Rights, National Sovereignty, Humankind and World Organizational Power. The panelists will make brief presentations within their research expertise along with open discussion among them.

Moderators:

Luci ATTALA, Anthropologist and Deputy Executive Director, UNESCO-MOST BRIDGES Coalition; FWAAS

Fadwa El GUINDI, Retiree Professor, UCLA; former Distinguished Professor, Qatar University; Trustee, WAAS

Panelists:

Jelel EZZINE, Advisory Board Member of the UNESCO Science Report 2020; Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis; University of Tunis El-Manar, FWAAS

Louise STEELE, Professor of Archaeology at University of Wales

Vesna VUČINIĆ, Professor of Anthropology, University of Belgrade; World Council of Anthropological Association Global Cultural Policies Task Force Chair; FWAAS

Thomas REUTER, Asia Institute, University of Melbourne, Australia; Trustee, WAAS

Phoebe KOUNDOURI, Prof., Athens Univ. of Econ. & Bus., and Univ. of Cambridge; President, WCEREA; Chair, SDSN Global Climate Hub; Director, AE4RIA; Trustee, WAAS

Rapporteur:

Imran KHAN, Fellow, Institute of Public Accountants, Australia; JFWAAS

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 DAY 4

(8:00–8:50 EST; 12:00–12:50 UTC; 14:00–14:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

15A. Does History have a Direction?

This session explores whether history is guided by forces which follow a discernible direction or unfolds chaotically, whether the haphazard zigzag patterns of progress and retreat are products of chance or the interplay of underlying social forces. In the context of today's global turbulence—rising conflict, climate crisis, and institutional erosion—the session will examine historical patterns, cycles, deep drivers, and turning points related to human aspirations, relationships between people, development of institutions, technology, globalization, cultural relationships and human values. The session will debate progress narratives, civilizational learning, and the potential for shaping a more humane global future.

Moderator:

Elena MUSTAKOVA, Founder and President, IntegraLight Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing; FWAAS

Keynote:

Erkki TUOMIOJA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland (2000-2007, 2011-2015); Founder, Historians without Borders

Panelists:

Garry JACOBS, President & CEO, World Academy of Art and Science

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director and Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

Pavel LUKSHA, Founder & Director of Global Education Futures initiative; AFWAAS

Chris HANSMEYER, Head of Research Force for Good

Rapporteur:

Leonid SHOKH, Research Associate, The Mother's Service Society; JFWAAS

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)

15B. Changing the Way We Think

The sources of global turbulence all point to fundamental flaws in the ideas, theories, institutional functioning and policies directing society today. This session will examine and challenge underlying fallacies and propose changes in thinking required to address the root causes of the challenges humanity confronts.

Moderator:

Carlos Álvarez PEREIRA, Secretary General, Club of Rome, FWAAS

Panelists:

Piero DOMINICI, Professor, Scientific Director of CHAOS; UNESCO IPL Expert; IETI; Executive President of BoD, WCSA; VP, JRC Group Expert-EC; FWAAS

Natalia ROJCOVSCAIA-TUMAHA, Composer, Culturologist, Pedagogue, Linguist, Writer

Lawrence FORD, Founder and CEO, Conscious Capital; FWAAS

Douglas BONAR, Clinical Director at A Center for Wellness and The Connection Partners

Rapporteur:

Pooja ASOKAN, HR consultant, SpellBee International; Educator and School Leader, Primrose School; JFWAAS

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 DAY 4

(9:00–9:50 EST; 13:00–13:50 UTC; 15:00–15:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)**16A. After Morality? Ethics, Integrity, and the Search for Higher Ground**

*This panel explores the roots of today's global turbulence through the lens of moral philosophy and spiritual ethics. Drawing on Alasdair MacIntyre's *After Virtue* and Sri Aurobindo's *The Human Cycle*, it examines the argument that modern society suffers not just from political or institutional failures, but from a deeper moral fragmentation. The discussion will address the consequences of abandoning coherent ethical traditions, the rise of instrumental rationality in public life, and the limitations of rule-based morality in an age of crisis. Panelists will consider how integrity, virtue, and inner consciousness might be restored or reimagined to guide personal conduct, organizational leadership, and social transformation. By bringing together Western and Eastern frameworks, this session aims to offer both diagnosis and direction, bridging tradition and transcendence to illuminate a path forward.*

Moderator:

Walton STINSON, Founder CEO, ListenUp; Managing Director, HS4A; Finance officer, WAAS

Panelists:

Jonathan GRANOFF, President, Global Security Institute; Trustee, WAAS

Elena MUSTAKOVA, Founder and President, IntegraLight Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing; FWAAS

Mila POPOVICH, Founder, EVOLving Leadership, Director General Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Moneef ZOU'BI, Vice President and Board Member, Arab Scientific Community Organisation (ARSCO); Science Advisor, InterAction Council; Trustee, WAAS

Rapporteur:

Mura PALAŠEK, Independent Postdoctoral Researcher in Social and Political Philosophy

PARALLEL SESSION B [ZOOM LINK](#)**16B. From Competitive Nationalism to Global Common Security**

The prevailing national competitive security paradigm dominating international relations is founded on the premise that security is enhanced by achieving unilateral advantages over other nations, including through military superiority. In consequence, most nations build strong militaries to provide security for themselves, which are perceived as threatening by potential adversaries. This stimulates arms races, raises threats of armed conflict, and fuels military budgets. Common security focuses on international conflict resolution, mutual benefit and the rule of law, based on the UN Charter. This session will examine ways to strengthen common security as an alternative to competitive nationalism, arms races and armed conflict.

Moderator:

Alyn WARE, Founder, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND); FWAAS

Panelists:

David CHIKVAIDZE, Vice President, Swiss Forum for Intl. Affairs; Former Chef de Cabinet of the DG, UNOG; FWAAS

Donato KINIGER-PASSIGLI, Vice President (Social Sciences and Humanities), WAAS; WAAS Representative to the UN in Geneva

Rebecca SHOOT, Co-chair, ImpACT Coalition on Strengthening International Judicial Institutions

Bertylle DUFOREST, Policy Researcher and Analyst, World Future Council

Rapporteur:

Arthur DUFOREST, Disarmament and Conflict Prevention Consultant, Inter-Parliamentary Union; JFWAAS



THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 DAY 4

(10.00–10:50 EST; 14:00–14:50 UTC; 16:00–16:50 CEST)

PARALLEL SESSION A [ZOOM LINK](#)

17. Closing Plenary Session: What did we learn? What can WAAS do?

Moderator:

Janani RAMANATHAN, Secretary General, WAAS

Speakers:

Ketan PATEL, Executive Director and Trustee, WAAS; Chair, Force for Good; CEO and Co-Founder, Greater Pacific Capital

Phoebe KOUNDOURI, Prof., Athens Univ. of Econ. & Bus., and Univ. of Cambridge; President, WCEREA; Chair, SDSN Global Climate Hub; Director, AE4RIA; Trustee, WAAS

Mila POPOVICH, Founder, EVOLving Leadership, Director General Directorate for Interculturalism, Government of Montenegro; Trustee, WAAS

Garry JACOBS, President & CEO, World Academy of Art & Science

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 DAY 4

(11.00–13:30 EST; 15:00–17:30 UTC; 17:00–19:30 CEST)

WAAS General Assembly (Only for Fellows)

