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2019 Global Think Tank Summit

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2019 Global Think Tank Summit

Abstract

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania and Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) hosted the 2019 Global Think Tank Summit under the theme "Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions: The Role of Think Tanks."The summit was held December 11th-13th, 2019 at the Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) main office in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The most influential and innovative think tanks from around the world gathered to discuss the role of think tanks in increasing global turbulence and transitions, such as navigating the new world order, popular discontent, democracy and dictators in the digital age, climate change, food and water security, trade disputes and domestic and global political tensions.

This summit created a unique forum for think tanks from across each region of the world to collaborate, exchange ideas and best practices, and wrestle with the contemporary political and policy issues confronting civil society globally. Its diversity and collaborative format fostered an environment in which think tanks challenged and learned from one another. Through constructive discourse, think tanks reflected on their work thus far and collaborated ways in which they can better approach the current contentious political and social climate. The summit aimed to provide think tanks reinvigorated drive to engage in quality research and analysis practices to confront present-day challenges.

Keywords

Think Tank, Civil Society, NGO, Global Think Tank Summit, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

Disciplines

International Business

Comments

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2019 Global Think Tank Summit

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

James G McGann university of pennslvania December 2019















ABOUT THE THINK TANKS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES PROGRAM (TTCSP)

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the "think tanks' think tank," TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, the TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation, and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

ABOUT THE LAUDER INSTITUTE

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political, and business issues. It organizes an annual conference that brings academics, practitioners, and policy makers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality, and the future of the state.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York, New York the University of Pennsylvania was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

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The views expressed are those of participants from the 2019 Global Think Tank Summit and should not be attributed to the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, the Lauder Institute, or the University of Pennsylvania. Any attributed quotes have been expressly consented to by the relevant participant.





Introduction and Format

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This summit created a unique forum for think tanks from across each region of the world to collaborate, exchange ideas and best practices, and wrestle with the contemporary political and policy issues confronting civil society globally. Its diversity and collaborative format fostered an environment in which think tanks challenged and learned from one another. Through constructive discourse, think tanks reflected on their work thus far and collaborated ways in which they can better approach the current contentious political and social climate. The summit aimed to provide think tanks reinvigorated drive to engage in quality research and analysis practices to confront present-day challenges.

The 2019 Global Think Tank Summit was conducted in a Davos-Style Format with panels intended to frame the key issues and provide constructively provocative questions to stimulate the discussion that followed each session. The Summit was conducted in accordance with the Chatham House Rule.





Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

National, Regional and Global Perspectives

The opening session of the Summit was co-chaired by Dr. James G. McGann and Carlos Ivan Simonsen Leal and consisted of a panel of leading think tank presidents from each region of the world. It discussed the changing political and social landscape that has global and regional effects. A key focus of this session was the role think tanks play in responding to pertinent global affairs, as well as how think tanks should move forward in a turbulent political climate afflicting all parts of the world. Global challenges discussed include populism, increasing political fragmentation and polarization, rapid changes in technology, climate change, and poverty. One participant noted that "think tanks remain an open, crucial space," in that there are lots of opportunities for think tanks to take advantage of as they foster growth and innovation and adapt to evolving political, social and economic consequences.

"Think tanks remain an open, crucial space."

The panelists also raised a number of important considerations for think tanks as they evolve and adapt to changing circumstances, including the need to stay relevant within policy-making spheres, increase collaboration between think tanks, and broaden public audiences. Other challenges facing think tanks include keeping up with technological advances and forming meaningful and diverse partnerships with other organizations. Further, one participant highlighted the issue of the sustainability of think tanks in Africa in particular, as well as Central and Eastern Europe, and the need for the think tank community as a whole to be aware and concerned about this long-term sustainability issue.

Recognizing the importance of sharing best practices among think tanks, the opening panel also highlighted various solutions for think tanks to effectively tackle the turbulent and evolving nature of the world's political and economic climate. In response to the goal of many think tanks to increase their relevance as well as broaden their general audience, one participant spoke on the importance of utilizing social media effectively. Further, increasing diversity not only in the expertise of think tank staff but in the partnerships and collaborations formed with other think tanks and organizations will increase preparedness in a time of turbulence and uncertainty. Creating a stronger network of knowledge between think tanks around the world will also allow for a greater ability of think tanks to share best practices and improve as organizations.



Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

Geopolitical Risk in an Age of Angry Middle Classes

Keynote speaker Christopher Garman spoke on the worrisome trend of the geology of politics, particularly regarding the way that populism and nativism, among other trends, have developed among middle classes around the world. In particular, he noted that nativism is especially strong in parts of Western Europe, Turkey, Malaysia, Serbia, Russia, and the United States. He explained part of the cause to be growing income inequality, the transformation of work and labor forces, and an increase in foreign-born citizens around the world. Such issues have been exacerbated by the advent of social media. Further, Garman highlighted that technological innovations in areas such as artificial intelligence might worsen trends of nativism, populism, and an overarching disenchantment with government.

He explored the politics of recently enfranchised middle classes around the world, noting that there has been a significant expansion in the size of middle classes, especially in emerging economies because of global economic expansion in the past decade. This has impacted global geopolitics in that the capacity for international cooperation has decreased, in part due to a percolating sense of disenchantment in the public. With global economic challenges and issues like climate change that require intense international coordination, such a shift in domestic political atmospheres worldwide has made resolving such issues far more challenging.

Garman went on to describe some of the consequences regarding growing middle classes and disenchantment among such populations towards existing governing systems. One significant conclusion is that traditional requisites for successful governance and resilience are shifting, as seen by leaders with anti-establishment sentiment and credentials such as President Bolsonaro in Brazil and the collapse of the political center within the United States.

In relating this issue to the role of think tanks, Garman stated that it is important for think tanks to act as leaders in an increasingly polarized environment, with trust in public services and government officials lower than in previous years. With such tumultuous shifts in the nature of domestic politics around the world and subsequent instability within political systems, think tanks have the opportunity to play a leading role in moving the world forward during an unstable time.



Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

How to Avoid the Sirens of Conflict and Chaos in World Politics

This panel selected key issues facing the international political order, and concluded with the role think tanks might play in navigating a current world order that is faced with instability and insecurity. Technological disruptions were an important factor that has contributed to the conflict and chaos within world politics, including movements of mass disinformation and foreign interference through cyberattacks.

"Massive disinformation campaigns operate not to establish facts, but to decrease the trust in our institutions and systems. Can democracy survive?"

Additionally, a lack of faith in democratic institutions was a prevalent point highlighted throughout the panel, and one that has affected many regions throughout the world. This trend has been stimulated, in part, from campaigns of disinformation, which have effectively decreased trust in governmental systems and institutions domestically and internationally. Many groups of civilians have portrayed their distrust in the government and political system by protesting, as seen in many countries within South America. One panelist noted that from the point of view of civil society, there has been a resignation of democratic and human rights-focused values among governments, which is a large reason that trust in government has decreased and, in turn, protests have increased in many countries. In response, think tanks have the potential to fill this vacuum of trust by better educating the public and providing reliable and feasible policy recommendations.

Further, in this new world order, there are increasing bilateral and regional tensions alongside increasingly frequent unilateral behavior among state relations. Examples included China and its systematic rivals, such as the United States, as well as tensions between Russia and liberal Western democracies. Additionally, one panelist highlighted Iran's desire for dominance in the Middle East as a potential security issue, while another panelist stressed the need for Latin American countries to work more cooperatively and interactively than they currently are. It was also highlighted that Central Europe is becoming a more influential player in geopolitics, which has yet to be significantly recognized by the international community. These numerous tensions and conflicts globally, as well as in specific regions, represent the need for greater and more consistent regional dialogue and cooperation among think tanks, as well as the value of think tanks forming multilateral relationships to increase communication and share knowledge and networks.

The panel concluded in stating that in an age of multipolarity, interstate tensions, and decreasing trust among the public, think tanks can collectively act as an independent platform that is not only reliable, but works to produce feasible solutions for the future. While one option for the future of geopolitics is a top-down approach, in which great powers reorder of the international order, there is also the possibility of a bottom-up approach, in which the international community of think tanks can work to influence shifts in the international world order and impact power-sharing dynamics.



Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

Popular Discontent, Democracy and Dictators in an Age of Insecurity and Digital Disruptions

Popular discontent and the disenchantment of governments and political institutions as experienced by various populations was a prevalent theme throughout the Summit, and this panel focused specifically on the implications of such trends. In looking at the process of how protests form and develop, it was noted that protests and social movements often begin with a single decision of the government, one such example being the introduction of the extradition bill in Hong Kong. Further, factors such as economic situations that aggravate social inequalities or the failure of governments to tackle administrative or financial corruption often contribute to decreased trust and satisfaction people experience with governmental institutions, subsequently exasperating the scope of civilian protests.

In further discussing the nature of recent protests, one panelist discussed the ability for groups of civilians to come together to shape their democratic institutions as a means of protest, in that the ability of individuals to use their vote as a form of protest was highlighted as a powerful tool in democratic countries. Examples such as the election of leaders such as President Donald Trump and the 2016 referendum vote in the United Kingdom to leave the European Union reflect not only the

disillusionment many civilians were experiencing with the current state of affairs in their respective countries, but their ability to form coalitions and shift the political landscape.

Additionally, the panel discussed the importance of recognizing public discontent not only as a domestic issue within countries, but as a regional and global issue. The panel noted that protests are capable of moving across borders, and one panelist highlighted the contagion effect that many protests undergo, in that frequent media coverage in traditional news sources as well as social media has the potential to shape and influence protests in other areas. Discontent and protests in Latin America as well as the Middle East reflect the transnational nature of protests and their ability to spread quickly and rapidly, regardless of geographic barriers.

Ultimately, the social responsibility of think tanks in beneficially impacting public dialogue in the wake of protests occurring in regions throughout the world was strongly emphasized. The panelists discussed how think tanks can use this opportunity to help democratic systems reflect upon ways in which they can reform themselves to become more resilient, efficient, and accountable to public audiences. While governments worldwide are experiencing populations that are dissatisfied with the existing institutions and political structures, think tanks are capable of not only bettering public knowledge on important national, regional, and global affairs, but in shaping the dialogue and influencing the path forward among the public as well as in the policymaking world.



Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

The Peril and Promise of Artificial Intelligence

This panel focused on the evolving nature of artificial intelligence and the impact of rapidly developing technology on the world. Issues and concerns with the growth of artificial intelligence were highlighted, as well as the promise of utilizing such technology in the think tank industry as well as in broader society. The panel highlighted the consequences of the rapid development of technology, artificial intelligence in particular. One aspect of importance is the need to better educate people on artificial intelligence and developing technologies; it was noted that artificial intelligence has increased in the impact it has had on people's lives.

A large issue raised was the number of ethical questions regarding artificial intelligence. Key points included algorithm bias and data monopoly of artificial intelligence. Significantly, Aaron Shull noted that the nature of the global economy today is fundamentally different from what it was before; now, it is a data-driven economy based on intangible assets. However, governance surrounding artificial intelligence and relevant policy areas has not developed as rapidly as the technology itself. Issues such as surveillance and cyberwarfare are evolving rapidly in their global impact, while governance on those topics is struggling to keep pace.

Furthermore, Priscilla Silva said that the main decisions around artificial intelligence are made around biases, leading to the need for regulation of artificial intelligence and the development of minimum ethical standards. The use of judicial review in the field of artificial intelligence was also brought up. Implementing such mechanisms to better monitor, review, and regulate artificial intelligence are important in improving governance practices can allow for artificial intelligence to be used in a transformative and positive way.

Ultimately, as it is a vitally growing field with important consequences in the government and business sectors, think tanks have the ability and opportunity to play a role in shaping policy making surrounding artificial intelligence as well as better educating the public on artificial intelligence and other new digital technologies.



Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions

Multilateralism in a Multipolar World: Conflict and Chaos, or Peace and Prosperity?

This panel on multilateralism in the context of a multipolar world discussed the importance of multilateralism as well as the challenges of maintaining multilateral relationships and agreements in a changing geopolitical environment. In describing effective multilateralism, one participant noted three factors that are required: agreements on goals and fundamental values, strong leadership, and the ability to adapt to new challenges. Multilateralism is a vital facet of international relations in that it allows for states to reach agreements through peaceful dialogue. However, the panel highlighted the inevitable truth that power dynamics on the global political landscape have shifted; new actors are increasingly using geopolitics to advance their own interests.

"The shift towards a multipolar world has created a current vacuum in regard to global leadership" The crisis of multilateralism in the face of a multipolar world has consequences in various realms, one in particular being international trade. It was noted that regarding its impact on the World Trade Organization (WTO) in particular, trade wars such as the one between the United States and China have led to certain violations of WTO standards, and action taken by the United States to block the appointment of judges to the Appellate Body has led to the dismantling of the primary international dispute settlement mechanism for trade. Weakened multilateralism in international trade harms smaller countries in particular, as it is tougher for small countries to negotiate independently. Meanwhile, it was highlighted that large countries might use their market power in negotiations.

In concluding the plenary session, the panel discussed the role of think tanks in navigating and leading a newly multipolar world in which multilateralism has been increasingly challenged. One participant emphasized that in the current context, think tanks should be more active in shaping global policy. In an environment in which multilateral agreements and institutions are being challenged from various angles and geopolitical tensions are increasing, think tanks have an important role to play in influencing governments and institutions to problem-solve more effectively and regain trust among their populations.



Future of Think Tanks

Thinking about the Future of Think Tanks and Public Policy in an Age of Insecurity and Instability

This panel discussed the evolving role of think tanks in a time of geopolitical instability around the world. The role of think tanks, as described by the panel, including spreading quality information for the public to better understand the way in which our world operates. Think tanks are vital in bringing policymaking and academic research together; evidence-based policymaking requires strong and practical solutions, which, in turn, requires effective research. In this regard, think tanks play a significant role in providing necessary input and advice to policymakers.

A key focus of this panel was technological developments in recent years that have impacted the way think tanks operate. Such technological advances are relevant to think tanks in various ways; for one, the way analytical research will be conducted in the future will be shaped by the capabilities of artificial intelligence. Additionally, a rapidly-developing technology sector may impact, and improve, how products are produced by think tanks. For example, think tanks can utilize technology and media companies to create video games simulating climate change, amongst other products that complement think tanks' research output.

However, there are also challenges facing think tanks due to the rapid development of technology and artificial intelligence. One panelist noted that in responding to technological changes, think tanks with smaller budgets have had to divert greater amounts of money away from research. Furthermore, the opportunities created by big data exist only for those who have access to big data, which is not necessarily distributed equitably amongst think tanks. In addition, another panelist highlighted the struggle of think tanks to adapt their communications strategy appropriately in order to constantly adapt to maintain accessibility online.

In moving forward, a key suggestion discussed by the panel was the need for greater and broader public engagement. While one panelist noted the tradeoff between targeting academia and policymakers and other target groups within broader society, the panel overall agreed on the importance of increasing visibility online, reaching out to younger demographics, innovating strategies to reach new target audiences. Examples of such strategies included creating videos for research products, writing more journalistically rather than academically and utilizing social media networks.



Future of Think Tanks

New Faces and New Ideas: Diversity and Innovation in Think Tanks

The 'New Faces and New Ideas' panel discussed the benefits of and barriers to diversity within think tanks. Panelists spoke about a current lack of diversity in age and gender, in addition to an in-depth discussion on the strides that could be taken in order to improve diversity at future think tank summits. One panelist proposed a Global Diversity Initiative which would support diverse panelists at future summits (through support to travel costs) and broaden the network such that each current participant is challenged to look around at their colleagues at the event and ask, "who is missing who should be here?"

"It is not enough to have diversity in statistics. Such diversity must be embedded in leadership in order for meaningful change." Panelists further deliberated ways in which to become increasingly competitive to a young generation of rising think tank scholars, including challenges in providing competitive salaries. Regional differences in regard to this challenge were also addressed, with think tanks holding different reputations and appeal across different continents (for example, one participant brought up the high demand of their think tank by young people in Kenya).

Overall, panelists agreed for the need to speed up diversity initiatives across think tanks worldwide, noting that the product that think tanks produce is higher quality and more representative with a wider array of researcher backgrounds. Further, panelists noted that mentorship and providing the ability for growth in young people are essential to creating a think tank with a diversity in leadership, and not just the think tank as a whole.

Panelists from 'New Faces and New Ideas' are currently working to turn the Global Diversity Initiative into realization; updates will follow.



Future of Think Tanks

The Power and Potential of Think Tank Partnerships

In opening the panel on the importance and potential of think tank partnerships, one panelist noted that partnerships have the ability to increase breadth, include diversity of thought, and improve resources. There are numerous benefits to collaborating with other think tanks, including the ability to promote regional integration by partnering with various think tanks and organizations in different geographical regions. Furthermore, think tank partnerships can allow for the capacity-building of an organization as well as the development of a strong network. Such partnerships are useful in sharing knowledge between countries, forming local networks, building trust within countries, and increasing access to politicians. One panelist ultimately compared think tank partnerships to multilateralism, in that such relationships are a way to get something you otherwise would not have been able to obtain unilaterally.

"In partnerships, one is able to gain something that is unattainable unilaterally. This means that it is necessary to consider tradeoffs in deciding what partnerships to form."

One challenge raised during the panel was the difficulty for think tanks with a smaller staff and budget in formulating partnerships. While larger think tanks can designate roles within their organizations specifically with the aim of finding and developing partnerships, doing so is more logistically difficult for small think tanks. In response to this, it was noted that there are benefits to forming partnerships with smaller think tanks and organizations; it may be more cost-effective to do so, and the smaller think tank may provide more specific expertise and entryway into new audiences.

The panel also suggested potential types of partnerships and collaborations that would benefit think tanks. One suggestion was the development of multilateral partnerships, within which think tanks which similarly align to regional and global issues can share expertise. Similarly, another suggestion was the development of joint research projects by interregional groups of think tanks that can focus on global issues through various regional perspectives. Further suggestions included forming partnerships that help make the research produced by think tanks more innovative, such as utilizing connections with gaming companies. For example, one panelist spoke of the Wilson Center's experience partnering with Brookings to create Budget Hero, a video game designed to communicate the United States' federal budget.



2019 Global Think Tank Summit Program

Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions: The Role of Think Tanks 2019 Global Think Tank Summit Agenda 11 – 13 December 2019 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Co-Hosted by: Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) and the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania.

<u>Wednesday, December 11th, 2019</u> Hilton Rio de Janeiro Copacabana Av. Atlântica, 1020 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

16.00-17.00 Summit Registration

17.00-18.00 Welcome Remarks

- James G. MCGANN, Director and Senior Lecturer, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (United States)
- Carlos Ivan SIMONSEN LEAL, President, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)

Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions: National, Regional and Global Perspectives

A panel of senior think tank executives from around the globe will discuss how think tanks are helping policymakers and the public understand the economic, technological, geopolitical and socials transitions and transformations that are disrupting politics around the world. They will share how their institutions are grappling with the policy and strategic and operational challenges they face in these turbulent times. The Panel will also explore and foreshadow the central themes of the Global Summit while connecting national and regional trends to ones that have become global issues or trends.

CHAIR: James G. MCGANN, Director and Senior Lecturer, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (United States)

- Carlos Ivan SIMONSEN LEAL, President, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)
- Adalberto RODRÍGUEZ GIAVARINI, President, Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI) (Argentina)
- Paolo MAGRI, Executive Vice President and Director, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) (Italy)
- Linda MUSUMBA, Board Chairperson, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) (Kenya)
- Izabela STYCZYNSKA, President of Management Board, Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE) (Poland)
- Izumi OHNO, Director, JICA Research Institute (Japan)
- Michael O'HANLON, Senior Fellow & Director of Research, Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution (United States)
- 19.30-20.00Keynote Welcome Address
 - Carlos LANGONI, former President of the Central Bank of Brazil and Director of the World Economy Center.
- 20.00-21.30 Welcome Dinner An Evening of Networking: Building Global Knowledge and Policy Partnerships

<u>Thursday, December 12th, 2019</u> FGV Main Office Praia de Botafogo, 190 – Rio de Janeiro – RJ, Brazil

- 8.00-8.30 Transportation to FGV
- 8.30-9.00 Welcome Coffee and Registration

9.00-9.30	Keynote Address			
	Geopolitical Risk in an Age of Angry Middle Classes			
	• Christopher Garman, Managing Director for the Americas, Eurasia Group (United States)			
9.30-11.00	Plenary Panel II			
	Navigating the New World Order: How to Avoid the Sirens of Conflict and Chaos in World Politics This session will explore the challenges posed by the sea of change that is taking place in global politics and how to navigate the new world order that is emerging. More importantly, it will explore how to avoid the conflict and chaos that has marked periods of transition throughout history. As such, this panel of think tank scholars and executives will examine the promise and peril of a new world re-order.			
	CHAIR: Michael O'HANLON, Senior Fellow & Director of Research, Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution (United States)			
	 Robert VASS, President, GLOBSEC (Slovakia) Gilead SHER, Senior Research Fellow & Head, Center for Applied Negotiations, Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) (Israel) Sybil RHODES, President, Centro para Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL) (Argentina) Harsh PANT, Director of Studies, Observer Research Foundation (ORF) (India) Valeiy GARBUZOV, Director, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia) 			
11.00-11.15	Coffee Break			
11.15-12.45	Plenary Panel III			
	The 'We' Movement: Popular Discontent, Democracy and Dictators in an Age of Insecurity and Digital Disruptions This session will attempt to examine the rise of social and political protests that are sweeping across the globe in an attempt to capture the issues and interconnections between some of these mass movements and what might be driving them. Large public demonstrations, some peaceful and some not, have taken place in recent weeks in places on every continent: Algeria, Bolivia, Britain, Catalonia, Chile, Ecuador, France, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon and more. While some of the protests have been small and spontaneous most have been large with deep roots that are the result of years of mounting frustration over environmental inaction, economic troubles, mismanagement, corruption or governmental repression.			

CHAIR: Winfried WECK, Director of Regional Programs "Alianzas para la Democracia y el Desarrollo con América Latina", Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (ADELA - Panama)

• Carlos MALAMUD, Senior Analyst, Real Instituto Elcano (Spain)

	 Marco Aurélio RUEDIGER, Director, Department of Public Policy Analysis, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil) Oleksiy MELNYK, Co-Director, Foreign Relations and International Security Programmes, Razumkov Centre (Ukraine) Gustavo MARTÍNEZ, Managing Director, Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI) (Argentina) Alain NZADI-A-NZADI, Director, Centre d'Etudes pour l'Action Sociale (CEPAS) (Democratic Republic of Congo) Mohammed AL SULAMI, Chairman, Rasanah: International Institute for Iranian Studies (Saudi Arabia)
12.45-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.30	Plenary Panel IV
	 The Peril and Promise of Artificial Intelligence The 4th Industrial Revolution is a game-changer. While it is similar to the industrial transformations of the past, it will be fundamentally different. Artificial Intelligence (AI) will create massive, creative and destructive disruptions that will reverberate in the years to come. Therefore, it is essential that we understand AI and prepare both for the opportunities and the challenges it poses. The new reality is that AI accelerates the speed of change, increasing the velocity of information and policy flows in business, politics, and society. AI can enable humans to work smarter, faster and better than ever before, but it can also create major disruptions and dislocations in society. This panel will explore the impact on the economy, society and national, regional and global governance. CHAIR: Rodrigo TARGINO, Researcher, Center for Applied Mathematics, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil) Oksana KUZIAKIV, Executive Director, Institute for Economic
	 Research and Policy Consulting (IER) (Ukraine) Andrés LALANNE, Dean, Centro Latinoamericano de Economía Humana (CLAEH) (Uruguay) Aaron SHULL, Managing Director, Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) (Canada) Priscilla SILVA, Researcher, Institute for Technology & Society (ITS) (Brazil)
15.30-15.45	Coffee Break
15.45-17.15	Breakout Session (Five Concurrent Sessions)

1. The Climate Change Emergency: No Longer Chicken Little

Climate change poses some of the most pressing and intractable problems confronting policymakers and the public today. As the effects of climate change grow, the costs increase, and policy choices narrow. A critical examination of alternative policies, paradigms and public engagement strategies is required. There is an urgent need for innovative policies and strategies that can mobilize support from a range of political constituencies and provide creative integrated strategies that address climate adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development. A panel of senior thought leaders and executives from the leading think tanks working on this issue will discuss and propose new and innovative ways to address this clear and present danger. CHAIR: Camilla BAUSCH, Scientific & Executive Director, Ecologic Institute (Germany)

- Svenja BLANKE, Director Nueva Sociedad, Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) (Argentina)
- Tao HU, President, Lakestone Institute for Sustainable Development (United States)
- Marina CAETANO, Institutional Coordinator, Konrad Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) (Germany)
- Takeo HARADA, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of
- International Strategy and Information Analysis (IISIA) (Japan)

2. Global Food and Water Security: How to Avert the Coming Crisis

Food and water insecurity are not just a future problem, but rather are serious crises that our world is presently facing. In 2016, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reported a total of 815 million chronically undernourished people in the world. In addition, the World Health Organization reported in 2015 that there was a total of 2.1 billion people who lacked access to safely managed drinking water. There are many contributing factors to food and water insecurity, such as climate change, poverty, gender inequality, and macro-economic trade policies—each of which are complex issues that require comprehensive research. This research gap can and should be filled by think tanks that can then take a prominent role in addressing these causes of food and water insecurity. Think tanks have a unique position in food and water security research and can address interdisciplinary and trans-boundary concerns, facilitating critical knowledge exchanges, and generating overall issue awareness. Despite the clear intersect between these two crises, institutional and disciplinary silos inhibit the development of creative policies and programs to address the problem. A panel of scholars will examine the coming crisis and suggest some ways of addressing it.

CHAIR: James G. MCGANN, Director and Senior Lecturer, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (United States)

- Jose Luis CHICOMA, Chief Executive Officer, Ethos Public Policy Lab
- (Mexico)
- Ibon ZUGASTI, Director, Prospektiker/Millennium Project (Spain)
- Hossa ALMUTAIRI, Research Fellow, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC) (Saudi Arabia)

3. Can You Hear Us Now? Strategic Communications for Think Tanks

The popularization of new media has created a massive untapped pool of resources for knowledge to be shared with a new and wider audience. However, the unchecked nature of new media also results in a lack of quality control and oversaturation of content for readers to filter through. In an age of shorter attention spans and the paradox of choice, think tanks must navigate these waters to retain their appeal to changing demographics. This session aims to identify best practices for optimizing the use of new media, social networking and other platforms for public engagement and shaping policy, as well as examining which platforms we are all using to the greatest impact. More specifically, how can think tanks creatively harness these new tools beyond standard marketing purposes while being discerning about the quality, effectiveness of various platforms, and how they align with think tank's mission to inform policymakers and the public about key policy issues?

CHAIR: Carla DUARTE, Deputy Director, Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI) (Brazil)

- Linda ROTH, Vice President, Communications, Wilson Center (United States)
- Lydia RUDDY, Director of Communications, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) (Indonesia)
- Jeff CORDEAU, VP of Operations and Chief Technology Officer,
- Peterson Institute (United States)
- Giuseppe PORCARO, Head of Outreach and Governance, Bruegel (Belgium)
- Nicolas BAUQUET, Research Director, Institut Montaigne (France)

4. New Faces and New Ideas: Diversity and Innovation in Think Tanks

Both business and anthropological literature have shown strong correlations between organizational innovation and diversity. This panel will feature young scholars and think tank executives who will discuss the importance of diversity in their organizations and emphasize the important connection between diversity and innovation. The panelists have been asked to address the following questions: why did you choose to work at a think tank?; what obstacles did you encounter in the biring process and advancing your career at a think tank?; what perspectives on policy and organization innovation do you bring to your think tank and the issues facing your country; and what specific recommendations would you suggest to improve the role and impact of think tanks? Finally, and most importantly, what recommendations would you make to improve the careers of ethnic and racial groups, women, young scholars and executives?

CHAIR: Milena LAZAREVIC, Founder & Program Director, European Policy Center (CEP) (Serbia)

- Slim BAHRINI, Executive Director, Maghreb Economic Forum, (Tunisia)
- Emmanuel JUSTIMA, Executive Chairman, MODRICENIR (Haiti)
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- Mayén UGARTE, Director, Project and Professional Development, Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo (GRADE) (Peru)

5. Trade Wars or Trade Winds: Which Ways are the Winds Blowing?

The lingering effects of the 2008 economic crisis and the blowback from the uneven and unfulfilled promise of globalization has helped give rise to populism, nativism and protectionist sentiments in many countries. The costs of free trade -- closed factories, unemployed workers and the effect it has on local economies and communities -- are easy to see. Less obvious are the benefits in lower prices, higher quality goods, more choices and a better standard of living. The uneven distribution of these benefits of the liberal economic order and free trade are raising questions about the fairness and

	 viability of free and fair trade around the world. The prospects of a trade war between the US and China, Europe and the US has served to intensify these debates. With this backdrop in mind, the panel will explore the current trade environment, the impact of trade disputes will impact growth and the global economy. CHAIR: Carolina MOEHLECKE, Adjunct Researcher, Center for International Relations, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil) 	
	 Gerard LUCYSHYN, Vice President of Research, Frontier Centre for Public Policy (FCPP) (Canada) Steven BLOCKMANS, Head of EU Foreign Policy Unit, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) (Belgium) Tang SIEW MUN, Head, ASEAN Studies Centre, Institute of South East Asian Studies (ISEAS) (Singapore) Miguel Ángel SIMÁN, President, FUSADES (El Salvador) 	
17.15-17.30	Summit Group Photo	
17.30-18.00	Transportation to Dinner	
19.30-21.30	Dinner at Assador Rio's restaurant, followed by "A Tribute to João Gilberto, the Brazilian Bossa Nova Legend."	
21.30-22.00	Transportation to Hilton Copacabana	

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- 8.15-8.45 Transportation to FGV
- 8.45-9.15 Welcome Coffee
- 9.15-11.00 Plenary Panel V

Thinking about the Future of Think Tanks and Public Policy in an Age of Insecurity and Instability

At a moment when both think tanks and experts are being questioned, significant policy and technology disruptions have called into question the value and efficacy of policy advice. Within that context, the TTCSP has launched a major national and global initiative to explore the future of think tanks and policy advice. A panel of think tank executives and scholars will explore: How have innovations in technology, communications, big data and data visualizations impacted the work of think tanks?; how has increased fragmentation, polarization of politics and changes in political parties and congress changed the nature of our public discourse and policy advice?; and how have the changes in the sources, types and duration of funding for public policy research impacted the quality, independence and integrity of the research and the ability to maintain the basic operations of a think tank? CHAIR: Asanga ABEYAGOONASEKERA, Director General, Institute of National Security Studies Sri Lanka (INSSSL) (Sri Lanka)

- Izabela STYCZYNSKA, President of Management Board, Center for Social and Economic Research (CASE) (Poland)
- Odongchimeg IKHBAYAR, Deputy Director, Economic Policy and Competitiveness Research Center (ECRC) (Mongolia)
- Hernán BONILLA, Executive Director, Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo (CED) (Uruguay)
- Matthew DANN, Member, Council of the European Policy Centre (CEP) (Belgrade)
- Roberta BRAGA, Associate Director, Atlantic Council (United States)
- 11.00-11.15 Coffee Break
- 11.15-12.45 Plenary Panel VI

Multilateralism in a Multipolar World: Conflict and Chaos, or Peace and Prosperity?

Consciously or inadvertently, the new world order is taking place. Alliances are shifting, conflict and mass migration of people is continuing, and sustained economic and development is remaining elusive. The 2019 Global Tank Summit is taking place at a truly extraordinary historical moment in history and world politics. The post WWII economic, political and security orders are being challenged and redefined by national and regional tectonic shifts in domestic and international politics. The panel will discuss these changes and the role of multilateral institutions in a multipolar world.

CHAIR: Roberta BRAGA, Associate Director, Atlantic Council (United States)

- Brian HANSON, Vice President for Studies, Chicago Council on Global Affairs (United States)
- Alvaro MENDEZ, Co-Director, Global South Unit, LSE IDEAS (United Kingdom)
- Vugar BAYRAMOV, Chairman of Board, Center for Economic & Social Development (CESD) (Azerbaijan)
- 12.45-13.30 Closing Plenary Panel

The Power and Potential of Think Tank Partnerships

A closing panel of think tank scholars and executives will provide analysis and commentary on the major conclusions, strategies and actions generated by the summit. Each Panelists will be asked to identify potential collaborative research or institutional partnerships that they would recommend to the Summit participants.

CHAIR: Linda ROTH, Vice President, Communications, Wilson Center (United States)

- Ezzeddine ABDELMOULA, Research Director, Al Jazeera Centre for Studies (Qatar)
- Omar AL-UBAYDLI, Director of Research, Derasat (Bahrain)

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13.30-13.40	Closing Remarks
	 James G. MCGANN, Director and Senior Lecturer, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP), Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (United States) Carlos Ivan SIMONSEN LEAL, President, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) (Brazil)
13.40-14.30	Lunch
14.30-17.30	Tour to Sugar Loaf (Optional)



List of Participants

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Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) Summit Team (United States)

Dr. James McGann – Director, TTCSP Laura Whelan – Global Summit Project Lead, TTCSP Alisa Wadsworth – Europe Summit Project Lead, TTCSP Abdul Basit – Research Intern, TTCSP Mariana García – Research Intern, TTCSP Ethan Kallet – Research Intern, TTCSP



2019-2020 TTCSP Think Tank Summit and Fora Schedule*

* Summits and fora dates are subject to change but are confirmed unless otherwise indicated

September 23-25 2019

Latin America Think Tank Summit, Bogota, Colombia TTCSP Partner: Fedesarrollo & Fundación Ideas de La Paz

November 10-12, 2019

Asia Think Tank Summit, Bangkok, Thailand, Partner: Trade, Investment and Innovation Division UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

December 5, 2019

Euro-Med Think Tank Forum, Rome, Italy TTCSP Partner: Institute for International Political Studies ISPI

December 12-13, 2019

Global Think Tank Summit, Rio de Janeiro, TTCSP Partner: Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV)

January 13, 2020

India Think Tank Summit, New Delhi, India

January 30, 2020

Think Tank and Civil Societies: Catalyst for Ideas, Innovation and Action 2020 Why Think Tanks Matter in Washington, DC and 150 cities around the world.

February 4-6, 2019

MENA Think Tank Summit, Amman, Jordan

February 2020

AI Think Tank Forum, Palo Alto, California or another venue

February 26-28, 2020

Africa Think Tank Summit, Cape town, South Africa

March 30 – April 1, 2020

North America Think Tank Summit, Washington, DC

April 22-24, 2020

Europe Think Tank Summit, Marseilles, France

May 6-9, 2020

All China Think Tank Innovation, Beijing, China

May 20-21, 2020

Central and Eastern European Think Tank Summit, Bratislava, Slovakia

Date and location to be determined

Global Food and Water Security Summit

Date to be determined

Bahrain Think Tank Regional/Global Summit

Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

The University of Pennsylvania

"Helping to bridge the gap between knowledge and policy" Researching the trends and challenges facing think tanks, policymakers, and policy-oriented civil society groups... Sustaining, strengthening, and building capacity for think tanks around the world... Maintaining the largest, most comprehensive database of over 8,000 think tanks...

All requests, questions, and comments should be directed to:

James G. McGann, Ph.D.

Senior Lecturer, International Studies

Director

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Lauder Institute

University of Pennsylvania



About TTCSP

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program

The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and civil societies around the world. Often referred to as the "think tanks' think tank," TTCSP examines the evolving role and character of public policy research organizations. Over the last 30 years, the TTCSP has developed and led a series of global initiatives that have helped bridge the gap between knowledge and policy in critical policy areas such as international peace and security, globalization and governance, international economics, environmental issues, information and society, poverty alleviation, and healthcare and global health. These international collaborative efforts are designed to establish regional and international networks of policy institutes and communities that improve policy making while strengthening democratic institutions and civil societies around the world.

The TTCSP works with leading scholars and practitioners from think tanks and universities in a variety of collaborative efforts and programs and produces the annual Global Go To Think Tank Index that ranks the world's leading think tanks in a variety of categories. This is achieved with the help of a panel of over 1,900 peer institutions and experts from the print and electronic media, academia, public and private donor institutions, and governments around the world. We have strong relationships with leading think tanks around the world, and our annual Think Tank Index is used by academics, journalists, donors and the public to locate and connect with the leading centers of public policy research around the world. Our goal is to increase the profile and performance of think tanks

and raise the public awareness of the important role think tanks play in governments and civil societies around the globe.

Since its inception in 1989, the TTCSP has focused on collecting data and conducting research on think tank trends and the role think tanks play as civil society actors in the policy-making process. To date TTCSP has provided technical assistance and capacity building programs in 81 countries. We are now working to create regional and global networks of think tanks in an effort to facilitate collaboration and the production of a modest yet achievable set of global public goods. Our goal is to create lasting institutional and state-level partnerships by engaging and mobilizing think tanks that have demonstrated their ability to produce high quality policy research and shape popular and elite opinion and actions for public good.

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies

The Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies offers an M.A. in international studies and conducts fundamental and policy-oriented research on current economic, political, and business issues. It organizes an annual conference that brings academics, practitioners, and policy makers together to examine global challenges such as financial risks, sustainability, inequality, and the future of the state.

University of Pennsylvania

The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) is an Ivy League school with highly selective admissions and a history of innovation in interdisciplinary education and scholarship. Its peer institutions are Harvard, Stanford, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, and the University of Chicago in the US and Oxford and Cambridge in the UK. A world-class research institution, Penn boasts a picturesque campus in the middle of Philadelphia, a dynamic city that is conveniently located between Washington, D.C. and New York, New York the University of Pennsylvania was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1740 to push the frontiers of knowledge and benefit society by integrating study in the liberal arts and sciences with opportunities for research and practical, pre-professional training at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Penn is committed to meeting the full demonstrated need of all undergraduates with grant-based financial aid, making this intellectually compelling integration of liberal and professional education accessible to talented students of all backgrounds and empowering them to make an impact on the world.

TTCSP Recent and Forthcoming Publications:

Think Tanks: The New Knowledge and Policy Brokers in Asia (Brookings Press and Asian Development Bank Institute, 2019) <u>https://www.brookings.edu/book/think-tanks/</u>

Trends and Transitions in Security Expertise from Deterrence to Climate Change and Back Again (Routledge, 2017) https://www.routledge.com/Global-Trends-and-Transitions-in-Security-Expertise-From-Nuclear-Deterrence/McGann/p/book/9781138304000

Think Tanks, Foreign Policy and the Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017) https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319603117

Think Tanks and Emerging Power Policy Networks (MacMillan, 2017) https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319719542

The Fifth Estate: Think Tanks Public Policy and Governance (Brookings, 2016) https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/chapter-one_-the-fifth-estate.pdf

Think Tanks and SDGs: Catalysts for Analysis, Innovation and Implementation (TTCSP 2015) http://www.lulu.com/shop/james-mcgann/think-tanks-and-sdgs-catalysts-foranalysis-innovation-and-implementation/paperback/product-22563604.html

How Think Tanks Shape Development Policies (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014) <u>http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15244.html</u>

Security Expertise Practice, Power, Responsibility (Chapter 6) (2014 Routledge) https://www.routledge.com/Security-Expertise-Practice-Power-Responsibility/Berling-Bueger/p/book/9781138819115

Think Tanks and Global Policy Networks, Chapter in an edited volume (Routledge, 2013) https://www.routledge.com/International-Organization-and-Global-Governance/Weiss-Wilkinson/p/book/9781138236585

Global Think Tanks, Policy Networks and Governance (Routledge, 2010) https://www.routledge.com/Global-Think-Tanks-Policy-Networks-and-Governance/McGann-Sabatini/p/book/9780415779791