RESPONSIBLE LEADERS HUB

16—19.02.23
Munich

Transforming Leadership, Securing our Future

REPORT
There is currently much disorder in the world: the war in Ukraine is still raging, the global economic and energy crises show no signs of waning, and democracies worldwide are struggling. This was the global backdrop to this year's Munich Security Conference (MSC) and the BMW Foundation Responsible Leaders Hub entitled "Transforming Leadership, Securing Our Future."

Committed to advancing the UN 2030 Agenda, the BMW Foundation promotes Responsible Leadership and inspires leaders worldwide to work towards a more peaceful, just, and regenerative future.

A long-time partner of the MSC, the BMW Foundation Pavilion in the heart of Munich served as its official hub where global security was addressed through the lens of Responsible Leadership. The Responsible Leaders Hub also showcased our initiatives and ambition to drive the sustainable transformation of societies, kicking off our political program work in 2023.

Complementing the MSC program, the hub was a place for fruitful engagement between leaders from the Global South and North. It provided a highly diverse group of participants with an intimate setting to discuss pressing geopolitical issues in the context of MSC’s comprehensive definition of security. This definition encompasses not only traditional national or military security issues but also the economic, environmental, and human dimensions of security.

The focus of the debates was on introducing a new leadership paradigm for climate security, sustainable peace, and regenerative ways of working. Over three days, participants discussed three key themes: 1) a new leadership paradigm for peace; 2) the regenerative transformation of socio-economic systems; and 3) North-South cooperation in a fragmented world.

We were thrilled by the level of engagement among the participants, the quality of the discussions, and the insightful contributions. It truly stimulated the debate on how to broaden and strengthen the vision of a liberal, rules-based order.

It also was a stark reminder that Responsible Leadership is crucial to driving the sustainable transformation of societies.

This report is designed to give an overview of the Responsible Leaders Hub’s participants and speakers, its impact, and the vibrant discussions that sometimes lasted until close to midnight.

Thank you for your leadership.

We hope to see many of you again in 2024!

BMW Foundation
Herbert Quandt
BMW FOUNDATION HERBERT QUANDT

As an independent and non-profit corporate foundation, the BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt inspires global leaders to assume their social responsibility and to work as responsible leaders towards a peaceful, just, and regenerative future in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

The BMW Foundation convenes leaders from diverse sectors in various leadership formats to reflect on their roles, responsibilities, and values. It catalyzes organizations, communities, and movements with its Responsible Leaders Network, a global community that drives systemic change.

Through its programs, the BMW Foundation aims to lead by example: by investing, amplifying, and supporting the implementation of innovative solutions that advance UN Sustainable Development Goals.

MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE

The 59th Munich Security Conference (MSC) took place from February 17 to 19, 2023, at the Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich. For three days, the MSC 2023 once again offered a platform for high-level debates on the key foreign and security policy challenges of our time.

The MSC is the world’s leading forum for debating international security policy. Its objective is to build trust and to contribute to the peaceful resolution of conflicts by sustaining a continuous, curated and informal dialogue within the international security community.

During the annual conference, the MSC assembles more than 450 high-profile and senior decision-makers as well as thought-leaders from around the world. Participants include heads of state, ministers, leaders from international and non-governmental organizations, representatives of industry, media, academia, and civil society.
Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2011
Gregoire Roos, BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt

Leymah Roberta Gbowee is a civil rights activist and politician from Liberia. Together with Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and Tawakkul Karman, she received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2011 “for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women’s rights to full participation in peace-building work”.

In 2012, she founded the Gbowee Peace Foundation (GPFA), ensuring a peaceful, reconciled, and empowered Liberia for future generations and providing education and leadership opportunities to women and youth.

“PEACE IS NOT JUST THE ABSENCE OF WAR”
Bogolo J. Kenewendo is a global economist with deep expertise in international trade and development. She has a particular focus on Pan-African development and a passion for accelerating digitization and innovation across the continent.

As the Minister of Investment, Trade, and Industry in Botswana, she implemented reforms to significantly improve the ease of doing business, open up both domestic and international markets, and position the country to succeed in the global value chains as well as the digital economy.

She currently serves as the Africa Director & Special Advisor for UN Climate Change High-Level Champions, Managing Director of Kenewendo Advisory, a Non-resident Fellow at Center for Global Development, and sits on multiple corporate boards.
Claudia Brinkmann is currently the Team Lead for Feminist Foreign Policy at the Federal Foreign Office with the task to conceptualize, operationalize and mainstream a feminist approach to all areas of German foreign policy making.

Prior to this, she worked on EU foreign policy in the Federal Chancellery (2019-2022). She was posted to the German Embassy in Baghdad, working predominantly on regional politics and security policy (2017-2019).

As a protocol officer she had the privilege of accompanying the Foreign Minister, Chancellor and Federal President on official travels around the globe (2013-2017).

Her first posting was to the German Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels, shaping EU foreign policy in Council working groups (2011-2013).

Galyna Mykhailiuk is a member of the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) and Deputy Head of its Committee on Law Enforcement.

Prior to her activities as a Member of Parliament, Galyna held the position of legislation drafting expert at the European Union Advisory Mission in Ukraine.

Currently she also works part-time as a professor at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and is an associate professor at Ukrainian Free University (UFU) in Munich. She has written over 90 academic publications.
Laura Yawanawá leads the Yawanawá tribe in Brazil alongside her husband, Chief Tashka Yawanawá. As a proponent of change, Laura has been instrumental in evolving the traditionally patriarchal culture of the Yawanawá to be more open and inclusive of women.

Laura’s work is wide-ranging, transformative and essential for the survival of the Yawanawá people. She has seen firsthand the devastating effects of climate change and deforestation and is a fierce advocate for environmental protection.

She also travels throughout Latin America to support Indigenous People’s rights, helping Indigenous communities understand their authority and fight for self-determination.

In this capacity, she has co-founded the Nawa Institute and INIYA (Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Alliance).

Lynn Kuok is Shangri-La Dialogue Senior Fellow for Asia-Pacific Security at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and co-Editor of one of its signature publications, the Asia-Pacific Regional Security Assessment.

She is a visiting professor at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and has lectured at the US Department of State’s Foreign Service Institute and the Australian War College.

Nighat Dad is the founder and Executive Director of Digital Rights Foundation, a Lahore-based non-profit working on issues of online free speech, privacy and digital safety.

Nighat is currently serving as a member of the Facebook independent Oversight Board, working on content moderation on the platform.

She has been working for over a decade on issues of online governance from a human rights perspective, as well as online content moderation, digital authoritarianism and addressing online violence against women, minorities and other vulnerable groups.

Mosharraf Zaidi works at the nexus of politics, media and economics.

Since 2018, he has worked at Tabadlab, the advisory services firm and think tank he co-founded to help leaders in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors identify and solve problems that transcend the traditional boundaries of economics, politics and society at large.

He previously served as principle adviser to the Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and adviser to the UN in Afghanistan as well as assignments for the World Bank, European Union; other multilaterals.
Ecuadorian scholar, diplomat and politician. María Fernanda Espinosa has also held many leadership positions within the Government of Ecuador, serving as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Defense and Minister of Cultural and Natural Heritage.

Furthermore, she was the first female ambassador and permanent representative of Ecuador to the United Nations offices in New York and in Geneva.

Most recently, Ms. Espinosa served as President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, becoming the fourth woman in history and the first from Latin America and the Caribbean to preside over this body. Ms. Espinosa is currently a member of the Strategic Committee of the Science Panel for the Amazon of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.


He also serves as Associate Professor of International History, where his research focuses on technology, geopolitics, economics, international affairs, and Russia.

He has previously served as the Associate Director of the Brady-Johnson Program in Grand Strategy at Yale, a lecturer at the New Economic School in Moscow, a visiting researcher at the Carnegie Moscow Center, a research associate at the Brookings Institution, and as a fellow at the German Marshall Fund’s Transatlantic Academy.
INTERNATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE AND ATTENDANCE

69,580,541
Total Media Reach – Unique Visitors per Month

12
Pieces of Coverage

26
Journalists
7
Countries

ALJAZEERA  Bloomberg  Die Presse  DIE RHEINPFALZ
Forum Nachruf Wochenspiegel  Handelsblatt  ITV News
POLITICO  RESPEKT  Naftoliniger General-Anzeiger  Südwestdeutsche Zeitung

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Minister Fazil at the 59th Munich Security Conference on women’s rights, climate and EU engagement

Die Rheinpfalz

Minister Fazil at the 59th Munich Security Conference on women’s rights, climate and EU engagement

Medium

Medium

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2. TRANSFORMATION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM
3. NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD

TOPICS IN FOCUS

1. NEW LEADERSHIP PARADIGM FOR PEACE
   - The Value of Courage: Walking the Talk of Peacebuilding
   - Addressing the Nexus Food-Climate-Security
   - Weathering Security Risks in a Changing Climate
   - In Need of China: Smart Cooperation for Bolder Climate Action
   - The Journey of Regeneration: Setting Sails for A New Leadership Paradigm

2. TRANSFORMATION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM
   - The Price of Peace
   - Cities as Guardians of Democracy
   - Shifting Power and Leadership Structures to Empower Local Peacemakers
   - Addressing the weakest Link in Climate Security: Inequality
   - The Populist Signal: Technology in the Next Democratic Paradigm

3. NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD
   - War, Oppression, and Strongmen: Rethinking the Role of Anti-Feminism in Autocratic Regimes
   - Evading the Polycrisis: World Wars, Climate Change, Biosecurity, and the Hope of International Institutions
   - Reflecting and Looking Ahead
Breakfast Conversation – The Price of Peace

During this conversation, two outstanding champions of peace shared their personal insights and experiences of the long walk of peace. It touched on questions like:

- What is the ultimate price of reconciliation?
- What kind of leadership does it call for?
- How can we sustain peace throughout generations?

Speakers

- Leymah Gbowee – Founder, Gbowee Peace Foundation Africa-USA, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2011
- Juan Manuel Santos – Member *The Elders Foundation*; former President of the Republic of Colombia; Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2016

“Peace has to be fed every day. You have to be at peace with yourself, with your family, and with your community to be at peace with other nations.”

- JUAN MANUEL SANTOS

“Peace is the presence of conditions that dignify all our lives.”

- LEYMAH GBOWE
Cities as Guardians of Democracy?
Challenges and Opportunities
This panel took place in cooperation with
“Pact of Free Cities and Action for Democracy”

We are living in a time, where regional tensions are increasing and concerns about the resilience of democratic institutions are rising. Cities can play a vital role when it comes to safeguarding and advancing democracy on a global level. The city of Kyiv and many other Ukrainian cities under attack from Russia are vivid examples of that.

The discussion was aimed at highlighting the strong link between actions for sustainability and actions for democracy, stressing the crucial role of technology in strengthening institutions, improving governance, and cementing citizens’ trust. The panel took a close look at key case studies – Kyiv and Munich being central. This session was hosted in partnership with the Pact of Free Cities and Action for Democracy and with the support of the City of Munich.

During this panel, Mayor Dieter Reiter signed the pact and thus the city of Munich joined the “Pact of Free Cities”, an informal alliance of progressive mayors geared towards promoting the values of freedom and democracy.

With this, Munich joins 33 like-minded city leaders from all over the world who have pledged to fight against nationalist populism and to address today’s challenges like the climate crisis and inequality.

“We are thrilled and delighted that our hometown Munich has officially joined the Pact of Free Cities at the BMW Foundation’s Responsible Leaders Hub at the Munich Security Conference 2023,” said Kerstin von Aretin, Program Lead, BMW Foundation RISE Cities program. “In times of rising challenges for democracies all over the world, cities can play a key role in upholding democratic values and standards.”

Keynote & Speakers

▸ Dieter Reiter – Mayor of Munich (Keynote)
▸ Anne Applebaum – Staff Writer, The Atlantic; Senior Fellow, Agora Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; Pulitzer Prize Winner 2004
▸ Nina Hachigian – Special Representative for City and State Diplomacy, US Department of State
▸ Vitaly Klitschko – Mayor of Kyiv

“Never give up. If you’re fighting for your vision, for your spirit, for your dream – you will be successful.”

– Vitaly Klitschko

“A city is not only the cradle of democracy, it’s also the driving force for its stabilization and further development. It’s at the local level that social changes are most noticeable, because they affect one’s own living conditions.”

– Dieter Reiter
It Takes Two to Tango: North-South Cooperation in a Fragmented World

At this year’s luncheon at Bayerischer Hof, hosted by The BMW Foundation, the gathering turned into a lively conversation about the challenges we face in today’s fragmented world. The participants talked about how we can make the current multilateral and global governance system fit for the future. We live under the new rule of the polycrisis, which quickly turns local challenges into global ones, starting with climate and socio-economic inequality.

With all speakers from non-Western countries, the panel reflected the new dynamics of international relations and the revamping of the current multilateral system.

One of the key takeaways was understanding the importance of climate change as the transformative and new normative trend of geopolitics - one that will play a crucial part in the shaping of new regional alliances and partnerships. Plus, the need for the Global North to adopt a more humble tone when addressing development, and to acknowledge the claims and rights of the most vulnerable communities.

Speakers

▸ Fu Ying – Chairwoman, Center for International Strategy and Security, Tsinghua University; Chairperson, Foreign Affairs Committee of China’s 12th National People’s Congress; former Vice-President of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China

▸ Hina Rabbani Khar – Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Pakistan

▸ Francia Elena Márquez – Vice-President, Republic of Colombia

▸ Simon Stiell – Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

"The colonialist view of Africa and Latin America should not be the rule. It’s important that the North understands and respects the history and diversity of different peoples. We need a new international order, where life is at the center of everything and is protected.”

– FRANCIA ELENA MÁRQUEZ

“"The world has changed in two tectonic ways: The first one is the digital transformation and the second one is how emerging countries are no longer emerging but becoming powerful economies.”

– HINA RABBANI KHAR
Weathering Security Risks in a Changing Climate

This panel took place in cooperation with Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

This session, co-hosted by the BMW Foundation and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), focused on our current knowledge regarding climate security risks and the initiatives addressing them. From the pandemic to the war in Ukraine: The past years have shown that we live in a world hit by multiple, interconnected risks and crises. Climate change adds another layer of complexity to this rapidly changing risk landscape.

The discussion emphasized that climate risks are pervasive across the globe, and they can impact various sectors and regions through different pathways, making them extremely challenging to anticipate and manage. These risks can also interact with other social, political, and environmental crises, leading to compound disasters. Therefore, the panelists emphasized that any action taken to address climate-related security risks must start with a thorough and comprehensive understanding of these risks at both the global and local levels.

“We are deep into the crisis; it’s not in the future. The social damage is occurring at such a large scale.”
~ Johan Rockström

“If we considered that human security depends on how we govern our global commons, we would be in a much better place.”
~ Maria Fernanda Espinosa

Speakers
- Maria Fernanda Espinosa – Executive Director, GWL
  Voices for Change and Inclusion; former President of the UN General Assembly; former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defense, Republic of Ecuador
- Johan Rockström – Director, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)
- Helga Schmid – Secretary General, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

Closing Input
- Ottilia Maria Maunganidze – Head of Special Projects, Institute for Security Studies (ISS)
In Need of China: Smart Cooperation for Bolder Climate Action

In cooperation with Bled Strategic Forum

"With all the conflicts we’re facing – energy security, food security, climate crisis, rising inequalities – we not only have to listen to each other but have to hear each other," said Tanja Fajon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia, during the panel on Saturday.

We stand at an unprecedented tipping point in the history of our planet, where our decisions and actions today will define the world of tomorrow. The discussion aimed at identifying some practical pathways for stronger cooperation between the EU, China, the U.S. and international organisations to speed up mitigation and adaptation.

"With all the conflicts we’re facing – energy security, food security, climate crisis, rising inequalities – we not only have to listen to each other but to hear each other."  
– TANJA FAJON

While COP27 marks progress toward climate justice, much more needs to be done to reach the net-zero target and fight the growing inequalities. The experts addressed the challenges of trying to balance economic ambitions with the protection of vulnerable communities and countries.

Ultimately people in countries like South Sudan, Mozambique, Pakistan, and Bangladesh are the ones suffering the most from the failures of the Global North.

Speakers

- Tanja Fajon – Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia
- Fu Ying – Founding Chairwoman, Center for International Strategy and Security (CISS), Tsinghua University; Vice-Chairperson, Foreign Affairs Committee of China’s 13th National People’s Congress; former Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, People’s Republic of China
- Kristalina Georgieva – Managing Director, International Monetary Fund
- Jennifer Morgan – State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Policy, Federal Foreign Office, Federal Republic of Germany
- Frans Timmermans – Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal and Commissioner for Climate Action, European Commission

"This is not about saving the planet – the planet was fine for a long time without humans. It’s about saving humanity and our species."  
– FRANS TIMMERMANS

“You need to bring together unusual coalitions where everybody has to stretch a little.”  
– JENNIFER MORGAN
EVENT OVERVIEW

ATTENDEES

400 in 3 Days
19 Countries

10 CONTENT PARTNERS

LOCATIONS

1. BMW Foundation Pavilion
2. BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt – Praterinsel
3. Restaurant Pfistermühle
4. Weinhaus Neuner
5. Hotel Bayerischer Hof (MSC)

SPEAKERS

65
Keynote Speakers, Panelists & Hosts of Breakout Sessions

34 Countries

30 Sessions

Speakers’ Expertise:
Politicians, Domestic & Foreign Policy, National & International Security, Climate Policy; Board Members of different Foundations, Journalists and Authors; NGOs, NPOs and Activists in Human and Women’s Rights, Climate, Peace; Experts on Politics, Philosophy, Economics, Security, Climate, Law, Technology and Cyber Resilience
The BMW Foundation is systematically embedding sustainable action in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda into its activities and programs. It’s not just about supporting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals but putting them at the core of the foundation’s event management.

Ensuring an event is as sustainable as possible has become the main goal. Thus, reducing emissions and managing resources are necessary steps to maintaining the feasibility of international gatherings and events.

Sustainable Event Management – Key Areas

- Participant Management
- Mobility
- Accommodation
- Venue
- Catering
- Technical Equipment
- Materials
- Set-up
- Waste Management
- Equity, Diversity & Belonging
- Calculating & Offsetting Emissions
- Communication & Inspiration
**EXAMPLES FOR MEASURES**

**Materials & Set-up**

Badges for the participants were designed and printed from recycled coffee cups by the sustainable and regional small printing company Endisch Etiketten. This template can also be used in the future and enables a plastic-free solution. Even the lanyards, on which the badges were worn, were made from recycled cotton by the company Ikast Etikette.

Workshop materials were used from existing stock and did not require any additional purchases. For example, bound notebooks already available were also provided for other notes and will be used in the future.

The BMW Foundation’s pens are made of recycled plastic. Other print materials were reduced to a minimum and replaced by QR codes.

By planning multiple events at the same location – the BMW Foundation Pavilion in the heart of Munich - it’s possible to use the existing furniture from the on-site inventory and produce sustainable design elements that can be reused. This includes installations like the globe balloon, which was the centerpiece, as well as lounge furniture or lamps. The plants were also rented from local sources.

**Providers**

The BMW Foundation is fully committed to vegetarian catering because it is a simple and direct way to minimize the carbon footprint. Our catering partner for the MSC program, Yevent, provided a seasonal, vegetarian, and vegan menu over several days. Yevent places a special emphasis on environmental protection. Thus, the company focuses on a careful use of energy, reduction of waste, the recycling of recyclable materials and the use of long-lasting event materials.

In addition, Yevent works primarily or exclusively with regional suppliers to strengthen the region’s economy and reduce transport distances.

For instance, the chefs use a meat substitute made from sunflowers and risotto made from local grains, which are specifically grown in the area of Chiemgau by a local farm.

The BMW Foundation is also committed to working with partners who are socially responsible. Yevent, for example, has a close human bond with their staff and value equality – thus they have 60% female managers in their agency.

Furthermore, with the help of the Ukrainian embassy, the BMW Foundation worked with a local wine merchant to serve two high-quality Ukrainian wines during the event.
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