

GPPN Conference 2021

4-6 March
Tokyo



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Programme

Day 1 - 4th March 2021 (Thursday)

Opening Remarks & Introduction of Jury Members

JST 21:00 to 22:30

Opening Remarks & Introduction of Jury Members
Student Activities: Icebreaker Session

Day 2 - 5th March 2021 (Friday)

Session 1: First Round of Student Presentations #1

JST 09:00 to 10:10

Presentations by 8 groups from:

- School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University
- Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) at the Escola de Administração de Empresas
- Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP) at the University of Tokyo

Session 2: First Round of Student Presentations #2

JST 18:00 to 19:40

Presentations by 12 groups from:

- School of Public Affairs at Sciences Po
- Hertie School
- London School of Economics and Political Science
- Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore

Session 3: Plenary Session #1 – Deans' Roundtable

JST 21:00 to 22:20

Topic: "Digitalisation, Digital Governance, and the Transformation of Public Policy Education"

Panelists:

- **Merit Janow**

Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

- **Cláudio Gonçalves Couto**

Director of the Professional Master's Degree in Public Policy and Management, Escola de Administração de Empresas, Fundação Getulio Vargas

- **Mark Hallerberg**

Deputy President and Dean of Research and Faculty, Hertie School

- **Danny Quah**

Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

- **Andrés Velasco**

Dean of the School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science

- **Yann Algan**

Dean of the School of Public Affairs at Sciences Po

- **Hiroshi Ohashi**

Dean of the Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Announcement of the Finalists

Day 3 - 6th March 2021 (Saturday)

Session 1: Plenary Session #2 - Keynote Series

JST 09:00 to 11:00

Keynote Speakers:

- **Mr Bilahari Kausikan**

Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore

“The Crisis of Globalization?”

- **Ms Yumi Araki**

Multiplatform storyteller and journalist with experience in print, video, and radio

“From Polarity to Universality: Reflections on Storytelling Globally”

Session 2: Plenary Session #3 Finalist Groups Presentations

JST 21:00 to 22:30

Presentations by the finalist Groups:

- 12 minutes each. 5 minutes presentation, followed by a 7-minute Q&A.

Awards & Closing Session

JST 23:00 to 23:30

Awards Announcement

Closing Remarks

Session 3: Post-Conference Party (Optional, for students)

JST 23:15-

GPPN Jury



Merit Janow

Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Merit E. Janow is Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, and Professor of Professional Practice in International Economic Law and International Affairs. Dean Janow is an internationally recognized expert in international trade and investment, with extensive experience in academia, government, international organizations and business. In addition, she has had a life-long involvement with Asia and is an expert in that region. Merit E. Janow has been a Professor of Practice at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and affiliated faculty at Columbia Law School since 1995. She teaches graduate courses in international trade/WTO law, comparative antitrust law, China in the global economy, international trade and investment policy, among others. She has held a number of leadership positions at the University. Currently, in addition to being Dean of SIPA, she is also Co-director of the APEC Study Center and until recently Chair of the Faculty Oversight Committee of Columbia's Global Center East Asia. Previously, she was Director of the Master's Program in International Affairs and Chair of Columbia University's Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing. Her research interests focus on international trade and investment, Asia, competition law and economic globalization. She has written several books, numerous articles and frequently speaks before business, policy and academic audiences around the world.



Cláudio Gonçalves Couto

Professor and Director of the Professional Master's Degree in Public Policy and Management (MPGPP) Escola de Administração de Empresas, Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV)

Cláudio Gonçalves Couto was born in São Paulo on October 23rd, 1969. He holds a Bachelor in Social Sciences (1991), Master in Political Science (1994) and PhD in Political Science (2000) from the University of São Paulo. He conducted a Post-Doctoral Visiting Research at Columbia University (USA) with support from the Official Brazilian Agency for the Improvement of University Level Personnel – CAPES (2005-6). He is an occasional columnist of politics for two newspapers: Valor Economico and O Estado de S. Paulo. Cláudio is an Associate Professor in the Department of Public Management (EAESP - Getulio Vargas Foundation – SP) and the Director of the Professional Master's in Public Policies and Management (MPGPP). He teaches political science on the Bachelor's in Public Administration and is also a Permanent Lecturer (NDP) of the graduate courses (Master's and PhD) in Public Administration and Government. He was the Executive Secretary of ANPOCS (National Association of Graduate Studies and Research in Social Sciences) during the 2014-16 term and is Fellow of the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq), with a Research Productivity Grant – Level 1C.



Mark Hallerberg

Deputy President, Dean of Research and Faculty and Professor of Public Management and Political Economy, Hertie School

Mark Hallerberg is Dean of Research and Faculty and Professor of Public Management and Political Economy at the Hertie School. His research focuses on fiscal governance, tax competition, financial crises, and European Union politics. He previously held academic positions at Emory University, where he maintains an affiliation with the political science department, as well as at the University of Pittsburgh and Georgia Institute of Technology. He has advised, among others, Ernst and Young Poland, the European Central Bank, the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank. He received his PhD from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) in 1995. From September 2020, Professor Hallerberg has served as Deputy President.



Danny Quah

Dean and Li Ka Shing Professor in Economics at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (NUS)

Danny Quah is Li Ka Shing Professor in Economics and Dean at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS. His research on inequality and income mobility characterises the range of experiences across economies to suggest that a single narrative on inequality is unlikely to be correct or helpful. His work on world order takes an economic approach to international systems, studying the supply and demand of world order: what international system do the world's superpowers wish to provide; what world order does the global community need?

Quah is a member of the Spence-Stiglitz Commission on Global Economic Transformation and the Eminent Advisory Council of the UNDP Bureau for Asia-Pacific. He is the author of "The Global Economy's Shifting Centre of Gravity".



Andrés Velasco

Dean of the School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Professor Velasco is the Dean of the LSE School of Public Policy. He was the Minister of Finance in Chile between 2006 and 2010 and has held professorial roles at the Harvard Kennedy School and Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He was President of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) from 2005 to 2007. In February 2006 he received the Award for Excellence in Research from the Inter-American Development Bank. In 2013-16 he was a member of the Global Oceans Commission and during 2015-16 he co-chaired the Global Panel on the Future of the Multilateral Lending Institutions. In 2017-18 he was a member of the G20 Eminent Persons Group. He is the author of nearly one hundred academic articles, several academic books and two novels. He has served as a consultant to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and to governments, central banks and private businesses around the world.



Yann Algan

Dean of the School of Public Affairs at Sciences Po

Yann Algan is the Dean of the School of Public Affairs and Professor of Economics at Sciences Po. His research focuses on Digital Economy and E-government. He also specializes on social capital, trust and well-being in relation to individual outcomes and economic behavior, with particular attention to the role of education, management and institutions. His work incorporates methods from psychology, economics and big data, including randomized evaluations of public policies. He is a member of the OECD High Level Expert Group on Well-Being, and is affiliated with CEPR and IZA. His awards include the Best French Young Economist (2009), and his books on trust and French society have been awarded Best French Economics Book and French Essay (2009) and Best French Economics Book, Prix Lycéen (2013). In 2010 he was awarded an ERC Starting Grant for his project "Trust". In 2015, he received a second ERC grant, a consolidator one, for the project "Sowell" on Social Preferences, Well-Being, and Policy".



Hiroshi Ohashi

Dean of the Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Hiroshi Ohashi is Dean of the Graduate School of Public Policy, and Professor of Economics, at the University of Tokyo. His areas of research include industrial organization, competition policy, and science and technology policy. Dr. Ohashi previously taught at Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, Canada. He has been a chief researcher at Competition Policy Research Center at Japan Fair Trade Commission, a faculty fellow and program director at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade & Industry, and served a head research officer at the National Institute of Science and Technology Policy in the MEXT. He is also a council member for Promotion of Regulatory Reform at the Cabinet Office of the Japanese government. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Northwestern University, and a M.A. and B.A. from the University of Tokyo.

Keynote Speakers



Bilahari Kausikan

Chairman, Middle East Institute, National University of Singapore

Bilahari Kausikan is currently Chairman of the Middle East Institute, an autonomous institute of the National University of Singapore. He has spent his entire career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During his 37 years in the Ministry, he served in a variety of appointments at home and abroad, including as Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Permanent Representative to the UN in New York, and as the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry. Raffles Institution, the University of Singapore and Columbia University in New York all attempted to educate him.

More Info:

[Nikkei Opinion Article](#)

[Yale Guest Lecture: "How to Think About Southeast Asia"](#)



Yumi Araki

Multiplatform storyteller and journalist with experience in print, video, and radio

Yumi is currently the senior producer at America's Test Kitchen podcast, Proof. She was previously the Senior Producer & Editorial Lead at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a US-based Think Tank, a producer for NPR's "On Point with Tom Ashbrook," a daily call-in news program, and a reporter for the Yomiuri Shimbun, the largest newspaper in Japan. She has also produced a number of documentaries on topics including Japanese culture, climate change, and the US Space Force.

More Info:

[Documentary on "What Does It Mean To Be Japanese?"](#)

GPPN Professors and Focal Points



Cory Way

Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Adjunct Professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Cory Way is Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs. He was formerly an award-winning Lecturer on Sociology at Harvard University, the Kirkland House Dean at Harvard College, and Affiliated Faculty at Harvard Law School's Centre on the Legal Profession. Way holds a doctorate from Oxford and is a licensed attorney who has practiced both litigation and corporate law at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York and Zuckerman Spaeder in Washington, DC. While in law practice, he maintained an active pro bono practice, most recently winning political asylum for a Rwanda genocide survivor; his work on this novel case earned a pro bono award from the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. He holds degrees from Princeton, Harvard, Virginia and the University of Oxford, where he also served in dean positions at Merton and Corpus Christi Colleges. While in England he was also appointed as Course Director for a master's degree program at the University of Cambridge.



Christian Flachsland

Professor, Hertie School

Christian Flachsland is Professor of Sustainability at the Hertie School. His research focuses on the design, governance and political economy of climate, energy and sustainability policy. He is also a Research Fellow at the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC). Previously, he was Assistant Professor of Climate and Energy Governance at the Hertie School, as well as head of the working group "governance" at the MCC. He was a contributing author to the Fifth Assessment Report on the Mitigation of Climate Change by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Recently, he co-authored the MCC-PIK Expertise "Optionen für eine CO2-Preisreform" for the German Council of Economic Experts.



Enora Palaric

Manager at the office of the President, Hertie School

Enora Palaric is manager at the office of the President of the Hertie School and a PhD candidate. Previously, she worked as a research associate at the Hertie School, where she participated in several EU funded research projects. Before that, she worked as an MEP assistant at the European Parliament and as an analyst at the French Embassy in Italy. She graduated in 2013 from SciencesPo Paris and the Freie Universität Berlin.



Juliane McCarty

Executive MPA Programme Coordinator & GPPN Coordination, Hertie School

Juliane McCarty serves as focal point for GPPN and coordinates the Executive Master of Public Administration at the Hertie School. Before joining the Hertie School in 2016, she worked as a Coordinator for International Relations and as a TV Host in Japan, as a Communications and Public Affairs Officer for the International Astronautical Federation in Paris and as a Project Manager for a Berlin congress organizer. She holds a master's degree in Communication and Japan Studies from Freie Universität Berlin.



Suzaina Kadir

Associate Professor and Vice Dean, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Associate Professor Suzaina Kadir is the Vice Dean, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS. As Vice Dean, Suzaina oversees all curriculum, teaching and learning matters at the School. She leads a strong team to manage admissions and recruitment, global partnerships, internationalization and student mobility, as well as alumni relations for the Lee Kuan Yew School. Suzaina has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her teaching and research interests include ethnicity, religion, state capacity and institution building, with a special focus on the evolution of political Islam in Muslim Southeast Asia. She has a keen interest in the administration and management of religion in Indonesia and Singapore.

Suzaina is a recipient of three National Day Awards: the 2016 Public Service and Commendation Medals for her contributions to national-level initiatives as well as the 2018 Long Service Medal for her contributions to higher education. She recently stepped down as the Chairperson for the Malay Programmes Advisory Committee of the Infocomm Media Development Authority of Singapore after more than 10 years. Suzaina is a committed and passionate educator. She has been a recipient of the NUS Teaching Excellence and LKYSPP Teaching Excellence Awards. She has been appointed as a Fellow of the NUS Teaching Academy and serves on the University Teaching Excellence Committee (UTEC).



Jie-Sheng Tan-Soo

Assistant Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Jie-Sheng Tan-Soo is an Assistant Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. He received his PhD in Environmental Policy from the Nicholas School of the Environment and Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. His research interests are broadly in the intersection of environment, health, and development. Some of the topics he has worked on are indoor air pollution from usage of biomass fuels and inefficient stoves, industrial pollution in China, air quality valuation, impact evaluation of water and sanitation interventions, ecosystem services provided by tropical forests. While the topics are interdisciplinary, he mainly uses micro econometrics techniques in combination with economic modeling to conduct empirical research.



Florence Siew Kit Ping

Senior Associate Director, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Armed with a MBA and a MA in Educational Management, Florence has been with both the private and public education industry in Singapore for 23 years involving in sales & marketing, school operations and programme management. Currently, she is with the Academic Affairs Department managing all the Master degree programmes conducted in English and the Student Life Unit.



Kartini Binte Abdul Rahman

Associate Director, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

Kartini Rahman is Associate Director at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (NUS). A higher education administration professional with 20 years of experience, she drives Academic Partnerships, Alumni Relations, Career Services and Quality Assurance in the Academic Affairs Department. She graduated from the LKY School with a Master in Public Administration and from NUS with a Bachelor degree in Social Sciences, majoring in Sociology and Philosophy.



Adnan Khan

Academic Director of the School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Before joining the School of Public Policy and STICERD, Professor Khan served as Research and Policy Director at the International Growth Centre at LSE and taught Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School. Professor Khan has spent more than 15 years in the policy world as a practitioner, policymaker and activist, and more than 10 years in the research world as a researcher, lecturer and as a catalyzer of other people's research. His areas of interest include economic development and state capacity, political economy and state fragility, and public finance.



Paul Sullivan

Executive Dean and Department Manager of the School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Paul is the Manager and Executive Dean of the LSE School of Public Policy. Working with the academic leadership of the School, he is responsible for the management of financial and human resources and the strategic development of the School of Public Policy to offer the best possible student experience and training. He has worked in higher education in the UK for over ten years and joined LSE in 2014. He holds a BA in Politics with French from the University of Leicester with a year abroad at Sciences Po, and an MSc in American Politics from Birkbeck, University of London.



Nicola Foster

Co-focal Point, School of Public Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Nicola shares the role of Manager and Executive Dean of the LSE School of Public Policy with Paul Sullivan. Working with the academic leadership of the School, she is jointly responsible for the management of financial and human resources and the strategic development of the School of Public Policy to offer the best possible student experience and training. She has worked in higher education in the UK for over ten years and joined LSE in 2013.



Jennie Cottle

Academic Coordinator, School of Public Affairs, Sciences Po

Jennie Cottle works at the Sciences Po School of Public Affairs where she manages the Social Policy and Social Innovation Policy Stream, the SDG Certificate, GPPN, International and Dual Degree Programs and the Certificat égalité femmes-hommes et politiques publiques. Jennie is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the Institut des Hautes Etudes d'Amérique Latine, focusing on immigration policy. She also holds a Master's degree in International Security from Sciences Po and a Bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley. Prior to joining Sciences Po, Jennie has worked in international development, partnerships and education, with positions at think tanks and NGOs in Paris, New York and Montevideo. She is the Co-founder of Policy Shift, a think tank dedicated to innovative policy analysis, and a researcher for OPALC - the Political Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean. Jennie also teaches the following Master's level courses at Sciences Po: Contemporary Immigration Enforcement; Sanctuary Cities in the U.S.; and Sustainable Development Project Design.



ANNE-SOLENNE DE ROUX

Executive Director, School of Public Affairs, Sciences Po

Host School: Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo



Keisuke Iida

Vice Dean, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Keisuke Iida is Vice Dean and Professor in the Graduate School of Public Policy at The University of Tokyo. His area of specialization is International Political Economy. His major publications include *International Monetary Cooperation among the United States, Japan and Germany* (1999), *Legalization and Japan: The Politics of WTO Dispute Settlement* (2006), *International Political Economy* (in Japanese, 2007), *The Future of Economic Hegemony* (in Japanese, 2013), and *Japan's Security and Economic Dependence on China and the United States* (2017). He has published numerous articles in international journals such as *International Organization*, *Public Choice*, *International Studies Quarterly*, the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and so on. His research interests include the politics of trade, the political economy of financial crises, and the interactions between security and economics. He is a Vice President of the Japan Association of International Relations (JAIR). He received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Harvard University. He has formerly taught at Princeton University and Aoyama Gakuin University. He has been a pre-doctoral fellow at Brookings Institution, a visiting scholar at University of California, Berkeley, and an academic associate in the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations at Harvard University.



Hideaki Shiroyama

Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Hideaki Shiroyama is a Professor of the Graduate School of Public Policy (the former Dean), Graduate Schools for Law and Politics at The University of Tokyo. His research focuses on international administration, science, technology and public policy, and public policy process. He also served as the Chairman of the Planning Committee of New Initiatives for Humanities and Social Sciences Program at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science from 2003-2008, as President of the PI forum, an NPO for consensus building in Japan from 2006-2008 and as a member of various government advisory councils on higher education, nuclear safety, food safety, fire protection, scenarios for climate mitigation, and industrial policy.



Roberto Orsi

Project Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Roberto Orsi is Project Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo. He holds a PhD in International Relations obtained from the London School of Economics. His research interests focus on international political theory, history of political concepts, East Asian and European international politics.



Aoi Ohno

Program Coordinator, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Aoi is a Program Coordinator at the Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP), The University of Tokyo, where she is responsible for the GPPN related programs as well as public relations, events & extracurricular activities and student support mainly for the MPP/IP (International Program). Born in Nagasaki and educated in Japan, Canada and the UK. She holds a BA (Hons) in Theatre Design and Arts Management and has also been actively involved in various projects related to culture and arts promotion in the community and youth education.



Megumi Aoshima

Program Coordinator, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Megumi Aoshima is an exchange program coordinator at the Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP), The University of Tokyo. Before joining GraSPP in 2014, Megumi was working as a school psychologist for K-12 public education in the U.S. for ten years armed with B.A. in Psychology and M.A. /CAS in School Psychology.



Kotaro Shiojiri

MC of GPPN Conference 2021, PhD candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Kotaro Shiojiri is a PhD candidate at the Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo. He earned his B.A. in Law (summa cum laude) and M.A. in International Studies from University of Tokyo, and his LL.M. from Harvard Law School. He passed the NY State Bar Exam in 2013. He served for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Japan for about 10 years (2009-2019). During his service at MOFA, he served in various fields including the Embassy of Japan in the United States of America as the Chief of Staff to Ambassador. He is the recipient of the University of Tokyo President's Award.



Paul Nadeau

MC of GPPN Conference 2021, PhD candidate, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Paul Nadeau is a PhD candidate at the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Public Policy, cofounder & editor of Tokyo Review, and adjunct fellow with the Scholl Chair in International Business at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). He was previously a private secretary with the Japanese Diet and as a member of the foreign affairs and trade staff of Senator Olympia Snowe. He holds a B.A. from the George Washington University, a certificate in international studies from Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, and an M.A. in law and diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.



Jeremy De Sheng JEE

Master's student, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

Jeremy De Sheng JEE is currently pursuing his Masters at the Graduate School of Public Policy and he previously graduated from the National University of Singapore as a Computer Science major. His interest areas relate to international politics, public transportation, urban design and Japanese culture. He's also happy to be giving a hand to this conference as a former participant of the GPPN 2020 Conference, and hopes that you will enjoy what we have lined up this year.

■ Abstract

Tech2Protect will seek to address sexual- and gender-based violence by integrating technology solutions to better identify, monitor, and respond to instances of abuse, at both the community and policy levels. Tech2Protect will develop Athena, a learning platform to prevent child sexual abuse by integrating key topics into core curricula and using machine learning to adapt lessons according to individual student experiences. The platform will allow educators to monitor and respond to abuse discretely and in real time, an increasingly vital necessity as children are staying home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Athena will also provide an unprecedented evidence-base for educators and policymakers alike to take action. In order to test scalability and feasibility, Tech2Protect will begin by targeting underserved communities in both Recife, Brazil and New York City, USA.

■ Profiles



Julia Vieira de Andrade Dias

Julia Vieira de Andrade Dias brings five years of experience supporting and advocating on behalf of small businesses, to enhance the Brazilian business enabling environment. She advised and built the capacity of FinTechs as well as women-owned businesses. Passionate about technological solutions for policy, Julia has built her programming and quantitative analysis skills including STATA, SurveyCTO, and Python. Serving as President of the Technology and Innovation Student Association and Executive Secretary of Brazil Talk, she has focused her time at SIPA building expertise in technological solutions for Brazil's most pressing challenges. Julia is fluent in Portuguese (native) and English and has intermediate Spanish proficiency.



Madeleine Dejean

Madeleine Dejean brings experience conducting desk and field research, developing communications and marketing pieces, and managing proposals for international development projects. Specializing in Gender and Public Policy at SIPA, she has carried out research and analysis on gender-based violence, livelihoods, and gender equality, and she is familiar with gender mainstreaming, gender audits, and gender analyses. As President of the Monitoring and Evaluation Student Society at SIPA, Madeleine has expanded her M&E skills, developing proficiency in quantitative and qualitative research methods, econometrics, and STATA. Madeleine holds a Human Subjects Research Certification from the Columbia Institutional Review Board (active until 2022). She has native proficiency in French and English, and an intermediate proficiency in Spanish.



Marjorie Tolsdorf

Marjorie Tolsdorf brings expertise combating gender-based violence, promoting gender equality, and women's empowerment. Working in Israeli and Palestinian communities, Marjorie supported domestic violence response and prevention, worked with boys to promote respectful and anti-violent behavior towards girls and women, and worked to empower women and girls. Her experience also includes web design and coding, where she has supported both Israeli/Palestinian NGOs in developing websites, and the White House in building up its Salesforce and policymaking evidence base. She is proficient in STATA, HTML, CSS, Regular Expressions, JavaScript, Salesforce, and Premiere Pro. She is fluent in English, has advanced Russian proficiency, and elementary Spanish.



Minji Ko

Minji Ko brings experience researching and communicating gender and climate challenges centered around women's economic empowerment, LGBTI rights, and sexual and gender-based violence. Her experience includes working with various UN bodies and major international NGOs to collect data, conduct research, and disseminate information on key gender and climate issues to influence policy and programming worldwide. She is a skilled facilitator and has hosted a number of large-scale international conferences, gender training and capacity building workshops. Minji is proficient in SPSS and STATA and is fluent in Korean (native) and English.



Saiful Salihudin

Saiful Salihudin is formally trained in economics with a background in economic and political affairs, including experience working for the Central Bank of Malaysia, where he spent 5 years as an economist and policy analyses, focusing on East Asia economies and the commodities market, as well as financial policy. His educational and work experience includes extensive research, including on economic effects of COVID-19 disinformation, and quantitative analysis and econometrics. In addition to his extensive experience in Southeast Asia, Saiful brings experience supporting economic development endeavors across the Latin America region, notably in Guyana. Saiful is fluent in Malay (native) and English.

ASEAN

■ Abstract

In 2016, the world's population discarded 49 million tons of electronic waste. It is estimated that by 2021, that number will grow to more than 57 million tons. Annually, more than 3 million tons of electronic waste is being directed into Southeast Asian countries. Much of this waste is falsely classified as 'used goods' (while in reality it is non-functional) and is often diverted into the black market to avoid costs associated with legitimate recycling. The proposed ASEAN Regional Cooperation Framework for Electronic Waste Management will ensure effective management of electronic waste in Southeast Asia. Its long-term objective is to strengthen the formal and regulated electronic waste recycling value chain in all ASEAN Member Countries. The Framework will be the first-of-its-kind, regional cooperation mechanism for managing electronic waste. It can serve as an excellent example of bottom-up institutional building effort towards Southeast Asian integration, fostering inter-regional and regional competitiveness while mainstreaming regional recommendations into national policies.

■ Profiles



Abhinav Joshi

Abhinav is currently pursuing MPA from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), concentrating in Economic and Political Development. Born and brought up in Ambajogai - a small, rural town in Maharashtra, India, Abhinav completed his B. Tech. in Industrial Engineering in 2015 from College of Engineering, Pune (COEP). After that he has extensively worked in the policymaking and governance field with the State and Central Government in India. Abhinav is passionate about politics and believes in its potential to touch millions of lives through better informed policymaking and execution. Some of the key areas that he has worked in are Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, labor welfare, and health. Abhinav, along with his friends, also runs a small boutique outfit in India that works in psephology and public policy. He aims to apply skills learned at SIPA to actively and effectively contribute to the Indian political sphere.



Kaoru Nagasawa

Kaoru Nagasawa is a 2nd-year student at SIPA with a concentration in Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy and specialization in the United Nations Studies. She served as Communication Director at SIPA United Nations Association last year and as co-chair in Multistakeholder Coordination working group at Columbia-UN75 Hackathon. Her focus areas are Humanitarian Affairs and Digital Rights.



Poorvaja Sundar

Poorvaja is a second-year Master of Public Administration student at the School of Public and International Affairs, Columbia University. She is currently an education policy consultant at the Centre for Public Research & Leadership, Columbia University. Before SIPA, she completed her Bachelor's in Business, majoring in Finance. Her prior experience includes founding and managing two social enterprises, namely Ichchha and Swaad Sadan focusing on holistic education of underprivileged children and empowerment of marginalized women through entrepreneurship. Poorvaja is a Global Action Against Poverty Fellow and a Young Social Entrepreneur Fellow at Singapore Foundation.



Vrinda Handa

Vrinda Handa is a second-year Master of Public Administration student at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Her academic interests include economic development and quantitative analysis. Previously, Vrinda served at the United Nations Development Programme, focusing on increasing women's economic empowerment through skill building and entrepreneurship development in India. She is a researcher at the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment where she is investigating the impact of foreign investments from emerging market enterprises on sustainable development.

Addressing Privacy Invasion and Data Protection during the Public Health Emergency: Guidance on Privacy Protection and Digital Contact Tracing

■ Abstract

The world is facing an unprecedented public health emergency due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. To curb the spread of this novel disease, many governments resorted to contact tracing and surveillance measures on confirmed patients and citizens. During the epidemiological investigation process, many governments employed digital contact tracing to collect personal information and used it to trace the person's whereabouts. While these methods have contributed to lowering contagion and death rates in some countries, such use of digital technologies by the governments restricts people's freedom and infringes on their privacy rights. In response to the rising tension between achieving public health goals and safeguarding freedom and privacy of individuals, we propose a "Guidance on Privacy Protection and Digital Contact Tracing" tool and ALTER (Adaptable, Legal, Transparent, Equitable, and Resilient) principles. ALTER principles will be operationalized through a scoring framework, which will allow us to assess each country's contact tracing solution. Even though it is impossible to implement a one-size fits-all policy for all countries, our proposal highlights standards that all governments should abide by to take a holistic and transparent approach to data protection, mindful of the legality of the policy measures undertaken during a public health emergency. Our solution has its particular focus on the Sustainable Development Goals 3, 16, and 17, and aims to rethink privacy protection in the age of digital technologies and global spread of infectious diseases. With a joint effort by all members of the international community, we can effectively address the rising tension between public health goals and human rights concerns.

■ Profiles



Andrea Rojas Perez Palma

Andrea Rojas Perez Palma is originally from Lima, Peru, where she earned both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Economics. After working in the research sector, primarily related to Macroeconomic policies, she started working at the government of Peru, where she spent 4 years in the Ministry of Education. Before coming to SIPA, she was working in the Ministry of Economics and Finance, where she supported the assignment of the national budget to the education sector and participated in the design of the national strategy to maintain a high-quality education service during the Covid-19 pandemic. At SIPA, she is concentrating in Economic and Political Development with a specialization in Management focused on education and inclusion policies. Also, she is currently the President of the Latin American Students Association, where she aims to promote both the culture of Latin America and collaboration with the SIPA community, specifically regarding regional and international public affairs issues.



Danielle Murad Waiss

Danielle Murad Waiss is a second year dual Master's degree student in International Affairs with a focus on International Security Policy at Columbia SIPA and Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences at GSAS. She also works as a Research Assistant for the Cybersecurity Program at SIPA. Danielle is a dual national of both Mexico and Canada and previously she received her BA in Political Science and International Affairs, with a concentration in Security Studies at Northeastern University in Boston. Prior to SIPA, she studied and worked in international government and non-governmental organizations in multiple countries including the UK Parliament, the NATO Defense College in Rome, the United Nations Headquarters in New York and the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism in Israel.



Haejo Kang

Haejo Kang is a first year Master of International Affairs candidate at Columbia SIPA, concentrating in Economic and Political Development with specialization in Data Analytics and Quantitative Analysis. She received her BA in international studies from Korea University, Seoul, Korea. Her research interests lie in international development, human rights, and income inequality. Previously, she interned at the United Nations Development Programme Seoul Policy Centre in Seoul and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Human Rights Council in Geneva. She recently published a paper to the Social Science Quarterly on the topic of subjective well-being and income inequality as a first author.



Hanako Sasaki

Hanako is a first-year Master of International Affairs candidate at Columbia SIPA, concentrating in Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy with specialization in Data Analytics and Quantitative Analysis. She received her BA in international politics from University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo, Japan. Prior to SIPA, she interned at UNHCR Protection Unit, and currently interning at Human Rights Watch. Passionate in human rights issues especially gender and refugee.



Jianing Joanne Li

Joanne is a first-year Master of International Affairs candidate at Columbia SIPA, concentrating in Economic and Political Development with a specialization in Data Analytics and Quantitative Analysis. Besides making coffee and trying new recipes, she is passionate about research and writing. Born and raised in Beijing, she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Wake Forest University with a BA in politics and economics. Prior to SIPA, she interned as a Standards Development Officer at the Health Information and Quality Authority of Ireland and a policy researcher at Tsinghua University. During college, she also worked as an editor for academic journals and an online magazine Her Campus.

■ Abstract

International labor migration has become increasingly common in the context of economic globalization and rapid aging of the population in advanced and highly developed economies. Yet the lack of a common conception on ‘protecting the foreign workers’ causes ambiguity in the international norms surrounding this notion, resulting in states’ failure in their commitments to protecting migrant workers from labor abuses and labor rights violations. Given the international nature of labor migration, protecting the rights of migrant workers has become a constant challenge of global governance and the widespread failure to protect foreign workers is seen as a systematic weakness of global governance, thus reflecting one very important aspect in the crisis of globalization. Our proposal aims to complement existing legal frameworks and policy structures for the protection of migrant workers that are already in place in many countries of destination. The key mechanism is to empower migrant workers to be able to voice their concerns and the challenges they face more freely and without fear of retaliation, an important step toward ensuring a more comprehensive system of foreign workers protection.

■ Profiles



Hana Soma

Hana is a first-year student at GraSPP and holds a BA in International Relations from King’s College London. She enjoys the interdisciplinary nature of the study of public policy and international affairs, and hopes to put what she has gained academically into practice in her future career. In her free time, she enjoys listening to a variety of music genres from Latin America to further her study of Spanish.



Striratna Nityahayu

Striratna (Tita) is a first year GraSPP at The University of Tokyo student with political-economics academic background, having majored in International Relations for her bachelor’s degree at Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia. She worked for a year in MUFG Financial Group, at the MUFG Bank of Jakarta branch, Indonesia before continuing her study at GraSPP. She aspires to work in international organizations after graduation.



Vorralak Dheeranantakul

Vorralak Dheeranantakul (Oy) is a civil servant from Thailand. She has studied in the US and is currently working toward her Master’s degree in public policy at the University of Tokyo.



Yoko Fujii

Yoko Fujii is a 2nd year student in International Public Policy Program, Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo. Born and raised in Japan, she finished her bachelor’s degree in the faculty of law, Keio University in 2019. Her academic concentration is international relations in general, but she is also interested in development and gender studies. She also loves traveling and listening to music. She is going to work as a diplomat after graduation in March.



Zhansaya Imanmadiyeva

Zhansaya (Jan) is a first-year student at Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo. Born and raised in Kazakhstan, and studied for her BA in International Relations at King’s College London. During her free time, she loves travelling the world and exploring new places and cultures.

■ Abstract

With the increasingly interconnected world and rapid pace of technological development, we constantly encounter various issues that endanger the fragile fabric of our society. Social and political polarization plays a major role in fracturing the very cohesion of social interaction. The formation of “echo chambers” amplified with an increase of social media utilization has generated an undesirable environment where any information now ends up being a double-edged sword. At the center of this predicament are the youth, more precisely Generation Z (Gen Z) and millennials. These two demographic groups are key to the growth of a polarized society as they are the biggest internet consumers in 2020. With this in mind, we have designed an empathy-based curriculum that integrates the core values of psychological and empathy-building research such as IRI (Interpersonal Reactivity Index) and AOT (Actively Open-Minded Thinking). The two methods are specifically catered to the creation of the curriculum we refer to as “Novel Integrated Cognitive Empathy” (NICE) Curriculum, where the process of learning is beyond just getting the facts straight, but rather to appreciate and value discussions without interpersonal relations breaking down.

■ Profiles



Bagas Adhika Putra

Halo, selamat pagi! I’m Bagas from the hot tropical sunny Indonesia! I’m 23 and currently studying public policy at the University of Tokyo. In my undergraduate, I studied international relations and peace studies, concentrating in the dynamics of Southeast Asian countries. My research mainly focuses on foreign aid utilization and educational development policies. It has come to my attention that the global issues we are dealing with for the past few years have been centered on the misuse of social media and disinformation. Then comes GPPN, which provides the great platform to address such a massive predicament one step at a time through our proposal, emphasizing on education. I am very privileged to have been able to work with intellectual minds in this journey and look forward to presenting our research to you all.



David Klug

My name is David and I am from the United States of America. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in international relations. I am very interested in different cultures and have specialized in East Asian relations. I became interested in public policy from some formative experiences I had with local politics while living in Madison. Studying public policy at the University of Tokyo has been a good chance to broaden my worldview and collaborate with talented individuals from other countries, such as my teammates. I am grateful to have this opportunity to work with them in developing policy.



Martina Marsili

Hi! Buongiorno! My name is Martina, I am 23 years old and I come from Italy. While pursuing my bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Economics, I have started to notice the significant gaps that often exist between academia, practitioners and politicians. I also realized this gap could be an obstacle in working towards a more sustainable, dignified and equal future for people all across the world. For the above reasons I decided to study public policy, and to further challenge myself I have decided to do it on the other side of the world, in the University of Tokyo. Through this Global Policy Challenge I have had the pleasure to work with talented individuals with very different backgrounds and develop together a policy proposal in answer to a real world issue.



Ting-Yi Huang

My name is Ting-Yi, Huang (黃庭頤). I am currently studying in the Graduate School of Public School, University of Tokyo. I am from the Republic of China (Taiwan), graduating from the National Taiwan University. I majored in public administration with a minor in history, and I am also interested in political theories and international relations. It is my pleasure to create a policy proposal with my friends for Global Policy Challenge 2020, I sincerely hope our Novel Integrated Cognitive Empathy curriculum is a nice idea.

The Blue Wave Initiative

■ Abstract

8 million tons- this is the amount of plastic which ends up in our oceans every year, and 80% of all marine debris from surface waters become deep-sea sediments. As mentioned by the 19th agenda of the SDGs, marine pollution is an urgent issue which should be addressed together through multilateral cooperation. Our plan suggests tackling the marine pollution issue through the cooperation of China, Japan, and South Korea (Northeast Asia region), because of multiple reasons, including the fact that the North Pacific Ocean ranked 1st in surface plastic mass by ocean basin in 2013. We hope to implement a plan based on three pillars; 1) marine governance, 2) institutional set-up (cooperation with external organizations), 3) public awareness. We aim to facilitate the cooperation between the governments and private sectors of the northeast Asian region as well as with external non-profit organizations such as NOWPAP or Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat. Relations among the three nations fluctuate between cooperation and conflict due to the persistence of historical baggage. With the complexity of their trilateral relations, we believe that environmental cooperation will open up an additional avenue to improve broader political relations in the region.

■ Profiles



Akiko Yamada

Akiko Yamada is a first-year MPP/IP student from Japan with a double-degree at Peking University under the Campus Asia Program. She holds a B.A. degree in Liberal Arts with international studies concentration. Her experiences in study abroad at Peking University, student forums and exchanges among Northeast Asian students, and internship at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations shaped her interest in diplomacy and policy making process in the Northeast Asian region. Through the master's program, she hopes to develop her knowledge and skills in evaluating and proposing effective Japanese foreign policies for the peaceful and stable relations in Northeast Asia and beyond.



Beatrice Lee

Beatrice Lee is a first-year MPP/IP student from Singapore. She holds a B.A. degree in Public Policy and Global Affairs. Her keen interest in diplomatic relations was honed through her experiences both in Singapore and abroad - through internships, overseas academic exchange, and travel. She hopes to further develop her competencies in understanding and assessing Japan's diplomatic relations and foreign policies through the Master's program.



Jungsoo Moon

Jungsoo Moon is a first-year master's student at the Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo with a double-degree at Peking University under the CAMPUS Asia Program. Her passion for diplomatic relations, specifically international cooperation, has very personal roots. She was born in South Africa and experienced different cultures from growing up in South Africa and South Korea. Her interest grew and blossomed when she studied for her bachelor's in international relations in the United States. She hopes to learn and gain invaluable experience by studying in Japan and China as a CAMPUS Asia student and ultimately become an expert in North-East Asia and U.S. foreign relations.



Sara Shibata

Sara Shibata is a first-year student at the University of Tokyo at the Graduate School of Public Policy, and is also part of the Campus Asia program. She is planning to participate in exchange programs at Peking University and Seoul National University. Prior to pursuing her graduate degree at GraSPP, she received her Bachelors from Osaka University in Human Sciences, and also participated in an exchange program for a year at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Sara is passionate about learning about China-Japan-South Korean relations, and hopes to pursue a diplomatic career in the Northeast Asian region in the future.

■ Abstract

EASTAR offers a comprehensive and integrated exchange program targeting high school students in East Asian countries to achieve regional integration. We believe that education is the best solution to tackle the issue of de-globalization in the context of East Asia, where globalism is overshadowed by nationalistic sentiments deriving from historical disputes and territorial conflicts. By less politicized approaches that require coordination in the educational sector, we seek to establish sustainable and accessible infrastructure in which young participants would learn a sense of regional identity, solidarity, and cooperative culture through joint education with the support of various stakeholders such as governments, firms, and schools. Ultimately, we aim for the program's universal applicability to contribute to strengthening globalization.

■ Profiles



Chimin Oh

Chimin Oh is a Master's student majoring in Public Policy at the University of Tokyo and International Area Studies at Seoul National University as a member of the CAMPUS Asia Programme. He is currently working on an MA thesis about nationalistic polarization in Korea and its implications at the domestic and international level. After graduation, he hopes to continue his studies with a PhD specializing in Japan-China relations. Outside of the academic field, he has an expertise in the game of Baduk (also known as Igo in Japanese and Weiqi in Chinese) working as an instructor in several western countries and an international event coordinator at the Korea Baduk Association. He believes that cooperation in East Asia is more likely to be achieved by the approaches that involve less political aspects.



Karin Nishimura

Karin Nishimura is a first-year MPP/IP student participating in CAMPUS Asia dual degree programme between the University of Tokyo and Peking University. She was born and raised in Japan before spending 3 years at high school in Switzerland and 4 years at university in London. After receiving her bachelor's degree in Development Studies and Geography from SOAS University of London, she has decided to pursue a master's degree in Public Policy with particular focus on urban development and international relations of East Asia. Through her research, she seeks policies which can bridge the political and socioeconomic gap and facilitate a regional-scale development within East Asia.



Xiaoyu Shi

Xiaoyu (Amy) is a first-year master's degree student at the Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo. Before coming to Tokyo, she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Professional Accountancy at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. In the past, she worked in Bank of America to handle the financing needs of corporate clients and perform the analysis needed for market intelligence and product improvement. Xiaoyu received a full scholarship for both Bachelor's and Master's studies, supplied by universities and governments. After graduation, she is considering joining the consulting industry or international organizations. And during leisure time she enjoys cosplaying, painting, and learning new things about different cultures.



Yuri Iwaya

Yuri Iwaya is a first-year student in a master's course at the University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy. Her primary interest in the scholarly field is Theory of International Relation, and she is especially interested in the interaction of international politics and international law. Her interest in regional integration and international education blossomed after participating in exchange study at King's College London and ASEAN+3 Educational Forum. From the experience, she learned how international education as a business can further accelerate the process of regional integration and globalization. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a career as a practitioner who can contribute to deepen the integration of East Asian countries.



Zhengjun Li

Zhengjun Li is an exchange student at the University of Tokyo and an MA candidate at Peking University as a member of the CAMPUS Asia programme. The focus of his research is on: (i) European democratic socialism; (ii) Spanish party system; and (iii) Nationalism and populism. He graduated from University of International Relations and worked for Carnegie Global Center as Young Ambassador (YAP) for one Year. He speaks Chinese, English and some Spanish. He is a proactive and social person. After graduation, he will pursue a career path in diplomacy to devote himself to enhancing the level of mutual trust among East Asian countries.

NextSkill

■ Abstract

NextSkill is a skill building programme for Nepalese migrant workers returning home. As a result of the disruptions caused by COVID-19 travel restrictions, migrant workers worldwide have been forced to leave their jobs and return to their home countries. Further compounding this issue, experts foresee that the low-skilled positions occupied by these workers will disappear as a result of automation. In Nepal, national authorities predict that 1.3 million migrant workers will lose employment abroad, 57% of whom work in unskilled sectors. The NextSkill reskilling and upskilling training programme is a collaboration between local and international partners to equip the returning Nepalese workforce with the competencies necessary for re-entering the 21st century labour market. The focus on foundational skills, business basics, and digital fluency will enable migrant workers to move beyond manual labour jobs and obtain new, sustainable jobs of the future.

■ Profiles



Alice Lixuan Xu

Alice Lixuan Xu is an MPP student at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. She graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a BA in Philosophy and Environmental Biology in May 2020. While at Washington University, she worked as a student consultant at the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic at the School of Law. Besides participating in the GPPN conference, she is also organizing for the European Public Policy Conference 2021, hosted by the Hertie School.



Ishraq Fazal

Ishraq Fazal is a Dual Degree candidate pursuing his Masters's degree in International Affairs and Global Affairs with the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto. His interest lies in the intersection of migration, business and human rights. Ishraq holds a Bachelor's in Business Management (BBM) from the University of Mysore, India. He has previously collaborated with the Indian Studies Centre at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand on two of their projects. Ishraq is currently working as a consultant for the Environment and Development Division at UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) on their annual flagship report. He has previously contributed to the report "Fast-Tracking the SDGs: Driving Asia-Pacific Transformations" (2020) in collaboration with ESCAP's partners ADB and UNDP.



Sarah Panjvani

Sarah Panjvani is a Canadian student pursuing a Dual Degree Master of International Affairs from the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin and the Munk School Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University Toronto. She has previously been employed at the New Zealand Embassy in Berlin, in the office of German Member of Parliament René Röspel, and in various positions at the Embassy of Canada to Germany. Currently, she is working as an Administrative Assistant in the Public Affairs Section of the Embassy of Canada. Sarah obtained her BA in Linguistics and German Studies from McGill University in 2017.



Yi Yeung

Yi Yeung is a candidate in the Dual Masters' degree in International Affairs and Global Affairs with the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto. Prior to joining the programme Yi has worked at the UN OCHA based in Bangkok where he helped develop a disaster monitoring system which has since become an official humanitarian product. Yi holds a BSSc (Hons.) in Journalism and Communications from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Currently, he is working part-time for enpact, a non-profit aimed at empowering entrepreneurs, ecosystems and promoting international cooperation where he is working on a project developing smart city innovations in Jakarta, Indonesia.

■ Abstract

The recent pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) arouse criticisms over the response from the World Health Organization (“WHO”) in coordinating health outbreaks and emergencies. Despite the improvements of its Global Early Warning and Response System (“EWARS”) and Emergency Response Framework (“ERF”) over the past few years, the current system erevals inactive participation and communication channels as well as inconsistent standards and protocols between different countries and non-state actors.

This project proposes a three-level solution for prevention and preparedness through 1) national level with a unified standard and protocol, 2) within member states level for risk communication and sharing of scientific information, and 3) WHO level to enlarge ERF and EWARS to contain transmissions by destination of a regional border coordination.

■ Profiles



Aleksan Avetisyan

Aleksan Avetisyan comes from Yerevan, Armenia. Aleksan is a Master in Public Policy Candidate in Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He received a Bachelor degree in Political Science in 2012, after which studied two Master degrees (in National Security and Law) simultaneously. After receiving his two Master degrees, Aleksan worked in the Civil Service Council of the Republic of Armenia for two years and dealt with the issues of development and reformation of the local Civil Service system. Based on his extensive multidisciplinary education, Aleksan has a wide range of interests, which include policy making in the US and China, their international competition for influence and power, as well as the issues of conflict management and resolution and state-building through effective governance.



Gowtham Daas Rajendran

Gowtham Daas comes from Tamilnadu, India, currently pursuing Masters in Public Policy at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He had first class with distinction in Bachelor’s Mechanical Engineering and worked as a Machine Design Engineer with Robert Bosch engineering and business solutions. Simultaneously he worked as a Resource acquisition manager for Corporate Social Responsibility, Bosch and did development projects with Bosch India Foundation. He then went on to join Desa Ilatchiyam Foundation as Development manager and did several socially impactful projects. Empowering for future mission project was extended across India online to benefit approximately 20,000 students and produced policy recommendations for the local government to benefit students requiring financial assistance. His Vision is to provide urban amenities in rural areas, empower women through sustainable cooking practices and facilitate young minds across villages about career awareness. His research interest is in Technology Policy, Value Based Negotiation, Food and Nutrition Policy.



Poon Tsz Fung

Poon Tsz Fung (John) is a Master in Public Policy Candidate in Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He is also a 2021 Local Pathway Fellow under United Nations SDSN. He has accumulated public policy experience in Governments of Hong Kong and Singapore as well as the United Nations. Prior to his postgraduate studies, he worked as a Business Policy Manager in the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, focusing on digital technologies, fintech, taxation and other related issues in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. His research area focuses majorly on the political, economic, social and environmental development in Hong Kong.



Yao Bowen

Yao Bowen is currently a Master in Public Policy candidate at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in maritime studies at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore with honors. In his final paper of undergraduate, he discussed the prospects, challenges and threats for the Belt and Road Initiative. After completing undergraduate study, he was admitted into the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy for a Master of Public Policy degree, where he further expanded his knowledge and skills on economics, statistics and research methods for a policy researcher. In addition, he worked as a student assistant for the Case Study Unit of the School and the Center of Governance and Institutions of NUS. Currently, his area of interests is global governance and public policies of China.

Disinformation in the Age of Globalization: A Systems Approach for ASEAN

■ Abstract

Despite the current pushback against globalization, the widespread adoption of information technology is now a permanent feature of our interconnected world. This has also enabled the proliferation of disinformation, which has become increasingly prevalent, disaggregated, and complex. Coupled with societal divisions present within democracies, this presents an opportunity for manipulation and exploitation by malicious actors. Given the complex nature of disinformation, multiple stakeholders will need to cooperate at the national and international level to effectively counter this challenge. This is especially true for Southeast Asia, where capacity constraints and resource disparities between member states remains a challenge in countering disinformation. Our project proposes utilizing a systems approach for interagency and international cooperation. Government, institutions, and citizens can co-regulate and co-exist, incentivizing truth-seeking without compromising the openness of the Internet.

■ Profiles



Chai Duwei

Duwei is a lawyer in Malaysia. After law practice, he worked with a government agency under the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia, analyzing and streamlining policies related to the local arts and culture industry. He was also previously attached to the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of law. His experience in policymaking and stakeholder management enables high level policy discussions to be executed effectively. Duwei's interests lie in evidence-based policy making, politics, and effective communication. He is currently an External Affairs and Government Relations Intern with Robert Bosch Southeast Asia.



Gabriel Chen Kwok Hui

Gabriel is a first year Master in Public Policy candidate at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He holds a degree in Economics from the University of Warwick, and has prior experience in public affairs and political risk consulting. Gabriel's research interests lie in the political economy of development, inequality, and energy policy. He is currently a Research Assistant at the Case Study Unit, National University of Singapore.



Jyan Ong

Jyan is a final year student completing his Bachelor's in Political Science (Honours) and Master of Public Policy through a concurrent degree programme at the National University of Singapore. He has gained working experience within the Public Service as a Summer Intern with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His primary research lies in Singapore's international diplomacy and multilateral globalization. Having pertinent insight and experience, he hopes to serve as an effective bridge between private and public sectors and provide innovative perspectives to unique problems.



Ryan Chua Wei Quan

Ryan is a first year Master in Public Policy student at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He graduated with a law degree from Cardiff University and has public sector experience on policymaking and research, having been a researcher with the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, and a Perdana Fellow attached to the Chief Secretary to the Government. He is interested in the nexus between politics, institutions and sustainable development. He is currently an Intelligence Analyst Intern with the Global Security Operations Centre at Healix and HX Global.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on cross-border healthcare: medical plight of the transgender in China

■ Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the globe in 2020 has brought inconvenience to people around the world. Those having relied on international healthcare are hard to access overseas medical resources in time, such as Chinese transgender group. Due to the invisible barriers for taking hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and sex reassignment surgery (SRS) domestically, most Chinese transgender seek medicine and surgeries from Thailand. However, the COVID-19 ends their access abruptly, imposing irreversible damage to their physical and mental health. Therefore, our project aims to help Chinese transgender complete their sex reassignment smoothly in both biological and social senses. We will build a platform to integrate domestic and international resources, such as making a white list of safe hormones, pro-transgender psychiatrists, as well as licensed clinics and doctors. In the end, a cross-border transgender supportive system will be established to exchange treatment experience, unite the like-minded, and promote a transgender-friendly environment.

■ Profiles



Chen Xinyue

Cheng Xinyue is a junior student of Master of International Affairs at National University of Singapore. Xinyue obtained her bachelor's degree in international politics from Fudan University in 2020. With strong interests in East Asian studies, gender equality, and elderly care, she undertook projects of Interdisciplinary Japanese Studies, "left-behind" Children's Self-concept, Social Role and Expectation of women in East Asian countries, Migration for Care and Care for Migrants in East Asia, and Element Music Pedagogy Service for the Elderly. Once graduation, Xinyue joined Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. She enjoys running, hiking, and bicycling.



Lok Kwan Lee, Jennifer

Jennifer Lee is a first year Master of International Affairs candidate at the National University of Singapore. Prior to joining the LKYSPP, Jennifer has received her Bachelor's degree at the Australian National University specializing in international relations, with a focus on ASEAN. She is passionate about gender, race and cultures and has conducted research under the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Delegation of Palestine respectively in Canberra, Australia.



Ni Cai

Ni Cai is a junior student in the MIA program at the National University of Singapore. She spent three years living in Kyoto and had a one-year exchange in Hong Kong for undergraduate education, then achieved a bachelor's degree in international relations. With strong interests in East Asian studies, she researched the variation of the collective memory of the War of Resistance as a summer research fellow in the Institute of Contemporary Asian Studies, Temple University Japan Campus. Finding herself with no talents in the academic world, she decided to join the subsidiary of Nomura Research Institute in China after graduation, working as a management consultant in a fast-paced and challenging environment for the past two years.



Zhang Ruihao

Zhang Ruihao is a first-year student of Master in International Affairs at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Graduating from China Foreign Affairs University, she has developed a global perspective to view hot spots of society. As a female candidate who was a volunteer teacher in a Hope Primary School in China, Ruihao is always concerned with the agendas that focus on minority and vulnerable communities, such as LGBT community. Ruihao is eager to provide some help to those who are ignored by society and promote communication between communities.

■ Abstract

Rights-Based Sustainable Food Coalition for a Resilient World, is a civil society led initiative aimed at tackling global food crises, from food nationalism to Covid 19 's supply chain disruption Its novelty lies in the thermostatic mechanism which activates civil society during a food crisis the Coalition will prioritize vulnerable and marginalized members of the society, facilitating dialogue amongst stakeholders to address root causes of food security issues and enhance global cooperation This proposal seeks to tackle Sustainable Development Goals 2 End Hunger) whilst charting steps in 1 Poverty Alleviation, 3 Good Health and Wellbeing 10 Reducing Inequalities, 17 Cultivating Partnerships.

■ Profiles



Bima Satria

Bima came from a less-developed region in Muara Tebo, Jambi Province, Indonesia. While pursuing his undergraduate degree in Urban and Regional Planning at Bandung Institute of Technology, he found his calling in understanding why and how to narrow the regional disparity within a country. After he graduated, Bima joined the Deputy for Regional Development and Deputy for Population and Manpower, Ministry of National Development and Planning (Bappenas) for 2.5 years. He was exposed to the policy process at multilevel government. He got a deeper understanding on how the aspect of bureaucrats and organizations capacity hampers the efficacy of public spending into the desirable outcomes. He aspires to alleviate poverty out of the world, eradicate inequality while respecting the sustainability of nature. He is eager to understand how the world naturally works and when it naturally doesn't, when to interfere and when to leave it as it is, how to distinguish an approach at a different scale and how to translate ideas into solutions in public domains. Therefore, currently he is pursuing his master's degree in public policy at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy.



Foo Jia Xin

Foo Jia Xin is a first-year student of Master of Public Policy (MPP) programme at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Prior to graduate school, she worked as a Division Lead in Silver Generation Office, Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) where she conducted qualitative assessment of seniors and implemented relevant policies. Besides her passion in social policy, she is interested in International Development and has conducted research in World Vision Lanka as well as program coordination in HandsOn Shanghai. Her first love is in work with the disabled; facilitating engagements to enhance inclusivity on the school campus. She is a staunch believer in the importance of community and enjoys the simple moments of volunteering most of all.



Tan Yong Beng

Tan Yong Beng is a first-year student of Master of Public Policy (MPP) programme at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. He graduated from the Singapore Management University (SMU) with Bachelor of Science (Economics) and Bachelor of Social Science (Political Science). Prior to pursuing his MPP, Yong Beng was an assistant manager at the Civil Service College Singapore, designing capacity building programmes and sharing Singapore's development experience with other foreign government officials. In his three-year stint at CSC International department, he was with the East Asia team and the Middle East, South Asia team. Yong Beng is not only interested in international development but also in the nexus between public policy and serious games. He enjoys good jokes so share a joke with him if you see him around as he believes that laughter brings people together.



Wong Hui Qi, Kendra

Kendra is a first-year Master of Public Policy student at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. She graduated from the National University of Singapore Business School, with a specialization in Marketing. Prior to joining the LKYSPP, Kendra was a Senior Executive at Singapore Airlines, where she has experience in Loyalty Marketing and Cabin Crew Safety and Security. She has experience in marketing communications as well as data analysis from holding these roles, contributing to the continued excellence of Singapore's national pride. Kendra also served with the Singapore Ministry of Health in the peak of the Covid-19 crisis in 2020, facilitating operational conveyances within the migrant worker dormitories. Her experiences have helped her approach postgraduate education with an enthusiasm to learn more about the interactions between national interests and global policy challenges.

■ Abstract

The project proposes the development of a platform at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to aid countries in making bi-lateral and multilateral trade partnerships. The project will focus on small or less developed nations and provide them with space to share trade knowledge with each other. The platform will build trust and confidence among countries to trade without hesitation. The project further proposes that it will also provide a space for countries to negotiate trade partnerships by providing a neutral mediator.

■ Profiles



Diana Ghazaryan

Diana Ghazaryan pursues a Master's in Public Policy at LSE. Prior to taking a course at LSE, she had Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sociology from Yerevan State University. Diana has extensive experience in the research industry. She has worked with such organizations as ADB, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, OECD, World Bank etc. Diana has also worked in Armenian Government as an Assistant to the Prime Minister mainly coordinating monitoring and analytics functions in the Office. She runs her own research agency in Armenia and strives to advocate for evidence-based decision making and improve overall governance in the country's public institutions.



Jack Gisby

Jack is a native Londoner currently pursuing a Master of Public Administration at LSE, with an intended specialization in Economic Policy. Before returning to London, he was working in foreign currency risk management in Vancouver, Canada, where he completed his undergraduate degree. Working in FX exposed him to international trade and financial flows - which is now the focus of his academic studies. His goal throughout the MPA and beyond is to understand how trade and investment policy can be best designed to stimulate growth and development.



Nadhila Renaldi

Nadhila is an Indonesian citizen currently pursuing Master of Public Policy at LSE. Prior to MPP, she was working at Unilever and Danone as government relations and public policy specialist where she fought to ensure investment friendly environment, and sustainable programs collaboration between public and private were in place. She handled various policy advocacies such as trade (import), sugar sweetened beverages excise tax, foods labelling and advertisement, nutrition specific intervention for stunting, WASH, waste management, and many other technical regulations, while also managing relations with stakeholders from municipalities up to national level. She was part of Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network Indonesia and Indonesian Beverages Industry Association (ASRIM), until finally selected as Chevening Scholar 2020/2021 by the UK government. Currently, she acts as contributing editor at Public Sphere Journal, opinion columnist at The Jakarta Post, and actively volunteered as speaker in various forums to share her professional and academic journey.



Nikhil Chandra Srivastava

Nikhil is an Indian citizen, currently pursuing Master of Public Policy at LSE. He is a public policy professional with experience in financial inclusion, skill development and micro-enterprise development. He has been instrumental in creating the microfinance industry database of India and led programs of skilling youth and domestic workers. GIZ, MFIN and Basix Social Enterprise Group has been his professional alma mater. His focus of public policy centres on poverty alleviation through livelihood promotion. He loves to travel and try local cuisines.



Tangulu Diushakhmatova

Tangulu is a citizen of Kyrgyzstan currently pursuing Master of Public Policy at LSE. Tangulu is also a Chevening Scholar 2020/2021, a program funded by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and its partner organisations. Prior to MPP, she was working at KPMG in the market of Central Asia with focus on Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. During the last two years she worked closely in developing capacities of the financial institutions in Uzbekistan together with international consultants from Russia, Germany, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. Tangulu has a strong interest in promoting equal and fair access to finance and development of SMEs in Central Asia.

Free Trade for Fair Health in Africa

■ Abstract

Access to medicine is crucial to ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages (Sustainable Development Goal 3). Financial barriers are a challenge in Africa, where 36% of total healthcare expenditure is out of pocket, undermining poverty reduction and deepening inequalities. The continent faces a shortage of medicine supply with 70% of available medicines being imported at an annual cost of USD14.5billion. The African Continental Free Trade Area agreement creates the largest free-trade area in the world in terms of the number of participating countries. It presents an opportunity to produce economies of scale by establishing a mechanism for regional pooled procurement of active pharmaceutical ingredients. This will enable regional production and ensure African nations are able to address barriers to access of medicines. The production programme will be coupled with regional research and development focused on local needs. This will be informed by data-pooling from a centralised network linking community health centers to local, national, and regional resources.

■ Profiles



Asha Niall

Asha is an MPP student at LSE. She has a background in environmental policy and is a civil servant with experience in disaster management governance and coordination, climate change adaptation and resilience policy, and legislative and regulatory reform.



Carlo Agdamag

Carlo is a Filipino lawyer pursuing an MPP degree at LSE. He is currently connected with the Philippine antitrust authority, with his work focusing on policy reform and competition advocacy. He has participated in a number of bilateral and regional trade negotiations, and has taught business law to undergraduate students. Carlo holds a Juris Doctor (2015) and BA in Economics (2011) degree from the Ateneo de Manila University.



Fernanda Garcia

Fernanda holds a BA in Political Science and is currently an MPP student at LSE. She worked at a public affairs, international trade and strategic communication consulting firm in Mexico where she engaged in a wide array of sectors, from electoral political analysis, energy policy to copyright and urban mobility. Previously, she collaborated with indigenous communities in the state of Chiapas and volunteered at an education think tank.



Katie Alesbury

Katie's mission is to contribute to the long-term health of communities and environments. In 2013 she founded the first and only food redistribution organisation in Nicaragua. Comamos Juntos (Eat United) tackles food waste and food insecurity by working directly in and alongside local communities. Following 7 years in Nicaragua co-directing and developing the initiative, Katie is undertaking the MPP at the LSE to complement her experience of innovation and mobilisation at grassroots level with systems-thinking for strategic policy interventions.

■ Abstract

The global community recognizes the need for action in limiting aviation emissions, but current policies vary by country and airline, creating confusion for consumers. Moreover, the aviation industry facilitates international commerce and connection, and is currently struggling from the global health crisis. Under our proposal, governments would collect a small, non-punitive fee from each flight to add to a national Aviation Impact Resource Fund (AIR Fund). This fund will be implemented as an extension to the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) agreement, which aims to keep carbon emissions capped at 2020 levels. The AIR Fund is unique because it is the first proposed aviation fee specially tied to environmental spending. With the AIR Fund, customers can relax, knowing that their travel is making a difference, airlines can meet their commitment to sustainable travel, and governments can make investments that will work for everyone, not just those who fly.

■ Profiles



Hasti Modi

Hasti is a first year Masters in Public Administration (MPA) student at LSE. She has received Scholastic Distinction with Highest Excellence in Bachelors of Business Administration (BBA) at Ahmedabad University. She has received an honorary mention from the Rennes School of Business (RSB) in France for her academic excellence during the semester exchange program. She has got quite a few publications at national and international level for topics ranging from family business, gender roles, HR concepts, and public policy. With internship experiences in corporate, non-governmental, and research institutions, she is inclined towards getting global exposure in effective public administration at national and local level.



Jenna Keller

Jenna is a Master of Public Administration student at the London School of Economics. She holds a Bachelor of Economics from The University of Texas at Austin, from which she graduated with High Honours. She has a background in local economic development consulting and international development, and is interested in economic policy, human rights, and the role of the state.



Mahika Chandgothia

Mahika is pursuing a Master of Public Administration from the London School of Economics and Political Science. After pursuing her undergraduate degree in Economics from Delhi University in India, she interned with various Indian government departments such as Health and Tax. With the experience and knowledge gained after finishing her studies from LSE, she is motivated to work with international think-tanks to promote global health and education policies.



Rong Pan

Rong is a Master of Public Administration (MPA) Year 1 student at LSE. She is an inclusive person. She has not only a multinational education background in Japan, the UK, and the US, but also significant experience working in various industries, including government institutions, banking, and NGOs. In the future, she plans to work for a multilateral institution to inform public policy and global action across borders, and contribute to inclusive socio-economic development.

■ Abstract

Our team grasped the necessity for Developing Countries, particularly Ghana to create fiscal space to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic. Aware of this need, the G20 nations agreed on a Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI), leaving out of the settlement the debt held by private actors. In Ghana's case, since private debt represents half of its indebtedness, it would be perilous to benefit from any relief that would not include the private sector without any financial market exposure. Consequently, we believe that a debt conversion mechanism to offload a share of Ghana's private sector debt to the IMF is optimal. The credit swap proposes the transfer of the loans to a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to exchange the emission of bonds whose payment can be suspended without triggering the default clause.

■ Profiles



Anupama Shroff

Anupama Shroff is an MPA student at LSE. She is an Economics graduate and has worked in an education-based NGO where she focused on improving teaching practices and increasing parent engagement. She is passionate about enhancing local government capacities and improving delivery of public sector services.



Ashutosh Ranka

Ashutosh Ranka is a first year MPA student at LSE. He is a former consultant with McKinsey and Company. He has also worked with the Delhi government and Aam Aadmi Party, the current ruling political party in Delhi. He is a Materials Science Engineer from IIT Kanpur (India). He is passionate about bringing large-scale change in India through active politics.



Clément Balavoine

Clément Balavoine is an MPA student at LSE. He is a financial law graduate from Paris-Dauphine and has worked as a tax advisor at EY Luxembourg. He is passionate about bringing competitiveness to the financial sector in Europe.



Martin de Dios

Martin de Dios is a first year MPA student at LSE. He is a Lawyer (Universidad de San Andrés) and a Masters in Applied Economics (Universidad Torcuato di Tella) with vast experience in public policy in International Agencies, governments, and NGO's.



Mohamad Nassar

Mohamad Nassar is an MPA student at LSE. He holds a Mechatronics Engineering graduate from a German university and is currently completing the Chartered Financial Analyst program. He spent the past 4 years of his career in the Gulf region where he worked closely with both the KSA and UAE government on large scale development related projects.

Globalisation and the Gig Economy

■ Abstract

In our policy paper we focus on the challenges arising from the newly formed gig-economy in the transportation sector with respect to a globalised world. More specifically, we focus on challenges with regard to employment conditions, the environment and local governance. We claim that employment challenges can be traced back to a shift of obligations and duties to the worker and to an oversupply of labour in the gig-economy. Environmental problems predominantly circle around the carbon intensity of transportation platforms in the gig-economy, whereas local governance of the gig-economy is largely non-existent across many countries. To tackle these challenges, we propose to create unions and ombudsperson offices, to adopt a policy framework, which includes monetary incentives to reduce carbon emissions of transportation services as well as enhanced local cooperation among metropolises around the world. We end by arguing that Taiwan's approach towards deliberate democracy can act as a role-model to accomplish the proposed solutions.

■ Profiles



Carl Michel Reischel

Carl Michel Reischel is pursuing a master's degree in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris - where he focuses on the EU's external relations and foreign policy, especially towards the People's Republic of China. He previously studied at Saarland University and Université de Lorraine where he received a degree in German & French Studies and a certificate in European Studies. His undergraduate thesis treated the impact of Brexit on the EU's Trade and Foreign Policy through the lens of Anu Bradford's Brussels Effect Theory and his main academic interests include EU Trade and Foreign Policy, EU-China Relations and Transatlantic Relations.



Lasse Balster

Lasse Balster currently pursues a Dual Master's Degree in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris and in International Affairs and Governance at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. He has previously earned a Bachelor Degree in International Affairs at the University of St. Gallen. During his time in St. Gallen he has worked for the International Students' Committee (ISC), the organising committee of the St. Gallen Symposium, where he has been responsible for the symposium's activities in India, prior to being appointed co-Head of the ISC. Lasse has earned further professional experience while interning at the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR). He took part in several Model United Nations Conferences, including the National Model United Nations Conference in New York. His interests lie at the crossroads of business and politics with a strong focus on the European Union.



Marius Risse

Marius is a first-year master's student pursuing a dual degree in European and Asian Affairs between Sciences Po Paris and Fudan University in Shanghai. He obtained his bachelor's degree in European Studies from Maastricht University, having spent a semester abroad at Seoul National University. Marius is passionate about EU foreign policy and Europe-Asia relations. Before moving to Paris, Marius gained professional experience as a trainee in the European Parliament, as well as by interning in the German Bundestag and with a political organisation in Mongolia.



Robert Horney

Robert Horney studies European Affairs at Sciences Po. He holds a Bachelor in Economics and Politics from the University of Warwick. He focuses on European foreign policy, strategic studies and trade policy. His overarching interest is how politics, law and economics interact. Robert has completed an apprenticeship in investment fund management in Germany and has experience in public affairs consulting.

Making Worlds Meet: The Global Youth Citizenship Project

■ Abstract

Globalization has facilitated rapid change in societies around the world, which has brought with it a tumult of challenges like rising nationalism, populism and xenophobia. Our Making Worlds Meet: The Global Youth Citizenship Project aims to address anxieties towards cultural differences by helping students in classrooms across the world meet and collaborate on school projects. These projects will see students identify civic problems local to their areas, and work together to design solutions relevant to each context. Our project-based learning (PBL) approach is designed to make the experience student-centered and encourage students to develop multiple skills essential for the changing world of work. Making Worlds Meet will provide the digital learning space needed for students to work together online and help educators implement the programme through school-matching, teacher training, and project management services. By working with students in a different country through our projects, students will have the opportunity to learn about other cultures and build connections with young people from diverse backgrounds. We expect that students will therefore become more aware of their commonalities but also appreciate the benefit of collaborating with others who have different experiences and perspectives.

■ Profiles



Amyrrha Estoloso

Amyrrha is an intern at UNESCO Headquarters Paris working in inclusion and human rights and with the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities. She is also completing a thesis on international labour migration. In 2020, she competed as part of Sciences Po's debate team and was étudiant référent in the French Debating Association Tournament. She finished her MA in Education major in Educational Administration at Ateneo de Manila University while working for 2 years as a full-time English faculty and moderator of the internationally ranked debate team of the university's Senior High School. She obtained her Bachelor of Secondary Education major in English, magna cum laude and Most Outstanding Student from Silliman University where she also graduated high school Valedictorian. In 2015, she was awarded the Zonta International Young Women in Public Affairs Award and Most Outstanding Jose Rizal Model Student of the Philippines, in honor of the country's national hero.



Heewoon Bae

Having studied History at Oxford University, Heewoon trained and worked as a secondary school teacher in England through the Teach First programme. She then moved to Paris and taught History-Geography for several years in an international bilingual school, where she also worked as an examiner for the International Option of the French Baccalaureate and became involved in a mentoring programme for teachers. She then returned to university to study her current Master's in Social Policy and Social Innovation at Sciences Po. Heewoon is interested in all things related to education, and is writing her thesis on what motivates people to become teachers in France. Her research seeks to investigate whether the Teach For All affiliated programme in France, Le Choix de l'École, has succeeded in attracting people with different motivational profiles to the teaching profession.



Ilayda Takil

Ilayda Takil is a second-year Master's student in Public Policy at Sciences Po Paris specializing in Social Policy and Social Innovation. She currently works as an intern at the OECD's Centre for Educational Research and Innovation. Before her graduate studies, Ilayda graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College in New York, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Studies and French. She previously interned at a public affairs consulting firm in Washington, D.C. and at a European Union agency in Greece supporting vocational education and training policies. Her previous experiences and her volunteer work teaching French and English in the U.S. and France inspired her interest in the equitable and innovative development of education policies.



Matthew Cheuk

Matthew is a second year Master's student in Economics & Public Policy at Sciences Po. A native of Hong Kong, he is passionate about politics and political philosophy, having previously obtained his bachelor's degree in Philosophy & Economics from the London School of Economics. Before coming to France, he spent two years at JP Morgan, as an entry-level associate in the Private Equity division. Matthew currently works at Analysis Group, where he applies econometric methods to competition law and litigation issues.



Sidharth Santhosh

Sidharth Santhosh is a candidate of the Masters in Public Policy and Economics programme at Sciences Po Paris where his thesis explores collective citizenship that creates demand for participatory governance in rural India. His ever-evolving research focuses on the political economics of education, sanitation and climate change policies. Prior to pursuing his graduate studies, he graduated from Christ University in India with a Bachelors in Economics (Honours). During his undergraduate studies, he extensively studied urban education policy access and the effects of non-programmatic waste management policies. He is a Learners' Voice fellow at the World Innovation Summit for Education in Qatar. His cross-sectoral experience is informed through consultancies and internships at organizations such as IIEP-UNESCO in Paris, the Centre for Research in New Delhi, and various other state & civil society organizations. He enjoys gardening and cooking whenever he can.

■ Abstract

Our proposal provides guidelines and the institutional context for the creation of a single worldwide Ecomark scoring the environmental impact of products and services. We expect this act of commercial transparency to impulse greener consumption patterns and give incentives for polluting producers to transit towards more eco-friendly processes.

■ Profiles



LUCA TACCONI

Luca Tacconi is currently pursuing the first year of the Master's Degree in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris, specializing in the Economics and Public Policy stream. He also holds an Honours Bachelor's Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy at the University of Trieste in Italy. Before his studies in Paris, he worked as an assistant trade analyst at the Italian Chamber of Commerce and industry for the UK, as a field researcher for the independent research agency ADA economics, which focuses on economic and political forecasting, and finally for the regional government agency Agenzia Lavoro & SviluppoImpresa, with the aim of promoting economic development and attracting FDIs to the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia In Italy. Thanks to these experiences, he has developed a strong interest, among others, in trade, fiscal, environmental and employment policies, especially in the context of European economic integration. Luca's future aspiration is to play an active role in the integration process of the European Union.



MATILDA SAARINEN

Matilda is a first-year master's student in Economics and Public Policy at Sciences Po School of Public Affairs. After completing her previous M.Sc. degree in Economics at Aalto University School of Business in Finland, she decided to make an early career switch and pursue her dreams of working with public policies. Her experiences as a research assistant at Aalto University and as a researcher at Human Development Research Initiative, a Sciences Po student think tank, have inspired Matilda to aim at a career in policy research. Motivated by the desire to develop better policies to promote environmental sustainability and clean energy, she specialises in energy and environment courses at Sciences Po.



MYKOLAS STEPONAVIČIUS

Mykolas Steponavičius is a Master's student at the Sciences Po School of Public Affairs. He graduated with a BSc in Politics, Psychology, Law and Economics (PPLE) at the University of Amsterdam. In between studies, he has shortly worked as a policy analyst and as an assistant to a member of Lithuanian parliament. His interests include education and economic policy.



PABLO FONS D'OCON

As a current first-year master's student in the Sciences Po School of Public Affairs, Pablo is specialising in Economics and Public Policy. Before that, he completed a double degree in European and Latin American Studies between Sciences Po and the University College London. He was particularly appealed by multilateral solution-making after doing an internship at the European Council on Foreign Relations, elaborating advocacy reports for major European policy makers. As a contributor to several journals, he often analyses electoral processes in European and Latin American countries under a socio-economic perspective. This year, he created the Emile, a political communications' lab working on a regional electoral campaign in France. Policies and politics, those are his driving interests.