



A Virtual Conference hosted by
The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy
at DePaul University, Chicago

ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY: EXPLORING TRANSPROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL SURVIVAL

As we confront the extraordinary diplomatic challenge presented by the global ecological crisis, a challenge that has served to accelerate the rise of nationalism, racial and economic inequality, and the fear of religious and ethnic difference, the need for a deeper level of collaboration among all practitioners of diplomacy has never been greater. This conference will explore the work and the strategies being proposed and employed by practitioners and scholars of diplomacy across multiple vocations and contexts to promote such cooperation.

The mission of The Grace School is to train future practitioners of diplomacy across all vocations – from those pursuing careers in the foreign service to those who want to build bridges as NGO leaders, private sector actors, scientists, artists, religious leaders, community organizers and activists. Our goal is to create cohorts of students with a wide range of vocational trajectories who engage the study and practice of diplomacy together, and in so doing establish networks that they will take with them as they pursue or redirect their respective careers upon graduation. Examining the transprofessional diplomatic work which is currently taking place and which must now be amplified in the name of supporting environmental sustainability is the theme of our conference. To this end, each panel will engage the transprofessional dimension of Environmental Diplomacy.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13th

9:00 – 9:40 AM*

Welcome + An Introduction to Environmental Diplomacy

Leila Nicolas, Lebanese University, Beirut

10:00 – 11:15 AM*

Panel One: Diplomacy, Migration and Vulnerability

Antonio Alejo, Instituto Galego de Análise e Documentación Internacional, A Coruña

Shailja Sharma, DePaul University, Chicago

Karlos Perez, University of the Basque Country, Bilbao

11:30 – 12:45 PM*

Panel Two: Science Diplomacy, Environmental Knowledge and Global Public Health

Daryl Copeland, Canadian Global Affairs Institute, Calgary

Lydia Stazen, Institute of Global Homelessness, DePaul University, Chicago

Mark Potosnak, Professor of Environmental Science and Studies, DePaul University, Chicago

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14th

9:00 – 9:40 AM*

Keynote: The Future of State-Sponsored Environmental Diplomacy

Robert Dry, New York University, New York

10:00 – 11:00 AM*

Panel Three: State-Sponsored Environmental Diplomacy; Beyond the Paris Agreement

Lawrence Susskind, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston

Phillip Stalley, DePaul University, Chicago

Marcella Lopez Vallejo, University of Guadalajara, Guadalajara

11:30 – 12:30 PM*

Panel Four: Urban Diplomacy and Its Contribution to Building Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability

David Wellman, The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy, DePaul University, Chicago

Sohaela Amiri, University of Southern California, Los Angeles

Sana Syed, Inner City Muslim Action Network (IMAN), Chicago

1:00 – 2:00 PM*

Panel Five: Diplomacy and the Arts in the Age of the Anthropocene

Jessica Horton, University of Delaware, Newark

Hanan Toukan, Bard College, Berlin

Hameed Khasawnih, Über den Tellerand, Berlin

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15th

9:00 – 9:40 AM*

Keynote: Facing Ecological Challenges: The Future of Environmental Law

Teresa Fajardo, University of Granada, Granada

10:00 – 11:00 AM*

Panel Six: Indigenous Voices in Global Environmental Diplomacy

Jessica Shadian, Artic360, Toronto

Hayden King, Ryerson University, Toronto

Leona Morgan, Nuclear Issues Study Group / Don't Nuke the Climate, Albuquerque

11:30 – 12:30 PM*

Panel Seven: Interconvictional Bridge Building as a Diplomatic Response to the Ecological Crisis

François Becker, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg

Rafael Tyszblat, Connecting Actions/European Institute for Dialogue, Paris

Parin Bagum, Muslim Jewish Conference, Blackburn

*All times expressed in Central Standard Time (CST, Chicago)

REGISTER: <https://environmentaldiplomacyconference.eventbrite.com>

This event is FREE and open to the public

Antonio Alejo, Instituto Galego de Análise e Documentación Internacional (A Coruña)

Antonio Alejo's research focuses on global sociology, diplomatic transformations and human mobility from beyond state-centric, and post-national perspectives. He is the author of *Activismos transnacionales de México: Diálogos interdisciplinarios ante la política global* (Instituto Mora, 2018) and "Migrant Diplomacies: Rethinking Diplomacy Beyond State-Centric Perspectives."

Sohaela Amiri, Assistant Policy Researcher, the Rand Corporation (Los Angeles)

Sohaela Amiri's research focuses on non-state and subnational actors such as cities, diaspora groups and immigrants as well as the metrics and evaluation of noncoercive statecraft. She is the author, with Efe Sevin, of *City Diplomacy: Current Trends and Future Prospects*, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020)

François Becker, Professor Emeritus, University of Strasbourg (Strasbourg)

François Becker is a physicist, whose research engages Geophysics, Remote Sensing, Nuclear Physics, Theoretical Physics and Interconvictional Relations. He is the author of multiple publications, including the edited volume *Becoming Citizens of a Plural Europe: Interconvictional Space and Practice* (Publibook, 2016)

Parin Begum, Muslim Jewish Conference (Blackburn)

Parin Begum is a journalist with the BBC based in Lancashire, UK. She is a long-time member of the Vienna-based interconvictional NGO Muslim Jewish Conference, and has led multiple interfaith, youth and community development initiatives in the UK.

Daryl Copeland, Research Fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, and a Policy Fellow at the University of Montreal's CERIU. (Calgary)

Daryl Copeland is an educator, an analyst, a consultant, and the author of *Guerrilla Diplomacy: Rethinking International Relations* (Viva Books, 2015). He specializes in the role of S&T in diplomacy, international policy, global issues, and public management. During his thirty-year career as a Canadian diplomat, he served abroad in Thailand, Ethiopia, New Zealand, and Malaysia, and in a variety of positions in Ottawa and Toronto.

Robert Dry, Adjunct Professor, New York University (New York)

Robert Dry's work includes a long-time career as a U.S. foreign service officer, with postings in Iraq, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Oman, China, Vietnam and France. His research interests focus on global environmental governance, U.S. foreign policy in the Persian Gulf and the practice of diplomacy. His diplomatic career included serving as a counselor for scientific, environmental, technological and health affairs at the U.S. embassy in Paris, during which time he negotiated with the French government the world's largest science project, the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), designed to prove the utility of fusion energy for the 22nd century.

Teresa Fajardo, Associate Professor of International Public Law and International Relations, University of Granada (Granada)

Teresa Fajardo's research examines International and European Environmental Law, International Law of the Sea, EU Migration Policy, wildlife crime and unregulated fishing. Her publications include the co-edited volume (with Mar Campins Eritja) *Biological Diversity and International Law: Challenges for the Post 2020 Scenario* (Springer, 2021)

Jessica L. Horton, Associate Professor of Art History, University of Delaware (Newark)

Jessica Horton's research emphasizes the centrality of Native North American art, culture, and politics to a global story of modernity. She is the author of *Art for an Undivided Earth: The American Indian Movement Generation* (Duke University Press, 2017), and is currently completing a new volume, entitled *Earth Diplomacy: Indigenous American Art and Reciprocity, 1953-1973*.

Hameed Khasawnih, Project Manager, Über den Tellerand (Berlin)

Hameed Khasawnih is a long-time advocate for migrant people in Europe, both through his involvement in Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 and his work for Über den Tellerand, a Berlin-based organization that builds bridges among immigrants and host communities through people working together side by side in the preparation and sharing of food.

Hayden King, Director, Yellowhead Institute, Ryerson University (Toronto)

Hayden King's research engages Indigenous nationhood and colonialism in Canada. He has served as the Senior Policy Advisor to the Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, and as Director of Research at the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business. He is the author of *Planning the Final Frontier: Land and Resource Management, Indigenous Self-Determination and the Canadian North* (2013)

Leona Morgan, Nuclear Issues Study Group / Don't Nuke the Climate, Albuquerque

Leona Morgan is the cofounder of Nuclear Issues Study Group. She is a Diné (Navajo) community organizer and leading advocate for communities in New Mexico impacted by CIS and uranium mining. Her work focuses on safety issues of uranium mines, transport of uranium and storage of nuclear waste.

Leila Nicolas, Professor of International Relations, Lebanese University, (Beirut)

Leila Nicolas is the founder of the NGO Lebanese for Democracy and Good Governance and the co-author, with Elie Kallab of *Effective Forms of Environmental Diplomacy* (Routledge, 2021). She has 21 years of civil society experience in conflict resolution, peace-building, justice and the rule of law.

Marcella Lopez Vallejo Olvera, Professor and Researcher, Dept of Pacific Studies, University of Guadalajara (Guadalajara)

Marcella Lopez Vallejo's research focuses on the subjects of global governance, climate change, and transregional convergence. She is the author of multiple publications, including *Reconfiguring Global Climate Governance in North America: A Transregional Approach* (Routledge, 2014).

Karlos Pérez de Armiño, Professor of International Relations, University of the Basque Country (Bilbao)

Karlos Pérez de Armiño is a principal investigator of the Research Group on Human Security, Local Human Development and International Cooperation of the Hegoa Institute. His areas of research focus on food security, post-war rehabilitation in Mozambique and humanitarian aid. He is the author of several books and multiple articles, including *Vulnerabilidad y Desastres: Causas Estructurales y Procesos de la Crisis de África*, (Instituto Hegoa, 2014).

Mark Potosnak, Professor of Environmental Science and Studies, DePaul University, Chicago

Mark Potosnak's research examines interactions between the terrestrial biosphere and the atmosphere, including an examination of biogenic volatile organic compound (BVOC) emissions from plants affect atmospheric chemistry and how climate change will impact this interaction in the future. He is the author and co-author of multiple publications, including "Isoprene emission response to drought and the impact on global atmospheric chemistry," (*Atmospheric Environment*, 2018) and "A high-altitude balloon platform for determining exchange of carbon dioxide over agricultural landscapes," (*Atmospheric Measurement Technology* 2016).

Jessica Shadian, President and CEO, Artic360 (Toronto)

Jessica Shadian's work concentrates on the global politics of the Arctic, Arctic Indigenous governance and law, and most recently on the role of global financial institutions in the emerging economy of the North American Arctic. She is the author of *The Politics of Arctic Sovereignty: Oil, Ice, and Inuit Governance* (Routledge, 2014)

Shailja Sharma, Professor of International Studies, DePaul University (Chicago)

Shailja Sharma is the founder of the Refugee and Forced Migration program at DePaul University. Her research interests include postcolonial theory and literature, migration and diaspora, South Asia, citizenship studies, race, forced migration and displacement. Her publications include *New Cosmopolitanisms: South Asians in the US*, co-edited with Gita Rajan, (Stanford University Press, 2006)

Phillip Stalley, Endowed Professor of Environmental Diplomacy, The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy, DePaul University (Chicago)

Phillip Stalley's current research focuses on China's environmental diplomacy and its approach to international environmental institutions. He has served as a visiting scholar in the environmental economics department at Fudan University in Shanghai, and he is the author of *Foreign Firms, Investment, and Environmental Regulation in the People's Republic of China* (Stanford University Press, 2010)

Lydia Stazen, Executive Director, Ruff Institute of Global Homelessness, DePaul University (Chicago)

Lydia Stazen has held executive leadership roles in anti-poverty organizations across the Midwest United States, focusing on housing, employment, education, and policy advocacy. She also served for several years as Vice President of All Chicago Making Homelessness History, where she was instrumental in integrating homeless data with medical data to help patients experiencing homelessness access housing services.

Lawrence Susskind, Ford Professor of Urban and Environmental Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Boston)

Lawrence Susskind was the founding director of the MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program as well as the Consensus-Building Institute. He has advised the United Nations, the OECD, the World Bank and numerous national governments on environmental negotiations and is the author of multiple books, including *Environmental Diplomacy: Negotiating More Effective Global Agreements* (Oxford, 2014)

Sana Syed, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Inner City Muslim Action Network (Chicago)

Sana Syed is a theologian, architect, and community organizer, whose current work focuses on promoting health, wealth and healing for residents on Chicago's south Side and Atlanta's West End. She has engaged across divides and worked with diverse global communities through several nonprofits in Sweden, Egypt, Yemen, Spain, Somaliland, India, Switzerland, and the United States.

Hanan Toukan, Professor of Middle East Studies, Bard College (Berlin)

Hanan Toukan's research sits at the intersection of international politics, Middle East politics, postcolonial studies, visual cultures and cultural studies. Her current work focuses on migration and the visual politics of museums in Europe and the Middle East. She is the author of *The Politics of Art: Dissent and Cultural Diplomacy in Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan* (Stanford, 2021)

Rafael Tyszblat, Connecting Actions / European Institute for Dialogue (Paris)

Rafael Tyszblat is the founding leader of Connecting Actions and the European Institute for Dialogue, two NGOs focused on providing platforms for interconvictional organizations to create networks across Europe. An expert in conflict resolution, mediation, intercultural and interconvictional dialogue, Rafael has trained thousands of youth and adults in effective communication skills via his work with the non-profit organization Soliya.

David Wellman, Associate Professor and Director, The Grace School of Applied Diplomacy, DePaul University (Chicago)

David Wellman's research focuses on the relationship between diplomacy and religion, ecological sustainability, interreligious engagement and citizen diplomacy. He is the author of *Sustainable Diplomacy: Ecology, Religion and Ethics in Muslim-Christian Relations* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2004)



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