

# Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals

Friday 16 October 2015 | 12:30-14:30  
Auditorium A1-A (Jean-Pictet) Maison de la Paix

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seeks to achieve a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, in peace and equality. Adopting the Agenda is one thing; delivering it will be another. We debate how to achieve the shared responsibility and mutual accountability needed to ensure that the Agenda achieves its ambition of inclusive, sustainable growth, rule of law and the full realization of human rights for all.

## Opening remarks:

-  **Gilles Carbonnier** (Professor of development economics and Director of Studies, The Graduate Institute)
-  **Hubert René Schillinger** (Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva)

## Panel:

-  **Joachim Rucker** (Ambassador of Germany and President of the Human Rights Council)
-  **Thomas Pogge** (Director of the Global Justice Program, Yale University)
-  **Irene Khan** (Director General, International Development Law Organization)
-  **Bianca Pomeranzi** (Senior Advisor on Gender and Development, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Member, UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women)
-  **Gilles Carbonnier** (Professor of development economics and Director of Studies, The Graduate Institute)

## Moderation:

-  **Felix Kirchmeier** (Manager of Policy Studies, Geneva Academy)

## **Rationale:**

Shared Responsibility and mutual accountability for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals are at the heart of the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which was adopted on 25 September 2015 by the 193-Member United Nations General Assembly. It states the international community’s determination to realize a vision: “We envisage a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive. [...] We envisage a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination [...] We envisage a world in which every country enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.”<sup>1</sup>

To that end, the agenda states “We resolve, between now and 2030, to end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources. We resolve also to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all, taking into account different levels of national development and capacities.”<sup>2</sup>

Core part of the Agenda is the list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their 169 targets. To attain those goals, the declaration contains further sections: “Means of implementation” to explore how this vision could be realized and a section on accountability – in SDG language “Follow-up and review” - to create mechanisms to verify that action is indeed taken regarding the means of implementation.

This panel discussion shall discuss whether the document provides for sufficient tools to ensure a strong accountability of states to the people, including the “mutual accountability” between states, needed to ensure delivery of the implementation in order to realize the goals in full respect of human rights.

## **Discussion questions will include:**

- ✚ What are the legal (human rights) imperatives, moral imperatives and pragmatic imperatives?
- ✚ How would the goals, targets and indicators have to be contextualized for all countries, including specifically industrially developed countries?
- ✚ What kind of accountability mechanisms should be put in place and help to enforce attaining these targets?
- ✚ How could a framework of “mutual accountability” look like, to avoid the weakness of former MDG 8?
- ✚ And what would be the roles of civil society and the business sector in this system?

## Speakers:

### **Hubert Schillinger (Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva)**

As the director of the FES Geneva office, Hubert René Schillinger is responsible for all programs and activities related to this office. Since joining FES in 1980, he has held various positions at FES headquarters and abroad, including project leader in Senegal (1980-1983) and FES country director in Morocco (1984-1987), South Africa (1992-1996) and Namibia (2004-2009). From mid-2009 to mid-2014 he coordinated FES' Dialogue on Globalization Programme at FES headquarters in Berlin. He holds a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Konstanz (Germany) and graduated from the Center for Advanced Training in Rural Development (SLE) of the Technical University, Berlin.



### **Gilles Carbonnier (Professor of development economics and Director of Studies, IHEID)**



Gilles Carbonnier is Professor of development economics at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. He is editor-in-chief of International Development Policy and President of the board of directors of CERAH, the Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action. His research and publications focus on the economics of humanitarian crises and responses, the energy-development nexus and the governance of extractive resources, as well as international development cooperation. Gilles Carbonnier has over 20 years of professional experience in international trade, development cooperation and humanitarian action. From 1989 to 1991, Gilles Carbonnier was a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Iraq, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia and El Salvador. He joined the ICRC again from 1999 to 2006 as the organisation's economic adviser and head of private-sector relations. Between 1992 and 1996, he was in charge of international development cooperation programmes and multilateral trade negotiations with the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), and advised Vietnam on its accession to the WTO between 1996 and 1999. Gilles Carbonnier is Vice-President of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes. He sits in the Federal Commission for International Development Cooperation and advises investment funds over sustainability and human rights issues.

### **Joachim Rucker (Ambassador of Germany and President of the Human Rights Council )**

Joachim Rucker has been serving as Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations Office at Geneva since July 2014. Prior to his appointment to Geneva, Mr. Rucker had been serving as Inspector General at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany in Berlin since 2011. From 2008 to 2011, he was Germany's Ambassador to Sweden. Mr. Rucker served as Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) from 2006 to 2008.



He served as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the UNMIK/EU Pillar for Economic Reconstruction from 2005 to 2006. From 1993 to 2001, Mr. Rücker served as Mayor of the City of Sindelfingen. He worked as a Foreign Policy and European Integration Adviser, Social Democratic Parliamentary Group, German Bundestag in Bonn from 1991 to 1993. Mr. Rücker has also held various postings with the Federal Foreign Office of Germany from 1979 to 1991, including serving in Vienna, Dar es Salaam and Detroit. He has a degree and a PhD in economics from the University of Freiburg (1973-1979).

### **Thomas Pogge (Director of the Global Justice Program, Yale University)**



Thomas Winfried Menko Pogge is a German philosopher and is the Director of the Global Justice Program and Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs at Yale University. In addition to his Yale appointment, he is the Research Director of the Centre for the Study of the Mind in Nature at the University of Oslo, a Professor of Philosophy and Global Justice at the Law School of King's College London and Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Central Lancashire's Centre for Professional Ethics. Pogge is also an editor for social and political philosophy for the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy and a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters. Pogge received his Ph.D. from Harvard University with a dissertation supervised by John Rawls. Since then he has published widely on Kant and in moral and political philosophy, including various books on John Rawls and global justice.

### **Irene Khan (Director, International Development Law Organization)**

Irene Khan is Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). The first woman to hold this office, she was elected by Member Parties on 17 November 2011 and took up her position formally on 1 January 2012 for a term of four years. An international thought leader on human rights, gender and social justice issues, Irene Khan was Secretary General of Amnesty International from 2001 - 2009. Prior to that, she worked for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees for 21 years at headquarters and in various field operations. She was Visiting Professor at the State University of New York Law School (Buffalo) in 2011. Ms. Khan is Chancellor of Salford University (UK), and a member of the UNAIDS High Level Commission on HIV Prevention. She sits on the boards of several international human rights and development organizations. Ms. Khan received the Sydney Peace Prize in 2006 for her work to end violence against women and girls. Her book, *The Unheard Truth: Poverty and Human Rights* has been translated into seven languages. Born in Bangladesh, Irene Khan studied law at the University of Manchester and Harvard Law School.



**Bianca Pomeranzi (Senior Advisor on Gender and Development, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Member, UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women )**



Ms. Pomeranzi is currently member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), where she has been elected for the period 2013-2016. Ms Pomeranzi has more than thirty years of experience for the implementation of CEDAW at national and international level and for the advocacy for the human rights of women. She actively participated to the preparation of the IVth UN Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. Her specific fields of studies are: globalization, women's empowerment and transnational feminist networks. Her professional background is based on gender and development expertise

Her specific fields of studies are: globalization, women's empowerment and transnational feminist networks. This include the co-foundation of the first Italian NGO for gender in development and the advisory role to the Italian Development Cooperation policy dialogue on gender and human rights issues with partner Governments. Ms Pomeranzi is also the Senior Advisor on Gender and Development at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, a member of the OECD/DAC GENDERNET and a member of the EU gender experts. The functions related to her professional activities deal with the implementation of the International Agreements and Conventions for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

**Moderation:**

**Felix Kirchmeier (Manager of Policy Studies, Geneva Academy)**



Felix Kirchmeier manages the conceptualization, the development and the implementation of the Policy Studies Section's research projects, fundraising and outreach activities, including the publication of research results, and activities related to the UN Human Rights Council, other human rights mechanisms and the disarmament and security debates at the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

## **ANNEX:**

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – selected paragraphs  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

**21.** The new Goals and targets will come into effect on 1 January 2016 and will guide the decisions we take over the next fifteen years. All of us will work to implement the Agenda within our own countries and at the regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities

### **Means of Implementation**

**39.** The scale and ambition of the new Agenda requires a revitalized Global Partnership to ensure its implementation. We fully commit to this. This Partnership will work in a spirit of global solidarity, in particular solidarity with the poorest and with people in vulnerable situations. It will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of implementation of all the Goals and targets, bringing together Governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources.

**43.** We emphasize that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources. [...]

**44.** We acknowledge the importance for international financial institutions to support, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, in particular developing countries. We recommit to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries – including African countries, least developed countries, land-locked developing countries, small-island developing States and middle-income countries – in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance.

### **Follow-up and review**

**47.** Our Governments have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the Goals and targets over the coming fifteen years. To support accountability to our citizens, we will provide for systematic follow-up and review at the various levels, as set out in this Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The High Level Political Forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council will have the central role in overseeing follow-up and review at the global level.