



# Confronting Planetary Emergencies – Solving Human Problems

## Biographies

## Opening Session

**Session 1: Economic Thinking and Acting after Covid-19**

**Session 2: Session 2: NAEC - Rejuvenating the Debate**

**Session 3: Lessons from Covid-19 to Address Future Threats**

**Session 4:**

**Closing Session**

9 October 2020

Virtual meeting at the OECD Conference Centre, Paris

Further information: William Hynes – [william.hynes@oecd.org](mailto:william.hynes@oecd.org)



## Angel Gurría

### Secretary General of the OECD

As Secretary-General of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) since 2006, Angel Gurría has firmly established the Organisation as a pillar of the global economic governance architecture including the G7, G20 and APEC, and a reference point in the design and implementation of better policies for better lives. He has broadened OECD's membership with the accession of Chile, Estonia, Israel, Latvia and Slovenia, and has made the Organisation more inclusive by strengthening its links with key emerging economies. Under his watch, the OECD is leading the effort to reform the international tax system, and to improve governance frameworks in anti-corruption and other fields. He has also heralded a new growth narrative that promotes the well-being of people, including women, gender and youth, and has scaled up the OECD contribution to the global agenda, including the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals

Born in Mexico, Mr. Gurría came to the OECD following a distinguished career in public service in his country, including positions as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Finance and Public Credit in the 1990s. Mr. Gurría holds a B.A. degree in Economics from UNAM (Mexico) and a M.A. degree in Economics from Leeds University (United Kingdom). He has received Honorary Degrees from the Universidad de Valle de México, Rey Juan Carlos University, European University of Madrid, and the Universities of Leeds, Haifa and Bratislava.

Mr. Gurría has received several awards and decorations from more than 30 countries, including the titles of Grand officier de la Légion d'honneur and Chevalier dans l'ordre du Mérite agricole, awarded by the French Government. He has also received a Medal from the French Senate and the Ridder Grootkruis in de Orde van Oranje-Naussau awarded by the Netherlands. Most recently, he was distinguished by the President of Korea with the Gwangwha Medal for Diplomatic Service, and also received recognition to his longstanding contribution to the development of public administration in Mexico, the Medalla al Mérito Administrativo Internacional "Gustavo Martínez Cabañas", awarded by the Instituto Nacional de Administración Pública (INAP). In 2007, Mr. Gurría was the first recipient of the Globalist of the Year Award of the Canadian International Council to honour his efforts as a global citizen to promote trans-nationalism, inclusiveness and a global consciousness. His awards include the Ben Gurion Leadership Award, the Award Isidro Fabela by the Mexican Association of International Studies, the Nueva Economía Award, the Orden Bernardo O'Higgins en el Grado de Gran Cruz, and the Medalla Rectoral from the University of Chile.

Mr. Gurría has participated in various international not-for-profit bodies, including the Population Council, based in New York, and the Center for Global Development based in Washington. He chaired the International Task Force on Financing Water for All and continues to be deeply involved in water issues, being a member of the United Nations Secretary General Advisory Board for Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) and of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Water Security. He is also a member of the International Advisory Board of Governors of the Centre for International Governance Innovation; based in Canada, the Advisory Board for the Global Green Growth Forum (3GF), co-hosted by Korea and Denmark, and the Advisory Board to the International Forum on Genomics, Innovation and Economic Growth, and was recently appointed as a member of the Royal Academy of Economic and Financial Sciences of Spain.



## Michael D. Higgins

### President of Ireland

On 11 November 2011, Michael D. Higgins was inaugurated as the ninth President of Ireland. On 11 November 2018 he was inaugurated for a second term.

A passionate political voice, a poet and writer, academic and statesman, human rights advocate, promoter of inclusive citizenship and champion of creativity within Irish society, Michael D. Higgins has previously served at almost every level of public life in Ireland, including as Ireland's first Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht.

Michael D. Higgins was born on 18 April 1941 in Limerick city and was raised in County Clare. He was a factory worker and a clerk before becoming the first in his family to access higher education. He studied at the University College Galway, the University of Manchester and Indiana University.

Michael D. Higgins is married to Sabina Higgins, and they have four children. Sabina Higgins attended the Dublin Stanislavski Acting Studio and was a founding member of the Focus Theatre.

As a lecturer in political science and sociology in National University of Ireland, Galway, and in the United States, Michael D. Higgins was a passionate proponent for the extension of access to third level education beyond the walls of established Universities. He was centrally involved in the development of extra-mural studies at National University of Ireland, Galway, and he travelled extensively across the West of Ireland to provide accessible evening classes for interested citizens.

A desire to work more directly for equality and justice led Michael D. Higgins to enter public life and he went on to serve as a public representative at many levels from Councillor and Mayor to 9 years in the Seanad and 25 in Dáil Éireann.

As Ireland's first Minister for the Arts in 1993-97, Michael D. Higgins' achievements included the reinvigoration of the Irish film industry, the establishment of Teilifís na Gaeilge, now TG4, and the repeal of censorship under Section 31 of the Broadcasting Acts. He also established a rich network of local arts and cultural venues which brought a crucial access to citizens across Ireland to these facilities. Moreover, he drove the revitalisation of Ireland's canal network, resulting in over 1,000 kilometres of navigable waterways, supporting thousands of jobs, and creating wealth in many rural and economically-deprived areas of the State.

Michael D. Higgins has, like many in Ireland, seen generations of his family emigrate. He has a strong interest and solidarity with the Irish abroad and has been a regular visitor to Irish Centres in Britain.

Throughout his life, Michael D. Higgins has campaigned for human rights and for the promotion of peace and democracy in Ireland and in many other parts of the world, from Nicaragua and Chile to Cambodia, Iraq and Somalia. In 1992, Michael D. Higgins was the first recipient of the Seán MacBride Peace Prize from the International Peace Bureau in Helsinki, in recognition of his work for peace and justice in many parts of the world.

Michael D. Higgins is also a writer and poet, contributing to many books covering diverse aspects of Irish politics, sociology, history and and culture. He has published two collections of essays — 'Causes for Concern — Irish Politics, Culture and Society' and 'Renewing the Republic'. He has also published four collections of poetry — 'The Betrayal; The Season of Fire; An Arid Season' and 'New and Selected Poems'.



## Session 1: Economic Thinking and Acting after Covid-19



### Thomas Piketty

**Professor at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS),  
associate chair at the Paris School of Economics**

Thomas Piketty is a French economist whose work focuses on wealth and income inequality. He is a professor (directeur d'études) at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), associate chair at the Paris School of Economics and Centennial professor at the International Inequalities Institute, which is part of the London School of Economics (LSE).

Piketty is the author of the best-selling book [\*Capital in the Twenty-First Century\*](#) (2013), which emphasises the themes of his work on wealth concentrations and distribution over the past 250 years. The book argues that the rate of capital return in developed countries is persistently greater than the rate of economic growth, and that this will cause wealth inequality to increase in the future. To address this problem Piketty proposes redistribution through a progressive global tax on wealth.

#### ***Key Publications***

- Capital and Ideology (Harvard University Press, 2020)
- Capital in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Harvard University Press, 2014)



## Esther Duflo

### **Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics in the Department of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Esther Duflo is the Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics in the Department of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a co-founder and co-director of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). In her research, she seeks to understand the economic lives of the poor, with the aim to help design and evaluate social policies. She has worked on health, education, financial inclusion, environment and governance.

Professor Duflo is the recipient of the [2019 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel](#), awarded jointly with Abhijit Banerjee and Michael Kremer for their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty."

Her first degrees were in history and economics from Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris. She subsequently received a Ph.D. in Economics from MIT in 1999.

Duflo has received numerous academic honors and prizes including the Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences (2015), the A.SK Social Science Award (2015), Infosys Prize (2014), the David N. Kershaw Award (2011), a John Bates Clark Medal (2010), and a MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowship (2009). With Abhijit Banerjee, she wrote *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*, which won the Financial Times and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year Award in 2011 and has been translated into 17 languages.

Duflo is the Editor of the *American Economic Review*, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.

#### **Key Publications**

- Good Economics for Hard Times (with Abhijit Banerjee, 2019)
- Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty (with Abhijit Banerjee, 2011)



### David Parker

#### Minister for Trade and Export Growth, Government of New Zealand

David Parker was appointed Minister for Trade and Export Growth after the general election in 2017.

He is also the Attorney-General, Minister for the Environment, and Associate Minister of Finance.

Mr Parker grew up and studied in Dunedin, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws from the University of Otago.

He had a long career in business and law before being elected to Parliament as Labour Member of Parliament in the former electorate of Otago in 2002.

In his earlier years, Mr Parker was a managing and litigation partner in South Island law firm Anderson Lloyd. He was also involved in many businesses, including innovative bio-tech export start-ups A2 Corporation, BLIS Technologies, Botryzen and Pharmazen, as well as in more traditional industries. He is an experienced CEO and company director.

Mr Parker was appointed to Cabinet in 2005, and served as Minister of Energy, Climate Change, Transport, State Services, Attorney-General, and Land Information under Helen Clark's Government.

He was the Listener magazine's environmentalist of the year in 2008 for his work as the Minister of Energy and Climate Change pioneering New Zealand's emissions trading scheme.

In Opposition, he served as Deputy Leader, Shadow Attorney General, and in Finance, Economic Development and various other roles.





**Kersti Kaljulaid**

**President of Estonia**

Kersti Kaljulaid is President of Estonia since October 2016.

She graduated from the University of Tartu in 1992 in the field of genetics in the Faculty of Natural Sciences and completed master's studies in the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration in 2001.

From 1994 to 1999, she worked in various Estonian companies: first, as the sales manager of telephone switchboards in Eesti Telefon, later in Hoiupank Markets and Hansapank Markets as an associate in investment banking.

From 1999 to 2002, Kersti Kaljulaid was Prime Minister Mart Laar's Economic Advisor. Her duties included organisation of cooperation of the Office of the Prime Minister with Estonian central bank, the Ministry of Finance and ministries that had larger budgets, as well as coordination of relations with the International Monetary Fund and other financial institutions (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Nordic Investment Bank and World Bank). She participated in preparing the pension reform together with the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Social Affairs and advised the Prime Minister in annual budget negotiations held with other ministers.

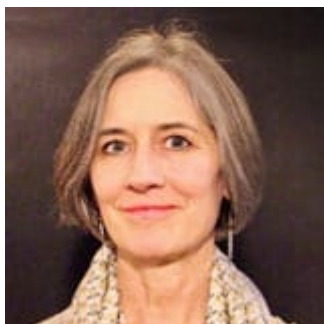
From 2002 to 2004, Kersti Kaljulaid was the CFO and CEO of the Iru Power Plant of state-owned energy company Eesti Energia.

From 2004 to 2016 she was a Member of the European Court of Auditors. From 2004 to 2006 Kersti Kaljulaid organised the financial audit of the research and development funds of the budget of the European Union and from 2007 to 2010 she was responsible for the audit of the Structural Policies. From 2004 to 2007, she was the auditor of the Galileo project of the European Union. From 2010 to 2016 she coordinated the preparation of the Annual Report and State of Assurance of the European Court of Auditors. From 2005 to 2007, she was a member of the Europol Audit Committee and chaired the committee in 2007. From 2006 to 2008, she was the chair of the Administrative Affairs Committee of the Court of Auditors. From 2010 to 2014, she was responsible for the methodology and preparation of the Annual Report of the Court of Auditors. In 2016, she worked in the field of the agriculture audit.

In addition, Kersti Kaljulaid was a member of the Supervisory Board of the Estonian Genome Center from 2001 to 2004. She was also a member of the Advisory Board of the University of Tartu from 2009 to 2011 and the Council Chair of the University of Tartu from 2012 to 2016. Kersti Kaljulaid has been a co-author of the social-political radio talk show Keskpäevatudund (Midday Hour) in radio station Kuku from 2002 to 2004 and the editor of the Eurominutid (Euro-minutes) radio show from 2007 to 2016 in the same station.



## Session 2: NAEC - Rejuvenating the Debate



**Leslie Harroun**

**Senior Advisor, Partners for a New Economy**

Leslie Harroun was part of the launch of Partners for a New Economy in 2015 and was its Director till September 2020. Prior to this she developed and managed the Oak Foundation's North American, European and select global climate change portfolios for more than 15 years.

Partners for a New Economy (P4E) is an international donor collaborative that wants the economic system to generate positive environmental and social outcomes. Their vision is of an economy that enables communities, people and nature to thrive. They hope to accomplish this by funding innovative projects and building communities that bring new thinking and approaches to traditional economics.





**Barry C. Lynn**

## **Director, Open Markets Institute**

Barry Lynn directs the Open Markets Institute. Previously, he spent 15 years at the New America Foundation researching and writing about monopoly power. He is author of *Cornered: The New Monopoly Capitalism and the Economics of Destruction* (Wiley 2010) and *End of the Line: The Rise and Coming Fall of the Global Corporation* (Doubleday 2005).

Lynn's writings on the political and economic effects of the extreme consolidation of power in the United States have influenced the thinking of policymakers and antitrust professionals on both sides of the Atlantic. His work has been profiled on CBS and in the *New York Times*, and his articles have appeared in publications including *Harper's*, the *Financial Times*, *Harvard Business Review*, and *Foreign Policy*. He has appeared on CBS, PBS, CNN, the BBC, NPR, MSNBC, C-Span, and the Christian Broadcasting Network, among others. Prior to joining New America, Lynn was executive editor of *Global Business Magazine* for seven years, and worked as a correspondent in Peru, Venezuela, and the Caribbean for the Associated Press and Agence France Presse.



**William Hynes**

**NAEC Co-ordinator, OECD**

William Hynes is Senior Advisor to the Secretary General and Co-ordinator of the New Approaches to Economic Challenges Initiative (NAEC) which provides a space to question traditional economic ideas and offer new economic narratives, new tools, methods and policy approaches. He previously worked as an Advisor in the Sherpa and Global Governance Unit, a policy analyst in the Development Co-operation Directorate and an economic affairs officer at the World Trade Organisation. William is an Adjunct Professor in International Economics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, has a doctorate from Oxford University and was a Marie Curie Fellow at the London School of Economics.



## Session 3: Lessons from Covid-19 to Address Future Threats



**Gillian Tett**

**Chair of Editorial Board and Editor-at-large, US, *The Financial Times***

Chair of Editorial Board and Editor-at-large, US, The Financial Times

Gillian Tett is chair of the editorial board and editor-at-large, US of the Financial Times. She writes weekly columns, covering a range of economic, financial, political and social issues.

In 2014, she was named Columnist of the Year in the British Press Awards and was the first recipient of the Royal Anthropological Institute Marsh Award. In June 2009 her book *Fool's Gold* won Financial Book of the Year at the inaugural Spear's Book Awards.

Tett's past roles at the FT have included US managing editor, assistant editor, capital markets editor, deputy editor of the Lex column, Tokyo bureau chief, and a reporter in Russia and Brussels.



### Manuel Muñiz

#### **State Secretary for Global Spain, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Manuel Muñiz Villa was appointed as State Secretary for Global Spain at the Council of Ministers held on 28 January 2020.

He held the post of Dean of the Global and Public Affairs School at IE from January 2017 to January 2020. During this period, he was also Director of the Centre for Governance of Change at IE, an institution engaged in the study of challenges posed by technological and social change. He also held the Rafael del Pino Chair of Global Transformation and ran the Global Leadership Programme at the Rafael del Pino Foundation.

Between 2015 and 2017, Dr. Muñiz ran the Transatlantic Relations Programme at Harvard University. He was made a fellow in 2017 and is one of the promoters of the Project on Europe and the Transatlantic Relationship of Harvard Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.

Dr. Muñiz holds a Bachelor in Laws from the Complutense University of Madrid, a Master's Degree in the Stock Market and Financial Markets from the Stock Market Studies Institute, a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government and a PhD in International Relations from Oxford University. He was also made a David Rockefeller Fellow by the Trilateral Commission and a Millennium Fellow by the Atlantic Council. In 2016, he was appointed as one of the 25 intellectuals that are redefining Ibero-American thought by Esglobal



## Kenneth Rogoff

### Thomas D Cabot a Professor of Public Policy, Harvard University

Kenneth Rogoff is Thomas D. Cabot Professor at Harvard University. From 2001–2003, Rogoff served as Chief Economist at the International Monetary Fund. His widely-cited 2009 book with Carmen Reinhart, *This Time Is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*, shows the remarkable quantitative similarities across time and countries in the run-up and the aftermath of severe financial crises. Rogoff is also known for his seminal work on exchange rates and on central bank independence. Together with Maurice Obstfeld, he is co-author of *Foundations of International Macroeconomics*, a treatise that has also become a widely-used graduate text in the field worldwide. Rogoff's 2016 book *The Curse of Cash* looks at the past, present and future of currency from standardized coinage to crypto-currencies. The book argues that although much of modern macroeconomics abstracts from the nature of currency, it is in fact lies at the heart of some of the most fundamental problems in monetary policy and public finance. His monthly syndicated column on global economic issues is published in over 50 countries.

Rogoff is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Group of Thirty, and He is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Rogoff is among the top ten on RePEc's ranking of economists by scholarly citations. He is also an international grandmaster of chess.



### **Tyler Goodspeed**

#### **Acting Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers**

Tyler Beck Goodspeed is the Acting Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, having previously served as Member, Chief Economist for Macroeconomic Policy, and Senior Economist for Macroeconomics. Before joining the CEA, he was a member of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Oxford and was a lecturer in economics at King's College London. He has published extensively on financial regulation, banking, and monetary economics, with particular attention to the role of contingent liability and access to credit in mitigating the effects of adverse aggregate shocks in historical contexts. His research has appeared in three full-length monographs from academic publishers, as well as numerous articles in peer-reviewed and edited journals. He received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from Harvard University; and he received his M.Phil from the University of Cambridge, where he was a Gates Scholar. He is a current member of the American Economic Association, and was previously a member of the Economic History Association, Economic History Society, and Royal Economic Society, as well as an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute.





### John Cochrane

#### **Rose-Marie and Jack Anderson Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution**

John H. Cochrane is the Rose-Marie and Jack Anderson Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. His monetary economics publications include articles on monetary policy and the fiscal theory of the price level. His finance publications include the book *Asset Pricing*, and articles on dynamics in stock and bond markets, the volatility of exchange rates, the term structure of interest rates, the returns to venture capital, liquidity premiums in stock prices, the relation between stock prices and business cycles, and option pricing when investors can't perfectly hedge. He has also written articles on macroeconomics, health insurance, time-series econometrics, financial regulation, and other topics. He was a coauthor of *The Squam Lake Report*. He writes occasional Op-eds, mostly in the *Wall Street Journal*, and blogs as "the Grumpy Economist" at [johnhcochrane.blogspot.com](http://johnhcochrane.blogspot.com). He recently created the Coursera online course "Asset Pricing" covering first year PhD Asset Pricing.

Cochrane is also a Senior Fellow of the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR), Professor of Finance and Economics (by Courtesy) at Stanford GSB, Distinguished Senior Fellow of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, and of the Becker-Friedman Institute, a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, and an Adjunct Scholar of the CATO Institute. He is a past President and Fellow of the American Finance Association, and a Fellow of the Econometric Society. He has been an Editor of the *Journal of Political Economy*, and associate editor of several journals including the *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *Journal of Business*, and *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control* and director of the NBER asset pricing program. Recent awards include the TIAA-CREF Institute Paul A. Samuelson Award for his book *Asset Pricing*, the Chookaszian Endowed Risk Management Prize, the Faculty Excellence Award for MBA teaching and the McKinsey Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Before coming to Hoover, Cochrane was the AQR Capital Management Distinguished Service Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business, where he taught the MBA class "Advanced Investments" and a variety of PhD classes in Asset Pricing and Monetary Economics. Cochrane earned a Bachelor's degree in Physics at MIT, and earned his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of California at Berkeley. He was at the Economics Department of the University of Chicago before joining the Booth School in 1994, and visited UCLA Anderson School of Management in 2000-2001.

## Session 4: New Analytical Approaches and Covid-19



**Megan Greene**

**Senior Fellow at Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at the Harvard Kennedy School**

Megan Green is Senior Fellow at Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at the Harvard Kennedy School. Renowned for her stunning early prediction of the eurozone crisis in 2006 and her work on inequality and rules in macroeconomics that no longer work, Harvard Senior Fellow Megan Greene informs and entertains with her no-nonsense and witty delivery of complex concepts in plain English. With a global focus drawn from a career split between the UK and US, she examines the intersection of macroeconomics, financial markets and politics. Megan is not your typical two-handed economist—she has strong opinions and challenges conventional thinking, but is well-informed and fair. She has a breadth of experience working in financial services, academia and policy and tailors her insights and forecasts specifically for her audiences.

Megan currently serves as a Senior Fellow at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at Harvard Kennedy School, where she is working on a book examining the gaps between theory and reality in economics today and how they prevent us from addressing the biggest economic, financial, political and social issue of our time: inequality. She is also the first Dame DeAnne Julius Senior Fellow in International Economics at Chatham House.

Ms Greene is a frequent keynote speaker for financial services clients, trade associations and policymakers. She has a biweekly column in the Financial Times on global macroeconomics and appears regularly on TV and radio outlets such as Bloomberg, CNBC, NPR and BBC.

She also serves on the board of directors of the National Association for Business Economists (NABE), the Parliamentary Budget Office in Ireland, Rebuilding Macroeconomics (a multi-disciplinary UK research initiative aiming to make economics policy-relevant) and Econofact (a research initiative compiling economics articles in an easily digestible format to combat 'fake news'). In addition, Megan is as an Affiliate of the Rhodes Center Brown University and a Non-Resident Fellow at Trinity College Dublin and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She regularly advises governments and central banks in the US, UK, eurozone and Japan.

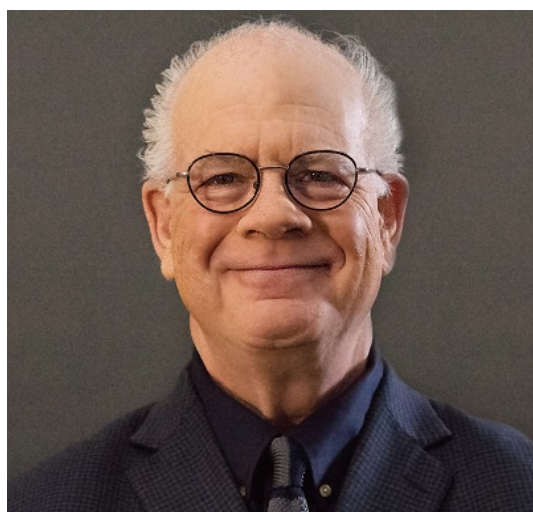
Megan was previously Global Chief Economist at John Hancock/Manulife Asset Management, founder and Chief Economist at Maverick Intelligence, head of European Economics at Roubini Global Economics and the euro crisis expert at the Economist Intelligence Unit. She holds a B.A. from Princeton and an MSc from Oxford.



**Andy Haldane**

**Chief Economist and Executive Director, Monetary Analysis & Research**

Andrew G Haldane is the Chief Economist at the Bank of England. He is a member of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee and Chair of the Government's Industrial Strategy Council. Among other positions, he is Honorary Professor at University of Nottingham, a Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford, a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and a Governor of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. He has authored around 200 articles and 4 books. Andrew is the founder and trustee of 'Pro Bono Economics', a charity which brokers economists into charitable projects, a trustee of National Numeracy and Patron of the charities Reach and Speakers for Schools.



**Joshua Epstein**

**Professor of Epidemiology in the NYU School of Global Public Health**

Joshua Epstein is Professor of Epidemiology in the NYU School of Global Public Health, and founding Director of the NYU Agent-Based Modeling Laboratory, with affiliated appointments at The Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, and the College of Arts & Sciences. Prior to joining NYU, he was Professor of Emergency Medicine at Johns Hopkins, and Director of the Center for Advanced Modeling in the Social, Behavior, and Health Sciences, with Joint appointments in Economics, Applied Mathematics, International Health, and Biostatistics. Before that, he was Senior Fellow in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institution and Director of the Center on Social and Economic Dynamics. His research interest has been modeling complex social dynamics using mathematical and computational methods, notably the method of Agent-Based Modeling in which he is a recognized pioneer. For this transformative innovation, he was awarded the NIH Director's Pioneer Award in 2008, an Honorary Doctorate of Science from Amherst College in 2010, and was elected to the Society of Sigma XI in 2018. He has applied this method to the study of infectious diseases (e.g., Ebola, pandemic influenza, and smallpox), vector-borne diseases (e.g., zika), urban disaster preparedness, contagious violence, the evolution of norms, economic dynamics, computational archaeology, and the emergence of social classes, among many other topics. His books include *Nonlinear Dynamics, Mathematical Biology, and Social Science* (Wiley 1997), *Generative Social Science: Studies in Agent-Based Computational Modeling* (Princeton, 2006), *Agent\_Zero: Toward Neurocognitive Foundations for Generative Social Science* (Princeton, 2013), and with Robert Axtell, *Growing Artificial Societies: Social Science from the Bottom Up* (MIT, 1996). Dr. Epstein earned his BA from Amherst College and his Ph.D. from The Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



### Alain de Serres

#### Deputy Director, Policy Studies Branch, OECD Economics Department

Alain de Serres is currently Deputy Director in the Policy Studies Branch of the OECD Economics Department. His responsibilities include testing and applying innovative analytical frameworks to look for effective and integrated solutions to major economic challenges. The main focus of his work is to examine how different institutional and policy settings – in particular in the areas of regulation and taxation – affect employment and productivity growth through their impact on trade, innovation and financial development. He also contributes to OECD work for the G20 and G7 under the co-ordination of the Sherpa. Before that he was Head of the Structural Policies Surveillance Division in the OECD Economics Department, supervising the preparation and publication of the annual *Going for Growth* report. He has recently worked on the policy determinants of investment in knowledge-based capital. Prior to that he has contributed to the development a framework for the analysis of green growth policies as well as to the completion of an OECD Report on the economics of climate change mitigation. Part of this work has been published in journals such as *Economic Policy*, *European Economic Review*, *Environmental and Resource Economics* and the *Journal of Economic Geography*. Alain is Canadian and before joining the OECD, he worked for many years at the Bank of Canada and the Ministry of Finance in Ottawa...





## Closing session



### Juan Yermo

#### Chief of Staff to the OECD Secretary-General

Mr Yermo supports the Secretary-General's strategic leadership and ensures that the Organisation delivers on its mandates. He oversees the functioning of the cabinet, which includes the team of advisors, two horizontal policy units (New Approaches to Economic Challenges (NAEC) and Strategic Foresight), and the Sherpa Office. He also steers a whole-of-Organisation initiative to provide targeted policy advice and reform support to countries, leads efforts to strengthen strategic partnerships with other international organisations and foundations. He also coordinates the Organisation's Voluntary Contributions (VC) focal point.

Mr Yermo supports Deputy Secretary-General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf in overseeing the OECD Action Plan on the SDGs and the Strategic Approach to Anti-Corruption and Integrity. He also co-chairs the OECD's Friends of Gender Equality +, and is a member of the Directors' Group steering the recently established Centre on Well-Being, Inequalities, Sustainability and Equal Opportunities (WISE).

Previously, Mr Yermo served as Deputy Chief of Staff since October 2014, supporting the Secretary-General and the Chief of Staff and G20 Sherpa in steering the strategic agenda of the Secretary-General, and in managing the cabinet and day-to-day operations.

Mr Yermo joined the OECD in July 1999 as head of the private pensions unit. He oversaw the Working Party on Private Pensions and led the launch of the OECD Pensions Outlook, among other publications. Before joining the Office of the Secretary-General, Mr Yermo was Deputy Head of the Financial Affairs Division of the Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs. He supported the organisation's input to the G20 project on investment financing, including the development of the G20-OECD High-level Principles of Long-term Investment Financing by Institutional Investors.

Prior to joining the OECD, Mr Yermo was a consultant for the Latin America and Caribbean Department of the World Bank, a risk analyst at Bankers Trust, and an economist at SBC Warburg.

Mr Yermo holds a Ph.D. (DPhil) and MPhil in Economics from Oxford University, and an MA in Economics from Cambridge University. He is a Spanish national.





### Manuel Escudero

#### Ambassador to the OECD, Permanent Representative of Spain

Ambassador Manuel Escudero took up his duties as Permanent Representative of Spain to the OECD on 12 July 2018.

Mr. Escudero was born in San Sebastián. He is an economist and holds a degree in Business Studies (Deusto, Spain), a Master's in Regional Economics (MSc), 1977, and a Doctorate (PhD), 1987, both from the London School of Economics.

From 2005 and 2010, Mr. Escudero was Director of Networks of the UN Global Compact Initiative, whose purpose is to bring together responsible companies in public-private partnerships with other civil society institutions.

Mr. Escudero founded in 2007 the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), an international initiative supported by the United Nations, in which more than 700 business and business administration schools participate in 85 countries.

Prior to taking up his duties as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Spain to the OECD in 2018, Mr. Escudero was Secretary of Economic Policy and Employment at the Executive Commission of the PSOE, and Special Adviser to the Office of the United Nations Global Compact Initiative, in New York.

Manuel Escudero also has a long-standing career in the academic sphere. He was Professor of Macroeconomics, Dean of Research and Dean of Cloister at the Instituto de Empresa, IE Business School in Madrid, between 1991 and 2005. In 2010, Mr. Escudero returned to Spain as General Director of Deusto Business School (2010-2014).

Mr. Escudero has combined this international, professional and academic activity with public and political activity in various periods of his life. He has written 5 books and has participated in more than 10 collective volumes and published more than 150 opinion articles.



## Erdem Başçı

### Ambassador to the OECD, Permanent Representative of Turkey

Ambassador Erdem Başçı took up his duties as Permanent Representative of Turkey to the OECD on 30 May 2016.

Mr. Başçı was born in Ankara in 1966. He holds an honours degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the Middle East Technical University, an M.B.A. and an M.A in Economics from Bilkent University as well as a second M.A. degree in Economics from Johns Hopkins University. In 1995 he obtained a Ph.D. in Economics from Bilkent University.

Between 1995 and 2003, Mr. Başçı worked as an Assistant Professor at Bilkent University in the Economics Department, and in 1999 he was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Monetary economics, financial economics, macroeconomic theory and mathematical economics were his research and teaching areas.

Mr. Başçı lectured at the University of York, UK as an honorary visiting fellow in 1999. Mr. Başçı's academic papers have been published in Oxford Economic Papers, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, and Journal of Mathematical Economics. He also co-authored various chapters in books published by Springer-Verlag and Palgrave. Besides his theoretical contributions to the economic literature, Mr. Başçı has academic publications on the Turkish economy as well.

In October 2003 Mr. Başçı was nominated Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey.

From 2011 until his appointment as Permanent Representative of Turkey to the OECD, Mr. Başçı was Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey.



### **Irena Sodin**

#### **Ambassador to the OECD, Permanent Representative of Slovenia**

Ambassador Irena Sodin took up her duties as Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the OECD on 13 February 2017.

Ms. Sodin holds a degree in Economics from the University of Ljubljana; she took part in the Executive Development Programme of the World Bank at Harvard University in 1999 as well as the International Visitor Leadership Programme at the US State Department in 2003.

In 1983, Ms. Sodin joined Ljubljanska banka, the largest Slovenian bank, as a member of the Export Credit Department promoting Slovenian exporters chiefly in the Western markets. In 1996, Ms. Sodin joined the Ministry of Finance where she held a number of high-ranking positions: from 1997 to 2001, she was Senior Adviser and Undersecretary of State at the Office of the Minister and the International Department; from 2001 to 2005, Ms. Sodin was Head of the International Department, from 2001 to 2005, she was a member of the Administrative Council of the CEB, then Vice-Chairperson and Chair of the Board of the Centre of Excellence in Finance.

From 2005 to 2014, Ms. Sodin joined the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development as an Adviser and Alternate Director in the Constituency Office of Belgium, Luxembourg and Slovenia.

From 2014 until her appointment as Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the OECD, she was State Secretary at the Ministry of Finance and member of the Economic and Financial Committee for Slovenia at the EU.