



Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment

A JOINT CENTER OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL
AND THE EARTH INSTITUTE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The Global Pact for the Environment **Multi-Disciplinary Perspectives on the Future of** **International Environmental Governance**

September 26, 2018
Columbia University

PROGRAM

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Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI)

The Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI), a joint center of Columbia Law School and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is a leading research center and forum dedicated exclusively to the study, practice and discussion of sustainable international investment (SII) worldwide. Through research, advisory projects, multi-stakeholder dialogue and educational programs, CCSI constructs and implements an investment framework that promotes sustainable development, builds trusting relationships for long-term investments, and is easily adopted by governments, companies and civil society. For more information, see: <http://ccsi.columbia.edu>.

Le Club des Juristes (CDJ)

Created in 2007, Le Club des Juristes is France's first legal think tank, comprised of a diverse range of legal professionals including lawyers, judges, academics, and notaries. The CDJ has twin aims: to promote innovative legal debate, and to improve legal literacy by the public. To these ends, the CDJ pushes legal debates outside the confines of legal communities to comment on current news (social, economic, political and institutional) from a relevant legal perspective. <http://www.leclubdesjuristes.com/>

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has been operating since 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. SDSN mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. SDSN aims to accelerate joint learning and promote integrated approaches that address the interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges confronting the world. SDSN works closely with United Nations agencies, multilateral financing institutions, the private sector, and civil society.

<http://unsdsn.org/>

Iberdrola

Iberdrola is a power utility based in Spain, the United States, the UK, Mexico, and Brazil. It is the second largest integrated utility in Europe. Iberdrola considers the mandate to decarbonize the economy an opportunity rather than a challenge, and has worked over the past decade to become the world leader in wind energy. Iberdrola has committed to carbon neutrality by 2050 and is well on its way: renewables account for 60% of installed capacity and Iberdrola's emissions in continental Europe are 67% below peer companies. Thanks to an internal carbon price, Iberdrola has cut emissions 75% since 2000. Iberdrola's actions on climate change have been recognized by the Global 100, CDP, Dow Jones Sustainability Index, FTSE4Good or the Climate Disclosure Leadership Index.

In September 2017, during the UN General Assembly (UNGA), President Macron and a group of Friends of the Pact held a [Summit to launch diplomatic efforts for a proposed Global Pact for the Environment](#). The [Global Pact](#) reopened the debate on a path forward for international environmental governance, proposing to serve as a legally binding “umbrella text” that synthesizes the principles outlined in the [Stockholm Declaration](#), the [World Charter for Nature](#), and the [Rio Declaration](#). The Global Pact also aimed to re-center rights-based discourse in environmental protection, codifying the right to a healthy environment in international law.

In early May the UNGA voted to create a working group to identify and assess gaps in international environmental governance, kicking off formal diplomatic work for a Global Pact for the Environment. This follows a year of exciting developments on the Pact, including the initial drafting of a pact “blueprint” in Paris, President Macron’s [Summit to introduce the Pact](#) at the UN in September, and a program of conferences and consultations around the world.

This conference will build upon this work, including last September’s [conference at Columbia](#), bringing together a group of leading experts to take stock of the state of international environmental governance, consider opportunities to bolster protections for people and planet, and discuss the Global Pact from legal, diplomatic, economic, and ethical perspectives.

September 26, 2018, Wednesday

8:30 – 9:00 *Breakfast and Registration*

9:00 – 9:15 *Introductory Remarks:*

François De Rugy, Minister for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition, France

9:15 – 9:20 *Film on the Global Pact for the Environment*

9:20 – 11:20 *The Global Pact Imperative: The Future of International Environmental Governance from All Sides*

The Global Pact for the Environment Working Group's mandate is to assess challenges in the implementation of international environmental law, which will guide negotiations on a new instrument to improve implementation and coherence of global environmental governance. This session aims to regroup the importance of the Global Pact in what is at stake in its absence, and what it could potentially achieve, from ethical, legal, economic, and diplomatic perspectives.

Inger Andersen, Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature

John Denton, Secretary General, International Chamber of Commerce

Miroslav Lajčák, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Slovakia; Former President of the UN General Assembly (72nd session)

Jamil Ahmad, Deputy Head, the UN Environment Programme, New York Office

Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

11:30 – 12:00 *Closing Remarks*

Carlos Sallé, Director of Energy Policies and Climate Change, Iberdrola

Yann Aguila, Partner, Bredin Prat; Professor of Public Law, Sciences Po and Paris Bar School; Chair of the Environmental Law Commission, Club des Juristes