

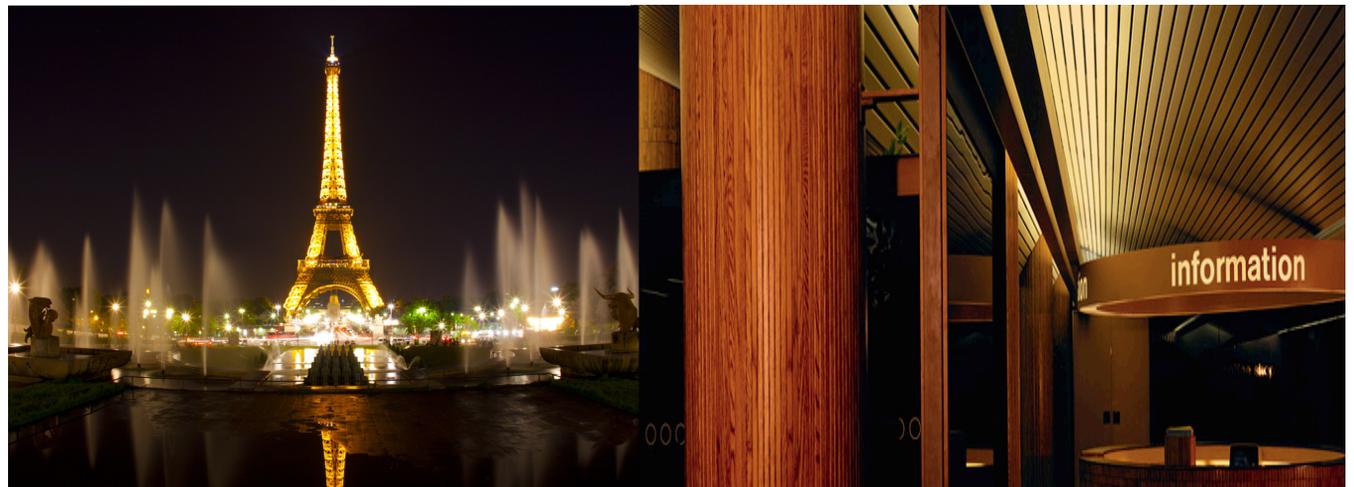
'Imagine the Common Good'



COMMON GOOD FORUM
Global & Local Bridge-Builder

International Conference

25-28 August 2013
Cité Universitaire Internationale, Paris





**An international and
intergenerational
dialogue**

Sunday August 25-
Wednesday August 28,
2013.

Cité Internationale
Universitaire de Paris:
Fondation Hellénique
(and Maison du
Mexique).

CONFERENCE

'IMAGINE THE COMMON GOOD'

An intergenerational Dialogue to Inspire a Creative Leadership

*Conference organised by CommonGoodForum
(www.commongood-forum.org)*

with the Globalisation for the Common Good Initiative,

*in association with the CEDIMES (Centres d'Etudes du
Développement International et des Mouvements
Economiques et Sociaux)*

*and Youth-Time/World Public Forum for the Dialogue of
Civilisations.*



Bridge-Builder and the Common Good

1° Purpose:

Bringing thinkers, practitioners and Bridge Builder together to share their vision about the notion of Common Good in France and around the world.

The Common Good and the Globalisation

We view the problem and challenge of globalisation not only from an economic point of view, but also from ethical, spiritual and theological perspectives. This Initiative is predicated on a global economy of sharing and community, grounded in an economic value system.

It is here that we see affirmation in that this is a struggle not only in how markets work, and not simply who is to be burdened with this task, but how we are to do it. By what means, what goals, and to what extent we are called to enhance this common good.

Contrasting cultures and varying resources invariably split nations apart just as much as the rules and laws that each other different societies form from the beginning of the development of societies.

Consequently we consider a new type of

metanarrative is much needed to change the world. Something strategically ambiguous towards which to head despite our differences, and that would aggregate coherence from a variety of disparate micro narratives that shape events and build trust at the grassroots level.

It can speak to our logic and reason as much as to our intuitions and emotions. As it speaks many languages, it can be conveyed in many different forms to many of the worldviews, aspirations and streams of initiatives that strive to create a better world. This requires to provide a holistic sense and perspective on life, entail an ecological ethic, entail a self-realization ethic, be multileveled, multifaceted, and integrative.

Network architectures change power structures, and we consider ecosystems of change as scaffold to aggregate different kinds of powers and mechanisms that are out there, and support the emergence of the new until it becomes strong enough. Globalization shows us the answer to solving the common good by sharing and moving in a direction of communal intertwinement that embraces the comparative advantage in markets, as well as the charitable heart of human kind. This is done through the reduction of social barriers and the implementation of international organizations as some of the more prominent and widely supported methods.

The Common Good, the Economy of the Commons, and the capabilities of people

We study the relationship between the notion of Common Good and the Economy, with a particular emphasis on the governance of the Commons. We not only focus on the commons as an object, but really think we need to empower people with capabilities engaged in communities. Indeed the commons take various shapes : object - process – result.

As objects, the commons embody the Common Wealth, the 'Assets' that are inherited or created, shared in common, and serve a livelihood (natural, social & cultural resources, genetic and biologic diversity, knowledge, etc), that people can take care of, nurture, replenish, grow.

As a process, the commons embody the Common Ethos, a Culture, the ways of being and doing in common that epitomizes in commoning (caring, sharing, nurturing, governing the assets in relationship with others with empathy, equity, justice, mindfulness...).

As a Result: - the commons embody the Common Good, the outcome of the process (well being, quality of life, prosperity, abundance) which is the life blood of the process and a condition for the growth of the assets. We perceive both an input to the dynamic interactions between people and their contexts, and an output thereof.

As complex living systems themselves, described by Elinor Ostrom as "self-organized" and "polycentric", where the people closely involved help "develop rules for themselves", the commons mimic the conflict-free self-organization observable in natural economic systems and can help materialize the need and possibilities for a systemic change. We would like to encourage self-organization and self-realization at the local level for the parts to be resilient and to thrive while learning from and empowering one another through expansion of partnerships and interactions; learning both how to work independently and together at various



integrative levels or scales to empower larger systems and share responsibilities as a way to assure individual freedoms.

We would like to encourage the understanding of how things work and the awareness of emerging behaviors to be responsive, anticipate potential conflict or collaboration and recognize change as it unfolds; and ultimately enable positive trends to be amplified and new learning to be integrated and made applicable.

Eventually, this supposes to enable the parts to be aware of other parts and wholes, and the whole system from discovering their behavior, even when they are hidden from view. Enabling them to be aware of how they use and

other parts and wholes, and the whole system from discovering their behavior, even when they are hidden from view. Enabling them to be aware of how they use and depend of the whole and how they can contribute to keep the whole viable and thriving.

2° Objectives

1. **Understand the notion and the different perception of the Common Good, which means proposing an international clear vision of the common good with non-anthropocentric perspective.**
2. **Working on the Common Good, the Economy and the capabilities, particularly for the future generation.**
3. **Sharing vision and best practices to promote the common good, the creativity as well as the transmission of good incentives and capabilities for young and senior people.**

3° An Intergenerational Dialogue

We will conceive the common good in the serious socioeconomic context of the largest generation of young people the world has ever known. Nearly half of all people in the world today are under the age of 25 - the largest youth generation in history. They are facing the realities of the struggling economic situation around the world. In the aftermath of the economic crisis, the global youth unemployment rate sees its largest increase on record. Also the issues young people face around the world seem sometimes similar - education, relationships, family, career, condition of living, acceptance, value in particular. Consequently, around the world, there is a need for a growing recognition of it to strengthen policies and investments involving young people. The key objective is to advance youth as a value-creating resource, building on scholarship, intergenerational and intercultural dialogue, and the commitment to the global common good. In short, the world is facing a crisis of values, ideas, and vision. In that



perspective, we need to find solution, to use creativity to develop innovative solutions.

An intergenerational Vision refers to the transmission of a material and immaterial heritage. With this inheritance, all humans now need a living vision of and a feeling of common responsibility for.

Indeed understanding the common good means including the environment humans are all a part of. They inherit and create, use and change, and then pass on to future generations. Understanding traditions and imagining our future suppose that intergenerational relationship connects us and nurtures much of what we produce and accomplish. This

and create, use and change, and then pass on to future generations. Understanding traditions and imagining our future suppose that intergenerational relationship connects us and nurtures much of what we produce and accomplish. This means public policies and commons embody the relationships we build, between people and with the earth, our communities as well as the knowledge shared.

4° Why is this conference unique?

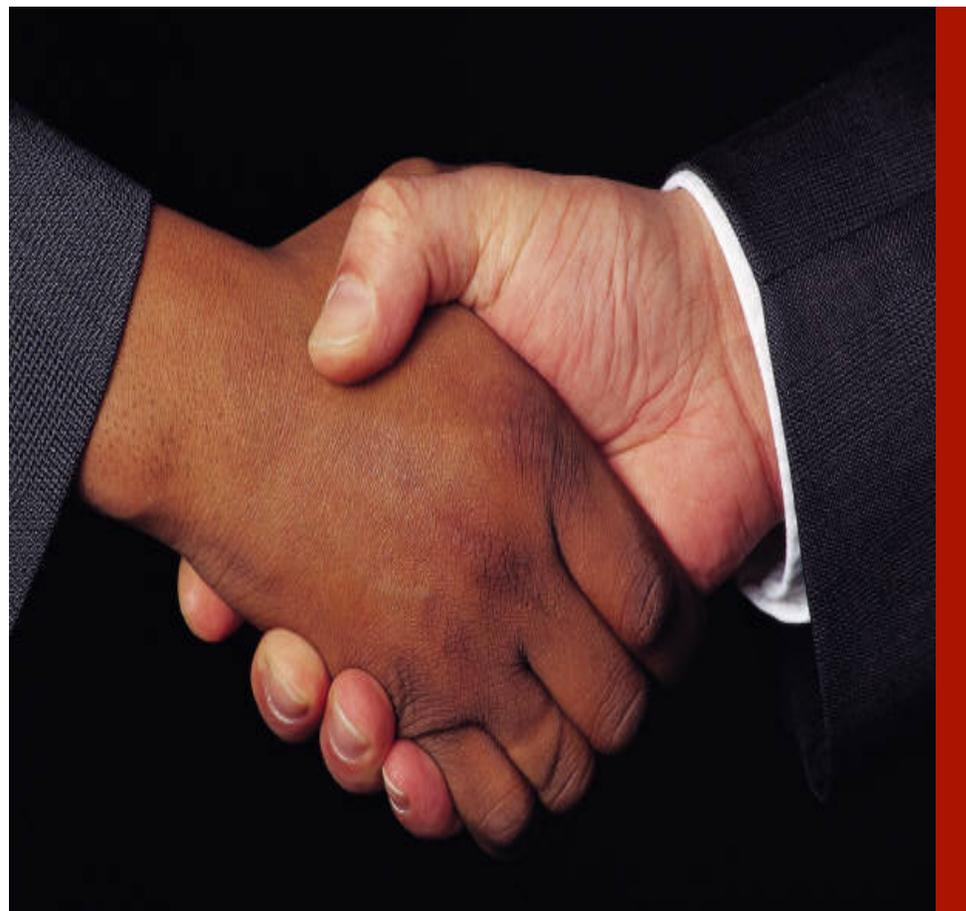
1. From Oxford (2002) to Paris (2013), this conference benefits from the expertise and experience of a Decade of a Global Partnership.

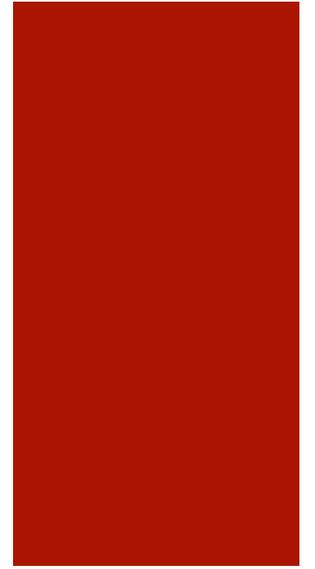
This Global Partnership develops and disseminates innovative ideas through expertise of academics and practitioners who have supported the Initiative around the Globe : UK, Russia, UAE, Kenya, Hawaiï USA, Turkey, Australia, California USA, France.

This method represents an opportunity to combine a global comprehensive overview of globalisation with local perspectives as well. Whilst discarding the conceit that all norms are equally valid, neither do the partners view Western norms as the only acceptable lens through which to view ethical and spiritual question.

In that respect, Dialogue among societies with diverse traditions remains essential for cooperation on tough global challenge. In that respect, the Globalisation for the Common Good Initiative is a strategic platform, because it allows common reflection of different practices, and enables therefore a common theory-practice-process within all kinds of movements and worldviews.

2. We will use a socratic process in order to draw conclusion and prepare output and action plan, in particular through a social charter called the Declaration of Paris.





5^o Process: a Socratic Process

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25 August 2013 : Welcome Address:

How the concept of the Common Good fit for helping to address the serious complex and inter-connected challenges?

A dialogue on how people from different continent see the French vision of the Common Good.

26 August 2013: Day 1

The Common Good and how to share values in a divided world

27 August 2013 : Day 2

The Common Good, governance issues and capabilities

28 August 2013 : Day 3

A morning dedicated to drawing conclusion: the Declaration of Paris



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Contact: violaine.hacker@commongood-forum.org

See more details: www.commongood-forum.org