4th ASEF SUSTAINABLE YOUNG LEADERS DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT POST-COVID-19

A multi-part youth programme in 2021 | Virtual, Cambodia & Across ASEM Countries
Official youth event in support of the 13th ASEM Summit (ASEM13)

Speakers, Facilitators & Organisers

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ASEM LEADERS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

HE Mr Micheál MARTIN
Taoiseach/Prime Minister of Ireland

His Excellency Micheál MARTIN was born in Turners Cross, Cork. He attended University College Cork where he qualified with a Bachelor’s degree. He became Taoiseach on 27 June 2020. Previously, he has served as Lord Mayor of Cork in 1992-93, an on the Fianna Fáil front bench and in four cabinet posts: Minister for Foreign Affairs (2008-2011), Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (2004-2008), Minister for Health (2000-2004), and Minister for Education (1997-2000).

HE Mrs Pornpimol KANCHANALAK
Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

Her Excellency Mrs Pornpimol KANCHANALAK is currently the Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. She has previously advised the Minister of Transport, the Minister of Finance and the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand. She also has experience as a researcher at the public policy think tank Hoover Institute and as a Lecturer at Stanford University. Her Excellency was also the Washington Bureau Chief for The Bangkok Post and Channel 9, and the Founder of the US-Thailand Business Council, as well as held leading roles in investment firms and companies in the engineering and petrochemical industry in Thailand.

Ambassador Johannes MATYASSY
Deputy State Secretary and Director of the Consular Directorate, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)

Ambassador Johannes MATYASSY is currently the Deputy State Secretary at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and since 2018 also holds the role of Director of the Consular Directorate. He is a seasoned diplomat with over 35 years of experience in international relations. He has been the designated Ambassador, CEO of Presence Switzerland, which is the official platform of Switzerland abroad, and Ambassador of Switzerland to Argentina. The Ambassador also previously held the role of ASEM Senior Official of Switzerland.
KNOWLEDGE BUILDING PHASE SPEAKERS

By alphabetical order

Dr Paloma CUCHÍ

WHO Representative and Head of Country Office in the Republic of Poland

In 2018, Dr CUCHÍ assumed the position of Representative of WHO to the Republic of Poland and the Head of Country Office in Warsaw. She has more than 26 years of experience in public health in the United Nations System, in civil society and in the private sector. Dr CUCHÍ was formally PAHO/WHO Representative to the Republic of Chile. She has experience at regional, country and global levels, having held technical and managerial leadership positions in WHO, PAHO, UNAIDS, and UNITAID. Some of her main areas of work include non-communicable diseases and risk factors; health promotion; aging; health emergencies and disasters response; access to medicines; HIV and other communicable diseases; migration; and gender, equity and human rights.

Dr CUCHÍ holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Medicine and Surgery from the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Zaragoza and a Master’s Degree in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, USA.

Dr Youssef NASSEF

Director of the Adaptation Division, UNFCCC

Chair, World Adaptation Science Programme

Dr Youssef NASSEF has led the adaptation workstreams under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since their inception. He possesses over 30 years of experience in diplomacy and international environmental policy, and is a seconded diplomat from the Egyptian Foreign Service.

While assuming progressively higher levels of leadership at the UNFCCC, he led UNFCCC support for several initiatives on adaptation. These include the inception and support for National Adaptation Programmes of Action and National Adaptation Plans; the Nairobi Work Programme – an international knowledge hub for impacts, vulnerability and adaptation; and the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. He recently created the Resilience Frontiers initiative which applies foresight for attaining post-2030 resilience.

Dr NASSEF holds a Doctorate degree in International Technology Policy and Management and a MALD in International Environmental Policy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, as well as a Master’s degree in Middle East Studies and a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Physics from the American University in Cairo.
Ms Tanja PACIFICO

Chief of Mission, International Organization of Migration (IOM) Uruguay

Ms Tanja PACIFICO is the Chief of Mission at the IOM mission in Uruguay and Officer in Charge at IOM Paraguay. Ms PACIFICO is an Italian national with an academic background in advanced management, communication and psychology. Ms PACIFICO joined IOM in 2009 and has since covered several thematic areas, including Assisted Voluntary Return & Reintegration, Immigration & Border Management, Labour Mobility, Migration & Development, Migration & Environment, Public Information, Civil-Military Coordination and Migration Governance. Ms PACIFICO worked for the IOM mission in Egypt, where she was the Deputy Chief of Mission and Head of Policy, Governance and Liaison unit. Previously, she worked in the IOM mission in the Netherlands where she was Head of the Migrant Training, Resettlement and Integration Unit, covering several national and regional initiatives; and as Officer in Charge for IOM Niger.

Ms Josephine SIMONIAN

Head of Youth Involvement, World Higher Education Conference 2021, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Ms Josephine SIMONIAN is Head of Youth Involvement Strategy for the next UNESCO World Higher Education Conference in Barcelona 2021 (WHEC21), reuniting high-level public and private stakeholders of the ecosystem.

Ms SIMONIAN studied humanities and geography, then business management in Paris. As a student, she led a community project of film screenings and theatre workshops in villages in Armenia for children. She has experience working in various fields, notably she worked for Paris Region’s Vice-President for agricultural and economic development, and in film distribution and international sales at Le Pacte. After an internship at UNESCO researching Higher Education and Indigenous People, she joined the WHEC2021 organising team.

Dr Wesley TETER

Senior Consultant, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, UNESCO Bangkok

Dr Wesley TETER is Senior Consultant for UNESCO’s Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education in Bangkok, Thailand. He is a reviewer for the Fulbright-Nehru Master’s Fellowship and Schwarzman Scholars, a highly selective, one-year master’s programme at Tsinghua University in China. He is one of three co-editors of the Handbook of Education Policy by Edward Elgar Publishing (forthcoming in 2022) and co-editor of UNESCO’s guidelines on developing and implementing qualifications frameworks in the Asia-Pacific. As an applied researcher, he investigates collaboration in higher education and health workforce governance with projects funded by the Asian Development Bank, UNESCO, the U.S. Department of State, and World Bank.
**Mr Rigoberto D. BANTA Jr.**

Foreign Service Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

Mr Rigoberto D. BANTA Jr. is a Foreign Service Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) of the Republic of the Philippines. Assigned to the DFA’s Office of United Nations and Other International Organizations. He was previously a Programme Specialist at the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding. He has also provided policy advice to various organisations, including the Seoul Metropolitan Government, Ministry of Interior and Safety, Ministry of Education, amongst others. He is academically trained in economics and public policy, finishing his undergraduate and graduate programmes in those fields, respectively. Mr BANTA is an ASEFEdu alumnus.

**Mr Oscar BOIJE**

Education Officer, UNICEF Somalia

Mr Oscar BOIJE is a global citizen with roots in Finland and Bolivia. He is an International Human Rights Law (LL.M) graduate from Lund University in Sweden and has also studied in Finland and Colombia. Today Oscar works as an Education Officer at UNICEF Somalia. Prior to joining UNICEF, Oscar worked as a Project Manager at the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Singapore, and before that in Brussels, Belgium, as the Partnership Manager of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). Oscar is passionate about student & youth affairs and has been a long-term volunteer with different Erasmus+ organisations.

**Ms Aleksandra BRODOWSKA**

Student Affairs Coordinator, College of Europe (CoE), Natolin campus

Ms Aleksandra BRODOWSKA has a Master’s Degree in Law from University of Warsaw. She completed part of her studies at Indiana University, Maurer School of Law. As a student, she ran a student organisation for Law and Culture and published a couple of articles on issues related to cultural heritage law. She is also a graduate from EIS programme at the College of Europe where she specialised in memory studies. As a professional, she gained experience working in both international and domestic public institutions. She cooperates with an NGO on promoting debates as an educational tool in schools and cultural institutions. She has been working at the College of Europe since 2019. Ms BRODOWSKA is also a great enthusiast of ballet and foreign languages.
Ms Keely CHEONG serves as a Senior Programme Manager at Common Purpose, a not-for-profit leadership development organisation, managing regional programmes across the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Prior to joining Common Purpose, she interned with the Embassy of the United States of America in Singapore, and in ASEF’s Education Department. Outside of work, Keely strives to make an impact in the areas of labour market, social mobility, women empowerment and youth development through networks such as the Global Shapers Community and Young Women Leadership Connection. Born and raised in Singapore, Keely holds a Master’s degree in International Relations from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Dr Giovanna DI MAURO is a Student Affairs Officer at the College of Europe, Natolin campus, and a Lecturer at Collegium Civitas, Warsaw, where she teaches a course on peacebuilding through the arts and a course on frozen conflicts. She has over three years of experience in project management, working in Paris, Chisinau and Strasbourg. In 2019, Giovanna received a PhD in International Relations from the University of St Andrews. From 2015 to 2016, Giovanna was a Visiting Scholar at the Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES) of the George Washington University. Giovanna has written blogs for War on the Rocks, The Transatlantic Puzzle, the LSE US Centre, and the British Sociological Association’s Everyday Society.

Dr Amel HAMMAMI holds a PhD in Law from University of Sousse (Tunisia). She wrote her PhD thesis, in a joint Law and Economics programme between University of Sousse and University of Hamburg. She also holds a Master’s degree in European Inter-disciplinary Studies from the College of Europe in Natolin and an MSc in Public Law from University of Sousse. Dr HAMMAMI has been working as an Academic Assistant at the College of Europe in Natolin since September 2020. She started her career in 2013 as a Teaching Assistant of Law and she has worked as Researcher in different NGOs since 2016. Her research interests lie primarily in the fields of security, migration, socio-political transformation in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA), and EU-MENA relations.
Mr Álvaro MARTIN MORAN
Academic Assistant, College of Europe (CoE), Natolin Campus

Mr Álvaro MARTIN MORAN holds a Master’s degree in European Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe in Natolin. He also holds a Master’s degree in European Governance from the Grenoble Institute of political studies (Sciences Po Grenoble) and a Master’s degree in European Studies by the University of Salamanca. Prior to that he graduated with a double Bachelor’s degree in French and Spanish law from the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and the Complutense University of Madrid. Mr MARTIN MORAN joined the College of Europe as an Academic assistant in August 2020.

Mr Ramon MARTINEZ
Dare Network

Mr Ramon MARTINEZ is a mentor and facilitator living in the tropical south of Spain. Specialised on critical thinking and experiential learning, his aim is to contribute to more fair and diverse societies where citizens can participate in meaningful ways. Mr MARTINEZ’S work is divided in three areas: activism and citizens participation in human rights and democracy, development of education and youth work methodologies and coaching services for groups and leaders in the business sector. Ramon is an ASEFEdu alumnus.

Dr Zachary MAZUR
Research Fellow, College of Europe (CoE), Natolin campus

Dr Zachary MAZUR is a Research Fellow at the College of Europe, Natolin campus where he contributes academically to various projects, advises students, and carries out his own research and writing. In 2018, he completed his PhD at Yale University on fiscal policy and economic development in interwar Europe. He is also the host of the podcast NextGen Humanities where he interviews early career scholars on their work and its relevance for the wider world.
HE Mr SOK Soken
Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC) of the Kingdom of Cambodia

HE Mr SOK Soken is the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MFAIC). He is the head of the Cambodian inter-institutional Working Group responsible for the co-organisation of ASEFYSL4 programme. He is the President of the Union of Youth Federation of Cambodia (UYFC) of the MFAIC Chapter. His Excellency has experience working in trade and investment facilitation at the Ministry of Commerce and the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC). Additionally, his diplomatic experiences encompass negotiations and collaborative work on a wide range of multilateral platforms, including the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), the ICAPP and CDI Youth Wing, various Mekong Cooperation Mechanisms as well as UN negotiations relating to human rights, R2P and Peacekeeping. He holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore and a dual Bachelor’s degree in Engineering and Commerce from the University of Melbourne in Australia. Currently, he is a PhD candidate at the School of International Studies, Beijing University in China.

HE Mr SOK Sangvar
Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Tourism of the Kingdom of Cambodia

HE Mr SOK Sangvar obtained a Baccalauréate in Social and Economic Science, in Lycée Stanislas, Paris in 2005. He then received his Bachelor’s degree in Hospitality and Tourism Management in Glion Higher Education Institute, Switzerland in 2008. Back in Cambodia, HE Mr SOK started his career with the Ministry of Tourism. In 2013, having successfully completed his Master’s degree in Cultural and Environmental Heritage Management from the Australian National University, Australia, His Excellency returned to Cambodia to pursue his work in Angkor by joining the APSARA National Authority as the Head of the working group to implement the Angkor Tourism Management Plan and as Deputy Director General of APSARA National Authority in 2015. HE Mr SOK has been promoted to the position of Under Secretary of State to the Ministry of Tourism in charge of the international market and promotion in 2020. His Excellency is also an active central member of the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia, the largest youth organisation in the Kingdom.
H.E. Mr SOK Sabayna holds a double degree of Commerce and Property & Construction from the University of Melbourne, Australia in 2010. He is currently an Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport of the Kingdom of Cambodia, prioritising in Sport. Additionally, He is actively involved in youth and social work and is a Permanent Committee Member and head of Youth Movement, Partnership and Public Relations Departments of the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC). Furthermore, he is also Vice-President of the Cambodia Scouts.

His Excellency SAMHENG began his career as an international relations officer at the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veteran and Youth Rehabilitations (MoSVY) of the Royal Government of Cambodia in 2007 and in 2009 became the Deputy Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. In 2014, His Excellency was appointed as the Deputy Secretary General at the Cambodia National Council for Children, where he served for 4 years. He has earned multiple post-graduate degrees in the field of commerce, prompting for the request to join the Ministry of Commerce in 2017. His Excellency was appointed the position of Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Commerce in 2018 with key responsibilities including the drafting of the Cambodia Trade Integration Strategy, E-Commerce Strategy, trade negotiations with the EAEU and US, overseeing the Europe, Middle East Asia and Africa Department, the International Cooperation Department, and the Intellectual Property Department.

Her Excellency Ms SROY Socheath is the Director General of the Directorate General of Youth, Ministry of Education, Youth & Sport, the Secretary General of the General Secretariat of the National Youth Development Council and is the Vice-president of the Cambodia Scouts. She is a passionate and energetic voice of the Kingdom’s young generation in its National Policy on Cambodia Youth Development and ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 as the representative of Cambodia in charge of the Senor Official Meeting on Youth (SOMY). She is a Member of Central Committee of the Union of Youth Federation of Cambodia (UYFC). She has over fifteen years of experience in leadership and management roles working for the public and private institutions, also local and international NGOs. She completed the Senior Officer Certificate of the Royal School of Administration and the Master of Business Administration, majoring in Management at Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia (PUC).
HE Mr SIM Vireak
Director-General, General Department of ASEAN, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

A Japanese-educated career diplomat. Currently, HE Mr SIM Vireak is holding the position as the Director-General of the General Department of ASEAN of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. He was previously posted at the Cambodian embassy in Japan, and had been covering various multilateral portfolios such as the United Nations and the Mekong sub-regional cooperation before holding the current portfolio on ASEAN. For academic purpose, he is also acting as a strategic advisor to the Asian Vision Institute (AVI). Other than foreign policy, his current interest covers government policies related to economic development, foreign direct investment, FTAs, economic and industrial diversification, infrastructure development and the economic positioning of Cambodia within ASEAN.

HE Dr CHEUNBORAN Chanborey
Director-General, Information, Research and Analysis Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

HE Dr CHEUNBORAN Chanborey is the Director-General of the Information, Research and Analysis Group at the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and an Advisor to the Asian Vision Institute. He received a Doctorate degree in International Political and Strategic Studies from the Australian National University. He earned a Master’s degree in Public Management from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in conjunction with the Harvard Kennedy School; a Master’s degree in Diplomacy and International Studies from Rangsit University, Thailand; and a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. The areas of his interest include Cambodia’s foreign policy, small state foreign policy, and international relations in the Asia-Pacific.

HE Mr TEAN Samnang
President, National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations

HE Mr TEAN Samnang is the President of National Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations. He was selected to join the Information Research and Analysis Group (IRAG), a think tank seconded to the Cabinet of Prime Minister. As a Senior Researcher of IRAG, he has been actively involved in a wide range of research activities and has authored many research and analysis articles published via IRAG bulletin. He has had many diplomatic experiences as adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations and Consul General of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Shanghai, China. He has a dual Bachelor’s degree in Law and English Literature from Norton University and Master’s degree in Political Science from Royal Academy of Cambodia. Currently, he is a PhD candidate at the School of International Law, Southwest University of Political Science and Law in Chongqing, China.
Mr SAN Chanrithy
Director, Finance Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr SAN Chanrithy is the Director of Finance Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia. He is responsible for financial operation and a focal person for cyber security. Mr SAN is also responsible for ensuring due diligence and quality assurance of the ministry's website, social media platforms and graphic design. Besides, he is an active member of economic diplomacy working group. Mr SAN has a Master’s degree in Project Management from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia and a Master’s degree of Public Policy and Management from the École nationale d'administration (ENA) France, in partnership with the Royal University of Law and Economics. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the Royal University of Phnom Penh.

Mr UNG Samraingsey
Director, Department of National Politics Analysis and Forecasting, Information Research and Analysis Group, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr UNG Samraingsey obtained his Bachelor’s Degree of Business Administration, majoring in General Management, from Assumption University of Thailand. He received his Master’s degree in Diplomacy and International Studies from Rangsit University of Thailand. Mr UNG Samraingsey began his career as an official of General Department of ASEAN in the ASEAN Economic Division. He was appointed as 2nd Secretary of the Royal Embassy of Cambodia to Thailand, and further held the position of 1st Secretary in Charge of Consular Affairs. Upon his completion of his posting in Bangkok, Mr. UNG Samraingsey joined the Department of America as Deputy Director. Currently, he is the Director of the Department of National Politics Analysis and Forecasting, Information Research and Analysis Group (IRAG), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Mr SENG Menghong
Deputy Director, Legal and Treaty Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr SENG Menghong, received his Bachelor’s degree in International Trade and English literature from Kangnam University, Korea and a Master’s Degree in International Trade from Sogang University, Kore. Mr SENG started his career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, currently he is a Deputy Director of Legal and Treaty Affairs department of MFA.I.C. In 2020, he completed another Master’s degree in Public International Law from the Royal University of Law and Economics, Cambodia and Paris University B, France.
Mr LY Ratha
Chief Bureau, IT Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Mr LY Ratha is the Chief Bureau of the IT Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. He has worked in the ICT field at both private and public institutions for 15 years. Before joining the Foreign Service, he used to be both an administrator of ICT systems as well as an engineer, allowing him to approach his work from several angles. After he joined the ministry in 2016, his work portfolio grew to encompass a range of responsibilities including managing and preparing Network Infrastructure, Security Systems, Email Systems and Video Conference Systems. Mr LY Ratha received his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from NORTON University in Cambodia.

HE Mr TY Janith
Central Committee Member, Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia

HE Mr TY Janith is the Central Committee Member of the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC). He is serving as the Head of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of UYFC. Currently, he also serves as the Personal Assistant to the Chairman of the Commission on Education, Youth, Sport, Cult and Religious Affairs, Culture and Tourism of the Cambodian National Assembly, the Founder and President of a well-known legal research institution, Sala Traju Association and a Law Lecturer at the Royal University of Law and Economics. He has a Master’s Degree in International Public Law from the University of Paris II (Panthéon Assas Paris II) and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Jean Moulin Lyon 3. He graduated from the Royal University of Law and Economics and University of Lumiere Lyon 2 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Law.

Mr SOM Monorum
Head of the Secretariat, Union Youth Federations of Cambodia

Mr SOM Monorum’s educational background includes a degree of High-Level Civil Servant in Public Administration obtained from the Public School of Administration of the Royal Government of Cambodia and a degree in law obtained from the Royal University of Law and Economics. He’s an active member of the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC) and is currently the Head of the Secretariat of UYFC Phnom Penh Office. His role and duty in UYFC contribute significantly to youth development and empowerment in the capital, Phnom Penh. He is also a senior civil servant of the Ministry of Environment serving as the member of the Minister’s cabinet.
Mr Marek TABOR

Head of Office, Executive Education, College of Europe in Natolin

Mr Paweł MICHALSKI

Head of External Relations, Development and Innovation Office, College of Europe in Natolin

Mr Paweł MICHALSKI joined the College of Europe in Natolin in 2012. As Head of External Relations within the Development and Innovation Office, he is involved in the process of creating and updating the long-term development strategy, but also actively participates in initiating, negotiating and managing specific development programmes with international partners of the College of Europe. Prior to joining the Development and Innovation Office, Mr MICHALSKI was Head of the Fundraising Unit within the Development Service, and Senior Academic Assistant in Law within the European Interdisciplinary Studies Department. A lawyer by training, Mr MICHALSKI holds a Master’s degree in EU Law from the University of Strasbourg. He also studied EU and Common Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Mr Anis ISSA

Professional Skilling Program Coordinator, Careers and Professional Development Office, College of Europe in Natolin

Anis holds an advanced Master’s degree in European Interdisciplinary Studies from the College of Europe, and a Master’s degree in Cultural Management from the École National Supérieur de Sciences d’Information et des Bibliothèques (ENSSIB) in Lyon. He has experience working in the Library of Alexandria as an International Relations Librarian, the Department of Cultural Cooperation at the French Embassy in Cairo as Head of Partnerships & Fundraise, the Swedish Institute Alexandria for EuroMed Dialogue as Media and Communication Advisor, and International Organization for Migration as Senior Information Assistant. Since 2013, Anis is the cultural advisor to H. H. Pope Tawadros II, and he was a member of Supreme Council of Culture in Egypt between 2015 and 2018.
Ms Diana KHAITOVA  
Regional Sales Director, Center for Creative Leadership

Mr Anand CHANDRASEKAR  
Leadership Solutions Specialist, Societal Advancement Lead (APAC), Center for Creative Leadership

Anand has 15 years of experience in research and faculty roles in organisational behaviour and leadership development. At the Center of Creative Leadership (CCL) he expands CCL’s Societal Advancement agenda to deliver leadership development to youth in APAC. He has also worked on a number of research studies and reports at CCL. Prior to CCL, Anand was a graduate student at Nanyang Technological University and worked with the Center for Cultural Intelligence. Anand holds a Doctorate degree in International Management from the University of Hawai‘i, a Master’s degree from Nanyang Technological University and a Bachelor’s degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from University of Madras.

Ms Stephanie WORMINGTON  
Manager of Global Strategic Research and Senior Research Scientist, Center for Creative Leadership

Stephanie is the Manager of Global Strategic Research and Senior Research Scientist at the Center for Creative Leadership. She is a developmental scientist with expertise in educational psychology and developmental trajectories. Stephanie’s work has focused on helping students and professionals navigate key life transitions and identifying contextual barriers to success at the individual, group, organizational, and societal levels. Her current work centers around empowering next-generation leaders globally; understanding teams and network science; fostering culture change related to equity, diversity, and inclusion; and cultivating motivation in the workplace. She partners with leaders in education, policy, nonprofit, and for-profit spaces to understand problems of practice and identify actionable strategies. Stephanie received her Ph.D. in educational psychology and educational technology from Michigan State University, M.A. in developmental psychology from Duke University, and B.A. in psychology from Reed College.
Sunil is a seasoned leadership and human capital researcher and thought leader with 20 years of experience across large global organizations. In his current role, he is responsible for leading research/product development around leadership and leadership development in Asia, and sharing the Center’s point-of-view with key stakeholders. Prior to CCL, Sunil served as head of Research and Insights at Human Capital Leadership Institute (HCLI), a center of excellence set up by the Singapore government to uplift the level of talent and leadership capabilities in Singapore/ASEAN. Sunil also spent over eight years at CEB’s (erstwhile Corporate Executive Board) India office, with key responsibility of engaging and advising heads of HR in top 100 organisations in India on diverse strategic HR areas.

Ambassador MORIKAWA Toru (Japan) joined the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) as its 8th Executive Director in August 2020. Ambassador MORIKAWA is a seasoned career diplomat bringing decades of experience and expertise to ASEF. His previous postings include serving as Minister, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Iran; and Minister-Counsellor, Embassy of Japan in France where he was in charge of various cultural exchange initiatives. He has also worked in the areas of Media and Regional Economic Cooperation and has experience in cultivating and enhancing partnerships for projects with different organisations including the private sector. Ambassador MORIKAWA received his Bachelor’s Degree in Law from the University of Tokyo.

Ms Leonie NAGARAJAN has been heading the Education Department of the Asia-Europe Foundation since February 2014. Together with her team members, she develops and drives ASEF’s education project portfolio with a focus on student mobility, youth employment, university-business partnerships, and lifelong learning. Prior to this, she advised and supported as Chief of Staff 3 ASEF Executive Directors from France and China in the planning and implementation of the Foundation’s long-range strategy, programmes and operations (from 2008 to 2015). Ms NAGARAJAN previously worked in Public Affairs and the media, including the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin, the Berliner Zeitung, Pretoria News and the Icelandic national broadcaster Rikisutvarpið (RUV). Having studied in Reykjavik, Iceland and Berlin, Germany, she received her Master’s degree in Communication Sciences with minors in cultural and political sciences from the Free University and Humboldt University of Berlin.
Ms Freya CHOW-PAUL
Project Coordinator,
Education Department
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ms Freya CHOW-PAUL, a British national with Singaporean heritage, joined the Education Department in August 2019, having previously been an intern in 2018. She coordinates projects under ASEFEdu’s Young Leaders Programme. Freya graduated from the University of Sussex, England with a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and Development. Freya undertook two study abroad exchanges, a summer school in Taipei, Taiwan at the National Taiwan University, and in Malmö, Sweden for her third year at Malmö University under the Erasmus programme. Through her studies, she focused on peace and conflict studies, as well as education in development.

Mr Álvaro GONZALEZ PEREZ
Project Coordinator,
Education Department
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Mr Álvaro GONZALEZ PEREZ, a Spanish national, supports the ASEFEdu team on the 4th ASEF Young Leaders Summit (ASEFYLS4). He has been engaged in various professional capacities related to EU policies and youth work, working mainly on active citizenship, social equity and climate change. Álvaro holds a Master’s degree in European Studies from the KU Leuven University, prior to which he underwent an Erasmus exchange at the Universität Osnabrück as part of his Bachelor’s degree in English Studies from the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). Álvaro has been involved in European youth civil society for almost six years, and served as Vice-President and External Relations Director of AEGEE – the European Students’ Forum (2019/2020). He is a Board Member of Generation Climate Europe and a member of the Expert Group on Youth Rights of the European Youth Forum.
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