THE INSTITUTION
The Salzburg Global Seminar is an unusual international institution, a place dedicated to candid dialogue, fresh thinking and the search for solutions to global issues. Founded in 1947, the organization has brought more than 25,000 participants from 150 countries and regions to its programs. The Salzburg Global Seminar challenges current and future leaders to develop creative ideas for solving global problems. It is an institution focused on global change – a place where innovative ideas lead to practical solutions.

The Salzburg Global Seminar convenes imaginative thinkers from different cultures and institutions, organizes problem-focused initiatives, supports leadership development, and engages opinion-makers through active communication networks, all in partnership with leading institutions from around the world and across different sectors of society. The Salzburg Global Seminar seeks in its faculty and participants (referred to as “Fellows”) men and women of the highest intellectual caliber from government, business, academe, and the non-profit sector. These thought and action leaders engage each other in breakthrough thinking, inspired and led by remarkable individuals from all sectors and regions of the world who make up a faculty that is unique and sure to challenge the thinking of the participants, resulting in new perspectives, ideas and insights to apply to their work. The Salzburg Global Seminar seeks to magnify the impact of individuals and institutions that bring just and humane values to bear on the global challenges facing their societies and the world.

THE PROGRAM
Focus:
Unquestionably, women have made significant advances in both the political and business arenas. Although the numbers of women in political office and in the board room, globally, remain relatively low, there is growing evidence of marked positive impact where women have a substantial presence. Recent studies undertaken on women’s leadership and power in the corporate and business arena mirror, in certain respects, studies undertaken evaluating the impact of women in the political arena: the outcomes on process, structures and policies improve – and, in business, profitability improves as well.

This session will analyze women’s advances in the political and business arenas and compare existing information and data related to the impact created by a significant presence of women in leadership and power positions. The session will identify transferable strategies for increasing women’s presence, power, and the positive impact they have. In addition, the session will consider prospects for greater cooperation across these sectors to overcome common barriers and support women’s ability to create significant change. The increasing use of philanthropy, particularly by women, to advance a social change agenda will also be explored. The session encourages the participation of individuals from the business, public, research and civil sectors who want to improve the efficiency and efficacy of government and business, particularly by maximizing opportunities offered by increasing gender equality.

Goals and Outcomes:
• Provide opportunities for the exchange and creation of successful strategies and innovative practices;
• Share current data and promote new research on the impact of increasing women’s participation and power in the business and political arenas;
• Raise awareness of national and international policies and agreements that can be used to hold governments and, where applicable, businesses accountable;
• Provide information and resources to individuals and institutions to advocate more effectively women’s greater participation and leadership;
• Explore and analyze key issues and create strategy and/or action plans to advance progress;
• Understand the role of philanthropy, especially as used by women, to promote social, economic and policy change;
• Capacity building and leadership development, including mini-workshops and skills-building opportunities (entrepreneurship and business planning; political fundraising; identifying and unleashing resources; etc.);
• Region and sector-based meetings to identify and exchange information, resources and opportunities
• Encourage and empower more women to stand for political office and seek leadership positions in the private sector;
• Identify and expand spheres of influence through individual actions and networking;
• Build on and extend international networks of women and men, and a network of organizations, that support and encourage women’s increased participation and leadership; particularly focusing on linking women leaders in the private and public sectors;
• Further develop and expand the Salzburg Women’s Power Network (founded in 2006).

Issues:
Many of the topics to be explored will be identified by the participants themselves. Key overarching themes and issues will include a basic exploration of the existing data, and that which is lacking, and why women’s leadership in these important arenas remains a critical topic; consideration of ‘power’ and where it lies, examining persistent barriers to women attaining it in equal measure and the opportunities to be taken advantage of (particularly for the young/next generation of leaders); exploration of the losses and/or missed opportunities, at multiple levels, of not having women as equal representatives and decision-makers – and the prospective gains of their full and equal participation (“building the case”); identification of critical leverage points for creating change; sharing international tools, norms and standards that can be used to apply pressure; comparing tools and strategies across regions as well as across sectors – leveraging lessons; prioritizing individual and group action; creating and linking active and activist networks to amplify change; identifying strategies and articulating action plans.

Faculty/Speakers – Confirmed*
Laura Liswood (Co-Chair) Secretary General, Council of Women World Leaders, Washington, DC; Senior Advisor, Goldman Sachs
Anita Brown-Graham, Professor, Public Law and Government, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Government, Chapel Hill, NC
Sakie Fukushima, Regional Managing Director for Japan, Korn/Ferry International – Japan, Tokyo
Francis Ghilès, Senior Fellow, European Institute of the Mediterranean, Spain; Freelance Journalist
Christine Grumm, Executive Director, Women’s Funding Network, San Francisco, CA
Donna Klein, President & CEO, Corporate Voices for Working Families; former Vice President, Diversity & Workplace Effectiveness, Marriott International, Inc.
May Rihani Senior Vice President and Director, Academy for Educational Development, Washington, DC
Linda Tarr-Whelan, Distinguished Senior Fellow, Demos, New York; and former Ambassador and U.S. Representative to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
Ana Elena Townsend, Consultant, Gender and Development Unit, Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC; former Minister for Women’s Affairs and Member of Congress, Peru
Lubna Olayan (Resource Specialist), Chief Executive Officer, Olayan Financing Company, Saudi Arabia

* Other speakers have been invited—please refer to our web site for updates: Session 447 web page

Participant Profile
* Emerging and/or proven leadership capacity
* Committed to advancing positive societal change, development and equality
* Experience in and knowledge of the issues being addressed
* Current or previous work in, or express interest in, women’s roles in politics and/or business (including research, advocacy, policy, media, etc.)
* Keen interest in networking for action and change
* Currently in, or expected to attain, a position to influence change at an organizational, institutional, community or policy level
* Geographic diversity (seeking strong representation from Africa; Asia; Europe; Middle East; North and South America)
* Diverse skills, perspectives, ideas and experiences to share – and interest in gaining same from others

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