Bridging the Rift: how can we reconnect youth to their future?

Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria
June 27 to 29, 2014
Bridging the Rift:  
How can we reconnect youth to their future?

**Why this topic and why now?**

Every generation since the Ancient Greeks has moaned about young people, who have repaid the compliment by rebelling against their elders. But is this creative dialectic grinding to a halt as job prospects for youth worsen around the planet? Has pressure to conform overtaken the passion to drive change? Our Brave New World of 2014 idealizes youth along with celebrity, but the reality on the ground is often far less rosy.

As we mark the centenary of the outbreak of World War I – which triggered the tag ‘lost generation’ - youth unemployment rates are sky high in large swathes of Africa and Europe, despite their radically different demographic profiles. Economic inequality is widening in industrialized and developing countries around the world, with knock-on impacts upon social cohesion and regional competitiveness. Too often, young people’s life chances are tied to social determinants which provide gloomy predictors of educational, health and professional outcomes. As the costs of college, medical care, pensions and planetary degradation spiral upwards, intergenerational justice will pose complex challenges in the decades to come.

If the ladder of opportunity has indeed broken, as President Obama suggested in his State of the Union Address to the US in 2014, what innovations and incentives do we need to kickstart a bolder vision, build the skills really needed and renew social mobility? What will it take to recharge youth and help them engage as productive members of society? And how can we better connect voices, votes and talents across all generations?

Salzburg Global Seminar – founded by visionary students, vested in intergenerational exchange and problem-solving for over 65 years – has a deep-rooted commitment to progress based on Imagination, Sustainability and Justice. 2014 sees the launch of our multi-year program exploring components of A 21st Century Social Compact, starting with a strategic reassessment of early childhood policies and with a macro-micro focus on innovation and equity in aging societies.
## Schedule

### Friday, June 27

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>08.30–12.30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30–14.30</td>
<td>Buffet Lunch</td>
<td>Marble Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30</td>
<td>Guided Tour of the Cathedral Museum</td>
<td>Meet at</td>
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<td><em>(Optional)</em></td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<td>16.45</td>
<td>Ceremonial Opening of Hotel Schloss Leopoldskron</td>
<td>Meierhof Lobby</td>
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<td>17.00</td>
<td>Tour of Renovated Meierhof Rooms</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<td>18.30</td>
<td><strong>Keynote Speech</strong></td>
<td>Parker Hall</td>
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<td>Erion Veliaj</td>
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<td><em>Minister of Youth and Social Welfare, Albania</em></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Clare Shine</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>19.45</td>
<td>Buffet Dinner</td>
<td>Marble Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Massey Dance Party</td>
<td>Great Hall</td>
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<td><em>(Suggested attire: Business/Smart casual)</em></td>
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### Saturday, June 28

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>07.30–09.00</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Marble Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00–10.30</td>
<td>Panel One followed by Discussion</td>
<td>Parker Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>“Do we need to reinvent education?”</strong></td>
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<td>Lorne Buchman</td>
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<td><em>President, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA</em></td>
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<td>Lord Wei of Shoreditch</td>
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<td><em>Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary Group for East Asian Business;</em></td>
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<td>Vice-Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary China Group</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: John Lotherington</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30–11.00</td>
<td>Refreshments</td>
<td>Meierhof Lobby</td>
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<td>11.00–12.30</td>
<td>Panel Two followed by Discussion</td>
<td>Parker Hall</td>
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<td><strong>“Where will tomorrow’s jobs come from?”</strong></td>
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<td>Alexa Wesner</td>
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<td><em>US Ambassador to Austria</em></td>
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<td>Seán Cleary</td>
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<td><em>Chairman, Strategic Concepts (Pty) Ltd;</em></td>
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<td>Executive Vice Chairman, FutureWorld Foundation</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Clare Shine</strong></td>
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<td>12.30–14.30</td>
<td>Buffet Lunch</td>
<td>Marble Hall</td>
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Schedule continued

14.30–16.00  Panel Three followed by Discussion
“Intergenerational justice: who pays for what?”
Pieter Vanhuysse
Head of Research and Deputy Director, European Center for Social
Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna

Rosanna Wong
Executive Director, Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Moderator: Diasmer Bloe

17.00–17.30  Tour of Schloss Leopoldskron

17.45–18.30  Reception

18.30–19.30  Concert performed by
Ensemble 013, the official “Jedermann” Stage Orchestra

19.45  Gala Dinner
Reception
(Suggested attire: Cocktail dress/Suit or coat and tie)

Monday, June 29

07.30–12.00  Extended Breakfast Marble Hall
Departures
(For those staying until Monday morning)

11.00–12.30  The Palliser Lecture on Europe’s Future:
1814, 1914 – or something completely different?
Edward Mortimer
Senior Advisor, Salzburg Global Seminar

13.00–15.00  Empress Elisabeth “Sisi” Walking Tour
through the City of Salzburg

15.00–16.30  Refreshments

15.00–16.00  Annual Meeting of Society of Senior Fellows
(former Salzburg Global Seminar Board Directors)

16.30–18.00  Screening of Out of Many, One –
A Musical Offering from Chicago:
In the Spirit of John Paul (TBC)
Gala Orchestra Hall performance by the Lyric Opera of
Chicago Orchestra and Chicago Symphony Chorus,
conducted by Sir Gilbert Levine
(includes Edward T. Cone: Psalm 91 (1948))

18.30  Picnic, followed by Sound of Music Singout

Sunday, June 29

07.30–12.00  Extended Breakfast Marble Hall
Departures
(For those staying until Monday morning)

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18.30  Picnic, followed by Sound of Music Singout

(Suggested attire: Cocktail dress/Suit or coat and tie)

Lakeside Terrace
Speakers

Lorne Buchman
Lorne Buchman became president of Art Center College of Design (Pasadena, California) in 2009. For over 80 years, Art Center has pursued its mission 'Learn to create. Influence change.', building a global reputation for its rigorous transdisciplinary curriculum, strong ties to industry and commitment to socially responsible design: 92% of graduates secure employment in their chosen field within one year. Dr. Buchman previously served as president of Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center, San Francisco and of the California College of the Arts. A trained theatre director and scholar, he also founded Buchman Associates which identifies philanthropic and private investment sources to develop facilities for non-profit organizations: projects include the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, California, an international center dedicated to disability rights and universal access. He has served on the board of over a dozen organizations, including Haifa University, Youth Enrichment Strategies, San Francisco Art Institute, and the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. Dr. Buchman earned a Ph.D. from Stanford University and received a B.A. from the University of Toronto.

Seán Cleary
Seán Cleary is chairman of Strategic Concepts (Pty) Ltd, managing director of the Centre for Advanced Governance, founder and executive vice-chair of the FutureWorld Foundation, and a director of companies. He studied social sciences and law at the University of South Africa, the University of Cape Town and Pahlavi University in Iran, and has an M.B.A from Henley Management College in the United Kingdom. He served on the staff of the Commander Maritime Defence in South Africa, before diplomatic service in the Iran, the USA and Namibia. As chief director in Namibia he initiated negotiations between all political parties, the release of political prisoners and the adoption of a Bill of Rights, en route to independence. He is a faculty member of the Parmenides Foundation and lectures on global corporate strategy at business schools in the USA, Europe and South Africa; on conflict resolution and development economics at US and European universities; and on strategy on the National Security Management Course at the South African Defence Staff College. He is chairman of the Advisory Boards of the Global Economic Symposium and Operation Hope, a member of the Board of the Carbon War Room, a trustee of the South African Foundation for Conciliation, and a strategic advisor to the World Economic Forum.
Speakers continued

Pieter Vanhuysse
Pieter Vanhuysse is head of research and deputy director at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna (affiliated to the UN). He specializes in issues related to investment in human capital and the political economy of skills against the backdrop of aging globalizing societies. In 2013, he developed the *Intergenerational Justice Index* for Bertelsmann Stiftung, which compares practice across OECD member states to improve the cognitive toolkit of academics, journalists and policymakers. Mr. Vanhuysse’s research on the political sociology of public policies and welfare states has been published in over forty journals. He co-edited *Post-Communist Welfare Pathways* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009) and *Ageing Populations in Post-Industrial Democracies* (Routledge/ECPR, 2012). His book *Divide and Pacify* (CEU Press, 2006) was nominated for the American Sociological Association’s Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Award for Political Sociology.

Erion Veliaj
Erion Veliaj is the Minister of Youth and Social Welfare in Albania. He joined the Socialist Party of Albania in the capacity of Youth and Emigration Secretary and was elected member of the Assembly for Gjirokastra Constituency in 2013. He also joined the European Stability Initiative, a central body for the promotion of EU enlargement. His involvement in politics followed a long term of engagement in civil society, international organizations and media. In 2003, Mr. Veliaj founded Mjaft (Enough) Movement, an organization that streamlined the activist and protest spirit of the Albanian youth, which was recognized with the UN Civil Society Award in 2004. He headed the movement until November 2007. He earned a B.A. in political studies from Grand Valley State University of Michigan and an M.A. in European integration from Sussex University.

Lord Wei of Shoreditch
Lord Wei of Shoreditch is the chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for East Asian Business, vice-chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary China Group Chairing the Hong Kong Group and also the treasurer of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Trade & Investment. He is the youngest member of the House of Lords and the only active ethnic Chinese member of it; additionally, he is the most senior ethnic Chinese politician in the European Union. He is interested in economic and cultural ties between the United Kingdom and China and takes an active interest in British Chinese community issues. Previously, Lord Wei was an adviser to the Her Majesty’s Government on the Big Society.
Alexa Wesner
Ambassador Alexa Wesner was born in Washington DC and grew up in Reston, VA. The daughter of immigrant parents, a German mother and Latvian father, she was the first in her family to attend a US high school and university. Ms. Wesner was a high school all-American in track and cross-country, ranking second in the nation in both the 1600m and 3200m distances. She was also a varsity swimmer. Ms. Wesner graduated from Stanford University in 1994 with a B.A. degree in biology. She moved to Austin, Texas to join Trilogy Software in the early days of Austin’s technology boom. In 1997, she founded HireTECH, a recruiting and consulting company focused on high tech start-ups, also serving as President and CEO. In 2000, she founded Recruiting Labs, a web-based recruiting venture. After a successful career as a high-tech chief executive and entrepreneur, Ms. Wesner turned her attention to politics and community development as both a fundraiser and a hands-on entrepreneur driving progressive causes on national, regional, and local levels. In local and state venues, Ms. Wesner is the founder of The Texas Civic Engagement Table, Engage Texas, Progress Texas, and the Texas Research Institute, designed to provide a lasting progressive infrastructure in Texas. The spectrum of activities spans civic engagement, organizational collaboration, voter empowerment, voter turn-out, primary research and both direct and collaborative messaging. Her ambitious efforts have earned support from various national foundations and unions, among others. She has served on the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities and the boards of Lifeworks (homeless youth), Breakthrough (a path to college for disadvantaged youth), Arthouse (contemporary art), The Blanton Museum of Art, GenAustin (raising self-esteem in and empowering young girls) and the Austin Film Society.

Rosanna Wong
Dame Rosanna Wong is a Hong Kong social work administrator and politician, who has served as executive director of the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups since 1980. She now leads the Federation’s initiative to establish Hong Kong’s first Institute for Leadership Development in 2016, in collaboration with the University of Hong Kong. Since 2003, she has been a Hong Kong member of the CPPCC National Committee of the People’s Republic of China: her earlier positions have included unofficial membership of the Legislative Council and of the Executive Council, chairperson of the Hong Kong Housing Authority and chairperson of the Education Commission. Dame Rosanna serves as a non-executive director of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and of Sir Ka-shing Li’s Cheung Kong Holdings, and is president of the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association; president of the English Speaking Union, Hong Kong; a director of the board of the Dragon Foundation; and the chairperson of World Vision Hong Kong. She received a degree in social work from the University of Hong Kong and a master’s degree in social work from Toronto.
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Catherine Wills  
Art Historian

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