



Enacting Global Transformation

A Collaborative Initiative of
the Centre for International Studies,
University of Oxford
In Partnership with

The Theatre of Transformation Academy



DPiR CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

Testimonies for Transformation in a World in Turmoil

Wednesday 24 May, 10 am to 1pm

University of Oxford, Manor Road Building, Seminar Room C

Purpose and Objective

At a time of spiraling political turmoil and rising threats of war, can we find new methods to enact global transformation? In particular, can testimonies, stories and artistic expressions help us rehumanize international affairs and redefine prevailing paradigms of power? Can storytelling and the arts vivify the efforts of academics and practitioners to envision and enact change in response to current threats? This meeting brings together distinguished academics and practitioners to explore and respond to these questions at a critical time of turbulence in politics and international relations.

This interactive roundtable dialogue aims to harness our collective intelligence to shape creative and humane responses to the looming global challenges we face today. As initial inputs, few speakers are invited to express briefly their transformative testimonies and insights, to stimulate our inclusive search for innovative pathways to effect systemic change.

AGENDA

10:00-10:30 **Overview and Introductions: *Witnessing Reality to Enact Transformation***

Moderated by **Rama Mani**, Convenor, Enacting Global Transformation and
Kalypto Nicolaidis, Director, Centre for International Studies.

10:30 to 11:15 **Session 1: *Awakening Possibility in the Midst of Crisis***
Global Perspectives and Case Studies.

Chair: Kalypto Nicolaidis, Director, Centre for International Studies.

Ozioma Egwuonwu (USA/Nigeria), Founder of World Dream Day and BurnBright International; COO of Rising Women Rising World; former lecturer, Developing & Implementing Ideas at Columbia University
'Unleashing the power of Dreams to transcend the trajectory of destruction'

Leila Nicolas (Lebanon), Professor of International Relations at Lebanese University, Beirut; policy analyst on national television.

'Can testimonies of transformation empower students and communities affected by war?'

Anselm Adodo (Nigeria), Benedictine monk, Founder-Director, Africa Centre for Integral Research and Development, Founder, Pax Herbs, Author, *Integral Community Enterprise in Africa.*

'How our life stories help us rediscover indigenous wisdom and generate new knowledge.'

Alexander Schieffer (Germany), Founder, Trans4m Centre; Professor of Integral Development at Da Vinci University (South Africa) and St. Gallen University (Switzerland).

'Re-storying Self and Society: transformative education and social renewal for our times'

11:15 to 11:30 **Tea/Coffee BREAK**

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11:30 to 12:30 **Session 2: Envisioning Change in the Current Global Context**
Academic and Policy Perspectives

Chair: Edward Mortimer (UK), Former Director of Communications to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, Senior Advisor to Salzburg Global Seminar, Distinguished Fellow, All Souls College.

Thania Paffenholz (Tanzania/Switzerland), Director, Inclusive Peace and Transition Initiative (IPTI), Graduate Institute, Geneva; & **Eckhard Volkmann** (Namibia), Deputy Director, IPTI; formerly at German Ministry of Development Cooperation.

From exclusive societies to inclusive peace: personal history and evidence-based visions for change.

Anna Brach (Poland) Director, European Security Course, Geneva Centre for Security Policy
Transforming policy makers' mind-set, tool-set, and skill-set for a safer world.

Elena Butti (Italy), D.Phil Candidate; Steering Committee of Oxford Transitional Justice Research
Ethnographic storytelling and empathy: countering youth exclusion in Colombia

Javier Ormeno (Peru), former Red Cross humanitarian coordinator in Middle East & Latin America; MA candidate in human rights, UCL; Coordinator, Enacting Global Transformation.

'Theatre, embodiment and the recovery of lost members after violent conflict'

Guylaine Grenier (Canada), indigenous rights lawyer, former politician and Head of Research for Bloc Quebecois; MA candidate at Geneva Academy, Sr. research associate of Enacting Global Transformation.

'The power of story in court and in parliament.'

12:30 to 13:15 **Enacting Transformation in Turbulent Times - The Way Forward:**
Moderated by **Annette Idler**, Director of Studies, Changing Character of War
Project and **Kalypso Nicolaidis**, Director, Centre for International Studies

George Por (Hungary/USA/UK), Founder, Community Intelligence, Co-Founder, Commons Learning Alliance, Editorial Board of the *Journal of Knowledge Management*.

'Harvesting our collective intelligence to envision change and enact transformation: weaving together the insights and perspectives shared by diverse speakers'

A *tour de table* of recommendations, starting with our Advisors at the University of Oxford:

Leigh Payne (USA), Director, Latin American Centre, School of Interdisciplinary Studies
Perspectives from Transition in the Americas

Avi Schlaim (Israel), emeritus Professor of International Relations, St Antony's College
'Perspectives from the Middle East and beyond'

Boris Kashnikov (Russia), Professor at National Research University - Higher School of Economics, Moscow
'A Philosophical insight from Russia and Central Europe'

Julia Amos (Sweden), Convenor, War and Peace at Oxford
'Global Perspectives: from Africa and beyond'

Hildengarde Allgaier (Brazil), Sustainability & Innovation Communication expert, Said Business School
Perspectives from business, media and leadership

Liz Carmichael (UK), Co-Convenor, Oxford Network for Peace Studies, Fellow, St Johns College
'Interfaith, civic and peace perspectives'

13:15 **Formal End of Conference**

13:15-14:15 **Lunch for Speakers and Advisory Group Members**
Start of First Advisory Group Meeting

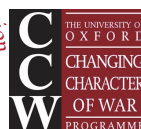
14:15-15:30 **Next Steps: First Advisory Group Meeting**

This open Event is jointly convened by:

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