

Opening of the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipation Summit at CERN Science Gateway

Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Chairman of GESDA, announces a new partnership with Wellcome in London and looks to the future with confidence joined by an extended Board of Directors

Geneva, October 11, 2023

Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Chairman of the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipation Foundation (GESDA), announced on Wednesday a new collaboration with Wellcome in London, one of the world's largest research foundations. He also welcomed three new high-ranking individuals to GESDA's Board of Directors. They are Enrico Letta, former Italian Prime Minister and President of the Jacques Delors Institute in Paris; Cheryl Moore, Wellcome's Chief Research Programmes Officer; and Henrietta Fore, an American-Swiss diplomat who notably served as Director of UNICEF between 2018 and 2022 as well as Administrator of the US Agency for International Development, USAID.

"The arrival of our three latest Board members, the agreement with Wellcome and the progress that we've made in the last year, notably on the Open Quantum Institute, the first GESDA's initiative, that will be presented this Friday, allow us to look to the future of GESDA with confidence," said Peter Brabeck-Letmathe at the opening of the third Geneva Science and Diplomacy Summit organized by GESDA Foundation at the newly inaugurated CERN Science Gateway in Geneva. "I also warmly thank Professor Samantha Besson and WHO Chief Scientist Jeremy Farrar, who tremendously helped GESDA in its early phase before stepping down from our Board for professional reasons and remain committed to promoting anticipation in their professional activities."

A new partnership with the London-based Wellcome

Wellcome will support GESDA and its partners in the development of science diplomacy on a global scale. Its funding of 8 million Swiss francs will enable GESDA's second-most advanced initiative, the Global Curriculum for Science and Diplomacy (GCSD), to move forward. Building on the success of the first two editions of the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Week, and the collaboration with ETH Zurich and the University of Geneva on the development of the Science in Diplomacy Lab (SidLab), the GCSD aims to make science diplomacy a key tool for more effective multilateralism. GESDA, together with a broad coalition of academic, diplomatic and private partners around the world proposes the development and widespread implementation of a global framework for training professionals in science and diplomacy that is based on a set of commonly recognized skills and knowledge.

Wellcome is a proud supporter of GESDA's Global Curriculum for Science and Diplomacy. This ambitious initiative will help address knowledge gaps between researchers and policy makers in areas of global importance that are underpinned by science. It also has the potential to build more cohesive and inclusive networks, particularly with those in low- and middle-income countries. "By enabling greater participation and more effective international collaboration, we will all be better placed to improve health for people all around the world," said Cheryl Moore, Chief Research Programmes Officer of Wellcome.

One Year in GESDA's 10-years scale-up phase

On September 10, 2022, GESDA Foundation entered its 10-year scale up phase as decided by its Founders, the Swiss and Geneva Governments.

Over the past year, GESDA has made significant progress in four areas:

- GESDA now has concrete initiatives under development in all five platforms of the GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar: Quantum Revolution & Advanced AI, Human Augmentation, Eco-regeneration & Geoengineering, Science and Diplomacy, Knowledge Foundations.
- Demand from international organizations to develop strategic partnerships with GESDA is increasing. As a consequence, GESDA is preparing itself to offer its know-how for developing projects in collaboration with other organizations.
- GESDA not only creates or supports innovative projects such as the Open Quantum Institute (OQI), GESDA's most advanced initiative, but also secures funding for the initiatives it is working on to ensure their viability.
- GESDA is integrating more and more citizens into its approaches through several initiatives:
 - The GESDA Africa Youth and Anticipation Initiative, which, for the second year running, has brought together young people from Africa to discuss the transformative potential of science and technology in society.
 - The Pulse of Society captures in the Radar a cross-section of viewpoints and actions of the world's population with regard to anticipated advances in science through an analysis of 10 million social media posts and 1.3 million newspaper articles.
 - Since March 2023, a partnership with Présence Suisse will enable GESDA to run in the Swiss pavilion at the World Expo 2025 to be held in Osaka, Japan, an interactive exhibition allowing 75 million expected visitors to envision their future based on the insights of the GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar.

About the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator Foundation (GESDA)

An independent non-profit foundation under Swiss law and a private-public partnership with the Swiss and Geneva authorities, GESDA was created in 2019 to strengthen the impact and innovation capacity of the international community through science and diplomacy anticipation.

About Wellcome

Wellcome supports science to solve the urgent health challenges facing everyone. It supports discovery research into life, health and well-being, and is taking on three worldwide health challenges: mental health, infectious disease, and climate and health.

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Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Chairman of GESDA Board of Directors, the Board Members as well as Sandro Giuliani, CEO of the Foundation, are available for interviews.

For more information, please visit the Foundation's website: www.gesda.global

Appendix

FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT THE EDITION 2023

Six Deep Dives in the 2023 GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar

The first day of the Summit traditionally sees the presentation of the GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar®, one of GESDA's two main instruments.

Over the years, the Radar - with contributions from over 1,500 scientists - has become:

1. A new tool for multilateralism, informed discussions, and concerted action.
2. A single point of entry to catch up with the unprecedented pace of science and technology.
3. A factual basis for eye-opening reflections on the impacts of future scientific discoveries for people, society and the planet(s).
4. An interactive, evolving instrument updated once every year.

The 2023 GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar® presents 42 scientific emerging topics and 324 breakthroughs at 5, 10 and 25 years in five fields. This year, it proposes 6 deep dives:

1. Neuro-Augmentation
2. The Future of Peace and War
3. Breakthroughs and Opportunities of AI and Quantum
4. The Human Right to Science
5. The Future of People, Society & the Planet(s)
6. People's Uses and Expectations regarding Science

Six Highlights of the 2023 Geneva Science and Diplomacy Summit

These six Deep Dives and many other topics will fuel discussions at the 3rd Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipation Summit, taking place from Wednesday, October 11 to Friday, October 13, at the newly built CERN Science Gateway. In all, 1,200 attendees and more than 80 speakers from the worlds of academia, diplomacy, business and the general public will take the floor in some 37 sessions.

Geneva Political Talks on AI and Quantum for All to be hosted by the Swiss Minister of Foreign Affairs

The political segment, organized on Thursday and Friday jointly by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and GESDA Foundation, will be another highlight of the summit. These **Geneva Political Talks on Science and Diplomacy** were Inaugurated last year by the President of the Swiss Confederation and ministers from five other countries. This year, the discussions will focus on **AI and Quantum for All** and will bring together ministers and delegates from ten countries.

The political talks on science diplomacy will be hosted by the Swiss Minister of Foreign Affairs and Federal Councilor Ignazio Cassis, who will be joined by his Hungarian, Moroccan, Slovenian, Emirati, Mexican and British colleagues.

There also will be a strong American presence, as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will be represented by his newly appointed Science and Technology Adviser Patricia Gruber. Japan and Chile will be represented by, respectively, the Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the former minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Ten Affiliated Events

Two open events are proposed this year: one on the history of the revolution that led to the production of the new mRNA covid vaccines, in partnership with the Heidi.news journalist Fabrice Delaye (which took place on October 9), one featuring members of the late Robert J. Oppenheimer's family, who will be present in Geneva. In all, the 2023 Summit is hosting 10 different side events:

1. The Messenger RNA Adventurers (open event)
2. Special Screening of the Oppenheimer documentary: The Day After Trinity (open event)
3. FDFA – MENA Workshop
4. Dubai Future Foundation Workshop
5. Science Diplomacy Capital for Africa Workshop
6. ETH – AI Workshop
7. Open Quantum Institute Scientific Review Workshop
8. Future of Peace and War Initiative – next steps
9. Geneva Science Diplomacy Week Alumni
10. First GESDA Impact Forum Meeting
