



## PROGRAMME

# REYKJAVÍK GLOBAL FORUM – WOMEN LEADERS POWER, TOGETHER FOR LEADERSHIP 12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2023

## SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 12

### Off-site events

12:00 - 16:00	Badge Collection in Harpa Concert & Conference Hall
13:00 - 14:00	*Visit the Oldest Parliament in the world, Alþingi, Parliament of Iceland
15:00 - 16:00	*Welcome Reception at the President of Iceland's Residence, <i>Buses leave from Harpa at 14.30</i>
16:00 - 17:00	*Welcome Reception at the President of Iceland's Residence <i>Buses leave from Harpa at 15.30</i>
17:00 - 18:30	Happy Hour at Sunset, on the Rooftop of the Reykjavík Edition
18:30 - 20:00	*Dinner & a Conversation with Icelandic Women Leaders at the Reykjavík Edition

*\*Prior registration is required*

## MONDAY - NOVEMBER 13

08.00 - 09.00	RISE & PREPARE TO SHINE Coffee, croissants & conversations Badge collection <i>Venue: The Reykjavik Lounge, Harpa</i>
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### MC: Anita Erskine, CEO, Anita Erskine Media

*Venue: Silfurberg, Harpa*

09.00 - 09.10	WELCOME TO THE REYKJAVÍK GLOBAL FORUM 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Chair and Co-founder of the Reykjavík Global Forum, Senior Advisor on Women's Leadership, UN Women</li><li>Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President of Women Political Leaders (WPL), Co-founder of the Reykjavík Global Forum</li></ul>
09.10 - 09.25	VELKOMIN TIL ÍSLANDS! 'POWER, TOGETHER FOR LEADERSHIP' Conversation with the co-hosts of Reykjavík Global Forum; women leaders that represent the government and parliament of Iceland. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Katrín Jakobsdóttir, Prime Minister &amp; Co-Chair of the Reykjavík Global Forum</li><li>Áslaug Arna Sigurbjörnsdóttir, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation</li></ul>



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- Þorbjörg Sigríður Gunnlaugsdóttir, Member of Althingi
- Krístrún Frostadóttir, Member of Althingi, leader of the Social Democratic Alliance
- Chaired by Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir, Chair and Co-founder of the Reykjavík Global Forum and Senior Advisor on Women's Leadership, UN Women & Anita Erskine, CEO, Anita Erskine Media

09.30 - 09.40

### THE REYKJAVÍK INDEX FOR LEADERSHIP 2023

First launched in 2018, the Reykjavík Index for Leadership measures popular perceptions on the suitability of women and men for leadership positions. The findings of the Reykjavík Index for Leadership 2023 will be presented, in partnership with Kantar Public.

- Michelle Harrison, Global CEO, Kantar Public

09.40 - 09.55

### REYKJAVÍK ACTION ITEMS 2023

The conversation in this panel will focus on how we can Power, Together to move the results of the Reykjavík Index for Leadership in a positive direction? Reykjavík Global's Action Advisory Board has worked collaboratively to develop actionable policy goals for business and legislative bodies, which will be presented and discussed in this panel session.

- Michelle Harrison, Global CEO, Kantar Public
- Christy Tanner, Senior Advisor, Reykjavík Global Forum
- Lopa Banerjee, Director Civil Society Division, UN Women
- Chaired by Ragnheiður Elín Árnadóttir, Director, OECD Development Centre, former Minister and MP of Iceland

10.00 - 10.20

### THE WORLD IN FOCUS: SNAPSHOT OF WHERE WE ARE NOW

The conversation in this panel will focus on the present state of the world and its near future. 2023 has been marked by conflicts, the backslide of equality, democracy and deepening economic difficulties. What developments in 2024 are essential for advancing global peace and stability?

- Martin Chungong, Secretary-General, Inter-Parliamentary Union; Co-Chair of the Reykjavík Global Forum 2023
- Irene Fellin, Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
- Adela Raz, Director of Afghanistan Policy Lab, Princeton School of Public and International Affairs; Co-Chair of the Reykjavík Global Forum 2023

10.25 - 10.45

### CLIMATE CRISIS: RESPONSE IN A MORE RESPONSIBLE WORLD

The conversation in this panel will focus on recent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, devastating wildfires, and the growing concern about climate-induced migration. It underscores the need for a unified international response that transcends gender divides and embraces diverse perspectives in addressing the climate crisis.

- Nancy Tembo, Foreign Minister, Malawi



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- Ida Auken, Member of Parliament, Denmark
- Chaired by Niyanta Spelman, Founder/CEO, Rainforest Partnership

10.50 - 11.10

### RESPONSIBLE ENERGY: A SOURCE FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The conversation in this panel will focus on Iceland's remarkable progress in its transition to almost entirely renewable energy, offering valuable lessons for other nations. The importance of gender diversity in the energy sector for a comprehensive energy transition will also be addressed.

- Halla Hrund Logadóttir, Director-General, Iceland's National Energy Authority
- Lesley Arthur, CEO, Cubica Energy; Founder, Energy Quest Foundation
- Kessely Hong, Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School
- Chaired by Maithreyi Seetharaman, Journalist, The Chief Brief

### *ENERGY BOOSTING BREAK*

11.30 - 12.30

### LEADERS TALKS (4 parallel sessions)

*\*Registration required*

Parallel impact sessions to progress, hosted by partners

### WOMEN'S POWER: AN ENGINE OF OPPORTUNITY IN GLOBAL HEALTH AND BEYOND

In cooperation with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Join Iris Mwanza as she leads a discussion on the multisector impact of women holding positions of power through the lens of global health. Hear from a dynamic line up of leaders across organizations driving progress for women in leadership.

*Venue: Esja 3, Harpa*

### CONVERSATIONS UNSCRIPTED

In cooperation with Microsoft

In the new era of AI, technology continues to play a key role in addressing inequalities, providing new opportunities in the digital economy and tackling the global digital divide. Ensuring that everyone benefits from this digital transformation is a shared responsibility of governments and technology companies alike. Girls and women cannot be left out of shaping this transformation. Now is the time to re-double our efforts to close the gender gap in technology as well as among the decision-makers who will shape digital policies impacting our world. Conversations Unscripted is a multi-stakeholder initiative aiming to reduce the gender gap in politics and technology.

*Venue: Esja 4, Harpa*



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### POWERING TOGETHER TO PUSH FORWARD FOR GENDER EQUALITY

In cooperation with UN Women

Today, the pursuit of gender equality faces unprecedented challenges. As we approach the halfway mark to the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals, it is disheartening to note that we are still close to 300 years away from reaching gender equality based on the current rate of progress. The primary objective of this LeadersTalk is to foster a dynamic, interactive dialogue among thought leaders and experts from various sectors, to identify strategies and best practices that can reinforce institutions upholding democracy, human rights, and gender equality. Conversationists will be asked to share strategies and examples that have been useful or that they see valuable in responding to these challenges.

*Venue: Esja 5, Harpa*

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A 'REAL MAN' AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT GENDER EQUALITY?

In cooperation with OECD Development Centre

With seven years left to Agenda 2030, progress towards gender equality has been mixed. There have been some gains, but also setbacks, especially in recent years with the pandemic and interconnected climate, energy and financial crisis. This session will explore the underlying social expectations on gender roles and norms of masculinities that restrict women's empowerment and identify approaches and strategies to transform such norms into gender-equitable ones for the benefit and well-being of all.

*Venue: Kaldalón, Harpa*

12.30 - 13.30

### 'PARTNERING UP' LUNCH

Powered by Estée Lauder

*Venue: Flói, Harpa*

12.30 - 13:45

*Council of Women World Leaders (CWWL) Annual Meeting  
By Invitation only*

*Venue: Silfurberg, Harpa*

13.35 - 13.55

### COST OF LIVING AND THE WELLBEING ECONOMY

The conversation in this panel will focus on the ever increasing cost of living, which cannot be ignored. Not only does it reduce everyone's quality of life, but it also narrows access to leadership paths for women. Simple, yet very effective, solutions, such as equal pay, shared parental leave and equal representation can produce a more virtuous circle, benefitting all of society.

- Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
- Ebony Young, Deputy Borough President, Queens, City of New York



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- Christina McKelvie, Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development, Scottish Government
- Dagur B. Eggertsson, Mayor of Reykjavík
- Chaired by Henrike von Platen, CEO / Founder, Fair Pay Innovation Lab

- 14.00 - 14.25 **FIRESIDE CHAT WITH ASHLEY JUDD** Actress, Activist and Co-Chair of the Reykjavík Global Forum 2023 and Yvonne Okwara, Senior News Anchor at Citizen Television, Royalmedia Services
- 14.30 - 14.55 **REPRESENTATION MATTERS**  
The conversation in this panel will focus on WPL's flagship initiative Representation Matters, which shows that a country's overall progress and performance is improved when it has greater representation of women in political leadership, through their role in the law and policy-making process.
- Conversation starter: Silvana Koch-Mehrin, Founder and President of WPL
- Camila Crescimbeni, Member of Parliament, Argentina
  - Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta (2014-2019), President Eurochild
  - Neema Lugangira, Member of Parliament, Tanzania
  - Chaired by Dominik Weh, Co-Head, Public Sector & Policy Practice Europe, Oliver Wyman
- 14.55 - 15.00 **POWER OF DIVERSITY**
- Yvonne A. Braendle-Amolo, Swiss Parliamentarian & Activist
- 15.05 - 15.25 **ICELANDIC BARBERSHOP CHAT: HOW CAN MEN FIGHT FOR GENDER EQUALITY?**  
The conversation in this panel will focus on Icelandic men discussing the importance of men taking responsibility when it comes to the fight for gender equality. Gender equality is not and cannot be solely a woman's issue, men need to step up so we can all achieve a common goal. A truly equal society would provide myriad benefits and opportunities for all.
- Bjarni Benediktsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs
  - Andri Heiðar Kristinsson, CEO of Digital Iceland
  - Ægir Már Þórisson, CEO of Advania
  - Chaired by Gary Barker, Director of Instituto Promundo
- ENERGY BOOSTING BREAK**
- 15.50 - 16.10 **WHY ECONOMIC POWER IS A VITAL SIGN FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH**  
The conversation in this panel will focus on how, to be healthy, women must have the power to make decisions over their own lives. Unlocking women's economic power and ambition creates new leaders and innovators in the



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women's health space.

- Gargee Ghosh, President, Global Policy & Advocacy, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Roopa Dhatt, Executive & Co-Founder, Women in Global Health
- Obiageli "Oby" Ezekwesili, Chair of WPL

16.15 - 16.35

### THE LONG HAUL: HOW CAN WE ENSURE WOMEN RETAIN POWER?

The conversation in this panel will focus on the trend of women leaving senior leadership positions, one that has existed for years, in all sectors, and 2023 brought several high-profile examples. Why is this occurring and how can this trend be reversed?

- Dalia Grybauskaitė, President of Lithuania (2009-2019)
- Simonetta Sommaruga, President of the Swiss Confederation (2015-2020)
- Tarja Halonen, President of Finland (2000-2012)
- Laura Liswood, Secretary General, Council of Women World Leaders
- Chaired by Rick Zednik, Advisory Council Chair, EURACTIV; Advisor, WPL

16.40 - 16.45

### DAY ONE TAKEAWAYS

- Eliza Reid, Author and First Lady of Iceland

16.50 - 17.00

### CLOSING REMARKS: DAY ONE

- Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir

17.00 - 18.00

### POWER, TOGETHER RECEPTION IN HARPA

*Venue: The Reykjavik Lounge, Harpa*

Powered by the Oliver Wyman Forum

17.30 - 18.30

*A Conversation on Gender-Based Violence with Katrín Jakobsdóttir, Prime Minister of Iceland and Ashley Judd, Actress and Activist.*

*Hosted by CWWL, RGF & UN Women*

*Venue: University of Iceland*

*By pre-registration and invitation only*



## PROGRAMME

### TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 14

08.00 - 08.45

*Reykjavík Global Action Advisory Board meeting  
By Invitation only*

08.00 - 09.00

**RISE & PREPARE TO SHINE**  
Coffee, croissants & conversations  
*Venue: The Reykjavík Lounge, Harpa*

#### **MC: Delphine O, Ambassador-at-large & Secretary General for the Generation Equality Forum**

*Venue: Silfurberg, Harpa*

09.00 - 09.25

**THE REYKJAVÍK INDEX FOR LEADERSHIP 2023 - THE NORDIC EDITION**  
The Reykjavík Index for Leadership 2023 will have a specific Nordic edition. We heard and discussed the results for the rest of the world yesterday, today we look at the Nordics.  
Conversation starter: Michelle Harrison, Global CEO, Kantar Public

- Chaired by Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, Managing Director, ABA Global Action; CEO (2015-2021), Plan International

09.30 - 09.50

**FROM SEED ROUNDS TO CAPITAL MARKETS: HOW CAN WE SUPER-CHARGE INVESTMENT IN WOMEN-LED VENTURES?**  
The conversation in this panel will focus on persistent gender imbalance in investments between male-led and female-led companies. Female entrepreneurs often struggle to secure adequate funding for their ventures, which not only hampers business growth but perpetuates the gender gap in entrepreneurship.

- Janna Salokangas, Co-Founder, Mission Impact Academy
- Halldóra Mogensen, Member of Althingi
- Dr Anino Emuwa, Managing Director, Avandis Consulting; Founder, Africa Women CEOs Network; Founder, 100 Women@Davos
- Chaired by Francesca Donner, Founder & CEO, Front Page Media

09.55 - 10.00

**POWER OF TRANSFORMATION**

- Christy Tanner, Senior Advisor, Reykjavík Global Forum and President, CETE Partners

10.05 - 10.15

**THE REYKJAVÍK ACTION ITEMS - A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE**

10.20 - 10.40

**LITTLE LEARNERS, BIG IMPACT: HOW EARLY YEARS EDUCATION SHAPES GENDER PERCEPTIONS**  
The conversation in this panel will focus on early years education, a crucial time: it creates the foundation of a child's understanding of social structures, gender identity and shapes the future adult.



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- Alicia Herbert OBE, Director of Education, Gender and Equalities, UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office; UK's Special Envoy for Gender Equality
- Michelle Milford Morse, Vice President for Girls and Women Strategy, United Nations Foundation
- Chaired by Dr Bryony Mathew, UK Ambassador to Iceland; Author of *Qubits and Quiver Trees: Awesome Careers of the Future*

10.45 - 11.05

### CHANGING THE FIELDS: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS FOR JUSTICE, PROSPERITY AND HEALTH

The conversation in this panel will focus on the inspirational Global South women leaders who are spearheading change in the fields of economics, health and law. Explore the innovations and systemic mechanisms and understand why these pathways are now more critical than ever.

- Iris Mwanza, Deputy Director, Women in Leadership, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Maria Noel Leoni, Deputy Executive Director, Center for Justice and International Law; Director, GQUAL Campaign
- Chaired by Mitali Wroczynski, Associate Director, Partnerships, Co-Impact

### ENERGY BOOSTING BREAK

11.30 - 12.30

### LEADERS TALKS (2 parallel sessions)

\*Registration required

Parallel impact sessions to progress, hosted by partners

### DEFENDING DEMOCRACY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

In cooperation with Microsoft (Democracy Forward)

Democracy is under pressure globally. Technology seems poised to play an increasing role in protecting democratic societies, whether through bringing attention to the impact of disinformation on the information ecosystem, the importance of responsible development of artificial intelligence, the incorporation of diverse leadership perspectives, or the safeguarding of democratic processes and institutions. This conversation will blend multi-stakeholder perspectives, including that of Microsoft's Democracy Forward team, the nonprofit sector, journalism and others, to explore this important topic.

*Venue: Esja 4, Harpa*





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### ICELANDIC BUSINESSWOMEN: SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

For 14 consecutive years Iceland has placed first on the World Economic Forum Gender Pay Gap Index as the country that has achieved the greatest successes in closing the gender gap. In a world where under 10% of Heads of States or Governments and under 10% of CEOs of the largest companies are women, Iceland has managed to succeed in having more gender balanced politics. Iceland has a woman Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and over 40% of Members of Parliament are women; can the same balance be found within the business society?

In cooperation with Icelandic Partners

*Venue: Esja 3, Harpa*

11.30 - 12.30

### VOICES OF PARLIAMENT - REPRESENTATION MATTERS

Organised by Women Political Leaders (WPL)

(Parliamentarians only)

Co-chaired by:

- Birgir Ármannsson, Speaker of Althingi
- Silvana Koch-Mehrin, President and Founder of WPL
- Obiageli "Oby" Ezekwesili, Chair of WPL

*Venue: Silfurberg, Harpa*

12.30 - 13.30

### CONVERSATIONIST LUNCH

Powered by the UN Foundation and Open Society Foundation

*Venue: Flói, Harpa*

*Venue: Silfurberg, Harpa*

13.35 - 13.55

### A.I. CHALLENGES: STRATEGIES FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The conversation in this panel will focus on the many concerns which have been voiced about the future of AI, specifically focusing on the potential biases that AIs can be programmed with which can reflect many different human prejudices.

- Emily Christner, Chief Product Officer, TMB
- Rita Singh, Associate Research Professor, Carnegie Mellon University
- Chaired by Marie Petitcuénot, Equality Lead for South and Central EMEA and Japan, Salesforce

14.00 - 14.20

### DEMOCRACY IN FOCUS: NETWORKS AND NARRATIVES

This panel will focus on the clear relationship between the rolling back of the rights of women and girls and democratic backsliding. This is a truly global story, one of narratives, international networks and delivery mechanisms.

- S. Mitra Kalita, CEO, URL Media
- Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, Ambassador at Large, Office of Global Women's Issues, U.S. State Department
- Chaired by Sandra Pepera, Senior Associate and Director, Gender, Women and Democracy, National Democratic Institute



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- 14.25 - 14.30      **POWER OF SLEEP**
- Dr. Erla Björnsdóttir, CEO and Founder, Isleep
- 14.35 - 14.55      **SPOTLIGHT: FEMALE AMBASSADORS IN ICELAND “WOMEN ON THE FRONT LINES BUT NOT AT THE TABLE”**
- The conversation in this panel will focus on the fact that women are more likely to serve as ambassadors in more gender-equal countries than those with greater economic clout and conflict-affected states. How can it be demonstrated that this needs to change?
- Kirsten Geelan, Ambassador of Denmark to Iceland
  - Carrin Patman, Ambassador of the United States to Iceland
  - Lucy Samcóva Hall-Allen, Ambassador of the European Union to Iceland
  - Jeannette Menzies, Ambassador of Canada to Iceland
  - Chaired by Diane Gashumba, Ambassador of Rwanda to the Nordic Countries
- 15.00 - 15.20      **SCREENTIME: WHY EQUAL REPRESENTATION MATTERS IN FRONT OF AND BEHIND THE CAMERA**
- The conversation in this panel will focus on the gendered stereotypes that remain prevalent – on all of our screens and in all types of media – from the big screen to TVs to phones, from social platforms to established legacy content creators and distributors. Women remain in the minority making key decisions. Where are we seeing progress and how can we forge new successes in representation?
- Caty Burgess, former SVP, Marketing & Media Strategies, The CW
  - Claire Tavernier, Media and Digital Advisor, Leadership Coach
  - Adrienne C. Smith, SVP and Senior Partner, FleishmanHillard
  - Katja Iversen, CEO of the Museum for the United Nations
  - Chaired by Elise Hufano, Partner at theDifference, Co-Founder at Impact Commons
- ENERGY BOOSTING BREAK*
- 15.45 - 16.05      **CREATIVITY FOR POLICY CHANGE**
- The conversation in this panel will focus on the notable drive for policy change powered by creativity. Creative approaches have emerged as potent tools for influencing policy decisions. However, while creativity has proven to be a powerful policy-informing mechanism, it remains significantly under-leveraged in this context.
- Devika Bulchandani, Global Chief Executive Officer, Ogilvy
  - Lilja Dögg Alfreðsdóttir, Minister of Culture and Business Affairs, Iceland
  - Chaired by Jane Geraghty, CEO, Landor & Fitch & Co-chair of Reykjavík Global Forum



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- 16.10 - 16.15      POWER OF FORGIVENESS
- Pórdís Elva Þorvaldsdóttir
- 16.20 - 16.55      WPL TRAILBLAZER AWARDS
- POWER TOGETHER AWARDS 2023
- CLOSING REMARKS: DAY TWO
- END OF PROGRAMME
- 17.30 - 18.45      *Partner Reception*  
*By invitation only*  
*Venue: Kjarval, Austurstræti 10A*
- 19.00 - 21.30      \*Farewell Gathering - Icelandic Style at the Sky Lagoon  
Buses leave from Harpa at 18.30, 18.45, 19.00  
\*Prior registration is required

*This is a draft programme, it is subject to change*