

# Astana International Forum 2024

## Concept Note

*Congress Centre, Astana, Kazakhstan  
June 13-14, 2024*

### Mission Statement

Empowering People, Uniting Nations: Building a Better World Together

### Vision

In the face of an increasingly challenging global landscape characterized by polarization, the need for pragmatic collaboration has never been more crucial. This year's Astana International Forum aims to foster a spirit of cooperation and exchange to promote global integration and make the case for the revival of multilateralism.

The Forum's themes are grounded in a collective responsibility to build a better world. By committing to shared priorities, working together across public and private sectors, the Forum's organizers believe we can overcome global challenges and secure our collective future.

Building on the success of the inaugural edition in 2023, the 2024 Astana International Forum will gather political, business, and thought leaders from around the world to exchange perspectives on a carefully selected set of current critical issues that have both global and regional dimensions. As with last year, the Forum's program will be split into four pillars:

#### Foreign Policy & International Security

Against the continuing erosion of multilateralism, the Forum will provide a space for dialogue and collaboration, addressing shared concerns and challenges. Key topics of discussion will include ongoing conflicts, geopolitical competition and polarization, nuclear proliferation, chemical and biological weapons, terrorism, and AI.

#### International Development & Sustainability

Consecutive global crises, including the pandemic, the climate emergency, and geoeconomic fragmentation have rolled back progress in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Consequently, key topics of discussion will include global healthcare infrastructure, food security and agriculture, as well as inequality and poverty.

#### Energy & Climate Change

With a lack of global agreement on climate issues and multilateral forums serving more as arenas for proxy conflict, rather than consensus, the imperative to drive concrete action is greater than ever. Key topics of discussion will include climate policy and international agreements, pollution and biodiversity, the energy transition, energy justice, as well as critical raw materials.

#### Economy & Finance

In an era marked by emerging protectionist tendencies, understanding the implications for the global flow of investment, security of supply chains, and free enterprise is essential. Key topics of discussion will include supply chain resilience, innovation and entrepreneurship, and global economic integration.

### **Indicative Session Titles**

- *The exact titles and content of the sessions will depend on speakers' availability. These session titles are likely to change and be refined multiple times before the Forum takes place in June.*
- *The program will also include 1-1 sessions with high-profile individuals, in an interview style format.*

### **Foreign Policy & International Security**

- Rebuilding Tomorrow: Diplomacy in the Aftermath of Conflict
- Economic Chess: Navigating Geoeconomics, Supply Chains, and Trade Barriers
- Beyond Boundaries: Toward Global Nuclear Disarmament and Arms Control
- Mind the Gap: AI, Disinformation, and the Battle Against Polarization
- Middle Powers: Charting a Third Way in International Affairs
- Parliamentary Diplomacy Unleashed: A Discussion on its Merits
- Summit 2024: Decoding Critical Choices Shaping Our Future

### **International Development & Sustainability**

- Global Mobility: The Complex Challenges of Migration
- Grain Drain: Tackling Food Insecurity Amid Global Shocks
- Economic Equality: Confronting Inequality, Poverty, and Contractions
- Advancing Towards 2030: Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals
- Central Asia United: Regional Cooperation for a Shared Future
- Learning Reloaded: The Future of Education
- The OECD's Global Footprint: Fostering Development in Emerging Economies

### **Economy & Finance**

- Preparing for the Future: Industrialization in the Age of AI
- Tomorrow's Workplace: Navigating the Future of Work & the Creative Economy
- Connecting Horizons: New Supply Chains and Global Connectivity
- Investment Frontiers: Capital Flows in Emerging Markets
- Promoting Growth: Innovation & Intellectual Property
- Urban Development: Smart Cities & Sustainability
- Empowering Change: Women and Global Economic Growth

### **Energy & Climate Change**

- Renewables Rising: Towards a Net Zero Energy Landscape
- Energy Shifts: Navigating Insecurity and the Just Transition
- Critical Resources: Navigating Raw Materials in Demand
- Nuclear Dynamics: Energy, Safety, and Civil Applications
- ESG Imperative: Shaping the Future of Responsible Mining
- Hydrogen Power: Green Energy Systems for a Sustainable Future
- Liquid Assets: Addressing the Global Challenge of Water Insecurity