



2026

WORLD INEQUALITY CONFERENCE

PARIS SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
04 - 06 JUNE 2026

PROGRAMME



WORLD
INEQUALITY
..... LAB

The World Inequality Lab is organizing the third edition of the **World Inequality Conference**, to be held at the Paris School of Economics on June 4-6, 2026.

The **World Inequality Lab** (WIL) is a global research laboratory focused on the study of inequality. For more than ten years, the WIL has worked to produce evidence-based research on the various dimensions of inequality, both within and between countries, in order to inform the public debate.

The WIL hosts and maintains the **World Inequality Database**, the most extensive open-access public database on the historical evolution of economic inequality.

The WIL is composed of about forty researchers and staff. The team works in close coordination with more than 200 researchers - **the WID Fellows** - based in institutions around the world.



Scientific Committee: All submissions were reviewed by the Scientific Committee comprising of Luis Bauluz, Nitin Bharti, Lucas Chancel, Jonas Dietrich, Matthew Fisher-Post, Ignacio Flores (Co-Chair), Valentina Gabrielli, Amory Gethin, Ricardo Gómez-Carrera, Romaine Loubes, Clara Martínez Toledano, Cornelia Mohren, Rowaida Moshrif, Gastón Nievas, Moritz Odersky, Thomas Piketty, Anmol Somanchi (Co-Chair).

Organization Committee: The overall organization of the conference is coordinated by an organization committee comprising of Thomas Cessou, Lucas Chancel (Co-Chair), Jonas Dietrich, Alice Fauvel (Co-Chair), Cornelia Mohren, Rowaida Moshrif, Moritz Odersky, Thomas Piketty, Anmol Somanchi (Co-Chair) and Delia Visan.

Welcome

The World Inequality Conference will be structured around three pillars:

- **Release of the Global Justice Report** on June 4 at 9:30am
 - **Plenary sessions** reflecting on the main themes of the report page 3-5
 - **Parallel sessions** featuring the latest academic work in the inequality field (235 accepted out of close to 800 submissions) available soon
- Speaker biographies** page 5 -13
- Partners & Sponsors** page 14





Day 1 – Thursday 4 June

Amphithéâtre Daniel Cohen

09.30 AM — **Welcome by WIL co-directors:** Lucas Chancel, Rowaida Moshrif & Thomas Piketty
Global Justice Report Launch: Cornelia Mohren, Moritz Odersky, Anmol Somanchi

11.00 AM — **Break**

11.30 AM — **How Much Do We Need to Degrow to Save the Planet?**
Speakers: Jason Hickel, Tejal Kanitkar, Nick Stern
Moderator: Moritz Odersky

13.00 PM — **Lunch**

14.00 PM — **Utopia and Dystopia in the XXIst Century**
Speakers: Kim Stanley Robinson, Thomas Piketty
Moderator: Alice Fauvel

15.30 PM — **Break**

16.00 PM — **The Future of Billionaire Taxation**
Speakers: Sarah Perret, Emmanuel Saez, Gabriel Zucman
Moderator: TBC

18.00 PM — **Food & Music in the Garden**



Day 2 – Friday 5 June

Amphithéâtre Daniel Cohen

-
- 09.30 AM** — **The Inequality Question in Climate Futures**
Speakers: Jofre Carnicer, Lucas Chancel, Olivier De Schutter, Celine Guivarch
Moderator: TBC
-
- 11.00 AM** — **Break**
-
- 11.30 AM** — **How Much Should the Wealth Scale be Compressed?**
Speakers: Jean Drèze, Isabelle Ferreras, Ingrid Robeyns
Moderator: Anmol Somanchi
-
- 13.00 PM** — **Lunch**
-
- 14.00 PM** — **States vs Markets in the Energy Transition**
Speakers: Lucas Chancel, Mariana Mazzucato, Julia Steinberger (TBC)
Moderator: TBC
-
- 15.30 PM** — **Break**
-
- 16.00 PM** — **Do We Need a Bretton Woods Reset to Save the Planet?**
Speakers: David Adler, Ha-Joon Chang, Paula Druschke, Jayati Ghosh, Gastón Nievas
Moderator: TBC
-
- 18.00 PM** — **End of Day 2**



Day 3 – Saturday 6 June

Amphithéâtre Daniel Cohen

-
- 09.30 AM** — **Gender Equality, Labour Hours and Sustainability**
Speakers: Camille Landais, Anne-Sophie Robilliard and other
TBC
Moderator: Valentina Gabrielli
-
- 11.00 AM** — **Break**
-
- 11.30 AM** — **Class Conflict on a Warming Planet**
Speakers: Grace Blakeley, Julia Cagé, Dena Freeman, Don
Kalb
Moderator: Amory Gethin
-
- 13.00 PM** — **Lunch**
-
- 14.00 PM** — **Are We on the Road for Global Equality?**
Speakers: Christian Christiansen, Branko Milanović, Thomas
Piketty, Lea Ypi
Moderator: Marie Andreescu
-
- 15.30 PM** — **End of Conference**



Thursday 4 June 09:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Welcome by WIL co-directors



Lucas Chancel is co-director of the World Inequality Lab and Associate Professor of Economics with tenure at Sciences Po, where he is based at the Centre de Recherche sur les Inégalités Sociales and the Department of Economics. He is also Senior Adviser to the International Tax Observatory. His research focuses on economic inequality, climate change, and the distributional dimensions of the energy transition. He is the author of *Unsustainable Inequalities* (Harvard University Press, 2020) and *Énergie et inégalités : Une histoire politique* (Le Seuil, 2025). He was most recently nominated for the 2026 Best Young Economist Award, awarded by *Le Monde* and *Le Cercle des économistes*.



Rowaida Moshrif is Co-Director and Head of Data at the World Inequality Lab. Her research focuses on historical political economy, land inequality, and elite dynamics in the Middle East, particularly Egypt. She has held research visits at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.



Thomas Piketty is Professor of Economics and Economic History at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS) and the Paris School of Economics. His research lies at the intersection of historical political economy and socio-economic history, with a focus on economic development, the distribution of income and wealth, and political conflict. He is co-director of the WIL, and one of the initiators of the Global Justice Project. He is the author of *Capital in the Twenty-First Century* (HUP, 2014), *Capital and Ideology* (HUP, 2020), *A Brief History of Equality* (HUP, 2022), and with Julia Cagé of *A History of Political Conflict* (HUP, 2025).

Thursday 4 June 09:30 AM - 11:00
Presentation of Global Justice Report



Cornelia Mohren is Environmental Coordinator at the World Inequality Lab. She is the main author of the 2025 Climate Inequality Report. Her research focuses on the evolution of global inequality and its links to the climate crisis, with particular attention to the social impacts of environmental policy at both the local and global levels. She holds a Master's degree in Analysis and Policy in Economics from the Paris School of Economics.



Moritz Odersky is a Research Fellow at the World Inequality Lab. His research focuses on global inequality, climate change, and long-run development, with recent work on global wealth patterns, structural transformation, and the interaction between inequality and planetary limits. He is co-author of recent World Inequality Lab working papers including Prosperity Within Limits? Planetary Habitability, Global Convergence and Structural Transformation, 2026-2100 and Global Wealth Accumulation and Ownership Patterns, 1800–2025.



Anmol Somanchi is Global Justice Coordinator at the World Inequality Lab. His research interests span labour economics, development economics, and inequality studies, with a particular focus on employer market power and social protection. He holds degrees from St. Stephen's College, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and the Paris School of Economics, and has previously worked with IDinsight, Research for Action, the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad.

Thursday 4 June 11:30 AM - 13:00
How Much Do We Need to Degrow to Save the Planet?



Jason Hickel is a political economist and Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) Research Professor at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology and the Autonomous University of Barcelona. His work focuses on global inequality, ecological economics, and post-growth futures. He is the author of *The Divide: A Brief Guide to Global Inequality and its Solutions* (William Heinemann, 2017) and *Less is More: How Degrowth Will Save the World* (William Heinemann, 2020), both widely recognised contributions to debates on inequality and sustainability. He serves on the Climate and Macroeconomics Roundtable of the US National Academy of Sciences and currently holds an ERC Synergy Grant exploring pathways for radical climate mitigation, economic democracy, and post-capitalist transition.



Tejal Kanitkar is is Associate Professor at the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research. A mechanical engineer by training, she has worked in the field of energy and climate studies since 2006. Her research focuses on the intersections of energy, development, and climate policy, bringing together perspectives from engineering, the natural sciences, and the social sciences. Her work examines the links between energy production, environmental constraints, and economic development, with a particular emphasis on equity and justice in the context of the climate crisis. She holds a PhD in Energy Science and Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.



Nicholas Stern is an IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government at London School of Economics and Political Science, Chair of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment and the Global School of Sustainability. One of the world's leading economists on development and climate change, he is widely known for leading the landmark Review on the Economics of Climate Change (2006). He has previously served as Chief Economist and vice president at the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and as President of the British Academy. A Fellow of the Royal Society, his work focuses on growth, public policy, sustainable development, and climate economics. His latest book is: "The Growth Story of the 21st Century: The economics and opportunities of climate action" (LSE Press, 2025).

Thursday 4 June 14:00 PM - 15:30 PM
Utopia and Dystopia in the XXIst Century



Kim Stanley Robinson is an US novelist considered as one of the greatest living science fiction writers. He is the author of the Mars trilogy and The Ministry for the Future, among other works. His writing often explores themes of climate change, environmentalism, and political and economic systems. He holds a PhD in English from the University of California, San Diego, where he studied under Fredric Jameson. Robinson has received several literary awards, including the Hugo and Nebula Awards.

Thomas Piketty - see page 5

Thursday 4 June 16:00 PM - 18:00 PM

The Future of Billionaire Taxation



Sarah Perret is the Head of the Personal and Property Taxes Unit in the Tax Policy and Statistics Division of the OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration. Her role involves assessing countries' tax systems and providing guidance on tax reform. She has been leading the OECD's work on personal income and wealth taxation and is the author of numerous studies on taxation, inequality and inclusive growth. She holds degrees from the London School of Economics and Political Science and Sciences Po Paris.



Emmanuel Saez is Professor of Economics and Director of the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Wealth and Income Inequality at the University of California, Berkeley. He received his PhD in Economics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1999. He was Assistant Professor of Economics at Harvard University from 1999 to 2002, before joining the faculty at UC Berkeley. He is currently editor of the Journal of Public Economics and co-director of the Public Policy Program at CEPR. He was awarded the John Bates Clark Medal in 2009. His research focuses on taxation, redistribution, and inequality, from both theoretical and empirical perspectives.



Gabriel Zucman is Professor of Economics at the Paris School of Economics and École normale supérieure–PSL, Research Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, founding Director of the International Tax Observatory, and founding Director of the James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Center on Wealth and Income Inequality at the University of California on Global Wealth Dynamics at PSE. A leading scholar of global wealth, taxation, and inequality, he is the author of the *The Hidden Wealth of Nations* (The University of Chicago Press, 2015) and, with Emmanuel Saez, *The Triumph of Injustice* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2019). He was awarded the John Bates Clark Medal in 2023 and was elected Fellow of the Econometric Society in 2024.

Friday 5 June 09:30 AM - 11:00 AM
The Inequality Question in Climate Futures



Jofre Carnicer is Senior Researcher at Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF) and Professor of Ecology at the University of Barcelona. Since 2018, he has contributed as an author to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), was part of the Sixth Assessment Report, published in 2022, and participates in the ongoing Seventh Assessment Report. His research focuses on the impacts of climate change on Mediterranean ecosystems, with particular attention to forest resilience, plant–animal interactions, and ecosystem services. He also serves on Spain’s National Climate Council and leads research projects on forest carbon sinks, drought regime shifts, and adaptation pathways under global warming.

Lucas Chancel - see page 5



Olivier De Schutter is a Belgian legal scholar and Professor of International Law at the Catholic University of Louvain, as well as at Sciences Po Paris. He served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food from 2008 to 2014. He was then a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights from 2015 until May 2020, before being appointed United Nations Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights. He is the recipient of the 2013 Francqui Prize and has held visiting appointments at Columbia University, University of California, Berkeley, and Yale University. He also coordinated the European Network of Independent Experts on Fundamental Rights from 2002 to 2007.



Céline Guivarch is a climate economist and Research Director at École des Ponts and International Center for Research on Environment and Development (CIRED). Trained as an engineer at École polytechnique and École des Ponts, and holding a doctorate in economics, her research combines climate science, economics, and applied mathematics to model the economic and social consequences of climate change. She is a member of France’s High Council for Climate and is a coordinating lead author of the IPCC Seventh Assessment Report. She received the Irène Joliot-Curie Young Woman Scientist Prize in 2020 for her interdisciplinary work on climate modelling and policy.

Friday 5 June 11:30 AM - 13:00

How Much Should the Wealth Scale be Compressed?



Jean Drèze is a development economist whose work focuses on poverty, public policy, and social and economic rights, with particular reference to India. He completed his PhD at the Indian Statistical Institute in New Delhi and became an Indian citizen in 2002. He has taught at the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Delhi School of Economics, and is currently Visiting Professor at Ranchi University. His recent books include *An Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contradictions* (Princeton University Press, 2013), written with Amartya Sen, and *Sense and Solidarity: Jholawala Economics for Everyone* (Oxford University Press, 2019).



Isabelle Ferreras is Research Director at the Belgian National Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS) and Professor of Sociology at UCLouvain. She is also a Senior Research Associate of the Harvard Center for Labor and a Just Economy and a Distinguished Research Fellow of the Oxford Institute for Ethics in AI. Her research focuses on work, economic democracy, and firms as political entities. Lately, she served as Chair of the International High-level Expert Committee on Democracy at Work appointed by the Spanish Government which released a full report to promote democracy at work in Spain and beyond. Among her publications, see *Firms as Political Entities. Saving Democracy through Economic Bicameralism* (Cambridge UP, 2017), and co-authored: *Democratize Work : The Case for Reorganizing the Economy* (University of Chicago Press, 2022), *Democratizing the Corporation. The Bicameral Firm and Beyond* (Verso, 2024). Isabelle is also the coordinator of the global network www.DemocratizingWork.org.



Ingrid Robeyns is Professor of Ethics of Institutions at Utrecht University, affiliate professor at the Utrecht School of Economics, and visiting professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her research focuses on political philosophy, applied ethics, social justice, and institutional change, with particular attention to inequality, and the ethics of wealth concentration. She is the author of *Limitarianism: The Case Against Extreme Wealth* (Penguin Books, 2024). She served as President of the Human Development and Capability Association from 2018 to 2020 and has been a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences since 2018. In 2025, she received the Stevin Prize, the highest scholarly distinction in the Netherlands.

Friday 5 June 14:00 PM - 15:30 PM
States vs Markets in the Energy Transition

Lucas Chancel - see page 5



Mariana Mazzucato is Professor in the Economics of Innovation & Public Value at University College London (UCL) , where she is Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation & Public Purpose (IIPP). Author of *The Entrepreneurial State: debunking public vs. private sector myths*, *The Value of Everything: making and taking in the global economy* and *Mission Economy: a moonshot guide to changing capitalism*, her forthcoming book *The Common Good Economy*, will be released on June 4 2026.



Julia Steinberger researches and teaches in the interdisciplinary areas of Ecological Economics and Industrial Ecology. Her research examines the connections between resource use (energy and materials, greenhouse gas emissions) and societal performance (economic activity and human wellbeing). She is interested in quantifying the current and historical linkages between resource use and socioeconomic parameters, and identifying alternative development pathways to guide the necessary transition to a low carbon society. She is the recipient of a Leverhulme Research Leadership Award for her research project 'Living Well Within Limits' investigating how universal human well-being might be achieved within planetary boundaries. She is Lead Author for the IPCC's 6th Assessment Report with Working Group 3.

Friday 5 June 16:00 PM - 18:00 PM
Do We Need a Bretton Woods Reset to Save the Planet?



David Adler is a political economist and Co-General Coordinator of Progressive International, the organisation founded in 2020 to unite and mobilise progressive forces around the world. He previously served on the foreign policy advisory team of Senator Bernie Sanders and directed policy for Yanis Varoufakis and Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 (DiEM25). A former Rhodes Scholar at the University of Oxford and Fulbright Scholar at El Colegio de México, his work focuses on internationalism, political movements, and global institutions. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, and *Foreign Affairs*.



Ha-Joon Chang is an economist and author, and Professor of Economics at SOAS University of London. He previously taught at the University of Cambridge, where he completed his PhD in economics. His work focuses on development economics, industrial policy, political economy, and the history of economic thought. He is the author of several widely read books, including *Bad Samaritans* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2009), *23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism* (Penguin Group, 2011), and *Edible Economics: A Hungry Economist Explains the World* (Allen Lane, 2022).



Paula Druschke is an Economist at the World Inequality Lab, where she studies the political economy of international institutions and global inequality. She is also a predoctoral research assistant at the London School of Economics, working with Camille Landais on the Child Penalty Atlas. She holds dual Master's degrees in the Political Economy of Development from Sciences Po and LSE, and a Bachelor's in Economics and Social Sciences from Sciences Po. Her research interests lie at the intersection of geoeconomics, public economics, and development economics. She is co-author of recent World Inequality Lab working paper *The Global Democratic Deficit: Institutional Asymmetries and the Provision of Global Public Goods*.



Jayati Ghosh is Professor of Economics and Research Associate at the Political Economy Research Institute at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She previously taught at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. Her work focuses on development economics, inequality, gender, labour, and macroeconomic policy, with particular attention to the Global South. She is the author and editor of numerous books and articles, including *The making of a catastrophe: The Covid-19 pandemic and the Indian economy* (Aleph Book Company), and has advised international organisations including the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, and the World Health Organization.



Gastón Nievas is a the National Accounts coordinator at the World Inequality Lab. He studies how globalization shapes inequality, focusing on why gaps between rich and poor countries persist and the power relations that sustain them. His work sits at the intersection of geoeconomics and international macroeconomics. He is co-author of recent World Inequality Lab working papers *Unequal Exchange* and *North-South Relations: Evidence from Global Trade Flows and the World Balance of Payments 1800-2025*, and *The Global Democratic Deficit: Institutional Asymmetries and the Provision of Global Public Goods*.

Saturday 6 June 09:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Gender Equality, Labour Hours and Sustainability



Camille Landais is Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Director of the Suntory and Toyota International Centres for Economics and Related Disciplines. His research focuses on public finance and labour economics, with work published in leading journals including the *American Economic Review* and the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. He is affiliated with the Institute for Fiscal Studies, IZA, and the Institut des politiques publiques, and serves on the council of the European Economic Association. He is also co-author, with Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez, of *Pour une révolution fiscale* (Seuil, 2011).



Anne-Sophie Robilliard is Research Director at the Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) and West and Central Africa Coordinator at the World Inequality Lab. Her research focuses on developing countries, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, with work on poverty, inequality, gender, labour markets, and the distributive impact of public policies. Using household-level microeconomic data and microsimulation methods, she studies the determinants of inequality and evaluates the effects of fiscal and social policies. She also teaches microsimulation and public policy evaluation at the Paris School of Economics and Paris Dauphine University.

Saturday 6 June 11:30 AM - 13:00 PM

Class Conflict on a Warming Planet



Grace Blakeley is a staff writer at Tribune Magazine, former economics commentator for the New Statesman, and a former Research Fellow at the Institute of Public Policy Research. She is the author of several books *Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor Bailouts and the Death of Freedom* (Atria Books, 2024), *Stolen: How to save the world from financialisation* (Repeater, 2019). She appears frequently in UK and international media, including appearances on BBC Question Time, ITV's Good Morning Britain, Talk TV's Piers Morgan Uncensored and MTV News.



Julia Cagé is a Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics at Sciences Po Paris, and a Research Fellow at the Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), where she is leading the Research and Policy Network on “Media Plurality”. She is also a Research Fellow at the CESifo Research Network and at the World Inequality Lab. She is the author of *The Price of Democracy. How Money Shapes Politics and What to Do about It* (HUP, 2020), and *A History of Political Conflict. Elections and Social Inequalities in France, 1789-2022* (HUP, 2025), joint with Thomas Piketty.



Dena Freeman is an anthropologist and Professor of Global Studies at Shanghai University, and a Visiting Senior Fellow in Anthropology at the LSE. Describing herself as an “anthropologist of globalization,” her work combines anthropology, political economy, and global history to analyse the world as a single social system and explore more just forms of global organisation and progressive change. Her latest book, *The Global Left in a Multipolar World: Towards a Planetary Politics of Justice and Survival* (Routledge, 2026), examines how transformative left politics can advance in the context of a multipolar order and the climate crisis, and will be available [open access in early June](#).



Don Kalb is professor social anthropology and academic director of the Global Research Programme on Inequality (GRIP) at the University of Bergen (UiB), and founding editor of *Focaal - Journal of Global and Historical Anthropology*. Post-socialism is one of his specialty areas. Don is author of *Value and Worthlessness: The Rise of the Populist Right and Other Disruptions in the Anthropology of Capitalism* (Berghahn Books, 2025), and co-author with Walden Bello of *Backlash: The Global Rise of the Radical Right* (Pluto Press, 2026).

Saturday 6 June 14:00 PM - 15:30 PM
Are We on the Road for Global Equality?



Christian O. Christiansen is Professor of Intellectual History at Aarhus University. His work examines the history of ideas around global inequality, capitalism, and international human rights, with a particular focus on the twentieth century and the role of international institutions such as the United Nations. He is the author of *Designing Global Economic Equality* (Oxford University Press, 2025) and *In Defense of Economic and Social Human Rights* (Cambridge University, 2025).



Branko Milanović is a Research Professor at the Graduate Center City University of New York. His work focuses on income inequality within countries and at the global level, including its historical evolution. He is the author of *Global Inequality* (Belknap Press, 2016), *Capitalism, Alone* (Harvard University Press, 2019), and *Visions of Inequality* (Belknap Press, 2025), and was awarded the Leontief Prize in 2018 jointly with Mariana Mazzucato.

Thomas Piketty - see page 5



Lea Ypi is Ralph Miliband Professor of Politics and Philosophy at the London School of Economics and Political Science, permanent fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, and Honorary Professor in Philosophy at the Australian National University. Her work focuses on political philosophy, democracy, justice, and the history of political thought. She is the author of *Free: Coming of Age at the End of History* (Penguin Group, 2022) and *Indignity: A Life Reimagined* (Allen Lane, 2025), as well as several academic works on global justice and political agency. Her work has received numerous distinctions, including the British Academy Prize for Excellence in Political Science.



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We are grateful for the support of our partners and sponsors, whose commitment makes this conference possible. Their collaboration reflects a shared dedication to advancing inequality research in a context where such work is more essential—and more vulnerable—than ever.



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