

SCIENCE AND ART FOR SUSTAINABILITY
BELGRADE 2025



P R O G R A M

International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development

World Conference on Science and Art for Sustainability
September 22–25, 2025, Belgrade, Serbia

Science and Art for Sustainability

On August 25, 2023, **the United Nations (UN) General Assembly** proclaimed **the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development (IDSSD)**, from 2024 to 2033. The idea of IDSSD was launched by **the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP)**, **the World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS)**, and **The Club of Rome (CoR)** in September 2022 in Belgrade, Serbia, within **the World Conference on Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development**, as the flagship event for Europe within **the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (IYBSSD)**. **UN GA** gave the task to prepare and implement the overall program of **IDSSD** to the **UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**.

The integral goal of **IDSSD** is to significantly contribute to tracing the pathways towards sustainability of nature and society as well as human security and peace. This should be done following **seven Human Security Dimensions (HSDs)**, specified by **the UN Development Programme (UNDP)** in January 1994 and updated in 2022, and **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, defined by **the UN General Assembly** in September 2015. These dimensions and goals are related to the existential problems and challenges facing the Earth and humanity today, which are: depletion of natural resources; climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss; political, economic, and military interventions; intercultural conflicts, forced migrations, and wars; human inequality and inequity. Today, it is clear that these problems have **complex and multiple disciplinary character** while the efforts of scientific, technological, and educational communities are mostly limited to separated disciplines. In addition, the problems are interdependent and can mutually reinforce each other. Therefore, **a systemic and multiple disciplinary approach** in looking for and finding their solutions is necessary. However, the current state of affairs is such that serious concerns about the ability of humankind to carry out **the SDGs and HSDs** by 2030, as it was planned, are raised.

On April 16, 2024, **The Earth-Humanity Coalition (EHC)** was founded as an association of global, regional, and national scientific organizations with the task to prepare and implement, in close cooperation with **UNESCO**, various initiatives within the overall **IDSSD** program. **IUPAP**, **WAAS**, and **CoR** were among the founding Members of **EHC**. The first of these initiatives is **the EHC-WAAS Program of Sciences for Sustainable Development**, which had been prepared by **WAAS**. It includes two series of webinars, six world conferences, a number of journal articles and reports, and four platforms in science and technology for cooperation between **the Global North** and **the Global South**.

The EHC-WAAS Program is based on the conviction that acquiring knowledge along the chain of basic, applied, social, humanistic, and technological disciplines by scientific and technological communities worldwide, within the disciplinary boundaries, must be supplemented with their **transdisciplinary efforts**, and that the realization of the resulting agendas must be going on in a well-coordinated way. This endeavor also includes **local and national traditional knowledge** and its interactions with contemporary science and technology generated knowledge. One of the main aims of **the Program** is to enable the establishment of a solid foundation for **the advancements of education, agriculture, and industry** towards sustainable, secure, and peaceful development at the local, national, regional, and global scales. Besides, in **the Program**, relations between **science and art** are underlined, as between two distinct but complementary methods of inquiry about nature, society, and human beings with the same aim – to unravel the sense of the universe and communicate their findings to others. The results of science, being objective, and the results of art, being subjective, should **influence and enrich one another**, and thus push farther the boundaries of a true understanding of the universe.

The EHC-WAAS Program should be applied in all countries worldwide, in both **the Global North** and **the Global South**, and in their cooperation following the principles of **multilateralism**,

guaranteeing the respect of rights of every country in every domain, and the objective to make **the Earth an equitably habitable planet that upholds justice and well-being for all.**

It is well known that relationships between **scientists** on the one side and **policy-makers and all other science stakeholders in the public and private sectors** on the other side are characterized by **a lack of respect and trust.** Therefore, **the EHC-WAAS Program** includes a strong request that novel ways of communication and cooperation of the two sides, based on sincere mutual respect and trust, must be developed and nurtured. The aim is to overcome the barriers that prevent these interactions as well as to effectively use the levers that stimulate them. This should lead to the evolution of these communications from the one-sided and market-driven ones to **a wide-participatory co-creation of scientific, technological, and educational approaches and agendas** driven by the societally relevant problems and challenges. Besides, all three pillars of **Science Diplomacy**, being science for diplomacy, science in diplomacy, and diplomacy for science, should be continually used.

The World Conference on Science and Art for Sustainability, to be held on September 22–25, 2025 in Belgrade, Serbia, will be the second conference within **the EHC-WAAS Program.** Its program is given below. The aims of **the Conference** are: to listen to prominent individuals acting in different science and art disciplines and coming from different parts of the world, to induce fruitful interactions among them, and to deduce from all that some conclusions on sustainable, secure, and peaceful development to be presented **to various policy-makers and other science and art stakeholders at the local, national, regional, and global scales.**

Organizing Institutions

- o **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**
- o **The Earth-Humanity Coalition (EHC)**
- o **World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS)**
- o **The Club of Rome (CoR)**
- o **Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome (SC CoR)**
- o **Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SASA)**

Program and Organizing Committee

- o **Co-Chairs:**
 - **Nebojša Nešković**, Vice President, **WAAS**
 - **Vladimir Kostić**, Full Member, **SASA**
 - **Michel Spiro**, Chair, Steering Committee, **EHC**
- o **Members:**
 - **Amal Kasry**, Chief of Section, Natural Sciences Sector, **UNESCO**
 - **Goran Milašinović**, President, Commission of Serbia for Cooperation with **UNESCO**
 - **Garry Jacobs**, President and Chief Executive Officer, **WAAS**
 - **Grant Schreiber**, General Manager, **WAAS**
 - **Dragan Đuričin**, Fellow, **WAAS**
 - **Carlos Álvarez Pereira**, Secretary General, **CoR**
 - **Dragan Simeunović**, Vice President, **SC CoR**
 - **Zoran Knežević**, President, **SASA**
 - **Nebojša Lalić**, Secretary General, **SASA**

September 22, 2025, Monday, Day 0

14:00–18:30 **Early registration**, Courtyard Belgrade City Center, Belgrade

National Museum

18:30–18:50 **Aleksandra Stratimirović**, Stockholm, Sweden, **Nebojša Popović**, Belgrade, Serbia, and **Đorđe Makarević**, Belgrade, Serbia: *Light, sound, and motion* (conceptual art happening)

19:00–19:20 **Pan African Heritage Museum**, Accra, Ghana: *Origin of Humanity*, curator: **Pashington Obeng**, Chief Executive Officer (virtual archaeological exhibition)

19:20–19:40 **Institute for the History of Natural Sciences**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing: *History of natural sciences in China*, curator: **Chen Pu**, Scientific Research Office (virtual scientific exhibition), tbc*

19:40–20:10 **ART for The World**, Geneva, Switzerland: *Intersection of art and sustainability*, curator: **Adelina von Fürstenberg**, President; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS) (virtual visual arts exhibition)

20:10–20:50 **Camerata Serbica**, Belgrade, Serbia, and **Belgrade Chamber Choir**, Serbia (music happening)

21:00–22:00 *Welcome reception*

September 23, 2025, Tuesday, Day 1

8:30–9:00 **Registration**, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

INTRODUCTORY SESSION, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

9:00–9:20 **Words of welcome:**
Zoran Knežević, President, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Opening address:
9:20–9:40 **Audrey Azoulay**, Director General, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris, France, tba**

SECTION 1: CONTRIBUTIONS OF BASIC AND APPLIED SCIENCES TO SUSTAINABILITY, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

9:40–11:30 **SESSION 1.1**

Moderation:

Michel Spiro, President, International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP); Chair, Steering Committee, The Earth-Humanity Coalition

Talks:

Anjum Halai, Vice Provost and Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan; Vice President, International Commission of

Mathematical Instruction; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS): *Mathematics-based education* (mathematics)

Maarten Sierhuis, Vice President and Global Director, Alliance Innovation Lab, Nissan Advanced Technology Center, Santa Clara, California, USA: *Artificial general intelligence* (computer science)

Gian Francesco Giudice, Department of Theoretical Physics, European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Geneva, Switzerland: *Big Bang* (basic physics)

Ana María Cetto Kramis, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City; Former Deputy Director General, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna, Austria: *The quantum dice* (basic physics)

Discussion

11:30–11:50 *Coffee break*

11:50–13:40 **SESSION 1.2**

Moderation:

Goran Milašinović, President, Commission of Serbia for Cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Talks:

Anastassia Makarieva, Theoretical Physics Division, Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Russia; Institute for Advanced Studies, Technical University of Munich, Germany: *On the climate-regulating function of the pristine forests* (applied physics)

Zoran Jovanović, Laboratory of Physics, Vinča Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia: *Interaction of ions with surfaces* (basic physical chemistry)

Aleksandr Bugay, Director, Laboratory of Radiation Biology, Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR), Dubna, Russia: *Radiation induced disorders in human brain in interplanetary missions* (basic and applied biology)

Lesley Green, Director, Environmental Humanities South, Faculty of Humanities, University of Cape Town, South Africa; Member, Steering Committee, The Earth-Humanity Coalition: *Critical Zone science* (biogeosciences)

Discussion

13:40–14:30 *Lunch break*

14:30–16:20 **SESSION 1.3**

Moderation:

Maurizio Bona, Former Senior Adviser, European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Geneva, Switzerland

Talks:

Pietro Barabaschi, Director General, International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Organization, St. Paul-lez-Durance, France: *Construction of ITER* (mechanical and electrical engineering)

Zhou Detai, Advanced Nuclear Energy Center, Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Lanzhou, China: *Control and safety system of the Chinese initiative Accelerator Driven System (CiADS)* (electronic engineering)

Jožef Čomor, ELEX Commerce, Belgrade, Serbia: *Production of cyclotron radiopharmaceuticals* (physicochemical engineering)
Andre Terzic, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA: *Regenerative medicine and stem cell biology* (medicine)

Discussion

16:20–18:20 **SPECIAL SESSION 1**

Japan Academy (JP), Tokyo, Japan, and American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), New York City, New York, USA, moderators: **Sasaki Takeshi**, President, JP, and **Joy Connolly**, President, ACLS: *Science and Art for Sustainability, Security, and Peace* (sustainable development), tba

Gallery of the Visual Arts and Music, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

18:40–19:10 **Legacy of Lepa Perović**, Lazarevac Cultural Center, Serbia, curator: **Darinka Stanojević** (paintings exhibition)

National Theatre

20:30–21:30 **Lucía Lacarra Ballet**, Spain: *Lost Letters* (dance performance)

September 24, 2025, Wednesday, Day 2

SECTION 2: CONTRIBUTION OF SOCIAL AND HUMANISATIC SCIENCES TO SUSTAINABILITY, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

9:00–10:50 **SESSION 2.1**

Moderation:

Mamphela Ramphela, Full Member, The Club of Rome; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS)

Talks:

Miomir Korać, Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade, Serbia: *Viminatum as a sustainable settlement* (archaeology)

Mira Radojević, Corresponding Member, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts: *World Wars I and II* (history), tba

Susan Visvanathan, Adjunct Professor, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India; Former Professor, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India: *Wisdom of community* (sociology)

Ren Lin, Director, Department of Global Governance, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing: *Multilateralism* (political science)

Discussion

10:50–11:20 *Coffee break*

11:20–13:10 **SESSION 2.2**

Moderation:

Dragan Đuričin, Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Member, Governing Board, Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome

Talks:

Dragan Simeunović, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, Serbia; Vice President, Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome: *Politics as the art of illusion* (political science)

Tibor Varady, Full Member, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts: *International law – Between sustainable reality and sustainable phrases* (law)

Robert Costanza, Institute of Global Prosperity, University College, London, UK; Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, Canberra; Full Member, The Club of Rome: *Well-being economy* (economics)

Paul Shrivastava, Smeal College of Business, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, USA; Co-President, The Club of Rome: *Towards ecological civilizations* (management)

Discussion

13:10–14:10 *Lunch break*

14:10–16:00 **SESSION 2.3**

Moderation:

Garry Jacobs, President and Chief Executive Officer, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer, World University Consortium (WUC); Full Member, The Club of Rome

Talks:

Étienne Klein, CentraleSupélec, Université Paris-Saclay, France: *Dialectics of local and global* (philosophy)

Carroy U. Ferguson, President, Association for Humanistic Psychology (AHP), USA; Department of Psychology, University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA: *Humanistic psychology* (psychology)

Setha Low, Director, Public Space Research Group, City University of New York, New York, USA: *Sustainable cities* (anthropology)

Fadwa El Guindi, Trustee, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Retiree Anthropologist, University of California at Los Angeles, USA: *Human security relativized* (anthropology)

Discussion

16:00–18:00 **SPECIAL SESSION 2**

Alliance of National and International Science Organizations for the Belt and Road Regions (ANSO), moderator: **Nebojša Lalić**, Secretary General, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; Member, Governing Board, ANSO: *Science, technology, innovation, and capacity building* (sustainable development), tbc

Ilija M. Kolarac Endowment

20:30–22:00 **Nemanja Radulović**, Paris, France, **Andreas Ottensamer**, Berlin, Germany, and **Avi Avital**, Berlin, Germany (music concert)

September 25, 2025, Thursday, Day 3

SECTION 3: CONTRIBUTIONS OF ARTS TO SUSTAINABILITY, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

9:30–11:00 **SESSION 3.1**

Moderation:

Vladimir Kostić, Full Member, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Talks:

Vesna Goldsworthy, Department of English and Creative Writing, University of Exeter, UK; School of Literature, Drama, and Creative Writing, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK: *Iron curtain* (prose)

Žarko Trebješanin, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *A secret connection between psychology and literature* (essays)

Mario Petrucci, Royal Literary Fund Fellow, Oxford Brookes, Westminster, and Brunel Universities, and City and Guilds of London Art School, UK; Imperial War Museum, UK: *Art and sustainability: Salvation and the unholy Trinity* (poetry and arts)

Discussion

11:00–11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30–13:00 **SESSION 3.2**

Moderation:

Mirjana Nikolić, Rector, University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia

Talks:

Vera Milanković, Faculty of Music, University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia; Member, Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome: *The song was our salvation* (music)

John Savage, Old Bethpage, New York, USA: *My most demanding roles* (film)

Mrdan Bajić, Corresponding Member, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts: *Unreliable narrator* (sculpting)

Discussion

13:00–14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00–15:30 **SESSION 3.3**

Moderation:

Carlos Álvarez Pereira, Secretary General, The Club of Rome; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Member, Steering Committee, The Earth-Humanity Coalition

Talks:

Edward Shanken, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA: *Intersections of art and science* (conceptual art)

Nils Bader, Founder and Director, Green Future Club, Berlin, Germany: *Green future* (design)

Lesley Lokko, Founder and Director, African Futures Institute, Accra, Ghana: *Cultural identity and architecture* (architecture)

Discussion

CONCLUDING SESSION, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts

15:30–16:30 **Concluding talks:**

Ugo Bardi, National Interuniversity Consortium of Materials Science and Technology, University of Florence, Italy; Full Member, The Club of Rome; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS): *On the contributions of basic and applied sciences to sustainability*

Vesna Vučinić, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Serbia; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Former Chair, World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA): *On the contributions of social and humanistic sciences to sustainability*

Nebojša Nešković, Vice President, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS); Full Member, The Club of Rome; President, Serbian Chapter of The Club of Rome; Member, Steering Committee, The Earth-Humanity Coalition: *On the contributions of arts to sustainability*

Steven Hartman, Founding Executive Director, UNESCO-MOST BRIDGES Coalition; Member, Steering Committee, The Earth-Humanity Coalition: *A transdisciplinary approach to sciences and arts*

16:30–16:50 **Concluding remarks:**

Nebojša Nakicenovic, Vice Chair, Group of Chief Scientific Advisors, European Commission; Honorary Emeritus Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Laxenburg, Austria; Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science (WAAS)

Ethnographic Museum

17:20–18:00 **Dragoslav Pavle Aksentijević and the Record Group**, Belgrade, Serbia, and **Children’s Choir of the Serbian Church Singing Society of Pančevo**, (music happening)

18:00–18:30 **Gallery of Naive Arts**, Kovačica, Serbia, curator: **Ana Žolnaj Barca** (paintings exhibition)

Aeroclub

20:30–20:50 **Katarina Pejak Trio**, Serbia and France (music happening)

20:50–22:30 *Farewell dinner* and **Ivan Aleksijević**, Belgrade, Serbia, piano

*to be confirmed

**to be asked