



## SPECIAL SEMINAR

*co-sponsored by IRENE's Asia Program  
and ESSEC Center on Geopolitics, Defense & Leadership*

# “The new competition in multilateralism”

**Online event**

Monday, March 5, 2024

12:00pm to 2:00pm CET

Registration: [HERE](#)

# “The new competition in multilateralism”

The Ukrainian war that began in February 2022 introduced a fundamental rupture in international relations: the return of war in the European space, the subsequent return of the United States to the Old Continent, and the new enlargement of NATO (Sweden, Finland); a series of Western sanctions against Moscow on an unprecedented scale; a partial interruption of world trade with serious food constraints for several countries in the South; a redistribution of the cards on the energy level; a return of reflections on strategic autonomy and therefore of a possible economic decoupling, not to forget crises in Gaza and East Asia.

Furthermore, at least two new structuring dividing lines have appeared:

- With the “limitless” alliance proclaimed on the eve of the war by the Russian and Chinese presidents, the Iranian military support for Moscow or the Turkish ambiguity, in addition to the new crisis in the Middle East, the question arises of an assumed division of the world between democracies and authoritarian regimes. Today we fear the opening of new fronts, particularly in the Taiwan Strait.

- After the refusal of several Southern countries to apply sanctions against Russia, questions arise about the increasingly explicit break between the most developed countries of the G7 and their allies on the one hand, and what is now commonly called the “Global South” on the other hand. Today we fear that many in the South will refuse to support developed democracies in the event of confrontation with dictatorships.

Do these developments and divisions mean the end of globalization and multilateralism? Is it the end of a historical cycle that started in 1945? Can we still avoid divisions or even wars?

The past few years have also shown an increasing diplomatic activity, with multiple international gatherings such as G7, G20, and the now enlarged BRICS. New initiatives have also been enhanced, including the Infrastructure Partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals (IPEF), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), and the EU’s Global Gateway.

This new ESSEC IRENE seminar will reflect on these questions, articulating them around three main avenues:

- How can G7 countries take the initiative to revitalize multilateralism and global dialogue?
- How can we talk with the South, which is now defiant and leaning towards the richest countries, and find the path to essential cooperation with it?
- What role can Europe and Japan play in this dynamic, as a Sino-American confrontation emerges weighing on many sectors of international relations?

## Program

**Introduction** Prof. Aurélien Colson, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for Research and Education on Negotiation (IRENE) at ESSEC Business School.

**Moderator:** Prof. Philippe Le Corre, Affiliated Professor at ESSEC, Asia Program Coordinator at IRENE, and Senior Fellow, Asia Society Policy Institute

**Keynote – Sir Paul Tucker** (Harvard University), author of “Global Discord” (Princeton University Press) and former Deputy Governor of the Bank of England

## Panel

- **International consequences of multiple crises** Amb. Jean-Maurice Ripert, *Ambassadeur de France*, former French Ambassador to the United Nations, to China and Russia; former EU Ambassador to Turkey.
- **Asia and the new South** Amb. Masafumi Ishii, former Ambassador of Japan to Indonesia, Visiting Professor at Gakushuin University in Tokyo, Japan.
- **Multilateralism and Regional crises, interconnected?** Prof. Frédéric Charillon, professor of Political science at ESSEC and University Paris-Cité.

**Concluding remarks:** Philippe Le Corre (ESSEC)

## BIOGRAPHIES



**Frédéric Charillon** is a Senior Research Associate and Senior Advisor on defense and geopolitics at ESSEC IRENE and a university professor in political science at the University of Paris Cité. He teaches foreign policy and defence analysis. He is also a visiting professor at several French and international universities (including the Euro-Mediterranean University of Fez, Morocco). A graduate of Sciences Po, Doctor of Political Science (Sciences Po Paris and Saint Antony's College, Oxford), he was also the coordinator of the teaching of International Issues and Defence at the École Nationale d'Administration (ENA, Strasbourg, Paris). Co-founder of

the Strategic Research Institute of the Ecole Militaire (IRSEM, Ministry of Defence, France), he was director from 2009 to 2015, after having headed the Centre for Social Science Studies in Defence (C2SD, Ministry of Defence, France). His work focuses on the analysis of defence, foreign policy and international relations issues. Among his recent publications : *Guerres d'influence* (Odile Jacob, 2022); *La France dans le monde* (2021) ; *Global Diplomacy. An Introduction To Theory and Practice*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2020; *Manuel de diplomatie* (with Th. Balzacq and F. Ramel), Presses de Sciences Po, 2018; *Diplomatie française* (with M. Vaïsse et al.), Odile Jacob, 2018; Frédéric Charillon also writes a weekly op-ed on international relations ("L'Air du Large") for the daily newspaper *L'Opinion*.



**Aurélien COLSON** is Professor of Political Science and Negotiation at ESSEC and Director of the Institute for Research and Education on Negotiation (IRENE). Prof. Colson served as Advisor to the French Prime Minister (1998-2002), then as Project Leader in the French Government's strategy agency (2002-2005), where he led a task force on change management and negotiation in the public sector (*La conduite du changement dans le secteur public*, 2005). Since 1998 Prof. Colson has taught negotiation, change management, and leadership at ESSEC for MBA students and corporate executives. Since 1998 he is also an adjunct professor in negotiation at the Ecole nationale d'administration (ENA), where he was promoted to

coordinator of the negotiation seminar in 2002. His research on negotiation appears in peer-reviewed journals such as the *Journal of International Negotiation*, *Négociations*, *Revue française de gestion*, *Contrats publics*, and *International Relations*. He published 5 books translated into 9 languages, including *Méthode de négociation* (2004), *The First Move: A Negotiation Method* (2008), *Négociations européennes, D'Henri IV à l'Europe des 27* (2008), *Méthode de médiation* (2008) and *Entrer en négociation* (2011).

He holds a doctorate in political science (Université Paris-Descartes) and a PhD in International Relations (University of Kent). He got his first degree from Sciences Po Paris. As a Jean-Monnet Fellow (British Council), he received a Master in International Conflict Analysis (Kent). He got his

MBA at ESSEC. In 2002 he was awarded a Marshall Memorial Fellowship by the German Marshall Fund of the USA. In 2008 the Académie des sciences morales et politiques (Institut de France) awarded a Grand Prix to his research.



**Masafumi Ishii** was the Ambassador of Japan to Indonesia till December 2020 and retired from Japanese Foreign Service in January 2021, having served there for more than 40 years. He graduated from Tokyo University and joined MOFA in 1980. His posts in Tokyo include Director for Policy Planning, Special Assistant to Foreign Minister, Director General for Global Issues, and Legal Advisor. His overseas experience covers Washington DC, where he served twice, London, Belgium, and NATO as the Ambassador. His last post was in Jakarta and lasted for almost 4 years. He has frequently participated in international seminars and symposiums and is well known for his policy planning insight as well as his long-term experience in working with partners in ASEAN countries. He is presently teaching

International Law at Gakushuin University as well as providing advice to some of Japanese private companies.



**Philippe Le Corre** is Affiliated Professor with ESSEC Business School and Coordinator of the Asia Program at ESSEC-IRENE. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Asia Society Policy Institute (Center for China Analysis) and a Lecturer at the French Military Academy of St-Cyr Coëtquidan. In addition, he is Senior Advisor on Geopolitics to Asia Society France.

He was previously a Senior Research Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School, a nonresident Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and a Visiting Fellow at The Brookings Institution in Washington. He also served as a Special Adviser for International Affairs to the French Minister of Defense and as a Senior Northeast Asia analyst at the French MOD. His research focuses on China's global rise with a special interest in Chinese investment and influence in Europe and Eurasia. His last book is *China's Offensive in Europe* (Brookings Institution Press, 2016). His work has also appeared in *Asia-Europe Journal*, Carnegie and Brookings Working Papers' series, *China Economic Quarterly*, *Perspectives Chinoises*, *Etudes*, and in several edited volumes, including the upcoming *The Belt and Road at Ten and Beyond* (Harvard University Press, 2024), *The China Questions 2* (HUP, 2022) and *Rethinking the Silk Road* (Palgrave-MacMillan, 2018).



**Joseph Maïla** is a Program Director at ESSEC-IRENE, where he leads projects linked to international mediation. From 2010 to the end of 2012, he was the Director of Foresight at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As the former Dean of Faculty (1999-2004) and then Rector of the Institut Catholique de Paris (2004), he has held several academic positions, including that of Professor of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science at the Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth (1978-1984), Professor of Political Philosophy and Sociology, and International Relations at the ICP's Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences (FASSE). He was then a Professor at the Centre Sèvres (1988-1994) and at the University of Paris I (1994-1998). He has been a visiting professor at numerous foreign universities. He has carried out several assignments

for international organizations, notably the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF). In France, he was a member of the Commission for the White Paper on French Foreign and European Policy (2008), and a member of the Commission for the White Paper on Defense and National Security (September 2012 - January 2013).



**Jean-Maurice Ripert** is a graduate of ENA and IEP Paris. Ambassador of France, he has served as Ambassador to China, Russia, and Greece, and was twice Diplomatic Advisor to the French Prime Minister. He was also Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations in Geneva and New York. Between 2009 and 2012, he was Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Assistance to Pakistan, then Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Turkey. He currently chairs the NGO Plan International France and the Association Française pour les Nations Unies. He is the author of "Diplomatie de combats, mémoires" (Éditions Perrin / Presses de la cité - 2023).



**Sir Paul Tucker** is a British political economist, author, and former central banker. A research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, he is the author of two books at the junction of political economy and political theory: *Global Discord: Values and Power in a Fractured World Order* (Princeton University Press, 2022) and *Unelected Power: The Quest for Legitimacy in Central Banking and the Regulatory State* (Princeton University Press, 2018). His other activities include being president of the UK's National Institute for Economic and Social Research, a visiting professor of practice at the LSE, a member of the advisory board of the Yale Program on Financial Stability, a governor of the Ditchley Foundation, and a director at Swiss Re.

He chaired the transatlantic Systemic Risk Council from December 2015 to August 2021. For over thirty years until late-2013 he was a central banker, including as Deputy Governor of the Bank of England (2009-2013), sitting on its monetary policy, financial stability, and prudential policy committees. Internationally, he was a member of the G20 Financial Stability Board, chairing its group on resolving too-big-to-fail groups; and a director of the Bank for International Settlements, chairing its Committee on Payment and Settlement Systems.

## THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND TEACHING ON NEGOTIATION

**The Institute for Research and Teaching on Negotiation**, founded at ESSEC in 1996, **pursues three missions:**

- Developing ***theoretical and applied research*** in negotiation, mediation, conflict resolution, geopolitics and defense, CSR, and dialogue between stakeholders.
- Carrying out ***field actions***: facilitation and negotiation missions with stakeholders in fragile or post-conflict states; support for dialogue processes and advice to the EEAS in this area; support mission for the implementation of the European Union's CBRN Centers of Excellence in 62 states.
- Disseminating operational concepts through ***participative training courses***, involving case studies and simulations, attended by some 3,000 managers from companies and public organizations every year.

To date, IRENE has been active in **82 countries**, with offices in Singapore (**IRENE ASIA**) and Brussels (**IRENE EUROPA**). Director: Aurélien Colson, Professor of Political Science at ESSEC Business School.

## THE « GEOPOLITICS & NEGOCIATION » PROGRAM

**This program is designed to help ESSEC Business School students who wish to pursue careers with a strong international content**, particularly in public institutions (diplomacy, European institutions, international organizations) and major non-governmental organizations (technical aid, development, solidarity, peace, and security, etc.). It can also accommodate students aiming for positions in the "Institutional/International Relations" departments of major international companies.

**This program is designed to provide ESSEC students with:**

- Academic knowledge, particularly of the major geopolitical dynamics shaping the world.
- Practical methods, particularly in negotiation and mediation.
- The benefit of a network - particularly for internships - built up with major organizations in the sector (e.g. Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Armed Forces, French Development Agency, European Commission, federations of NGOs working in the field of peace, etc.).

**Inquiries: [cesaire@essec.edu](mailto:cesaire@essec.edu)**

**[Find all of our SIRENEs here](#)**

**Inquiries: [irene@essec.edu](mailto:irene@essec.edu)**