

**For Immediate Release**

**NORMAN FOSTER FOUNDATION WORKSHOP 27-31/05/2019 – ON CITIES**

- The Norman Foster Foundation presents the second edition of its annual On Cities Workshop with public debates in which practitioners working in different fields interrelated with the City will participate, including Luis Bettencourt, Celine D’Cruz, Ian Goldin, Rajeev Kathpalia, Francis Kéré, Janice Perlman and Kenneth Rogoff.
- The 2019 On Cities Workshop will focus on new opportunities that integrate emerging technologies with local information and processes of architecture and design.
- A distinguished group of specialists will engage with ten selected students from ten universities around the world who share a common interest in the subject. This year’s workshop mentor is Luis Bettencourt, Pritzker Director of the Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, United States.

**Madrid, 08 May 2019**

The second edition of the Norman Foster Foundation On Cities Workshop will take place on 27-31 May 2019, with the support of Bloomberg Philanthropies.

‘The world is urbanising fast. Most of this transformation, in terms of speed and scale, is occurring in Asia and Africa, where cities are struggling to accommodate and service hundreds of millions of people’ states workshop mentor **Luis Bettencourt**, ‘National and international sustainable development plans call for an unprecedented fast transformation, which must be understood in the context of cities and their neighbourhoods and promoted by new ways of thinking and acting’

This workshop will focus on new opportunities that integrate emerging technologies with local information and processes of architecture and design. A special challenge is to imagine scalable models of architecture and design that work along with vernacular forces in the built environment and can lead to fast and sustainable development in millions of neighbourhoods over the next decade.

The Academic Body spans a wide range of practitioners working in different fields interrelated with the City, including **Alfredo Brillembourg**, Founder of Urban-Think Tank, Caracas, Venezuela / ETH Zürich, Switzerland; **Celine D’Cruz**, Founder member of the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centers and Slum Dwellers International, Mumbai, India; **Ian Goldin**, Founding Director of the Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom; **Rajeev Kathpalia**, Co-founder of Vastu Shilpa Consultants, Ahmedabad, India; **Francis Kéré**, Founder of Kéré Architecture and Kéré Foundation, Berlin, Germany; **Janice Perlman**, Founder and President of The Mega-Cities Project, New York, NY, United States; **Kenneth Rogoff**, Professor of Economics and Thomas D. Cabot Professor of Public Policy, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, United States and **Theresa Williamson**, Founder and Director of Catalytic Communities, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

After reviewing applications submitted by hundreds of candidates from around the world, the selection committee awarded ten scholarships to students from the following universities and institutions: Federal University of Ceará, Fortaleza, Brazil; Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Port Elizabeth, South Africa; Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya; Chandigarh College of Architecture, Chandigarh, India; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, United States; National Institute of Territorial and Urban Planning, Rabat, Morocco; National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore; Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy; University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia and University of the Republic, Montevideo, Uruguay.

The On Cities Workshop will include seminars, lectures, one-to-one tutoring and architectural tours to learn more about the context of Madrid culminating in a five day workshop led by the Workshop mentor, **Luis Bettencourt**, Pritzker Director of the Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, United States.

## Public Debate

Date and time: 28th May 2019 12:30 p.m.- 2.20 p.m.

Venue: Fundación Francisco Giner de los Ríos Paseo del General Martínez Campos 14, 28010, Madrid, Spain

With the participation of **Luis Bettencourt, Celine D’Cruz, Ian Goldin, Rajeev Kathpalia, Francis Kéré, Janice Perlman and Kenneth Rogoff.**

Limited spaces are reserved for press. If you are interested in attending the Public Debate above, please contact us at [press@normanfosterfoundation.org](mailto:press@normanfosterfoundation.org)

## Norman Foster Foundation

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations anticipate the future.

The first mission of the Norman Foster Foundation is to promote the importance of architecture, infrastructure and urbanism for the betterment of society. To this end, the second mission is to encourage new thinking and research across traditional boundaries to help younger generations anticipate the challenges of future change. In particular, it addresses those professionals who are concerned with the environment—architects, engineers, designers, urbanists, civic leaders, planners and artists. This is at the heart of a holistic approach to design and is ever more relevant as populations shift to cities. With the implications of climate change, robotics and artificial intelligence, sustainable design is not about fashion but about survival.

The Foundation holds the Norman Foster Archive and Library, which provide a window into the larger narrative and history of our built environment through the work of Norman Foster. This is complemented and supported by drawings and models from other significant architects such as Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Charles and Ray Eames, Buckminster Fuller, Richard Rogers, Zaha Hadid, and Tadao Ando.

Through its research initiatives and programmes, the Norman Foster Foundation encourages the transfer of advanced knowledge in a wide range of design fields. The Foundation’s educational initiatives are structured around research and workshops, fellowships and forums around the Foundation’s core objectives.

The Norman Foster Foundation is based in Madrid and operates globally.

Visit [www.normanfosterfoundation.org](http://www.normanfosterfoundation.org) for more information or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Vimeo](#).

## Bloomberg Philanthropics

Bloomberg Philanthropies is proud to support the Norman Foster Foundation. Bloomberg Philanthropies works in over 120 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organisation focuses on five key areas for creating lasting change: Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health.

Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg’s charitable activities, including his foundation, corporate and personal giving. The organisation’s government innovation programme works to promote public sector innovation and spread proven solutions among cities worldwide, and its arts initiatives utilise innovative partnerships and bold approaches to place arts at the centre of economic growth.

For more information, please visit [www.bloomberg.org](http://www.bloomberg.org) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter.

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