

For Immediate Release

THE NORMAN FOSTER FOUNDATION PRESENTS THE 'FUTURE OF CITIES' CONVERSATIONS SERIES



Madrid, 23 November 2021

In the face of crises like climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, effective and positive change in cities is an imperative condition to optimising public health, social equity and environmental sustainability for urban centres and the rest of the world. A call to action against cities that have become more spatially fragmented, less environmentally responsive and more socially divided, the city of the future is one that will meet and overcome such challenges while providing inhabitants with liveable spaces and a higher quality of living. In this series of ten virtual dialogues, **Norman Foster** considers the past, present and future of cities alongside the following leading experts:

Alejandro Aravena

Executive Director, ELEMENTAL, Chile

Vicki Arroyo

Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), United States

Ricky Burdett

Director, LSE Cities and the Urban Age, United Kingdom

Edward Glaeser

Fred and Eleanor Glimp Professor of Economics, Harvard University, United States

Paul Goldberger

Architecture Critic, *The New Yorker* and *Vanity Fair*, United States

Ian Goldin

Founding Director, Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Anne Lacaton

Cofounder and Principal, Lacaton & Vassal, France

Mariana Mazzucato

Founder and Director, Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, University College London (UCL), United Kingdom

Sheela Patel

Founding Director, Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), India

Antoine Picon

G. Ware Travelstead Professor of the History of Architecture and Technology, Harvard University, United States

As the first of the NFF's upcoming digital 'Conversations' series, the 'Future of Cities' Conversations Series will soon be followed by the release of the 'Future of Archives' Conversations Series, which will explore the most fundamental aspects related to architectural archives and libraries around the world, as well as the 'Climate Crisis' Masterclass and Conversation Series, in which the imminent challenges of climate change will be addressed by key visionaries within the field of sustainability.

The conversations included in this series are part of the Norman Foster Foundation's Education + Research Programme and have been developed thanks to the research fellowships supported by BYD, the Crankstart Foundation, David and Nina Fialkow, the Ford Foundation, Lisa and Richard Cashin and the Rolex Institute.

The Norman Foster Foundation wishes to especially thank Bloomberg Philanthropies for its generous support in the production of this series.

The 'Future of Cities' Conversations Series is currently available for viewing [here](#).

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.

Please visit www.normanfosterfoundation.org for more information.

PRESS ENQUIRIES

Santiago Riveiro
Head of Communications
Norman Foster Foundation
srp@normanfosterfoundation.org
+34 914 542 129