FMSTAN 10th Anniversary Symposium:
"Reinventing science diplomacy in a changing world"

(Side event of the Paris Peace Forum)

Date: 9 November 2026

Venue: UNESCO Paris

Organised by the Foreign Ministries Science & Technology Advice Network (FMSTAN) with the support of the European Commission, UNESCO, the Paris Peace Forum and the International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA).

Draft agenda:

09:15 **Opening remarks**

Moderator:

Christina Kokkinakis, Head of the EU Delegation to UNESCO and OECD

Speakers:

Denise Pires de Carvalho, Assistant Director-General for Sciences, UNESCO

Benjamin Haddad, Minister Delegate for European Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France [tbc]

Rémi Quirion, President of the International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA)

Jan Marco Müller, Chair of the Foreign Ministries Science & Technology Advice Network (FMSTAN)

09:45 **FMSTAN at 10: How the world changed**
A chat with the founders of FMSTAN

This session will look back at the geopolitical environment in which FMSTAN was founded in 2016, how the situation has changed and what this means for science advice and science diplomacy.

Moderator:

Lidia Brito, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations

Speakers:

Sir Peter Gluckman, former President of the International Science Council (ISC), former Chief Scientific Adviser, New Zealand

Robin Grimes, former Chief Scientific Adviser, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK

Teruo Kishi, former S&T Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan (Message readout by Kana Asano)

Flavia Schlegel, former Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO

Susie Kitchens, Science Diplomacy Director, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Tateo Arimoto, Visiting Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), former Director-General, S&T Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Education and Science, Japan

11:00 *Coffee break*

11:30 **Keynote: The Paris Peace Forum**

Introduction:

Mark Ferguson, former Chief Scientific Advisor, Ireland

Speaker:

Philippe Étienne, President, Paris Peace Forum

11:50 **Keynote: Science for multilateralism**

Introduction:

Kornelia Tzinova, Programme Specialist for Research, Governance and Diplomacy Section, UNESCO

Speaker:

Quarraisha Abdool Karim, President of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), L'Oreal-UNESCO Award for Women in Science laureate

12:15 **Multilateralism under pressure: The role of science diplomacy**

This session will discuss the pressures multilateralism is facing today and the related challenges, but also opportunities, for science diplomacy. How is increasing competition, e.g. in AI, affecting international cooperation? What can science diplomacy do to strengthen the multilateral system?

Moderator:

Stéphanie Balme, Director, Centre for International Studies, Sciences Po

Speakers:

Denise Pires de Carvalho, Assistant Director-General for Sciences, UNESCO

Robbert Dijkgraaf, President, International Science Council (ISC)

Annette Koo, Director, Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)

Laban Coblentz, former Chief Strategic Advisor, International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), former Chief of Staff, International Atomic Energy Agency

Joanna Wiśniewska, Head of Global Engagement, Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA)

Yoran Beldengrün, Policy Analyst, OECD Global Science Forum

13:30 *Lunch*

14:10 *Cutting of birthday cake (FMSTAN members only)*

14:30 **Emerging voices in science diplomacy**

As the world changes, traditional actors are adapting and new actors are emerging in the science diplomacy landscape. At the same time, global science diplomacy is becoming much more younger and diverse, also in terms of gender and geography. This session will look at how science diplomacy is being reshaped by these voices.

Moderator:

Kana Asano, Director, Office for International Science and Technology Policy, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Speakers:

Ana María Pesantes Salazar, Ambassador of Ecuador to France, Monaco, OECD and UNESCO

Eudy Mabuza, Minister-Counsellor for Science and Innovation, South African Mission to the EU

John Heilprin, Founding Editor of The Science Diplomat and President of the Geneva Center for Multilateral Journalism (GCMJ)

Anne-Sophie Stevance, Policy Director, International Science Council

Claudia Alarcón López, External Affairs Specialist – Strategic Partnerships, Frontiers

Dimitris Boufidis, PhD student, Chair of the UPenn Science Policy and Diplomacy Group, USA

15:45 **Keynote on science for peace**

Introduction:

Vytas Jankauskas, Science & Innovation Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania

Speaker:

Minister of Foreign Affairs [TBC]

16:15 *Coffee break*

16:45 **Reinventing science diplomacy in a changing world**

This session will discuss the future of science diplomacy, bringing together leading science diplomacy voices from all world regions. The session will not follow a classic panel format, but be highly interactive.

Moderator:

Kristiann Allen, Executive Secretary, International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA)

Interventions by:

Muhammad Adeel, Science Diplomacy Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan

Nouf Ali Obaid Ali Alhameli, Sciences and Technology Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates

Mahaman Bachir Saley, Head of Science, Technology and Space, African Union Commission

Marije Balt, Chief Science Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

Paul Arthur Berkman, Executive Director, Science Diplomacy Center Inc.

Thierry Damerval, Special Envoy for Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Higher Education and Research and Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

John Edmunds, Chief Scientific Advisor, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom

Christina Gehlsen, Head of Division for International Science Policy, Foreign Office, Germany

Tony Haymet, Chief Scientist, Australia

Phil Mjwara, Ambassador of South Africa to UNESCO, former Director-General, Department of Science, Technology and Innovation, South Africa

Mona Nemer, Chief Science Advisor, Canada

Imar Koutchoukali, Science Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia

Rongping Mu, President, Chinese Association of Sciences of Science and Science and Technology (S&T) Policy Research, Director-General, Institute for Policy and Management, Chinese Academy of Sciences , China

Taikan Oki, Science and Technology Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser, India

18:15 Concluding remarks by former and current FMSTAN chairs:

Sir Peter Gluckman, former President of the International Science Council (ISC), former Chief Scientific Adviser, New Zealand

Yousuf Al-Bulushi, former S&T Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oman

Niccolò Iorno, Scientific Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Patricia Gruber, former S&T Advisor, US State Department [video message]

Jan Marco Müller, Team Leader Global Approach, Multilateral Dialogue and Science Diplomacy, European Commission

18:30 Closing of the symposium

Shaofeng Hu, Director of Division of Ethics, Research and Technology, UNESCO