



JOINT IIASA AND AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES LECTURE

FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANITY TO SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL

NEBOJSA NAKICENOVIC

*International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis and Technical
University Vienna*

MONDAY, 17 JUNE 2019

6:30 P.M.

AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

FESTIVE HALL, 1ST FLOOR

DR. IGNAZ SEIPEL-PLATZ 2, 1010 VIENNA



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Nebojsa Nakicenovic is Deputy Director General and Deputy CEO, IIASA, and former tenured Professor of Energy Economics, TU Wien.

He is a Member of the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts; recipient of the Austrian Grand Decoration in Silver (Österreichisches Ehrenzeichen für Wissenschaft und Kunst); recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for the IPCC with several authors; and of the 2005 Sheikh Zayed Environmental Award for Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA) also with several authors.

Among other positions, he is Executive Director of The World in 2050; Convening Lead Author of UNEP Gap Report; member of scientific advisory boards including UN Technical Group on Sustainable Development Goal 7; Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; Renewable Energy for the 21st Century; and WIFO; and serves on the editorial boards of eight scientific journals.

Previous positions include the Director of the Global Energy Assessment, UN Secretary General (SG) Special Advisory 10-Member Group on Science, Technology and Innovation; UN SG Advisory Group on Energy and Climate; Convening Lead Author of IPCC; Co-Leader of the Austrian Climate Change Assessment, Co-Chair of the Global Carbon Project, Chair of the OMV Future Energy Fund Advisory Board, Advisory Council of the German Government on Global Change (WBGU).

FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANITY TO SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL

The Holocene was a period of warm and exceedingly calm climate after the Ice Age, leading to the Neolithic Revolution. Next was the Industrial Revolution that brought explosive development including more than a hundredfold increase in economic output along with an unprecedented scale of natural resource exploitation and major interferences in the Earth system. This is the predicament of the Anthropocene.

We are now on the brink of the next grand transformation, but the direction of change is uncertain. Digitalization is symbolic of the enormous transformations taking place to the very fabric of our societies, work, culture, behaviors and lifestyles. The question is whether the direction of change can be steered by humans intentionally through the creation of a collective and common vision of a sustainable future for all and by a new social contract for humanity as symbolized in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

For now, the development is toward futures that must be avoided and redirected toward sustainability for all that leaves no one behind. The hope must be that in the digital Anthropocene, humans also start to transform themselves, enhancing cognitive and physical capabilities while protecting the planet, foremost through science, technology and innovation, in other words through knowledge – a human characteristic that is truly renewable.

PROGRAM

WELCOME REMARKS

Anton Zeilinger | President of the Austrian Academy of Sciences
Albert van Jaarsveld | Director General and CEO, IIASA

LECTURE AND DISCUSSION

Nebojsa Nakicenovic | Deputy Director General/Deputy CEO, IIASA
From the Cradle of Humanity to Sustainable Future for All

Moderation: **Christian Köberl** | Chair, Austrian IIASA Committee

RECEPTION (Aula, Ground floor)

ORGANIZERS:

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and
Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW)

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REGISTRATION:

Please register by 10 June at: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/NN-lecture>

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