



# SAIS GLOBAL WOMEN in LEADERSHIP

## 2021 Conference Overview

Date: Wednesday-Friday, April 7-9<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Location: Online via Zoom (all panels on EST)  
**Register today: [saiswomenlead.org](https://saiswomenlead.org)**

### TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

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#### **Resilience in Rebuilding: Claiming a More Equitable Future**

2020 was a year that rocked the consciousness of the global community. The events that transpired last year shone a light on some of the most pressing issues that have been simmering below the surface around the world. At the center of each of these events, women have been leading the response. The conference will focus on how society is responding to some of the most drastic events of our lifetime - from the global pandemic to climate change to sweeping protests for racial justice - and highlight the role that women can play in building a more resilient, tolerant, and sustainable future. Politicians, business leaders, and community organizers will share their thoughts on how we can learn from the events of 2020.

The conference will feature panels focused on inclusive strategies for a pandemic recovery, the impacts of increasing threats from climate change on the role of women in society, and how governments and businesses can move beyond diversity to create truly inclusive and equitable workplaces for black, indigenous, and other women of color.

#### **PANEL #1: Women in the Workplace Report at 10 a.m.**

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Associates from McKinsey will present their findings from the sixth annual Women in the Workplace report and the implications for 2021.

- Sara O'Rourke - *Partner, McKinsey & Company*
- Nora Gardner - *Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company*

## **PANEL #2: The Impact of COVID on Women in the Workplace at 11:30 a.m.**

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The coronavirus pandemic has been particularly hard on working women, both in the United States and internationally. This panel will explore the unique challenges faced by working women and mothers during the pandemic and discuss potential paths forward.

- Antra Bhatt - *Statistics Specialist, Policy Division, UN Women*
- Nicole Bateman - *Senior Research Analyst, The Brookings Institution*
- Sheba Tejani - *Assistant Professor, The New School*

## **PANEL #3:**

### **Women and COVID Care: Gender Inequalities in the Healthcare System at 1:30 p.m**

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Women represent around 70% of jobs in healthcare but lack better policies balancing work and family responsibilities. Women have played an outsize role throughout the pandemic. Despite the dominance of women in the field, men continue to hold nearly 80 percent of leadership positions. How can we address the gender imbalance?

- Roopa Dhatt - *Executive Director of Women in Global Health*
- Julia Kaufman - *Research Associate, Center for Global Development*
- Kristin Bergtora Sandvik - *Research Professor, University of Oslo*

## **PANEL #4: This is America: Social Justice in 2020 and Beyond at 10 a.m.**

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2020 saw a huge upswell in social justice movements throughout the United States. This panel will talk to leaders of the movements to explore whether protests have translated into action. [How](#) Black Lives Matter has translated to socio-economic policies? How has COVID impacted organizing? What needs to be done next?

- Vina Kay - *VP of Movement Capacity Building, Race Forward*
- Jerika Richardson - *Senior VP for Equitable Justice & Strategic Initiatives, National Urban League*

## **PANEL #5: Changemakers: Women Leaders in Climate Justice at 11:30 a.m.**

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As former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson says, “climate change is a man-made problem with a feminist solution.” On this panel, we will learn from a few of the women leaders, visionaries, and changemakers working to address climate change today.

- Adrienne Hollis - *Senior Climate Justice and Health Scientist, Union of Concerned Scientists*
- Cecilia Turriago - *Managing Director, Enercar*

## **PANEL #6: The Costs of Climate Change at 1:00 p.m.**

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As changing weather patterns affect resource availability, health, and labor, the economic costs of climate change are set to increase as development goals become more difficult to attain. This panel will expand the conversation on how these factors interact with each other and what this means for adapting to future climate challenges.

- Natalie Elwell - *Senior Gender Advisor, World Resource Institute*
- Kari Hatcher - *Energy Analyst, US Department of State*
- Jemimah Njuki, PhD - *Director for Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute*
- A. Tianna Scozzaro - *Director, Gender, Equity & Environment Program, The Sierra Club*

## **PANEL #7: Is Your Foreign Policy Feminist?:**

### **Questions and Answers for International Relations in 2021 at 10 a.m.**

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In recent years a growing number of States have announced their intentions to adopt a feminist approach to their foreign relations practices. Panelists will discuss what feminist foreign policy looks like in response to the events of the last year, where there are opportunities to implement a gender lens to international relations and how communities around the world could benefit from such an approach.

- Sylvia Cabus - *Senior Gender Advisor, Bureau for Development, Democracy and Innovation, USAID*
- Sahana Dharmapuri - *Director of Our Secure Future, One Earth Future Foundation*
- Rebecca Turkington - *PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge*

## **PANEL #8: Governance and COVID-19: Role of Gender in Governing at 11:30 a.m.**

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Scholars have found that female-led countries had better results in COVID governance. This panel will hear from the authors of research analyzing the connection between gender and governance that have been published since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Supriya Garikipati - *Professor of Economics, University of Liverpool*
- Uma Kambhampati - *Professor of Economics, University of Reading*