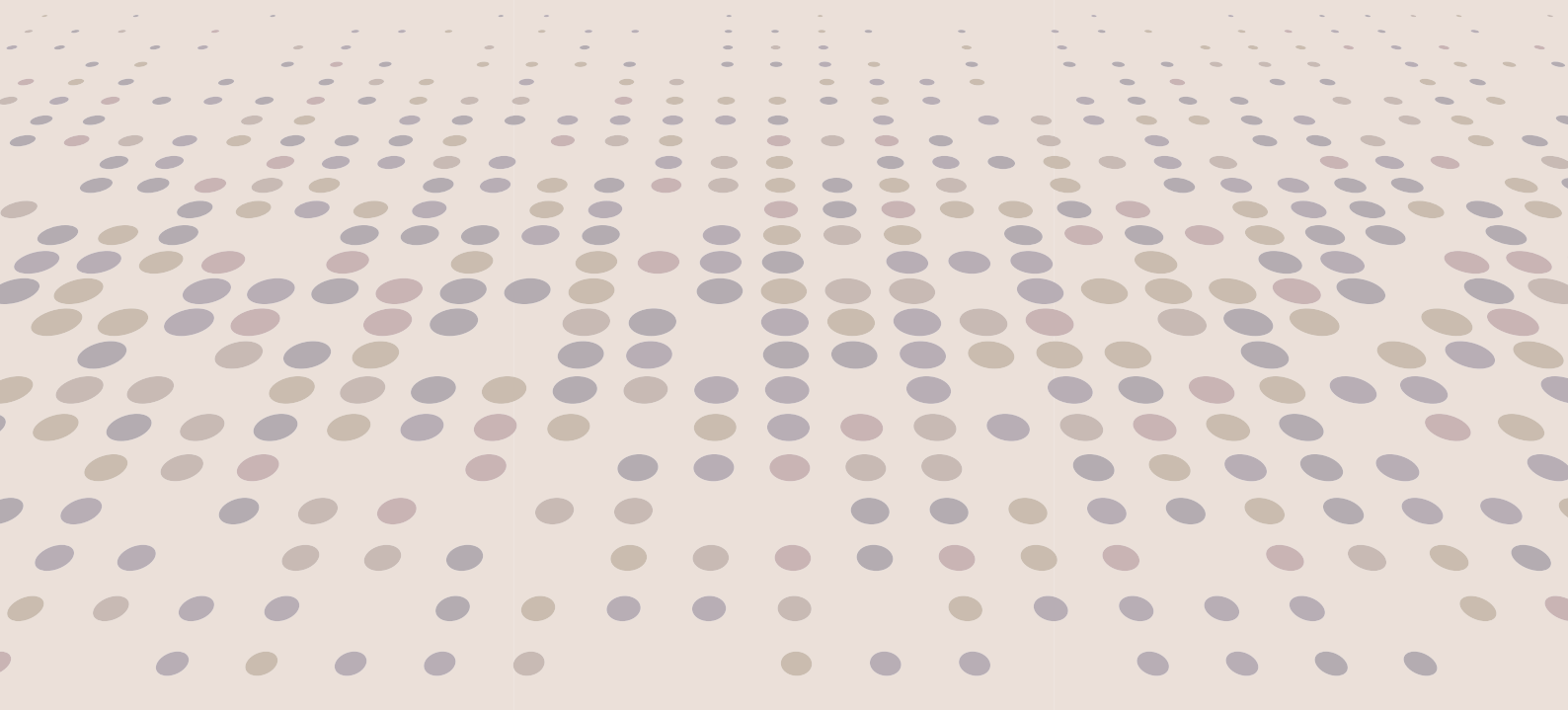




THE GLOBAL
THINK TANK
SUMMIT 2021
5th - 7th DECEMBER 2021
KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

SKELETAL
AGENDA



2021 GLOBAL THINK TANK SUMMIT

Global Trends and Transitions in Think Tanks, Politics and Policy Advice in the Age of Policy Dilemmas and Disruptions

5-7 December, 2021

Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa | Zallaq, Manama, Bahrain

Co-Hosted By:

Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat), Bahrain
Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, United States
Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

DRAFT SKELETAL AGENDA -

Sunday 5 December, 2021

12.00 – 18.30

Arrival of Guests

Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa | Zallaq, Manama, Bahrain

19.00–21.00

Informal Welcome Dinner

Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa | Zallaq, Manama, Bahrain

Monday 6 December, 2021

08.30–09.00 **Arrival at Summit Venue**
Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa | Zallaq, Manama, Bahrain

09.00–09:45 **Welcome Remarks (TTCSP and Derasat)**

09.45–10:00 **Coffee Break**

SESSION I: Presidents' Panel — Policy Issues & Strategic Challenges

10.00–11:30

A panel of presidents and CEOs of think tanks representing all regions of the globe will discuss multiple facets of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and give a grand overview of the current situation. While there are hopes and claims about the “end” of the pandemic, the troubling yet inevitable reality is that the world will need to accept transformation and adaptation in the wake of the changes made permanent by the pandemic. Think Tanks need to take the lead to accommodate and address these multi-sectoral changes in order to galvanize the policy community into action. The opening panel will explore the economic, public health, security, and social/political impact of the incessant COVID crisis on the world. This will be followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

SESSION II: The COVID Catalysts for Change: The Good, The Bad and the Dangerous

11.30–13:00

A panel of think tank scholars and executives will examine the impact of COVID on think tank research programs, public engagement, fundraising and the overall operations and how it has disrupted and transformed the traditional business model for think tanks and policy advice. This session will also discuss how the COVID crisis has been a catalyst for change and an opportunity to build back better. What is the new business model for think tanks and policy advice? Has COVID strengthened or diminished the degree of alignment between think tanks and national priorities; has it been a boom or bust for think tanks and their financial support and has reach and influence increased or declined? Finally, the panel will be asked to provide concrete ideas for how think tanks can fit for a world disrupted and transformed.

13.00–14:30

Lunch

14.30–16:00

SESSION III: Potential and Power of Partnerships in a Post COVID World

As the COVID-19 pandemic approaches its third year, it is clear the world faces an uncertain future shaped by economic, political and social turbulence.. The one thing this crisis has taught us is that effective global partnerships at all levels are essential to meeting both challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic. A panel of think tank scholars, policymakers and business leaders will discuss how COVID has helped think tanks understand the value and importance of partnerships and to research across geographic and ideological boundaries to forge new and exciting partnerships. The panelists will provide examples of effective bilateral and multilateral institutional partnerships and joint research projects and programs.

16.00–16:30

Closing Statement

17.30–19:30

Cultural Event

19.30–21:00

Networking Dinner

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

08.30–09.00

Arrival at Summit Venue

Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa | Zallaq, Manama, Bahrain

09.00–09:30

Welcome Address Day 2

SESSION IV: Breaking The Glass Ceiling In The Ivory Tower: Women, Think Tanks and Policy Advice

09.30–11:00

Think tanks are primarily managed and staffed by men, and women are often found in support functions rather than in senior management roles. If there are women heads, they tend to be concentrated in human resources, resource management, and peripheral programs. The role of women is important to diversity, innovation, and shaping the research and direction of policy at macro levels. This discussion will define specific actions to be taken to promote the leadership and involvement of women in think tanks that were identified at TTCSP's forum "Breaking The Glass Ceiling In The Ivory Tower: The Role of Women in Think Tanks and Policy Advice" where over 400 women think tankers came together to address this issue.

11.00–11:15

Coffee Break

SESSION V: Building Better Bridges to Policymakers and the Public

11.15–12:45

A Panel of policymakers, think tank executives, and communication and marketing experts will explore how think tanks can increase the reach and impact of their policy research with new and innovative approaches to how information and ideas are produced and disseminated. It is also intended to explore issues such as: making the value added proposition for why think tanks matter to governments; strategies for increasing utilization of policy research and legislative support for policy research and think tanks; creating a legal, financial support framework for think tanks' work; and why the private sector may be interested to support think tanks.

12.45–13:30

**Closing Statement: The 3 Rs of Building a Brave and Bold New
World: Rethink, Rebalance, Reinvent**

13.30–15:30

Farewell Luncheon

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