The 2020 Chatham House Summer School Programme

13-17 July 2020
Online via Zoom

Monday 13 July 2020

14:00 - 15:00 BST  
Session 1: Africa: The World’s Youngest Continent

Africa’s population is projected to double over the next three decades, reaching 2.5 billion people by 2050. The continent will have the largest number of people below the age of 24 of any region worldwide: nearly twice the young population of Southeast Asia.

While this shift is often described as a ‘time-bomb’ for issues of poverty reduction, education and healthcare, less focus is given to the incredible prospects it provides for Africa’s already rapidly growing environment of new creative technologies, industries and services - as well as the positive implications for governance and political expression. The opportunity therefore lies with Africa’s young people to deliver on the huge potential of the coming decades - but what are the key trends and openings that will allow remaining challenges to be addressed, and what role can the foreign relations of African countries play in this future?

The panel discussion will be followed by a live Q+A. Panellist details will be shared shortly.

15:00 - 15:30 BST  
Session 2: How Can Young People Get Involved with International Affairs and Improve their Knowledge and Understanding?

How can young people engage with politics and develop their perspectives on key global challenges like climate change, conflict or inequality? The Chatham House’s ‘Common Futures’ platform brings together young people in Africa and Europe to discuss key political challenges facing young people in their communities, execute an international multi-lingual survey, develop discussion topics and inform the overall design of the platform.

Tuesday 14 July 2020

14:00 - 15:00 BST  
Session 3: Infectious Disease, Biological Threats and Universal Health Coverage

How are infectious diseases and biological threats viewed and tackled by the development, security and health sector communities? Why is ‘Universal Health Coverage’; the right of everyone to receive the quality health services they need without financial hardship, important? This session will also include insights on work in global health policy and possible career paths.

The panel discussion will be followed by a live Q+A. Panellist details will be shared shortly.
15:00 - 15:30 BST  Session 4: Critical Thinking on International Affairs and How to Analyse What is Seen in the News

The ability to think critically is a key skill for academic success. Critical and analytical thinking should be applied at all points in academic study – to selecting information, reading, writing, speaking and listening. Why does critical thinking matter and how can you apply this skill to other areas?

Wednesday 15 July 2020

14:00 - 15:00 BST  Session 5: Will the World be Able to Solve the Climate Change?

Global problems require global collaboration, the pandemic has revealed that its solutions are international: scientists and medics have been sharing data, resources and equipment, and have been advising and supporting each other as never before, united in the quest for effective treatments, tests and vaccines. This same spirit of international cooperation is essential in producing solutions for our energy and economic transitions and the technology and pace of information sharing make it possible.

The panel discussion will be followed by a live Q+A. Panellist details will be shared shortly.

15:00 - 15:30 BST  Session 6: Preparing for Work Experience

Work experience is a great way to find out about different types of jobs and to identify your own preferences. Before starting your work experience, it is a good idea to do some preparation in order to help you get the most out of it. Chatham House interns will share their insights and top tips how to make the most of your placement.

Thursday 16 July 2020

14:00 - 15:00 BST  Session 7: Why is the News Always Talking about Huawei and 5G and What’s it all About?

Many countries are preparing to move from 4G to more advanced 5G mobile networks. Download speeds 10 times faster than today will radically change how we work, communicate and stream videos. This is important, as more things - from self-driving cars to fridges, baby monitors and fire alarms become connected to the intranet. The concern is that state-sponsored hackers could use these devices, which often have weaker security features, as back doors into strategically vital networks.

The panel discussion will be followed by a live Q+A. Panellist details will be shared shortly.

15:00 - 15:30 BST  Session 8: CV workshop

Are you struggling to write a personal statement, your cover letters are too long and you are unsure about how to align it to your CV? Does your CV needs updating but you don’t have much work experience and you are not sure what to include and how to get your skills across? Whether you are preparing for a summer internship or applying for a part-time job, our panel will share some top tips on how to tailor your CV and cover letter to increase your chances.
Fri 17 July 2020

**14:00 - 15:00 BST  Session 9: The Middle East: Past, Present and Future**

Events in the Middle East have been capturing worldwide attention since the 1970s. Governments and institutions are facing significant challenges in the coming years as the world order and global trends undergo a major restructuring process. As its societies, countries and the region become more fractured, what will the future of the Middle East look like? This session will examine the historical background of the region, the formation of the states and the role of the conflict that have shaped the Middle East.

The panel discussion will be followed by a live Q&A. Panellist details will be shared shortly.

**15:00 - 15:30 BST  Session 10: Career Insights from Chatham House**

From intense research to mingling with politicians, what’s working in a think tank actually like? What does a research fellow do on a typical day? Apart from research, what other roles are available? What is the working environment like and what skills are needed? Chatham House staff members working in different roles will share their career insights, interests and passion for international affairs.

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