



Jean Monnet Sustainable Development Goals Network

EUROPE, THE ASIA PACIFIC AND THE GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

Conference Melbourne/Online, 24-26 March 2021

CALL FOR PAPERS

The institutions of the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) regard the 2030 Global Transformation Agenda as critical to global recovery, and, more than that, to rebuilding a better world for all. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are central to the Recovery Plan for Europe and the European Green Deal. In the Asia Pacific, radical climate action is also underway. China, South Korea, and Japan have all committed to net-zero economies within the next two to three decades. In the Western Hemisphere, the election of Joe Biden as 46th President of the US raises the possibility of a renewed and urgent commitment to global climate action—without which the SDGs will not be achieved.

Amid this rapidly shifting global landscape, the Jean Monnet Network on the Implementation of the SDGs in the Asia Pacific **invites abstract submissions for the conference *Europe, the Asia Pacific and the Global Transformation Agenda***. The conference will be held online 24 to 26 March 2021, at times suitable to participants from Europe, North America, and the Asia Pacific.

Individual paper and panel submissions covering any aspect of the SDGs and the Transformation Agenda are welcome. Graduate students are encouraged to submit a proposal. Preference will be given to participants able to submit papers in advance, and conference papers will be considered for a special issue of the *Australian & New Zealand Journal of European Studies*.

Abstracts of approximately 200 words, a short author biography and an indication of whether the paper will be submitted in advance should be emailed to Dr Emma Shortis (emma.shortis@rmit.edu.au) as a single word document by **Friday 26 February 2021**.

Panel proposals should include a title and short description in addition to individual paper abstracts.



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About the Jean Monnet Network on the EU's Role in the Implementation of the SDGs in Asia Pacific

In September 2015, the UNs unanimously adopted the 2030 Agenda, seventeen SDGs to shape international efforts to promote a sustainable, peaceful and equitable world by 2030. Each Goal is accompanied by a set of more specific targets with indicators to measure progress.

The EU is the global leader in development policy and aid. The EU was an active contributor throughout the process of the development of the SDGs. In June 2016, the EU released *Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe*, the EU's Global Strategy for its Foreign and Security Policy. It aims for global prosperity and speaks about building resilient societies which require fulfilling the SDGs worldwide. In November 2016, the European Commission released a statement for the EU institutions: Proposal for a new European Consensus on Development – Our World, our Dignity, our Future. The paper outlined a framework for implementation of the SDGs under the priorities of People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace. It emphasised that the Goals can best be met through enhanced cooperation of the EU and its Member States which is possible only through the EU integration process. Since then, this principle of collaboration and implementation has been reinforced for EU Member States and Asian nations through forums such as the Asia-Europe Meeting and the Asia-Europe Foundation. In the European Union, the SDGs are a central pillar of internal and external policy and action, across all levels of governance.

The Jean Monnet Sustainable Development Goals Network was established in 2017. The Network formalises the relationships amongst researchers, policy think tanks and Non-Government Organisations who share a primary interest in enhancing the effective contribution of the EU to the implementation of the SDGs in the Asia Pacific.

By strengthening collaboration amongst researchers and policy makers, the Network promotes a more effective evidence-base for EU institutions to engage with nations in the region to implement the SDGs. Its core question is: how can European Union integration be more effective in supporting the implementation of the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific than would be possible for individual Member States? How can this role be developed further?

For more information, please [subscribe](#) to the EU Centre's mailing list or [contact us](#) directly.

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