



The Global Foundation
Together, we strive for the global common good



The Rome Roundtable

15 & 16 June, 2018

Rome, Italy, Sunday 17 June, 2018

Rome Roundtable 2018 aims high, matches talk with action



The Global Foundation convened the 3rd edition of its premier global meeting, the **Rome Roundtable**, at the Vatican and at the Bank of Italy, on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 June, 2018. Sixty invited participants came from all over the world and from a wide cross-section of backgrounds, from business, religions and society, for what was an intensive 'faith-enabled' dialogue, held at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and at the Bank of Italy.

Key speakers included Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin; Bank of Italy Governor, Ignazio Visco; CEO of mining giant, Anglo American, Mark Cutifani; former US Treasury Secretary, Larry Summers; Global Investor Coalition on Climate Change leader, Frank Pegan; and an impressive Chinese contingent was led by Dr Lebin Wu, Chairman of China's Academy of Sciences investment firm (CASH) and Professor Keyu Jin of London School of Economics.

The Global Foundation takes full responsibility for this short summary of the 2018 Rome Roundtable meeting. A final Report will be issued in the near future, with the agreement of the Vatican, among others.

Highlights from the Rome Roundtable meeting **'Co-operative Globalisation' – a shared pathway to a cohesive world**

The Rome meeting re-affirmed and strengthened the strategy of '**Co-operative Globalisation**', as endorsed by Pope Francis at the **2017 Rome Roundtable** and based on the cumulative work of the Global Foundation over the past 20 years, at global and more local levels. The meeting enjoyed a very explicit sense of shared moral purpose. It agreed transformative, shared pathways to rebuild confidence and coherence within societies and across the world. Such pathways must be centred on human dignity, fairness and inclusiveness, also underpinned by sustainable prosperity.

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Leaders must walk the talk to deliver the future

It was firmly agreed that ‘*co-operative globalisation*’ requires action as well as talk and genuine personal commitment to change, re-inforced through the power of collective action. The sense of shared endeavour and willingness to work together without barriers, was strongly evident in Rome. The **Rome Roundtable** reported on and committed to several practical actions and ideas that could be scaled-up and applied more widely in the world, all serving as examples of ‘*co-operative globalisation*’ in action.

The Rome meeting focused on six key themes of the Global Foundation

A ‘dialogue of civilisations’ was launched, to build long-term global peace.

Our future prosperity and the viability of the planet are at serious risk. The Rome meeting agreed that the West and East, also including North and South, must learn to better share power for 21st century, in such a manner that will strengthen global governance that is otherwise weakening. Even though value systems are fundamentally different and unlikely to converge, new bridges of understanding are capable of being built around the ‘*co-operative globalisation*’ model. Leadership from the community is more vital, often in leading governments. How the world will manage issues around data was agreed as a project focus. The **Paris Peace Forum** initiative of French President Emmanuel Macron was endorsed as a potentially major contributor for better global governance.



‘Everything under Heaven’ - the new Silk Road brings East and West together again

It was agreed that the enduring success of the new Silk Road requires a more profound basis for bridging long-term aspirations between East and West, respecting both long traditions and emerging realities.

Growing co-operation between the respective Academies of Science in China and at the Vatican was a welcome step. The

worldwide partnership, led by China, to eradicate the scourge of organ trafficking was endorsed at the meeting, as were the ambitions to scaleup wider business-academia-faith partnerships to tackle human trafficking, global slavery and forced labour.



Saving the planet through the new model of blended finance

Huge investment opportunities exist for practical and profitable climate action. Large scale, blended finance can unlock billions of dollars of global pension investments. The Rome meeting endorsed the model presented and called for development banks and governments to partner with this investor-led initiative, to win the race against time, through mobilising massive private investment at global scale.

Big miners walk the talk on business purpose

Global mining and faith leaders demonstrated their continuing and expanding partnership model for business with purpose, to foster long-term success in local communities, often where governance is less than fully effective, first in Southern Africa and now expanding to the wider world. Smart companies are increasingly adopting purpose and social licence at the centre of their entire business model and these success stories will be further promoted.



New global vehicle to monitor and measure sustainable business performance

An essential component of successive Rome Roundtable meetings is to support the use of objective data to demonstrate and lift performance to meet global goals that serve the common good.

The Rome meeting expressed overwhelming support for the new World Benchmarking Alliance, a new global index to measure



corporate sustainability performance, first floated at the 2017 meeting and expected to formally launch at global scale in September 2018.

This expanding alliance is now backed by an impressive and growing coalition of business, civil society and institutions, and seeks to be further strengthened through the support of faiths and wider communities of interest – a perfect expression of a shared pathway to a better future.



Next stop, London

The momentum from Rome has encouraged the Global Foundation to convene a similarly-styled *London Roundtable* for early 2019 and future global roundtable meetings for Rome, Beijing and New York are under evaluation. These global discussions will aim to cumulatively report further progress and seek new commitments from those taking part. They will also build upon regional roundtables held in various parts of the world, such as those held in Sydney, Kuala Lumpur and the Pacific Islands over the past year, in the lead-up to the global discussions of the *Rome Roundtable*.



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Further reports, speeches and photos from the 2018 Rome Roundtable, including the Keynote Address by His Eminence, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, at the dinner, hosted by the Governor of the Bank of Italy, may be found on the [Global Foundation website](http://www.globalfoundation.org.au).

