

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jeannette O'Connor, t-9jocon@uchicago.edu, 202-302-3268

2023 Pearson Global Forum to Explore Disparity Throughout the World and Strategies and Policies to Mitigate its Impact

*New Pearson Institute/AP-NORC Poll to be Released
In-person (and virtual) Forum, October 20, 2023, in Chicago, is free to attend*

CHICAGO (October 3, 2023) – On Friday, October 20, 2023, the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy's [Pearson Institute for Study and Resolution of Global Conflict](#) will gather global policymakers, leading scholars, and subject-matter experts at the [2023 Pearson Global Forum](#). Entitled "Disparity: A thin line divides human realities," the Forum will and will examine the ripple effects at the intersection of disparity and global conflict, and ways to find resolution, peace, and stability for those affected.

Participants at this year's Global Forum will discuss disparities in economics and power, as well as disparities in gender, justice, religion, technology, housing, and distribution of natural resources.

According to [Dr. James Robinson](#), Director of the Pearson Institute for the Study and Resolution of Global Conflicts, "Inequality of income is but one aspect of disparity and is part of an intersecting set of differences in society which relate to power and status. We thought that the larger topic of disparity might be sociologically very rich and could suggest new ideas and connections."

A new Pearson Institute/AP-NORC poll on Americans' attitudes on foreign policy, especially regarding issues around Mexico and Afghanistan, will be released in conjunction with the Forum.

The Forum will be held in-person at the Harris School in Chicago and live streamed for those who cannot attend. It is free for the media and the public, but [registration is required](#). The full conference agenda is available [here](#).

Highlights of the [2023 Pearson Global Forum](#) include:

- Addresses by [Ernesto Zedillo](#), Former President of Mexico (1994-2000) and [Shirin Ebadi](#), the first female Judge in Iran and a recipient of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize.
- A panel discussion between public policy and economics scholars about social mobility and a flash talk about restorative justice in schools.
- Examinations of specific case studies around the world: how disparities are impacting Mexico's development, the disparity in access to water between Israel and the Palestinian territories, and how disparities have grown in Afghanistan since the Taliban reoccupied the country.

- The release of a Pearson/AP-NORC poll on Americans' attitudes on foreign policy, especially regarding issues around Mexico and Afghanistan.

If you are interested in a pre-interview or additional information, please contact Jeannette O'Connor at t-9jocon@uchicago.edu or 202-302-3268.

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In 2015, the [University of Chicago](#) announced the creation of the [Pearson Institute for Study and Resolution of Global Conflict](#) at the Harris School of Public Policy, the first of its kind research institute dedicated to applying rigorous, evidence-based inquiry to the issues of peace and conflict. Established through a grant from The Thomas L. Pearson and The Pearson Family Members Foundation, and led by Institute Director James Robinson, co-author of *The Narrow Corridor* and *Why Nations Fail*, the Institute seeks to understand the complex causes and consequences of conflict by mobilizing the best minds and the most innovative tools and technology to drive new breakthroughs and understanding that informs policy and leads to a world more at peace. 2023 marks the sixth consecutive year of the Pearson Global Forum.