TRENDS E-SYMPOSIUM TO ADDRESS POST-CORONA GLOBALIZATION CHALLENGES

Experts from around the world to discuss factors behind the Covid-19 crisis and the steps needed to mitigate its negative effects worldwide

ABU DHABI, March 28, 2020 – TRENDS Research & Advisory is organizing its first-ever E-Symposium to discuss the global impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and offer insights on the steps needed to mitigate its negative effects worldwide. This will be the first online symposium of its kind to be organized since the outbreak of the coronavirus in the Gulf and Middle East region.

To be held on March 31, 2020, at 7 pm UAE time, the E-Symposium – Confronting the Challenges of COVID-19: A New Global Outlook – will provide a unique and innovative online platform for international experts covering medical, geostrategic and economic perspectives.

Panelists will offer insights on the factors behind the emergence of the crisis and will also include a special perspective on how China coped with the initial outbreak of the pandemic and adopted measures and solutions that could offer valuable lessons for other countries.

Panelists scheduled to speak at the E-Symposium include Prof. Maurizio Barbeschi, Scientist and Advisor to the Executive Director, World Health Emergencies (WHE) Program, World Health Organization, Switzerland; Dr. David Meyer, Associate Professor of Security and Global Studies and Program Director, Master of Arts in Diplomacy College of Security and Global Studies, The American University in the Emirates (AUE), UAE; Dr. Thiemo Fetzer, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Warwick, Visiting Fellow, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), United Kingdom; Prof. Gulfaraz Khan, Professor of Viral Pathology and Chair, Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), UAE; and Prof. Yong Wang, Professor, School of International Studies, Director, Center for International Political Economy, Director, Center for American Studies, Peking University, China.

Mr. Mahmood Mohammed Sharif, Director of Economic Studies at TRENDS Research & Advisory, and Dr. Stephen Blackwell, Director of Research & Strategic Studies at TRENDS Research & Advisory will be the moderators of the session.

Dr. Mohamed Al-Ali, the Director General of TRENDS Research & Advisory lauded the Center and its staff for their contributions under these exceptional circumstances. “Harnessing modern technology to hold this E-Symposium will feed into the Center's ambitious goals of strengthening scientific research and providing policy and decision-makers in the region and around the world,” he said.

The Director General said that ideas and recommendations are needed to deal with the challenge of Covid-19, which has become an existential threat to humanity. Dr. Muhammad Al-Ali expressed his confidence that this international E-Symposium, the first of its kind in the
Middle East, will come up with recommendations that enhance the current regional and international efforts to curb the rapid spread of this pandemic.

"The pandemic has so far claimed the lives of more than 12,000 people and infected more than 300,000, in addition to having a calamitous economic and strategic impact on the entire world. Nearly 600 million people in around 22 countries are under forced social quarantine and 400 million under curfew," he said.

Dr. Mohamed Al-Ali said that think-tanks and research institutes should play their role in supporting governments and countries in today’s circumstances so that we collectively stop this human tragedy by providing workable ideas, recommendations, and solutions.

With the COVID-19 crisis representing a historical milestone for the global community, this symposium performs a critical function in helping its participants identify the continuities and changes expected in the months and years to come.

The E-Symposium will be live-streamed via TRENDS YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/TrendsRA

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ABOUT US

TRENDS Research & Advisory strives to present an insightful and informed view of global issues and challenges from a strategic perspective. Established in 2014 as an independent research center, TRENDS conducts specialized studies in the fields of international relations and political, economic and social sciences. It undertakes rigorous analyses of current issues and international and regional developments, especially in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Center analyses opportunities and challenges at various levels of the geopolitical spectrum. It evaluates scenarios and prospects to find scientific and objective answers and seeks to influence the decision-making process. TRENDS Research & Advisory aims to champion national and regional causes and build a strong network with research centers, organizations, and institutions around the world. It also seeks to benefit from the expertise of international research and academic institutions.