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Key Leaders of the Nobel Prize Summit “Our Planet, Our Future” Stress Urgency for Action, International Collaboration

On the heels of President Biden’s Leaders Summit on Climate, the first Nobel Prize Summit “Our Planet, Our Future” will bring together Nobel Prize laureates and other esteemed leaders in the sciences, policy, business, the youth movement, and the arts to explore actions that can be achieved this decade to put the world on a path to a more sustainable, more prosperous future for all.

An [updated agenda](#) is now available for the April 26-28 virtual summit. [Registration](#) is free and open to the public.

Hosted by the Nobel Foundation and organized by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in partnership with the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Stockholm Resilience Centre, and the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, the summit will mobilize action on fighting climate change and biodiversity loss; reducing inequality; and advancing technologies to transform the way we live and work.

Following are quotes from key leaders of the Nobel Prize Summit. Reporters interested in interviews in advance of the summit with leaders of the organizing institutions should contact the Office of News and Public Information, U.S. National Academy of Sciences; +1-202-334-2138 or news@nas.edu or Rebecka Oxelström, Head of Press, Nobel Foundation, rebecka.oxelstrom@nobelprize.org.

“The Nobel Prize is awarded to those whose achievements have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind,” said Vidar Helgesen, executive director of the Nobel Foundation. “Today, humanity is facing planetary problems that are urgent, complex, and have many drivers. Solutions must be found across many scientific disciplines and sectors of public decision-making. We should be inspired by the values underpinning Alfred Nobel’s will: trust in international collaboration, respect for knowledge, and faith in the potential for change. The Nobel Prize Summit, only days after the Leaders Summit on Climate, will bring many great minds to bear on how to solve the planet’s pressing challenges at the speed and scale required.”

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“As world leaders gather soon for President Biden’s climate summit, and on the eve of our Nobel Prize Summit, we are at a pivotal moment in history when time is running out to make real progress in securing a sustainable future for our planet,” said U.S. National Academy of Sciences President Marcia McNutt. “Science can provide a blueprint by which nations can decarbonize their economies, and we should seize upon this momentum to take urgent action. The Nobel Prize Summit will include voices from across society to be part of the dialogue, so that we ensure that the fruits of science and technology are shared by all.”

“The Nobel Prize Summit is occurring at a critical juncture in time: We have nine years left — until 2030 — to cut global emissions by half to have at least the chance of landing the world economy at net-zero emissions by 2050,” said Johan Rockström, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. “This is the scientific and now also U.S. target. President Biden’s climate summit, just a few days prior to the Nobel Summit, will hopefully urge world leaders toward stronger climate ambitions. The Nobel Summit delivers the science that is needed to turn these ambitions into action; it’s about the deep, basic science, but also the solutions and the innovations we need to bring forward now for a sustainable and equitable future.”

Updates on the agenda and key highlights of the summit will be available during the event in the [press room](#). Summit highlights will include:

- an address by **Al Gore**, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former U.S. vice president
- an interview with the **Dalai Lama**, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Tibetan spiritual leader
- remarks by **David W. Panuelo**, president of the Federated States of Micronesia
- a message from **Ursula Von der Leyen**, president, The European Commission
- dialogues and conversations with other laureates, esteemed researchers, and policy leaders, including:
 - **Xiye Bastida**, climate activist and youth leader
 - **Steven Chu**, Nobel Prize laureate and professor of physics and molecular and cellular physiology, Stanford University
 - **Jennifer Doudna**, Nobel Prize laureate and professor of biochemistry and biophysics, University of California, Berkeley
 - **Sandra Diaz**, professor of ecosystems, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina
 - **Peter Doherty**, Nobel Prize laureate and patron of the Doherty Institute, University of Melbourne
 - **Anthony Fauci**, chief medical adviser to the U.S. president and director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
 - **Natalia Kanem**, United Nations undersecretary-general and executive director, United Nations Population Fund

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Details:

The virtual summit will take place April 26-28. Registration is free, but space is limited.

[Click here for more information or to register.](#)

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