

Summary of Side Event



Book launch: Measuring Sustainable Development Goals Performance

by The Geneva Consensus Foundation

2 February 2022, **1:00-1:50 pm (EST)** [actual duration from 1:00 to 2:20]]



Background on the event

In 2015 Sten Thore and Ruzanna Tarverdyan published their first book entitled [*Diagnosics for a Globalized World*](#). The [book was presented](#) at the World Trade Organization Public Forum 2015 dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the WTO, as an event- [A Book and its author](#). As noted by Sten Thore, in the preface to the book, “... *the large-scale practical application is still awaiting. To prepare for this practical phase, my co-author Ruzanna Tarverdyan has established the foundation The Geneva Consensus which operates out of Geneva, Switzerland.*” The constitutional goal of the Geneva Consensus Foundation is: *to contribute to World Polity and through the international consensus-building process put in place a global partnership for sustainable development, ensure policy coherence for development and for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.* GCF enjoys special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 2016.

In May 2016 Sten Thore and Ruzanna Tarverdyan published their next article entitled [“*The sustainable competitiveness of nations*”](#) in Elsevier journal Technological Forecasting and Social Change. On 20 March 2019, during its plenary session No 542, the European Economic and Social Committee chose to use their definition of the notion **“*Sustainable Competitiveness*”!** See the Official Journal of the European Union entitled [Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee on Listening to the citizens of Europe for a sustainable future \(Sibiu and beyond\)](#)’ (2019/C 228/06). While there was a suggestion to use World Economic Forum's definition for sustainable competitiveness, the methodology suggested by Thore and Tarverdyan was preferred by a majority vote- 64 Against 147, Abstentions: 13- and so the EESC chose to use the definition proposed in their Competitiveness paper. Following that political achievement Sten Thore and Ruzanna Tarverdyan received an invitation from senior management of Elsevier to write a new book. [“*Measuring Sustainable development Goals Performance*”](#) was thus published in December 2021. The book features Foreword by Mahmoud Mohieldin Dr. - Executive Director International Monetary Fund, UN Special Envoy, 2030 Development Agenda, formerly World Bank Group Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships.

The Panel

MODERATOR:	
JUDr. Mgr. Martina Lubyova , Ph.D. CEO, The Geneva Consensus Foundation, CEO Futures Consulting, formerly Director of the Sub Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia at International Labour Organization in Moscow, Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, Member of Presidium of Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV), Director of the Institute for Forecasting of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV), Director of SAV's Center for Social and Psychological Sciences.	
Opening remarks: Mahmoud Mohieldin , Dr.	Executive Director International Monetary Fund, UN Special Envoy, 2030 Development Agenda, formerly World Bank Group Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships.
Part 1: Multi-dimensional Analysis: Sten Thore , Dr. Jubilarem	Centennial Fellow Emeritus, The IC2 Institute, the University of Texas think tank
Part 2: A Geneva Consensus:	Founding President, The Geneva Consensus Foundation

<i>Ruzanna Tarverdyan, Dr.</i>	
<i>DISCUSSIONS & WAY FORWARD</i>	
<i>SDG Country Rankings correcting for country capacities: Jos Verbeek, Dr.</i>	Chief Economic Advisor, QUATRO International Inc. , formerly World Bank Manager and Special Representative to the UN and WTO in Geneva, Manager of the Global Monitoring Report, a joint IMF-WBG flagship publication that analyzes policies and institutions to ultimately assist countries in attaining the MDGs.
<i>ORMS tools for performance evaluation: Carl Langaker</i>	Operations Research master program London School of Economics

Measuring Sustainable Development Goals Performance

The book provides a quantitative and analytical framework for evaluating social, economic, and environmental policies aiming at the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs). Continuing their earlier work on multidimensional analysis, authors demonstrate how nations can be ranked in terms of their performance in meeting a given set of SDGs, providing numerical calculation of SDGs deficit. Their calculations show that even before the arrival of the COVID-19 virus, there existed in several large Western nations undetected pockets of SDG deficits, such as in the care for the elderly, personal safety, and hygiene. Extending the calculations to cover COVID-19 data for 2020, it turns out that the same deficit nations also suffered excess death rates caused by the virus.

Key Features:

- Includes novel tools, procedures, diagnostics, and metrics for evaluating the entire spectrum of SDGs in a wide variety of settings
- Ranks nations according to their social and economic performance, based on each nation's unique resource and output indicator
- Examines international efforts toward shaping a new Social Contract between global partners
- Delivers a new Calculus of Consent: Logical foundation for forging Geneva Consensus for Sustainable Development

Key recommendations for action

This book offers a balanced and holistic paradigm for evaluating progress of the SDGs, assisting the convergence of national and international efforts toward economic development, social progress, and environmental protection. In the meanwhile, authors offer an analytical format that identifies countries reaching optimal COVID-19 survival results optimal as part of an optimal package of other important SDGs. For a country falling behind this optimum, they identify its shortcomings (its deficit COVID-19 survival rate and other goal deficits).

Sustainable development will continue to be the most significant collective challenge facing humanity for the years to come. Addressing it without compromising our shared prosperity and the right to development of future generations would require a significant alteration of macroeconomic governance. It calls for strategic vision and innovative policy responses. This book examines the promise that is offered in that respect by the operations research technique called Data Envelopment Analysis, but the large scale practical application is still awaiting. Enhanced data availability will create the information basis for development of global models, thus providing an analytical underpinning for global governance.

