NIGHT OF IDEAS

FAULT LINES

8 FEBRUARY 2024
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**19.40 - 20.10** in L’Atelier: Workshop: The Big Warehouse

**20.50 - 21.20** in L’Atelier: Workshop: The Red Team

Master of Ceremonies: *Jason Solomons*
Now a worldwide project staged in 190 cities in 104 different countries, the Night of Ideas is a highly anticipated event in London.

The designated theme for this year’s edition is Fault Lines, inviting us to consider the instances in which historical events cross over with our most intimate selves, especially in light of the recent environmental, geopolitical and technological upheavals affecting the world.

Crossing French and British perspectives, 30 leading figures from both sides of the Channel will come together to discuss contemporary issues and share their visions for a brighter future.

Opening Ceremony

18.00 – 19.00 – Ciné Lumière – Opening

Hélène Duchêne, French Ambassador to the UK, will open the Night of Ideas 2024.

French-Canadian novelist Nancy Huston will deliver a speech on the main theme of this year’s edition Fault Lines, inspired by her eponymous novel first published in 2006. Former UK cabinet minister and diplomat Rory Stewart will then discuss the same topic in light of his own experience in a pre-recorded address.
The Return of Geopolitical Blocs?

19.20 – 20.10 – Ciné Lumière – Debate

As growing tensions challenge the multilateral order, diplomatic, scientific, industrial, and military rivalries escalate. Beyond the competition between states and their institutions, conflicting ideologies and new narratives are at stake. How can international cooperation face these geopolitical fault lines and play a key role in ensuring a stable future?

With

• Sébastien Maillard, Journalist, Research Fellow at Chatham House, Special Advisor at the Jacques Delors Institute

• Djenabou Cissé, Defence and Security Expert, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique

• Susan Coughtrie, Director, Foreign Policy Centre

Chaired by Ramona Bloj, Vice-President, Groupe d’Etudes Géopolitiques, Founder, Le Grand Continent
Rebuilding Notre-Dame de Paris

19.20 - 20.10 – La Médiathèque – Debate

On 15 April 2019, Notre-Dame de Paris suffered the biggest blaze in its history causing a profound emotion felt around the world, beyond religions and beliefs. Why was everyone so deeply moved? With the cathedral’s reopening scheduled for 2024, this discussion will also address the paradoxes of heritage preservation, between tradition, adaptation and technological innovation. As an exceptionally complex restoration, the building site has become a testing ground for arts, as well as for digital data processing and visualisation.

With

- Aline Magnien, Former Director of the Research Laboratory for Historic Monuments, French Ministry of Culture
- Rodney Harrison, Professor in Heritage Studies and Director of the Centre for Critical Heritage Studies, University College London
- Rob Woodside, Estates Director, English Heritage

Chairied by Agnès Poirier, Journalist and Author of Notre-Dame: the Soul of France
Bending the ethical rules of sports and science, transhumanism is the idea that human beings should be able to use technology to modify and enhance their capabilities beyond biological constraints. On the eve of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Paris, let’s address the ethical issues around transhumanism in sports and science.

With

- **Apolline Taillandier**, Political Theorist and Historian, University of Cambridge
- **Cecilia Mascolo**, Professor in Mobile Systems and Head of the Mobile Systems Research Laboratory, University of Cambridge
- **Anders Sandberg**, Neuroscientist and Research Fellow at the Future of Humanity Institute, University of Oxford

Chaired by **James Wilson**, Professor in Philosophy, University College London
Amid a technological revolution supposed to change the way we live, work, and interact with each other, researchers and lawmakers face a burning issue: is it possible to reap the benefits from artificial intelligence technologies without putting our society at risk?

With

- Lionel Tarassenko, Professor in Engineering, President of Reuben College, University of Oxford
- Sebastien Krier, Policy Lead, Google DeepMind
- Melanie Garson, Cyber Policy, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change

Chaired by Yves-Alexandre de Montjoye, Associate Professor in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science, Imperial College London
Against a fast-evolving geopolitical backdrop, sweeping technological breakthroughs are changing our understanding of modern warfare. As such, anticipating military risks – and avoiding them – has become increasingly complex. How can defence experts draw both on the history of warfare and contemporary conflicts to foresee the threats of tomorrow?

With

- **Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer**, Senior Vice President, Geostrategy, German Marshall Fund of the United States

- **Laure de Roucy Rochegonde**, Research Fellow at the Security Studies Center, Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI)

- **Mats Berdal**, Professor in Security & Development and Director of the Conflict, Security and Development Research Group, King’s College London

*Chaired by Isabella Antinozzi*, Research Analyst, Defence, Industries and Society, Royal United Services Institute
In a more than ever inter-connected world, strategic misinformation reaches people - through social media and smartphones - in the most intimate parts of their life. From the war in Ukraine to the conflict in the Middle East, recent upheavals have renewed the circulation of doctored content and fake news online. This panel will address how disinformation sets up to influence the way geopolitical conflicts unfold on the international stage, manipulate public opinion, and weigh on the course of national elections. We’ll also look into the actions to tackle the expansion of fake news at a time when factually correct information is all the more needed.

With

- **Carl Miller**, Founder, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media
- **Charlotte Sector**, Communications Manager, United Nations

_Chaired by Jessica Cecil_, Founder, Trusted News Initiative
Splitting the Bill: Funding the Green Transition

21.40 – 22.30 – Ciné Lumière – Debate

Green policies designed to tackle global warming have been accused by some of reinforcing existing inequalities, with underprivileged people bearing the cost of the green transition as a result. How can we equitably finance the fight against the climate crisis while taking urgent action?

With

- **Brendan Curran**, Senior Policy Fellow, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science
- **Emily Fry**, Economist, Resolution Foundation
- **Nathalie Berny**, Researcher, Environmental Advocacy, Maison Française d’Oxford; Institut d’études politiques (Rennes)

*Chaired by Laela Pakpour Tabrizi*, Director of Consumer Converged Finance, Virgin Media O2 – Franco-British Young Leader

Closing Concert with Saults

22.40 – 23.30 – La Médiathèque – Concert

Produced by Jack Wilson (Fickle Friends), Saults draw their inspiration from 70’s and 80’s pop music with a modern and English sound influenced by French Touch bands.

On stage, the most British of French duos sweeps everything on its path, mixing dance, guitar solos, rock, funk and electro with a sprinkle of that brotherly bond audiences can feel as soon as Antoine and Greg Saults start singing in harmony.
Virtual Visit of Notre-Dame

18.00 – 22.00 – Foyer

See the interior of the Notre-Dame Cathedral and relive its most glorious hours, from Henri IV’s wedding, Napoleon’s coronation, to the construction of its spire. Tracing back 850 years, from the groundwork in the 12th century to the tragic fire of 2019, participants will be able to experience the rich history of Notre-Dame up close, through digital tablets set in the Institute’s foyer, courtesy of Histovery.

The Big Warehouse

19.40 – 20.10 – L’Atelier – Workshop

Drawing on work on the emergence of ‘free zones’ from industrial and commercial ‘grey zones’, The Big Warehouse sociology research project suggests that the storage function plays a crucial role in the organisation of what some economists call the ‘warehouse economy’. In this workshop, led by sociologist Delphine Mercier and illustrator Mélanie Forné, we will explore how a researcher and an illustrator can work together to explain a scientific process and make its aim tangible.

The Red Team

20.50 – 21.20 – L’Atelier – Workshop

Composed of science-fiction authors and scriptwriters working closely with scientific and military experts, The Red Team aims to anticipate the technological, economic, societal and environmental aspects of the future that could generate potential conflicts by 2030 – 2060. Marie Roussie, Research Engineer at PSL Research University, which leads the project on behalf of the French Defence Innovation Agency and its partners, Xavier Rival, Air and Space Attaché at the French Embassy to the UK, and Illustrator François Schuiten will introduce us to the 4 seasons of scenarios developed by The Red Team.
BEFORE THE NIGHT

Ahead of the Night of Ideas, a programme of films will address some of the themes of this year’s edition, such as the environment with the poetic documentary La Rivière, Artificial Intelligence with documentary Another Body and sports with Tokyo Olympiad. Art films from the FIDMarseille International Documentary Festival will be presented alongside films by artist Clément Cogitore. Wildlife will be celebrated with The Times of Secrets, and A l’air libre, a programme of short films for little ones.

29 January – 7 February

www.nightofideas.co.uk/beforethenight

THE LITTLE NIGHT

Young ones will reflect on some of the themes of this year’s Night of Ideas. Pupils from British and French primary schools in the UK are invited to express their views on sustainability with drawings and visual creations. Kids will also have the opportunity to debate on Artificial Intelligence as part of public philosophy workshops.

- Thu 8 February – Philosophy Workshops
  16.00 – ages 9 to 12
- Discover the productions of pupils on the website and during the Night of Ideas.

www.nightofideas.co.uk/littlenight
ISABELLA ANTINOZZI
Isabella Antinozzi is a Research Analyst in the Defence, Industries and Society programme at the Royal United Services Institute, a London-based security and defence think tank. She previously worked as a researcher at the European Council on Foreign Relations where she analysed the European Union’s defence and security policies, intra-European defence industrial cooperation as well as cooperation between the EU and third states.

MATS BERDAL
Mats Berdal is Professor in Security and Development in the Department of War Studies, King’s College London, where he is also the Director of the Conflict, Security and Development Research Programme. He previously was the Director of Studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies and served on the Commission of Inquiry set up by the Norwegian Government.

NATHALIE BERNY
Nathalie Berny has specialised in the study of collective action at the intersection of policymaking in various contexts, notably in approaches to policy change. Her present research in the UK focuses on the advocacy strategies of environmental groups in times of policy changes. Since 2020, she has been Professor in Sociology at Sciences Po Rennes.

RAMONA BLOJ
Ramona Bloj is the Vice President of the Groupe d’études géopolitiques, an independent think tank focused on European affairs at the École Normale Supérieure de Paris, and the founder of Le Grand Continent journal, which centres on social sciences, notably Europe and geopolitics. She is also Chief Editor of the GREEN (Géopolitique, Réseau, Énergie, Environnement, Nature) Revue.

JESSICA CECIL
Jessica Cecil is a news and media leader and specialist in countering disinformation. She is a former Visiting Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and is the Founder of the Trusted News Initiative, a global alliance of major tech platforms and leading news organisations sharing insight on and react fast to the most dangerous disinformation.

DJENABOU CISSE
Djenabou Cisse is a defence and security expert, with a focus on military and operational issues. She also works on strategic and security questions in Africa. Previously, Djenabou Cisse worked for the French Ministry for Armed Forces, where she held various positions (prospective analysis, interministerial cooperation). She also teaches at Sciences Po Paris.
SUSAN COUGHTRIE
Susan Coughtrie has been Director of international affairs think tank, the Foreign Policy Centre (FPC), since January 2023, having originally joined in 2020 as Project Director for the Unsafe for Scrutiny project, which explores the risks and threats facing journalists uncovering financial crime and corruption. The findings of this research led Susan to co-found the UK Anti-SLAPP Coalition in January 2021.

BRENDAN CURRAN
Brendan Curran is a Senior Policy Fellow working on sustainable finance policy. Prior to joining the Grantham Institute, Brendan spent several years working on sustainable finance policy within the UK Government. Firstly, as a policy adviser on social investment within the Government Inclusive Economy Unit and more recently working with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) on green finance policy and the publication of the Net Zero Strategy.

ALEXANDRA DE HOOP SCHEFFER
Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer is Senior Vice President and member of the executive team of the global think tank German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). She leads GMF’s Geostrategy policy and risk advisory work across Europe, the United States and the Indopacific region. She is a renowned expert in European affairs, transatlantic and international relations.

YVES-ALEXANDRE DE MONTJOYE
Yves-Alexandre de Montjoye is an Associate Professor in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science at Imperial College London. He currently is a Special Adviser on AI and Data Protection to E.C. Justice Commissioner Reynders and a Parliament-appointed expert to the Belgian Data Protection Agency (APD-GBA). Yves-Alexandre worked for the Boston Consulting Group and acted as an expert for both the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Nations.

LAURE DE ROUCY ROCHEGONDE
Laure de Roucy-Rochegonde is a Research Fellow at the Security Studies Center of the Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI). She is also an Associate Researcher at the Centre de Recherches Internationales (CERI, Sciences Po/CNRS), and a Lecturer at Sciences Po Paris and Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas.

MÉLANIE FORNÉ
Mélanie Forné is an illustrator based in the South of France after having spent 14 years in Guatemala as an archaeologist specialised in Mayan culture. In Guatemala she published a series of graphic novels for children that tell the story of a little girl called Maya. Since she returned to France, she has been working as a freelancer in illustration, graphic novels, graphic and web design, as well as in science, fulfilling her passion for teaching through images.
EMILY FRY
Emily Fry joined the Resolution Foundation in 2022 as an economist focused on energy and trade. Previously she spent several years in finance, the public sector and academia primarily focused on climate change and sustainability. Emily has an economics and management degree from the University of Oxford and a Master in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School.

MELANIE GARSON
Melanie Garson is the Cyber Policy and Tech Geopolitics Lead at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She is also an Associate Professor in International Conflict Resolution & International Security in the Department of Political Science at University College London, where she teaches about cyberwarfare and the future of conflict in the digital age, as well as international negotiation.

RODNEY HARRISON
Rodney Harrison is Professor in Heritage Studies at the UCL Institute of Archaeology. His research explores the histories of heritage and museums and their future roles in light of the climate emergency. He is (co-)author and (co-)editor of 20 books and edited volumes, the latest of which is Critical Heritage Studies and the Futures of Europe.

NANCY HUSTON
Nancy Huston spent her childhood in Canada, her teenage years in the USA, and her adult life in France. Writing in both English and French, she practises various genres: novels, essays, children’s books, scenarios, and plays, mostly published by the Editions Actes Sud in France and Leméac in French Canada. Her works have won a wide amount of prizes. Her novel, Fault Lines, has been translated in over forty languages.

SÉBASTIEN KRIER
Sébastien Krier is currently a Policy Development & Strategy Manager at DeepMind, specialising in the intersection of research and strategy to shape DeepMind’s policies on frontier AI governance issues. Before joining DeepMind, he served as a Senior Technology Policy Researcher at Stanford University’s Cyber Policy Centre. Earlier, he advised various governments and organisations on AI policy and governance.

SÉBASTIEN MAILLARD
Sébastien Maillard is an Associate Fellow at Chatham House, and Special Advisor at the Institut Jacques Delors, having previously been its director. Prior to this, he worked at the French newspaper La Croix, as its correspondent in Brussels and Rome. In addition, he has taught EU Affairs at Sciences Po Paris and Boston College.
ALINE MAGNIEN
Aline Magnien is Heritage general curator at the French Ministry of Culture; and was the Head of the ministry’s Research Laboratory on Historical Monuments until October 2023. Since the 15th of April 2019, she took part in the restoration of Notre-Dame as the Director of the Laboratoire de Recherche des Monuments Historiques (LRMH).

CECILIA MASCOLO
Cecilia Mascolo is Full Professor in Mobile Systems in the Department of Computer Science and Technology, University of Cambridge. She is Director of the Centre for Mobile, Wearable System and Augmented Intelligence. She is also a Fellow of Jesus College Cambridge and the recipient of an ERC Advanced Research Grant. Her research interests are in mobile and wearable systems and machine learning for mobile and wearable health and fitness.

DELPHINE MERCIER
Delphine Mercier is a sociologist specialised in migration and labour issues in the context of globalisation. She is currently the Director of Research at the CNRS in France, and the Deputy Director of the Laboratoire d’Économie et de Sociologie du Travail. Her latest research focuses on the integration of Syrian refugees in the labour markets of Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey.

CARL MILLER
Carl Miller is the Founder of the Centre for the Analysis of Social Media at Demos in 2011 and CASM Technology in 2014, and has spent the last decade researching social media intelligence (SOCMINT), extremism, online electoral interference, radicalisation, digital politics, conspiracy theories, cyber-crime, and Internet governance. He is the author of *The Death of the Gods: The New Global Power Grab* (Penguin Random House), and the presenter of *Power Trip: The Age of AI* (Intelligence Squared).

LAELA PAKPOUR TABRIZI
Laela Pakpour Tabrizi is Director Consumer Converged Finance at Virgin Media O2. She had a formative career at leading French corporate investment bank BNP Paribas in their Structured Finance Division in Paris and New York. She also sits on the Boards of the FTSE 250 listed Big Yellow Storage Company and the British Library where she holds the position of Chair of the Audit Committee. She was selected as a Franco British Young Leader in 2017.

AGNÈS POIRIER
Agnès Poirier is a Paris-born and London-educated journalist, writer and broadcaster. The UK editor for the French weekly L’Express, she is also a regular contributor to The Times, The Guardian and The Observer, and on the BBC, Channel 4 and Sky News. She is the author of *Left Bank, Art, Passion and The Rebirth of Paris* (1940-1950) and more recently, *Notre-Dame, The Soul of France.*
**ANDERS SANDBERG**
Anders Sandberg is Senior Research Fellow at the Future of Humanity Institute (FHI) at the University of Oxford. His research centres on management of low-probability high-impact risks, societal and ethical issues surrounding human enhancement, estimating the capabilities of future technologies. He is Research Associate of the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, the Center for the Study of Bioethics (Belgrade), and the Institute of Future Studies (Stockholm).

**SAULTS**
Antoine and Greg Saults are two brothers who decided to leave France to settle down in London. They went up and down London venues and festivals and recorded at Abbey Road. In an interview for *Music Week* magazine about his frequent discoveries of new musical talents on social media, the legendary founder and guitarist of The Who mentioned Saults: “They are in the same league as The 1975. (...) They are strong and authentic.”

**MARIE ROUSSIE**
Marie Roussie is a Research Engineer at Mines Paris – Université PSL. Since the launch of the Red Team Defence project, she has been working with the team of authors, scriptwriters and illustrators on their management research. She has co-authored a number of articles on science fiction as a way of differently thinking about innovation.

**FRANÇOIS SCHUITEN**
François Schuiten is a Belgian comic book artist and set designer. Currently, he is working on *The Obscure Cities* graphic novel series as well as *The Hollow Grounds* trilogy. He has also designed countless posters, illustrations, screenprints and lithographs. He received the Grand Prix de la Ville d’Angoulême in 2002 for his works.

**CHARLOTTE SECTOR**
Charlotte Sector is a spokesperson for the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland in charge of multimedia content. Prior to that, she worked as an Executive Producer at France 24 in Paris where she helped launch the channel in 2006.
JAMES WILSON
James Wilson is Professor in Philosophy at University College London, where he is also co-Director of the Health Humanities Centre. He has published widely on bioethics, the philosophy of public policy, and on the ownership and governance of ideas and information. His research uses philosophy to help resolve practical problems, and uses practical problems to investigate gaps and weaknesses in existing philosophical theories.

RORY STEWART
Rory Stewart is a former UK cabinet Minister and Diplomat and Member of Parliament for Penrith and the Border. He served in Iraq and Afghanistan, was a Professor at Harvard University and has written a number of bestselling books, including Politics on the Edge: A Memoir from Within. He currently teaches Grand Strategy at Yale University and co-presents the UK’s top podcast, The Rest Is Politics, with Alastair Campbell.

APOLLINE TAILLANDIER
Apolline Taillandier is a political theorist and historian specialising on transhumanism, liberalism, feminist thought, and artificial intelligence projects from the postwar period onwards. Her current research is on the history of artificial intelligence from the 1960s onwards, focusing on the ways feminist ideas have influenced projects in computer programming and computer education.

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Lionel Tarassenko CBE is the President of Reuben College, and Lead for the AI & Machine Learning research cluster. He is a world-leading expert in the application of signal processing and machine learning to healthcare. He is the founding Director of Oxehealth, an applied AI company whose products are deployed in 40% of NHS Mental Health Trusts.

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Jason Solomons is film critic for The New European. He covers the BAFTAs and Oscars for BBC News and curates the Cinedrome at Green Man Festival. Jason is the author of best-seller Woody Allen: Film by Film and is now producing his first feature film, A Waiter in Paris.

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The Night of Ideas is produced by

Part of the celebrations of the 120th anniversary of the Entente Cordiale

The panel Rebuilding Notre-Dame de Paris is supported by
Admission

All debates and events in the **Night of Ideas** are free to attend and open to all, but prior registration is required. Tickets need to be purchased for the films shown as part of **Before the Night**.

Info & Booking

[www.nightofideas.co.uk](http://www.nightofideas.co.uk)

Venue

**Institut français du Royaume-Uni**
17 Queensberry Place
London SW7 2DT

Food and Drinks

Food and drinks can be purchased on site.

Stay Tuned

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