

**SIPA-Human Development Report Office Workshop**  
**THE UPCOMING 2025 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT: HARNESSING  
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION TO ADVANCE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**February 6, 2025**

**4.00-6.30pm (coffee at 3:45pm)**

1512 IAB (420 W. 118th Street, New York, NY 10028, 15th floor)

Or zoom: <https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/92256619809?pwd=aw5ram7kPIYdbnbEebkUPTmTynvCtB.1n>

**Program of Work**

- 3:45 pm Arrival, coffee, cookies & fruit
- 4:00 pm **Welcome** and general overview of the HDR 2025
- 4:15 pm **Session 1** on HDR *Chapter 1: From tools to agents: Rewiring AI to promote Human Development*  
Short presentation by UNDP, faculty reader's short comments, followed by general discussion
- 4:55 pm **Session 2** on HDR *Chapter 2: People-centered intelligence for human development: A life stage perspective & Chapter 3: Reframing the Narrative to reimagine the role of AI in advancing human development*  
Short presentation by UNDP, faculty reader's short comments, followed by general discussion
- 5:50 pm Short break with light refreshments and sandwiches
- 6:00 pm **Session 3** on other parts of the report, general questions, and conclusion
- 6:30 pm Adjourn

**Contact SIPA's UN Partnership Initiative**

Professor Daniel Naujoks, Faculty Director: [daniel.naujoks@columbia.edu](mailto:daniel.naujoks@columbia.edu)

Paloma Camelo, Program Assistant: [pvc2111@columbia.edu](mailto:pvc2111@columbia.edu)

Hannah Barry, Program Assistant: [h1b2167@columbia.edu](mailto:h1b2167@columbia.edu)

General email contact: [unpartnership@columbia.edu](mailto:unpartnership@columbia.edu)

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Participants' List

1. UN Human Development Report Office Team
2. Columbia Faculty (in-person)
3. Columbia Faculty (online)
4. Columbia student experts
5. UNPI & IO/UNS team

1. UN Human Development Report Office Team

**Pedro Conceição**, Director

**Heriberto Tapia**, Research and Strategic Partnership Advisor

**Christina Lengfelder**, Research Specialist

**Josefin Pasanen**, Research and Partnerships Specialist

**Ajita Singh**, Researcher

**Nicholas Depsky**, Research Consultant

**Joseph Bak-Coleman**, Consulting Expert

**Raiyan Arshad**, Research and Statistics Intern

**Xiqing Zhang**

2. Columbia Faculty (in-person)

**José Antonio Ocampo**, Co-Director of SIPA's Economic and Political Development Concentration; Member and former Chair of the UN Committee for Development Policy, as well as the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation and former UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/jose-antonio-ocampo](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/jose-antonio-ocampo)

**Scott Barrett**, Lenfest-Earth Institute Professor of Natural Resource Economics at Columbia. More: <http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/scott-barrett>

**Glenn Denning**, founding Director of the Master of Public Administration in Development Practice (MPA-DP). Author of *Universal Food Security: How to End Hunger While Protecting the Planet* (Columbia University Press, 2023). More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/glenn-denning](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/glenn-denning)

**Laura Perez**, Director, Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy Concentration at SIPA. Esteemed international consultant working on children and armed conflict, human rights, and humanitarian affairs. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/laura-perez](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/laura-perez)

**Eduardo Zachary Albrecht**, Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs, senior fellow at the United Nations University's Centre for Policy Research and author, *Political Automation. An Introduction to AI in Government and Its Impact on Citizens* (Oxford University Press, 2025). More: <https://eduardoalbrecht.com/>

**Yanis Ben Amor**, Assistant Professor of Global Health and Microbiological Sciences and Executive Director of Columbia's Center for Sustainable Development (CSD). Prof. Ben Amor also launched a Columbia-wide initiative to study the impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Future of Work and Education, with a particular focus on LMICs. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/yanis-ben-amor](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/yanis-ben-amor)

**Erika Whillas**, Adjunct Lecturer at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University; senior experience strategist focusing on human-centered design for digital innovation in the public sector. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/erika-whillas](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/erika-whillas)

**Neal Parikh**, Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs, first Director of Artificial Intelligence for the City of New York. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/neal-parikh](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/neal-parikh)

**Stefan Tschauko**, Adjunct Assistant Professor at SIPA teaching Strategic Communications in International Organizations. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/stefan-tschauko](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/stefan-tschauko)

**Daniel Naujoks**, Faculty Director, United Nations Partnership Initiative, and director of SIPA's International Organization and UN Studies specialization. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/daniel-naujoks](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/daniel-naujoks)

### [3. Columbia Faculty \(online\)](#)

**Mauricio Cárdenas**, Professor of Professional Practice and Director of the MPA in Global Leadership, Global Senior Research Fellow, Center on Global Energy Policy, Former Minister of Mines and Energy of Colombia. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/mauricio-cardenas](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/mauricio-cardenas)

**Emmanuel Letouzé**, Director and co-Founder of Data-Pop Alliance, an international NGO created in 2013 with the MIT Media Lab and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI) that focuses on the applications and implications of data, statistics, technology and AI for human development, humanitarian action, and democracy, with a strong focus on the Global South. More: [www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/emmanuel-letouze](http://www.sipa.columbia.edu/communities-connections/faculty/emmanuel-letouze)

#### 4. Columbia student experts

**Ashkaan Daneshi**, MPA Candidate in International Security Policy: Intelligence Analysis and MS Candidate in Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (May 2025); thesis on “The Impact of Digital Transformation on Factors of Production, Democracy, and Sustainable Development Goals.” As a digital transformation specialist, he collaborated with the UN AI Lab, the Policy and Programming Branch, and the Resident Coordinator System to craft both short-term and five-year digital transformation strategies.

**Adithi Kumar**, MPH Candidate | Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Heilbrunn Department of Population & Family Health; former youth consultant at HDRO on Digital Transformation and Human Development ahead of the Summit of the Future.

**Riya Yingran Guo**, Master of International Affairs (MIA) Candidate, experience in computer science, data and AI and research assistant for AI on climate change with SIPA professor David Sandalow.

#### 5. UNPI & IO/UNS team

**Laura Dankowski Mercado**, Coordinator, International Organizations & UN Studies, Gender and Public Policy, and Technology, Media and Communication.

**Paloma Camelo**, Master of International Affairs (MIA) Candidate, focusing on Human Rights, Peacebuilding, Cross-Sector Partnerships and Social Impact. Program Assistant, United Nations Partnership Initiative.

**Hannah Barry**, Master of Public Administration in Development Practice (MPA-DP) Candidate specializing in social impact policy and program development; experienced humanitarian response professional. Program Assistant, United Nations Partnership Initiative.

**Himadri Ratnayake**, Master of International Affairs (MIA) Candidate, focusing on the Economic and Political Development, Conflict Resolution, Diplomacy, Peacebuilding, and Humanitarian spheres. Program Assistant, International Organizations and UN Studies Specialization.

**Hanh Angela To**, Master of Public Administration (MPA) Candidate focusing on cybersecurity, diplomacy, and public policy. Program Assistant, International Organizations and UN Studies Specialization.