

Subject: The Forum Bulletin – Transition to Zero Pollution launch event, new online course and more

Bulletin September 2020

Thank you for signing up for The Forum bulletin. The Forum is Imperial's policy engagement programme, connecting our researchers with policymakers.

Please feel free to forward this on to colleagues. If you were forwarded this bulletin you can [sign up here](#).

For advice and support with any policy engagement opportunities, such as submissions to government or Parliament, training and bespoke events, get in touch with [The Forum team](#) and we'll be happy to help.

JOIN THE TRANSITION TO ZERO POLLUTION LAUNCH EVENT

The Forum is supporting the launch of [Transition to Zero Pollution](#), taking place on Wednesday 23 September 2020, 16.30-18.00. We would be delighted for you to join and [you can sign up here](#).

Transition to Zero Pollution is an Imperial initiative that will build new partnerships between research, industry and government - from fundamental science and engineering, systems thinking, human health, new business models, and policymaking - to realise our vision of a sustainable zero pollution future.

The keynote address will be given by Mary Robinson, one of the world's most respected advocates for climate justice, former President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Professor Mary Ryan, Vice-Dean Research (Engineering) and College Champion for Transition to Zero Pollution, will then lead a panel discussion and Q&A with academic and industry leaders.

The event will take place at 16.30-18.00 on Wednesday 23 September via Microsoft Teams.

[Please sign up via Eventbrite](#). You can also [follow us on Twitter](#).

NEW ONLINE POLICY ENGAGEMENT COURSE

The Forum is delighted to introduce our new online course! We have put our top tips on policy engagement for Imperial researchers into the following seven videos. We hope you enjoy them, and please feel free to share with colleagues across the college.

In this first video, we look at why you might like to start engaging with policymakers as a researcher, and how The Forum can help. We also provide a short overview of the course and hear about the value of policy engagement, including some top tips, from Professor Nick Jennings, Dr Ana Mijic, Dr Yves-Alexandre de Montjoye, Dr Julia Makinde and Dr Marc Stettler.

[Embedded video]

The full list of videos is:

1. [Introducing The Forum and policy engagement](#)
2. [Engaging with Parliament as a researcher](#)
3. [Engaging with the Civil Service as a researcher](#)
4. [Engaging with local government as a researcher](#)
5. [Engaging with the European Union as a researcher](#)
6. [Tools for engaging with policymakers – policy briefings](#)
7. [Tools for engaging with policymakers – evidence submissions](#)

NEW POLICY ENGAGEMENT SEMINAR DATES

The Forum organises [internal seminars](#) for Imperial researchers which focus on building political engagement expertise. We are pleased to announce two new dates for our level 1 seminars, which introduce several core policy engagement themes.

We will discuss the policymaking process, key decision-makers, how to influence them and how The Forum can help. Please note this focuses on national policymaking in the UK - we will not cover local or international policy engagement.

Upcoming seminars:

- **14.00-15.30, Wednesday 14 October**, MS Teams
- **14.00-15.30, Tuesday 10 November**, MS Teams

If you would like to attend, please free to [get in touch](#) with your preferred date.

TACKLING STRUCTURAL RACISM

The Forum has published a [new Imperial Stories longread article](#) which takes a detailed look at how the COVID-19 pandemic is exposing structural racism – and what can be done about it. With commentary from Imperial academics including Sonia Saxena, Professor of Primary Care at the School of Public Health and Professor Azeem Majeed, Head of the Department of Primary Care & Public Health at Imperial, this feature article explores why ethnic minority communities are among the hardest hit by COVID19, and how policymakers could respond.

Read the feature: [Two intersecting pandemics: How COVID-19 is laying bare structural racism and what we can do about it](#)

POLICY INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

An exciting opportunity has arisen for PhD students through UK Research and Innovation's (UKRI) [Policy Internship Scheme](#).

The scheme provides the opportunity for doctoral students funded by the research councils of UKRI to **work for three months in one of a selected group of highly influential policy organisations**.

Students will be expected to produce at least one briefing paper, participate in a policy inquiry and/or organise a policy event, or equivalent piece of work. Internships are available with a number of parliamentary departments, government departments and non-governmental bodies, learned societies and other organisations.

[Find out more and apply](#).

The deadline is **10 September 2020** - if you have any further questions, please get in touch with [The Forum](#).

OTHER POLICY ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to submit evidence to a parliamentary inquiry or government consultation, get in touch with [The Forum team](#) for support.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

The Joint Committee on the National Security Strategy's inquiry into **Biosecurity and National Security** is accepting evidence until 7 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on **Combined Heat and Power (CHP): the route to 2050** closes on 4 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy's consultation on **energy-related products closes** on 4 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' consultation on **developing a tree strategy for England** closes on 11 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' consultation on **reducing deforestation in UK supply chains** closes on 5 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs' consultation on a **waste management plan for England** closes on 15 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport and the UK Space Agency's consultation on **spaceport and spaceflight activities** closes on 21 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Transport's consultation on **the Review of The Highway Code** closes on 27 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Department for Health and Social Care's consultation on **front-of-pack nutrition labelling** closes on 21 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Environment Agency's consultation on **river basin planning** closes on 24 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Environment Agency's consultation on **water resources planning** closes on 24 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

HM Revenue and Customs and HM Treasury's consultation on a **carbon emissions tax** closes on 29 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

The Home Office's consultation on **fire safety** closes on 12 September 2020. [Find out more.](#)

NHS Digital's consultation on the clinical Safety of **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** closes on 27 October 2020. [Find out more.](#)

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or would like advice, get in touch with [The Forum team](#).

[Follow us on Twitter](#) for the latest policy opportunities and events.