

Press release



Launched by the Institut français in 2016, the **NIGHT OF IDEAS** is a project staged in Paris, London and across the world.

In these changing and challenging times, when many of us feel the need to share ideas and exchange views, the Night of Ideas provides a platform to reflect upon current issues and rethink tomorrow's world. Crossing French, British and European perspectives on the common theme **REBUILDING TOGETHER**, the NIGHT OF IDEAS will tackle the **latest ideas behind issues** central to our particularly troubled era.

This year's edition will gather 40 leading figures from both sides of the Channel who will take part in free, lively, onsite and online hybrid discussions. Anthropologist **Philippe Descola**, economist **Mariana Mazzucato**, novelist **Elif Shafak** and artist **Zineb Sedira**, to name but a few, will discuss **new ways of rebuilding together**.

We are now collectively aware that we have reached a global socio-economic and environmental crisis. While this state of emergency is redefining our individual rights and reshaping our political ground, it is equally reprioritising the nature of our shared duties as citizens. A collective desire for action and new initiatives is arising: it is becoming increasingly clear that the only way we'll save this world is by rebuilding it, together.

Global crises cause global changes, thereby calling global action: How do we make global decisions together? Against this background, what is the role of the State? Who should the decision-makers be? How do we deal with the new projected prospects and emerging contradicting voices? In this polyphonic and multidimensional context, how can we find a common ground on which we can rebuild together?

The Night of Ideas gathers writers, philosophers, artists, scientists, academics, journalists and students to explore the recent changes in our world and sow the seed of new initiatives.

**UK-wide**, the Institut français d'Ecosse, and the Alliances Françaises of Glasgow and Bristol also take part in the Night of Ideas offering a **programme of free debates**.

In the run-up to the Night of Ideas, a film season, **BEFORE THE NIGHT**, will introduce the different themes while the **LITTLE NIGHT** will invite students from British and French schools to reflect on the main topics.

The Night of Ideas is organised by the Institut français and the French Embassy, in partnership with the Maison française d'Oxford, the Delegation of the European Union to the UK and the European Parliament - Liaison Office in London, the European Institute and the Department of English Language and Literature of the University College of London, the Global Engagement Department of King's College, the Bristol Festival of Ideas, the National Film & Television School, Modern Films, the Institut français d'Ecosse, the Maison française d'Oxford, the Alliances Françaises in Glasgow and Bristol, the Goethe-Institut, the Instituto Cervantes, the Italian Institute, the Austrian Cultural Forum London, the Cyprus High Commission, and the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia and the Lycée français Charles de Gaulle. It is supported by the French Institute's Patrons Circle, EUNIC Global Fund and the Banque Transatlantique, and by Prospect Magazine as media partner.

**Night of Ideas - 27 January 2022 at the Institut français in London & online – Free entrance – Registration, programme & biographies: on [www.nightofideas.co.uk](http://www.nightofideas.co.uk)**

**Press Contact:** Natacha Antolini – [natacha.antolini@institut-francais.org.uk](mailto:natacha.antolini@institut-francais.org.uk) - 020 7871 3520