

Organizers:

Institute of International Relations, Czech. Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University Czech. HiLase, Academy of Sciences, Czech.
Institute of Plasma Physics, Academy of Sciences, Czech. Breakthrough Initiatives, USA.

Global Governance of Large Technical Systems Workshop



Date:	27 September 2019
Location:	Palais Toscan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (map)
Organizers:	IIR, Charles University, Breakthrough Initiatives
Length:	1 day (policy experts and practitioners)
Participation:	up to 40 participants (by invitation)
Outcome:	Edited volume

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DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

At this by-invitation-only workshop, we will discuss:

- the general objectives of the Breakthrough Starshot project and what the experts on global governance and cosmopolitan theory of international relations can do to make it happen,
- how the whole idea can be translated into cosmopolitan responsible nation state foreign policies and the special role of European Union in the world politics in this regard,
- the problem of dual-use technology in space and how to overcome it by the above-mentioned ideas, theories and technological development,
- how, and whether, we can link this massive laser project to the success stories of international scientific collaborations such as CERN and ITER,
- how small states can leverage their legitimate power in international institutions in this regard,
- how we can build a legitimate Planetary Council responsible for overseeing this technology.

After delivering talks focused on the above-mentioned objectives by the respective scholars, we will discuss how we can broaden agenda of scholars, think tanks and policy makers in order to open a global debate whether Large Technical Systems can be stimulative towards cosmopolitan global governance. Here we do not follow technological determinism of the post-WW2 era but rather add a novel normative layer (cosmopolitanism) to the unique technologically feasible humankind endeavor (Starshot) that requires global decision making and the establishment of an overseeing body (Planetary Council).

Potential follow-up to the policy day:

- an edited volume summarizing presented and discussed ideas working as a theoretical and practical handbook for us and possible future colleagues,
- framework for one or more research consortiums in laser technology global governance
- agenda for the Breakthrough Governance Conference 2020, Prague.

International Organizing Committee

Pete Worden, Nikola Schmidt, Ondřej Ditrych