ASK-Y SESSION 1

MEETING MINUTES

October 16th, 2023 12:00-14:00

**Session Title**

Redefining Education: The Pandemic's Impact on E-Learning and the Digital Divide

**Attendees**

Asia Society Korea Staff: Yvonne Kim (Executive Director), Amy Kim (Program Coordinator),

Elisabeth Meissgeier (ASK-Y Staff)

ASK-Y Participants: Alissa Yanik-Woods, Edwyna Kurniawan, François de Navacelle,

Ignacio Barroso Gómez, Jevon Dixon, Zumaro Zumaro

**Introduction**

As the session moderator, Jevon provided an overview of the program before delving into the transformative impact of Covid on education and youth on a broader scale, reserving 10 minutes for each participant to share their research.

**Presentation**

Alissa, currently pursuing dual degrees in Laws and International Relations in Australia, began the session with a brief self-introduction. She delved into her research on the impact of war on education, specifically focusing on mental health and job prospects. Alissa shared her concrete findings, providing valuable context, implications, and suggestions for consideration.

Following Alissa, Edwyna, a Master’s candidate in Development Cooperation at Ewha Womans University, introduced herself before delivering an insightful advocacy piece centered around teachers' and educators' rights, tying it to recent developments in countries like South Korea and Australia.

Next, Ignacio, a recent graduate of International Relations from Rey Juan Carlos University, shared his analysis and thoughts on education and work, emphasizing mental health.

Jevon, currently pursuing a PhD in International Relations at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, shifted the focus to e-education, digitalization, and development. He drew comparisons between developing and developed countries, providing a comprehensive perspective on the subject.

François, a Master’s candidate in Chinese Economics at Peking University, presented a unique perspective on the colonial heritage in French-speaking African countries, examining the intersection with education and recent Chinese investments.

Concluding the presentations, Zumaro, a PhD candidate in Advanced Nuclear Engineering at Pohang University of Science and Technology, addressed the challenges of providing e-learning opportunities in remote areas with limited access to electricity.

**Open Discussion**

Guiding the discussion, Alissa introduced the idea of a potential decline in globalization and directed specific questions, particularly toward François, tapping into his knowledge on China. François offered insights into the proclaimed population decline in China and its potential implications on e-learning, digitalization, and the energy turnaround.

During the discourse, Zumaro expressed his keen interest in cyber warfare and its technological advancements. He highlighted its possible connections to education and e-learning. Alissa honed in on the intersection between the discourses on Chat-GPT and the evolution of AI, particularly exploring the concept of AI developing a "mind of its own." The collective exchange of ideas brought a multifaceted perspective to the table, touching on globalization trends, demographic shifts in China, technological developments, and the evolving nature of artificial intelligence.