ASK-Y SESSION 5

MEETING MINUTES

December 11th, 2023 12:00-14:00

**Session Title**

Fostering Insight and Innovation: ASK-Y 2023 Highlights

**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

**Session 1 & 2 Summary**

Alissa commenced the session by going back to the topic of education and its extensive impact on the global discourse, providing a recap of Session 1. She highlighted the interconnectedness of education, conflict, and e-learning, emphasizing the significance of addressing the digital divide and teachers' rights. Alissa noted that participants explored these issues through case studies, particularly focusing on developing countries. In conclusion, she summarized the findings on e-learning and AI for education, underscoring the potential negative impact on the digital divide.

François provided a brief overview of Session 2 on “War and Peace in the Digital Era.” He concluded the arguments presented by Alissa and Jevon on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, examining aspects such as inevitability, tactics, and legal justification for both sides. The same categories were applied to analyze arguments in the Korean War between North and South Korea, as presented by François and Zumaro. The third discussion centered on the Myanmar Civil War, with Ignacio and Edwyna presenting arguments from the Military Junta and the National Unity Government, respectively. François highlighted the immersive experience in the dynamics of conflict and global politics, expressing the session's utility.

**Session 3 & 4 Summary**

Ignacio provided a review of the agenda for Session 3 with Prof. Pinkston, emphasizing the success of environmental management. He highlighted key factors such as the role of NGOs, leaders/scientific support, the needs of developing countries, the cost of action, and support from major countries. Ignacio underscored the importance of scientific support and societal engagement in environmental management. He also acknowledged the challenges and proposed action steps, advocating for a comparative and country-specific approach while increasing civil society participation.

Edwyna then summarized the agenda for Session 4 with H.E. Michelle Winthrop, emphasizing the necessity of sustainability by examining climate goals and the existing gap between developed and developing countries. She highlighted interconnected issues such as the financial burden and implications of sustainability on education. Edwyna noted that COP28, gender equality, and individual action were the main topics discussed, explaining why sustainability is a critical issue in the present context.

**Podcast**

Jevon expressed appreciation for Professor Mason Richey, summarizing their discussion exploring the possibilities and challenges presented by the digitalization of diplomacy, particularly focusing on the connection between security and diplomacy. The impact of COVID and the collaborative efforts between Washington and Seoul were also highlighted. The podcast delved into the democratization of the digital sphere, examining both its positive aspects and the "dark side," including cyber-attacks.

Referring to the podcast, Zumaro explained that he then explored the topic of quantum computing and its intersection with diplomacy. He emphasized its significance in the context of security cooperation and communication, especially concerning nations like Russia. In conclusion, Zumaro stated that the integration of quantum computing into diplomacy is crucial and will continue to gain importance. He also highlighted Russia's approach to tech-warfare, focusing on information warfare, disinformation, cyber operations, critical infrastructure capabilities, proxy forces and tactics, and political subversion, presenting challenges for Western nations on how to respond.