



SOCIETY FOR PROGRESS

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Academic society awards 8 gold Progress Medals for exemplary practice and research that inspires economic actors worldwide to better integrate economic performance with fairness, well-being, and nature. (www.societyforprogress.org)

Fontainebleau, France – 3 October 2021. The Society for Progress, an intellectually diverse and independent working group of social scientists, philosophers, and business leaders from around the world, has awarded for the third time a set of medals for pioneering contributions to theory and practice in shaping the economic system to better integrate fairness, well-being, and nature.

Reflecting the quest and hope for a more evolved paradigm and practice of capitalism, the 2021 Progress Medals honor contributions by six leaders and two scholars. Laureates are honored with a formal certificate, a gold medal, and, for scholars, a cash award, all funded by donors from around the world.

The eight 2021 laureates and their contributions are as follows:

- For his path-breaking research underscoring the core contemporary issue of labor adjustment in response to developments in trade and technology, the Society awards a Progress Medal to **David Autor**, the Ford Professor of Economics at MIT.
- For being a beacon of moral courage and caring in integrating fairness, inclusion, and well-being at work with stellar innovation and performance, the Society awards a Progress Medal to **Marc Benioff**, founder, Chair, and CEO of Salesforce, the world-leading customer relationship management and cloud computing pioneer.
- For her long-standing and deeply illuminating research on the influence of gender in the labor market, the Society awards a Progress Medal to **Claudia Goldin**, Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University.
- For jointly nurturing an enterprise whose energy and model of beauty enshrine well-being and caring relationships with people, nature, and future, the Society makes a joint award of Progress Medals to **Guilherme Leal**, **Pedro**

Passos, and **Luiz Seabra**, co-chairmen of Natura & Co, the Brazil founded global cosmetics group which today incorporates the Avon, Natura, Body Shop, and Aesop brands.

- For integrating style and sustainability in global fashion; and developing humane materials and methods that honor nature and especially the welfare of animals, the Society awards a Progress Medal to **Stella McCartney**, founder of the eponymous fashion house.
- For his enduring and courageous commitment to placing people and society first, and for exemplifying how business can integrate performance and progress, the Society awards a Progress Medal to **Ratan Tata**, venerated industrialist and former chairman of the Tata Group.

The 2021 nomination and award committee was constituted of six members of the Society for Progress: Elizabeth Anderson, Professor of Philosophy, University of Michigan; Anthony Appiah, Professor of Philosophy, New York University; Gerald Davis, Professor of Business Administration, University of Michigan; John Meyer, Professor of Sociology, Stanford University; Subramanian Rangan, Professor of Strategy, INSEAD; and S.D. Shibulal, co-founder and former CEO, Infosys.

The Progress Medals were inaugurated in 2016. In keeping with the nature of the project and its global relevance, donor funding for the medals comes from esteemed business leaders and entrepreneurs from around the world. They include Frank Brown and Steven Denning, both of General Atlantic, a leading private equity firm in the United States; Oleg Bagrin, Board Member and former CEO of NLMK, Russia; Fadi Ghandour, the Jordanian co-founder of Aramex and Wamda; Sunil Munjal, chairman of Hero Group, India; Dr. Babu Padmanabhan, founder and MD at Steer Engineering, a science-based leader in material transformation; Kumari & S.D. Shibulal, patrons of the Sarojini Damodaran Foundation; Ruben Vardanyan, the Armenian-Russian impact investor, social entrepreneur, and co-founder of RVVZ Foundation; and, from Europe, Rolf Abdon, co-founder and former chairman of Grain Millers, Inc.

The Society for Progress was initiated in 2013 by Subramanian Rangan, professor of strategy at INSEAD, the global business school, and Ebba Hansmeyer, founding director. In conjunction with seminal funding from ADEK (Abu Dhabi's Department of Education and Knowledge), INSEAD has supported the research, meetings, and activities of the Society.

INSEAD Dean Ilian Mihov underlines that the initiative reflects the evolving role of business and business schools everywhere. *"If science must be a force for truth, business and business education must be a force for good."* He adds, *"Pioneering practice and rigorous research are both vital for shaping the future of business, and for developing executives and entrepreneurs who will reliably demonstrate competence and character."*

About the Society for Progress

The Society for Progress is an academically diverse and independent group of scholars and leaders. Its work is based on the belief that integrating perspectives from moral philosophy and moral psychology will help evolve the decentralized economic system (“capitalism”) in a manner that better integrates market and society, humans and nature, and the present and the future. In particular, the Society aspires to contribute to and catalyze rigorous research on how enterprises and all economic actors may better and more systematically integrate performance and progress (see *Performance & Progress: Essays in Business, Society, and Capitalism*, Oxford University Press, 2015; and *Capitalism Beyond Mutuality?* Oxford University Press, 2018). The work of developing better models, methods, and measures for integrating performance and progress can scarcely be accomplished by one mind or even a college of intellectuals. Contributions must come from the best and brightest around the world, and the ideas must be absorbed and developed further not just by policy makers and intellectuals but especially by scholars of enterprise, students of enterprise, and leaders of enterprise. It is in this spirit that the Society for Progress Medals are conceived and awarded.

About INSEAD

INSEAD is one of the world’s leading and largest graduate business schools, with campuses and centers in France, Singapore, Abu Dhabi, and San Francisco. The school brings together people, cultures, and ideas to change lives and to transform organizations. A global perspective and inclusive diversity are reflected in all aspects of the school’s research and teaching. INSEAD’s core value is encapsulated in its motto, “The Business School for the World.”

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Past & present Fellows of the Society for Progress

Philosophy scholars

Elizabeth Anderson (Michigan)
Anthony Appiah (NYU)
Joshua Cohen (Berkeley/ Apple University)
Michael Fuerstein (St. Olaf)
Philip Kitcher (Columbia)
Susan Neiman (Einstein Forum)
Philip Pettit (Princeton/ Australian National University)
Mathias Risse (Harvard)
David Schmidtz (Arizona)
Amartya Sen (Harvard)
Valerie Tiberius (Minnesota)

Social science scholars

The late Kenneth J. Arrow (Stanford), **2013–2017**
David Autor (MIT)
Jay Barney (Utah)
Julie Battilana (Harvard)
Gerald Davis (Michigan)
Robert Frank (Cornell)
Harrison Hong (Columbia)
The late James G. March (Stanford), **2013–2018**
John Meyer (Stanford)
Hilke Plassmann (INSEAD)
Subramanian Rangan (INSEAD)
James Walsh (Michigan)

Business leaders and others

Rabih Abouchakra (Director, Office of Strategic Affairs, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Court)
The late Bertrand Collomb (Former CEO, Lafarge, France), **2013–2019**
Ramon Mendiola (CEO, Florida Ice & Farm Co., Costa Rica)
Ravi Kailas (Founder and Chairman, Mytrah Group, India)
S.D. Shibulal (Co-founder and former CEO, Infosys, India)
Jim Snabe (Chairman, Siemens, Maersk Group; Former co-CEO, SAP; board member World Economic Forum)

SFP Founding Director

Ebba Hansmeyer