



Club Diplomatique de Genève

Fondation pour Genève



## Activity Report 2020



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# Message from the President



Dear Members,

Although less unpredictable and disconcerting than a year ago, the world remains in turmoil and the lines of geopolitics are in motion. The need for a compass is acute. Geneva is one of them. As a unique hub for ideas and experiences, International Geneva is the world's leading center in terms of concentration of international actors and meetings, but also the privileged place where decisions that directly impact the citizens of our planet are formulated. This center of global governance indicates the directions to take in the global disorientation. The Diplomatic Club of Geneva wants to make a modest contribution to this.

Recognized as the official Club of International Geneva by the Swiss Confederation, the Republic and Canton of Geneva, the City of Geneva and the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Diplomatic Club is cherished by decision-makers and opinion leaders who meet there to exchange ideas and discuss current issues, all while developing synergies between their respective institutions and cultivating a network of exclusive relationships.

Thanks to the precious support of the Fondation pour Genève, the Club offers its members twenty or so high-level events every year, highlighting the different facets of International Geneva, whose potential are never-ending to be explored. More than ever, the Diplomatic Club confirms its dynamism with today some 800 members and asserts itself as an essential meeting place.

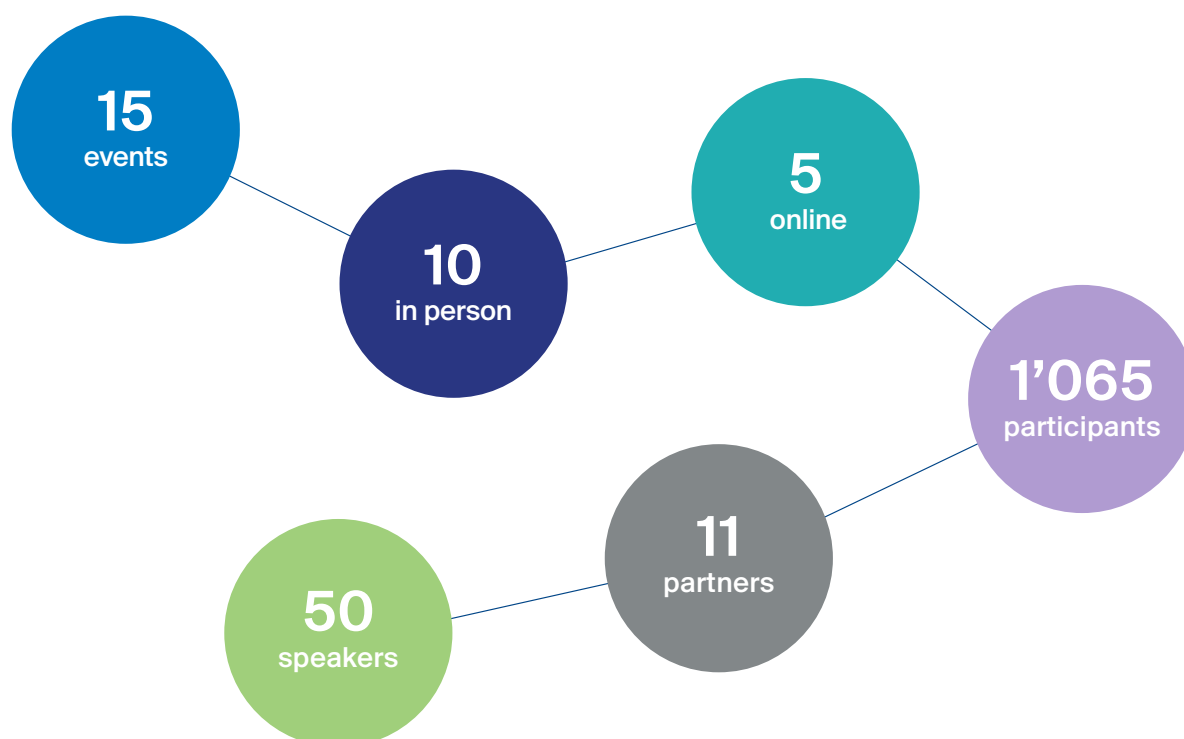
The gratitude of the Committee goes to all those who work day after day to ensure the quality and perfect organization of our events and meetings, especially to the operational team under the leadership of our energetic Secretary-General Alizée Ehrnrooth.

At the end of its 2021 General Assembly, the Diplomatic Club of Geneva wishes to pay tribute to Ivan Pictet, an exceptional personality of Geneva, who during 22 years at the head of the Fondation pour Genève has shown an unwavering commitment to International Geneva. This evening will be an opportunity to express our deep gratitude to his significant contribution while sharing together a moment of conviviality and exchange.

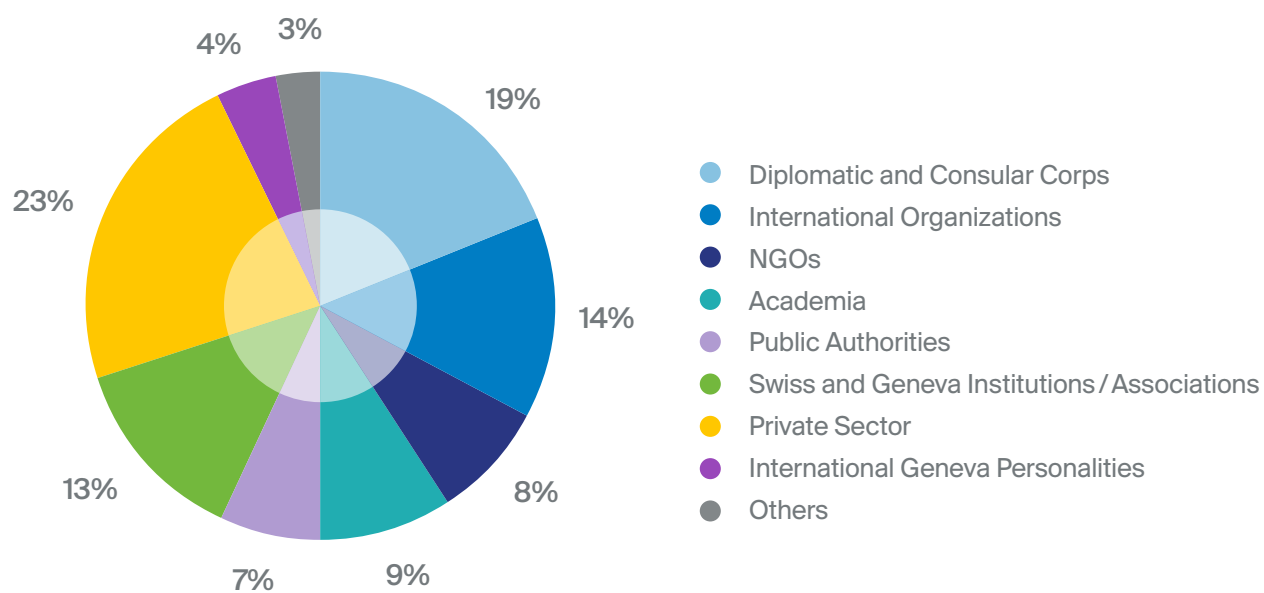
To all of you, thank you for your loyalty and your enthusiasm to sustain the dynamic development of our Club and thus contribute to the influence of this International Geneva that is so dear to our hearts.

Raymond Loretan

## 2020 at a glance



> **793** members



# Highlights 2020



## Diplomatic New Year

28 January 2020

Traditional reception in the presence of the Swiss and Geneva authorities as well as the partners, at the Restaurant Cercle du Rhône of the FER Genève.



## Exclusive Dinner for Women's Rights Day

4 March 2020

Dinner and discussion on "Women in Diplomacy" with five Ambassadors representing the five geopolitical regions of the United Nations, at the Hotel Le Richemond.



## Exclusive Dialogue with Tatiana Valovaya

29 September 2020

Closed-door conversation with the Director-General of the UNOG on "UN75 Shaping the future of multilateralism together", at the InterContinental Hotel.

## Exclusive Dialogue with the Iranian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

25 February 2020

Closed-door conversation with Mohsen Baharvand on "Persian Gulf Diplomacy: an Iranian perspective" followed by a cocktail reception, at the Maison de la Paix.

## Evening in honor of Valentin Zellweger and Philippe Burrin

8 July 2020

General Assembly followed by speeches from the authorities and by a dinner in honor of the Ambassador Valentin Zellweger (Switzerland/UNOG) and the Director Philippe Burrin (The Graduate Institute Geneva), at the Domaine du Château de Collex.



On 22 January 2020, the Diplomatic Club joined the International Gender Champions network with the two following commitments:

1. Achieve the objective of 30% women in the panels of events organized by the Club.
2. Organize at least one event per year that addresses the issue of gender inequality.



# Events 2020



## DEBATE SERIES

### **Antimicrobial resistance: a growing threat to our society**

6 February 2020

Panel Discussion with Stephan Harbath (Professor, HUG), Hanan. H. Balkhy (Assistant Director-General, WHO) and Manica Balasegaram (Executive Director, GARDP) followed by a reception, at the Innovation Centre of the HUG.

### **Luncheon-debate with Scott M. Weber**

13 March 2020

Closed-door Dialogue with the President of Interpeace on the topic "What is the role of International Geneva in the prevention of conflicts?", at Restaurant Maison de la Paix.

### **La gouvernance mondiale après le Covid-19: un rôle pour Genève?**

14 May 2020

Video Conference with Cédric Dupont (Professor, The Graduate Institute Geneva), Béatrice Ferrari (Director International Affairs, State of Geneva) and Michael Møller (Former Director-General, UNOG). In partnership with Genève Vision – RTS.

### **Covid-19, le vaccin sera-t-il accessible à tous?**

16 June 2020

Video Conference with Sylvie Briand (Director Infectious Hazard Management Department, WHO), Thomas Cueni (Director-General, IFPMA) and Ambassador Nora Kronig Romero (Head International Affairs, FOPH). In partnership with Genève Vision – RTS.

### **Exclusive Dialogue with Metin Arditi**

12 October 2020

Presentation of his new novel "Rachel et les siens" followed by a signing session, at the Cercle de la Terrasse. In partnership with the SMLH Suisse.

### **2020 United States Presidential Election**

2 November 2020

Online Debate on the eve of the US presidential election with Charles C. Adams (Democratic Party member) and Edward Flaherty (Former Co-Chair, Republican Abroad Switzerland).

# Events 2020



## MAJOR EVENTS

### **The US: a new age of reconstruction?**

4 November 2020

Online Panel Discussion to decipher the results of the American presidential election and its repercussions at the national and international level. In partnership with The Graduate Institute Geneva and Le Temps.

### **Celebration of the 100 years of multilateralism in Geneva**

15 November 2020

Support to the special broadcast and concert of the Orchestre des Nations to celebrate the centenary of multilateralism in Geneva, on Léman Bleu.

## EXCURSIONS AND DISCOVERIES

### **100 Years of Multilateralism in Geneva**

13 February 2020

Welcome by the Director-General of UNOG followed by a guided tour of the exhibition organized on the occasion of the centenary of multilateralism, at the Palais des Nations.

## SPECIAL EVENT

### **Geneva Welcome Day**

3 September 2020

Meeting with the Host State authorities and the International Geneva support structures, at the Palais Eynard. In partnership with the CAGI, the Swiss Confederation, the State of Geneva, the City of Geneva and the Fondation pour Genève.

*Event reserved for the Permanent Representatives and Heads of International Organizations who have arrived in Geneva since 1 January 2020.*

# Executive Committee

## Swiss Confederation

**Danielle Werthmüller**

Counsellor, Permanent Mission  
of Switzerland to the UNOG

## Republic and Canton of Geneva

**Olivier Coutau**

Delegate for International Geneva

## City of Geneva

**Steve Bernard**

Head, External Relations Office

## International Organizations

**Maurizio Bona**

Senior Advisor for relations with  
Parliaments and Science for Policy,  
CERN

**\* David Chikvaidze**

Chef de Cabinet of the  
Director-General, UNOG

## Fondation pour Genève

**Marc Pictet**

President

**Tatjana Darani**

Secretary-General, Association des  
Amis de la Fondation pour Genève

## International Geneva Welcome Centre

**Salman Bal**

Director, Ambassador

## Diplomatic Missions

**Kadra Ahmed Hassan**

Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Djibouti  
to the UNOG

**Umej Singh Bhatia**

Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Singapore  
to the UNOG

**Gian Lorenzo Cornado**

Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Italy to the UNOG

**\* Carla María Rodríguez Mancia**

Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Guatemala  
to the UNOG

**Alfredo Suescum**

Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Panama to the WTO

## Consular Corps

**Robert Zoells**

Deputy Secretary-General, Association  
of the Consular Corps of Geneva

## Academia

**Marie-Laure Salles**

Director, The Graduate Institute Geneva

**Jacqueline Coté**

Director of Public Relations,  
The Graduate Institute Geneva

**Yves Flückiger**

Rector, University of Geneva

## Private Sector

**\* Olivia Guyot Unger**

Director Legal Advice, Fédération  
des Entreprises Romandes Genève

**Vincent Subilia**

Director-General, Geneva Chamber  
of Commerce, Industry and Services

## Independent Members

**Raymond Loretan**

Former Ambassador of Switzerland,  
President of the Diplomatic Club  
of Geneva

**Georges Gard**

President, GP Fiduciaire SA,  
Treasurer of the Diplomatic Club  
of Geneva

(\* Vice-Presidency)



# Honorary Committee

## **United Nations Office at Geneva**

**Tatiana Valovaya**  
Director-General

## **Swiss Confederation**

**Jürg Lauber**  
Ambassador, Permanent  
Representative of Switzerland  
to the UNOG

## **Republic and Canton of Geneva**

**Nathalie Fontanet**  
State Councillor

## **City of Geneva**

**Sami Kanaan**  
Mayor

## **Fondation pour Genève**

**Marc Pictet**  
President

## **Ad personam**

**Michel Barde**  
Former Director-General of the  
Fédération des Entreprises Romandes  
Genève

**Ruth Dreifuss**  
Former President of the Swiss  
Confederation

**Dominique Föllmi**  
Former President of the State Council  
of the Republic and Canton of Geneva,  
Former President of the Diplomatic  
Club of Geneva

**Fabiola Gianotti**  
Director-General of CERN

**Carlo Lamprecht**  
Former President of the State Council  
of the Republic and Canton of Geneva,  
Former President of the Diplomatic  
Club of Geneva

**Michael Møller**  
Former Director-General of the UNOG

## **François Nordmann**

Former Ambassador of Switzerland,  
Former President of the Diplomatic  
Club of Geneva

## **Ivan Pictet**

Former President of the Fondation  
pour Genève

## **Cornelio Sommaruga**

Former President of ICRC

# Operational Team

**Raymond Loretan**  
President

**Alizée Ehrnrooth**  
Secretary-General

**Alexandre Carvalho**  
Project Officer

# Acknowledgements

**Many thanks to the Fondation pour Genève and its Circle of Donors for their precious support**

## **The banks**

Bordier & Cie  
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Reyl & Cie SA  
UBS Switzerland AG

## **The companies**

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Litasco SA  
LS Travel Retail International SA  
m3 GROUPE  
MKS (Switzerland) SA  
MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company SA  
Procter & Gamble Europe SA  
PSA International SA  
Richemont International SA  
Rolex SA

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Services industriels de Genève

## **The foundations**

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Fondation du Domaine de Villette

## **The patrons**

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Renaud de Planta  
Adam Said  
Jacques de Saussure  
Guy Waldvogel

**as well as other donors who wish to remain anonymous.**

**Many thanks also to the members of the Diplomatic Club of Geneva!**





## **Diplomatic Club of Geneva**

Maison de la Paix  
Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2E  
1202 Geneva  
+41 22 908 43 80

[secretariat@clubdiplomatique.ch](mailto:secretariat@clubdiplomatique.ch)  
[www.clubdiplomatique.ch](http://www.clubdiplomatique.ch)

