

Horasis

Visionary Circle



Barcelona, Spain, 18–20 September 2015

Charting the Currents of Change

Our expertise

Horasis is from ancient Greek meaning ‘to gaze at, as in a vision’.

Horasis is an independent international organization committed to enact visions for a sustainable future. We call ourselves Horasis as we believe in the value of shared purpose, strategic foresight and proactive transformation. We host several large-scale meetings for the world’s best known business leaders per year.

The Horasis Visionary Circle was incorporated in 2013 as a key unit within Horasis itself – an interactive community of the world’s wealthiest and most respected entrepreneurs. We believe that entrepreneurs – by translating visions into action – are the catalysts of economic and societal change.



Creating a unique sphere

Why? We created the Horasis Visionary Circle because the collaborative nature of the 21st century mode of entrepreneurship demands a broader yet intimate dialogue amongst concerned and committed founders. Circle members build relationships and leverage contacts with each other as well with eminent political and thought-leaders who are invited to join the meetings. The Horasis Visionary Circle aims to be the world's most trusted peer-to-peer group of entrepreneurs.

Who? Membership is restricted to 25 founders of the world's leading firms, though seeking further representation from different sectors and geographies. The meetings are exclusive to the members of the Horasis Visionary Circle – substitutes or accompanying persons are not permitted. Members contribute an annual membership fee.

When? The Horasis Visionary Circle meets once per year at an extraordinary venue. The Circle meetings in 2013 and 2014 were held in in Montenegro and China respectively. During the meetings, we scrutinize the most pressing macro-economic, societal, geopolitical and technological issues of our time. The meeting is closed to the public and the press – privacy is key – allowing participants to speak their minds openly and freely. The meetings are held in English.

Charting the Currents of Change

We have chosen *Charting the Currents of Change* as the theme for this Horasis Visionary Circle meeting. The world is suffering from unprecedented levels of uncertainty and a lack of purposefulness. Everywhere we face wars, radicalisation, droughts or floods and a new wave of technological revolution notwithstanding a continuance of financial turmoil. We already see a widening wealth gap between rich workers and the poor unemployed – this may increase as digitisation takes over. This meeting offers an opportunity to study, search out and agree pathways for change. Leadership rather than abrupt regulation is desirable. What routes shall unlock entrepreneurship so we may steer into calmer waters? How can we ameliorate unrest, develop the trust of the people and raise their wealth as well-being will bring its own rewards?

Schedule at a glance

Day 1	18th September
17.00-18.00	Reception on arrival
18.00-19.00	Welcome: Informal discussions
19.00-21.30	Opening Dinner
21.30	Evening Reception
Day 2	19th September
08.00-12.30	Working sessions
13.00-18.00	Excursion, lunch, discussions
19.00-21.00	Dinner
21.30	Evening Discussion
Day 3	20st September
08.00-12.30	Working sessions
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-18.00	Sightseeing
21.00	Cultural Soirée

Our hosts



The 2015 meeting is co-hosted by the world renowned IESE Business School. Some of the functions will be attended by Spanish politicians and other public figures.

Barcelona was founded as a Roman city and has seen many formative changes over the years. The city has a rich entrepreneurial and cultural heritage and is renowned for its architectural works. It is a centre for science, design and commerce, as well as tourism.



Programme

18 September 2015

until 17.00 Arrival via Barcelona airport, and check-in at IESE.

17.00 - 18.00 Registration and Reception

We welcome you to the 2015 meeting of the Horasis Visionary Circle with an early opportunity to share ideas and insights upon arrival.

18.00 - 19.00 The Horasis Visionary Circle

The mission of the Horasis Visionary Circle is to create a trusting peer group of the world's most respected entrepreneurs who will exchange their ideas and visions of the future and communicate these as global change-makers. The 2015 meeting is hosted by IESE Business School. Participants will introduce themselves and discuss the proposition of the Horasis Visionary Circle deliberating how to chart the complexity of global turmoil and to manage the best routes through the potential squalls in financial, material and human resource management.

19.00 - 21.30 Opening Dinner – Global Views and Local Solutions

Threads of complexity wrap themselves around us. We need to be able to cut their knot without falling through thin safety nets. In Spain we are seeing economic revival, and in Barcelona itself there is vibrant growth. What local solutions are pertinent to global issues? How can global players effectively support local entrepreneurship?

from 21.30 Evening Reception

Drinks will be served and conversations continue in an informal setting.

19 September 2015

08.00 - 09.00 Breakfast Session: Responding to Global Risks

The current state of the world is rather gloomy. Global risks are not only interconnected, but also have systemic impacts. What risks are to be ranked by pertinence? How can entrepreneurs create positive change circumventing geopolitical tensions?

09.00 - 10.30 Managing Demographic Change

Populations are changing massively on a global scale. In Africa and Asia it is rising quickly offering a demographic advantage but their rural regions suffer from mal-nourishment and poor education restricting their policy opportunities. The biggest global issue is increasing life expectancy and in the developed world declining birth rates. Policy changes are needed in all nations. How will they be made? Who will be able to offer flexible solutions across national boundaries?

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.30 Making Digital Waves

Phone technology reached the masses slowly; new smartphones permeate in weeks. Companies will soon fully embrace e-commerce and soon will move beyond one channel to embrace multi-payers engaging with customers. The latter will demand, via their digital identity, that organisations deal with them as individual people. This is a vision soon to occur – how will entrepreneurs judge who or what to support?

12.30 - 13.00 Transfer to the Cordonú Cellars

13.00 - 18.30 Exploring Cava

Lunch will be served at the Cordonú winery where we have time to enjoy its sparkling produce and our sparkling conversations – even so, we will conduct a working session. We shall consider the strengths of tradition and long-term associations that support this famous family business as it continues to thrive in our ebullient commercial world.

19.00 - 21.00 Dinner – The People, the State and Democracy

People define a nation through their culture yet they need to be guided by their leaders. How shall we redefine democracy to be a meaningful and more useful concept? Is trade the only mantra, and shall we reinvent a simple market-led world? What are the alternatives?

from 21.00 Evening Discussion – A new Great Game?

New economic alignments could take place: there is a good logic for re-grouping the Americas, conjoining Europe and Africa, and achieving an Asia-Pacific Economic Pact. The difficulties will be enormous, yet benefits huge. Could it happen? Are these pacts needed? Who will steer the discussions?

20 September 2015

08.00 - 09.00 Breakfast Session: Climate Change and Resource Management

We are still very dependent on fossil fuels for our energy production so our global temperature continues to rise. What initiatives to tackle climate change shall the private sector follow? How to espy new technology? And how can governments develop effective public/private partnerships?

09.00 - 10.30 Charting the Unknown

The ancient mariners were brave – going where no one had ventured. We must now emulate them to chart the forces and cut through complexity. Which global mega-trends will shape the future? And what are the future products, industries and related investments?

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.00 The Horasis Visionary Circle: Partnering for the Future

After one and a half days of joint work, we shall address how best the Horasis Visionary Circle might develop concepts. Participants will summarize our discussions and advance suggestions for the future of the Horasis Visionary Circle – of structure, content and membership.

12.00 - 18.30 Sightseeing/Lunch – Exploring Barcelona

We will explore this ancient, and still vibrant city of Barcelona. It is a town of contrasts – with bustling commerce by land, sea and air; with beaches, mountain views and with an architectural style influenced by Antoni Gaudi. There are the Ramblas to explore – with its street entertainers, its shops and its cafes.

19.00 - 21.00 Cultural Soirée

IESE in conjunction with the City of Barcelona invite you to an evening exploring the cultural heritage of Barcelona, and to enjoy its gastronomic delights.

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