United Nations at GovTech.Pioneers & Pioneers'18

Newest Star Speakers Confirmed

Vienna, March 5th, 2018 – We're excited to welcome speakers from the UN to our events in Vienna in May. First, at GovTech.Pioneers on May 23rd, Irakli Beridze of the UNICRI agency will speak about the role of AI and robotics in the UN. Then, at Pioneers'18 on May 24th and 25th, UNICEF's Chris Fabian will present a talk together with the Irish ONE Foundation on how Blockchain can help manage the very topical theme of humanitarian rights and refugees.

Beridze leads the Center for Artificial Intelligence & Robotics at the United Nations Interregional Crime & Justice Research Unit (UNICRI), an agency which promotes national self-reliance and the development of institutional capabilities in the fields of crime prevention and justice. At **GovTech.Pioneers** he'll deliver his talk *AI in the UN: Solving Global Issues and Minimizing Risks.*

"In these times, more and more stakeholders are affected by AI and the awareness among governments rises. While the technology bears huge potentials, it also comes with considerable risks, which we are going to observe and put a spotlight on," explains Beridze. Especially 2 aspects are of relevance for the Pioneers community: firstly providing access to the huge UN network and secondly participating in the educational, training and mentoring programs initiated and organized by the Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics. "For the first time in the history of the UN, we are organizing these courses which take place all over the world."

The next day at **Pioneers'18**, our flagship event at the Hofburg Imperial Palace, attendees can look forward to elements of GovTech within the event's broad programme of breakthrough technologies, the theme for which this year is *Blurred Frontiers.* And here, in keeping with the event's aim to redefine human and technological frontiers, a UN speaker and the strategic head of the Dublin-based ONE Foundation will tackle strategic responses to the refugee crisis.

The global organization will be represented by Christopher Fabian, who co-founded the Innovation Unit at UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund). Chris advises on open-source overlaps of tech, design, development, startups, and academia, and also works with UNICEF Ventures, which co-operates with industries to show how certain technologies could have positive impact on the lives of children.

One of the forward thinkers with whom Fabian is currently working is Lye Ogunsanya, who will be joining him on stage at the Hofburg. Ogunsanya is Portfolio Manager of the ONE Foundation and has initiated several innovation projects in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

Together they work on ground-breaking projects, such as the Humanitarian Change Maker Labs, centered around the Za'atari, one of the biggest refugee settlements in the world, and Azraq refugee camps in Jordan and how latest technologies can create a better life for those living there. Not only will Chris and Lye cover projects with ether-based tokens, but will also talk about the necessary element of empowerment of the people through social entrepreneurship labs. In short: they show how relevant GovTech is nowadays and that it is here to stay.

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Note to the Editors
Media Contact: For further information contact: press@pioneers.io. For more news from the world of Pioneers, visit our blog (http://pioneers.io/blog) or follow us on social media:

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About Pioneers:
Founded in 2009 in Vienna, Pioneers establishes and facilitates direct, meaningful business relationships between startups, corporate executives, and investors to foster growth and innovation. It is the ultimate One-Stop-Hub for global tech innovators to access high-value, curated and qualified data of early and Series A European startups. Pioneers offers various platforms to help redefine industries, develop future technologies and introduce cutting-edge solutions. Its services include digital services, consultancy, ventures services, events and inspirational, tailor-made offline experiences. Its flagship event takes place annually in the 500-year-old Hofburg Imperial Palace in Vienna and brings together a community of 2,500 founders, investors, executives and public sector representatives from over 100 nations. Of all future tech events globally, Pioneers has unparalleled access to European tech leaders. The 2017 edition was awarded with the bea World 'Best Conference/Congress' Award.