



OCTOBER 11-13

COOPERATIVES: THE POWER TO ACT

What is the Outlook for the Economy in a Context of Financial Crises and Social Inequalities?

The Views of Joseph E. Stiglitz, Mark R. Kramer and Robert Reich

Quebec City, April 13, 2016 – For the third edition of the [International Summit of Cooperatives](#), which will take place in Quebec City, Canada, from October 11 to 13, 2016, **Joseph E. Stiglitz**, eminent theoretician and winner of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, **Mark R. Kramer**, FSG co-founder and shared value advocate, and **Robert Reich**, influential economist and former Secretary of Labor under U.S. President Bill Clinton, will analyze the new global socioeconomic and geopolitical realities in order to identify potential solutions to key issues in the 21st century. The talks given by these world-renowned speakers should be of interest to anyone in the business world who wants to promote sustainable economic development.

“We are delighted to welcome these distinguished economic thinkers to the 2016 International Summit of Cooperatives. Their participation speaks to the interest and credibility of the event as a forum for discussing business models and initiatives that can best serve global prosperity, including the cooperative option,” said **Monique F. Leroux**, President of the International Co-operative Alliance and co-host of the International Summit of Cooperatives.

Joseph E. Stiglitz: Inequality – the global economic and geopolitical situation

Professor at Columbia University in the City of New York, Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Bill Clinton, Chief Economist at the World Bank from 1997 to 2000, and author of the highly acclaimed book entitled *The Price of Inequality*, Mr. Stiglitz has long denounced the gap between the rich and the poor, a phenomenon exacerbated by the financial and economic crises. He presents ways to reverse this trend, which democratic societies have been unable to do despite the expectation that they should be moving in a direction with everyone's interests in mind.

Mark R. Kramer: Contributing to both social progress and economic success – shared value

Senior Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School, Mark R. Kramer lives in Washington, D.C., and is the Founder and Managing Director of the FSG consulting firm. While advising businesses on strategies for adapting to social change, he noticed that they are increasingly aware that their success is inextricably tied to their social and environmental initiatives. He will explain how creating value for society overall promotes growth in a sustainable manner.

Robert Reich: In favour of restructuring the global economic and political system

Professor of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley who had served under three U.S. administrations, Robert Reich has widely shared his thoughts about the importance of a prosperous middle class in his books and articles, and in his documentary entitled *Inequality for All*. According to him, only greater equality in the distribution of income can give the middle class back its purchasing power and stimulate growth. A look at essential restructuring as seen by one of the top U.S. opinion-makers.

For additional information about Summit activities or to register: www.intlsummit.coop

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About the International Summit of Cooperatives

The International Summit of Cooperatives is the world's leading event for business development in the cooperative and mutual community. It offers managers, decision-makers and leaders of cooperative and mutual enterprises of all sizes and in all sectors, as well as anyone in the world of business, a unique venue for reflection, discussion, cooperation and training on major trends, as well as on current and future economic and financial issues. By demonstrating that cooperatives are one answer to the major socioeconomic issues of our times, the Summit aims to promote and foster the development of cooperative enterprises in all countries. The event attracts more than 3,000 participants from 93 countries.

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Marie-Josée Gauvin
International Summit of Cooperatives
+ 1-514-845-8222, extension 222
media@intlsummit.coop

Jan Schiettecatte
International Co-operative Alliance
+ 32 2 743 10 30, Mobile: + 32 478 84 51 30
schiettecatte@ica.coop

