



MUNK DEBATES LAUNCHES SECOND SEASON OF ACLAIMED RADIO PROGRAM DEDICATED TO CIVIL AND SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE

40 weekly original one-on-one debates will explore the big issues of our time

Debaters include David Brooks, Julianne Malveaux, Rahm Emanuel, Mehdi Hasan, Bret Stephens, Kimberley Strassel, Samantha Power, Alondra Cano, and many more

Toronto, Canada (July 1, 2020) – [The Munk Debates](#), one of the world's leading forums for top thinkers to debate the pressing issues of our time, today announced the launch of the second season of its weekly radio program and podcast featuring civil and substantive one-on-one debate.

The second season programming will tackle the critical issues of day from U.S.-China tensions, to the future of democracy, to the fallout of the 2020 US elections. **Starting July 2020**, Season Two consists of 40 episodes – one each week through June 2021— including audio versions of classic main stage Debates featuring [Christopher Hitchens](#), [Henry Kissinger](#), [Maureen Dowd](#), [Malcom Gladwell](#) and many more.

"We are living in a politically charged and socially divisive time, where we have largely forgotten the art of public debate," says [Rudyard Griffiths](#), organizer and moderator, Munk Debates. "By convening smart and civil debate on challenging topics, our podcast not only helps people understand the issues driving public debate, it fosters the informed and respectful conversations we urgently need to be having."

Like the iconic main stage Munk Debates in Toronto that regularly draw over 3000 attendees, its eponymous radio program and podcast features two debaters with sharply different points of view going head-to-head on a compelling topic. Each episode provides listeners with both sides of a debate so they can make up their own mind, free of spin, focused on the facts, and inspired by smart conversation.

In its first season the program was picked up as weekly radio program by **Bell Media in Canada** and on **WBFO/NPR in the United States**. It has 5.0 ranking in Apple Podcast App and over 500k in downloads.

Recent **Munk Debates audio** episodes include:

- ***Be it resolved, it is time to defund police and reimagine public safety in our communities.***
Minneapolis council person [Alondra Cano](#) VS [Deputy Chief Wayne Harris](#) of the Rochester Police
[LISTEN HERE](#)
- ***Be it resolved, the #MeToo movement has gone too far.***
[Donna Rotunno](#), Harvey Weinstein's lawyer, VS veteran NYC sex crimes prosecutor [Jane Manning](#)
[LISTEN HERE](#)

- ***Be it resolved, COVID-19 and its social and economic fall out spells the end of the big city boom.***
Urbanist [Richard Florida](#) VS [Joel Kotkin](#) “America’s uber-geographer” according to the NYTIMES
[LISTEN HERE](#)
- ***Be it resolved, the COVID-19 pandemic proves that globalization is a failed experiment.***
Oxford professor and leading expert [Ian Goldin](#) VS globalization skeptic [Marshall Auerback](#)
[LISTEN HERE](#)
- ***Be it resolved, justice demands the payment of reparations for the victims of slavery***
Economist and political commentator [Julianne Malveaux](#) VS Quillette’s [Colman Hughes](#)
[LISTEN HERE](#)

Over forty produced audio programs can be listened to on the Munk Debates’ website [here](#).

Examples of listener [reviews](#) of Season One (5 star rating on Apple Podcasts with 140 reviews) include:

Really appreciate this

Careful thoughtful debate. Such a rare bird right now. More of this. I learn from both sides and my understanding gets clearer. And that allows us to pursue solutions that actually work.

Keep it coming

Simply the best podcast out there. I’m especially enjoying the dialogues. The perspectives and depth and breadth of insight is a refreshing break from the partisan mainstream media. Thank you, thank you!

Intelligent and provocative

One of the absolutely best podcasts around. Civil dialogue to help you move outside your echo chamber and get the other perspective. Smart people, great setup and

Civil, Substantive and Fascinating

What more do you want?!

More About The Munk Debates

Since 2008, the Munk Debates have convened bi-annual debates in front of live audiences in Toronto that are broadcast across Canada and the United States on television and radio. Previous Munk Debate participants include Tony Blair, Henry Kissinger, Christopher Hitchens, Samantha Power, Paul Krugman, Fareed Zakaria, Stephen Fry, Jordan Peterson, Steve Bannon, Mia Farrow. The Munk Debates are a project of the Aurea Foundation, founded in 2006 by Peter and Melanie Munk to support public discussion and debate of the challenges and opportunities facing humankind. The live series is the basis of its podcast and radio program which launched worldwide on November 27, 2019. The audio program pairs top pundits of opposing views debating the most important issues of the time. The series’ episodes are recorded in studio and remotely, and released on a weekly basis. More about the debates and the new series here: <https://munkdebates.com>.

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