



**PMAC** | PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE **2022**

## **OPENING SESSION**

**KEYNOTE SESSION - ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION**

## | BACKGROUND

For the Keynote Session of PMAC 2022, the live armchair conversation will replace the usual series of keynote speeches. The armchair conversation will be the highlight of this event, with world top class speakers discussing about “THE WORLD WE WANT: Actions Towards a Sustainable, Fairer and Healthier Society”. In the armchair conversation, the speakers will each give a brief 5-minute speech, then the moderator will ask questions.

## | OBJECTIVES

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Keynote

## Michelle Bachelet

*United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and Former President of Chile*

Chile

Michelle Bachelet is the current United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Ms. Bachelet was elected President of Chile on two occasions (2006 – 2010 and 2014 – 2018). She was the first female president of Chile. She also served as Health Minister (2000-2002) as well as Chile's and Latin America's first female Defense Minister (2002 – 2004).

During her presidential tenures, she promoted the rights of all but particularly those of the most vulnerable. Among her many achievements, education and tax reforms, and the creation of the National Institute for Human Rights and the Museum of Memory and Human Rights stand out. So do the establishment of the Ministry of Women and Gender Equality, the adoption of quotas to increase women's political participation, and the approval of Civil Union Act legislation, granting rights to same sex couples and thus, advancing LGBT rights.

Since the early 1990s, Ms. Bachelet has worked closely with many international organizations. In 2010 she chaired the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group, a joint International Labor Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO) initiative, which sought to promote social policies to stimulate economic growth and social cohesion.

In 2011, she was named the first Director of UN Women, an organization dedicated to fighting for the rights of women and girls internationally. Economic empowerment and ending violence against women were two of her priorities during her tenure. She has recently pledged to be a Gender Champion, committing to advance gender equality in OHCHR and in international fora.