

COUNCIL *on* FOREIGN RELATIONS

Musimbi Kanyoro

Musimbi Kanyoro is the chair of the United World Colleges international board. She is a global leader in philanthropy, governance, and social change. She also serves as an independent member of the London School of Economics Council, chair of the Women's Learning Partnerships board, and a member of the UN Global Compact and CARE International boards.

Dr. Kanyoro was president and CEO of the Global Fund for Women (2011–2019), where she helped grow the foundation's resources to \$150 million. Before that, she served as general secretary of the World YWCA, making history as the first non-white leader in the organization's 150-year history. Under her leadership, the YWCA ensured that more than 50% of its top leadership positions were held by young women under the age of 40. Dr. Kanyoro has also held leadership roles with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Lutheran World Federation.

She is a widely published author, having written, edited, and coedited numerous books and articles on gender, human rights and development. She received her doctorate in linguistics from the University of Texas in Austin and was a visiting scholar in Hebrew and the Old Testament at Harvard University. She also obtained a doctorate of ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary.