

## Press release

Berlin, June 29, 2022

# ESMT Berlin: Raji Jayaraman named academic director of FUTURE Institute for Sustainable Transformation

**ESMT Berlin has named Raji Jayaraman, ESMT associate professor of economics and a sustainable development expert, the academic director of FUTURE Institute for Sustainable Transformation. She will take up this position on September 1, 2022.**

The FUTURE Institute for Sustainable Transformation was launched by ESMT, Futury, and the Werte-Stiftung in Glasgow at COP26 in 2021 to support business and society in their transformation to sustainability. As the institute's academic director Raji Jayaraman will promote research with an emphasis on finding the balance between economic prosperity on the one hand and environmental preservation and social equity on the other.

"When you talk to people about sustainability, the focus is almost always exclusively on climate and the environment, but sustainable transformation encompasses so much more," says Raji Jayaraman. "The UN defines sustainable development as 'development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. In order to foster sustainable transformation, we need new knowledge in the form of practice-driven research that has a firm eye on the future and takes the needs of stakeholders from all regions of the world into consideration."

A Canadian citizen and Indian national, Raji Jayaraman has spent most of her professional life in Germany. She first joined ESMT in 2007. She received her MA from Yale University, her PhD from Cornell University, and has worked at the University of Munich and University of Toronto. She is not only a proven researcher who publishes in top international journals, but also an award-winning teacher. A true global citizen, she has lived and worked on four continents.

"Society and companies cannot be sustainable without taking a global view. With her academic pedigree and her multicultural background, Raji Jayaraman is ideally placed to expand the international scope of the FUTURE Institute," says Jörg Rocholl, president of ESMT. "I would like to thank ESMT dean of faculty and research Tamer Boyaci for his interim leadership of the institute."

Ola Källenius, chairman of the board of management, Mercedes-Benz Group, and chairman of the ESMT Foundation board of trustees, comments, "As one of the initial supporters of the FUTURE Institute, we are pleased to see the great progress the institute has made. In less than a year, it has won great corporate partners and has also increased its academic footprint. We are confident that the FUTURE Institute will continue to thrive under the academic leadership of Raji Jayaraman."

### **About ESMT Berlin**

ESMT Berlin is the highest ranked business school in Germany and top 10 in Europe. Founded by 25 leading global companies, ESMT offers master's, MBA, and PhD programs, as well as executive education on its campus in Berlin, in locations around the world, online, and in online blended format. Focusing on leadership, innovation, and analytics, its diverse faculty publishes outstanding research in

top academic journals. Additionally, the international business school provides an interdisciplinary platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. ESMT is a non-profit private institution of higher education, accredited by AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and FIBAA, and is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across all its activities and communities. [www.esmt.berlin](http://www.esmt.berlin)

**Press contact**

Martha Ihlbrock

+49 175 939 0728

[martha.ihlbrock@esmt.org](mailto:martha.ihlbrock@esmt.org)