On Campus

The Nordic Path to Sustainability

Finnish prime minster Sanna Marin visited Columbia earlier this year.

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Sanna Marin. (Columbia University)

Sanna Marin, Finland's thirty-four-year-old prime minister, came to Columbia to participate in its World Leaders Forum on March 6. In discussing her country's aggressive efforts to become carbon-neutral by 2035, she argued that, with proper planning, economic prosperity and equality can be achieved in tandem with environmental sustainability.

"This is where the Nordic model comes to bear," she said. "I believe that open markets, robust social security, and a good-quality public health-care system are just as essential to change as our energy [policy], taxation, and carbon pricing.

These elements, together with free education, help to ensure that during challenging times, one can focus on seeking new opportunities.”

Watch Marin's full speech



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