



XXV INTERNATIONAL LISBON CONFERENCE

Centro Cultural de Belém | Almada Negreiros Room 4-5 December 2007

Europe and Africa in a Multipolar World

Thematic Programme

The XXV International Lisbon Conference organized by the Institute for Strategic and International Studies will address the theme *Europe and Africa in a Multipolar World*. The Conference will take place on the eve of the II European Union - Africa Summit, where a Joint Strategy and a Plan of Action are expected to be approved.

The Conference will primarily look at: values in Euro-African dialogue; multipolarity and multilateralism; peace and security; integration and regionalism; development and commodities; democratic governance and foreign aid; the role of civil society in strategic partnerships.

The different panels will take due consideration of the linkage between security, development and governance, as well as of the debate over values, interests and criteria for joint actions by the European Union and Africa. The role of regional organizations, state institutions and civil society will also be taken into account in various sessions.

The creation of a network of European and African international relations and development institutes will be presented in a special panel. This network intends to contribute with research and concrete proposals for the debate on themes of strategic importance in the relationship between the two continents. It also aims at increasing the role and ownership of civil society in Europe-Africa strategic partnerships and dialogue.

10h00

The role of values in Euro-African dialogue

The balance between fundamental values (human rights, democracy, rule of law) and interests in Europe-Africa relations. Is there coherence in the way these values are advocated and the treatment of minorities, migrants, or refugees in Europe or Africa?

14h30

Multipolarity and multilateralism

The European Union and the African Union in a world of multipolar asymmetries. Taking into account the policies of some of the major actors in the international system – the US, China, Russia, Brazil, India, and South Africa – what role is there for multilateralism today?

16h30

Peace and security

Humanitarian disasters, terrorism and threats to international security. What kind of cooperation between the European Union and Africa for the resolution of violent conflicts and the promotion of peace?

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09h30

Integration and regionalism

Integration and regionalism in Europe and Africa. What is the impact on African regional organizations of the divergences in their architecture vis-à-vis that of the *Standby Force* and the Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU.

11h30

Development and commodities

The competition over raw materials and energy (oil, gas, coal, uranium, bio-fuel), and the role of external and internal actors (states, companies). Does this bear comparison with the end of the XIX century?

14h30

Democratic governance and foreign aid

The impact of external action on democratic governance. Is there a linkage between the criteria for full membership of the European Union and the criteria for foreign aid (conditionalities) to the African countries?

16h30

Closing session and Special Panel: Civil society in strategic partnerships

Civil society in European Union - Africa Strategic Partnerships. What role for Euro-African networks in the debate, follow-up and development of new proposals regarding the strategic priorities in the joint agenda?