

STRATEGIC AND POLICY RESPONSES TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY

African Futures Conference

Thursday 14 November 2019, 9:00-16:00

World Bank Group Paris Office, Room A, 66, Avenue d'Iéna 75116 Paris, France

The European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) and the World Bank are delighted to co-organise the “African Futures Conference” in Paris on 14 November 2019. Following up to the Paris Peace Forum, the purpose of this event is to discuss socio-economic, conflict and other structural trends affecting peace and prosperity in Africa by 2030. Discussions will inform the development of appropriate strategic and policy responses to mitigate drivers of fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) while maximising opportunities for shared prosperity and continental economic integration.

Against this backdrop, the event will gather stakeholders representing governments, international organisations, civil society, expert communities and the private sector to engage in a constructive and energising conversation on forward-looking approaches and strategies for Africa. Presentations and panel discussions will revolve around two complementary initiatives: The World Bank's forthcoming FCV Strategy, and the official launch of the African Futures 2030 task force established by the EUISS together with African and European institutions.

The conference agenda is listed below. Registration is mandatory for all participants and the event will take place under Chatham House Rule. To register, please use the following link: [Registrations African Futures Conference](#). **A valid ID will be required to access the venue.**

PROGRAMME

09:00-09:30

Registration and Breakfast

09:30-09:45

OPENING REMARKS

Gustav LINDSTROM, Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Mario SANDER VON TORKLUS, Special Representative and Director for Europe, External and Corporate Relations, World Bank Group

09:45-10:00

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Jean-Pierre BAT, Chargé de mission for Africa, Centre d'Analyse, de Prévision et de Stratégie, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France

10:00-11:15

ROUNDTABLE I - HOW MANY FUTURES FOR AFRICA? LONG-TERM SCENARIOS AND POLICY CHALLENGES

This roundtable will look into long-term forecasting and expectations for human development, economic growth, and socio-political change in Africa over the next four decades. It will discuss different scenarios (and their combined impact) ranging from demographic dividend to improved education, and outline policy options to foster prosperity in Africa.

Moderator: **Giovanni FALEG**, Senior Analyst, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Speaker: **Jakkie CILLIERS**, Head of African Futures and Innovation team, Institute for Security Studies

Discussants: **Mesfin GEBREMICHAEL**, Assistant Professor, Addis Ababa University, Institute for Peace and Security Studies; **Joachim ISACSSON**, Assistant Head Futures, Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre, UK Ministry of Defence; **Norman SEMPIJJA**, Head of Research, Thinking Africa

11:15-11:30

Coffee Break

11:30-12:45

ROUNDTABLE II - AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION: WHAT'S IN A MEGATREND?

This roundtable will unpack continental economic integration and free trade in Africa, chosen by the African Futures task force as a key megatrend driving transformations in the next ten years. Discussions will focus, in particular, on factors that will affect integration outcomes, by facilitating or hampering its implementation, from digitalisation to climate change.

Moderator: **Paul M. BISCA**, Security and Development Consultant, World Bank Group

Speaker: **Sean WOOLFREY**, Policy Officer, European Centre for Development Policy Management

Discussants: **Luca BARANA**, Researcher, Istituto Affari Internazionali; **Enrico CALANDRO**, Senior Researcher, Research ICT Africa; **Melanie ROBINSON**, Futures Analyst, Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre, UK Ministry of Defence

12:45-13:30

Buffet Lunch

13:30-14:30

PATHWAYS TOWARDS PEACE AND PROSPERITY:

THE NEW STRATEGY OF THE WORLD BANK GROUP FOR FRAGILITY, CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE

In April 2019, the World Bank Group launched global consultations to inform the development of its first strategy for Fragility, Conflict & Violence (FCV). This session will present the main aspects of the World Bank's forthcoming strategy, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A.

Moderator: **Katariina MUSTASILTA**, Senior Associate Analyst, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Speaker: **Olivier LAVINAL**, Programme Manager, World Bank Group

Discussants: **Giuseppe FAMÀ**, EU Relations Manager, Crisis Group; **Alex VINES**, Head of Africa Programme, Chatham House

14:30-14:45

Coffee Break

14:45-15:45

CONNECTING THE DOTS: FROM STRATEGY TO POLICY RESPONSES

This final session will discuss how to turn strategic foresight into policy responses to foster peace and prosperity, exploring new forms of cooperation among international actors to achieve sustainable development goals, in light of the projected course of African development.

Moderator: **Fabrizio TASSINARI**, Executive Director, European University Institute, School of Transnational Governance

Speakers: **Michel BOTZUNG**, Manager, Fragile and Conflict Situations Africa, International Finance Corporation; **Jonathan MARLEY**, Policy Analyst Crisis and Fragility, OECD; **Philippe VAN DAMME**, Advisor, Africa Managing Directorate, European External Action Service

15:45-16:00

CLOSING REMARKS

Florence GAUB, Deputy Director, European Union Institute for Security Studies

CONCEPT NOTE

RETHINKING THE NEXT DECADE FOR AFRICA: THE EUISS TASK FORCE ON AFRICAN FUTURES AND THE WBG STRATEGY FOR FRAGILITY, CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE

Addressing fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) is a key factor driving African futures. By 2030, at least half of the world's poor people will be living in fragile and conflict-affected settings, most of which are today located in Africa. Indeed, from the multi-dimensional security and development crisis in the Sahel, to the Ebola epidemic in Eastern Congo and the persistence of internecine struggles in Somalia and Libya, fragility and conflict are part of Africa's present. But Africa today is also a continent in transformation, witnessing fast-paced political, economic, and technological progress, which is profoundly changing its societies and institutions. How will these trends define peace and prosperity in Africa over the next decade?

Against this backdrop, the main objective of the EUISS African Futures 2030 Task Force is to reflect on trends affecting the future of Africa in the next ten years. Based on integrated data analysis and backcasting strategic foresight methodology, this initiative looks into factors that can mitigate the risks and maximise opportunities of free trade in Africa, contributing to reshape EU-Africa relations, while taking into account new geopolitical realities and the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The final report, to be published in November 2020, will define a desirable scenario of what economic integration in Africa would look like in 2030, working backwards to identify policies and programmes that connect that specific outcome to the present, hence outlining factors that can work as facilitators or obstacles. Overall, the task force should provide options for policy innovation or adaptation, aimed at mitigating the negative impact of transformation and maximising the opportunities to foster shared and sustainable growth.

Moreover, the World Bank Group's FCV Strategy aims to identify a conceptual and operating framework and a set of priority actions until 2025, with the ultimate goal of developing a more systematic approach to strengthen the WBG's support to partner countries and vulnerable populations. Recognising the suffering of those affected by FCV, and lost opportunities that can span generations, the Strategy will more clearly identify both what to do and how the institution can adapt to deliver to those in greatest need. It will discuss how to scale-up development efforts to address the underlying drivers and enhance impact in FCV settings.

Both the EUISS task force and the World Bank's forthcoming FCV Strategy are designed to guide policymakers rethinking and preparing for the future. As such, the **African Futures Conference** will gather stakeholders representing governments, international organisations, civil society, expert communities and the private sector to engage in a constructive and energising discussion on forward-looking approaches and strategies for Africa. Building on these two initiatives, the conference will explore scenarios, megatrends, and strategic policy responses to promote peace and prosperity in Africa.

AFRICAN FUTURES 2030 TASK FORCE PARTNERS



INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND SECURITY STUDIES
ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY