

# AFTERMATH OF WAR IN EUROPE

THE WEST VS.
THE GLOBAL SOUTH?

LEN ISHMAEL, Editor



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# **List of Acronyms**

ADMM ASEAN Defense Minister Meeting
AfCFTA African Continental Free Trade Area

AfDB African Development Bank

ADFC African Diaspora Finance Corporation
AKP Justice and Development Party's

AFPM American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers

AFSM African Financial Stability Mechanism
AFRICOM Special Operations at Africa Command
AIIB Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank
AOIP ASEAN Outlook for Indo Pacific
ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations

AUKUS Australia, United Kingdom, and United States' alliance

BIS Bureau of Industry and Security

BJP Bharatiya Janata Party

BNDES National Economic and Social Development Bank

BRI Belt and Road Initiative

BRICS Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa

CAATSA Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act

CAF Development Bank of Latin America
CARI China-Africa Research Initiative

CBAM Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

**CBJ** Congressional Budget Justification for Foreign Operations

CCP Chinese Communist Party
CEO Chief Executive Officer

CH4 Methane

CICDA China International Cooperation Development Agency

CIPS Cross Border Interbank Payment System

CMR Conflict Minerals Regulation

CO2 Carbon DioxideCoC Code of Conduct

CPC Chinese Communist Party

CPEC China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

**CS3D** Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive

CSP Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
DSSI Debt Service Suspension Initiative
DSA Debt Sustainability Analysis

EAC East African Community

EAS East Asia Summit

EFTA European Free Trade Area
ELI Export-Led Industrialization

**EMDEs** Emerging Markets and Developing Economies

EPC European Political Community
ETS Emission Trading System

EU European Union

EUCAP European Union Capacity Building Mission

EV Electrical Vehicle

FDI Foreign Direct Investment
FIF Financial Intermediary Fund
FLR Forced Labour Regulation

FSH Food Security

FSS Food Self-Sufficiency
FSY Food Sovereignty
FTA Free Trade Agreement

GATT General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

GDP Gross Domestic Product

GHG Green House Gas

GPS Global Positioning System
GVCs Global Value Chains
HFCs Hydrofluorocarbons

HIPC Heavily Indebted Poor Countries

ICT Information and Communications Technology

IDA International Development Association

ICJ International Court of Justice

IFFs Illicit Financial Flows

IIRSA South American Regional Infrastructure Integration

IMF International Monetary FundIOCs International Oil Companies

IPCEI Important Project of Common European Interest

ISI Import-Substitution Industrialization IDB Inter-American Development Bank

IPEF Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity

ISIS Islamic State of Irak and Syria
LAC Latin American and Caribbean
LDC Least Developed Countries
LMC Lancang Mekong Cooperation

LNG Liquefied Natural Gas
LPG Liquefied Petroleum Gas

LULUCF Land Use and Land Use Change and Forestry

MBS Mohammed Bin Salman

MDBsMultilateral Development BanksMDRIMultilateral Debt Relief InitiativeMERCOSURSouthern Common Market

MFN Most Favored Nation

MTS Multilateral Trading System

MINUSMA United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission

in Mali

N20 Nitrous Oxide

NAFTA North American Free Trade Agreement

NAM Non-Aligned Movement

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NF3 Nitrogen Trifluoride
NDB New Development Bank
NSS National Security Strategy

NOx Nitrogen Oxide

**ODI** Outbound Direct Investment

OECD Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

OPEC Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

PFCs Perfluorocarbons

**PPP** Purchasing Power Parity

PPR Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response

PPRFIF Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Financial

Intermediary Fund

PRC People's Republic of China

PRGT Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust
QUAD Quadrilateral Security Dialogue

RCEP Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership

**RECs** Regional Economic Communities

RIC Russia-India-China RUW Russia-Ukraine War

Sco Shanghai Cooperation Organization

SCS South China Sea

SDR Special Drawings Rights

SDT Special and Differential Treatment

SF6 Sulphur Hexafluoride SOEs State-owned enterprises

SPFS Financial Messaging System of the Bank of Russia

SSA Sub-Saharan Africa

SWIFT Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication

UAE United Arab Emirates
UAV Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

UN United Nations

UNASUR Union of South American Nations

UNCTAD United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNGA United Nations General Assembly UNSC United Nations Security Council

UK United Kingdom

USA United States of America

USAID US Agency for International Development

USD United States Dollar

USMCA United States Mexico Canada Agreement

USSR Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
VEOs Violent Extremist Organizations
WHO World Health Organization
WFP World Food Programme

WTI West Texas Intermediate
WTO World Trade Organization

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# About the Policy Center for the New South

The Policy Center for the New South (PCNS) is a Moroccan think tank aiming to contribute to the improvement of economic and social public policies that challenge Morocco and the rest of Africa as integral parts of the global South.

The PCNS pleads for an open, accountable and enterprising "new South" that defines its own narratives and mental maps around the Mediterranean and South Atlantic basins, as part of a forward-looking relationship with the rest of the world. Through its analytical endeavours, the think tank aims to support the development of public policies in Africa and to give the floor to experts from the South. This stance is focused on dialogue and partnership, and aims to cultivate African expertise and excellence needed for the accurate analysis of African and global challenges and the suggestion of appropriate solutions.

As such, the PCNS brings together researchers, publishes their work and capitalizes on a network of renowned partners, representative of different regions of the world. The PCNS hosts a series of gatherings of different formats and scales throughout the year, the most important being the annual international conferences "The Atlantic Dialogues" and "African Peace and Security Annual Conference" (APSACO).

Finally, the think tank is developing a community of young leaders through the Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders program(ADEL) a space for cooperation and networking between a new generation of decision-makers from the government, business and civil society sectors. Through this initiative, which already counts more than 300 members, the Policy Center for the New South contributes to intergenerational dialogue and the emergence of tomorrow's leaders.

www.policycenter.ma

# **Preface**

This publication provides an insight into the lens through which countries of the Global South view the current period of successive crises, brought about by an ongoing global pandemic and a war in Europe. It highlights how the combined weight of history, culture, and geography has shaped the Global South's interests and is influencing its foreign policy stance during one of the most dangerous periods of Great-Power competition in recent times—one that could see the fracturing of the world into different blocs.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, and the Western sanctions imposed in retaliation, have unleashed a domino-like sequencing of effects and consequences, not only for the two countries at war, but for the world. The war has come on the heels of more than two years of a pandemic that has affected global supply chains and output, and has impacted the world's poorest countries even more severely. The World Bank estimates that developing countries added at least 45% of new debt to already unsustainable burdens, in an effort to manage the health crisis and deal with its most egregious economic and social effects. Millions have been pushed back into poverty. Debt repayments, suspended for a short period at the height of the pandemic, resumed in 2022 with stark warnings from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) about the debt-distressed situation of several countries. Zambia and Mali have defaulted on their sovereign debts, so has Sri Lanka, for the first time in its history. Others are on the brink.

The consequences of default are significant. Default affects a country's ability to access capital markets. It increases the cost of borrowing, undermines investor confidence, exerts downward pressure on the local currency and can lead to the roll back of years of working towards gains in the delivery of social goods and services. Egypt has devalued its currency as a precursor to its recent request for standby facilities from the IMF. This will impact prices, inflaming already heightened social tensions. Tunisia has reached preliminary agreement with the IMF for a \$1.9 billion loan. Inflationary pressures, and soaring food and energy prices associated with the effects of the war, have exacerbated an ongoing crisis first precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. These two crises and their combined effects have dimmed, even further, prospects for global economic recovery, with no end in sight.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has united the western world more swiftly and robustly than expected, and has strengthened the resolve of the transatlantic partners to stay the course in a relationship that, even under the Biden Administration has proven to be challenging. There is a sense of fierce reaffirmation of the ideals that bind Atlantic partners to each other, to NATO, and to their allies. Yet there is also a sense that the world order in place since the Second World War is being upended, and trends that were emerging at the beginning of the pandemic have now coalesced and are accelerating.

Countries of the Global South and some others have mostly declined to implement Western sanctions against Russia. They represent more than half of the world's population and their shares of global economic resources and output are significant, and growing. In this conflict they have adopted a neutral stance. Interests are intertwined and too complex. They seek an end to the war and yearn for conditions of stability to allow global economic recovery to take place, and issues of global governance to be addressed. The level of sanctions deployed against Russia is unprecedented in modern history, and many of these countries ponder a future in which seats at the table of global governance and rule-making shrink, rather than expand, reducing the options available to them. Such a world does not promote their interests and they are pursuing various modalities to secure the future they need and want. Deepening and enlarging distinctly non-Western alliances is one such option. This only enhances the view that a two-bloc world is in the making.

At the same time, the European Union's (EU) drive to wean itself from Russian oil and gas, while promoting opportunities for greater exports from Africa and other countries of the Global South, raises awkward and vexing questions. So too does the EU's renewed efforts to enact carbon taxes on the border of the single market—with significant implications for countries of the Global South. This not only raises new issues at the World Trade Organization (WTO), but its timing comes at the very moment when these countries need to trade their way out of poverty and relieve the burden of significant debt, which has accrued during the pandemic and the war. This publication frames the voices of the Global South and their pronouncement on the multiplicity of issues arising from this period of disruption and Great-Power rivalry. The very act of their neutrality and the deepening of alliances with 'like-minded' others is accelerating a period of change in the international structure. For all countries, for the West and the rest of the world, the stakes are high.

We thank the many colleagues whose efforts were instrumental in supporting the final product, and wish also to acknowledge the assistance of Avantika Singha in compiling the background research that contributed to the chapter on India. Finally, I wish to specially recognize the superb efforts of my PCNS colleague Nabil El Qamçaoui, who provided invaluable support to me over the course of an entire year in moving an early idea for this publication through all the stages and across the finish line. His unflagging dedication, enthusiasm, and skill in navigating the logistics and countless details along the way, have been priceless.

### Dr. Len Ishmael

Editor & Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South Horta, Faial, Azores November 2022

# **AFTERMATH OF WAR IN EUROPE** THE WEST VS. THE GLOBAL SOUTH?

In multiple ways, the year 2022 is proving to be one of the most conflicted since the end of the Cold War. The International Structure is at an inflection point; global power is shifting. A series of crises, including a global pandemic and war in Europe, have ushered in a period of division, disruption and discord, fragmenting the world into blocs: a resurgent West, and a growing alliance of the Global South. Each bloc has its own interests. These are multilayered and complex. While the war in Europe grinds on, countries of the Global South want only that it ends. They too are paying the price for a war which is not in their interests, and 2022 was to have been the year of global recovery. Western sanctions imposed on Russia have received a lukewarm reaction by the rest of the world. The ranks of the G20 highlight this division. On this matter, they split evenly, between West and Global South. The latter seeks to balance and accommodate divergent interests while protecting its own. Deepening bilateral and multilateral ties in distinctly non-Western groupings has become an attractive option. Increasing multipolarity provides a menu of greater choice in a landscape within which global power is shifting. Despite its profound challenges, this era is not without opportunities. This book discusses the geopolitics of the day, and the issues thrown up during this period of Great Power rivalry, through the lens of the Global South. It also speaks to the manner in which geography, history and culture have shaped their response to this war in Europe, and the events around it.



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