

# ACTIVITY REPORT

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2019



THINK • STIMULATE • BRIDGE



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2019



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# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

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**T**he Policy Center for the New South significantly transformed its operations in 2019. Having changed its name, to better reflect its calling and the nature of its mission to serve the South, it appeared appropriate to also change the Policy Center's legal structure to that of a non-profit association with the ultimate objective of providing greater empowerment and allowing greater flexibility in the conduct of its mission. The Policy Center for the New South intends to leverage this transition to further serve as a vibrant platform for the discussion of ideas, a fruitful and knowledgeable interface between the academic and research community and policymakers, and a learning arena for younger generations.

Despite mobilizing a portion of its resources and energy to bring about these changes, the Policy Center has continued to develop and advance its activities and output with a stronger structure and greater coherence. The Center's academic research activity generated over 100 research publications during 2019, covering areas as varied as socio-economic policies in Morocco, international trade, commodity sector issues, agriculture and food security, terrorism and violent radicalism, environmental protection, digital technology, regional integration in Africa and foreign direct investment. Among these publications were our four major annual reports: the *Annual Report on Commodity Analytics and Dynamics in Africa (ARCADIA)*; the *Annual Report on African*

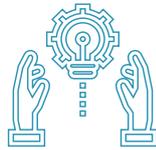
*Geopolitics*; the *Annual Report on Africa's Economy*; and the *Atlantic Currents report*. The publications are produced by some 100 researchers from Africa and elsewhere, who share the same, approach and philosophy that inspired the creation of the Policy Center.

Alongside these activities, the Policy Center hosted its two annual flagship events, the *Atlantic Dialogues* and the *African Peace and Security Annual Conference (APSACO)*, while attending more than 50 international conferences. Furthermore, the Emerging Leaders community, fostered by the Policy Center since its inception, continues to grow and diversify, and now comprises 350 talented young professionals driven by creative spirit and a taste for innovation and leadership. It is this same spirit and dedication that drives and inspires the Policy Center team as a whole. Building on these strengths, and drawing on our expert human capital, the Policy Center for the New South enters the second decade of the twenty-first century resolutely determined to fulfill its mission to 'think, stimulate and bridge'.

**Karim El Aynaoui**

# IN SUM

## THE POLICY CENTER FOR THE NEW SOUTH IN A NUTSHELL



### Our **goal**

*Broaden and deepen thinking and analysis relating to socio-economic policies in Morocco, Africa, and the South in general.*



### Our **approach**

*Observe, decipher, analyze and assess public policies.*



### Our **mission**

*Contribute to skills development and foster dialogue and international cooperation.*

# AREAS OF FOCUS



## Long-term Development

This research area combines analyses of long-term issues, such as structural transformation and competitiveness, with those covering macroeconomic policies at the national, regional and continental levels. It also provides general public policy assessments.



## Geopolitics and International Relations

This area covers key international geopolitical challenges, such as defense, security and power dynamics, with a particular focus on Africa. It discusses Morocco's positioning in its geostrategic environment.



## Commodity Economics and Finance

This program focuses on world commodity markets, with an analysis of production and consumption centers, as well as the interaction between players. It combines situational analyses linked to short-term developments, long-term trends and underlying dynamics.



## Agriculture, Environment and Food Security

This research program is based on a comprehensive approach addressing agricultural sector priorities, climate change, environmental conservation and the impact of population growth.

# A FEW KEY FIGURES

## The Policy Center is

**71** | 

Employees

**41** | 

Senior Fellows

**30** | 

Researchers

**4** | 

Languages spoken  
on average by our  
researchers

## Analyses and debates

**219** | 

Publications & Opinions

**100+** | 

Events

**50+** | 

International conference  
participations

**40** | 

International  
partners

## Media Recognition

**500+**



Press references

**+200**



Press articles quoting our researchers

## Community

**13K+**



subscribers to our newsletter

**39K+**



Members of our social network community

**98**



Interviews recorded on premises

**230K+**



Unique website views

# SENIOR FELLOWS

## Joining the Policy Center as Fellows in 2019



### **Nouzha Chekrouni**

Former Ambassador and Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in charge of Moroccans Residing Abroad, Morocco



### **Kidane Kiros**

Former Director of the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), Ethiopia



### **Mina Balamoune**

Professor of Economics at the University of North Florida, USA



### **Len Ishmael**

Former Ambassador of the Eastern Caribbean States to the European Union, Belgium



### **Matsumoto Shoji**

President, Sapporo Institute for International Solidarity, Japan



### **Dominique Bocquet**

Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris, France



### **Mhammed Dryef**

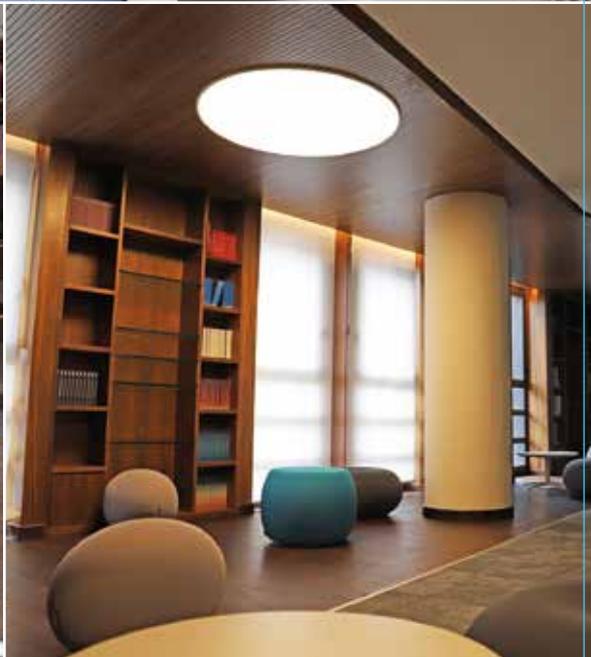
Former Wali (Governor) of Casablanca, Fes, and Laayoune, Morocco



### **Henri-Louis Védie**

Professor Emeritus, HEC Paris - France

# NEW OFFICES



1. Reception hall | 2. & 3. Learning Center | 4. Conference room

# ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

The Policy Center organizes **two major annual conferences** and **one major forum**

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## ATLANTIC DIALOGUES



Unlocking the South Atlantic in the Global Geopolitical Debate

## APSACO



Strengthening the role of the African Union in peacekeeping in Africa

## 4x4 THINK TANK DIRECTORS FORUM



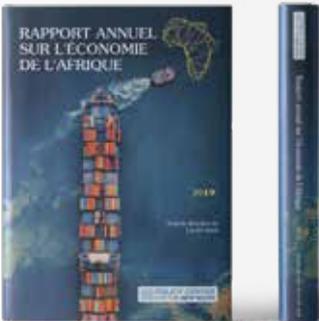
Identifying areas of cooperation between Africa and Europe  
In partnership with the French Institute for International Relations (Ifri)

The Policy Center publishes **four annual reports** covering:

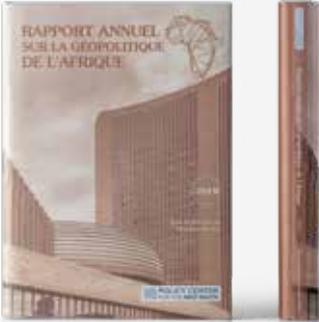
**COMMODITIES IN AFRICA**



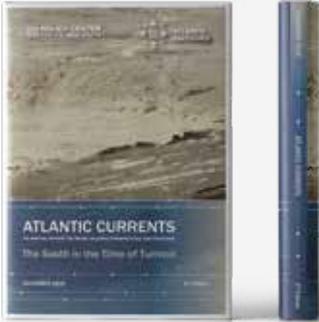
**THE ECONOMY OF AFRICA**



**THE GEOPOLITICS OF AFRICA**



**ATLANTIC ECONOMIC AND GEOPOLITICAL TRENDS**



# OUTLOOK FOR 2020

## Two principal areas of expertise

### I. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### Program 1 : Reshaping the role of tomorrow's Africa

- > Endogenous dynamics;
- > Global powers at play in Africa;
- > African Union.

#### Program 2 : Anticipating and understanding Africa's security challenges

- > Outbreaks of violence;
- > Organized crime;
- > Institutional and operational capacities for security and defense;
- > Security interventions;
- > Security and military cooperation between African countries;
- > Political risk in Africa

#### Program 3 : Morocco within its continental and global environment

- > Morocco in Africa;
- > Morocco in the Maghreb;
- > The Euro-Mediterranean area;
- > The broader Atlantic;
- > The Middle East.

### II. ECONOMICS

#### Program 4 : Sustaining Africa's structural transformation

- > Agricultural policies and structural transformation;
- > Mobility and migration;
- > Natural resource management;
- > Regional integration and globalization;
- > Infrastructure and development;
- > Climate change.

#### Program 5 : Promoting a new Moroccan economy

- > Structural transformation and growth;
- > Macroeconomic policies;
- > Inequality, inclusion and unemployment;
- > Economic integration and partnerships.



**Our reports**  
are now **accessible** to a **broader**  
**public** and are **available** on **Livremoi**  
in Morocco, and on **Factiva** and  
**Economica** internationally

**LIVRE**  
**MOI.ma**

.....  
 éditions  
**ECONOMICA**

.....  
**FACTIVA**



# THINK

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# OUR PUBLICATIONS

Our **publications** are scheduled on a weekly basis around **editorial meetings** that bring together researchers, fellows and the research promotion team. **Current events**, along with Center **research programs** and the **editorial line**, guide the themes and **formats** of our publications.

**98** research publications and **121** opinion pieces were published in 2019.

**98** research publications



**5**

Research Papers



**46**

Policy Briefs



**24**

Policy Papers



**17**

Books & Reports



**6**

Special Issues in an Academic Journal



# OUR OPINION PIECES

**121** opinion pieces

**Opinion pieces (Blogs), in addition to relative editorial freedom compared to academic publications, are better suited as responses to national, continental and international current events – thus the number of opinion pieces we publish annually, along with the diversity of topics addressed.**

One example in 2019 was the series of opinions devoted to electoral events worldwide. **Nihal El Mquirmi**, International Relations Research Assistant at the Policy Center, contributed an instructive opinion on the [Spanish parliamentary elections of November 10](#), held in a very tense political context following a prolonged period of uncertainty. "It is now a habit for Spain to repeat elections," stated the author.

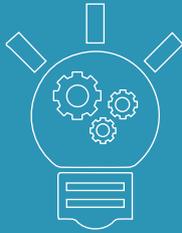
In an [opinion published a few weeks earlier](#), **Abdessalam Jaldi**, from the same team, took stock of Tunisia's 2019 presidential election results. Abdessalam attempted to address the question of: 'How to read the electoral success of Conservative Revolutionary Kais Saied?' Northern Europe was not overlooked, as senior fellow **Jamal Machrouh** took his magnifying glass to the Swedish election results and specifically the September 2018 parliamentary election breakthrough by the extreme right. Hence the title: '[Does the ascent of the extreme right sound the death knell for Swedish exceptionalism?](#)'

Security is, by far, the favorite topic of our opinion authors. As of December 2019, and as news unfolds, Senior Fellow **Abdelhak Bassou** will be shedding light on events related to security and terrorism in particular. The Malian crisis is an example. Writing in an opinion entitled '[French Military Presence in the Sahel: Time for Decisions](#)', the author made this damning observation: "Not only have Barkhane and G5 Sahel not been able to push [terrorist] groups out of Mali or incapacitate them, but both contingents have only been able to witness the southward advance of extremist hordes who today threaten the whole of West Africa". In monitoring international news, A. Bassou was quick to react to the disappearance of the former commander of ISIS (Daesh), in an opinion entitled '[Al Baghdadi Eliminated: Political Reading of a Military Operation](#)'. According to the author, "Al Baghdadi's death leaves international public opinion with a number of questions that cannot be immediately answered". These questions, he explained, related to the timing of the operation, the impact of the leader's disappearance on the organization, prospects for international terrorism after the 'Caliph of Daesh's' removal, and the impact of the operation on U.S. domestic policy.

A highly researched and truly pan-African opinion, written by Senior Fellow **Abdallah Saaf**, and entitled '[Notes on African Youth](#)', testified to the diversity of topics mentioned above. The author said: "There are few public policies specifically targeted at youth in most African countries, yet youth is, undeniably, in each country an asset to be leveraged for its future".

This summary is in no way exhaustive. Many opinions covered issues include the economy, social development, digitalization, migration, agriculture, and several other areas of interest to the Policy Center.





## LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

**In 2019, the economic environment was marked by heightened US-China trade tensions, final confirmation of Brexit (after many ups and downs), and rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, raising the specter of global recession.**

### The world amidst an ocean of turbulence

The recent monetary policy shift towards a new and more accommodative position gave financial markets a boost. These factors were discussed by Uri Dadush who painted a contrasting picture of the global economy, in his Policy Brief 'The Global Outlook, Trade Conflicts and Africa'. A positive aspect worth noting is that growth in developing countries is holding steady, driven by population growth and increasingly sustained domestic demand. A number of elements however should be borne in mind: African economies are likely to face lower external demand and consequently need to incorporate such new risks in policy implementation.

Meanwhile, the fourth industrial revolution poses new challenges. Henri-Louis Védie in 'Crypto-currencies, encrypted units of account or encrypted currency: the case of Bitcoin and Libra', discussed institutional roles in the regulation of these new forms of currency. Elsewhere, recent collaboration between the Policy Center for the New South and the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) highlighted the strategic importance of rare earths to the high-tech industry, and the role played by China in this sector (Rare Earths and China).

Beyond the cyclical effects of a trade downturn, it is the very future of the rules-based system that is at stake. This implies a multitude of possible configurations for global economic and trade systems. On the institutional level, Uri Dadush described a world without the World

Trade Organization in 'Seven Predictions About the World Without the WTO', comprising contradictory and potentially conflicting philosophies built around three great world economic powers, namely the United States, China and the European Union. He underlined the importance of reforming the WTO and reaffirming its role as the guarantor of multilateralism.

### Morocco within its external environment

Notwithstanding criticism of it, the World Trade Organization remains fundamental to maintaining the balance of the global economic system. It is, incidentally, this system of regulation that revealed the shortcomings of Morocco's approach in its rolled



steel exports dispute with Turkey. Jamal Machrouh analyzed the Moroccan strategy, in 'Morocco faces its first commercial dispute before the WTO', from the legal and economic angles, outlined a roadmap for Morocco in the event of commercial disputes, and explored the role of the Kingdom in maintaining and strengthening the institution.

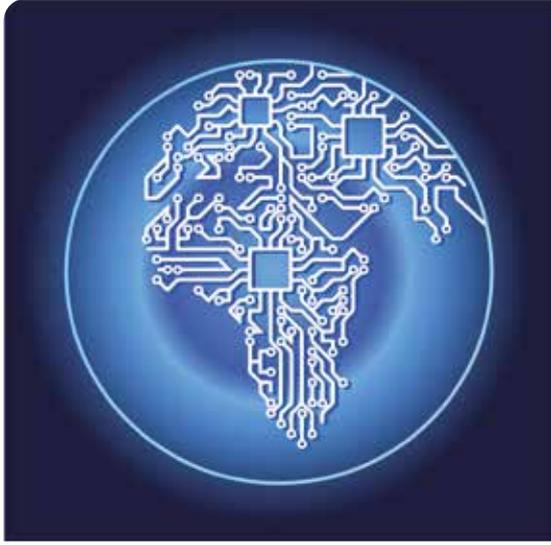
Also, on the subject of economic openness, the Policy Center for the New South, in collaboration with the Applied Economics Laboratory of the Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences in Agdal, published a book on the correlation between economic growth, productivity and trade openness in Morocco. This book focused on the two main obstacles to enhancing the growth potential of the Moroccan economy, namely the lack of openness and sluggish productivity. Indeed, while Morocco has long relied on openness, results have been mixed, and in any case below expectations. To some extent, limited productivity gains are both the cause and the consequence of this unsatisfactory record.

## Growth: between mutations and exhaustion

Hamza Saoudi and Uri Dadush painted a realistic picture of inequalities in Morocco in 'Inequality in Morocco: An international perspective'. Beyond income disparity, clearly skewed towards the top decile, the problem of inequality is above all in education and access to health care. The failure of public education generates social stagnation instead of skills to match labor market needs, and thus weighs heavily on economic growth. Social developments in Morocco include the brisk development of the middle class, as Mahmoud Arbouch and Uri Dadush pointed out in the policy brief 'Measuring the middle class in the world and in Morocco'. The emerging middle class reflects strong political awareness within broad sections of the population, with higher expectations that decision makers will improve living conditions.

The growing expectations of populations in developing countries highlight the importance of inclusiveness in growth. Karim El Aynaoui, Aomar Ibourk and Prakash Loungani addressed this issue in a Research Paper entitled 'Making Globalization Inclusive: Job Creation and Wage Inequality in Developing Economies'. The authors argued that growth without adequate job creation is a recipe for social unrest. Associated with excessive disparity, growth can be perceived as unjust and is thus unsustainable. Overlooking the importance of inclusive growth can lead policymakers in developing countries to repeat mistakes made by developed countries, leaving people behind and jeopardizing social stability and cohesion. This finding was also supported by the work of Tayeb Ghazi and Aomar Ibourk and other co-authors of 'Growth and Jobs in Developing Economies: Trends and Cycles'. Furthermore, the work of Henri-Louis Védie on the Indian photovoltaic experience highlighted another facet of inequality, namely unequal access to electricity in India and the country's inability to achieve energy security ('Solar Energy in India: Photovoltaics as a Priority').





The transition to the group of upper-income countries requires a robust and sustainable growth model based on the strengthening and development of all of a country's pillars. In relation to Morocco, Abdelaaziz Ait Ali and Yassine Msadfa, in a Policy Paper entitled 'Structural Transformation in Morocco and Global Value Chains: A Popularization of the Debate', discussed growth model issues from a structural transformation perspective, and that of the extent of integration into global value chains. According to the authors' analysis, the Kingdom's structural transformation is hindered by premature de-industrialization, and improved living standards underpinned by productivity gains at the expense of employment. Accordingly, the authors suggested in the first instance improving Morocco's penetration of world markets to support productivity gains and compensate for job losses by expanding market outlets. Morocco's integration into global value chains also offers an opportunity to boost structural transformation via know-how transfer and workforce upgrades. In a Policy Brief, entitled 'Towards an economic strategy based on productivity improvement', Elhadj Ezzahid identified the improvement of total factor productivity as key to Morocco's emergence.

## Africa facing the challenge of emergence

Africa is staying the course of reform in uncertain global conditions, but not without difficulty. The emergence of China as the main lender to Africa raises the question of debt sustainability. This was discussed by Badr Mandri and Lotfi El Jai in a Policy Brief entitled 'Debt Sustainability and Development Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa: Recent Dynamics'. The paper highlighted the importance of good governance and enhanced diversification for African economies. Yet, given debt's role as a driver of growth, how can sustainability be ensured while optimally financing economies? Part of the answer was given in Otaviano Canuto's Policy Paper 'Middle Income Countries and Multilateral Development Banks, Traps on the Way to Graduation', in which Canuto and his co-authors addressed the question of financing in the emergence cycle, and the role of multilateral development banks. Still on the subject of African debt, Abdelaaziz Ait Ali, Tayeb Ghazi, Badr Mandri and other co-authors provided a rather optimistic assessment of the current debt situation in Africa in their study 'Africa's Rising Debt: Implications for development financing and a sustainable debt management approach'. They argued that while public debt-to-GDP ratios in sub-Saharan Africa are still relatively low, recent trends signal the need for concerted action by countries, creditors and development finance institutions. Such action should help counter any rise of unsustainable debt in the region, with a view to avoiding a recurrence of debt crises suffered by the continent in the past.

Also, development is not simply a matter of growth rates, but also requires the monitoring of public policies. Mouhamadou M. Ly and his co-authors therefore recommended generalizing throughout Africa the use of impact assessments and training in the methods used (Mouhamadou M. Ly, Bertrand Bio Mama, Tharcisse Guèdègbé), in 'Impact assessment for the effectiveness of development policies in Africa'.



## Macroeconomic policies in Morocco and developing countries

The global economy operates in an environment that is exposed to many forms of uncertainty. The role of macroeconomic policies remains under constant review in this regard. The impact of the 2008 financial crisis on the productive capacity of a number of developing countries, including Morocco, was gradual and delayed. The slowdown in economic growth, supposed to be transitory, became permanent. Moreover, the trajectory of Moroccan macroeconomic policies appears unsustainable. Hence the interest in this subject as the basis for a book drawn from a seminar on 'Economic policies and financing in developing countries', jointly organized on November 8, 2017, by the Policy Center for the New South and the Applied Economics Laboratory of the Rabat-Agdal Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences. The book provided an analytical framework that revolves around two axes: (i) the three elements of monetary policy, capital account opening and exchange rate regime in Morocco, and (ii) the implications and constraints on fiscal policy in developing countries in general. The question of exchange rate policy is acutely topical because of Morocco's transition to a more flexible exchange rate regime. A Research Paper was devoted to this issue. Co-authored by Abdelaaziz Ait Ali and Mohamed Obaïdy and entitled 'Current Account Adjustments and Exchange Rate Arrangements: What Regime for African Countries?', the paper tested the hypothesis that floating regimes limit the magnitude of real external shocks and

allow for smoother external imbalance adjustments in an African context. The authors found that current account imbalances are less costly and adjustments quicker in countries with floating exchange rates. Also, in relation to the Moroccan economy, the Policy Center for the New South, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Planning, published the second volume of the Cahiers du Plan, dealing with Morocco's budgetary issues and implications for the Kingdom's international standing. It highlighted Morocco's strategy of commercial openness and its attractiveness to foreign direct investment (FDI).

In a Policy Brief entitled 'South Africa's Economic Slowdown and Its Policy Options', on South Africa's slowdown from 2010 to 2016, Mouhamadou M. Ly detailed the factors underlying the slump in growth from 3.03% in 2010 to 0.56% in 2016. He suggested a paradigm shift towards export promotion that would capitalize on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and its 1 billion potential consumers. Additionally, the counter-cyclical actions of the South African Central Bank could be more effective in creating jobs and stimulating industrial value added, provided it allows for greater tolerance in its inflation-targeting.



# GEOPOLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Africa experienced both change and continuity in 2019. Africa continued to attract the attention of world powers, with the notable return of Russia to the African scene. Security, development and Africa's place on the world stage formed the basis of the International Relations and Geopolitics Department's activities in 2019.**

## Morocco within its geopolitical environment

*Morocco is part of the world. It is impacted by its various dynamics and by all its developments. Geographical location obviously plays a major role, insofar as we are a Mediterranean country”.*

Excerpt from the interview given by Karim El Aynaoui, President of the Policy Center for the New South, to the Sud Maroc Website.

Because of its geography, Morocco maintains a close relationship with Europe, while also positioning itself as an essential and ambitious partner in Africa. Morocco's strategic vision for migration best exemplifies this balance. Commissioned by the African Union to implement the African Agenda on Migration, Morocco has demonstrated considerable determination in transforming the existing narrative on African migration. The Policy Center for the New South shares and defends this vision, consistent with the concept of the New South. In her contribution to the 2019 edition of the Annual Report on the Geopolitics of

Africa, in a paper entitled "Migration and African Mobility: Assessment and Prospects", Amal El Ouassif, a researcher at the Policy Center, examined the economic and political context behind the current perception of African migration to Europe, and made recommendations for a better understanding of migration issues in Africa.

The partnership with Europe is crucial to Morocco's positioning in its strategic environment. Len Ishmael, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center for the New South, addressed this in a Policy Paper entitled 'Africa & Europe Different Demographic Trends Seeds for a Smart Partnership'. The paper examined demographic trends in Europe and Africa and the extent to which a win-win partnership can be designed, based on complementarity between African human resources and changing European labor markets.

As a Moroccan think tank, the Policy Center for the New South has a natural interest in the Sahara. In a policy brief entitled '2019 Secretary-General Report on the Sahara: What's New - 'Neighboring States as Parties' in Roundtable', Shoji Matsumoto, Senior Visiting Fellow at the Policy Center, gave an analytical reading of the United Nations Secretary-General's latest report on the Sahara. He analyzed the language of the latest General Assembly report in order to highlight the role of various parties involved in the issue. In addition, Mohammed Loulichki, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center, traced the evolution of the African Union's position on the Sahara issue in a Policy Brief entitled 'The African Union's Position on the Sahara Issue: The Beginning of a Change'. By analyzing two legal opinions issued by the African Union, the author shed light on the growing importance given to the Sahara issue by the African Union, particularly since the return of Morocco in 2017.

## Africa in the world

Presidential elections in Africa were a major feature of 2019. Elections in Senegal, Tunisia, Mozambique, South Africa and other countries provided important opportunities to reflect on political transitions in Africa. Our researchers

and senior fellows including Ihssane Guennoun, International Relations Specialist at the Policy Center, analyzed these events in publications. In a Policy Brief entitled ‘Senegal: What do the February Presidential elections hold in store?’ she examined the pre-presidential election context. Then, with the intern Zainab Adel, she used ‘Twitter mining’, to investigate trends emerging from Twitter as an electoral campaign tool in Senegal.

To reflect on Africa in the twenty-first century is to deal with the interplay of major powers on the continent. It is in this sense crucial to analyze the growing role of China in Africa. In 2019, over 12 publications were devoted to various aspects of China’s presence in Africa. The Policy Center for the New South also organized a number of events on the topic, including a seminar on ‘China, Morocco and Africa: Ties for a Shared Development’, hosted jointly with the Chinese Embassy in Morocco.

The first Russia-Africa Summit took place in 2019. Moscow is making a strong comeback on the continent, as Abdelhak Bassou, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center, underlined in a Policy Brief entitled ‘Russia in Africa: Renewing an old relationship or creating a new one?’ It examined areas of strategic cooperation in Russian-African relations, including security, mining and nuclear energy.

‘Japan and the Maghreb’ was the title of a Policy Paper in which Abdellah Saaf, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center, discussed Japan’s relations with the Maghreb. The Maghreb is an African and Middle Eastern networking space. It is therefore naturally of strategic importance to Japan. In this contribution, the author reviewed the characteristics of Japanese foreign policy in the Maghreb, while examining the potential for developing relationships between the Maghreb and Japan.

## Geopolitics, security and defense

In June 2019, the Policy Center organized the third African Peace and Security Annual Conference (APSACO), under the heading ‘Africa’s Place and Influence in a Changing World’. Guest researchers and experts reflected on Africa’s place in the world through the production of strategic and normative knowledge, with a particular focus on African security capabilities. Exchanges between speakers and the annual meeting’s recommendations and conclusions were, as for previous editions of the conference, recorded in a report entitled APSACO.

The study of internal dynamics is essential to understanding security challenges in Africa, as illustrated by Rida Lyammouri, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center for the New South, in a Policy Brief entitled ‘Tribal Dynamics in the Sahel’, a region where, the author argues, security hinges on tribalism and ethnic dynamics.

‘The Challenges of World Navalization and Maritimization and Insularity within the African Union’ was the title of the 8th Strategic Dialogues conference, hosted in Rabat by the Policy Center for the New South, following on from several editions of the conference organized jointly with HEC Paris in France. In 2019, the Strategic Dialogues focused on maritime strategies and their centrality to the balance of power. Naval researchers, professors and experts delivered fascinating analyses of the maritime security situation in Africa and the challenges facing island states

### Flagship publications



The Annual Report on the Geopolitics of Africa is produced by the Policy Center’s Department of International Relations and Geopolitics, under the direction of Senior Fellow Abdelhak Bassou, and in collaboration with renowned African scholars and experts.

In partnership with Al Akhawayn University, the Policy Center for the New South published the book *Stability and Security in Africa: The Role of Hard and Soft Power* in 2019, edited by Sara Hasnaa Mokaddem, International Relations and Geopolitics Specialist at the Policy Center.



The Atlantic Currents report is the flagship publication of the Atlantic Dialogues conference. Published annually, the report highlights the conference theme. The sixth edition was entitled ‘The South in Turbulent Times’, echoing the title of the 8th edition of the Atlantic Dialogues.



# COMMODITY ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

**Uncertainty in the global context affects virtually all sectors, including commodities.**

## Africa: commodities at the forefront of geopolitics

While Africa has certainly demonstrated economic resilience and political determination, it nevertheless remains vulnerable to both geopolitical and climate risk. The challenge of the dependence on volatile world markets of producing and exporting countries is particularly acute in the commodity economy. The third edition (2019) of the ARCADIA report (Annual Report on Commodity Analytics and Dynamics in Africa), produced by the Policy Center for the New South in collaboration with CyclOpe, was published in this context. The 2019 edition of the Report reconciled structural themes (macroeconomic, geopolitical and sectoral) and cyclical analyses of world commodity markets (cocoa, coffee, oil, coal, gas, copper, gold, platinum, phosphate). It also emphasized the importance of local policies to best address the challenge of water resource management.



## Focus on the Energy Sector: Renewable Energies

In a Policy Paper entitled 'Renewable Energy in Africa: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities', Rim Berahab analyzed the energy sector, with a focus on renewable energy in Africa. With facts and figures, the author highlighted the scale of renewable energy deployment and its significance in improving energy independence and security and, ultimately, achieving sustainable economic development on the continent. The paper also focused on addressing the challenges that hold up renewable energy investment projects, including financial, administrative and regulatory constraints.





## AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD SECURITY

**A pillar of Africa's economic development, the agricultural sector continued to develop in 2019, contributing to rural transformation, economic growth and improved living standards across the continent. Despite significant economic progress and achievements in the agricultural sector, Africa still remains the continent with the most precarious food security situation, with relatively low levels of agricultural productivity, low rural incomes and high rates of malnutrition.**



### Natural resource utilization and environmental protection

Africa is blessed with immense natural resources, only a fraction of which is currently exploited. For Africa to reap the social and economic benefits inherent in this wealth, issues of sound resource management and the environmental impact of resource exploitation need to be urgently addressed.



In a Research Paper entitled 'A Nexus Approach for the MENA Region-From Concept to Knowledge to Action', Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub, an agro-economist at the Policy Center for the New South, argued that adopting an integrated approach to natural resource management and governance, including land, water and energy, is an effective tool for improving productive capacity while respecting the environment. The author presented the case of a localized irrigation system in Morocco as an opportunity to develop an integrated approach connecting all water users while ensuring proper resource management. In a chapter of the ARCADIA report devoted to water resource management and entitled 'Water resources, conflicts of use and access to drinking water: what realities in sub-Saharan Africa?', F.Z. Mengoub explained that the water sector in African countries remains poorly organized and requires restructuring for improved resource management and universal access to drinking water services.



## How to enhance agricultural productivity?

Vital to Africa's economic future, improving agricultural productivity is also critical to achieving poverty eradication and inclusive growth in the region. An ARCADIA report chapter entitled 'African agriculture facing the challenge of structural transformation', by Jean-Christophe Debar and Abdoul Fattath Tapsoba, argued that African agriculture has made remarkable progress in terms of overall yields but continues to suffer from poor productivity. This has considerable costs on several levels: endemic poverty, persistent food insecurity, lack of international competitiveness and incentives for deforestation. The authors argued that priority should be given to the development of value chains, rather than agricultural production, and that rural development policy should be given precedence over sectoral measures.



## Improving the economic and institutional environment for agricultural production

African leaders have made numerous commitments that they will push for strong growth in agriculture, with an emphasis on productivity, including through the use of fertilizers. Progress to date has been slow and commitments made have yet to be met for most countries, because of the absence of conditions conducive to achieving the objectives. A Research Paper co-authored by Isabelle Tsakok and Tharcisse Guedegbe and entitled 'Towards a Fertilizer Policy for Smallholder Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa', focused on the basic principles to guide fertilizer policy for small-scale farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. The authors argued that to achieve short-term results, policymakers must at a minimum give farmers access to (1) the GR package on the input side, namely: fertilizers, HYV seeds, pesticides and water control; and (2) good access to potentially profitable markets on the output side. In a Policy Brief, entitled 'The critical importance of land and water', Isabelle Tsakok argued that governments must recognize the critical importance of access to land, land security and control of water for smallholders if they are to use fertilizers productively, profitably and sustainably. In her chapter entitled 'African Agriculture: Performance and Challenges', published in the Annual Report on the Economy of Africa 2019, Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub analyzed structural evidence indicating that agriculture has enormous potential for the continent's development, provided adequate agricultural policies are implemented.



# STIMULATE \_\_\_\_\_

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# ATLANTIC DIALOGUES EMERGING LEADERS 2019 PROGRAM



# A community in the making

Much more than acting 'for' young people, the Policy Center for the New South works with young people to ensure they have a voice from now. It is not about preparing for the future, but rather about bringing change to the present through intergenerational dialogue

The gender-balanced group of fifty or so young Emerging Leaders, from 27 Atlantic Basin countries (Africa, Latin America, North America and Europe), with a variety of professional backgrounds, were brought together for the launch of the 8th Atlantic Dialogues and the Emerging Leaders program. Ranging from 23 to 35 in age, these Emerging Leaders were inducted into an already strong community of 300 alumni, including experts, researchers, entrepreneurs, civil servants and civil society actors. Successful candidates, chosen in line with very stringent selection criteria, came with profiles reflecting original and unique career paths. Ras Al Hanout (head of the shop), the name of the space at the Marrakech Radisson Blu Hotel where the first activity took place, inspired Lilia Rizk, Emerging Leaders Program Coordinator at the Policy Center for the New South, to introduce the subject in appetizing fashion. "Like the fine spices that lend Moroccan cuisine great taste and uniqueness, your diversity and uniqueness make you the cream of the 2,000 or so candidates who applied to the program," she said, praising the new class of Emerging Leaders.





## “ADELs” : an ode to dedication

All the right ingredients were brought together to kick off the activities under the Emerging Leaders 2019 Program, the inaugural act of the 8th edition of the Atlantic Dialogues, the Policy Center for the New South's flagship conference. Alongside the opening of the Policy Center's high-level conference and on the sidelines of their own program, Emerging Leaders had the opportunity to participate in debates with leading figures from the worlds of business, politics, academia, civil society, etc., from all regions of the Atlantic Basin.

All of which is consistent with the Policy Center for the New South's desire to create a true community of Emerging Leaders. A community liberated from the perception of an Atlantic basin trapped by strictly regional perspectives. Young Emerging Leaders 2019 are united in asserting they will return home sharing a broad understanding of the Atlantic Basin, thanks to a network of leaders with values, convictions and involvement in the development issues around them. "We are looking for change-makers," said Lilia Rizk. Young leaders of the 2019 class are aware of this responsibility (see testimonials opposite).

## The Atlantic Community takes root in Marrakech

According to the Policy Center for the New South, strengthening and entrenching the Atlantic community's sense of belonging must come from its key resource, the basin's youth.

Emerging Leaders were given the opportunity to demonstrate this, notably during the 'Atlantic Community:

Built, Connect, Anticipate' workshop, designed and led by Lex Paulson, Director of the School of Collective Intelligence of the Mohammed VI Multidisciplinary University in Benguerir (UM6P). The key message of the exercise was, according to Paulson, to implement practices and methods of joint working to debate and propose solutions to the main issues facing the countries and populations of the Atlantic basin. The idea underlying the exercise is to place Emerging Leaders in a position to diagnose the situations prevailing in the basin, and then to offer solutions by defining priorities and urgent issues.

Divided into three working groups (political, economic and socio-cultural), the Emerging Leaders analyzed all three fields, proposed solutions and identified priorities.

Over the course of the program, Young Emerging Leaders also received training in storytelling, leadership and design thinking, with renowned speakers including Enuma Okoro, writer-journalist and consultant, Wadia Ait Hamza, Head of the Global Shapers Community at the World Economic Forum, and Ade Mabogunje, research scientist in design thinking at Stanford University.

Throughout the program, Emerging Leaders were invited to visit the Green Energy Park and the Green Smart Building Park, both showcases of renewable and new energies, before taking part in a panel entitled 'climate-energy policies', bringing them into step, from Benguerir, with the Spanish capital, Madrid, which was at the time hosting the COP 25 climate conference.

A session on new societal balance brought the Emerging Leaders 2019 program to a close, with contributions on the rules and values of a globalized society on the move from Aminata Touré, former Prime Minister of Senegal, and Dominique Guillo, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Behavioral Sciences at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University.

# WHAT THEY THINK



**Jonatan Ol Beun**  
(Argentina)

Director for Capability Building and Innovation, Cabinet Office of the Argentinian Government.

*Emerging Leaders is an excellent program. It is one of very few programs to combine such a wide range of perspectives and disciplines. There's no doubt that my participation in the program at the Atlantic Dialogues will have an impact on both my professional and personal lives. On the professional level, being part of Emerging Leaders leads us to share ideas and practices. It is incumbent on us to capitalize on this experience so that it has a positive impact on our professional development”.*



**Max D. Bouchet**  
(France)

Research Analyst, The Brookings Institution

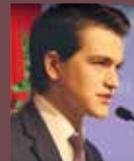
*Emerging leaders is an extraordinary program. We have very little exposure to such broad diversity. Not only does it develop our technical knowledge of public policy, but it also helps us understand the multidisciplinary nature of public policy and the importance of identifying different angles. A second strong point is that the program is organized by a Moroccan think tank, anchored in Africa, providing a perspective from the global South on issues of co-development, economic growth, etc. I am struck by how strategic South-to-South ties have been for some time now, and this on an egalitarian basis. I am therefore leaving with a much broader and clearer vision. I am also leaving with strong ties to young leaders from different backgrounds”.*



**Chaimae Bourjij**  
(Morocco)

National Project Coordinator - Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

*I think it is extremely important for young people to be represented at this major conference, particularly in view of the participation of prominent figures from the four corners of the world, representing different backgrounds and different perspectives on the perception of the world. The Emerging Leaders Program experience is unique. In fact, the Atlantic Dialogues have introduced me to new perspectives that I would not otherwise have had access to. The Policy Center for the New South boasts a unique platform where a broader Atlantic basin is gradually taking shape. Nevertheless, the way ahead is still long, and there are no other platforms to match this vision”.*



**Iskander Erzini Vermoit**  
(Morocco)

Researcher, E3G

*I was impressed by the quality of the Emerging Leaders program that brought together dozens of young people from across the Atlantic basin. As a Moroccan residing abroad, I find it fantastic to see all these emerging leaders invited to Morocco to take part in high-level debates. It is a young leaders' community, with whom I hope to stay in touch as long as possible over the course of my career. My expertise is in the field of climate change, a phenomenon also threatening a number of countries in the Atlantic basin. It is therefore useful for me to develop relationships with people who are working to make the planet a better place to live”.*



**Jordan Kronen**  
(United States)

Legislative Assistant to Washington State Senator Liz Lovelett

*The Emerging Leaders program is a great opportunity for young people to be inspired by other young people from other parts of the world in various fields. We need more engagement with young people, taking their concerns seriously, particularly in relation to climate change. Having the opportunity to infuse our perspective and energy into the debate on this issue can only be conducive to beneficial solutions. My participation in the program, and more generally in the Atlantic Dialogues Conference, has enabled me to interact with high-level figures, decision-makers, politicians, economists and civil society actors”.*



**Maximo Plo Seco**  
(Spain)

Business Development and Client Engagement Manager, Diversity Atlas at Cultural Infusion

*We as Emerging Leaders are young people from diverse backgrounds yet we all share one thing: we are global citizens. From my perspective, bringing together youth from different parts of the Atlantic Basin is just brilliant. No doubt that from now on, and thanks to the network of acquaintances and friendships I have just established at the program, I will no longer see what I do as I have until now”.*



**Daniel Saka Mbumba**  
(France)

Vice President - International Sanctions Project Manager, New York

*I must first say that the Emerging Leaders Program was very beneficial to me, both professionally and personally. I was given the opportunity to get to know young people from different backgrounds and nationalities, each of us with a personal story, but sharing a common narrative around values we wish to carry for the present and for the future, such as equality, development and commitment. My participation in the program gave me access to networks that I did not have before. I consider the wider Atlantic area to be a very good development that had not materialized in the past. I was very pleased to see young people from Latin America connect with other young people from Africa and Europe. A wider Atlantic is something we would like to see materialized and strengthened further”.*



# INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Occasional visits by former interns, from Morocco and elsewhere, are a testament to the strong and enduring ties binding us to our community of former interns, which grows each year. Such ties would not be possible if the internship program we offer did not provide added value to the students and other young graduates.

From the time they apply to the Policy Center for The New South until they receive their internship certificates, students and young graduates who are given the opportunity to spend an internship period at the Policy Center are tested with rigor and confronted with real-life situations.

The Policy Center offers them the opportunity to complete a full-time internship of three to six months, with the objective of giving them practical experience

and enabling them to develop the necessary skills in the fields of research, event organization, and project management.

This is achieved in particular via sound mentoring that involves trainees at all levels, and varying activities including research work, preparation of draft reports, compilation of statistical data, administrative tasks, assistance with event and media management, and project management.

Interns are also encouraged to actively participate in research seminars, round tables, workshops, and discussion groups organized by the Policy Center, alone or with its partners, addressing a wide range of issues of crucial importance to reflect on the strategic interests of Morocco and Africa.

# VOLUNTEER CLUB



Every year, dozens of university students and young professionals at the start of their careers, choose to volunteer in order to contribute to the preparation and running of events initiated by our think tank.

Through this volunteering program, young volunteers gain a practical field experience, by being involving in carrying out the Policy Center’s activities as if they were part of its staff.



**Chaymae Essaid**  
Atlantic Dialogues Volunteer



*I had the opportunity to volunteer at the Atlantic Dialogues with the Policy Center for the New South team. My main tasks were related to catering: overseeing parallel lunch venues as well as breakout dinners, checking menus and dietary restrictions, greeting guests upon arrival and leading them to their tables. My volunteer work broadened my knowledge of event organization, professional communication, time management, group work, and critical thinking. This opportunity was a very constructive experience. I acquired new skills and also met a number of people from different backgrounds. I now have a clearer vision of professional training and practice.*



# BRIDGE

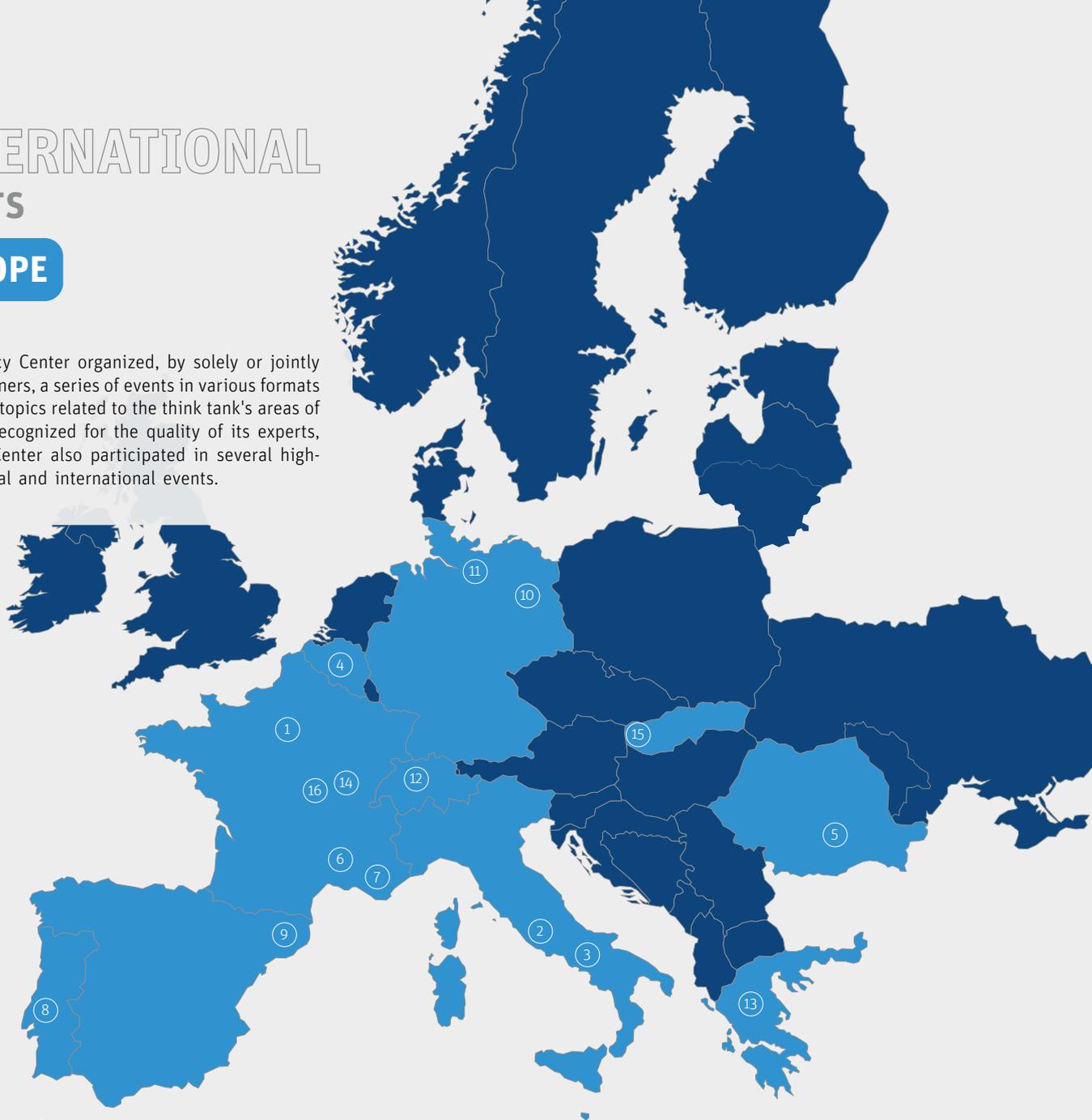
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# INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

## EUROPE

The Policy Center organized, by solely or jointly with its partners, a series of events in various formats on different topics related to the think tank's areas of expertise. Recognized for the quality of its experts, the Policy Center also participated in several high-level national and international events.



### 1 Paris

- > **Launch of Arcadia Report - Presentation of Miroir d'Afrique**
- > **7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Dialogues Stratégiques : Crise du multilatéralisme et Nouvelle géopolitique de la Corne de l'Afrique** | In partnership with HEC Center for Geopolitics
- > **Presentation of ARCADIA 2019 report** | In partnership with CYCLOPE
- > **Disentangling Risks and Opportunities in International Politics** | In partnership with l'Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI)
- > **La Croissance en Afrique** | In partnership with The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- > **Le Nord du Maroc: Migration et Développement Territorial** | In partnership with The Moroccan Embassy in France
- > **Raviver le multilatéralisme : quelle place pour l'Afrique ?** | In partnership with l'Institut Montaigne
- > **Afrique du Nord : tensions politiques et impacts énergétiques** | Organized by La Fondation Tuck | Represented by **Francis Perrin**, Senior Fellow au Policy Center
- > **Global Cybersecurity Challenges: Disentangling Risks and Opportunities in International Politics** | In partnership with IFRI
- > **Paris Peace Forum** | Organized by Sciences Po, the Körber Foundation, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, l'Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI), the Montaigne Institute et la France | Represented by : **Lilia Rizk**, Program Officer Emerging Leaders, and a group of Emerging Leaders
- > **Think Tank 7 Summit** | Organised by IFRI | Represented by **Karim El Aynaoui**, President of the Policy Center for the New South and Lilia Rizk, Program Officer Emerging Leaders
- > **USA, Iran, guerre des princes : où va le Moyent-Orient ?** | Organised by la Fondation Tuck | Represented by **Francis Perrin**, Senior Fellow au Policy Center

## 2 Rome

- **Empowering Energy Access in Africa** | In partnership with the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)
- **The High Level Advanced Research Workshop: Countering Blended Criminal/Terrorist Threats** | In partnership with NATO Defense College Foundation and NATO SPS programme
- **Arab geopolitics after the Caliphate: Sustainable Economics and Game Changers: The Role of Energy** | Organised by the NATO Defense College Foundation | Represented by : **Karim El Aynaoui**, President of the Policy Center
- **ChinaMed Symposium: Report on China's New Role in the Wider Mediterranean Region** | Organized by Fondazione Terzo Pilastron, supported by the Center for Mediterranean Area Studies (Peking University) et TOChina Hub Italy | Represented by **El Mostafa Rezaei**, Senior Fellow at Policy Center

## 4 Brussels

- **Brussels Forum: A World Disrupted** | In partnership with the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF)
- **Young Professionals Summit** | In partnership with the German Marshall Fund of the United States
- **EMNES Annual Conference : Towards A Regional Integration and Employment Driven Socio-Economic Model in the Mediterranean : A Comprehensive Policy Roadmap** | Organised by the Euro-Mediterranean Network for Economic Studies (EMNES) | Represented by **Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub**, Économiste at the Policy Center

## 7 Marseilles

- **Mediterranean Strategy Group - Migration : Cities on the Frontline** | In partnership with The German Marshall Fund of the United States

## 9 Barcelona

- **EuroMeSCo Annual Conference 2019: Civil Society and Social Movements in the Euro-Mediterranean Region** | Organised by EuroMeSCo and the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed) | Represented by : **Abdelhak Bassou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 11 Hamburg

- **Bucerius Summer School Program** | Represented by : **Lilia Rizk**, Program Officer Emerging Leaders

## 12 Geneva

- **Forum Public de l'OMC 2019** | Organized by The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Green and Digital Economy | Représenté by : **Uri Dadush**, Senior Fellow au Policy Center

## 15 Bratislava

- **GLOBSEC Youth Forum** | Organised by GLOBSEC | Represented by **Amal El Ouassif**, Research Assistant - International Relations

## 3 Naples

- **The Mediterranean Military Balance (MSG): New Military Dynamics in the Mediterranean** | In partnership with the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Compagnia di San Paolo, and the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD)
- **Energy Security in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA): Challenges & Opportunities** | In partnership with NATO Strategic Direction South HUB
- **Russia's presence in Africa and the Middle East** | Organised by The NATO Strategic Direction South - HUB | Represented by **Abdelhak Bassou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 5 Bucharest

- **Bucharest Forum : West Meets East: Furthering in Times of Volatility and Disruption** | Organised by the Aspen Institute Romania and the German Marshall Fund of the US (GMF) | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- **Migrations et radicalisation: Spécificités de l'approche marocaine** | Organised by the universitatea din bucuresti | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 6 Aix-en-Provence

- **Rencontres économiques : Les villes de demain sauveront-elles le climat ?** | Organised by Cercle des Économistes | Represented by **Fathallah Oualalou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center et **Maha Skah**, International Relations Specialist at the Policy Center

## 8 Lisbon

- **Portugal-China Trilateral Cooperation in the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative** | Organised by the Instituto para a Promoção da América Latina e Caraíbas (IPDAL) | Represented by **Fathallah Oualalou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 10 Berlin

- **Global Solutions Summit : Emerging powers and global governance** | Organised by Global Solutions | Represented by : **Uri Dadush**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- **Middle East Strategic Dialogue** | In partnership with Institut Montaigne and Shaikh Group
- **Forum de Saint-Louis** | Organised by Forum de Saint-Louis | Represented by **Mouhamadou Ly**, Senior Economist at the Policy Center

## 13 Rhodes

- **Rhodes Forum** | Organized by DOC Research Institute | Represented by : **Uri Dadush**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center and **Hamza Saoudi**, Economist at the Policy Center

## 14 Lyon

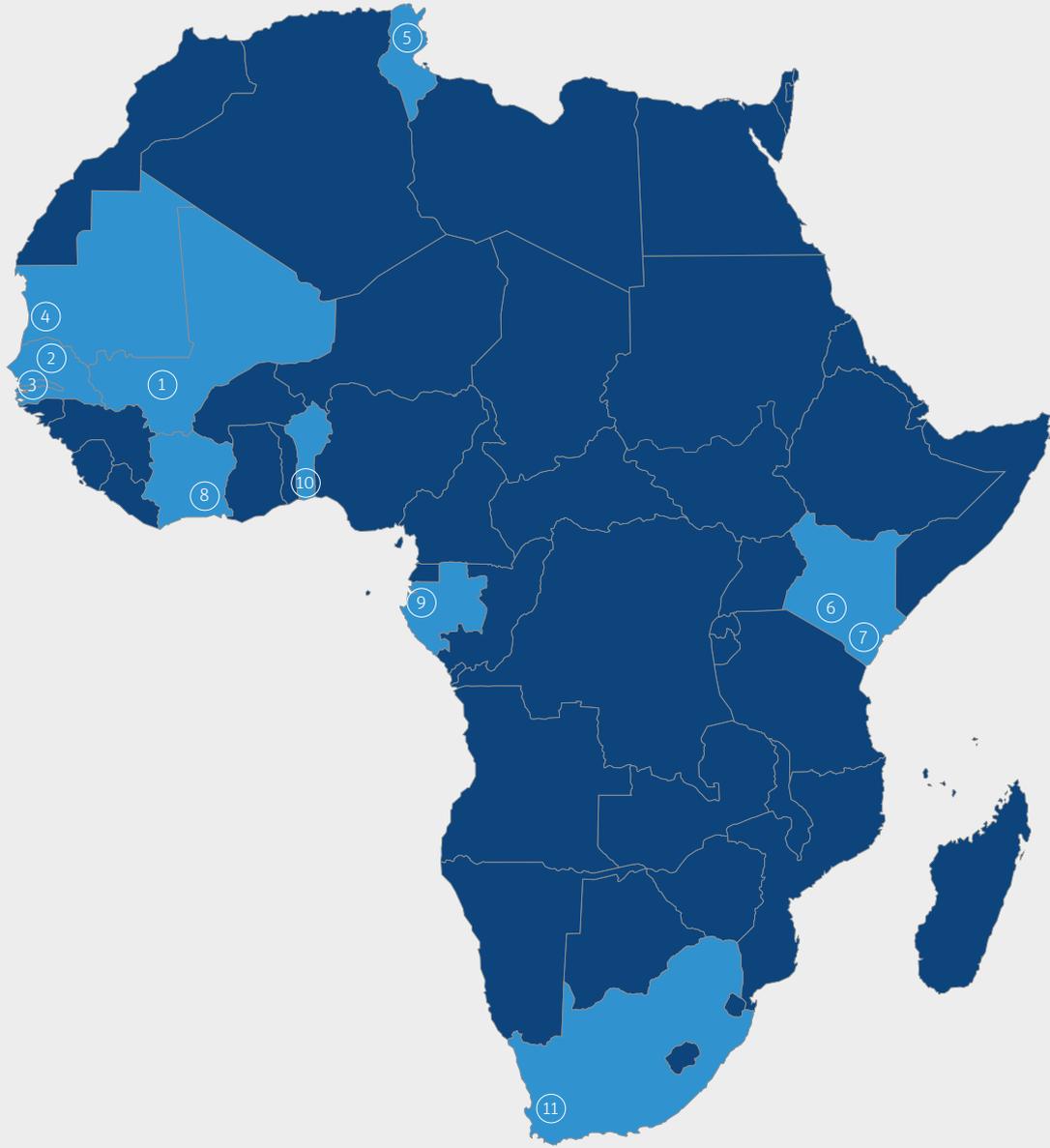
- **Journées de l'économie de Lyon (Jéco)** | Organized by la Fondation pour l'Université de Lyon | Represented by **Youssef El Jai**, Research Assistant - Economy

## 16 Clermont-Ferrand

- **The policy mix a decade after the crisis - it takes two to tango** | Organized by CERDI, Université Clermont Auvergne | Represented by **Mouhamadou Ly**, Senior Economist at the Policy Center

# INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

## AFRICA



## 1 Bamako

> **19<sup>ème</sup> édition du Forum de Bamako : Sécurité alimentaire et transformation structurelle de l'économie en Afrique** | In partnership with la Fondation Forum de Bamako

> **Sécurité alimentaire et transformation de l'économie** | Policy Center's side event at the Bamako's Forum

## 3 Banjul

> **Forum Malabo Montpellier : rapport sur le rôle des énergies renouvelables dans la transformation des systèmes alimentaires africains et sur leurs avantages pour les communautés rurales** | Organised by the Malabo Montpellier Panel | Represented by **Rim Berahab**, Economist at the Policy Center

## 5 Tunis

> **Non-Traditional Threads and Mediterranean Security: Present and Future challenges, shared responses and new strategies** | In partnership with NESAs and IEMED

> **Mediterranean Women Digital Summit under the theme Driving social innovation in education** | Organized by konrad adenauer stiftung | Represented by **Bouchra Rahmouni**, Director of Research, Partnerships & Events at the Policy Center

## 7 Mombasa

> **The Future of African Cities Conference: Where the Rubber Hits the Road: Africa's Cities as Poles of Growth** | Organized by the Brenthurst Foundation | Represented by **Khalid Chegraoui**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 10 Cotonou

> **L'évaluation d'impact en Afrique francophone : il est temps d'agir** | Organised by le Gouvernement du Bénin & International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) | Represented by **Mouhamadou Ly**, Senior Economist at the Policy Center

## 2 Dakar

> **Présentation des rapports annuels du Policy Center for the New South 2019** |

> **6<sup>ème</sup> édition du Forum International de Dakar sur la Paix et la Sécurité en Afrique** | Organised by France and Senegal | Represented by : **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 4 Nouakchott

> **Colloque des think tanks sahéliens, maghrébins et européens** | Organised by the Institut Mauritanien des Etudes Stratégiques | Represented by **Abdelhak Bassou** and **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellows at the Policy Center

## 6 Nairobi

> **Africa think Tank Summit: Tackling Implementation Challenges for Africa's Sustainable Development** | Organised by the African Capacity Building Foundation in partnership with the Government of Kenya, the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) | Represented by **Jalal Abdel-Latif**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

> **Africa Agriculture Status Report 2019 (AASR)** | Organized by Agra | Represented by **Mouhamadou Ly**, Senior Economist at the Policy Center

## 8 Abidjan

> **Strengthening capacity development effectiveness for inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa** | Represented by **Bouchra Rahmouni** Director of the Research, Partnerships & Events at the Policy Center

## 9 Libreville

> **6<sup>ème</sup> édition Africa Agri Forum** | Organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Breeding and Rural Development and OCP Africa | Represented by **Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub**, Economist at the Policy Center

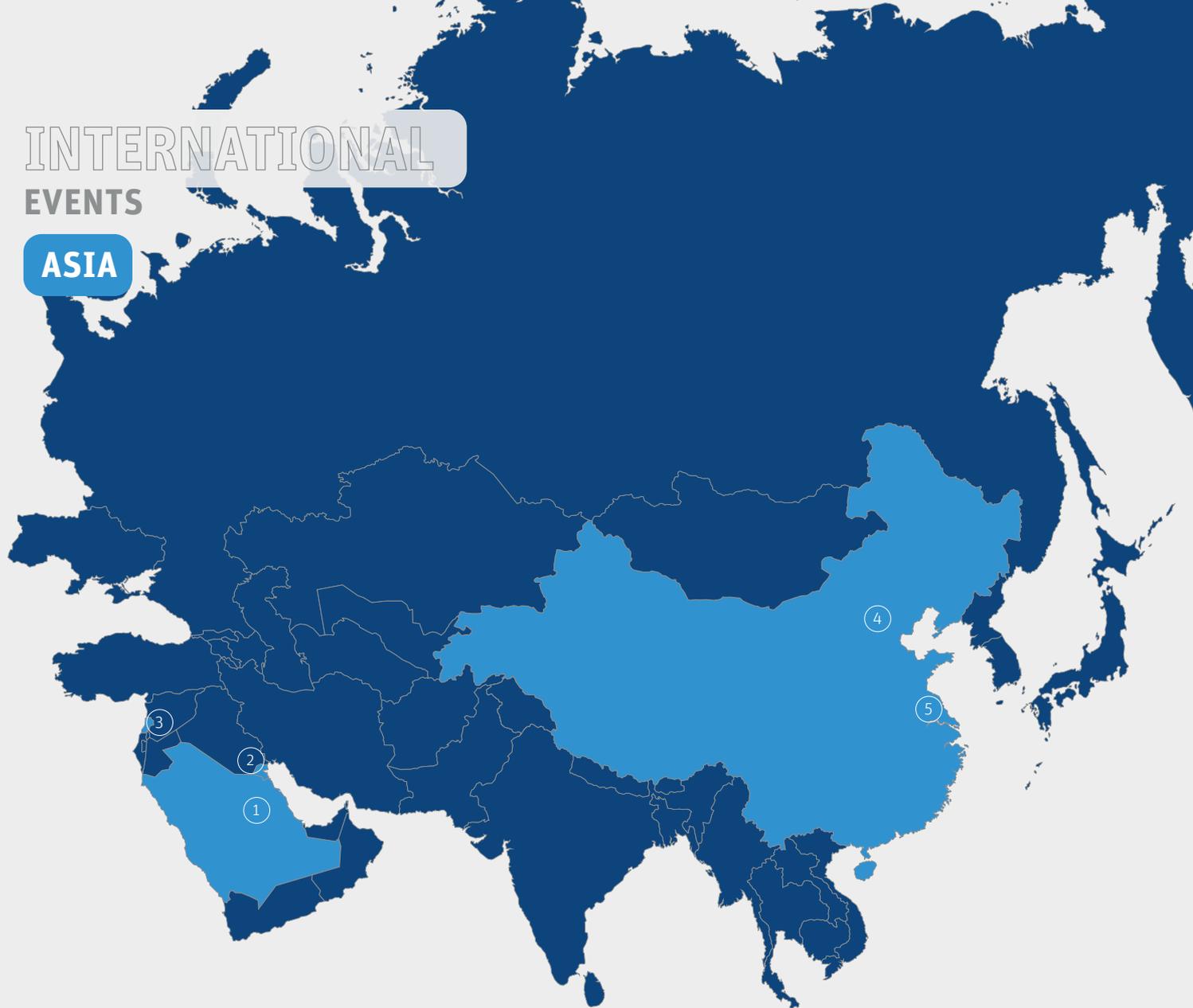
## 11 Stellenbosch

> **Exploring the futures of the governance of EU-AU relations** | Organised by The European Studies Association of Sub-Saharan Africa and GovInn | Represented by **Amal El Ouassif**, Research Assistant- international Relations

# INTERNATIONAL

## EVENTS

### ASIA



#### 1 Riyadh

- > **Towards MED: Regional Meetings ; Med-Red Linkage: Shared Problems and Common Opportunities between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea** | Organized by ISPI | Represented by **Khalid Chegraoui**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Saudi International Oil Fire safety conference (OFSAC 2019)** | Represented by **Francis Perrin**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

#### 4 Beijing

- > **Middle East Security Forum: Role of Dialogue of Civilizations in Counter-terrorism and De-radicalization** | Organized by the China Institute of International Studies | Represented by : **Abdelhak Bassou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

#### 2 Kuwait

- > **ERF 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference : Knowledge, Research Networks, and Development Policy** | Organized by The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development | Represented by **Aomar Ibourk**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center and **Tayeb Ghazi**, Economist at the Policy Center

#### 3 Beirut

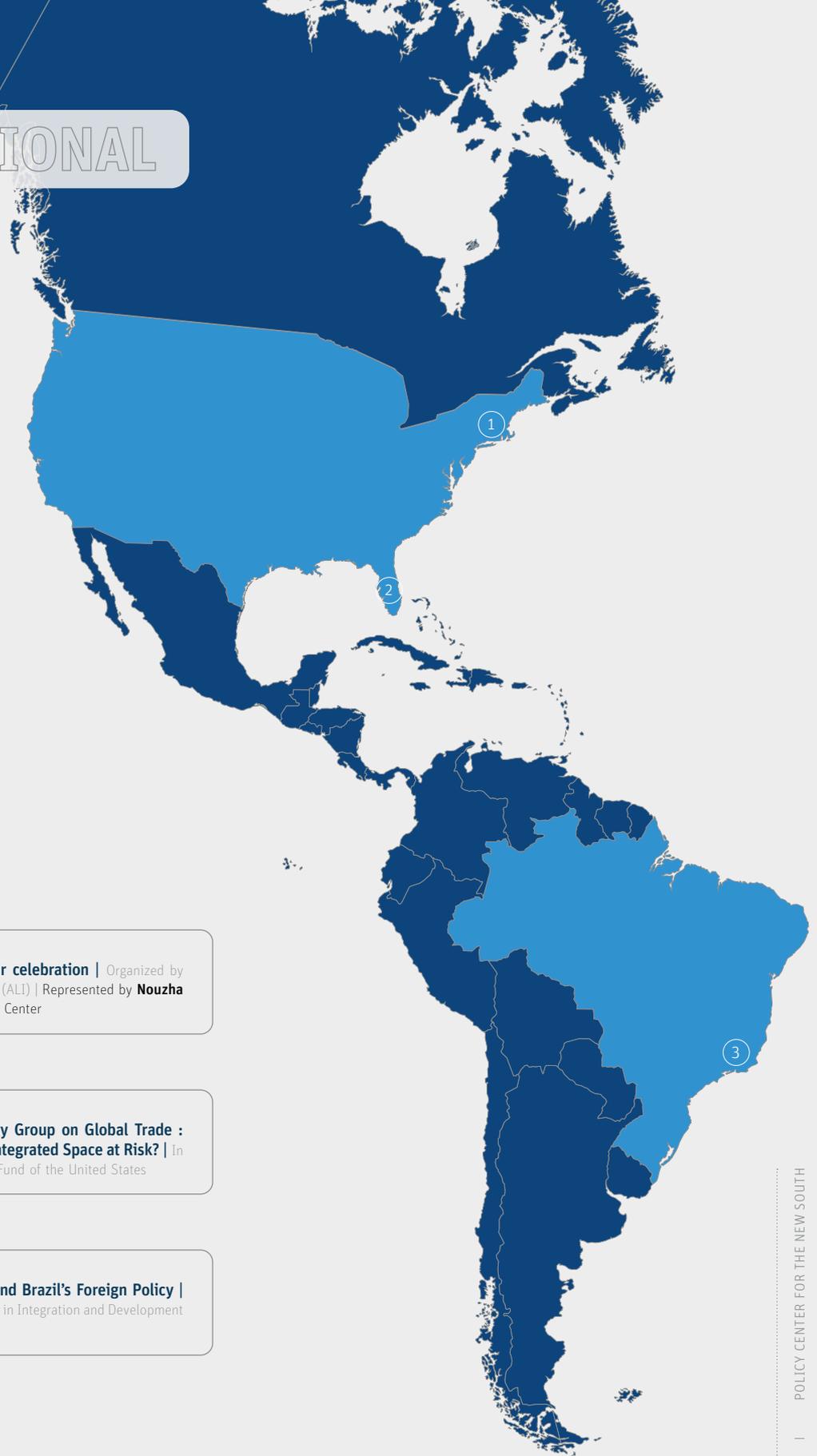
- > **In the Men's House : How to Integrate Women in Arab Armies** | Organized by the Carnegie Middle East Center | Represented by **El Mostafa Rezrazi**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

#### 5 Shanghai

- > **Fellowship SIIS** | Organized by Shanghai institutes for international studies | Represented by **Badr Mandri**, Research Assistant - Economics

# INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

## AMERICAS



### 1 Boston

> **ALI Final Symposium and 10 year celebration** | Organized by Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative (ALI) | Represented by **Nouzha Chekrouni**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

### 2 Miami

> **5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Atlantic Strategy Group on Global Trade : The Wider Atlantic Economy: An Integrated Space at Risk?** | In partnership with The German Marshall Fund of the United States

### 3 Rio de Janeiro

> **The New International Scenario and Brazil's Foreign Policy** | In partnership with the Center for Studies in Integration and Development (CINDES)

# NATIONAL

## EVENTS

The Policy Center seeks to promote its messages and foster dialogue through the numerous meetings it holds in Morocco. In addition to book presentations and seminars, the Policy Center hosts two major high-level conferences: the Atlantic Dialogues, devoted to establishing the voice and position of Africa in a rapidly evolving Atlantic future, and the African Peace and Security Annual Conference (APSACO), which focuses on security and peace in Africa.



- > **Un éclairage par pays dans le prisme continental africain** | By Patrick Plane
- > **Debt sustainability in Sub Saharan Africa** | By Ugo Panizza
- > **L'avenir de l'UE & Brexit : Vers quel dénouement** | By Dominique Bocquet
- > **Présentation du livre « La diplomatie dans le Maroc d'autrefois »** | By Ali Achour
- > **IMF World Economic Outlook Reports** | By Romain Alexander Duval
- > **European Energy Security : the new role of the Atlantic and the Portuguese speaking countries of the region**
- > **Research paper's presentation « Les cycles économiques ont-ils un effet asymétrique sur le chômage et la pauvreté? Cas du Maroc**
- > **Union Européenne : nouvelles dynamiques internes, partenariats extérieurs, commerce relations euro- méditerranéennes en perspective**
- > **Sur qui le nouveau président angolais Joao Lourenço fait reposer son pouvoir ?** | By Benjamin Augé
- > **Présentation de l'ouvrage Modèles de développement et expérience marocaine** | By Mohammed Chiguer
- > **Debt Sustainability in Sub-Saharan Africa**
- > **Rapport Annuel Mondial sur le Système Economique et les Stratégies 2019**
- > **Le rôle du mode de scrutin dans le comportement électoral au Maroc: le cas des élections communales de 2015** | By Ferrali Romain
- > **Book's presentation « La Gouvernance du Balai - le Nigéria sous Buhari : entre diversification économique et fédéralisme social** | By Alioune Ndiaye
- > **Présentation de l'ouvrage « RAMSES: Les Etats-Unis, la Chine... Et les autres »** | By M. Thierry de Montbrial
- > **Peacebuilding, Conflict Resolutions and Countering Extremism » (open hands)**
- > **Books' presentation "Chine-Afrique : une transformation économique", "Comment les pays apprennent : apprentissage technologique, politique industrielle et rattrapage" et "Le livre Oxford de l'économie éthiopienne"** | By H.E. Arkebe Oqubay
- > **Vers de Nouvelles routes de la soie durables** | By Thomas Melonio
- > **Book's presentation « Réconciliations. Pour une politique de développement renouvelée** | By Rémy Rioux
- > **Présentation du papier « Political Economy of Carbon Policy »** | By Robert Cairns
- > **Emerging Market and Developing Economies in the Global Economy »** | By Otaviano Canuto
- > **African Peace and Security Annual Conference – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**
- > **Will Trade Tensions Derail the Global Economic Expansion?** | By Uri Dadush
- > **IMF World Economic Outlook Reports** | By Romain Alexander Duval
- > **Book's presentation « Ouverture, productivité et croissance économique au Maroc »** | Joint book by the Laboratoire d'économie Appliquée, the Policy Center and the CNRST
- > **Les relations Maroc-Chinoises à l'aube des mutations géopolitiques et géo-économiques mondiales** | In partnership with the Moroccan ministry of economy and finance
- > **Why Think Tanks Matter In Africa** | In partnership with The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program
- > **4x4 Directors Forum: African-European Think Tank Dialogue** | In partnership with IFRI
- > **ARCADIA 2019 : l'Afrique et les marchés mondiaux de matières premières** | In partnership with Cyclope
- > **Addressing the New Landscape of Terrorism** | In partnership with Victoria University
- > **La place de l'Afrique dans le système de règlement des différends de l'OMC : Expérience, défis et perspectives** | In partnership with the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- > **Addressing the New Landscape of Terrorism international conference: climate change in Sahel Region** | In partnership with IEMed
- > **Special Economic Zones in North Africa** | In partnership with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and Tanger Med
- > **Intégration Régionale et Investissements Directs Etrangers : Retour sur les Expériences Brésilienne et Africaines** | In partnership with CINDES
- > **TSG Track II Middle East Strategic Dialogue** | In partnership with Institut Montaigne and The Shaikh Group
- > **China, Morocco and Africa: Ties for a shared Development** | In partnership with the Embassy of China in Morocco
- > **Marchés émergents en Afrique et opportunités pour les entreprises marocaines** | In partnership with CGEM
- > **Dialogues Stratégiques avec HEC : La crise du multilatéralisme : vers une redéfinition des relations Nord-Sud ? Et La nouvelle géopolitique de la Corne de l'Afrique** | In partnership with HEC Center for Geopolitics
- > **Atlantic Strategy Group on Global Trade** | In partnership with GMF
- > **Africa-Europe Partnership** | In partnership with Institut Montaigne
- > **Des modèles innovants pour un développement durable en Afrique** | In partnership with Corps Africa
- > **Forum Maroc-Belge : Un partenariat novateur au service des compétences »** | Organized by the Government Department in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Extremism, Globalization and the Post-Grand Narratives Era** | Organized by the université Mohammed V and The institute of Grenade for higher education and studies | Represented by **El Mostafa Rezrazi**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Eighth edition of the Africa Students and Youth Summit : The Future of Work - Prospects and Challenges for Young People** | Organized by the Moroccan Ministry of foreign Affairs, The Moroccan Agency For International Cooperation and the association des anciens étudiants Ghana – Morocco
- > **Participation à la Présentation sur le CPS de l'Union Africaine** | Organized by l'Institut Royal des Etudes Stratégiques (IRES) | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Participation à l'Atelier thématique sur la contribution du Maroc au Pacte Mondial sur les réfugiés** | Organized by the Government Department in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration and the UNHCR | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Participation to the Séminaire de restitution des résultats de l'étude : les effets de la politique budgétaire sur la pauvreté et les inégalités au Maroc, organized by the Ministry of Economy and finance - Morocco** | Represented by Hamza Saoudi, Economist at the Policy Center

## 2 Marrakech

- > **8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Atlantic Dialogues: The South in the Time of Turmoil**
- > **Contribution des Accords de commerce au développement au Maroc** | Organised by the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Planning for tomorrow's Work Force: is Africa ready** | In partnership with The African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (UNIDEP)
- > **World Policy Conference** | In partnership with l'Institut français des relations internationales (Ifri)
- > **Status Update on Energy Policy and Decarbonization in Morocco and the Region** | Organized by Enel Foundation & the Harvard Environmental Economics Program | Represented by **Rim Berahab**, Economist at the Policy Center

## 3 Casablanca

- > **2<sup>ème</sup> édition de l'Université d'été : l'entrepreneuriat, axe central de notre modèle de développement** | In partnership with the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM)
- > **Les enjeux de l'Afrique 2019** | Organized by MAZARS | Represented by **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center
- > **Contest Jeunes Talents de la Publicité : Changement climatique, de la croissance économique et des politiques publiques** | Organized by the Union des Agences Conseil en Communication (UACC), Institut français du Maroc (IFM) and the Groupement Des Annonceurs Du Maroc (GAM) | Represented by **Rim Berahab**, Economist at the Policy Center
- > **Changement climatique, croissance économique et politiques publiques – Cas du Maroc** | Organized by l'Union Francophone | Represented by **Rim Berahab**, Economist at the Policy Center
- > **Morocco Today Forum** | Organized by Groupe le Matin | Represented by **Lilia Rizk**, Program Officer Emerging Leaders at the Policy Center

## 4 Agadir

- > **Ouverture, productivité et croissance économique au Maroc** | In partnership with CNRST and Le Laboratoire d'Economie Appliquée de l'Université Mohammed V

## 5 Assilah

- > **Moussem Culturel International d'Assilah** | Organized by la Fondation du Forum d'Assilah | Represented by **Bouchra Rahmouni**, Director of Research, Partnerships & Events at Policy Center and **Yassir Essyagi**, Partnerships Manager at the Policy Center

## 6 Dakhla

- > **CRANS Montana Forum : Les défis du développement des projets d'énergie renouvelable en Afrique** | Organized by Crans Montana Forum et Moroccan Agency for Sustainable Energy (MASEN) | Represented by **Rim Berahab**, Economist at the Policy Center

## 7 Essaidia

- > **Forum international de la coopération et des partenariats locaux : intervention sur la dimension régionale (Maghreb, Afrique, Union Européenne) du modèle de développement à partir du cas marocain** | Supported by the Moroccan ministry of interior and the French ministry of foreign affairs | Represented by **Fathallah Oualalou**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center

## 8 Sale

- > **Le monde arabe dans la tourmente : perspectives possibles ? : Les économies arabes face aux impasses du développement : les enjeux de la nouvelle génération de réformes** | Organized by the Fondation Abou Bakr El Kadiri | Represented by **Larabi Jaïdi**, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center and **Nihal El Mquirmi**, Research Assistant - International Relations at the Policy Center

## 9 Tangier

- > **Participation aux journées Internationales Annuelles du Centre d'Excellence Jean Monnet** | Organized by Abdelmalek Essâadi University | Represented by **Amal El Ouassif** and **Nihal El Mquirmi**, Research Assistants - International Relations at the Policy Center



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCES

8<sup>th</sup>  
edition

## Atlantic Dialogues

December 12 > 14, 2019 📍 Marrakech



The Policy Center for the New South hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Atlantic Dialogues Conference in Marrakech on December 12 to 14, 2019, under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. Nearly 500 guests from 61 countries discussed 'The South in times of turmoil', a theme extending and complementing that of 2018, which was devoted to 'Atlantic Dynamics: Overcoming breaking points'.

This choice of theme was prompted by the multiple challenges confronting the South in the face of persistent conflicts and terrorist threats, sluggish growth rates failing to generate youth employment, accelerated urbanization and environmental degradation.

On the international stage, Africa and the countries of the South face a world beset by alarming surges in populism and nationalism, narrowing perceptions of national interest and national security, questioning of representative democracy, and challenges to the post-Cold War system of international governance.

Africa's Atlantic seaboard faces common challenges, including coastal urbanization, energy access issues and inadequate infrastructure. Accordingly, the Policy Center for the New South deems it necessary to build bridges over this space, to stimulate reflection and dialogue. The Atlantic basin indeed has unique

potential. It is an area where traditional partnerships need reinforcing and South-South relations need reinventing.

### Atlantic Dialogues, une proposition originale

- > Atlantic Dialogues, ranked as the 16<sup>th</sup> best think tank conference in the world according to the 2019 Global Go-To index (University of Pennsylvania). The annual meeting has been held since 2012 by the Policy Center for the New South; the 1<sup>st</sup> think tank in North Africa and 8<sup>th</sup> in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.
- > Altering mental maps and incorporating the South Atlantic into the global geopolitical debate. The Atlantic Dialogues provide a unique opportunity for Morocco and Africa to interact with Latin America and Northern partners.
- > Addressing the real issues: Atlantic Currents, an annual reference report, is published at the start of each Atlantic Dialogues. Open to Policy Center researchers and experts from a variety of backgrounds, the publication, reflecting the theme of the conference, features voices from the South analyzing the state of Africa and the world.
- > Conversing on equal footing while making room for young people. Each year, a new cohort of some 50 Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders (ADELs) from across the Atlantic region attend and fully engage in a two-day customized leadership pre-conference program.

## 486 participants of 61 nationalities

A balance was sought in terms of the regions and sectors participants come from. Participants form a community of regulars expanding year after year. In 2019, guests came from Europe (24%), North Africa and the Middle East (23%), sub-Saharan Africa (21%), North America (15%) and South America (9%). They came from the spheres of political decision-making, business (13%) and consultancy (6%), research (13%), think tanks (20%), the public sector (15%), international organizations (10%), civil society (11%) and the media (8%).

Political leaders in attendance were five former Heads of State and Government, including Olusegun Obasanjo (Nigeria) and Aminata Touré (Senegal), 28 ministers and former ministers, including Najat Vallaud-Belkacem (Education, France), Obiageli Ezekwesili (Education, Nigeria), Nuno Severiano Teixeira (Defense, Portugal), Paulo Portas (Foreign Affairs, Portugal) and counterparts Ignacio Walker (Chile), Mayu Avila (El Salvador), Jorge Castaneda (Mexico) and Hubert Védrine (France). Eighteen senior diplomats attended, including Maged Abdelaziz, Arab League Representative to the United Nations, João Vale de Almeida, European Union Ambassador to the United Nations, John Peter Pham, US Special Envoy to the Great Lakes, Angel Losada, EU Special Representative to the Sahel, and Richard Danziger, Director of the International Office for Migration (IOM) in West and Central Africa.

Internationally renowned researchers such as Greg Mills, Director of the Brenthurst Foundation in South Africa, or William Zartman of John Hopkins University, took an active part in the debates, as did representatives from the private sector, including Thione Niang (Senegal) and Dominique Lafont (France). Debates were, as every year, moderated by renowned journalists, including Zeinab Badawi, Alan Kasujja and Vera Kwakofi (BBC), in addition to Claude Grunitsky (True Africa), Borzou Daragahi (The Independent), Richard Werly (Le Temps) and Lourival Sant'Anna (O Estado de Sao Paulo).

### 'Uncertain Times'

In 11 plenary sessions, as many thematic breakout dinners, five evening sessions and five parallel lunches, high-level panels were conducted by leading personalities. Former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo opened the conference with a discussion of the "uncertain times" prevailing at the global level. In his words, "the world used to seek peace, stability, development, growth and progress. Most of these goals have been achieved with the exception of equity, justice and democracy, and multilateralism".

Other political, economic and societal themes were addressed, including the rise of populism, the crisis of democracy, the refugee issue, climate and energy, technology, well-being and inequalities, the next

international financial crisis and the chances of survival of a regulated system of world trade, generating considerable participant interest.



As in previous years, the conference closed with a panel devoted to Latin America, attended by former Heads of State, and a session honoring the conference's 50 Emerging Leaders. In his closing remarks, Karim El Aynaoui, President of the Policy Center for the New South, said: "The Atlantic Dialogues have been a wonderful experience, reflecting our values, which include passionate debate, agreement on disagreement, evidence-based analysis and work, open to dialogue, tolerant of difference... We see ourselves as the creators of a space, more than anything else. We and policymakers should pay more attention to you."







3<sup>th</sup>  
edition

# APSACO

## African Peace and Security Annual Conference

June 18 > 19, 2019

📍 Rabat



The Policy Center for the New South hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Peace and Security Annual Conference (APSACO) on June 18-19, 2019, under the heading 'Africa's Place and Influence in a Changing World'. This Conference offered a forum for exchange, enabling a comprehensive analysis of the challenges to Africa's position and influence, given the levers and assets at its disposal, and in light of its history, ability to overcome vulnerabilities and adapt to global shifts. The debate revolved around five issues shaping Africa's ability to gain a global competitive advantage

### 1) Africa and the world or how to untangle mutual perceptions?

The panel explored the thinking shaping representations of Africa's reconstruction trajectory, in African and global discourses.

### 2) Africa and the production of strategic and normative knowledge.

This panel offered reflections to support African knowledge-community empowerment to address global imbalances in strategic knowledge production and legal norm-setting.

### 3) Africa's resilience by pooling efforts.

The panel's mission was to explore avenues for African resilience to adapt to continental and global challenges through pooling of efforts, both within the African Union framework and at the regional level.

### 4) African security capabilities.

This panel reflected on African conflict prevention and management capabilities in light of challenges, ongoing reforms and contribution from international partnerships.

### 5) Towards a collective African strategy in the face of the interplay of global powers?

The panel studied the opportunities and constraints for Africa in terms of global power dynamics and the conditions for a true collective African strategy.



1. **Rida Lyammouri**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South
2. **Youness Abouyoub**, Director of the Governance and States-Building Division for the MENA Region, United Nations
3. **Hugo Sada**, Special Adviser, Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa
4. **Eric Ntumba**, Corporate and Investment Banker, Democratic Republic of the Congo
5. **Nouzha Chekrouni**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South
6. **Matsumoto Shoji**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South
7. **Lassina Diarra**, Researcher and Consultant, Centre for Strategies and Security for the Sahel Sahara (Centre 4S)
8. **Rumbidzai Chisenga**, Independent Consultant ; former Program Manager, Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS)
9. **Badreddine El Harti**, Principal Security Sector Reform Adviser, UNDP



# EVENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

1<sup>st</sup>  
edition

## 4x4 Directors' Forum

ifri

January 28, 2019 📍 Rabat



From left to right: **Kidane Kiros**, Director, Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), Ethiopia | **Lea Metke**, project officer to the director of l'Institut Français des Relations Internationales (Ifri), France | **Jonathan Eyal**, Associate Director, Strategic Research Partnerships at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), United Kingdom, | **Nchimunya Hamukoma**, Senior Researcher, The Brenthurst Foundation, South Africa | **Thomas Gomart**, Director, Institut Français des Relations Internationales (Ifri) | **Karin Von Hippel**, Director-General, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), United Kingdom, | **Marc-Antoine Eyl-Mazzega**, Director, Centre for Energy, Institut Français des Relations Internationales (Ifri), France | **Karim El Aynaoui**, President, Policy Center for the New South | **Matteo Villa**, Research Fellow, Europe and Global Governance and Business Scenarios Centre, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI), Italy, | **Idayat Hassan**, Director, Center for Democracy and Development, West Africa | **Michael Baltensperger**, Research assistant, Bruegel | **Paolo Magri**, Executive Vice President and Director, ISPI, Italy | **Mohammed Loulichki**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South | **Guntram Wolff**, Director, Bruegel | **Lilia Rizk**, Program Officer, Policy Center for the New South.

Think tanks play a significant role in the development of public policy and programs in virtually all areas. They provide platforms for better understanding of the rapid transformations and complex challenges at the local, national, continental, and global levels, bridging the gap between governments, research and academia, civil society, and the media. In an increasingly connected world, think tanks provide evidence-based assessments and analyses available to both the public and decision-makers.

Think tanks in the North and South, in Europe and in Africa, face similar challenges rooted in diverse and difficult environments. Ties between the African and European continents will continue to grow in the digital age, and solutions will only be possible through joint effort. As responsible members of civil society facing common challenges, think tanks must assert their role as

bridges between all stakeholders, and provide platforms that encourage dialogue. It is within this framework that the 4x4 Directors' Forum was born, as a joint initiative of the Policy Center for the New South and the French Institute of International Relations (Ifri). The initiative brings together four African and four European think-tank directors to discuss key topics of interest to think tanks, and to identify concrete avenues for cooperation. The idea is to help build solid bridges between the two continents.

The first 4x4 Directors' Forum took place in Rabat on January 28-29, 2019. Three topics of interest were discussed during this first forum: 1) migration, 2) energy and 3) external influences in Africa. The fourth and final session was devoted to discussions around research agendas and think tanks' areas of interest, to collectively reflect on upcoming steps for the Forum.

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
edition

# Strategic Dialogues

April 10, 2019 📍 Paris

HEC  
PARIS



The Policy Center for the New South and the HEC Center for Geopolitics have since 2016 organized biannual Strategic Dialogues.

The seventh Strategic Dialogues took place on April 10, 2019, in Paris. Discussions focused on the crisis of multilateralism and the new geopolitics of the Horn of Africa. The 8th edition was held at the Policy Center for the New South's new offices in Rabat on October 17, 2019. It addressed the challenges posed by navalization and the global increase in maritime trade, and insularity within the African Union.

The Strategic Dialogues are seminars during which decision-makers and experts exchange views on a global issue with some sixty leading researchers and practitioners, before debating an issue of regional interest. This platform for reflection and exchange brings together experts, researchers from various think tanks and the academic world, practitioners, and political decision-makers to debate major global geopolitical and security issues, and issues of common importance for Europe and Africa.



(1)



(2)

(3)

1. Pascal Chaigneau, Director of HEC center of geopolitics | 2. Hubert Védrine, Former minister of foreign affairs of France  
3. Karim El Aynaoui, President of the Policy Center for the New South

# China, Morocco and Africa: Ties for a Shared Development

September 19, 2019 📍 Rabat



The Policy Center for the New South organized a conference in Rabat in partnership with the Chinese Embassy in Morocco on September 19, 2019, titled China, Morocco and Africa: Ties for a Shared Development. This brought together Chinese and African experts, researchers and other stakeholders to discuss issues of Sino-African economic cooperation. Participants analyzed four priority areas for China and Africa, with a focus on Morocco: infrastructure, industry, trade, and development strategies.

Discussions retraced the history and rationale underlying China's Belt and Road Initiative, exploring comparative growth paths, and particularly how Morocco-China partnerships can be of value to the regional economic context implemented by a wide range of stakeholders and through instruments in the development areas mentioned above.



1. S.E. Li Li, Ambassador, Embassy of the People's Republic of China to Morocco  
2. Karim El Aynaoui, President of the Policy Center for the New South

# Presentation of Policy Center Annual Reports in Dakar

October 2, 2019 📍 Dakar



From left to right : **Zakaria Yahya Jouhari**, Program officer, Policy Center for the New South | **Larabi Jaidi**, Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South | **Younoussa Mball**, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal | **Moubarak Lo**, Advisor to Prime Minister of Senegal and Senior Fellow, Policy Center for the New South | **Philippe Chalmin**, Founder of CyclOpe

The Policy Center for the New South presented its three annual reports on the economy, commodities and geopolitics in Africa on October 2, 2019 in Dakar.

Two high-level invitational seminars, based on these documents and attended by experts from both North and South, were held with the theme 'Morocco-Senegal: for a balanced vision of South-South development models'.

The first seminar, organized in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), focused on presentation of the ARCADIA report on raw materials, published in April 2019. This reference report, compiled by 28 experts, reviewed current trends in commodities, including oil, phosphates, and horticultural products.

Among the speakers were Philippe Chalmin, Founder of CyclOpe, co-director of the report with the Policy Center, Serigne Gueye Diop, Minister Advisor to the President of the Republic of Senegal, Dogo Seck, Secretary General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment of Senegal,

Abdellah Mouttaqi, Secretary General of the National Office of Hydrocarbons and Mines (Morocco), Marie-Louise Djigbenou-Kre, economist at BCEAO, and Fatima Ezzahra Mengoub, agro-economist at the Policy Center.

The second seminar focused on presentation of the African Economic Report, made up of some 20 contributions from leading experts from a variety of countries and institutions, including Morocco, Zimbabwe, Senegal, and Central Africa. Edited by economist and Senior Fellow Larabi Jaidi, the report examined challenges to the African Continental Free Trade Area and provided a cross-cutting perspective on African economic multilateralism. It was presented in the presence of Papa Dialo Zator Mbaye, Minister-Counsellor to the President of the Republic of Senegal, and a number of Senior Fellows of the Policy Center, including Moubarack Lo, Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of Senegal.

The Report on the Geopolitics of Africa, published on September 26, 2019, was presented by Abdelhak Bassou, Senior Fellow at the Policy Center.

# Innovative models for sustainable development in Africa

July 11, 2019 📍 Rabat



The Policy Center for the New South and CorpsAfrica/Morocco organized a working session entitled 'Innovative models for sustainable development in Africa', on July 11, 2019 in Rabat. This round table brought together several experts involved in development in Africa in general, and in Morocco in particular. A number of issues were addressed, including improved access to and socio-economic inclusion of rural populations (particularly in resource-poor regions), and the investment capital

needed to reduce the physical, economic, and social isolation of these populations. Civil society's involvement was also on the agenda, since civil society groups have the capacity to design and implement innovative and relatively inexpensive approaches for the benefit of the populations concerned. This working session also showcased the work accomplished by CorpsAfrica/Morocco, since its creation in 2013, in Morocco, Senegal, Malawi, and Rwanda.



# Mediterranean Strategy Group

June 12, 2019 📍 Marseille



From left to right: **Anne Marie Brady**, Program Officer (German Marshall Fund) | **Fathallah Sijilmassi**, Former Secretary-General of the Mediterranean Union | **Paolo Verme**, Senior Economist at the World Bank | **Önder Yalcin**, Director of Migration Management Department at Gaziantep, Turkey

The Policy Center for the New South, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Center for Mediterranean Integration, and Compagnia di San Paolo, organized the Mediterranean Strategy Group - Migration on June 12, 2019, in Marseille, France, under the banner 'Cities on the Frontline'. The purpose of the meeting was to generate fresh ideas about how cities, governments and international organizations can best engage and respond to macroeconomic issues, particularly through policy decisions taken at the municipal level.

The Mediterranean environment, fraught with new challenges of security, crisis, and conflict, is changing at an accelerated pace. Coastal States and other countries of the region have acquired new military capabilities. Technology changes impact the military balance of the Mediterranean, including the presence in the region of powerful external players. In this context, the Mediterranean Strategy Group 20, organized by the Policy

Center, in partnership with the GMF, Compagnia di San Paolo, and the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD), took place in Naples under the title 'New Military Dynamics in the Mediterranean'. The Policy Center was represented by its Senior Fellow, Alfredo Da E Abreu Valladao



# Africa's Place in the WTO Dispute Settlement System



PROGRAMME  
DE CHAIRES  
DE L'OMC

April 15, 2019  Rabat



The Policy Center for the New South, in partnership with the WTO Chairs Program and the WTO Chair at Mohammed VI University, organized a workshop on April 15, 2019, entitled 'Africa's Place in the WTO Dispute Settlement System: Experience, Challenges and Prospects', to launch a debate on Africa's place in the WTO dispute settlement system.

The workshop also celebrated the WTO's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and coincided with Morocco's first experience of using the organization's dispute settlement system.

Participants deliberated in three panels:

- I) The WTO dispute settlement system between normative role, cyclical crisis and reform;
- II) Identification of the principal difficulties hindering the use of this system by African countries, with the successful experiences of selected Latin American countries as a benchmark;
- III) Proposals on ways to build the African capacities necessary to effectively use the WTO dispute settlement system



1. **Assia Bensalah Alaoui**, Ambassador at large of His Majesty King Mohammed VI | 2. **Adnane Kaab**, PhD student | 3. **Niall Meagher**, Executive Director, the Advisory Centre on WTO Law (ACWL) | 4. **Yvan Rwananga**, Former Dispute Settlement Lawyer at the WTO | 5. **Abdelaziz Ait Ali**, Senior Economist, Policy Center for the New South

# Addressing the New Landscape of Terrorism

April 20 > 22, 2019 📍 Rabat



The Policy Center for the New South, in partnership with Victoria University in Melbourne, Australia, hosted the third international conference on Addressing the New Landscape of Terrorism. The conference was attended by some 40 international experts working

on topics including the return of foreign fighters and disengagement, local terrorism, and the importance of civil society in preventing and combating violent extremism



# Climate Security in the Sahel and the Mediterranean: Local and Regional Solutions

IEMed.

April 30, 2019 📍 Rabat



In partnership with the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed), the Policy Center for the New South organized a round table in Rabat on April 30, 2019, on 'Climate Security in the Sahel and the Mediterranean: Local and Regional Responses'. The conference provided an opportunity to launch the joint publication of the same title, under the leadership of Senior Fellow Abdelhak Bassou. The study addresses the effects of climate

change on Mediterranean countries and extends its analysis to the European Union as a whole, the Maghreb countries and, above all, the Sahel, an area that will be deeply affected by the future development of Euro-Mediterranean relations and links. Experts contributing to the publication, from both shores of the Mediterranean, presented their findings during this round table



# How Can Special Economic Zones Lead to Growth and Integration in North Africa?

June 20 > 21, 2019  Rabat



North Africa has enormous economic potential with significant natural resources and industrial production capacity. The region remains, however, among the world's least-integrated and lacks transnational cooperation. This impedes overall development, causes high unemployment and exposes countries to price volatility. Given these challenges, the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is among the economic and trade tools that can help generate growth and foster regional integration.

To this end, the Policy Center for the New South, in partnership with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the EastWest Institute and Tanger Med, organized a conference on 'How can Special Economic Zones lead to Growth and Integration in North Africa?'. This meeting brought together leading experts and practitioners from Maghreb countries, the Middle East, and international institutions, to formulate policy recommendations, identify practical and applicable approaches to SEZs and propose potential SEZ projects suitable for the Maghreb context.

# Regional Integration and Foreign Direct Investment: Review of Brazilian and African Experiences



June 25, 2019  Rabat



In an effort to enhance the economic relationship between Brazil and Morocco, and to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the Policy Center for the New South, in partnership with Brazilian think tank CINDES, organized a round table on June 25, 2019, at Policy Center premises in Rabat, on the theme of 'Regional Integration and Foreign Direct Investment: Review of Brazilian and African Experiences'. The event enabled African development stakeholders to illustrate the issue of regional economic integration, the theme of the first session.

South American regional integration was showcased by studying the experience of MERCOSUR, its achievements

and challenges. The African experience was then discussed, identifying current trends in such initiatives and the main lessons learned from the South American experience, since both South America and Africa have long-standing experience of interregional and regional integration. Participants in the second session focused on Chinese FDI trends in Brazil and Africa. China is now the largest foreign direct investor in Brazil, mainly through state-owned enterprises investing in infrastructure, notably in the energy sector. Chinese FDI in Africa has grown considerably over the last decade. So has the number of recipient countries. Today, virtually all African countries are beneficiaries of increasing diversified Chinese FDI.

# Bamako Forum

## side-event

February 21 > 23, 2019 📍 Bamako



Building on the close relationships established with counterparts all over the world, particularly in Africa, and in keeping with its South-South approach, the Policy Center for the New South organized a seminar on February 20, 2019, on the sidelines of the Bamako Forum, entitled 'Food Security and Structural Transformation of African Economies'.

Africa is endowed with substantial natural and human resources capable of making the agricultural sector a pillar of development and an engine of growth. A vast and rich continent with a predominantly rural population, it is essential that Africa's agricultural

sector be properly organized and structured to ensure food security for the population, and to bring about the structural transformation of African economies. The Policy Center held this seminar to delve deeper into issues related to meeting the food needs of African populations and making a success of the green revolution on the continent. The meeting was attended by leading experts and African agricultural and food security specialists, including Professor Mohammed Rachid Doukkali, Senior Fellow of the Policy Center, and Kabiné Komara, former Prime Minister of Guinea and former High Commissioner to the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River.

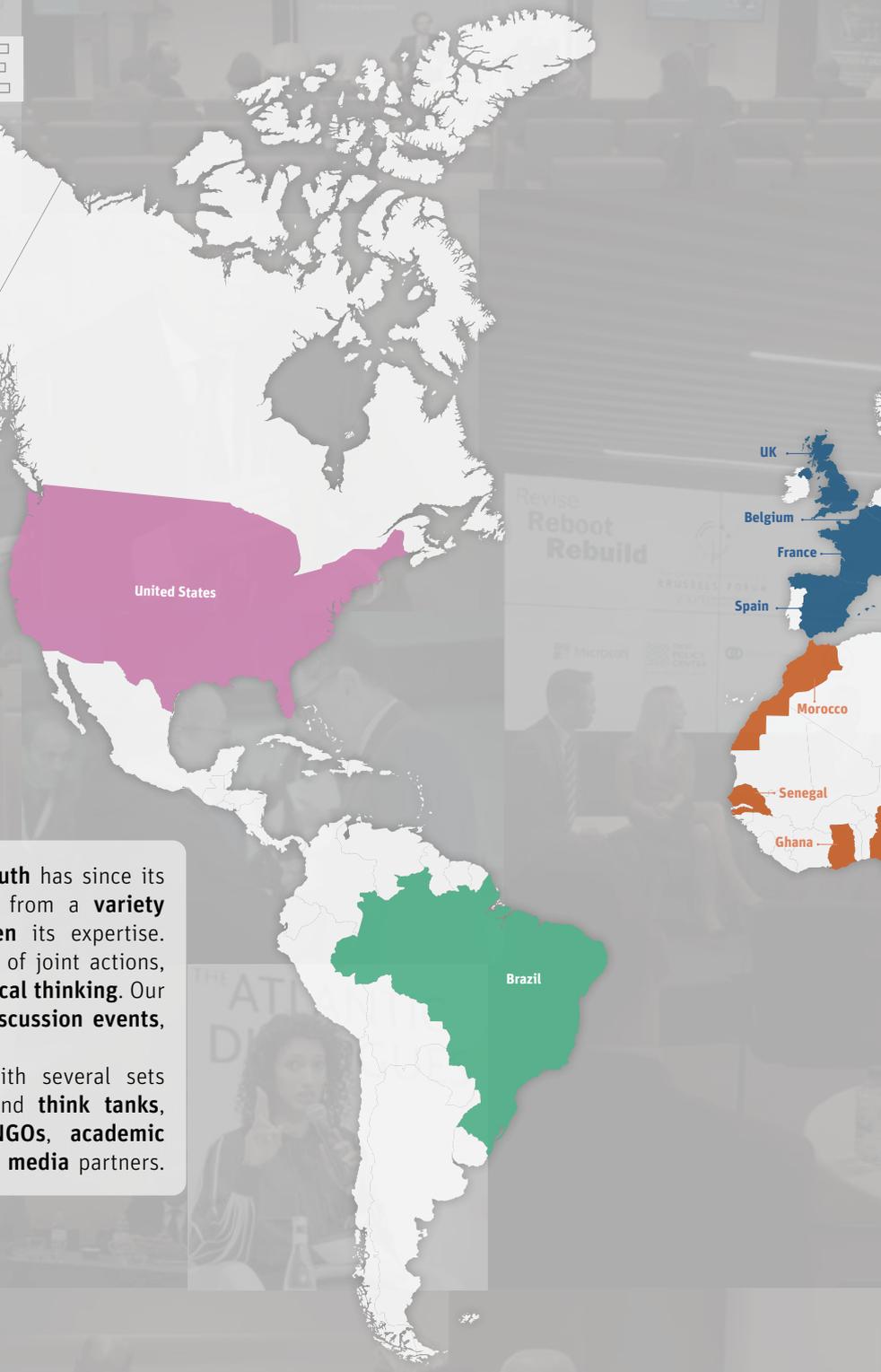


# OUR PARTNERS

# WORLDWIDE

The **Policy Center for the New South** has since its inception collaborated with partners from a **variety of backgrounds** in order to **broaden** its expertise. Partnerships encompass a wide range of joint actions, all of which are geared towards **analytical thinking**. Our joint projects include **publications, discussion events, expert exchanges, and podcasts**.

The Policy Center collaborates with several sets of partners: **institutional partners and think tanks, International Organizations and NGOs, academic partners, private sector partners, and media partners.**



## North America

## Africa

CSIS | **SEKEDI FER STRATEGI & INTERNASIONAL SYLLIBUS** | G | M | F

Atlantic Council | PIIE

ROYAUME DU MAROC | **MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE, DU COMMERCE, DE L'INDUSTRIE, DE L'ÉNERGIE, DE L'ÉQUIPEMENT ET DE L'ÉCONOMIE NUMÉRIQUE**

ROYAUME DU MAROC | **MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉCONOMIE ET DES FINANCES**

TANGER MED PORT AUTHORITY

MALABO MONTPELLIER FORUM

THE NIGERIAN ECONOMIC SUPPORT GROUP

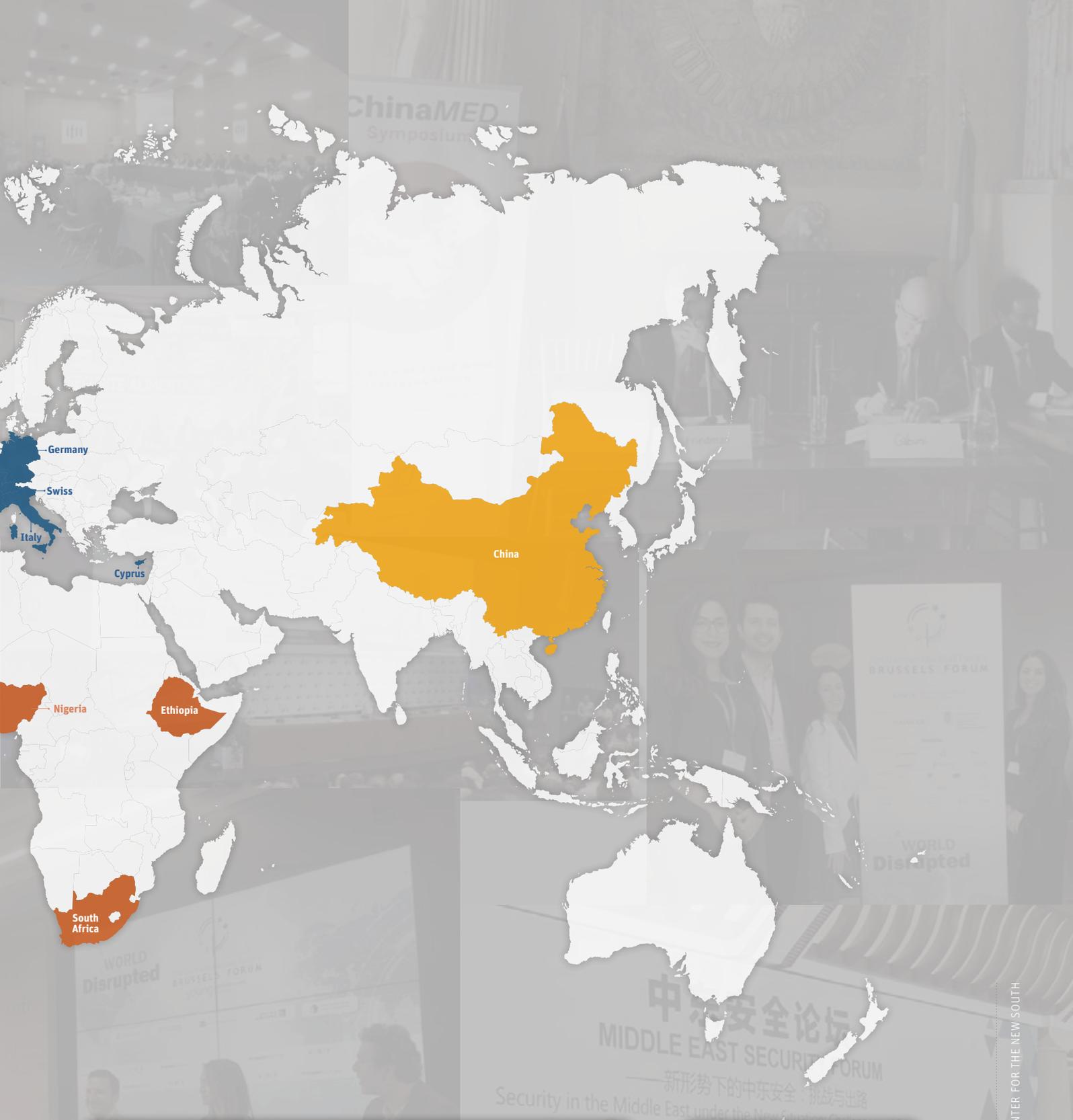
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THE AFROCHAMPIONS INITIATIVE

INNOVATION HUBS DE KENYA



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