

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY KING MOHAMMED VI



**AFRICA  
SECURITY  
FORUM 2023**

# The impact of Russia-Ukraine conflict across Africa

- Energy Transition
- Food Sovereignty
- Economic Development

**DECEMBER  
10-11-12, 2023  
CASABLANCA**

**ATLANTIS**

مركز للبحوث والدراسات الجيوستراتيجية  
Centre de Recherches et d'Études Géostratégiques  
Center for Geostategic Research and Studies



# AFRICA SECURITY FORUM 2023



# FOREWORD

ATLANTIS Center for Geostrategic Research and Studies ([www.atlantis--center.org](http://www.atlantis--center.org)), founded in 2015 and headquartered in Casablanca, Morocco is committed to a free exchange of politically and intellectually independent cutting edge ideas, focused on promoting understanding and the analysis of impacts from emerging issues across the world, especially those with Atlantic and African perspectives. It is the founding host of the Africa Security Forum, which provides it with access to a wide audience.

The Centre's mission is to bring together teams of academics, researchers and specialists with acknowledged expertise and publish analytical papers and information pieces. In addition, the Center also draws up proposals as well as participate in debates on social, economic and geostrategic issues through the security lens and from our respective fields of expertise.

Through this year's Forum theme of «The impact of Russia-Ukraine conflict across Africa», we intend to reflect on the emerging challenges arising from the war/conflict, and to consider if it could provide us opportunities, as long as we do not fall into the trap of withdrawing into ourselves or worse, becoming more dependent on new alliances.

I have no doubt we stand to benefit from new thinking coming from seasoned individuals and teams buttressed by professionalism while also relying on the faithful support of continental or external think tanks who regularly collaborate with us in our research work. We also look forward to the debates that animate our annual Forum.

The organisation of these thematic fora which underscore our work requires the support of individuals, groups and companies as well as patrons who are concerned by the transcontinental echo that our forum brings to the table. Without their support and contribution, our task would be made more difficult and our audience more limited.

Hence why logistical support, as well as the intellectual contribution you will no doubt bring to the Forum, will testify to the relevance of the alliance between the world of reflection and that of big business while signifying the power of synergies that are being implemented for the benefit of this approach.

This year's edition of the Africa Security Forum promises to be extra special, in particular its format and its return to its initial editions, as it once again takes place in Casablanca, the economic capital of the Kingdom.

This new format aims to be more eco-responsible, concerned about its carbon footprint and adapted to the economic constraints of the moment linked to both the effects of the pandemic as well as the war which threatens the European continent, but not only that. We intend to replace the usual format of one large gathering with smaller groups of participants who will debate on three main themes; these will subsequently be widely disseminated on our social networks, digital support and media.

The ambition of the Forum, following the silence imposed on us by Covid 19, is to be able to continue to offer to our participants (experts, speakers, institutions, companies et al) the opportunity to discuss in a modern and perhaps interactive format, as the times make available to us. The meeting will also provide us an opportunity to reflect deeper on the theme of Africa Security Forum 2023, «The impact of the Russo-Ukraine conflict across Africa».

Thank you.



**Driss Benomar**  
President, Atlantis

# The consequences of Russia-Ukraine conflict across Africa

We will need to re-examine our existing strategic partnerships to better prepare ourselves for the challenges of the future, particularly on energy, food resources and sovereignty and on economic development.

The same will be true for every new partner who will knock on the door of Africa.

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine has the potential to re-define relations between the West and the rest of the world, in particular with the African continent. In fact, we have begun to see permutations of these developments taking place across the globe.

From the first days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the European Union strongly condemned President Putin's decision and imposed the strongest economic sanctions against Russia.

However, African countries appear more divided. A few months on, far from the theatre of conflict, Africa is in the hot seat: the longer the war stretches on, the more severe the economic impact, which will have lasting consequences among some of our countries. The risk of conflicts breaking out is real.

Recently, the visit of the President of the African Union, H.E. Mr. Azlai ASSOUMI, President of the Union of Comoros, accompanied by a large delegation, to the two leaders provided the African continent an opportunity to manifest its desire for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. This is particularly important as Africa bears the

brunt of the economic fallout from the war vis-a-vis the costs of cereals and legumes and its transport.

How will Africa make its voice heard on matters of sovereignty, if it does not take a firm and unanimous position regarding the invasion of Ukraine?

Can the neutrality of some States or a position of non-alignment of others lead to further marginalisation of Africa in international affairs?

From where we stand, the emerging multipolar world is an opportunity for Africa

CREG  
Center for Geostategic Research and Studies



## TOPIC 1 Energy Transition

### Target

150 participants, experts and representatives of the Continent in person, composed mainly of ministerial authorities, diplomatic representatives, senior officials, specialists and business leaders.

But also the African continent, its diaspora and its partners.

### Guest countries

Germany, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Congo- Brazzaville, South Korea, Ivory Coast, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Spain, United States, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Great Britain, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Equatorial Guinea, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Chad, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, Zambia.

## TOPIC 2 Food Sovereignty

### Guest Think Tank

Potomac Institute for Policy Studies (US), International Crisis Group (US), Chatham House (UK), Center for Strategic and International Studies (US), International Institute for Strategic Studies (UK), Institute for Security Studies (EU), International Peace Research Institute (Norway), Royal Elcano Institute (Spain), Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflits (Germany), Institute of International and Strategic Relations (France), Africa Middle-East Center (South Africa), German Institute (Germany), Brussels International Center for Research and Human Rights (Belgium), Peking University (China), IPSS (Ethiopia), Institute for Security Studies (Ethiopia), Euro-Maghreb circle (France), Zenon (France), Institute of International Affairs (Italy), CNESS Niger (Niger), White Ink Institute (Nigeria), Clingendael (Netherlands), HCSS (Netherlands), College of Advanced Defense Studies (Democratic Republic of Congo), CCenter for Studies for the Development and Prevention of Extremism (CEDPE) (Chad), Academy of Social Sciences (China).

### Guest Institutions

UN, FAO, UNICEF, African Union, European Union, UNESCO, World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, dependent on the UN), African Institute of Governance (AIG), Institute of International and Strategic Relations (IISR), Graduate Institute of International Studies (GIIS), European Institute of Advanced International Studies (EISA).

## TOPIC 3 Economic Development

**Date & venue :**  
**DECEMBER**  
**10-11-12,**  
**2023**  
**CASABLANCA**

# PROGRAM

## Sunday, December 10, 2023

19h00-21h30 Welcoming Cocktail

## Monday, December 11, 2023

08h30 - 09h00 Arrival of participants

**09h00 - 10h30 Opening session**

10h30 - 10h45 Coffee break

**10h45 - 12h30 Topic 1 - Energy Transition**

**12h30 - 14h00 Lunch**

**14h00 - 15h45 Topic 2 - Food Sovereignty**

15h45 - 16h00 Coffee break

**16h00 - 17h45 Topic 3 - Economic Development**

17h45 - 18h00 Coffee break

**18h00 - 19h30 Synthesis, Acknowledgements, Closing**

**20h30 - 21h30 Closing Dinner**

## Tuesday, December 12, 2023

**B to B Meetings (Reserved rooms)**

**Private Interview (Reserved lounge)**

**Departure of Participants**



AFRICA  
SECURITY  
FORUM 2023

## 2019 Edition in figures

Date : November 24, 25 and 26, 2019

Venue : Sofitel, Rabat

Attendance : 400 participants  
representing over 50 countries





«I remain convinced that the future of the old European continent will go through a peace treaty... but also thanks to its leadership in Africa led by his Majesty King Mohammed VI», underlines Mr. Borloo. - Le Matin.ma

Africa Security Forum 2019 : «continent of all possibilities» - Afrique. Latribune.fr



This meeting will be a crucible for reflection on the impact of climate change on security in Africa. - Challenge



The objective is to provide responses to the impact of climate change on the security of African populations - L'Economiste.com





Africa Security Forum 2019 : Focus on security issues – Challenge

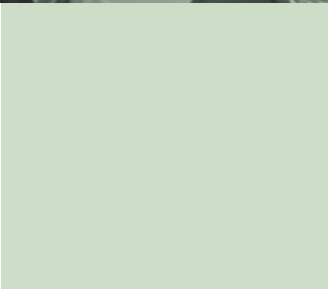


An incubator of ideas and a space for reflection, the ASF 2019 will see the participation of ministerial authorities... – EcoActu

Extreme weather events have reached alarming levels since 2015 – LesEco.ma



Africa Security Forum launches the «Club de Casablanca» - Industries.ma



# MEDIA COVERAGE 2019

## TV



## ARABIC PRESS



## AFRICAN PRESS



## FRENCH PRESS



## ARABIC WEB MEDIA



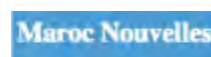
## ENGLISH WEB MEDIA



## CHINESE WEB MEDIA



## FRENCH WEB MEDIA



## PRESS AGENCY



## WEB TV





AFRICA  
SECURITY  
FORUM 2023

**ATLANTIS**

مركز للبحوث والدراسات الجيوستراتيجية  
Centre de Recherches et d'Études Géostratégiques  
Center for Geostrategic Research and Studies

📍 41, Rue Kharzouza - CIL. 20200  
Casablanca. Morocco

☎ +212 5 22 94 57 10

✉ [contact@atlantis-center.org](mailto:contact@atlantis-center.org)

🌐 [www.atlantis-center.org](http://www.atlantis-center.org)