Africa in the face of exogenous shocks: challenges of stability and sovereignty
International Forum of Dakar on Peace and Security in Africa

8th edition - 24 & 25 October 2022

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A look at the political and security situation in Africa clearly shows a growing terrorist threat, persistence of hotbeds of tension and the resurgence of military coups.

This has led to a worrying humanitarian situation with millions of internally displaced persons and refugees, exacerbated by the compounding effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

These combined factors are too much for structurally vulnerable economies. In addition to further straining the socio-economic conditions of our countries, they jeopardise the foundations of peace on the continent.

This is why it is important to stimulate reflection on these local threats of global scope, as interdependencies, interlocking interests and geostrategic issues make the world appear more than ever like a global village. A localized crisis can always affect other countries, even other continents.

This is why the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa has set itself the task of contributing to highlighting the continent’s security challenges, as well as ways and means for addressing them, in an inclusive, civil-military, intra-African approach, open to the rest of the world.

This year’s Edition aims to question the sovereignty of the continent, which is too often exposed to its heavy dependence on the outside world; hence its particular vulnerability to exogenous shocks in vital areas such as food, health, energy and security, etc.

While pointing to our ills and weaknesses, we must not overlook our potential and strengths: a young human capital that needs to be educated and trained, abundant natural resources that need to be harnessed further, and an increasingly multipolar international dynamic that offers opportunities for diversified partnerships.

This is what led me, in my capacity as current Chairperson of the African Union, to support and defend the continent’s application for a permanent seat within the G20 as a full member and not as a guest whose participation is at the discretion of the host country.

Ultimately, whatever the challenges before us, I remain convinced that we hold the key to our success. This lies in our capacity for mobilisation, resilience and perseverance in our efforts.

Together, let us make the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa the seed of a peaceful, revitalised Africa, on a steady path towards emergence.
As the world is struggling to recover from the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine has been a reminder, if need be, of our common destiny.

However, in addition to facing the most acute security threats, from the Sahel to the Horn of Africa, including the Lake Chad Basin and the Great Lakes region, our continent is relentlessly subjected to the repercussions of external shocks that often confine it, unfortunately, to a theatre of experimentation and positioning of other international actors.

As the President of the Republic, H.E. Macky SALL, recently noted from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly, “Africa has suffered enough of the burden of history: it does not want to be the place of a new cold war, but rather a pole of stability and opportunities, open to all partners on a mutually beneficial basis.”

It is in this most worrying global and regional context that the 8th Edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa will be held from 24-25 October 2022, under the theme “Africa in the face of exogenous shocks: Challenges of stability and sovereignty”.

This theme is in line with the campaign that President Macky SALL has always led on the world stage, particularly in his capacity as current Chairperson of the African Union.

This campaign pushes for reform of the international system which has until now reserved for Africa a marginal role, that is unsuited to its dream of emergence and stability. For a global governance system that is fair and adapted to the world of today and tomorrow cannot ignore the aspirations of a continent which is the 8th largest economy in the world with a population of 1.3 billion. This shows the relevance of the plea for its permanent representation on the United Nations Security Council and a seat within the G20, which has broad and growing support.

President Macky SALL’s campaign is also about taking into account the continent’s interests on many international issues.

Thus, during his meeting in Sochi with his Russian counterpart, President Vladimir Putin, he made access to grain and fertiliser stocks a key issue, while calling for peaceful resolution to the war in Ukraine. The agreement reached between Kiev and Moscow, under the aegis of the United Nations, with the facilitation of Türkiye, shows that we should give absolute priority to diplomacy and multilateralism, as symbolised principally by the UN.

On the nagging issue of climate change, Senegal advocates reconciling the imperative of energy transition with the development requirements of Africa, where some 600 million people still have no access to electricity. In the name of climate justice, I am pleased to reiterate the call for fulfilment of climate finance commitments, including adaptation.

This brings us to the issue of energy sovereignty, which remains a priority for the continent given the need for infrastructure, an area that is a prerequisite for the effective implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

On another level, one of the lessons to be learned from the Covid-19 pandemic is the urgent need for health sovereignty, particularly through fostering the emergence of an African pharmaceutical industry capable of meeting its essential needs.

The same applies to food security for a continent that has 60% of the world’s arable land, substantial water resources and a young and abundant labour force, which makes it difficult to understand our external dependence in this area.

Indeed, our sovereignty in terms of defence and security will remain dependent for a long time on our vulnerabilities in these different sectors.

Aïssata Tall SALL
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad
SENEGAL
Yet, the security emergency requires structural responses, from the fight against terrorism to peacekeeping, which responses raise the thorny issue of financing, training and equipping African troops deployed in theatres of operation. Let there be no mistake, this debate on sovereignty and stability in the context of the many exogenous shocks affecting Africa brings into question our capacity to ensure peace and security on the continent on our own.

For this reason, a strong emphasis is placed on issues such as security sector reform, the dialectic of collective approaches and national responses to violent extremism, community responses and partnerships, with a view to helping the most vulnerable African countries make their own transformation in the field of defence and security.

It is therefore clear that the time has come for Africa to assume its responsibilities as a major international player, to get rid of its status as a theatre for experimenting with ideologies and positions.

It is by mobilising on all these priorities that we will be able to guarantee peace, stability and progress, for the great benefit of our populations, in particular by fully involving women and young people.

Cognizant of the leadership of our leaders and the awareness of African public opinion on these complex, worrying but also exciting issues, I remain convinced that the 8th Edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa will serve, as usual, as a crucible for strategic reflection for a united, stable and prosperous Africa.
For a new Euro-African partnership

Since its first edition in 2014, the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa has provided a valuable forum for exchange and consultation between African leaders, their international partners, international organisations and private actors. It is a unique framework for reflecting on the challenges to be met and the responses we can provide together. France has been a partner since the beginning.

President Macky Sall's commitment to peace and continental cooperation, which is reflected today in his actions as President of the African Union, has made this Forum a key event for all the actors committed to the stability and prosperity of Africa. I also salute the efforts of Mrs Aïssata Tall Sall, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad. As you know, France is fully committed to support and fight together with Africa ensuring peace, particularly in a context where Africa is facing crises and exogenous challenges. It is an honour to represent France during this 8th edition of the Dakar Forum.

In the face of crises and challenges, the African continent has shown its resilience. Above all, it has shown its determination to strengthen its capacities and its sovereignty in order to face these challenges within both short and long term. Europe is working alongside the Continent to achieve this. The Euro-African partnership must be a partnership where both parties is reinforced in many areas where we are interdependent in full respect of each other sovereignty. It must also be an alliance for peace and international cooperation.

This partnership is particularly crucial in a context where the Russian aggression against Ukraine calls for renewed multilateral cooperation, both to defend international law and to address the severe global socio-economic impacts of this war.

Of course, we cooperate in the security field. In West Africa and the Sahel, France remains fully committed to supporting countries that wish to join forces in their fight against terrorism. France is particularly proud to support the International Academy for Combating Terrorism, a project that it is carrying out with Côte d'Ivoire and supported by many partners from both continents. This academy trains the future African security actors of the continent from more than 25 countries with a full transfer of capacities ambition.

We are indeed convinced that there can be no development without security. But we also know that development is the best long-term security policy we can adopt. These two policies are intimately linked. That is why France and Europe are working alongside with Africa on the whole spectrum, from security to health, through the environment issues management, agricultural sector, but also education and culture.

Security also means health security. African countries have been able to develop response strategies to the Covid-19 pandemic and innovative through regional coordination mechanisms. France has is actively supporting African strategies in responding to the pandemic and strengthening Africa's health sovereignty. The Pasteur Institute in Dakar has launched the construction of a vaccine production centre with direct support from France in July 2021. France has also worked with its European partners to promote unprecedented global solidarity in the framework of the COVAX initiative.

Security also means food security. War in Ukraine is a serious threat for food security on the African continent. In response, France is supporting the Food and Agriculture Resilience Mission (FARM) initiative together with the European partners, 57 countries and the African Union, which aims both to strengthen the immediate food security of the most vulnerable countries and to promote local and sustainable agricultural production in the longer term.

Finally, security means environmental and energy security. France is fully committed, politically and financially, to supporting the adaptation of African countries to climate change. In terms of energy, France and its G7 partners support the Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP), which aim to support several countries, including African countries, in the development of renewable energy for growth, climate and access to energy. South Africa is already benefiting from this, and others will follow.

Europe is proud to be Africa’s leading partner and to remain closed to its key priorities. This Euro-African partnership, highlighted by the last EU-AU summit, gives a central place to African youth and to the construction of a world of peace, security and opportunities for them.

The Dakar Forum on Peace and Security will enable us to address these different issues to find, together, common solutions to these common challenges.

Chrysoula ZACHAROPOULOU
Secretary of State to the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs in charge of the Development of Francophonie and International Partnerships
Allow me, above all, to express all the gratitude of the Center for Advanced Defense and Security Studies to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, for the renewed trust placed in us to animate, for the sixth consecutive year, the scientific commission of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa, this major political, diplomatic and scientific meeting, which has become essential in the quest for viable solutions for stability and development in Africa.

High place of exchanges and dialogue between political decision-makers, civil and military experts, academics, researchers, and various actors of the civil society, the International Forum of Dakar distinguishes itself, from year to year, by the diversity, the pragmatism and the relevance of its themes rooted in the experience of Africans, around the triptych peace-security-development.

This year’s edition, which is being held just a few months after that of 2021 devoted to the global health crisis, did not derogate from this requirement, with regard to the theme chosen.

Choice could not be more appropriate, in a complex global and sub-regional geopolitical context, dominated both by the still virulent stigma of the COVID 19 pandemic, the activism overflowing from terrorist groups in the Sahel, but also and above all by the rise of serious security and economic dangers induced by the ongoing Russian-Ukrainian conflict.

It is in the light of these multifaceted challenges that the scientific commission has deemed it useful to mark an introspective pause on the permanent posture of security, political and economic stress that the African continent is experiencing, according to the upheavals of globalization. To put it better, the recurrent occurrence of exogenous shocks contributes to subjecting millions of Africans to the vagaries of globalization, generously feeds instability and poverty in African cities and countryside, amplifies political and socio-economic tensions within the States, while accentuating, from crisis to crisis, the marginalization of Africa in global political and economic governance.

This situation calls for crucial choices; Above all, it challenges the ability of African states to invent, by and for themselves, new ways of “being in the world”. How can Africa be sustainably removed from recursive cycles of security and economic fragility? What dynamics should be promoted at the national and continental level to establish resilience supported by real sovereignty in the vital areas of food, energy, health and security, to name but a few? It is around these central questions that the Scientific Commission intends to structure the debates of the Forum.

As in the past, faithful to its tradition of openness and dialogue, there is no doubt that this eighth edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa will illuminate new spaces to conquer, urgent ruptures to stimulate, and decisive battles to be won, to pave the way for a future of stability, peace and prosperity on the continent.

I wish you a warm welcome and rich moments of exchange.

General Mbaye
CISSÉ
President of the Scientific Commission
The Eighth Edition of Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa is scheduled to take place from 24 to 25 October 2022, a year after the 2021 Forum, which was largely devoted to the varied implications of the Covid 19 pandemic on the continent.

As if by premonition, the major outcomes of the 2021 Forum validated the call for the general mobilisation of African States launched at the time by the President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Macky SALL, given that unfolding world events signalled a new cycle of geopolitical upheavals fraught with threats and uncertainties.

As proof, while African economies are still adversely affected by the pandemic, despite the massive efforts to revive them, the Russian-Ukrainian crisis has compromised the hopes of African States to get to grips with their hard-pressed economies. Indeed, if the management of the global health crisis of the COVID reflects the image of a continent deprived of vaccines, hit hard by the shrinking of international trade flows, the war in Europe brings to the fore another worrying vulnerability for Africa: its total lack of autonomy in several crucial areas, especially food and energy, despite its enormous potential and numerous efforts.

According to a report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), no fewer than 25 African countries import more than a third of their wheat from Russia and Ukraine. It is estimated that the region will face a fertiliser shortage of between 1.2 and 1.5 million tons, or between 10 and 20 million tons of grain equivalent. On average, Africa is expected to experience a 20% drop in its agricultural production in 2022 compared to the 2017-2020 levels.

This dependence on grain imports and agricultural fertilisers, combined with soaring oil barrel prices, raises the risk of a definite economic recession, the beginnings of which are already being felt in the rising prices of all products. Indeed, the FAO Food Price Index increased by 12.8% in March 2022 compared to February 2022 and reached its highest level since it was developed in 1990.

In addition, the disruption of global economic and transport circuits resulting from this crisis is exposing African States to a growing decline in the socio-economic conditions of their populations and a sharp rise in social tensions.

This double trauma is taking place against a backdrop of security instability in several regions of the continent, still grappling with violent extremism. From Mali to Mozambique, via the Gulf of Guinea, Libya and the Great Lakes region, the arc of instability is spreading its share of mass killings, communal violence, internal displacements and countless victims of jihadi violence. Violent extremist groups remain highly active and major implications of such insecurity include the dramatic impact on food security as a result of displacements of people, abandonment of farms, cattle rustling, and illegal exploitation of natural resources, all of which undermine stability efforts being made by States to bring about stability.

In this complex situation, which amplifies the political and economic marginalisation of the continent, it is imperative to question the future of an Africa that is constantly left to the vagaries of globalisation, in which it stands out for its excessive dependency with respect to security, food, energy, digital technology, health, etc.

Today, Africa is at an important turning point in its evolution. It is facing exogenous shocks that significantly impede the endogenous dynamics and the need for African solutions to communal conflicts, violent extremism, illicit trafficking, and issues relating to democratic and political governance. More than ever before,
peace and security therefore remain a major challenge in Africa.

His Excellency Macky SALL, current Chairperson of the African Union, underlined in February 2022 that “the urgent need for peace and security reminds us of our special responsibility in the fight against terrorism, the peaceful settlement of disputes between member countries, and the handling of internal crisis situations (...) Common sense dictates that we silence the guns and build a culture of dialogue and consultation within the framework of African conflict resolution mechanisms”.

With a view to understanding fully the urgencies of the moment, the Eighth Edition of the Dakar International Forum has chosen as its general theme: “Africa in the face of exogenous shocks: challenges of stability and sovereignty”.

The Forum's deliberations will focus on the conquest of new sovereignties, as key drivers of a stable, prosperous and resilient Africa.

Indeed, despite all these challenges, Africa remains the continent of opportunities thanks to its enormous potential: 30 million km2 of surface area as well as 60% of the world's unused arable land and large water and hydrocarbon reserves; more than 1.3 billion inhabitants and the youngest population in the world; abounding mining resources in its subsoil: 40% of gold reserves; 85-95% of chromium and platinum group metal reserves; 85% of phosphate reserves; more than 50% of cobalt reserves and one third of bauxite reserves.

Obviously, harnessing all this potential and leveraging it for the continent's development requires affirming and strengthening our economic, security, political, health, industrial and ecological sovereignties, among others. The launch of major initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and ECO, in the economic and financial areas, the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the African Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ACDC) and the coordinated response to COVID-19 are important milestones in this regard.

Yet, in order to be effective and viable, such initiatives must continue to benefit the African people, who are eager for a new form of sovereignty in relation to citizenship, culture, digital and technological innovations and mobility.
The Eighth Edition of the Dakar International Forum aims to raise pragmatic thoughts on how to promote inclusive solutions for strengthening stability, security and sovereignties in Africa in the face of exogenous shocks. This requires a comprehensive assessment of the dynamics of peace in general and the responses of Africa and its partners to instability in particular.

In this context, the focus will be on addressing security and stability challenges through greater autonomy in mobilizing and enhancing endogenous peacekeeping capacities, including the operationalisation of the AU Peace and Security Architecture as well as effective approaches to combat and/or prevent the spread of violent extremism. Consolidating the dynamics of peace also requires a new look at the responses of Regional Economic Communities to stability challenges.

Then, in the light of the global crises that are undermining the continent’s economic emergence, the Forum will explore and propose ways and means of achieving the objectives of sovereignty in vital areas such as security, energy, food and the digital sector, to name but a few.

Naturally, the role of the private sector, of populations, and in particular of young people, as key players in the changes needed will also be explored. In view of the urgency of the situation, the Dakar Forum will advocate for groundbreaking solutions that can ensure stability and establish sustainable sovereignties.

The 8th Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa intends to bring together around 400 participants from around the world, including civilian and military decision-makers, experts and researchers from all continents.
The Dakar Forum will be organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad (MAESE), with the support of several countries and partner organisations of Senegal.

The National Organising Committee, led by the MAESE, includes the following:

- a Scientific Committee, led by the Centre for Higher Defence and Security Studies (Centre des Hautes Etudes de Défense et de Sécurité-CHEDS) of Senegal and including, by co-optation, resource persons and other members from security forces, diplomatic circles and universities;

- an Organising Committee, centred around the services of MAESE and supported by a Service Provider, named AVISA PARTNERS;

- a Communication Committee;

- a Security Committee.

The scientific activities of the Forum will take place at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Centre (CICAD) in Diamniadio, about 50 km east of Dakar.

The Programme, which lasts four half-days, includes several scientific activities organised in two parts called Session 1 and 2, comprising each a plenary and three simultaneous workshops.

The Opening Panel will be devoted to H.E. Macky SALL’s guests of honour to make the voice of the African continent heard and reaffirm Africa’s legitimate ambition to overcome global crises and other exogenous shocks that impact the continent’s stability, security and development.

The Dakar 2022 Forum will also be open to the private sector, study and research organisations, as well as the arts and culture communities, through the organisation and running of stands, exhibitions and other side events that will take place alongside the Forum’s scientific activities.
# Programme

## Monday, October 24

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<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-09:50</td>
<td>Welcome and Seating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10:00-12:00| Opening Ceremony  
High-level Panel                              |
| 12:00-14:00| Lunch Break                                                                |

### SESSION 1: “STABILITY CHALLENGES AND PEACE DYNAMICS”

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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| 14:30-17:00| PLENARY 1  
“Strategic empowerment of the continent in the field of Security?”     |
|        | WORKSHOP 1  
“Reforming the security sector in Africa: what answers to the capability challenges of the Armies?” |
|        | WORKSHOP 2  
“What solutions to the spread of violent extremism: from collective approaches to national responses?” |
|        | WORKSHOP 3  
“Community responses to stability challenges”                                |

## Tuesday, October 5

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<th>Time</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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| 09:00-12:00| PLENARY 2  
“Global crises and Sovereignty in Africa”                               |
|            | WORKSHOP 4  
“Cooperation between Africa and its partners in the field of Defence and Security” |
|            | WORKSHOP 5  
“Role of the Private Sector in Building New Sovereignties in Africa”       |
|            | WORKSHOP 6  
“Youth, Citizenship and Sovereignty: the challenges of education and training” |
| 12:15-14:45| Lunch Break                                                                |
| 15:00-17:00| CLOSING CEREMONY  
Summary  
Closing Speech             |
TRAVEL TO THE DAKAR FORUM

The Forum is a place of exchange and conviviality. The personalities are invited to take their seats on board the collective means of transport.

As no calls will be made to the rooms, we would ask you to respect the departure times of the coaches from Monday 24 October in the evening to Tuesday 25 October in the evening.

If you are not present at the time of departure of the coaches, we invite you to go by your own means to the International Conference Centre of Diamniadio.

BADGES

For both practical and security reasons, badges must be worn and visible throughout the Dakar Forum. These personalized badges include a number of visible information designed to facilitate the mobility of participants as well as security checks.

They grant access to the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD), as well as to the different workshop rooms. The badges of the participants will be regularly checked.

For those whose communicated upon data registration would be incomplete or incorrect, a specific enrolment will be carried out on site. To meet with safety requirements, this procedure might take some time.

CATERING

From October 24 to 25, the Forum will cater meals for participants at breakfast and lunchtime. Outside of these times, meals will be the responsibility of the participants.

ABDOU DIOUF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER

The Dakar Forum will take place at the Centre International de Conférences Abdou Diouf (CICAD).

All arrangements have been made to meet your needs on the site of the Centre International de Conférences Abdou Diouf (CICAD) during the Dakar Forum:

- A reception desk and hostesses will be present to answer your requests
- Headsets are available in the auditorium and the workshop rooms for real-time translation of the discussions.
- The Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD) is equipped with self-service high-speed WiFi to allow you to access the Internet.

PRESS CENTER

The Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD) has a press center equipped with high-speed WiFi connections. This center is accessible to all journalists accredited by the Dakar Forum organization.

HEALTH

The yellow fever vaccine is no longer mandatory for entry into Senegal, except for passengers arriving from yellow fever endemic zones. It is, however, recommended to get vaccinated against yellow fever, hepatitis A and B, as well as an anti-malarial treatment.

Senegal has full health services available (emergency doctors, etc.).

SANITARY PROTOCOL - COVID-19

Sanitary rules - Before Travelling

Travelers are allowed to enter Senegal on presentation of a health pass duly issued by the competent services.

For any traveler without a health pass, a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test less than five (05) days old is required.

Due to the constant evolution of the global situation of the evolution of the pandemic, its information is only a warning that does not engage the responsibility of the organization of the Forum. Please check before your departure for Senegal the rules in force for taking the plane as well as the rules for returning to your country of origin (The information can be verified with the airline that transports you or with the Senegalese embassy or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of your country of residence).

CURRENCY & EXCHANGE RATE

Senegal is part of the African Financial Community (CFA). The exchange rate between CFA franc and euros is guaranteed by the French treasury, but it cannot be converted outside the territory of African Member States part of the franc zone.

The CFA franc has a fixed exchange rate with the euro (1000 FCFA = 1.524 euros, 1 euro = 655.957 FCFA). Cash can be withdrawn from banks and ATM machines using a checkbook or a credit/debit card.
Stability challenges and peace dynamics

Plenary 1

Strategic empowerment of the continent in the field of security

Workshop 1

Reforming the security sector in Africa: what answers to the capability challenges of the Armed Forces?

Workshop 2

What solutions to the expansion of violent extremism: between collective approaches and national responses

Workshop 3

Community responses to stability challenges
Strategic empowerment of the continent in the area of security

CONTEXT

For several years, the African continent has been facing multidimensional challenges, including violent extremism, which has become the main security issue with its share of civilian victims and its impact on the development of the countries affected. Two factors are negatively influencing this situation: On the one hand, the COVID 19 pandemic, which has led to one of the worst economic on the other hand, the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, whose amplifying effect on the continent’s difficulties complicates the recovery of the affected countries. Multinational responses to the security crisis seem to be reaching their limits. The withdrawal of Operation Barkhane from Mali and the recurrent and multi-faceted criticism of the effectiveness of UN missions, particularly MINUSMA and MINUSCO, are prompting a refocusing on the promotion of endogenous solutions.

Security on the continent is above all a matter for the African states themselves in their ability to to ensure not only the physical protection of people and of people and property, but also a certain autonomy from external partners.

The exogenous shocks of recent years have highlighted the vulnerability and dependence of African states. The strategic empowerment of the continent could involve the establishment of a global strategy for collective security and the implementation of a security strategy and the implementation of national structural reforms in the security sector at the national level. structural reforms in the security sector at the national level to strengthen the freedom of action of states and the and the capacities of all actors.

OBJECTIVES

Propose realistic solutions aimed at promoting, in the short and medium term, the strategic autonomy of the African Union and the continent’s regional organizations in the area of security.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What strategic orientations for States, the AU and RECs to promote autonomy of the continent in the area of security?
2. What are the funding prospects for AU and RECs peace operations?
3. What is an inclusive approach to curbing the current spread of violent extremism in Sub-Saharan Africa?
4. What role should international partners play in strengthening and promoting stability in Africa?
Reforming the security sector in Africa: what answers to the capability challenges of the Armed Forces?

CONTEXT

Africa is faced with a changing array of threats and of threats and risks that have marked the daily lives of of states since the 1960s. Wars of national liberation of national liberation have been followed by intra-state conflicts in the 1990s. Just as deadly, the jihadist wave of the early 21st century is progressing in a context where states are severely weakened by the economic impact of exogenous crises and endogenous weaknesses such as poverty, the burden of debt and a fractured social body.

As security is an important pillar of stability, building the capacity of its actors remains an essential component of any security sector reform process on the continent.

Currently, in several African countries, the disproportionate use of force, repeated irruptions in political life with a view to seizing power, poor security governance, and serious shortcomings in the prevention and fight against insecurity contribute to making the defense and security forces factors of insecurity and instability. Based on the premise that security is one of the major conditions for development, the Security Sector Reform (SSR) aims to correct these dysfunctions in order to restore the security systems' capacity to carry out their regalian missions under all circumstances, i.e., State sovereignty and the protection of people and their property. Contemporary conflicts on the continent have evolved considerably and have now become cross-border and nomadic. For reasons of expediency, several non-state actors in these conflicts, including armed groups groups, are becoming autonomous from both their political leaders and sometimes even the original causes for which they for which they took up arms; these armed groups are doing everything possible to to extend and consolidate their actions beyond state borders, creating vast areas of lawlessness in in areas where the governance of the the governance of the state is structurally deficient. This negative evolution of the general security situation situation and the responses that states are currently trying to to respond to it have highlighted major capacity deficits have brought to light major capacity deficits of state security actors, in particular national armies national armies, and call for a new, more collective approach, collective approach. The most affected countries need to engage in a reform of their security sector of their security sector in the framework of a strengthened international cooperation that can provide a collective response to that can provide a collective response to national security national security problems that have taken on a regional regional scope.

In this perspective, special attention should be paid to particular attention must be paid to the search for efficient efficient solutions to the capability challenges of national armies, which remain the pillars of any emergency of any emergency security response to crises.

In particular, it will be necessary to find lasting solutions to the complex equation of reorganization, modernization modernization, armament, equipment, training and and training of the national armies, and above all their and especially their reorientation towards operational security activities which are their their core business.

OBJECTIVES

To propose realistic responses to the current capability challenges of African national armies, within the framework of a security sector reform.
Reforming the security sector in Africa: what answers to the capability challenges of the Armed Forces?

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What are the major current capability challenges facing African armies in the face of a mutating insecurity that directly threatens the stability of several States?

2. What model of defense and security forces to face the multiple security challenges?

3. What national and international approaches for appropriate and sustainable responses to the capacity deficits identified in national armies?

4. What sustainable responses to the recurrent difficulties of financing SSR processes in Africa?
What solutions to the expansion of violent extremism: between collective approaches and national responses

**CONTEXT**

For several years, protean violence has taken hold in several parts of the continent, hindering initially promising development prospects.

The exacerbation of threats, the resurgence of intercommunal conflicts, the rise of violent extremism and related transnational organized crime continue to destabilize Africa. To stem the spread of violent extremism, several solutions have been implemented, including security and development. But the observation remains almost invariable: this violence, often based on the exploitation of the frustrations of local populations and fueled by a recurrent discourse on the real or supposed marginalization of certain communities, persists, develops and even expands geographically.

But the observation remains almost invariable: this violence, often based on the exploitation of the frustrations of local populations and fueled by a recurrent discourse on the real or supposed marginalization of certain communities, persists, develops and even expands geographically. The current modes of action of violent extremist groups and their capacity to adapt and coordinate locally, nationally and internationally, must lead States and all other public security actors to favour a combination of inclusive national approaches and collective approaches based on ad-hoc organizations, the RECs and the African Union.

In this perspective, the priority issues to be addressed are, on the one hand, the exit from the ‘all-security’ approach and the active or passive participation of all national actors in the prevention and fight against violent extremism, and on the other hand, the identification of channels for the exchange of operational information between actors, particularly in border areas, and the realization of conditions for cooperation between States and organizations. This involvement of all national actors is an absolute priority.

Finally, a more assertive commitment by African countries in their cooperation with external partners and the pooling of their capacities deserve greater attention.

**OBJECTIVES**

Propose realistic responses to the current challenge of the trend toward the expansion of violent extremism on the continent, through national approaches and collective actions under the aegis of the AU, RECs, or ad hoc security cooperation structures.

**ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

1. What solutions to have national security systems capable of countering the expansion of violent extremism?

2. How to strengthen cooperation in the fight against violent extremism between States at the sub-regional and regional levels?

3. What inclusive national approach to effectively address the multidimensional nature of violent extremism?

4. What role should international partners play in the fight against the spread of violent extremism?
Community responses to stability challenges

CONTEXT

The Ebola and COVID 19 crises have highlighted the weakness of institutional health arrangements in Africa and affected the internal stability of several states. Many other political, economic and social factors continue to make the continent fragile and lead several states to neglect and marginalize peripheral regions, particularly border areas. In most countries, an increasingly young population is demanding greater social integration, jobs and opportunities. Finally, in several places, the mode of political governance and exploitation of public natural resources has led to the gradual establishment of rent-seeking situations, thus accentuating the breakdown of trust between the governors and the governed. In addition, violent extremism persists and is on the rise, as well as a resurgence of unconstitutional political changes and intra-African migration, which is often perceived as a source of conflict and fuels frequent struggles for land, resources and jobs.

Sustainable and inclusive development is the most effective way to address the root causes of instability. Indeed, to prevent conflict and build resilient communities and societies, it is essential to address poverty and inequality, strengthen public institutions and civil society, and promote human rights, goals that figure prominently in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

In this indispensable effort to achieve or strengthen the conditions for sustainable stability on the continent, communities have a crucial role to play, particularly in the development of mutual trust between the various components of the population and, above all, in the prevention and resolution of ongoing or latent conflicts. It is therefore important to place communities at the heart of the search for solutions, and to promote and rehabilitate the virtues of inter-community dialogue as an irreplaceable tool in conflict management in Africa.

OBJECTIVES

Identify the major challenges to stability on the continent and propose realistic community-based responses to these challenges, in addition to the efforts of States.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What are the roles of communities in strengthening national unity and promoting living together in Africa?

2. What community responses to recurrent social conflicts, particularly between sedentary and nomadic populations, indigenous and non-indigenous populations?

3. What community and inter-community approaches to improve the prevention and fight against insecurity, particularly in border areas?
Sovereignty challenges

**Plenary 2**
Global crises and sovereignty in Africa

**Workshop 4**
Cooperation between Africa and its partners in the fields of defense and security

**Workshop 5**
Place of the Private Sector in the construction of new sovereignties (energy, food, digital, etc.) in Africa

**Workshop 6**
Youth, citizenship and sovereignty: the challenges of education and training
Global crises and sovereignty in Africa

CONTEXT

For several decades, many African countries have been facing cyclical political, economic and social crises. This situation is exacerbated, year after year, by the lack of sustainable responses to develop the resilience of states and populations to the multi-faceted impacts of the global crises that shake the world.

Indeed, Africa seems to be a victim of the aftermath of global convulsions. Heavily impacted since the long periods of drought in the 1970s, through the end of the Bretton Woods agreements, the continent has gone through many crises, the best known of which are the world oil crisis of 1973, the economic and financial earthquake of 2008, not to mention the global health crisis of 2019, the stigma of which is still vivid. The Russian-Ukrainian crisis has sounded the alarm in several African countries, by the magnitude of its consequences, especially in the energy and food sectors.

This situation of eternal dependence on the jolts of globalization raises the imperative need to build new sovereignties capable of driving sustainable socio-economic development.

How to position the African continent as a major economic player in globalization? Despite the continent's abundance of natural resources, the virtual lack of autonomy of African countries in crucial areas such as energy, food and health remains a permanent source of concern and social tensions that generate instability. If, throughout their history, African systems have sometimes shown their resilience in the face of crises, conflicts and other pandemics (AIDS, yellow fever, Covid 19...), the time has come to learn the lessons from the last two global shocks, namely Covid 19 and the Russian-Ukrainian war, in order to finally build real sovereignty, and to remove Africa from the vagaries of a long night of dependence. This imperative is all the more important as the continent must, at the same time, take up its security challenges by rethinking the foundations of its security and defense cooperation with its partners. This refoundation will also have to be done with the major asset of the continent that represents the youth of its population, an essential lever in the conquest of new sovereignties.

OBJECTIVES

Facing the new global geopolitical challenges, the question is how African systems can develop new models of political, economic, security, food, health and energy sovereignty, security, food, health and energy, capable of adapting and absorbing to adapt and absorb exogenous shocks in a sustainable manner.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What mechanisms should be put in place to ensure health, energy and food sovereignty?

2. What is the role and place of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in AU community integration?

3. How to establish public-private partnerships to ensure and consolidate the African health, energy, food and military industry?

4. How to rethink and harmonize cooperation commitments with international partners for a sovereign and autonomous Africa, especially in terms of defense and security?
Cooperation between Africa and its partners in the fields of defense and security

CONTEXT

Defense-security cooperation between Africa and its external partners still depends on agreements concluded with the former colonial powers in a context of decolonization, despite its expansion to new actors since the late 1990s. Initially based on the concept of the concept of bilateral technical assistance, defense-security cooperation has undergone several changes as a result of the geopolitical upheavals that have occurred on the continent.

Thus, for example, the interventionism of the post-independence years (Chad, CAR, DRC ex-Zaire) has gradually given way to a model of cooperation aimed at adapting to the requirements of African countries in their quest for a more diversified partnership in line with the multiple needs of their security tools (training, equipment, etc.).

However, this new impetus for cooperation seems to be going through a cycle of turbulence on both the bilateral and multilateral levels.

Indeed, the deterioration of the security situation over the last two decades (DRC, Mali, Central African Republic, Lake Chad Basin, Ethiopia, etc.) and the inability of most of the States concerned to provide effective responses, notwithstanding the sometimes direct intervention of external partners, have highlighted the need to rethink the terms of this security cooperation. Today, it is in acute crisis, given the growing negative perception of African public opinion, exasperated by the lack of tangible results in the face of terrorist groups. The ups and downs of the withdrawal of Operation Barkhane from Mali and the hostile demonstrations against UN troops in the DRC and Mali are signs of a deep crisis in bilateral and multilateral security cooperation between Africa and its partners. This situation, which is taking place against a backdrop of geopolitical rivalries between states (France, Russia, China, Turkey) and the emergence of new actors, including private military companies, is opening up a new era of redefining the stakes of cooperation between Africa and its external partners.

However, this security cooperation is a natural necessity at a time when terrorism, climate change, and international organized crime are posing real risks to societies and economies on a global scale. These megatrends, which are matters of mutual interest for all states, compel them to help each other and show solidarity in order to establish a global security governance.

OBJECTIVES

Taking stock of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the field of security, the aim is to explore ways and means of promoting mutually beneficial cooperation between Africa and external partners on new bases.
Cooperation between Africa and its partners in the fields of defense and security

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What are the obstacles to defense and security cooperation between Africa and its external partners?
2. What new foundations should be established between States for effective security cooperation?
3. What type of cooperation (bilateral, multilateral, private) should be promoted in the fight against violent extremism?
4. What measures should be considered to better adapt UN peacekeeping missions to the security requirements of host countries?
Place of the Private Sector in the construction of new sovereignties (energy, food, digital, etc.) in Africa

CONTEXT

The development of globalization has accentuated the phenomena of interdependence in recent decades. The internationalization of value chains has led to a greater complementarity of economic actors and a reduction in the levels of strategic autonomy of central actors such as States.

Thus, state sovereignty, which internally translates into the ability to govern effectively and entirely the activities of individuals present on its territory, is challenged externally by various upheavals that call into question its theoretical dimension, its relationship to resilience and the principle of horizontality in international relations.

African countries have experienced different destinies since the wave of independence in the 1960s. The latest international shocks have, however, shown the fragility of the continent due to an economic structure that is extraverted and still dominated by the logic of rent.

Strategic sectors such as food and energy have largely shown their vulnerability, causing inflation and attrition in overall economic activity.

On another note, digital technology poses many challenges for African states. The building of cyber capabilities increases the risk of strategic dependence while INTERPOL estimates, at the same time, the losses related to cybercrime in Africa at 4.12 billion dollars in 2021. Faced with these many challenges, African states are called upon to build new sovereignty in these strategic sectors. If the centrality of the State requires a framework role, the place of the private sector must be redefined in this perspective.

Its weakness weighs on the creation of value and jobs and on the difficulties of consolidating intra-continental trade.

This raises the question of the reform of national economic structures, the place of the African private sector in critical areas and its specific contribution in the so-called regalian areas. It seems necessary to conduct an inclusive reflection on these challenges so that their security, economic, political and social implications are better understood by the national and regional actors concerned.

OBJECTIVES

This workshop aims to determine the place of the private sector in the emergence of new sovereignties and its contribution to the sustainability of the latter.
Place of the Private Sector in the construction of new sovereignties (energy, food, digital, etc.) in Africa

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. What are the factors of vulnerability of the private sector in Africa to international tensions and crises? How can the private sector lessen the effect?

2. How can the private sector spearhead the construction of new sovereignties? What could be its role in making them sustainable?

3. To what extent can the private sector drive and support food sovereignty on the continent? What about energy sovereignty?

4. How to optimize the endogenization of the economic potential of digital technology in Africa? What could be the contours of digital sovereignty in Africa?

5. What role should African integration play in strengthening a private sector focused on building new sovereignties in Africa?
Youth, citizenship and sovereignty: the challenges of education and training

**CONTEXT**

The development of human capital through education and training is one of the major challenges of African states, not only through a total enrolment of children, but also by adapting teaching to the increasing digitalization of all activities and business processes around the world. During the 7th edition of the forum, attempts were made to address the problem of the impact of population growth, especially in the field of education and employment to avoid negative consequences on the security level. According to forecasts by international organizations and development partners, by 2050 the continent could have 2.4 billion inhabitants, doubling the current population. Although demographic issues will be at the heart of the economic agenda of the African continent in the coming years, the increase in demography itself is not an issue insofar as Africa’s surface area is 30.37 million km², with a density of slightly more than 43 inhabitants per square kilometer, which is three times lower than that of the European Union. Consequently, one of the only important criteria to take into account is the youth of the population, estimated by the World Bank at 77%, hence the need for a more active population.

Far from being an opportunity to be exploited, this demographic dynamic seems to represent a real burden for the continent as it generates a strong social demand that governments have difficulty in satisfying. Excluded from political processes, deprived of viable employment opportunities and suffering a growing sense of hopelessness, young people become vulnerable and credulous to the messages by terrorists, violent extremists, and organized criminals who lure them in through various financial incentives, messages of hope, religious arguments, etc. Thus, in the continuity of the previous edition, this 8th edition will seek answers to these challenges in the progress to be made with regard to the lack of training of African youth in the creation and use of computer tools and digitalization, in a world that is increasingly digitalized and should not leave any sector on the sidelines. They are also to be found in citizenship education, which is crucial in the impregnation of the norms of living together that must be shared and accepted.

Finally, these responses must integrate the necessary changes expected of the African education system, which is still struggling to develop vocational training, a source of massive job creation for young people and a vector of sovereignty in key sectors such as agriculture, livestock and fishing.

**OBJECTIVES**

This workshop aims to highlight the place of human capital, particularly African youth, spearheading the construction of new sovereignties. In addition to the challenges related to training and the opportunities offered by the digital revolution, it will promote the ways and means of appropriating a new citizenship articulated around an educational system adapted to the real needs. In addition to the challenges related to training and the opportunities offered by the digital revolution, it will promote ways and means of appropriating a new citizenship based on an education system adapted to real needs in accordance with the Incheon Declaration “Education 2030” and the “Agenda 2063 of the African Union”.

**Workshop 6**
Youth, citizenship and sovereignty: the challenges of education and training

**ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED**

1. How can African youth take advantage of the ongoing digital revolution to drive the development of science, technology and innovation?

2. What roles for African youth in sustainable development policies, especially in the quest for new sovereignties (digital, energy, food, etc.)?

3. What are the reforms to be undertaken in the current African educational systems to promote training for citizenship, civic-mindedness and employment?

4. What are the challenges of NICTs to overcome in education and the consolidation of citizenship in Africa?
International Forum of Dakar on Peace and Security in Africa

8th edition - 24 & 25 October 2022

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ARQUUS is honored to be, once more, a partner of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa, which will be held in Senegal on October 24th and 25th 2022. Our involvement is a testimony to our strong ties with Senegal and the entire African continent where we have been present for more than 60 years.

European leader in defense mobility systems, ARQUUS is a designer and manufacturer of world-renowned armored vehicles, many of which are already in use in Africa. Its vehicles have repeatedly demonstrated their capabilities in the region in the fight against armed terrorist groups, in all theaters of operations and in all environments. They give the armed forces, but also security and peacekeeping forces, a high-level of protection and excellent mobility, allowing long-term operations.

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The French Cement Group VICAT has been deployed in Western Africa and in Egypt for more than 20 years. It is determined to show its commitment alongside Senegal and more generally, Western African countries, within programmes for Development, Peace and Security.

Construction sector is a strong development driver. Through its cement plants and industrial facilities, VICAT contributes to both adding value to local resources and creating jobs, in particular for African youth. Demographic and economic dynamism on the African continent create a new urban revolution, which implies affordable housing and modern infrastructures. VICAT meets these requirements by designing certified decarbonised African building solutions that comply with sustainable construction criteria and environmental preservation.

VICAT’s will is to act as partners of African decision-makers and to provide together answers to the key issues at stake within the African continent. Peace and Security are part of it, therefore VICAT Group has been in support of the Dakar Forum throughout.

VICAT Group in short

French Cement Group VICAT is deployed in 12 countries and it employs around 10,000 female and male collaborators. Its consolidated turnover amounts to more than 3 billion euros, including 65% abroad.

VICAT Group is offering a high-performance range of materials, products and services tailored to constantly evolving building trades. Wherever it operates, VICAT concentrates on developing territories, on local employment and on respecting the environment and protecting our climate. It develops long-term relationships with its customers and partners.
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The 8th edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa will take place this year on October 24 & 25, 2022 in Senegal at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD).

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