



Deutsche Afrika Stiftung e.V.
Fondation Allemande pour l'Afrique
German Africa Foundation



Deutsch-Südafrikanisches
Forum (DeSaFor) e.V.

Invitation

South Africa as a co-creator of a new world order

The G20 summit will take place in Rio de Janeiro on 18-19 November under the Brazilian presidency. South Africa will then take over the G20 presidency from 2025 and will therefore also play an important role in light of the US election results. It is expected that South Africa will use its G20 presidency to push for greater participation and fairer representation of the Global South - and Africa in particular - in the multinational system. At the 16th BRICS Summit, held in Kazan, Russia, on 22-24 October, South Africa underlined its call for a more equitable world order and called for reforms of the UN Security Council and the World Trade Organisation. The new BRICS Plus members, including the two African states of Egypt and Ethiopia, also attended the summit in Russia for the first time. They were admitted to the group at last year's summit in Johannesburg, South Africa.

However, South Africa is also claiming an increasingly important role on the international stage outside of these forums, of which it has been the only African member to date. This can be seen, for example, in the African Peace Initiative for Ukraine launched by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa last year, or in South Africa's case against Israel at the International Court of Justice. This claim by South Africa, which impressively proved itself as a stable democracy in the elections in May this year, deserves special attention in Germany and Europe - also and especially because of South Africa's often criticised foreign policy.

This is what we would like to discuss with our guests: What are South Africa's foreign policy priorities, also in relation to the industrialised countries of the North? What is the status of the African Peace Initiative? What is the significance of the BRICS enlargement and the increased presence of African states in international bodies promoted by South Africa? And last but not least: What are the opportunities and challenges for Europe and German-South African relations?

For our joint event on 27 November 2024, we have managed to bring together

Prof. Dr Cedric de Coning, Co-Director of the Centre on United Nations and Global Governance and the Climate, Peace and Security Risk Project, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs

and

Dr Melanie Müller, Deputy Head of the Africa and Middle East Research Unit, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

for an introduction and exchange on these highly topical issues.

Date

**Wednesday,
27 November 2024,
18:00 – 19:30hrs**

Venue

**Afrika-Haus Berlin
Bochumer Straße 25
10555 Berlin**

Please register via
mitgliederservice@desafor.de
by 22 November 2024.

The event will be
in English.



Supported by



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Speakers



Prof. Dr Cedric de Coning

Co-Director of the Centre on United Nations and Global Governance and the Climate, Peace and Security Risk Project, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs

Cedric de Coning (South Africa) is Research Professor at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI). He is co-director of the Centre for the United Nations and Global Governance and the Climate, Peace and Security Risks Project, and coordinator of the Effectiveness of Peace Operations Network (EPON). He is also a Senior Advisor to the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) in South Africa. His research interests include peace operations, adaptive peacebuilding, complexity, climate and security, and space policy in the context of the African Union, China, BRICS, and the United Nations. He holds a Ph.D. in Applied Ethics from the Faculty of Arts, University of Stellenbosch (2012).



Dr Melanie Müller,

Deputy Head of the Africa and Middle East Research Unit, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

Dr Melanie Müller is a researcher focusing on South Africa/Southern Africa at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) in Berlin, where she is Deputy Head of the Africa and Middle East Research Unit. She also heads two research projects on geopolitics and sustainability in commodity supply chains. Melanie Müller regularly publishes on political and socio-economic developments in South Africa/Southern Africa. Before joining the SWP in 2017, she was a research associate at the Free University of Berlin and also worked as a freelance social scientist focusing on extractive governance and international environmental policy. She completed her PhD at the Free University of Berlin in 2016, analysing the impact of the climate conference in Durban, South Africa, on the South African environmental movement.



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