

BRICS ENLARGEMENT 2024: WHAT POSSIBLE IMPACT ON THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE?

A panel proposed and coordinated by Marco Ricceri, Italy (Doctor, Political Sciences, Professor, Secretary general of Institute of Political, Economic and Social Studies EURISPES, Rome, Italy).

The panel is open to individual paper presentation. Those interested in presenting a paper in the panel are invited to submit an abstract of 200-300 words before November 15, 2023, by filling-in the online form at <https://forms.gle/9JychuBgtztUsHNJ8>

The decision taken by the 15th BRICS Summit, held in Sandton, Gauteng, on 23 August 2023 under the rotating presidency of South Africa, to expand coordination to six new full member states from 1 January 2024, aroused surprise and a vast international echo, in the press, in the world of politics, in the community of scholars and analysts of geopolitical and geoeconomic processes.

The most widespread interpretation is that the entry into the BRICS grouping of *the Argentine Republic, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates* is a choice destined to create a geopolitical bloc on the international scene opposed to the Western one.

To avoid the error of interpretations that may be simplistic and even deviant, the scientific community is called to carry out an in-depth analysis and evaluation of the real strategies pursued by the BRICS coordination, in particular with reference to the *BRICS Outreach* (extension) and *BRICS Plus* (enlargement) policies. In fact, if on the one hand the BRICS have always pursued the objective of creating a world order capable of guaranteeing more widespread, balanced and fair development since the 2011 summit, on the other they have always confirmed their desire to pursue this objective to means of reform, and not disruption, of the main formal and informal international institutions that currently exist; from the United Nations to the G20 Coordination.

In his welcome speech to the representatives of numerous States and international organizations (including the UN Secretary General, *A. Guterres*, who participated in the *BRICS–Africa Outreach* and *BRICS Plus Dialogue* meeting, the day after the XV BRICS Summit, the President of South Africa **Cyril Ramaphosa** gave a speech with very clear words on the real objectives pursued by the BRICS:

“When reflecting on the purpose and role of BRICS in the world today, we recall the Bandung Conference of 1955, where Asian and African nations demanded a greater voice for developing countries in world affairs. The Conference called for the recognition of the equality of all nations, large and small. We still share that common vision of a fair and just world. We still seek to overcome polarity and division. We want a world without barriers between North and South, East and West... Through the 15th BRICS Summit and this Dialogue we should strive to advance the Bandung spirit of unity, friendship and cooperation. In South Africa we have a world for this: Ubuntu. Ubuntu is a practice based on the understanding that our success, prosperity and well-being depend on the success, prosperity and well-being of others. We see the BRICS partnership as a catalyst for global growth and development that responds to the needs of all nations”.

Session Objectives

The BRICS Session of the AFRASI Conference offers participating experts the opportunity to provide useful knowledge to deepen in an open debate the meaning and implications of these policies affirmed on the occasion of the XV BRICS Summit. Particular attention will be paid to the

possibilities of sustainable and just development that the objective of reforming the world order pursued by the BRICS can have for the progress of the entire African continent as well as for the Global South

Reference for the Abstract submission

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