



# CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES AND THREATS

## INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

**09:30-09:40**

Opening remarks

**09:40-10:10**

Keynote speech

***Breaking cycles of vengeance***, Mathias Delori (Sciences Po, CERI, CNRS, France)

**10:10-10:40**

***Strategic narratives: shaping the truth in a challenging world order***

Yohan Briant (Institut d'études de géopolitique appliquée, France)

**10:40-11:10**

***Navigating the New Disorder: The European Union between an aggressive Russia and an unreliable U.S.***

Monika Sus (Member of Team Europe Direct Poland, Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland) - [online](#)

**11:10- 11:40**

***Does the current world signify the return of Ratzelian thinking?***

Antoine Godbert (Professeur affilié à l'ESCP, chercheur associé à l'ESCP Geopolitics Institute, France)

**11:40-12:25**

Pannel discussion:

***The New Space Race: private rockets, public goals?***

- Alban Guyomarc'h (Collège de France, France)
  - Béatrice Hainaut (Institut de Recherche Stratégique de l'Ecole Militaire, France)
  - Raphaël Tavanti (Institut Montaigne, France)
- Moderator: Szymon Zareba (Polish Institute of International Affairs, Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)

**12:25-13:30**

Lunch break

**13:30-14:00**

***ESG in foreign policy: between strategy and responsibility***

Anthony Ratier (ESS Forum International, Université Paris Dauphine, France)

**14:00-14:30**

***Protecting Submarine Cables in Poland's EEZ and in the Baltic Sea***

Pierre Thévenin (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Sweden) - [online](#)

**14:30-15:00**

***Beyond states: armed groups and the future of international relations***

Karolina Siekierka (Polish Academy of Sciences Scientific Centre in Paris, France)

**15:00-15:45**

Pannel discussion:

***Cyber warfare: the new front line of global conflict?***

- Agata Kleczkowska (Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland)
- Marek Madej (University of Warsaw, Poland)

Moderator: Agnieszka Rogozińska (War Studies Academy, Poland)



# CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL CHALLENGES AND THREATS

## INTERNATIONAL ORDER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

The contemporary world is facing complex and rapidly evolving challenges that affect people's lives across regions and countries to varying degrees. Migration crises, asymmetric threats, energy and environmental tensions, terrorism and a new space race, marked by intensifying competition between states and private actors, have become central themes in global security discourse and are reshaping the international landscape. Meanwhile, significant transformations are taking place in the domestic and foreign policies of key global players, continuing to influence the balance of power and international relations.

States are increasingly engaging in political and military actions in distant parts of the world, thereby shaping the future of the geopolitical order. These developments raise **fundamental questions about security, the effectiveness of international organisations, national identity in a globalised world and the role of values such as sustainable development and social responsibility in foreign policy.**

Organised by the Polish Academy of Sciences and the **Polish Academy of Sciences Scientific Centre in Paris**, in cooperation with the **Institut d'Études de Géopolitique Appliqué**, the **Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences**, and the **Association des Étudiants Polonais en France**, the conference will serve as a platform for exchanging ideas and analysing key aspects of contemporary international relations.

The event will open with a **keynote lecture by Professor Mathias Delori (Sciences Po, CERI, CNRS), *Breaking Cycles of Vengeance***. As pointed by Martin Luther King Jr., “the ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy”. However, we live in a world where a growing number of people seem to think that violence is the best way to stop violence.

In his lecture, Professor Delori will review a series of historical cases – Franco-German relations, the Cold War, and the war on terror – to provide answers to the following questions: Can violence sometimes stop violence? What is the power of nonviolence? How can we break out of the vicious cycle of revenge?

This keynote lecture invites reflection on how historical experience can help us to overcome entrenched mechanisms of violence and seek alternative paths towards peacebuilding.

The conference programme will feature a series of discussions examining shifting power dynamics and pressure points in the emerging global order; the role of private actors in the new space race; the strategic relevance of ESG in foreign policy; resilience-building strategies in the Baltic Sea region; and cyber warfare as a new frontline in global conflict.