

Building a New World Order

The EU and the Emerging Powers, The BRICs

*Expert Seminar, 8-9 October,
Fondation Universitaire, Rue d'Egmont 11, 1000 Brussels*

A new global order is in the making. As the American “unipolar moment” is fading away and new powers are emerging onto the global stage, it is time to have a close look at this transition from unipolarity to multipolarity.

The emerging powers are best known under the acronym BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) coined by Goldman Sachs economist James O’Neill in 2001. This apparent “block” hides very different levels of power and divergent ambitions. One of the goals of this seminar is to highlight these differences, but also the specific concerns and opportunities that these emerging powers create for the European Union.

The key objective of the seminar is to determine whether and how the EU can grasp the opportunities revealed by this global shift of power, in order to assert itself as a global actor and gain more weight in the international arena.

The seminar will bring together prominent experts from across the globe, representing the academic and policy-making worlds:

- Panel 1 will scrutinize the shift in the global balance of power: Who are the emerging powers? What makes them “emergent”? What is the global structure of power today, and what will it be tomorrow?
- Panel 2 will focus on the global challenges which lay at the centre of the relationship between the EU and the BRICs: How to deal with energy security? How to get China on board to fight climate change? How to prevent nuclear proliferation?
- Panel 3 will analyze more thoroughly the international behaviour of the emerging powers: What are their regional and global ambitions? How do they interact with each other?
- Panel 4 will evaluate the opportunities created by the global shift of power for the EU to emerge as a global actor: How can the EU become a relevant power? How can the relationships between the EU and the BRICs be instrumentalized in this regard? What will be the impact on global governance?

Participation by invitation only. The seminar will take place under the Chatham House Rule. The seminar language will be English.

Programme – Day 1

13.30–14.00 *Registration*

14.00–14.30 **Welcome & Introduction**

- Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop, Egmont
- Dr. Werner Fasslabend, AIES

14.30–16.00 **Panel 1: The Coming World Order**

Chair: Dr. Franco Algieri, AIES

- Thomas Renard, Egmont: The global structure of power
- Prof. Dr. Tanguy Struye, UCL: How emergent are emerging powers
- Prof. Dr. John Vogler, Keele University (*tbc*): Is the EU an emerging power?

16.00–16.30 *Coffee break*

16.30–18.00 **Panel 2: Global Challenges for the EU and BRICs**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Tanguy Struye, UCL

- Sami Andoura, Notre Europe: Energy security: EU and Russia
- Dr. Gudrun Wacker, SWP Berlin: Climate change: EU and China
- Dr. Deba Mohanty, EUISS: Nuclear proliferation: EU and India

19.30–22.00 *Dinner for speakers and organizers*

Programme – Day 2

09.30–11.00 **Panel 3: Great Ambitions for Emerging Powers**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Gustaaf Geeraerts, BICCS

- Jonathan Holslag, BICCS: Chinindia
- Dr. Fraser Cameron, EU-Russia Centre: Russia-China
- Prof. Dr. Amine Ait-Chalaal, UCL: Brazil, a regional leader and a global actor?

11.00–11.30 *Coffee break*

11.30–13.00 **Panel 4: The EU as an Emerging Power**

Chair: David Rennie, EU Correspondent, The Economist

- James O'Neill, Goldman Sachs: The BRIC concept
- Karine Lisbonne-de Vergeron, Global Policy Institute: Is EU a global actor in the eyes of BRICs?
- Dr. Gerhard Sabathil, European Commission: EU in a multipolar world

13.00–13.15 **Conclusion**

- Prof. Dr. Sven Biscop, Egmont