



APSA@20:

**LESSONS LEARNED AND
THE WAY FORWARD FOR
THE AFRICAN PEACE AND
SECURITY ARCHITECTURE**

8 FEBRUARY 2024 | 10:00 - 18:30 | BRUGES



ORGANISERS

Amandine Gnanguênon, UNU-CRIS

Frank Mattheis, UNU-CRIS

Jamie Pring, UNU-CRIS

COOPERATION PARTNERS

Linnéa Gelot, Swedish Defense University (Stockholm)

Ulf Engel, Institute of African Studies (Leipzig University)

Jens Herpolsheimer, Research Centre Global Dynamics (Leipzig University)

Katharina Döring, Centre for Baltic and East European Studies, Södertörn University (Stockholm)

DATE

8 February 2024

VENUE

United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies
Potterierei 72, 8000 Bruges

REGISTRATION

[Register here](#)

WORKING LANGUAGE

English

Since the establishment of the African Union (AU) and its numerous institutions in the early 2000s, the global influence of African continental and regional organizations has grown significantly.

Geopolitical shifts are profoundly impacting on the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), which has been tasked with promoting peace and security. Next to violent conflicts, extremism, climate change and other transnational dynamics, challenges also include contestation of AU institutions and APSA, their legitimacy and relevance. On the other hand, opportunities include the continuous quest of pan-Africanist cooperation through regional institutions, and also ad-hoc conflict management initiatives. Observing the APSA@20 anniversary and launching the French translation of the edited volume “Researching the Inner Life of the African Peace and Security Architecture: APSA Inside-Out” (Brill 2023), this event seeks to inquire further and update debates about the Global South agency and shifting power relations in global ordering. Therefore, reflecting on current contributions to studies aiming to delve into the inner workings of APSA as well as its international context, using new and innovative conceptual, methodological, and empirical approaches, this day will be an opportunity to highlight some conclusions of this book.

To commemorate the release of the French version of the edited volume and celebrate the 20th anniversary of APSA’s creation, this workshop endeavours to unite researchers, experts, civil society, as well as European and African organizations representatives.

09:30 - 10:00	Arrival and registration
10:00 - 10:30	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <p>Philippe De Lombaerde UNU-CRIS</p> <p>Jens Herpolsheimer Leipzig University</p>
10:30 - 12:00	<p>Panel 1: APSA in a Changing Geopolitical Context</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Linnéa Gelot Swedish Defense University, Stockholm</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>Faith Mabera Institute for Global Dialogue, Johannesburg</p> <p>Tim Murithi Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape Town</p> <p>Jamie Pring UNU-CRIS</p> <p>Dawit Yohannes Institute for Security Studies, Addis Ababa</p>
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 - 15:00	<p>Panel 2: Novel Perspectives and Approaches to Peace and Security</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Amandine Gnanguênon UNU-CRIS</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>Sophie Desmidt European Centre for Development Policy Management, Maastricht</p> <p>Jonathan Sandy AU Economic, Social and Cultural Council, Lusaka</p> <p>Andrew Tchie Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo</p> <p>Thomas Tieku University of Western Ontario</p>

15:00 – 16:30	<p>Open Debate: The Future of APSA – Opportunities and Challenges Ahead</p> <p>Plenary session with all panellists of the workshop</p> <p>Guest Speaker: El-Ghassim Wane Former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General and Head of MINUSMA</p> <p>Discussant: Jide Okeke UNDP (Addis Ababa)</p> <p>Moderators: Ulf Engel Institute of African Studies (Leipzig University) Jamie Pring UNU-CRIS</p>
16:30 – 17:00	Tea break
17:00 – 18:30	<p>Book Launch</p> <p>Katharina Döring, Ulf Engel, Linnéa Gelot, and Jens Herpolsheimer (eds.) 2023. Recherches sur la vie intérieure de l'Architecture Africaine de Paix et de Sécurité (AEGIS Series 31), Brill. [English version published in 2021]</p>
18:30	End