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Africa
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ANSA

Conference

25th - 27th October, 2022

ITALAFRICA

STRATEGIC SYMPOSIUM

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25th – 26th – 27th October, 2022

Conference

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| Concept

The Italafrica Strategic Symposium is an international conference organized by the CeSI - Center for International Affairs, Africa e Affari and E4Impact with the support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation with the aim of fostering the debate between Italy and Africa on the main common issues and priorities. Within the framework of “People, Planet Prosperity” promoted by the Italian Presidency of the G20, Italafrica gathers different Italian and African stakeholders from public institutions, the private sector, academia and civil society to reflect on the main challenges and opportunities for cooperation between Italy and the African continent, with a special focus on the Sahel region, Western Africa and the Horn of Africa. In particular, the discussion will revolve around four main areas:

Area 1: African identities and cultural diplomacy

This section aims to improve and renovate the Italian perception of Africa, exploring the multifaceted African identities and, above all, paying attention to how Africans see their own future and how they conceive the relation with Italy. This is indeed a key step to deepen the mutual understanding and lay the foundations for a sound and effective cultural cooperation.

Area 2: Capacity building and technology empowerment

Considering that some areas of the African continent are still affected by fragility and conflicts, it is crucial -in addition to addressing the root causes of violence - to jointly identify the most effective ways to support African countries in their

effort to enhance border control and pursue the fight against illegal trafficking, organized crime, and terrorism. The discussion will thus unpack the most important dossiers on which this cooperation can be built and the role that technology empowerment can play in this regard.

Area 3: Energy transition and renewable resources-driven economic growth

This section aims to explore the role that renewable energies can play in the African growth trajectory and discuss how climate policies can be mainstreamed into Africa's development agenda, capitalizing on the co-benefits and eradicating poverty and food insecurity. In particular, this section will focus on how the EU, Italy and other international partners can uphold the transformative process of African economies by providing the required financial support.

Area 4: Business synergies in emerging sectors of the African economy

The perspectives of growth for the African continent represent a huge opportunity to develop mutual beneficial partnerships in key sectors, such as digitalization, urban development, circular economy, and health. Against this backdrop, the discussion will thus focus on the synergies that can be built between Europe/Italy and Africa, exploring those sectors in which public-private partnerships can be developed effectively.

| Event programme

Day 1 -25th October 2022

10.00-10.15

Opening Remarks

Andrea Margelletti – President, CeSI

10.15-10.30

Keynote Speech

HE Ettore Francesco Sequi – Secretary General, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (*video message*)

10.30-12.00

Opening Debate

The opening debate unpacks the main challenges and opportunities that are shaping the future of the African continent, ranging from technology empowerment to climate change and green growth, from security stabilization to trade integration. The debate is an opportunity to present the 'big picture' in which the Conference is framed, with a special focus on the cooperation between African and Italian institutions and the private sector.

- HE Giuseppe Mistretta – Central Director for sub-Saharan Africa, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Ruggero Aricò – Vice-President, Confindustria Assafrica & Mediterraneo
- HE Nosipho Nausca Jean Jazile – Ambassador of South Africa to Italy
- Marco Piredda – Head of International Affairs & Business Support, ENI
- Dante Campioni – Managing Director and CEO, AlexBank (*from remote*)
- HE Hassan Ben Allal – Plenipotentiary Minister and Vice-Ambassador

Moderator: Stefano Polli – Deputy Director ANSA

12.00-14.00

Lunch break

14.00-15.00

African identities and cultural diplomacy – Special Dialogue

This special dialogue aims to identify the channels of cooperation that can result in wiser perspectives and understandings of mutual interests and highly fruitful intercultural dialogue between Italy and Africa.

- Adama Sanneh – Co-Founder & CEO, Moleskine Foundation
- Francesca Declich – President, Italian Association for African Studies

Moderator: Massimo Zaurrini – Director, Africa e Affari

15.00-15.30

Coffee break

15.30-17.00

African identities and cultural diplomacy – Round table

This round table is an opportunity for reflection on cultural diplomacy and cooperation, with the objective of better understanding and tailoring Italian present and future projection towards the African continent.

- Norman Sempijja – Associate Professor, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (*from remote*)
- Sandra Federici – Director, Africa e Mediterraneo
- Martin Nkafu – Professor, Pontificia Università Lateranense
- Mehret Tewolde – Vice-President, Associazione le Reseau

Moderator: Giuseppe Dentice – Analyst, CeSI

Day 2 -26th October 2022

10.00 – 11.00

Capacity building and technology empowerment – Special Dialogue

This special dialogue aims to draw the attention on the importance of strengthening mutual beneficial capacity building partnerships to develop Africa's entrepreneurship and the private sector.

- Mario Molteni – CEO, E4Impact (from remote)
- Massimiliano Colasuonno Taricone – CEO, Trasacco Group and Honorary Consul of Ghana for Italy (from remote)

Moderator: Francesca Manenti – Director, CeSI

11.00 – 12.30

Capacity building and technology empowerment – Round Table

This round table discusses Italy, the EU and other global powers' strategic interests on the continent, as well as the contribution that they can provide in terms of capacity building and technology empowerment.

- Col. t.SEP Marco Pucciatti – Chief of the Military and Stability Police Office of the General Command, Arma dei Carabinieri
- Col. Alleta Mampepe Kxori Mankayi - Defence attaché of the Embassy of South Africa to Italy
- Giovanni Faleg – Senior Analyst, European Union Institute for Security Studies (from remote)
- Carlo Palleschi - Analyst, CeSI

Moderator: Lorena Stella Martini – Researcher, European Council on Foreign Relations

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch break

14.00 – 15.00

Energy transition and renewable resources-driven economic growth – Special Dialogue

This special dialogue aims to unpack the main challenges and opportunities to foster energy transition, improve access to energy and capitalize on the co-benefits of the low-carbon development path in Africa.

- Letizia Magaldi – Vice-President, Magaldi Green Energy
- Min. Khalid Atlasi - Plenipotentiary Ministry of the Embassy of Morocco to Italy

Moderator: Fabio Squillante – Director, Agenzia Nova

15.00 – 15.30

Coffee break

15.30 – 17.00

Energy transition and renewable resources-driven economic growth – Round Table

This round table aims to discuss how to create favorable conditions for scaling up investments in clean energy technologies, and thus uphold sustainable transformation of African economies.

- Tomas Nhabetse – Director of Research Center: Earth Science and Natural Resources, Universidade Save (*from remote*)
- Luca Traini – Energy Access Programme Manager, RES4Africa
- Fabio Tambone – Director of External International Affairs, Autorità di Regolazione per Energia Reti e Ambiente (*from remote*)

Moderator: Gianfranco Belgrano – Editorial Director, Africa e Affari

Day 3 -27th October 2022

10.00 – 11.00

Business synergies in emerging sectors of the African economy – Special Dialogue

This special dialogue unpacks the fundamental role played by the private sector and presents the opportunities to develop mutual beneficial public-private partnerships in order to capitalize on African economic dynamism.

- Michele Governatori – Power & Gas Lead, ECCO Think Tank (*from remote*)
- Min. Khalid Atlasi - Plenipotentiary Ministry of the Embassy of Morocco to Italy

Moderator: Marco Di Liddo – Head of the Analysis Unit, CeSI

11.00 – 12.30

Business synergies in emerging sectors of the African economy – Round Table

The round table offers a new and fresh perspective on the future of emerging African economies, with a special focus on the benefits arising from the African Continental Free Trade Area and other key sectors.

- Filippo Prosperi - Business Development Director & Member of the Board, De Lorenzo SpA
- Admassu Tadesse - President and Chief Executive, TDB, the Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank (*from remote*)
- Nuno Maposse - Economic Adviser, Investment and Export Promotion Agency (APIEX) (*from remote*)

Moderator: Fabio Petroni – Director of Programmes, E4Impact

12:30-13:00 Closing Remarks

HE Fabrizio Lobasso - Central Deputy Director for sub-Saharan Africa, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

| Participants



Giuseppe Mistretta - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Central Director for sub-Saharan Africa

Giuseppe Mistretta has been Ambassador of Italy in Angola (2009 – 2014) and in Ethiopia (2014 – 2017), and has spent more than twenty years of his professional life in Africa.

For the last 5 years, he has been Director for Sub-Saharan Africa at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

He is the author of several books, such as “Un ponte lungo quattro secoli” (Gangemi 2013), “Angola. Un Paese moderno al centro dell’Africa (Polaris 2014)” ; “I noti Ospiti” (Greco&Greco 2018); “Le vie dell’Africa (Infinito 2020) and “Africa’s pathways” (Luiss University Press 2021).

He also collaborated with La Repubblica and Corriere della Sera newspapers and to monthly magazine Capital.

He is frequently invited as guest speaker on African issues by the main Italian universities and think tanks.



Ruggero Aricò- Confindustria Assafrica & Mediterraneo, Vice-President

Ruggero Aricò graduated in Law at the University of Messina, Italy in 1999 and he was admitted to the Bar in 2002. He joined Enel in 2000 at the Institutional and International Affairs Department. In 2003, he moved to Brussels to manage the institutional relations with the European Union, in particular he worked very closely to the European Parliament. After 5 years, he moved to Moscow as Head of External Relations for Russia & CIS Countries and in 2010, he moved to Algiers as Head of External Relations for Algeria. In March 2016, he became Head of Institutional

Affairs for Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania in Enel Green Power, the biggest renewable energy private company in the world and currently since 2021 he is the Head of International Institutional Affairs of the entire Enel Group, directly reporting to the CEO. Ruggero has an extensive experience in international relations, governmental affairs, energy and environment regulation and legislation, climate change and sustainability. He spent most of his life outside Italy, he speaks fluently several foreign languages and he is often invited worldwide as visiting professor in universities and as conference speaker and moderator. He is Vice President of “Confindustria Assafrica & Mediterraneo” (the General Confederation of Italian Industry association for the development of Italian businesses in Africa, the Mediterranean and the Middle East), Board Member of the Italia-ASEAN Association (the association that represents and supports Italian companies in all sectors with business interests in the ASEAN countries) and Board Member of Alma Mater – University of Bologna, the oldest University in the Western world and among top Universities in major international rankings. He is also member of the B20, the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community (in 2021 he has been assigned to the Task Force “Action Council on Sustainability & Global Emergencies”, in 2022 to the Task Force “Energy, Sustainability and Climate”) and Vice President of “Disability Pride Italy”, a non-profit organization that raises all issues that people with disabilities are facing nowadays and which organizes the Italian edition of the international event “Disability Pride”. In 2020 he has been designated City of Messina Mayor’s Expert on Sustainability, Innovation, Smart City and Financial Innovative Tools. Among other roles Ruggero is Member of the Scientific Committees of “Taobuk – Taormina International Book Festival”, “The Thinking Watermill Society Association” and “Mondo Internazionale”, Sustainability Advisor of “Willow Thrive”, Head of International Relations of the Taormina Film

Festival, Board Member and Head of International Relations and Sustainability of the football club “ASD Città di Taormina”, Political Advisor of TaoDust, the only start-up company in the world that combines equity crowdfunding with asset tokenization bringing off-chain projects on the blockchain. He is member of the Rotary Club, where he received the highest honors “Paul Harris Fellowship”.



HE Nosipho Nausca Jean Jazile - Ambassador of South Africa to Italy



Marco Piredda - Head of International Affairs & Business Support, ENI

Marco Piredda is Head of International Affairs & Business Support at ENI (Italy) in charge of political scenarios, business development support and other Public Affairs tasks (energy policy analysis, relations with foreign institutions, economic and financial sanctions). He graduated in Political Science at the LUISS University of Rome and holds a Ph.D. in Constitutional Law from the University of Bologna. Before joining Eni he served in the Italian Dept. of the Treasury.



Dante Campioni - AlexBank, Managing Director and CEO

Dante Campioni joined ALEXBANK in January, 2015 as Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director. Campioni brings with him strong commercial expertise gained from his diversified experience through different business units in the Intesa Sanpaolo Group, which started in

1979. His extensive Italian and international business experience featured several assignments within the Group, both in and outside Italy. Amongst the other, for about 4 years, he held the position of General Manager at the Singapore Branch of Sanpaolo IMI, he was then the Head of Europe and Mediterranean Area at the London Hub of Sanpaolo IMI for about 6 years, then Head of Corporate Banking and International Development Division in 2006/2007 at Banca IMI Milan, the Group's investment banking arm, then the Head of Business of Mediocredito Italiano (ISP Group entity specialized in SMEs advisory and Financing) for more than 3 years.

Before his assignment in ALEXBANK, Campioni headed the Liguria and South West Piedmont region for about 3 years, one of largest Italian Areas within the ISP domestic network. Before Egypt, starting from Parma - his hometown. Campioni's global path included Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Singapore, and London, in addition to Milan, Turin, Rome, Florence and Genoa in Italy.



HE Hassan Ben Allal - Plenipotentiary Minister and Vice-Ambassador



Stefano Polli - ANSA, Deputy Director

Stefano Polli is a journalist, since 2014 he has been deputy director of the ANSA agency, the first Italian agency and one of the first in the world with correspondence offices in all major world capitals. Previously he was Special Envoy, Chief Editor of the Diplomatic Service, Chief Editor of the International Area and Chief Central Editor. During his career

he has followed, as a correspondent, the major international events: wars, major international summits (EU, G7, G8, G20, UN, NATO), the activities of the Presidents of the Italian Republic, the Presidents of the Council and of foreign ministers. Among other things, he interviewed Fidel Castro exclusively in Cuba and he was among the very first Western journalists to be able to go to North Korea in 2000. Analyst of international politics and diplomacy, he is the author of books on Europe and on agency journalism and of the novel “Beyond the sea”.



Adama Sanneh - Moleskine Foundation, Co-Founder, CEO

Adama brings a unique hybrid background in management and cultural studies to his work designing and building innovative organizations able to generate social impact. Under his leadership as CEO, Moleskine Foundation has been focused on building educational tools and experiences that help foster critical thinking, creative doing, and lifelong learning, focusing on youth and underserved communities. His mandate continues with a clear mission for the Foundation: becoming the global leader in the creativity for social change field. Adama grew up in Monza, Italy, and graduated in Linguistic and Cultural Mediation from the University of Milan. He worked for several years in East Africa on rural development and humanitarian emergency programs and in social innovation with the United Nations. He obtained a Master in Public Management (MPM) from the Bocconi School of Management and a Master in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Geneva. Adama is also part of the advisory board of Ashoka Italia, Brand Counsel member at BrandAfrica, Advisor at OperaFutura, and TEDx speaker, to pursue his commitment

to explore and leverage the intersection of business, creativity, culture, and social change to create new and meaningful public value.



Francesca Declich - Italian Association for African Studies, President

Francesca Declich, President and co-founder of the Italian Association for African Studies. She has worked in various African countries such as Angola, Senegal, Mali, Mozambique, Somalia, Tanzania, Egypt, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Rwanda. She has lived for a long periods of time in Somalia, Tanzania and Mozambique carrying out anthropological and ethno-historical research. She teaches at the University of Urbino Carlo Bo. Among her publications for Brill (2018) *Translocal Connections across the Indian Ocean. Swahili networks on the move* and for Meltemi (2021) *Presenza migrante tra spazi urbani e non urbani. Etnografie su processi, dinamiche e modalità di accoglienza*.



Massimo Zurrini - Africa e Affari, Director

Massimo Zurrini has been a journalist since the age of 19. He has always been dedicated to following foreign countries and International Politics. After a decade of experience as a freelance correspondent for international media from Latin America since 2001, returning to Italy, he begins to deal with Africa. In 2012 he founded the Internationalia publishing house, which today with its products (the agency InfoAfrica, the monthly *Africa e Affari* and the bimonthly *Africa Rivista*) is the only publishing group Italian specialized in information on Africa. Massimo Zurrini is currently Director Responsible for Africa and Affari and InfoAfrica.



Norman Sempijja - Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, Associate Professor

Professor Norman Sempijja is an Associate Professor at UM6P. He is an expert in international relations whose research and teaching is influenced by a longstanding interest in African relations, International organisations (European Union, African Union and United Nation) and the rest of the world. He has keen interest in security, securitization and theoretical approaches to international relations phenomenon.



Sandra Federici - Africa e Mediterraneo, Director

Sandra Federici, PhD at the Université de Lorraine, jointly with the Università Statale di Milano, with a thesis about comics production by African authors (published by L'Harmattan, Paris, in 2019 under the title L'entrée des auteurs africains dans le champ de la bande dessinée européenne de la langue française); also a journalist, since 1999 she has held the position of Director of Africa e Mediterraneo, a biannual journal that publishes articles on African artistic expression in all its forms, including literature, theatre, comics and art. It also analyses the phenomenon of European immigration from a cultural point of view. Sandra Federici curated several publications and intercultural projects and coordinated the creation of the archive www.africacomics.net.



Martin Nkafu - Pontificia Università Lateranense, Professor

He graduated in Philosophy (PhD) and in Sacred Theology (PhD) at the Pontifical Lateran University (P.U.L.), he has a Master in Electronics: - Electronic Physics - Technicien Electronicien in 1988 at the University of LIEGE - BELGIQUE (CIFOR).

Lecturer at the Faculty of Philosophy of the Pontifical

Lateran University; African Thought and Religion; History of African Philosophy. Former Director of the Department of Human and Social Sciences - International Research Area - Interdisciplinary Studies for the Development of African Culture (Pul Philosophy Faculty).

Former Director of the Cardinal Bernardin Gantin Chair - Political Socialization in Africa of the Pontifical Lateran University (Faculty of Philosophy) 2013 - 2017)

Member of the Center for Interreligious Dialogue - Focolare Movement, Responsible for the dialogue between Christianity and African Traditional Religion (RTA); Popular Religions of Asia (RPA), Survey Religions of Oceania and Latin America - Central America (RIA).

Member of the Scientific Committee of the Journal: Nuova Umanità - Focolare Movement, Work of Mary.

President of the Scientific Committee of CRA-SGI Center for Relations with Africa of the Italian Geographic Society.

President of the NCDEIF Nkemnkia Community Development Empowerment International Foundation - Africa / Europe.



Mehret Tewolde - Associazione le Reseau, Vice-President

Eritrean naturalized Italian, she arrived in Rome from Asmara in 1978. She worked for 27 years at the IOR, the "bank" of the Vatican, at 38, she became the first female manager of the Institute.

Today she is a coach and works in the field of cooperation and in the world of diasporic associations. He is a member of the Le Reseau Association, an APS that deals with culture, intercultural and cooperation, where, among others, he takes care of the training proposals of the same association.

He is CEO of Italia Africa Business Week.

From May 2020, together with other subjects, she established the CMDI, Committee for Multicultural Diversity & Inclusion. She recently embarked on a university degree in Psychology.



Giuseppe Dentice - CeSI, Analyst

Giuseppe Dentice is Ph.D in “Institutions and Politics” at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan (2020). He is also Teaching Assistant in “History of Civilisations and Political Cultures” and “International History: The Wider Mediterranean area” at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan, respectively since 2019 and 2020.

He is the head of the Middle East and North Africa Desk at the CeSI - Center for International Studies. His research interests apply on international relations of the Middle East and geopolitical and security issues in the MENA region, with a special focus on socio-political transformations and governance in Egypt, Israel and Gulf monarchies.

He published extensively – in Italy and abroad – on a wide range of issues regarding the MENA region and international politics. He is also regularly interviewed on Middle East affairs by Italian and international media outlets.



Mario Molteni - E4Impact, CEO

Mario Molteni is Full Professor of Corporate Strategy at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart (Milan, Italy) and Rector’s Delegate for Business Relations. He is the founder of ALTIS (Graduate School Business & Society) at the same university, an international research and education institution for sustainability and entrepreneurship, where he has been Director from 2005 to 2015. He also started the Sustainability Makers, the Italian association of professionals who work in the field of sustainability in companies and consulting firms. He is CEO of E4Impact

Foundation, a Cattolica University spin-off promoted by several leading Italian companies, for fostering impact entrepreneurship in Africa, in partnership with local Universities, that currently operates in 20 African countries. For this initiative, in 2015 was named Senior Ashoka Fellow in Africa. He is author of more the 150 publications on Sustainability, Corporate strategy, Entrepreneurship, Social Entrepreneurship and Corporate Entrepreneurship. He has lectured in Corporate Strategy and Corporate Social Responsibility on many Master's Programs (Cattolica University, SDA Bocconi, ENI Corporate University, Publitalia, Angelicum). He has performed the role of independent director on the board of Italian listed companies. His email address is: mario.molteni@unicatt.it.



Massimiliano Colasuonno Taricone - CEO, Trasacco Group and Honorary Consul of Ghana for Italy

After his university studies in Rome, Massimiliano Colasuonno Taricone immediately entered the world of work, starting to make his way into what would later become his business sector: the marketing of furniture and design and business contract. Thus matures an experience of a high international level, essential for his entrepreneurial future. The end of the 90s, for Massimiliano Colasuonno Taricone, are those in which he meets Ghana. Thus matured his decision to start his adventure as an entrepreneur on the Ghana-Italy route, giving life to an Italian-Ghanaian company that deals with the international distribution of the products of the 12 most important European furniture brands. Over the next twenty years he participated in the construction of buildings of primary importance in the African republic: football and hockey stadiums, public infrastructures, hotels and the tallest skyscrapers in Ghana, the Vista Village in Accra.

In 2016 the Government of Ghana awarded him the title of

Honorary Consul of Ghana in Italy. A role that establishes the double soul of the manager and that he has decided to play by dedicating himself to the development of industrial relations between the two countries.



Col. t.SEP Marco Pucciatti - Arma dei Carabinieri, Chief of the Military and Stability Police Office of the General Command

He started his military career in 1992 by attending the Military Academy of Modena and the Carabinieri Officer's College in Rome. He has a degree in Law and in Internal and External Security Sciences. He attended the XXXIV Advanced Training Course at the Interagency Law Enforcement Academy of Advanced Studies.

With the ranks of Lieutenant and Captain, he served as a Platoon Commander of the 3rd Battalion of the Carabinieri School of Iglesias (Sardinia), Platoon Commander and Information Officer within the 1st "Tuscania" Carabinieri Regiment in Livorno (Tuscany) and Commander of the Carabinieri Companies of Montella (Campania), Palestrina (Rome) and Fasano (Apulia). He was also deployed overseas within the SFOR Mission in Sarajevo.

As a senior officer, with the ranks of Major and Lieutenant Colonel, he was appointed as Staff Officer and Section Head of the Force Organization Office at the Carabinieri General Headquarters, as staff officer at the 2nd "International Relations Service" of the Police Forces Coordination and Planning Office and as Operations Room Head within the Carabinieri General Headquarters, a position which he continued to hold with the rank of Colonel since January 1th, 2018.

From August 2019 to September 2021 he served as the Commander of the Carabinieri provincial district of Modena (Emilia Romagna).

Since September 2021 he has been serving as the Military Police and Stability Policing Office Head at the Carabinieri General Headquarters.



Col. Alleta Mampepe Kxori Mankayi - Defence attaché of the Embassy of South Africa to Italy



Giovanni Faleg - EUISS, Senior Analyst

Giovanni Faleg joined the EUISS in July 2018. He is responsible for analysis and research on sub-Saharan Africa. He focuses on the drivers of state fragility in Africa and the EU's engagement in the region, particularly conflict prevention and peacebuilding, the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and the integrated approach to conflicts and crises. Before joining the EUISS, he worked at the World Bank (2014-2018) in the fragility, conflict and violence unit; at the Centre for European Policy Studies (2011-2018) and the Istituto Affari Internazionali (2013), focusing on the EU's foreign and security policy.

Giovanni holds a PhD in European Studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science (2014), with a thesis on the evolution of security cooperation in the EU through institutional learning. He is the author of *The EU's Common Security and Defence Policy: Learning Communities in International Organizations* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016) and *More Union in European Defence* (CEPS, 2015). Iver Høj Nielsen is Head of P4G Activities at the Danish public private partnership for international promotion of green technologies, State of Green. The P4G

initiative supports and accelerates sustainable and renewable partnerships in emerging markets. Iver Høj Nielsen had a long career as reporter and newspaper editor before joining State of Green in 2008.



Lorena Stella Martini - European Council on Foreign Relations, Researcher

Lorena Stella Martini has been working at the Rome office of the European Council on Foreign Relations since October 2020. Here, besides supporting the office in its communication & advocacy activities, her research work mainly focuses on North Africa and Italian foreign policy towards the Mediterranean region.

Before joining ECFR, she gained professional experience with think tanks, such as the Institute for International Political Studies, NGOs and a Tunisian governmental organization. A fluent speaker of English, French, Arabic and Spanish, Martini holds a double master's degree in comparative analysis of Mediterranean societies and international studies from the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (Morocco) and the University of Turin. She previously obtained a master's degree in Middle Eastern studies from the Graduate School of Economics and International Relations (ASERI) at the Catholic University of Milan, and a bachelor's degree in languages for international relations (majors: English and Arabic) from the same university.



Min. Khalid Atlassi - Plenipotentiary Ministry of the Embassy of Morocco to Italy



Letizia Magaldi - Vice-President, Magaldi Green Energy

Law studies and masters at Bocconi, she is vice president of Magaldi Green Energy, an industrial plant engineering company founded by his grandfather Paolo in 1929, with a strong vocation for technological innovation, environmental sustainability and internationalization. The company has its headquarters in Salerno, but is present in 50 countries, from Australia to Mexico. And her latest challenge starts from Mexico: Letizia Magaldi was recently appointed president of the Economic Association of Mexico in Italy (Aemi), established last October, with the aim of strengthening economic, commercial, cultural and tourist ties.



Francesca Manenti - Director of CeSI - Center for International Studies

Graduated in International and European Politics at Cattolica University of Milan in 2012, she took a Master Degree in Economic Security, Geopolitics and Intelligence at SIOI (Italian Society for International Relations) in Rome.

In 2013, she entered Ce.S.I. as intern and then she has gained experience through the fellowship program.

She took the role of Senior Analyst in charge for Asia and Pacific affairs at the Institute and author of publications on subject of her expertise.

Currently, she is the Director of the Institute.

She teaches at the Carabinieri Officer School, at the Centre for Specialised Training of the Italian Financial Police and at the Course for Analysts organized by the Institute.

She has been frequently interviewed as expert commentator on national TV and Radio programs, both public and private.



Fabio Squillante - Agenzia Nova, Director

He is the founder and General Director of Agenzia Nova Srl, a company which provides information, editorial and communications services for private and public bodies, businesses and local authorities.



Tomas Nhabetse - Universidade Save, Director of Research Center: Earth Science and Natural Resources



Luca Traini - RES4Africa, Energy Access Programme Manager

Luca Traini, Manager and Business Development Expert with experience in sustainable development, energy and water sectors. Currently in RES4Africa Foundation as Access2Energy Programme Manager.

With ten years of experience in an international environment, he had the opportunity to work in European, African and Asian countries as Business Development Expert and in Tanzania as Country Manager.

Mr. Traini holds a Master Degree in International Relations.



Fabio Tambone - Director and Head of External International Affairs, Autorità di Regolazione per Energia Reti e Ambiente (ARERA)

Mr. Fabio Tambone is currently Director, Head of External International Relations of ARERA, the Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy Networks and Environment (www.arera.it).

He is Executive Advisor to the Board of WAREG, the European association Water Regulators (www.wareg.org) gathering 30 water Authorities in the European continent.

Till February 2021 he has covered the position of Secretary General at MEDREG (Mediterranean energy Regulators), the organization gathering 25 energy Authorities in Mediterranean basin (www.medreg-regulators.org).

He previously worked at the World Bank in Washington DC, at the European Commission in Brussels, and for other private and public organizations carrying out strategic research and managing international cooperation projects and programs on energy and other industrial sectors.

He graduated in economics at University of Bologna, he earned an MBA at MIP-School of Management (Politecnico di Milano), and a Leadership executive programme at Bocconi University.



Gianfranco Belgrano - Africa e Affari, Editorial Director

Born in Palermo in 1973, Gianfranco Belgrano is a journalist with a long experience in Middle Eastern and African issues. After graduating in Modern Literature at the University of Palermo, he studied Arabic in Tunis and Damascus, then worked for several years in London dealing with human rights. In 2001, after returning to Italy, he began working as a journalist at the newspaper L'Ora. Afterwards he moved - after other experiences in the printed press - to the Misna news agency where he dealt with international politics following the political and economic developments of the

Middle East and Africa. In 2012, together with a group of colleagues and friends of Misna, he founded Internationalia, an editorial group designed to deal with Foreign Affairs, adapting the coverage of this specific area to the highest international levels. Currently, Internationalia produces three information services centered on Africa: InfoAfrica, a daily news agency, Africa e Affari, a monthly economic paper, and Africa Magazine. Within the group, Gianfranco Belgrano occupies the position of editorial director. Internationalia also curates Infomundi, an online daily newsletter entirely dedicated to international issues and is among the organizers of the RomAfrica Film Festival, an event held every year in Rome in July and which is dedicated to African cinematography.



Marco Di Liddo - CeSI, Head of the Analysis Unit

Graduated in 2009 in International and Diplomatic Sciences in Gorizia, he was lecturer in Contemporary History in 2011 at the University of Trieste and subsequently obtained the II level Master in "Peacekeeping and Security Studies" at the Roma Tre University.

He is currently Head of the Analysis Unit and Analyst in charge of the Africa Desk and the Russia and Balkans Desk at Ce.S.I. - Center for International Studies.

He is radio and television commentator for Rai, Vatican Radio, TV2000, Tgcom, Italian Defense Magazine, Military Magazine and BBC History.



Filippo Prospero - De Lorenzo SPA, Business Development Director & Member of the Board

Filippo is the Business Director and Board Member of De Lorenzo SpA, an internationally renowned Italian company specialised in manufacturing and supplying technical and engineering training equipment. As Business Development Director, Filippo carries the responsibility for strategic operations planning geared to driving new business

opportunities and partnerships for De Lorenzo. Filippo has been directly immersed in the different activities of De Lorenzo from a young age, starting with production and international sales, to leading the sales and marketing teams in both De Lorenzo Mexico and Brazil offices. These experiences, coupled with his strong business acumen, have allowed him to possess a comprehensive view and understanding of De Lorenzo's operations in the different markets, as well as the ability to identify new opportunities. Motivated by his strong passion for youth skills development, Filippo's goal is to maintain De Lorenzo's reputation as a global leader in manufacturing and supplying didactic equipment for technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions, as well as for universities and polytechnics.



Admassu Tadesse - TDB, the Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank, President and Chief Executive

Admassu Tadesse is an international banker and business leader with experience at board and executive-levels globally and in Africa. Since he joined the Bank in 2012, Mr. Tadesse has launched new business operations, centres of excellence in risk management and treasury as well as critical institutional reforms which have led TDB to transform its ownership, geographical scope and organizational structure, achieve investment-grade ratings, grow its assets from USD 1bn to about USD 8bn, and drive higher impact in the 22 Member States it serves. Previously, he has served as Executive Vice President at the Development Bank of Southern Africa, and senior advisor and specialist with various funds and international organizations globally. Mr. Tadesse is a recipient of several industry honors and awards notably, Africa Banker of the Year and Africa Business Leader of the Year in 2021 and 2019, from Africa Banker Awards, Africa Investor Magazine, Financial Afrik and the US Corporate Council on Africa.



Nuno Maposse - Economic Adviser, Investment and Export Promotion Agency (APIEX)

Investment Analyst with a track record of more than 30 years of experience and proven competence in leading, developing and implementing strategies and actions for the promotion and proactive marketing of Mozambique's image and its economic potential, investment and export opportunities, to national and foreign investors, in Mozambique and abroad. He directed the creation of the logo of the Investment and Export Promotion Agency, IP (APIEX) and the production and updating of content, editing and printing of the following investment promotion materials currently in use: Facts About Mozambique, Investment Legislation in Mozambique and Book of Investment Opportunities in Mozambique, in Portuguese and English, in physical and digital format. Due to the high quality of his work, senior state leaders awarded him diplomas and certificates of honour. Nuno António Maposse has a Master in Business Leadership and an Honours Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy, and is fluent in Portuguese, English, French and Spanish.



Carlo Palleschi - CeSI, Analyst

Carlo Palleschi is Junior Fellow in charge of the Geoeconomics Desk, where he deals with globalization, digitalization, energy security and urbanization. Carlo previously worked as a research assistant at the European Union Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) and was part of the EUISS African Futures 2030 Task Force as coordinator of the working group on urbanization in Africa. He collaborated with the Center for Economic and

International Studies of the University of Tor Vergata for a project of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on agricultural and trade policies in Ethiopia.

Carlo is a PhD student in International Economics, Globalization and Development at the University of Rome La Sapienza. He received his master's degree in Political Economy from the same university and spent periods of study at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and the Paris School of International Affairs of Sciences Po.



Fabio Petroni - E4Impact, Director Programmi

Fabio Petroni, is the Director of Programmes at the E4Impact Foundation, the spin-off of the Catholic University of Milan aiming at growing impact entrepreneurs in Africa.

In partnership with African Universities E4Impact has trained and accelerated 600+ entrepreneurs in Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast and Senegal. E4Impact entrepreneurs created 3.500+ jobs. E4Impact training and acceleration programmes will be available in Rwanda, Sudan, Zimbabwe and Gabon in 2019. Prior to joining E4impact, Fabio has been working as Sustainable development, PPP and CSR specialist at Eni and the European Parliament.

I am the Director of Programmes at the E4Impact Foundation, the spin-off of the Catholic University of Milan aiming at growing impact entrepreneurs in Africa.

In partnership with African Universities E4Impact has trained and accelerated 600+ entrepreneurs in Cameroon, Chad, DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Niger, Sierra Leone, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. E4Impact

entrepreneurs created 3.500+ jobs. E4Impact training and acceleration programmes will be available in Mali and hopefully Nigeria and Tanzania from 2023.

Prior to joining E4impact, I have been working as Sustainable development, PPP and CSR specialist at Eni and the European Parliament.



Michele Governatori - Power & Gas Lead, ECCO Think Tank

Michele Governatori is ECCO's Electricity and Gas Manager. Michele is an adjunct professor of applied economics, consultant and popularizer in the field of Energy and the Environment. After graduating with honors in Economics from Bocconi University in 1996 in Milan, he completed the Master in Management of the Energy and Environment Industry at Eni Corporate University.



Fabrizio Lobasso - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Central Deputy Director for sub-Saharan Africa

Fabrizio Lobasso has been a diplomatic official since 1997. He is currently Deputy Director for the countries of sub-Saharan Africa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and, before returning to Rome, he was Head of the Economic and Commercial Office in Santiago de Chile, Consul in Athens and Italian Ambassador in Khartoum. During his career, he has dealt with trade diplomacy, press and communication, multilateralism in the G8 and Italian political strategy towards the Horn of Africa and East Africa. In 2017, he founded the world's first Chair of intercultural diplomacy at the University of International Studies of Rome (UNINT) where he is currently an adjunct professor. From 2022 at the same university, he also teaches “Economic Diplomacy, Country System and Soft Power”. In parallel, he conducts training activities in the main Italian

universities and research and training centres, in the issues of leadership, intercultural communication, public speaking, mediation and international negotiation. He completed his education at Harvard (public leadership) and the Geneva Center for Security Policy (violent extremism).

He holds a PhD in political science (Sufism and Radicalism in Sudan) from the International University of Africa (Khartoum) and is a visiting professor at El Nilein University in Khartoum.

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