

Global Security Challenges of the 21st Century: New Problems, Innovative Solutions

**Academic and Policy Workshop
Rio de Janeiro, 29 November 2019**

Call for Papers

Rationale

The aim of this conference is to discuss some of the key global security challenges of the 21st century, including disarmament and non-proliferation, and possible solutions, generating interest in the subjects raised amongst Brazilian scholars and scholars of Brazil. The conference aims to be an innovative and hybrid combination of traditional academic debate with interactive policy workshop. It aims to give a strategic overview for academics and policy makers, bringing new and innovative suggestions to a wider audience.

The Chevening Network in Brazil¹ and Oxford University invite scholars of the social sciences, especially those with a focus on international relations, political science and public policy, to submit abstracts for papers on the three topics below. Authors are invited to submit an extended abstract (250 words, written in English) and short bio to globalbrazilconference2019@gmail.com, no later than 15 September 2019. Accepted abstracts will be notified no later than 15 October 2019. Papers accepted for presentation will be invited to submit for a special issue of a policy-focused academic journal. Limited funding will be available to cover travel expenses to Rio de Janeiro.

Keynote speakers

Andreza de Souza Santos, Director of the Brazilian Studies Programme, Oxford University
Vijay Rangarajan, British Ambassador to Brazil

Topics

a. Global Geopolitical Challenges

Global geopolitical challenges are many and varied. Two trends are increasingly apparent across many debates: The first is the questioning, testing and reforming of the post-World War II and post-Cold War defence and security architecture, including

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counter proliferation and disarmament mechanisms. What is the future of these forums and what is Brazil's role in strengthening them? The second is the tension between global challenges requiring multilateral solutions and domestic political challenges that encourage an inward looking foreign policy. Can the two approaches be compatible? How can Brazil position itself within this context?

b. Regional Security Challenges

Within the Latin American region, cross-border security challenges are complex and ever changing. Two aspects of this landscape are particularly pertinent to Brazil now, both requiring regional cooperation and coordination. The first is the trafficking of people, arms and drugs by criminal organisations and the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. How can Brazil utilise law enforcement innovations to tackle these longstanding issues? What impact does Brazilian domestic security policy have on the region as a whole? The second is the crisis in Venezuela and the movement of migrants and refugees across the region. How has Brazil responded and what lessons can be shared with the wider region? Where is regional coordination working and where could it be furthered?

c. Technology and Security

The future of many global challenges will be affected and perhaps even determined by the adoption and development of new technologies. The proliferation of cyber attacks and vulnerabilities within every day systems is increasingly capturing public attention. What challenges does the ordinary Brazilian face and what can be done to support them? Often our attention is focused on the fear of future risks, but in what ways can technology help to improve security? Where is the area of greatest positive potential that Brazil can utilise and share with others?

Key Dates

15 September 2019: deadline for abstract submissions (250 words)

15 October 2019: deadline for decisions on abstracts

29 November 2019: conference

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