

Faculty of Humanities Conference



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

20 YEARS
— 2005-2025 —

Our Future. Reimagined.

INVITATION

The SARChI: African Diplomacy and Foreign Policy at the University of Johannesburg invites abstract submissions for the upcoming international conference themed:

Reimagining African Sovereignty in a Multipolar World: Strengthening Diplomacy, Security, and Global Influence



**Call for papers:
abstract submissions**



- **CONFERENCE DATE:** 20 - 21 October 2025
- **VENUE:** University of Johannesburg, South Africa

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: Africa stands at the heart of global transformation. From shifting geopolitical alignments to renewed foreign interest, African states face increasing pressure to navigate diplomacy, sovereignty, and development in a rapidly evolving multipolar world. As South Africa assumes the G20 presidency and the African Union takes up permanent membership, the continent's voice on the global stage has never been more critical. This conference seeks to bring together scholars, diplomats, policymakers, and civil society leaders to explore how Africa can reimagine and assert its sovereignty, rethink its strategic partnerships, and shape global governance with confidence and agency.

OBJECTIVES

- Critically examine diplomatic and foreign policy challenges facing African states in 2025.
- Assess Africa's agency and influence in global governance, especially in the G20.
- Explore conflict prevention, regional integration, and collective security strategies.
- Advance African-centred narratives in diplomacy and international relations.
- Strengthen collaboration between academia, foreign ministries, and policy institutions.

SUB-THEMES

Participants are invited to submit abstracts aligned with the following thematic areas:

- Geopolitical Alignments and Africa's Strategic Autonomy
- South Africa's G20 Presidency and the AU's Global Role
- Peacebuilding, Security, and Counterterrorism in Post-Coup Environments
- Climate Diplomacy and the Green Transition
- AfCFTA, Migration, and Regional Integration
- Digital Diplomacy, Cybersecurity, and Data Sovereignty
- Reforming Global Governance Institutions (UNSC, Bretton Woods, etc.)
- Youth, Gender, and Inclusive Foreign Policy
- Maritime Diplomacy and African Sovereignty
- Diaspora and Cultural Diplomacy: Reclaiming the African Narrative



Submission Guidelines:

- **ABSTRACTS:** 200 words
- **DEADLINE:** Friday 22 August 2025 at 17:00
- **SUBMISSION EMAIL:** recordssarchi@uj.ac.za
- Use the title of the Conference as the subject for the email

INCLUDE

- Full name
- Institutional affiliation
- Email
- Short bio (max 100 words)
- All abstracts will undergo a peer-review process
- No registration fees are required to attend the conference.
- Acceptance to present will be confirmed via an official acceptance letter.
- Late submissions will not be considered.
- Selected papers will be considered for inclusion in Conference Proceedings
- Once accepted, authors are expected to submit the following:
- Presentations by Friday 17 October 2025 at 17:00
- Full papers by Friday 31 October 2025 at 17:00

This unique opportunity to contribute to critical continental and global debates around foreign policy, diplomacy, peace and security, regional integration, Africa in the G20, South Africa's G20 presidency, among others, to determine Africa's place in a changing world order.



For inquiries and partnership opportunities, please contact:

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