

What EU Foreign Policy in a more contested World?

November 25th 2021, 18:00-20:00

Sala Jordi Maragall, CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Organised by: CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs) in the framework of the JOINT project

The European Union's ambition to become a normative power and contribute to the expansion of liberal and democratic norms, rule of law and multilateralism appears more contested than ever. The Western hegemony of the post-Cold War period has been replaced by a multipolar system characterised by great power rivalry. Re-emerging powers such as China and Russia compete with the United States in the military, trade, health, and energy sectors, and to influence or conquer other regions, oceans and the space. European Union member states are also persistently divided over foreign and security policy issues, particularly after the rise of populist narratives. Moreover, regions to the south and east of the European Union appear fragmented, unstable, and affected by conflicts and crises, whose effects (from economic disruptions to humanitarian and mobility crises) spill over into neighbouring states. What is the role of the EU in such a fragmented and contested world? How norms should be spread in a geopolitical world? Is the need for a joined-up and strategic union the way to become a normative power?

This roundtable aims to understand what kind of actor the European Union is becoming in a world characterised by multipolar contestation and regional fragmentation. The session is part of the [JOINT project](#) which assesses the challenges to a more joined-up foreign and security policy of the European Union.

Thursday, November 25th

Roundtable 18:00-20:00

Chair: Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Panelists:

Riccardo Alcaro, Senior Researcher, IAI (Istituto Affari Internazionali)

Pol Bargaés, Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Adam Holesch, Research Fellow, IBEI (Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals)

Kristina Kausch, Senior Researcher, German Marshall Fund of the United States

Zachary Paikin, Researcher, CEPS, (Centre for European Policy Studies)

Kristi Raik, Director, ICDS (International Centre for Defence and Security)

Pernille Rieker, Research Professor, NUPI (Norwegian Institute for International Affairs)



Participating Institutes:

CEPS, Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels
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GMF, German Marshall Fund of the United States, Brussels
IAI, Istituto Affari Internazionali, Rome
IBEI, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals, Barcelona
ICDS, International Centre for Defence and Security, Tallinn
NUPI, Norwegian Institute for International Affairs, Oslo

