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## Biographies

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### **Abdelaaziz Ait Ali, Manager - Economics**

Abdelaaziz Ait Ali is the Head of Department of Research in Economics who joined Policy Center for the New South after five years' experience at The Central Bank of Morocco. He worked as an economist at the Economics and International Relations Department. He was in charge of analyzing the Real Estate Price Index and was assigned to monitor several assets prices, including stocks markets, for monetary policy and financial stability objectives. Abdelaaziz is interested also in energy challenges for the global and national economy and long term growth. Abdelaaziz holds a Master degree in econometrics from the University of Hassan II in Casablanca.



### **Carlos Gaspar, Senior Researcher, IPRI NOVA**

Carlos Gaspar is a researcher at the Portuguese Institute of International Relations (IPRI NOVA). He studied Law and History at the Classical University of Lisbon, took a Master's degree in Political Science and International Relations at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and holds a PhD in History and International Relations from the New University of Lisbon. He was Advisor to Presidents Ramalho Eanes, Mário Soares and Jorge Sampaio. He was an advisor to the Board of Directors of the Fundação Oriente and the Instituto de Defesa Nacional. Mr. Gaspar was also a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations and of the Real Instituto Elcano. He is Author of *The Post-Cold War* (2016); *The Scale of Europe* (2017); *Raymond Aron and the Cold War* (2018); *The Return of Anarchy* (2019); and *The World of Tomorrow* (2020).



**Frank Mattheis, Research Fellow, ULB**

Frank Mattheis works on governance structures beyond the nation state, chiefly in relation to regionalism. His publications and projects deal with processes of region-making/unmaking, comparative regionalism as well as North-South and South-South interregionalism. He was previously based at the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation, University of Pretoria (South Africa) as a senior researcher, where he first coordinated a work package for the [ATLANTIC FUTURE](#) FP7-project and later carried out postdoctoral project for the German Academic Exchange Service. Prior, he was senior research fellow at the Centre for Area Studies of the University of Leipzig (Germany), first as part of the research team on "Changing Stateness in Africa", working on the interplay between Brazilian development models and African partners and later as a postdoctoral researcher for the project "New Regionalisms in a Changing Global Order: Mapping Latin America and Africa". Frank Mattheis is trained in [Global Studies](#) with a M.A. from the Universities of Leipzig and Vienna and a Dr. phil. from the University of Leipzig. His [doctoral thesis](#) offers a conceptual framework to overcome Eurocentric theorising and Southern idiosyncrasy in the study of regionalisms. He speaks English, French, German, Italian and Spanish and has spent several fieldwork stays in Central Africa, Southern Africa and South America. He has taught at universities in South America, Africa, Asia and Europe and developed coursework on methods of international studies, on comparative regionalism and on African politics.



**Leonardo Paz Neves, Researcher, FGV IIU**

Leonardo Paz Neves is an International Intelligence Analyst at the International Intelligence Unit from the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) and Lecturer at the Department of International Relations from the Ibmec College. In addition, he worked as Project Coordinator and Coordinator for Studies and Debates on the Brazilian Centre for International Relations (CEBRI), also worked together with the Civil Affairs Section of the Brazilian Joint Centre for Peacekeeping Operations (CCOPAB), from the Brazilian Armed Forces and is the former Executive Coordinator of the Group of Analysis on International Conflicts Prevention (GAPCon/UCAM). He has experience in Political Science and International Relations, focusing on international conflicts, failed states/rogue states, security policies, peace operations, security policy in South America and US, democracy, development, South-South cooperation, human rights and aspects of Brazilian soft power.



**Lorena Ruano, Professor of International Relations, CIDE**

Lorena Ruano is Professor of International Relations at CIDE, Mexico City, since 2003. Her research and teaching focus on European integration and relations between Europe and Latin America. She graduated from El Colegio de México and Oxford University (UK). She was Jean Monnet Fellow at the EUI (Italy).



**Eduard Soler, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB**

Eduard Soler i Lecha is a Senior Research Fellow at CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs). Between 2016 and 2019, he was scientific coordinator of MENARA, a European project on geopolitical shifts in the Middle East and North Africa. He holds a PhD in International Relations from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Dr. Soler i Lecha is a political scientist and a part-time lecturer in International Relations at the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals and at Ramon Llull-Blanquerna University. From 2013 to 2017 he lead the El Hiwar project on Euro-Arab diplomacy at the College of Europe (Bruges) and in 2010 he was seconded to the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an advisor in the Direction General for the Mediterranean, the Maghreb and the Middle East. He has also advised in several occasions the Catalan government and the Barcelona local governments on Euro-Mediterranean affairs. His main areas of expertise are: Euro-Mediterranean relations, Turkey's foreign and domestic politics, North African and Middle Eastern political dynamics, Spain's Mediterranean policy and security cooperation in the Mediterranean. He is a member of the Observatory of European Foreign Policy, FIMAM (the Spanish network of researchers working on Arab and Muslim studies), EuroMeSCo and the advisory boards of Mediterranean Politics and IEMed's Mediterranean Yearbook.



## A propos du Policy Center for the New South

Le Policy Center for the New South (PCNS) est un think tank marocain dont la mission est de contribuer à l'amélioration des politiques publiques, aussi bien économiques que sociales et internationales, qui concernent le Maroc et l'Afrique, parties intégrantes du Sud global.

Le PCNS défend le concept d'un « nouveau Sud » ouvert, responsable et entreprenant ; un Sud qui définit ses propres narratifs, ainsi que les cartes mentales autour des bassins de la Méditerranée et de l'Atlantique Sud, dans le cadre d'un rapport décomplexé avec le reste du monde. Le think tank se propose d'accompagner, par ses travaux, l'élaboration des politiques publiques en Afrique, et de donner la parole aux experts du Sud sur les évolutions géopolitiques qui les concernent. Ce positionnement, axé sur le dialogue et les partenariats, consiste à cultiver une expertise et une excellence africaines, à même de contribuer au diagnostic et aux solutions des défis africains.

A ce titre, le PCNS mobilise des chercheurs, publie leurs travaux et capitalise sur un réseau de partenaires de renom, issus de tous les continents. Le PCNS organise tout au long de l'année une série de rencontres de formats et de niveaux différents, dont les plus importantes sont les conférences internationales annuelles « The Atlantic Dialogues » et « African Peace and Security Annual Conference » (APSACO).

Enfin, le think tank développe une communauté de jeunes leaders à travers le programme Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders (ADEL). Cet espace de coopération et de mise en relation d'une nouvelle génération de décideurs et d'entrepreneurs, est déjà fort de plus de 300 membres. Le PCNS contribue ainsi au dialogue intergénérationnel et à l'émergence des leaders de demain.

[www.policycenter.ma](http://www.policycenter.ma)