

Bled
Strategic

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CONCEPT NOTE AND SESSIONS

SOLIDARITY FOR GLOBAL SECURITY

We live in a world defined by polycrisis. Uncertainty and insecurity best describe the current moment in the international geostrategic community — but they also mark future challenges in the clearest possible terms. These challenges permeate every single aspect of our societies and cut against the grain of institutional and organised life in the twenty-first century. Every new crisis in the last decade, and in particular the COVID-19 pandemic, brought new strain to the existing, rules-based international system. Populism, nationalism, and autocratic regimes continue to gain strength — and they will continue to do so unless new and fresh ideas for the future are brought forward.

Indeed, our sense of security was crucially diminished with the Russian aggression on Ukraine, which challenges the geopolitical reality of Europe. In parallel, our basic security has been compromised and many of our needs have been hijacked and weaponised; climate, food, water, energy and human security are under threat.

How do we ensure security in these times? How do we ensure safe access to food and energy, not just in Europe but in the entire world, especially in the developing and least developed regions? How do we address factors that present themselves as obstacles to food and energy, in particular climate change and conflicts with climate-induced economic motivations? How do we ensure that these factors are addressed in a way that does not put into question values that we take for granted: human rights and fundamental freedoms?

The contemporary international community affords itself too many fragmentations, too much protectionism, and too little will to cooperate and realign. Much has changed since the end of the Cold War. However, we must adjust the current multipolar geostrategic environment in order to support and not hinder effective global governance. In this respect, it is essential that Europe accept its own share of responsibility. If it wants to be a beacon of change and burden carrier, that is.