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Present

Which growing role for the African continent in the global governance?

*A conference and a citizen debate on the occasion of the French G8-G20 presidency
“Everything is in place for the economic takeoff of the African continent.” – Nicolas Sarkozy*

May 17, 2011

2:00 pm – 5:30 pm

The Glendon School of Public and International Affairs

2275 Bayview avenue, Toronto

Senate Chamber

York Hall, C Wing

Prendre l'Afrique au sérieux : une perspective africaine de la gouvernance mondiale by **Dr Awalou Ouédraogo** (in French)



« In the world of today, Africa has everything that the other continents do not. Torn between the search for its own model and global issues, the African continent can, and even must, play a fundamental role in the world governance of today and the near future. Between an arrogant universalism and a sectarian relativism, the cradle of humanity could be the melting pot of an eclectic cosmopolitanism, a pledge of a true dialogue between civilizations.»

Mr Awalou OUEDRAOGO holds a graduate degree and a doctorate in international law from the Institut universitaire des hautes études internationales de Genève (Switzerland). Researcher and faculty member of the Department of International Studies at Glendon College, he is the author of numerous articles on international law and Africa.

***African Issues are Global Issues* by Dr Mairi S. Macdonald (in English)**

"It is banal to say, with French political scientist Jean-François Bayart, that Africa is "neither more nor less than a part of the planet." But in 2011, this timeless observation takes on a profound urgency. The challenges that Africans face - food scarcity, climate change, and in too many cases, autocratic leaders that cling to power with a tenacity that takes the form of brutal assaults on their own people - are the local manifestations of global issues. Crucial interconnections between local perspectives and concerns and global perceptions and consequences demand a more active role for Africans in the international fora attempting to understand and address these issues."

Mairi MacDonald received her doctorate in history from the University of Toronto in 2009. Her thesis, "The Challenge of Guinean Independence, 1958-1971," considered Guinea's impact on changing international conceptions of the African State during the first years of its independence, as well as the central role that independence played in Sékou Touré's construction of the new nation and consolidation of his own power. She teaches the history of international relations, focusing on Africa during the decolonization period. Before returning to academia, Dr. MacDonald practised law for many years, and took advantage of every opportunity to engage with the economic development of francophone Africa.

Debate with students conducted by **Pr Michael Barutciski**



Professor Barutciski is Graduate Programme Director at the Glendon School of Public and International Affairs, as well as Editor-in-Chief of Refuge (Canada's Journal on Forced Migration) and Assistant Editor of Global Brief (World Affairs in the 21st Century). He has carried out research in conflict zones and refugee camps in various parts of Asia, Africa and the Balkans.

Q&A with the audience conducted by **Pr Michael Barutciski**

Come and ask your questions within a debate with the audience, the students and the keynote speakers.

Due to limited seats, please confirm your attendance before May 16, 2011

RSVP: Aurélie Fraval

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