



KENYA FOREIGN POLICY RESEARCH AND DIALOGUE INITIATIVE

2025 NAIROBI GEOPOLITICS FORUM

The Evolving Geopolitical Landscape and its Implications for Kenya's Foreign Policy

Date: Wednesday, April 30th, 2025

Venue: Swiss-Belinn Hotel, Nairobi

Background

The **Kenya Foreign Policy Research and Dialogue Initiative** is a strategic endeavor designed to facilitate informed discussions and evidence-based research on Kenya's foreign policy priorities. This year-long initiative focuses on three thematic areas: Geopolitics, Geoeconomics, and Geosecurity, featuring quarterly events that delve into each theme, culminating in a flagship Annual Foreign Policy Convening in the final quarter that brings together key stakeholders. By conducting rigorous research and facilitating stakeholder dialogues, this initiative will engage policymakers and experts to address pressing issues such as international security, economic diplomacy, and bilateral relations amongst others. Key activities will include workshops, roundtable discussions, and the publication of research findings. The Initiative is organized by the International Relations Society of Kenya (IRSK) in partnership with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) Kenya Office.

Introduction

The **2025 Nairobi Geopolitics Forum** is the inaugural thematic event of the Kenya Foreign Policy Research and Dialogue Initiative. This one-day workshop, which is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 30th, 2025**, aims to facilitate informed discussions on the evolving geopolitical landscape and its implications for Kenya's foreign policy. The workshop will address critical issues such as regional political dynamics, international alliances, and emerging strategic partnerships. Participants, who include policymakers, diplomats, scholars, think tanks and media representative, will explore how Kenya can navigate complex geopolitical challenges while enhancing its global standing. The invite-only forum will employ a structured dialogue methodology to ensure inclusive, participatory, and outcome-oriented discussions.

Objectives

This workshop aims to lay a foundation for ongoing dialogue and research in the field of geopolitics as it relates to Kenya's foreign policy. The specific objectives include:

- Understand how geopolitics is reshaping power dynamics, security, and cooperation for Kenya.
- Identify key challenges and opportunities associated with the geopolitical dynamics for Kenya
- Propose concrete policy measures and strategies for managing geopolitical issues.
- Build partnerships and networks to address shared challenges and promote collaboration.

Expected Outcomes

The expected outcome of the 2025 Nairobi Geopolitics Forum include:

- A deeper understanding of the geopolitical dynamics and their implications for Kenya.
- A set of actionable recommendations for Kenyan policymakers and stakeholders.
- Strengthened networks and partnerships for future collaboration.
- A policy brief summarizing key insights and recommendations.

Target Participants

The 2025 Nairobi Geopolitical Forum will bring together about 30 key foreign policy stakeholders. They include:

- Policymakers
- Diplomats
- Scholars
- Think Tanks
- Media

Venue

The 2025 Nairobi Geopolitics Forum will take place at the Swiss-Belinn Hotel, located in Kileleshwa, Nairobi.

Time

The 2025 Nairobi Geopolitics Forum will run from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Contact Persons

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KAS: Mr. Victor Oteku | Victor.Oteku@kas.de | 0701 634 215

Tentative Program

TIME	ACTIVITIES
8:30 – 9:00	Arrival and Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Session Welcoming Remarks - IRSK Opening Remarks - KAS Keynote Address – Chief Guest
9:30 – 10:00	Research Presentation The Evolving Geopolitical Landscape and its Implications for Kenya’s Foreign Policy
10:00 – 10:45	High-Level Roundtable Discussion and Dialogue The Evolving Geopolitical Landscape and its Implications for Kenya’s Foreign Policy
10:45 – 11:00	Photo Session
11:00 – 11:30	Tea Break
11:30 – 12:15	Panel Discussion 1 Kenya’s role in the Region: Evolving, diminishing or fundamentally changing?
12:15 – 13:00	Panel Discussion 2 Navigating Geopolitical Opportunities and Challenges: Potential scenarios for the future
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 14:45	Breakout Sessions Focus Group Discussions
14:45 – 15:30	Feedback Session Summary of insights from Focus Group Discussions
15:30 – 16:00	Tea Break
16:00 – 17:00	Closing Ceremony Rapporteur’s Summary Vote of Thanks and Closing Remarks

Organizing Partners

International Relations Society of Kenya (IRSK)

IRSK is the premier professional body for the international affairs and diplomacy fields in Kenya. The Society serves as a policy-neutral forum for thought leadership, networking, and collaboration among those involved in the study, teaching, and practice of international relations and diplomacy in the country. Through policy research, dialogue, and advocacy, IRSK works to raise awareness, promote informed decision-making and catalyze action on pressing international and diplomatic issues at national, regional, and global levels.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)

KAS is a German political foundation, present in over 100 countries around the globe, and has been active in Kenya since 1973. The KAS cooperates with governmental institutions, political parties, civil society organizations, and academia, building strong partnerships along the way. The Foundation seeks to intensify political cooperation at the national and international levels through the promotion of productive diplomatic engagements and shared democratic values.