

In December 2005 the European Union adopted an unprecedented strategy for cooperation with the countries in Africa entitled "The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership". The strategy centres on achieving the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa. For a first time, it aims at joining a fragmented and not sufficiently coordinated development cooperation with Africa into a coherent policy. Europe is not only the most important economic and trading partner for the African continent, with 60 percent it provides the largest share of official development assistance to Africa. The strategy identifies peace and security, good governance and economic development as central preconditions for sustainable development in Africa.

But does the strategy entail a new quality in EU's relation with African countries? Does it mark what Commissioner for Develop-

ment Louis Michel claims to be a "turning point" in EU-Africa relations or is it merely a bundling together of existing strategies and instruments? Is the doubling of EU development assistance from 2010 on a huge step forward or does its implementation pose challenges towards the achievement of the development objectives? Has the fragmentation of competencies for development within the European Commission, in particular between the development and trade policy, been overcome? Will the 25 EU member states agree upon a joint and coordinated policy approach with the European Commission? And most importantly: Will the new Africa strategy live up to the development challenges? Does the strategy constitute an effective instrument to foster sustainable development and human security in Africa and to deal with the fact that each year several thousand men and women leave Africa driven by their hope for a better life in Europe?

10:00 **Welcome**

**Ralf Hexel**, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Berlin

10:10 **The EU Africa Strategy – A convincing response to the challenges in the partnership with Africa?**

**Siegmar Schmidt**, University Koblenz-Landau

11:00 Panel 1:

**Between prevention, sanction and intervention – Cooperation in security policy between EU and Africa**

**Christian Manahl**, European Council, Task Force Afrika, Brussels

**Wuyi Omitoogun**, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

**Olive Towey**, Concern, Dublin

Chair: **Bernd Ludermann**, Journalist, Essen

12:30 Lunch break

13:30 Panel 2:

**Self interest or fair partnership? Economic and trade relations between the EU and Africa**

**Alexis Valqui**, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Berlin

**Angelo E. Mondlane**, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Gaborone

**Michael Brüntrup**, German Development Institute, Bonn

**Paul Goodison**, European Research Office, Brussels

Chair: **Christiane Greffe**, Die Zeit, Berlin

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Panel 3:

**Shielding the EU or overcoming root causes? EU Africa policy between migration and development**

**Robertus Rozenburg**, DG Development, European Commission, Brussels\*

**Torsten Moriz**, Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe, Brussels

**Mehdi Lahlou**, Institute for Statistics and Applied Economics, Rabat

**Dietrich Thränhardt**, University of Munster

Chair: **Bernd Ludermann**, Journalist, Essen

17:00 End of conference, light refreshments

\* invited

*Simultaneous translation of German/English is provided.*

The conference is sponsored by the DKLB-Stiftung.

**Organiser:**

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**Public Transport:**

Bus 100 to/from stop "Nordische Botschaften"  
Bus 200 to/from stop "Hildebrandtstrasse"  
Bus M29 to/from stop "Hiroshimasteg"  
From Airport Berlin-Tegel:  
Bus 109 or X9 to "Station Zoo"  
Then bus 100 or 200

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INVITATION



International Conference  
**Global Structural Policy for  
Africa's Development?  
The EU Africa Strategy Examined**

**5 April 2006, Berlin**

