



ATLANTIC CURRENTS

AN ANNUAL REPORT ON WIDER ATLANTIC PERSPECTIVES AND PATTERNS

OVERCOMING THE CHOKE POINTS

DECEMBER 2018

5th Edition

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About OCP Policy Center

The OCP Policy Center is a Moroccan policy-oriented think tank based in Rabat, Morocco, striving to promote knowledge sharing and to contribute to an enriched reflection on key economic and international relations issues. By offering a southern perspective on major regional and global strategic challenges facing developing and emerging countries, the OCP Policy Center aims to provide a meaningful policy-making contribution through its four research programs: Agriculture, Environment and Food Security, Economic and Social Development, Commodity Economics and Finance, Geopolitics and International Relations.

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List of Abbreviations

AAPSO	The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization
ACDP	Agricultural Competitiveness and Diversification Program
AGOA	Africa Growth Opportunity Act
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CBDR	Common but Differentiated Responsibilities
CHS	UN Commission on Human Security
CSDP	Common Security and Defense Policy
DSB	Dispute Settlement Body
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EII	European Intervention Initiative
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreements
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
G20	Group of 20
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDR	Human Development Report
ICC	International Criminal Court
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
JCPOA	Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MERCOSUR	Mercado Común del Sur (Southern Common Market)
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NORDEFFCO	Nordic Defense Cooperation
NPT	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OSPAA	Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization
OSPAAL	Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America
PAFI	Pan-African Financial Institutions
PESCO	Permanent Structured Cooperation
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PLAZA	Périmètre Logistique Aménagé en Zone Aéroportuaire
R&D	Research and Development
R2P	Responsibility to Protect
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
SDGs	Sustaining Development Goals
SSCCC	South-South Cooperation on Climate Change
TEU	Treaty of the European Union
TSI	The Three Seas Initiative
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
US FED	United States' Federal Reserve System
USSR	The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
WAAPP	West African Agricultural Productivity Program
WTO	World Trade Organization
YPG	The People's Protection Units (from the Kurdish word Yekîneyên Parastina Gel)

Foreword

by Hafsati Abiola

When my dear friend, Professor Bouchra Rahmouni asked me to write the foreword for this edition of the Atlantic Dialogues, I knew I had to say yes. Having read the dozen chapters that make up the edition, I'm glad I did.

The quotation - the best way to predict the future is to create it - rang through my mind several times as I read chapter after chapter in this wonderful trove of ideas and innovative thinking.

Several elements of this edition will delight the reader. First, the breadth of issues covered is impressive. Every major area of tension to outlaugh crisis between the communities joined together by the Atlantic is covered, from the current migrant crisis to NATO and the prevailing trade system. Second, the choice of scholars and practitioners who were invited to weigh in on the subjects is a veritable who's who from academia and development. And third, each writer took seriously the request that they go beyond description and analysis of the issues and offer their ideas for what levers can be pulled to get to desirable outcomes, hence the quote above.

It would be a good idea to democratize these ideas. They are not meant for books that will be kept on shelves but should be engaged, debated, attempted. It is a good thing that most will be discussed during the December 2018 Atlantic Dialogues, a space that is quickly becoming a brain trust for the African continent. One hopes they find an even wider audience for, taken together, the chapters make a strong case for responsible globalization. Allow me to quote from one of the contributors to the collection to illustrate this point:

“There is no easy solution to the issue of inequality and disruption caused by globalization and technology. Policymakers must step up their efforts to explain the benefits of trade, while at the same time strengthening the mechanisms that protect the most vulnerable. However, there are limits to social assistance and the most promising long-term solutions are those that promote mobility of workers, which above all means building skills and flexibility” (The Future of the World Trading System by Uri Dadush.)

Without being abrasive, grounded in sound research and data, our various experts help chart a course to possible futures that offer broader prosperity and stability than the present. I hope you enjoy reading them

and more than that, I hope whenever you find yourself in a meeting where migration or agriculture or Europe's defense architecture comes up, you put forward some of the ideas offered up generously in this edition and contribute to creating that new world that is long overdue.

by Hafsat Abiola

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The yearly Atlantic Currents publication aims to provide a detailed analysis and a fresh perspective about ongoing cultural, economic, political and security dynamics that are shaping the wider Atlantic area today. Launched in December during the Atlantic Dialogues Conference, previous editions explored ways to change mental maps and examined promising opportunities for the African continent.

The chapters in this edition of the Atlantic Currents aim to cover key issues and choke points lying at the heart of this strategic region, ranging from the migration crisis, transatlantic cooperation in food and agriculture, the North-South divide on climate change, the future of multilateral governance in security and international trade, to the prospects of a new global financial crisis. Drawing on the analysis of leading scholars and renowned practitioners in the field of development, this report distills the policy issues at stake for the Atlantic space in a shifting world order and provides a look ahead by identifying opportunities for further integration and cooperation.

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