



**SAAPS** South African Association of  
Political Studies

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UNIVERSITY OF  
MPUMALANGA

Creating Opportunities

# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

South African Association for Political Studies

## Programme

### THEME

**Africa in Contemporary Global Politics**

### TIME & VENUE

**13 -15<sup>th</sup>**  
**September**

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University of Mpumalanga,  
Cnr R40 and D725 Roads,  
Mbombela, 1200

**Wed-Fri**  
**8am**



# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

**South African Association for Political Studies**

*Programme*

DAY ONE

**Wed, 13th September 2023**

# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

South African Association for Political Studies

Day 1: Wed, 13th September 2023

08h00–9h00

Registration: Conference and Wellness Centre

09h00–10h30

## **Session 1: OPENING SESSION AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Official Opening & Welcome:

**Professor Thoko Mayekiso,**

Vice-Chancellor, University of Mpumalanga.

Remarks by SAAPS President

**Professor Kgothatso Shai**

Introduction of Keynote Speaker,

**Professor Vusi Gumede,** Vice-President (SAAPS)

Keynote address, **Professor Kwesi Kwaa Prah**

10h30–11h00

Tea / Coffee

## **BUILDING 21: ROOM 001 SESSION 1**

11h00–13h00

**Chair: Prof Fritz Nganje**

**Theme: Russia-Ukraine War and Africa**

The 'post-colonial state' unmasked:

The Russian invasion of Ukraine

**Stephen Phiri,** University of Johannesburg, JIAS

The implication of African Union peace mission intervention between Russia-Ukraine conflict.

**Nkwatle B, Nxumalo T**

North West University

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South African Association for Political Studies

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To the left, to the left? East or West? Where does Africa and its emerging democracies from the global south go?

**Ngqapheli Mchunu**  
**Lebohang Ndaba**  
**Clement Nchabeleng**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Strengths and weaknesses of various players: roles and positions in the Ukraine-Russia war.

**Ntokozo Mhlungu**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Examining the Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War on South Africa.

**Noluthando Phungula**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Russia's war in Ukraine: Impacts on ecology, energy market, food security and sustainable development.

**Oyebamiji, Sunday Israel**

**Abraham, David Okechukwu**

United States-South Africa relations within the context of the Russia-Ukraine war.

**Vongani Muhluri Nkuna**

University of South Africa

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### BUILDING 21: ROOM 002, SESSION 2

11h00–13h00

**Dr Koli Matebese–Notshulwana**

**Theme: The African Continental Free Trade Area**

An Overview of Africa's Economic Prosperity through the possible benefits of African Continental Free Trade Area: An Afrocentric perspective.

**Makhura B. Rapanyane**

North West University

Reimagining trade relations and economic growth in Africa: Geopolitical fragmentation and foreign direct investment (FDI) fragmentation are forecast risks for Africa.

**Miyelani Mkhabela**

Antiswa Consulting

How significant is the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to spurring frontier technology development in Africa?

**Sizwe Sidaza**

University of KwaZulu Natal

13h00–14h00

**Lunch**

# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

South African Association for Political Studies

Day 1: Wed, 13th September 2023

## BUILDING 21: ROOM 102 SESSION 3

14h00–16h00

**Chair: Dr William Mpofu**

**Theme: The Resurgence of military coups**

The resurgences of coups in Africa: Revisiting theories of inverted legitimacy and neo-patrimonial balancing.

**Ndzalama C. Mathebula**

University of Johannesburg

What are the causes of the resurgence of coups in Africa?

**Lebogang T. Legodi**

University of Limpopo

The resurgence of military coups in Africa and the future of electoral democracy: Questions and answers.

**Yingi Edwin**

University of South Africa

AU's Agenda 2063 and the Quest to Silence the Guns: Implications of Recent Coups In Africa on the AfCFTA.

**Moorosi Leshoele**

University of Free State

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South African Association for Political Studies

Day 1: Wed, 13th September 2023

## BUILDING 21: ROOM 102 SESSION 4

14h00–16h00

**Chair: Prof Siphamandla Zondi**

**Theme: Pan-Africanism and other ideologies**

Factors undermining Pan-Africanism in South Africa: Afrophobia vs Xenophobia

**Charline King**

University of Western Cape

Pan Africanism and Socialism

**Bongumusa Nkabinde**

University of Mpumalanga

Intra-Africa Migration: Dilemmas of Common African Citizenship and Free Movement of Persons

**Khabele Matlosa**

University of Lesotho

Decolonising Cities: Anchoring African Urbanism in Contemporary Pan-African Thought

**Eric Nyembezi Makoni**

University of Johannesburg

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South African Association for Political Studies

Day 1: Wed, 13th September 2023

## BUILDING 21: ROOM 001 SESSION 5

14h00-16h00

**Chair: Dr Jonathan Oshupeng Maseng**

**Theme: Alliances and Formations**

“A return to the binary of geopolitics?” What about a polypolar, multipolar, non-polar, post-polar or de-polarised strategic design?

**Dirk Kotzé**

University of South Africa

The triangular pattern of political assassinations in the Kwa-Zulu Natal province

**G.M Mathenjwa**

University of KwaZulu- Natal

Regime Type and Interstate War: Developing Neoclassical Realism and (varieties of) Inverted Legitimacy through Eastern Africa, 1977-2000.

**Bhaso Ndzendze**

University of Johannesburg

## BUILDING 21: ROOM 002 SESSION 6

14h00-16h00

**Chair: Dr Sifiso Ndlovu**

Theme: Anti-black racism

**Ibrahim Steyn**

University of Mpumalanga

The Structural Violence of Trusteeship in Post-Apartheid Governmentality

**UbanesiaL. Adams**

Stellenbosch University

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South African Association for Political Studies

Day 1: Wed, 13th September 2023

## BUILDING 21: ROOM 001 SESSION 6

14h00-16h00

**Chair: Dr Sifiso Ndlovu**

**Theme: Anti-black racism**

Colour-Blind Racism in Post-Apartheid South Africa.

**Ibrahim Steyn**

University of Mpumalanga

The Structural Violence of Trusteeship in Post-Apartheid Governmentality

**Christopher Allsobrook**

University of Fort Hare

Critical lenses on gender equality promotion in South Africa: 'policy work', 'problem representations' and gender machinery

**Ubanesia L. Adams**

Stellenbosch University

Persistence of modern slavery in South Africa since Palermo Protocol: is there a panacea?

**Shadrack Maake**

University of Mpumalanga

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# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

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DAY TWO

**Thurs, 14th September 2023**

# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

South African Association for Political Studies

Day 2: Thurs, 14th September 2023

## VENUE: CONFERENCE AND WELLNESS CENTRE

9h00- 10h30

**Chair: Prof Kgothatso Shai**

### Keynote Addresses

Former IPSA President

**Professor Dianne Pinderhughes**

Research Chair, Tshwane University of Technology

**Professor Mammo Muchie**

Presentation by the South Africa National Convention Bureau (SANCB)

10h30-11h00

**Coffee/tea break**

## VENUE: BUILDING 21: ROOM 001 SESSION 8

11h00-13h00

**Dr Ongama Mtimka**

**Theme: Africa and Migration**

**Papers for presentations:**

Exploring factors that contribute to migration in the continent of Africa

**Thoriso Arthaniel Ntlailane**

North-West University

A critical analysis of the torching of trucks in South Africa: A pan-African perspective

**Nomarwayi Thandolwethu**

University of South Africa

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The State of South Africa's Migration: A Cause for Concern

**Sakhile Hadebe**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Harnessing Migration for Economic Development in Africa: Challenges and Prospects

**Victor Mlambo**

University of Johannesburg

Xenophobic violence against African immigrants: Is South Africa Afrophobic?

**Lebo Ndaba**

Human Science Research Council (HSRC)

The Concept of Xenophobia in the African Context: 'Why do we allow ourselves to be defined by others?'

**Jonathan Maseng**

University of Mpumalanga

What role does Pan-Africanism; identity politics and the politics of survival play towards xenophobia in South Africa?

**Madimabe Mahlako Tebele**

An analysis of the European response to African illegal migration

**Siphesihle Mpanza**

University of Zululand

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## VENUE: BUILDING 21: ROOM 101 SESSION 9

11h00-13h00

**Chair: Dr Lebogang Legodi**

Theme: Theorising from within Africa

### **Papers for presentations**

Africa in the New World Disorder: A Decolonial (Philosophy of Liberation) Situation Political Analysis

**William Jethro Mpfu and Kudzai Vanyoro**

University of the Witwatersrand

African solutions to African problems: Opportune moment for reality check?

**Darlington Mutanda**

University of Johannesburg

Rethinking Mediation Through A Decolonial Lens

**Kgothatso B. Shai**

University of Limpopo

The analysis of liberal democracy in Africa

**Seshupo Mosala**

North West University

Remembering Archie Mafeje's contribution to the development of authentic discourses on Africa

**Thabang Dladla**

University of Limpopo

What is indigenous about the state in Africa: Global Orders and state formation

**Sifiso Ndlovu**

University of Mpumalanga

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Day 2: Thurs, 14th September 2023

## VENUE: BUILDING 21: ROOM 101 SESSION 10

11h00-13h00

**Chair: Dr Moorosi Leshoele**

Theme: The African Union in the World

### **Papers for presentations**

A look at the United Nations Charter and the African Union Constitutive Act: The search for compatibility

**Gomolemo Khumo Moerane and Teboho, J Lebakeng**

University of Pretoria

University of South Africa (UNISA)

A look at the United Nations Charter and the African Union Constitutive Act: The search for compatibility

**Alexander M Rusero**

University of Pretoria

Maintenance of International peace and security: What role for African non-permanent members in the United Nations Security Council?

**Teboho J Lebakeng**

University of South Africa

The New Scramble for Africa: Exploring African Integration, AU's Global Engagement, and Shifting Alliances in a Dynamic Landscape

**Khabo MasanaboKhabo Masanabo**

University of Johannesburg

University of South Africa (UNISA)

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Day 2: Thurs, 14th September 2023

## VENUE: BUILDING 21, ROOM 101, SESSION 11

11h00-13h00

**Chair: Sanet Solomon**

Theme: Big Data, Technology and Pan Africanism

### **Papers for presentations**

Internet of things and use of social media by public service Employees in Africa.

**Calvin Gwandure**

University of Mpumalanga

Education: the new currency for unification in the African digital society

**Vuyiswa Shabangu**

University of Mpumalanga

Big Data: What does this mean for Africa's transformation?

**Siphamandla Zondi, Akira Modise**

**Mashudu Mashiloane**

University of Johannesburg

Cyber Diplomacy in Africa: A New Means to a 'Borderless' Regional End?

**Oladotun E. Awosusi and Valery Ferim**

University of Fort Hare

South African Diplomacy in the Global Governance of the technologies of cyberspace

**Steenkamp Fonseca**

Stellenbosch University

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Harnessing Big Data, Technology, and Pan-Africanism for Sustainable Development and Unity in Africa

**Sello Mokwena**

University of Limpopo

Africa's digital divide and its impact on Pan Africanism

**Maxwell Maseko**

Wits University

South Africa's evolving Science Diplomacy: an analysis of key strategic partnerships in a rapidly changing world characterised by significant geo-political and technological shifts

**Gcino Mlaba**

Department of Public Service and Administration

## **BUILDING 9: AUDITORIUM 11, SESSION 12**

11h00-13h00

**Chair: Prof Dirk Kotze**

**Theme: Unilateralism vs Multilateralism**

Go it alone and lose, or cooperate and win: Group Hegemonic Leadership as a pathway for Africa's engagement with world powers?

**Christopher Isike**

University of Pretoria

The role of political development in building a democracy in South Sudan: A comparative perspective

**Ongama Mtimka**

Nelson Mandela University

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The SADC region and White settler colonialism: Notes on regionalism and the end of South Africa

**Masilo Lepuru**

University of Pretoria

Discourse power, belts and road, and the tyranny of experts: the ghosts of Harrod-Domar

**Stephen Louw**

University of Sharjah and University of the Witwatersrand

Ever-present legacies of Third World-ism: South African Engagements with multipolarity

**Rirhandu Mageza-Barthel**

UNISA

**VENUE: CONFERENCE CENTRE**

13h00-14h00

**LUNCH**

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## VENUE: BUILDING 21, ROOM 101, SESSION 13

14h00–16h00

**Chair: Prof Christopher Isike**

Theme: Foreign policies of African countries

### **Papers for presentations**

The Inconsistencies and Pitfalls of South Africa's Foreign Policy of Non-Alignment in the Ukraine War.

**Valery Ferim**

University of Fort Hare

African foreign policy choices in the context of the political economy of the War in Ukraine

**Ayabulela Dlakavu**

University of Johannesburg

South Africa's Regional Integration and Foreign Policy Aspirations in Southern Africa Post-1994: Has the Hegemon Weathered the Storm?

**Daniel N. Mlambo**

Tshwane University of Technology

South Africa's Foreign Policy posturing of non-alignment; the difficulties and skillfulness of ridding two-horses simultaneously

**Frank Lekaba**

University of the Witwatersrand

The role of South Africa's foreign policy in influencing continental integration

**Hlengiwe R. Phetha**

University of Johannesburg

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Africa's International Relations: Agency during the age of crisis

**Lerato Tsebe**

University of Johannesburg

A neoclassical analysis of South Africa's foreign policy priorities on Africa: domestic-foreign policy nexus, 2018-2022

**Philisiwe Mpondo**

University of Johannesburg

South Africa's Regional Integration and Foreign Policy Aspirations in Southern Africa Post-1994: Has the Hegemon Weathered the Storm?

## VENUE: BUILDING 21, ROOM 101, SESSION 14

14h00-16h00

**Chair: Prof Kgothatso Shai**

Theme: African Political Economy

### **Papers for presentations**

The effects of lack of oversight in the allocation of resources within the SMEs during COVID-19 pandemic: A Case for South Africa.

**Koliswa Matebese-Notshulwana**

University of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki African School of Public and International Affairs

The African Political Economy in an evolving world order: Exploring the Implication and Imperatives for Regional Integration and Pan-African Unity

**Khomotso Makhananesa**

University of Johannesburg

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Day 2: Thurs, 14th September 2023

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Binary Fallacy to Geopolitics: What about African perspectives?

**Siyabonga P. Hadebe**

Maastricht University

Sub-Saharan Africa's challenging Economic Environment due to the Covid19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine War

**Busisiwe Sibizo**

University of Johannesburg

The effects of brain drain of teachers: an accelerating crisis for South Africa.

**Lethiwe Mbongwa**

University of Johannesburg

Decolonial perspective on women's labour and drudgerous capitalist wages in the extractive sector of South Africa.

**Dikeledi A Mokoena**

University of Johannesburg

Active Citizenship trends in Contemporary South Africa: Reflections and Observation

**Lubna Nadvi**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

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## VENUE: BUILDING 21, ROOM 102, SESSION 15

14h00-16h00

**Chair: Prof Vusi Gumede**

Theme: Climate Change and Environmental Politics

### **Papers for presentations**

Political Interplay in the conundrums of a just energy transition in South Africa

**Kola O. Odeku**

University of Limpopo

Climate change and environmental politics: Unpacking Water Governance in South Africa through the Use of the OECD Water Governance Toolkit

**Philile Gwala**

**Cheryl Mohamed Sayeed**

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Politics and Power: The Contested State and the Just Energy Transition in South Africa.

**Laurence Caromba**

MISTRA

New Deal or No Deal: A Gendered Perspective on the Transition to a Green Economy in Africa

**Michelle Beeslaar**

University of Pretoria

Sustainable Development Goals as global objectives to address Global Challenges

**Cabanga Godwill**

**Yamamuro Maluleka**

**Joseph Mudau and Bernard Sebake**

Tshwane University of Technology

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Day 2: Thurs, 14th September 2023

## VENUE: ROOM 001

16h00-17h30 SAAPS AGM and Elections

## VENUE: CONFERENCE & WELLNESS CENTER – GALA DINNER

18h00-20h30 Guest Speaker  
**Prof Cheryl Hendricks**  
Institute of Justice & Reconciliation

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DAY THREE

**Fri, 15th September 2023**

# 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

South African Association for Political Studies

Day 3: Fri, 15th September 2023

## VENUE: CONFERENCE AND WELLNESS CENTRE

### SESSION 16: SPECIAL PANEL

9h00- 10h30 Community Participation, Service Delivery & Leadership in Mpumalanga Municipalities

**Convenor: Prof. Vusi Gumede**

10h30-11h00 Coffee/tea break

## VENUE: CONFERENCE AND WELLNESS CENTRE

### SESSION 17: SPECIAL PANEL

11h00-13h00 Cross-border paradiplomacy and regional integration in Southern Africa: The South African Perspective

**Convenor: Fritz Nganje**

13h30 Lunch

VOTE OF THANKS/CLOSING REMARKS

PROGRAMME