

A EURO-BRICS JOINT STATEMENT ON THE UKRAINIAN CRISIS

THREE STRATEGIC PROPOSALS

We¹, the undersigned members of civil society in Europe and the BRICS (academic professors and researchers, think-tank leaders, journalists, business representatives, civil society representatives), declare our joint concern with the trends currently at play resulting from the crisis in Ukraine. These trends affect the international community, threaten the sovereignty of Ukraine and the independence of Europe, and are triggering an unwelcome polarisation of the international system and impacting an always fragile geopolitical balance.

We wish to remind that a historical transition from a unipolar world with the US as the sole superpower towards a multipolar world is underway, knowing that this process should be accompanied rather than contained. The whole world, including Europe and the United States, will gain from a commonly-conducted re-organisation of global governance that recognizes multipolarity.

We wish to reaffirm our analysis² that Europe is able to contribute positively to the peaceful emergence of a multipolar world. Indeed the Ukrainian crisis has shown that, while an independent and open Europe provides grounds for the emergence of a multipolar world, a one-sided Europe creates the conditions for a world polarized between a Western bloc and the new global powers.

Therefore, we strongly oppose the disruption of Euro-Russian relations and its negative consequences on Euro-BRICS future-bearer relations, with the deployment of troops on both sides of the Euro-Russian border and in particular of US military troops on Europe's territory, with the growing tensions provoked by the uncoordinated free-trade policies of Europe and Russia on common border countries such as Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova.

We consider that the Ukrainian crisis calls for the establishment of a diplomatic arena to discuss Europe's and Russia's rights to organize their common markets in a framework of peaceful coexistence.

We note the humanitarian emergency situation in Ukraine and crimes and abuses committed against the civil populations during the Ukrainian crisis and urge that these should be promptly dealt with and investigated.

We believe that the Euro-BRICS cooperation framework can provide the proper mediation required to reach a positive result.

1. This common statement results from a historical **video-conference**, organised on May 27th by **LEAP** in partnership with **EEFAP** and in collaboration with the **Fudan University**, Shanghai, which gathered 28 representatives from Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Netherlands, Spain, Russia and Ukraine, on the following theme: "The impact of the Ukrainian crisis on Euro- BRICS, Euro-U.S. and BRICS' relations - A Euro-BRICS exchange of views on the Ukrainian crisis with a view to possible solutions". The convergence of views was striking and led the group to draft this joint statement.

2. LEAP and MGIMO launched the Euro-BRICS process in 2009 on this intuition stated on the website : www.leap2020.net/euro-brics (for instance: Why Euro-BRICS? and Concept of the 4th seminar)

The situation requires global leaders with a high sense of historical responsibility and collective interest. This statement calls on this sense of historical responsibility and collective interest.

ACKNOWLEDGING SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES AS A PREREQUISITE

We have agreed that responsibilities for the crisis in Ukraine must be shared among Europe and Russia. On the basis of the recognition of each player's responsibilities can peace be rebuilt in Ukraine and Euro-Russian relations revived.

RESUMING EURO-RUSSIAN RELATIONS TO CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR A UKRAINIAN-LED CRISIS RESOLUTION

It behooves the Ukrainian people to organize and rebuild peace in Ukraine. However there is no way tensions between the pro-Russian and pro-European Ukrainians will de-escalate if tensions between Russia and Europe do not de-escalate first. Therefore, for the sake of peace in Ukraine, we require European and Russian leaders to re-launch a constructive dialogue. *In particular we wish to encourage the media to provide more objective information and to correct any misinformation that might lead to future conflict.*

A EURO-BRICS BACK-UP OF THE CRISIS RESOLUTION EFFORT

As a contribution to encourage and mediate the Euro-Russian effort to re-launch a solution-oriented dialogue, **we request Euro-BRICS leaders³ that they⁴ convene the first “Euro-BRICS summit for Ukraine” in an effort to establish causes, identify solutions and contribute to put in place the political and diplomatic conditions for a sovereign resolution of the Ukrainian crisis and the prevention of similar crises with other Euro-Russian border states in the future.**

3. At least Mr Hollande, Ms Merkel, Mr Modi, Mr Putin, Ms Rousseff, Mr Xi, Mr Zuma.

4. Ideally as a side event of the upcoming BRICS Summit in Brazil mid-July; at the latest, early 2015.

Undersigned members of civil society in Europe and the BRICS (academic professors and researchers, think-tank leaders, journalists, business representatives) by alphabetical order:

Adriana Abdenur

Professor, Institute of International Relations,
PUC-Rio, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Jean-Paul Baquiast

Honorary State Controller, Co-founder and
chief editor, Association Automates
Intelligents, Paris, France

Marie-Hélène Caillol

President LEAP/E2020 (Laboratoire européen
d'Anticipation Politique), Paris, France

Jayanthi Chandrasekharan

Assistant Professor, Department of French,
Loyola College, Chennai, India

Jose-Maria Compagni-Morales

President FEFAP (Fundación para la Educación y
Formación en Anticipación Política), Associate
Professor IE Business School, Sevilla, Spain

Taco Dankers

Entrepreneur, software engineer, Dankers &
Frank, Consulting and Software Engineering,
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Bandonin De Sonis

Executive manager, e-Forum &
EU-China-Forum, Brussels, Belgium

Anna Gots

Financial Director, AEGEE-Europe /
European Students' Forum, Belgium

Harald Greib

President IRPA (Internationaler Rat für
Politische Antizipation), Hamburg, Germany

Christel Hahn

General coordinator AAFB, Germany

Michael Kahn

Professor Extraordinaire, Stellenbosch
University, South Africa

Caroline Lubbers

Project manager Euro-BRICS, LEAP/E2020,
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Zhongqi Pan

Professor at Center for BRICS studies, Fudan
University, Shanghai, China

Sylvain Perifel

Coordinator GEAB, LEAP/E2020, Paris,
France

Marianne Ranke-Cormier

President Newropeans, Paris, France

Yi Shen

Associate Professor at Center for BRICS
studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China

Suyuan Sun

Research Associate at Center for BRICS
studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China

Veronique Swinkels

Director general, BBK/Door Vriendschap
Sterker, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Alexander Zhebit

Professor of International relations,
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Jiejun Zhu

Associate Professor at Center for BRICS
studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China