



Regional Powers and Regional Order

GIGA – Oxford – Sciences Po Conference
Paris, 8-9 October 2009

DAY ONE

Introduction

9.00 hrs.. **Welcome Address**
Robert Kappel (GIGA – Germany)
Alfredo Valladão (Sciences Po – Chaire Mercosur – France)

9.15 hrs **Introduction**
Dirk Nabers (GIGA – Germany)

Session One

THE HISTORICAL CONSTRUCTION OF « REGIONS » AND « REGIONAL POWERS »

Chair: Alfredo Valladão, (Sciences Po – Chaire Mercosur – France)

Discussant: Dirk Nabers (GIGA - Germany)

The objective of the first panel is to re-assess some of the central concepts of the debate, which until now have been addressed in an essentialist way (cf. the idea of a “natural region”). We propose to examine, from a historical perspective, how the notions of « region » and of a « regional power » have impacted the development of international relation on a global scale.

9.30 hrs.. **From “empire” to “area” to “region”: the spatial expression of power**
Karoline Postel-Vinay (Sciences Po – CERI - France)

The power of ideas and regional governance
David MacDonald (University of Guelph – Canada)

10.45 hrs. *Coffee Break*

11.15 hrs. **The Omnipower: The United States and Regional Orders**
Jeffrey Legro (University of Virginia – USA)

Regional powers and regional governance

Detlef Nolte (GIGA - Germany)

12.45 hrs. *Lunch Break*

Session Two

MAKING POLITICAL SENSE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Chair: Dirk Nabers, (GIGA – Germany)

Discussant: Cord Jakobeit (University of Hamburg – Germany)

This panel will address a particular geopolitical dimension of a « regional power », i.e. the neighbourhood. How can we characterize this specific geopolitical figure (which is, indeed, both geographical *and* political)? More concretely, how can we describe and define the relations between regional powers and their neighbours, and to which extent approaches in terms of regional power/client State dialectic, the production of « regional public goods », or « network/region-building », are pertinent to this analysis?

14.15 hrs. **The EU and its neighborhood: a “variable geometry” approach?**

Anne-Marie Le Gloannec (Sciences Po – CERI – France)

China and the definition of the Asian region

Nadine Godehardt (GIGA - Germany)

15.45 hrs. *Coffee Break*

16.15 hrs. **Moguls, Raj, Federation, SAARC: India as a region?**

Sujit Dutta (Jamia Millia University, India)

Regional Leadership: Understanding power transformations in the Middle East

Louise Fawcett (University of Oxford – UK)

17.45 hrs. End of session

19.00 hrs. Dinner – Maison de l'Amérique Latine – 217, boulevard Saint-Germain – Paris 7

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DAY TWO

Session Three

ESTABLISHING REGIONAL POWER STATUS

Chair: Janis van der Westhuizen (University of Stellenbosch – South Africa)

Discussant: Hartmut Mayer (University of Oxford - UK)

The third panel addresses the region as a « stage » where a State asserts itself as a regional power. The definition of the region can indeed become the focus of a strategic rivalry when several – in most cases, two – States compete to pretend to such status. As an echo (counterpoint?) to Panel One's « de-constructivist » disposition, the discussions here would consider the definition of a regional power from a contemporaneous and geopolitical point of

view. A reference will be made as well to the “European exception”, which actively defends the principle of equality between “small” and “big” States.

9.00 hrs. **The EU: a region made of equals? A fiction or a model?**
Christian Lequesne (Sciences Po – CERI – France)

Russia's Power Strategy : The Burden of Territory
Marie Mendras (LSE & Sciences Po – UK and France)

10.30 hrs. *Coffee Break*

11.00 hrs. **Mexico and Brazil: Latin or South America?**
Alfredo Valladão (Sciences Po - Chaire Mercosur - France)

Morocco and Algeria: the UMA as a non-region
Nabil Jedlane (Cadi Ayyad University – Morocco)

12.30 hrs. *Lunch Break*

Session Four

REGIONAL OR “SUB-GLOBAL” POWERS?

Chair: Ewa Kulesza (Sciences Po – CERI – France)

Discussant: Henner Fürtig (GIGA – Germany)

Can regional powers pretend to be more than « local » (regional) managers of a global order? Do global economic interdependence, global financial crises, global challenges, etc. undermine the very possibility of a non-rhetorical “region-regional power” nexus?

14.00 hrs. **Israel: extra-regional foundations of a regional power**
Mark A. Heller (Tel Aviv University – Israel)

Pakistan: regional power, global problem
Rajesh Rajagopalan (Jawaharlal Nehru University – India)

15.30 hrs. *Coffee Break*

16.00 hrs. **France as a regional power in Africa**
Andreas Mehler (GIGA – Germany)

‘A Fine and Delicate Balance...’ South Africa’s Middle Power Complexities, 1994-2009
Janis van der Westhuizen (University of Stellenbosch – South Africa)

17.30 hrs. *Coffee break*

Concluding remarks

18.00 hrs. Concluding remarks and forecast Stellenbosch conference 2010

Dirk Nabers (GIGA – Germany)
Janis van der Westhuizen (University of Stellenbosch – South Africa)
Alfredo Valladão (Sciences Po – Chaire Mercosur – France)

19.00 hrs.

Social Gathering