

International Symposium

The Biden Administration and Strategic Rivalries: What Consequences for Europe? *Transatlantic perspectives*

November 8th 2022, Ecole Militaire, Amphithéâtre Desvallières, Paris

Program

Opening Remarks

9.45-10.00

- Marjorie Vanbaelinghem (Director, IRSEM)

US Politics and US Grand Strategy in the Age of Biden

10.00-11.05

- Chair: Frédéric Heurtebize (Université Paris Nanterre)
- Maya Kandel (Sorbonne-Nouvelle University)
- Gary Schmitt (American Enterprise Institute)
- Pierre Bourgois (Angers Catholic University)

US-Russia and the war in Ukraine: back to the West?

11.10-12.20

- Chair: Martin Quencez (GMF Paris)
- Emmanuel Dreyfus (IRSEM)
- Michael Kimmage (Wilson Center-Catholic University of America-SWP)
- Mathieu Boulègue (Chatham House)

US-China strategic rivalry and the Indo-Pacific theater

2.00-3.15

- Chair: Antoine Bondaz (FRS)
- Zach Cooper (American Enterprise Institute)
- Mareike Ohlberg (GMF Berlin)
- Pierre Haroche (Queen Mary University)

US new alliances: still leading through trade?

3.30- 5.00

- Chair: Jean-Baptiste Velut (Sorbonne Nouvelle University)
- Stéphane Paquin (ENAP)
- Sandra Polaski (Boston University)
- Mona Paulsen (London School of Economics)

Scientific Board:

- Maud Quessard (Director of Research, IRSEM)
- Jean-Baptiste Velut (Professor, Sorbonne-Nouvelle University)
- Antoine Bondaz (Senior Research Fellow, FRS)
- Martin Quencez (Deputy director Paris office, GMFUS)



Abstract

The Biden Administration and strategic rivalries: what consequences for Europe?

This Symposium aims to examine America's strategic stakes in times of crisis and their impact for European partners. The return of the war in Europe and the reinforcement of new great power competition with revisionist Russia and China on multiple theaters questions the resilience of US power. As Midterms elections and domestic politics are under scrutiny the conference will consider the priorities and options for the Biden Administration and US Congress beyond 2022, while considering how the upcoming elections might jeopardize the Administration policies. To what extent the US may be pivoting back to Europe as the war in Ukraine seems to be a game changer? How the war has changed the rules of the contest with Russia? How will it shape the future of transatlantic relations? Has the US still the means to have a global Grand Strategy? If not what to expect from US Grand Strategy in Asia-Pacific from a European point of view?

The morning panels will try to provide a first assessment of the Biden administration Foreign Policy choices while focusing on the sustainability of aid, and military support to Ukraine and Europe in the long run. The debates will examine US posture and the perceptions of NATO and the EU to counter Russian threats. The afternoon panels will analyze US and European strategies and assessments with respect to the Indo-Pacific region by comparing the visions that US and EU seek to promote in the Indo-Pacific region— with regard to diplomacy, influence, military strategy, trade and economics, environmental protection and connectivity. It will explore first the US-China strategic contest in the region and the main issues at stake such as Taiwan tensions and transatlantic cooperation – the expectations of the US towards Asian partners and the opportunities for European allies to engage in the region. As regards strategic partnerships it will explore the initiatives for global digital governance, technological cooperation vs. competition and offer a comparative perspective on US and EU trade strategies and economic frameworks (IPEF vs Global Gateway).

This symposium aims at engaging in a thoughtful transatlantic dialogue by bringing together top-level policymakers, academics, military and diplomatic leaders from Europe, the United States, Canada. These insightful dialogues will help to address immediate and long-range interdependent challenges facing the United States and its European allies.