



**Webinar / Institute for African Studies (IAS), Meiji University**

# The unfolding political and security crisis in the Sahel and West Africa: Security-development nexus and the role of mediation

**1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

**18:30-20:30 (JST), 10:30-12:30 (GMT+1), 9:30-11:30 (GMT), Zoom**

**Dr. Alain Antil,**  
IFRI



**Mr. Eric Blanchot,**  
Promediation



The newly established Institute for African Studies (IAS) of Meiji University invites two prominent experts to shed light on the current crisis and the future prospect of Sahel and its neighbors.

**With**

**Prof. Yutaka Sakuma**, IAS, Meiji University

**Mr. Ryuichi Kato**, Vice President, JICA

**Ms. Sayoko Uesu**, Research Associate, GRIPS

and

**Prof. Yuichi Sasaoka**, Director of IAS, Meiji University

**RSVP to [africanstudies@meiji.ac.jp](mailto:africanstudies@meiji.ac.jp) [s-uesu@grips.ac.jp](mailto:s-uesu@grips.ac.jp) with your name, title and affiliation. Closing 27<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

## WEBINAR INVITATION

Institute for African Studies (IAS), Meiji University

**The unfolding political and security crisis  
in the Sahel and West Africa:  
Security-development nexus and the role of mediation**

Currently West Africa has been in the middle of political, economic and security turmoil: Mali is again in the transition since the last coup of September 2020, while there are growing contests over the legitimacy of presidential elections in Guinea and Ivory Coast. Burkina Faso and Niger, under the serious security crisis, are preparing for upcoming elections in November and December too.

Against this backdrop, the newly established Institute for African Studies (IAS) of Meiji University invites two prominent experts to shed light on the current crisis and the future prospect of Sahel and its neighbors. Together with Japanese experts, we hope to discuss the new perspective and approach to support its stabilization process.

**Date & Time** Tuesday, 1 December, 2020 18:30-20:30 (JST), 10:30-12:30 (GMT +1)  
9:30-11:30 (GMT)

**Venue** Online (Zoom)

**Speakers** Dr. Alain Antil, Africa Programme Director, IFRI, France  
Mr. Eric Blanchot, Director, Promédiation, France

**Commentators** Prof. Yutaka Sakuma, IAS, Meiji University  
Mr. Ryuichi Kato, Vice President, JICA, Japan  
Ms. Sayoko Uesu, Research Associate, GRIPS, Japan

**Moderator** Dr. Hikaru Sato, Visiting Researcher, IAS, Meiji University

**Program** 18 : 30 - 18 : 35 Introduction (Dr. Hikaru Sato, IAS)

18 : 35 - 18 : 40 Opening remark (Prof. Yuichi Sasaoka, Director of IAS)

### **Part 1: Presentations (18:40 – 19:40)**

18 : 40 - 19 : 10 Presentation (Dr. Alain Antil, IFRI)

“Mali and Security Trends in the Sahel and West Africa”

19 : 10 - 19 : 40 Presentation (Mr. Eric Blanchot, Promédiation)

“The role of mediation: track 1.5”

**Part 2: Q&A, Discussion (19:40 – 20:20)**

19 : 40 - 20 : 25 Comments and Q&A

Commentators: Prof. Yutaka Sakuma (IAS)

Mr. Ryuichi Kato (Vice President, JICA)

Ms. Sayoko Uesu (Research Associate, GRIPS)

20 : 25 - 20 : 30 Closing remark (Prof. Yuichi Sasaoka, Director of IAS)

**Language** English (Consecutive interpretation FR to EN available during Q&A)

**Registration** Send email to Institute for African Studies ([africanstudies@meiji.ac.jp](mailto:africanstudies@meiji.ac.jp)) and to Ms. Sayoko Uesu ([s-uesu@grips.ac.jp](mailto:s-uesu@grips.ac.jp)), stating your name, title and organization by 27<sup>th</sup> Nov (closing date). An invitation email will be sent to you on 30 November. Questions and comments (only English) will be taken via Q&A function during the webinar.

The webinar is organized in collaboration with Graduate School of Governance Studies, Graduate School of Information and Communication, School of Global Japanese Studies, and International Collaboration Office of Meiji University.
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