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Southern Strategies: Foreign Policy Perspectives of Global South States

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The global order is undergoing significant shifts—variously described as "post-hegemonic," "multipolar," or "multiplex". 50 years after the founding of BISA, and 60 years after the founding of the Group of 77, the foreign policy strategies of Global South states are increasingly central to these global dynamics. This panel will explore the distinctive foreign policy perspectives, discourses, and practices of selected Global South states and their growing influence on both international relations and studies.

By examining the foreign policies of emerging powers across the Global South, this panel will explore both the commonalities and the distinct approaches these states take in navigating the shifting global order. It seeks to reveal how historical legacies, economic realities, and geopolitical contexts shape the way different states engage with global power relations and assert their roles in the global order.

The contributions of this panel to International Studies are twofold. First, it adds a comparative dimension to the study of foreign policy by focusing on the Global South, a region often underrepresented in mainstream international relations scholarship. Second, it challenges conventional perspectives by showcasing how diverse foreign policy strategies from the Global South are reshaping global power dynamics and contributing to new discourses in the field.

Key questions guiding this panel include: What sets the foreign policy perspectives and implementations of Global South states apart? To what extent do these states share common concerns, and how do their views on their roles within the international order differ?

Through comparative analysis of case studies and broader regional trends, this panel will contribute a critical perspective on the evolving role of Global South states in shaping global politics. The discussions will enhance our understanding of the diversity within the Global South and its growing influence on global governance and foreign policy practices.

Membership

Track Classification: Foreign Policy Working Group