

Geopolitics of Sub-Saharan Africa

Multilateralism and Power Politics (*e-learning*)

22 jun 2026 - 26 jun 2026

14:00h – 18:00h



Application deadline: 7th of June 2026,
<https://www.ubi.pt/Curso/1370>

The Geopolitics of Sub-Saharan Africa course uses the Geopolitics analysis tool – space as a theater of operations – to understand Sub-Saharan Africa today. With a multidisciplinary approach, the course covers key issues of geopolitical activity in the region, presented by specialists in the subjects.

General objectives:

- Identify key geopolitical issues in Sub-Saharan Africa;
- Reflect on key dimensions of geopolitical action, namely those related to domestic and international politics, the environment, issues of war and peace, and multilateral security organizations;
- Highlight relevant cases of Portuguese-speaking African Countries;
- Understand the processes in a regional way, involving several States, about dynamics in the South Atlantic, Gulf of Guinea, and Horn of Africa.

Duration: 20h (+142h autonomous work)

Tuition Fee: 150€ (50% for students and staff of the institutions involved in the scientific committee and Portuguese public entities).

6 ECTS awarded by FCSH/UBI (optional, upon the positive evaluation of an essay with 6000 words)

Requested in the application:

- *Curriculum vitae*;
- Proof of student or employee of the institutions involved in the scientific committee and Portuguese public entities.

Requirements: Secondary education.

Recipients:

- Students from the various cycles of Higher Education, namely from the areas of International Relations, Political Science, History, Sociology, Geography, Economics, Communication and African Studies.
- Diplomatic corps and senior embassy officials;
- Journalists and experts on the subject;
- Members of the Armed Forces and Security Forces and Services;
- Public Administration staff, namely from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of National Defence, the Ministry of Internal Administration and the Ministry of Economy;
- Senior staff and technicians from Municipal Councils and Companies oriented towards internationalization.

Programme:

22 June (14:00h – 16:00h) – **Multilateralism and Power Politics**

Rita Laranjinha (Portugal) – Special Envoy for Africa

22 June (16:00h – 18:00h) – **Great Power Competition in the Sahel**

Norman Sempijja (Morocco)

23 June (14:00h – 16:00h) – **Power Politics vs Regional Conflict**

Resolution: The Horn of Africa Conflict Complex

Aleksi Ylönen (Portugal)

23 June (16:00h – 18:00h) – Africa+1 Summits: Between Multilateral Diplomacy and International Competition

Hasan Aydın (Turkey)

24 June (14:00h – 16:00h) – The Horn on Africa – Red Sea Geopolitical Nexus: Regional Cooperation and Rivalry in a Changing World

Yonas Tariku (Ethiopia)

24 June (16:00h – 18:00h) – Mega Dams, Canals and Pipelines: Water as Part of Large Geopolitical Chess Games

Ana Elisa Cascão (Portugal)

25 June (14:00h – 16:00h) – The African Way of Waging War and Its Geopolitical Dimension

Igor Castellano da Silva (Brazil)

25 June (16:00h – 18:00h) – Africa in the Post-Liberal Order

Vasco Rato (Portugal)

26 June (14:00h – 16:00h) – Africa's Strategies of Development and International Insertion: The Hybridity of Agenda 2063

Guilherme Ziebell (Brazil)

26 June (16:00h – 18:00h) – Geopolitical Shifts and Regime Survival: Guinea-Bissau's Foreign Policy in a Changing Global Order

Ricardo Sousa (Portugal)