

# war & peace in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

## A world of two or three? The US, China and the EU in a new global order

Palau de Pedralbes, Barcelona  
January 18th, 2020



**CIDOB**  
BARCELONA  
CENTRE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
AFFAIRS

In collaboration with:

**esade**  
RAMON LLULL UNIVERSITY

EsadeGeo-Center  
for Global Economy  
and Geopolitics

Supported by:



Institutional board members:



## A world of two or three? The US, China and the EU in a new global order

For the last few years the fault-lines dividing the United States and the People's Republic of China seem not only to consolidate but to deepen further. Some voices suggest that we might be on the edge of the formation of a new bipolar system with dynamics mimicking those of the Cold War in the 20th Century between the US and the USSR. From trade wars to technological competition the effects of their current incipient contest are already affecting the contours of the global order. Amid the potential clash between Washington and Beijing, the European Union is asking itself whether it could become a third global pole in its own right and if it is interested in it to happen. After the Parliamentary elections in May 2019 and the constitution of the new EU Commission, new European leaderships must take strategic decisions on what the role of the European Union amid this contest should be. At the same time, Russia also tries to play a leading role in shaping the new world order. What should the EU do in order to secure its positions as a third independent voice? How would transatlantic relations be reshaped in this context? A new distribution of power might come hand-in-hand with substantial changes in the international order. How would the global liberal order change in light of a tripolar distribution of power? Is there anything different the EU can offer amid this change?

### 09.30 **Opening**

**Laia Bonet**, Third Deputy Mayor, Barcelona City Council

### 09.45 **Introduction**

**Antoni Segura**, Chairman of the Board, CIDOB

**Javier Solana**, Honorary Chairman of the Board, CIDOB; President, EsadeGeo

### 10.00 **The United States, China and the new global order**

*A discussion between:*

**Robin Niblett**, Director, Chatham House

**Heather A. Conley**, Vice President for Europe, Eurasia, and the Arctic, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

**Shaoguang Wang**, Emeritus Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Dmitri Trenin**, Director, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Moscow Center

*Chaired and moderated by:*

**Judy Dempsey**, Senior Fellow, Carnegie Europe; Editor in Chief, Strategic Europe

*Followed by a debate between the speakers*

### 11.15 **Coffee break**

### 11.45 **A third pole? Articulating an EU's voice for the new political cycle**

*A discussion between:*

**Ferdinando Nelli**, President, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

**Shada Islam**, Director of Europe and Geopolitics, Friends of Europe

**Philippe Le Corre**, Research Associate, Ash Center and Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Harvard Kennedy School

**Cristina Gallach**, High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda of Spain; former UN Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information (2014-2017)

*Chaired and moderated by:*

*Followed by a debate between the speakers*

### 13.00 **Debate with the audience**

### 13.45 **Closing Remarks**

**PoI Morillas**, Director, CIDOB

Working language: English

**#WP2020**