

SHARED SECURITY

AFRICAN-EUROPEAN COOPERATION in a MULTIPOLAR WORLD ORDER

Seminar I: Military Cooperation

22 September 2026 @ 16:00

Leiden University College



Dr. Rahmane Idrissa
(Leiden University)

**Lt Gen (ret.)
Kees Matthijssen**

Fabienne Hara
(International Crisis Group)



**Universiteit
Leiden**



**Knowledge
Hub
Africa**



KVBK

For more information
and registration go
to www.kvbk.nl or
scan the QR code:



ABOUT THE SEMINAR

SHARED SECURITY

African-European Cooperation in a Multipolar World Order

Seminar I: Military Cooperation

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has revitalized a lingering ambition in Europe to become a **global security actor**. While the significant growth in European defence budgets has coincided with a realignment of security policies towards the Eastern Flank, migration and other issues have brought security ties with African partners increasingly into view. From an African perspective, however, the **value** and **sustainability** of these ties increasingly depend on **whether European security engagement responds to African priorities**.

As direct neighbors, the security of both continents are **closely intertwined** and **mutually dependent**. This seminar explores **the future of African-European security cooperation**. Considering the perceived failure of multilateralism and the continuing critique of neocolonial security interventions, **how should African and European partners reinvent security cooperation?**



Dr. Rahmane Idrissa
(Leiden University)

Dr. Rahmane Idrissa is a political scientist whose research expertise ranges from issues of states, institutions and democratization in Africa to Salafi radicalism in the Sahel and current projects on the history of state formation in Africa, with a focus both on the modern and premodern eras.



**Lt Gen (ret.)
Kees Matthijssen**

During his more than 42-years long career, Lieutenant General (ret.) Kees Matthijssen served in numerous missions across the world, including as Force Commander of the UN mission MINUSMA from January 2022 to January 2023, where he commanded nearly 14,000 troops from 60 different countries.



Fabienne Hara
(International Crisis Group)

Fabienne Hara is Senior Adviser to the President and Director of Europe Program at the International Crisis Group. Prior to this, she served as acting political director at the UN, helped found the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security and served as the International Crisis Group's first Africa Program Director.

DATE AND TIME: 22 September 2026, 16:00 – 18:00

LOCATION: Anna van Buerenplein 301, 2595 DH Den Haag

REGISTRATION: www.kvbk.nl