

# Building Multilateralism to Enhance Economic Resilience of the Global South

**Date and Time:** 5 November 2025 14:00 to 17:00

**Venue:** National Convention and Exhibition Center Shanghai

**Hosts:** Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China,  
UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

**Organizer:** School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University

## Forum Introduction:

This Sub-forum aims to bring together high-level representatives from governments, international organizations, academia, and the private sector to explore how to build networked multilateralism that can assist developing countries to enhance economic resilience. The Sub-forum will examine global economic outlook, emerging trends in multilateralism, strategies for building inclusive global economic governance, and practical approaches to fostering resilience amidst external uncertainties.

## Agenda:

| Agenda            | Time            | Guest Name/Title/Content   |  |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| WELCOME REMARKS   | 14:00-14:30     | Mr. Song Shangzhe  | Deputy Secretary-General, Hongqiao Forum, the Ministry of Commerce, China  |
|                   |                 | Ms. Anastasia Nesvetailova   | Director of Macroeconomic and Development Policy Branch, UNCTAD  |
|                   |                 | Mr. Chen Zhimin  | Vice-President, Fudan University   |
| PANEL DISCUSSIONS | 14:30-15:40     | <b>Roundtable discussion I: Global economy in an era of policy shifts and financialization</b>                         |  |
|                   |                 | Mr. Dawei Wang (Moderator)   | Economist, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)   |
|                   |                 | Ms. Anastasia Nesvetailova   | Director of Macroeconomic and Development Policy Branch, UNCTAD  |
|                   |                 | Mr. Yao Yang   | Dean of Dishuihu Lake Advanced Finance Institute, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics                           |
|                   |                 | Mr. Martín Unzué   | Director of the GINO Germani Research Institute of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina |
|                   |                 | Mr. Peng Wensheng  | Chief Economist, China International Capital Corporation   |
|                   | 15:40-16:50     | <b>Roundtable Discussion II: Rethinking networked multilateralism to build economic resilience in the global South</b> |  |
|                   |                 | Ms. Zhang Chuchu (Moderator)   | Associate Professor, Fudan University  |
|                   |                 | Ms. Alison Urquizo   | First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Peru at Geneva & Coordinator of G77 & China  |
|                   |                 | Mr. Gilles Fagninou  | UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa   |
|                   | Mr. Dawei Wang  | Economist, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, UNCTAD  |  |
|                   | Mr. Zheng Yu    | Professor, Fudan University  |  |
|                   | Mr. Ahmed Morsy | Senior Researcher, Middle East Council of Global Affairs, Qatar  |  |

| Agenda             | Time        | Guest Name/Title/Content   |   |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------|---|
| CONCLUDING REMARKS | 16:50-17:00 | Ms. Anastasia Nesvetailova | Director of Macroeconomic and Development Policy Branch, UNCTAD |

**Guiding questions for roundtable discussion I:**

- Global economic growth is subdued under drastic policy shifts and a wide range of non-economic shocks in recent years such as pandemic, geopolitical tensions and climate crisis. How do you assess the current growth trend and its prospects? What are the key policy challenges to the world economy?
- Despite sluggish growth and policy uncertainties, global South is playing an increasingly bigger role in international trade, but has seen very limited progress in financial integration, which is a vital part of economic diversification and resilience. What policy measures can global South take to strengthen their role in international financial and monetary system?
- Global public and private debt remain at record highs, constraining fiscal space for many governments while massive resources are needed to achieve sustainable development goals and address climate change, which has created a climate-debt vicious circle in some vulnerable economies. How can developed and developing countries jointly develop an effective solution to break such vicious circle?

**Guiding Questions for Roundtable Discussion II:**

- The world has seen the economic rise of the global South in the last three decades, but such rise is susceptible to the external shock indicating lack of resilience, for example, endured commodity dependence. At national level, what binding constraints the global South are facing in building resilience and what policy actions can they take to address those challenges?
- Geopolitical tensions and geoeconomic competition have impeded the consensus in various multilateral platforms or mechanisms that reinforce the policy divides among nations. In the meanwhile, we've seen the increasing interests in regionalism. What is the role of multilateralism in global governance in the mid-to long-term? Would regional cooperation replace or complement multilateral cooperation?
- The global South is pioneering new forms of South-South cooperation and institutions such as NDB, regional trade agreements, etc. How can these initiatives provide tangible alternatives to create synergies with traditional multilateral organizations? What lessons from these models could be scaled to create a more effective networked multilateralism?