



## Africa-EU relations – which way forward?

There is a strong political commitment to create an equal relationship between Africa and the European Union. What does this actually mean? What are the concrete actions and policies that can take the relationship up to the next level?

The African Union and the European Union are tightening their relations. Crucial elements for the new type of partnership are the EU's next Multi-Annual-Financial Framework and the negotiations for post-Cotonou regime. The importance of the Africa-EU relations was also emphasised in the recent State of the Union by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker on 12 September and his proposal for a new Africa-Europe Alliance.

These issues will unavoidably be on the EU agenda of the Finnish EU Presidency in 2019 and among the policy priorities of the next European Commission.

We invite you to discuss the future direction of Africa-EU-relations in a seminar organised by the European Commission Representation in Finland and Kehys, the Finnish NGDO Platform to the EU.

Please register your participation by Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of November via [registration form](#).

**Time:** Monday, November 12, 9:30 – 12:00

**Venue:** Aalto EE / Carlsson-Schafhauser, Mechelininkatu 3 C, 00100 Helsinki

### Programme:

**9.00–9.30**     **Coffee and breakfast**

**9.30–9.40**     **Welcome**

moderator **Rilli Lappalainen**, Secretary General of Kehys

**9.40–10.20**   **What is going on in the Africa-EU politics?**

Discussion between **Patrick Develtere** (European Policy and Strategy Centre of EC President Juncker) and **Karine Sohet** (ActAlliance EU) on the ongoing policies and processes between Africa and the EU

**10.20–11.40**   **The next generation – panel discussion**

Finnish political parties debate the future of Africa and EU from the perspective of youth. Members of the panel to be confirmed.

**11.40–12.00**   **Concluding remarks** concluding remarks on the discussion in the light of 2019 EU super year in Finland

The discussions will be sketched live by **Aino Sutinen**.