
Tanzania's regional role Governance, mediation and economic diplomacy

Roundtable Meeting | Thursday 18 May 2023 | Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania | 09:00 – 13:00 EAT

Tanzanian foreign policy faces critical tests across the Southern and Eastern Africa regions. Though still associated with its role in the liberation struggles and conflict mediation of surrounding countries, Tanzania's engagements have shifted over recent decades in response to increasingly significant regional frameworks of economic integration, trade and governance. These dynamics themselves continue to evolve in line with both domestic and external factors: new or resurgent conflicts in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Sudan and northern Mozambique are dominating the wider regional agenda, while Tanzania is no longer unique in holding joint membership of the East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) following the DRC's ascension to the EAC in 2022. Tanzania's partial withdrawal in 2019 from the African Court on Human and People's Rights – of which it is the host – or more recent bilateral and trade reconciliations with neighbours such as Kenya, equally point to the significance of internal leadership and directives for regional dynamics.

As Tanzania moves towards implementation of its long-awaited review of the 'New Foreign Policy' strategy of 2001, its positioning within this regional calculus will be at the forefront of considerations. At this roundtable event, speakers and participants will discuss the priorities for Tanzania's regional engagement, including the status of economic integration and trade initiatives, governance and political ties, and collaboration to address peace and security challenges in the broader EAC and SADC regions.

This event is held under the Chatham House Rule¹. It is part of a series on *Tanzania's Foreign Policy Agenda: Economic Diplomacy and International Agency*.

Agenda

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 09:15 **Welcome and opening remarks**

09:15 – 10:45 **Session 1 – Economic diplomacy and conflict mitigation: Tanzania's role in East Africa**

10:45 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 12:45 **Session 2 – Looking south: Tanzania's engagement within the SADC region**

12:45 – 13:00 **Closing remarks**

¹ When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.