

Meeting: "The G20 at Leaders Level"
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08sa Ñ ONAD@ The G20 as a Summit Process:
Including New Agenda Issues such as "Human Security"

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Summary

The present paper specifically addresses the question of "human security" while more broadly attempting to pull together the concerns of the other papers to suggest the creation of a different kind of forum that could confront a range of issues from financial management to security and health. When Paul Martin mentioned the "idea" in the first example he referred to was a possible role in political security issues. Like its progenitors the G20 and the G8 has focused primarily on global financial architecture. These notes argue for a new forum, 50th anniversary of the Bretton Woods institutions.

context, firstly of the War on Terror with reconstruction problems in Iraq and Afghanistan and, secondly, the "ungovernability" of the global market with exacerbating inequalities, these problems of governance might be said to be part of a generalizing crisis. On terms of agenda/broadening, the complex intersection of issues of overall economic stability, human security and economic reconstruction after regional conflict, makes bringing the questions of "human security" onto the agenda a fundamental necessity. (However, this also entails rethinking the institutional form of the "G20". Instead of a meeting of finance ministers +or even always heads of state, it is worth considering the "G20" as a summit process. That is, as an interconnected series of agenda-based meetings in which heads/of/state members either come themselves or delegate to the most relevant government ministers and advisors, as well as in-site relevant stakeholders.

(ac)ground

Over the past decade a number of destabilising developments have occurred which pose serious practical and conceptual challenges to conventional policy frameworks and responses. These challenges have all been of a complex and unconventional nature. They do not accord with conventional models of state-based military, financial or social threats. Rather they involve non/state or multiple actors, or complex processes such as social, environmental and economic feedbacks. They have required the involvement of both old and new actors such as international agencies, police forces, citizens, NGOs, media and civil society groups. At the same time, they challenge the relevance and efficacy of conventional state-based financial or security responses conducted as stand-alone actions.

These developments have

- the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, Mumbai and Riyadh and international policy responses including wars in Afghanistan and Iraq
- the erosion of civil liberties, democratic governance and international human rights law in the course of coalition/building and counter/terrorist responses following the attacks of September 11th, 2001
- a global health crisis, ranging from global diseases such as SARS, H1N1 and tuberculosis to the medical consequences of regional zones of global conflict
- threats to ecosystems, human communities and economic patterns posed by environmental degradation
- the Asian political and financial crisis of 1997-2001 with its accompanying effect on regional communities
- the global refugee crisis, growth in people smuggling, increasing number of internally displaced people
- the fraying of liberal security norms based on international law, cooperation/institution/building and dialogue, through developments such as the Korean crisis, the fraying of international arms control and non-proliferation agreements, and the declining impact of pre-emptive security doctrine

institutions to independent scholars and representatives of think tanks.

- The summit would have provision for both open and closed presentations, for closed deliberations of material, and for open disclosure of policy documents, materials and recommendations that come out of each summit.

That agenda for the G20,

“Would there be a discussion of the current and potential roles and mandates of international organizations? Would the agenda seek agreement on whether specific kinds of greater capacity are needed at the international level? Would there be a discussion of proposals to strengthen relevant regional institutions and coordinate their inter-

Peace as invited participants in meetings that are relevant to them.

- - ring in members of academic institutes and think tanks where relevant to their area of expertise as ongoing consultants to develop material and provide iterative briefing/policy papers on specific issues.
- Make the agendas for "!" meetings public with policy and briefing documents posted on the web when suitable.
- : et up a small permanent secretariat to handle the process.

¹ The concept of human security emerged in mainstream political debate through the United Nations Development Programme's 1994 Human Development Report. (here) human security was defined as having two main aspects: sa