



ATLANTIC DIALOGUES  

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EMERGING  
LEADERS  

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COMMUNITY  

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# ATLANTIC VISION 2025

## BUILDING AN ATLANTIC COMMUNITY

2022 EDITION



THINK • STIMULATE • BRIDGE



# Table of Contents

List of Participants .....	<b>4</b>
Introduction .....	<b>6</b>
Economic Challenges in the Atlantic Space .....	<b>8</b>
Political and Geopolitical Challenges in the Atlantic Space .....	<b>12</b>
Social Challenges in the Atlantic Space .....	<b>14</b>
Conclusion .....	<b>16</b>

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# Introduction

The Atlantic region is grappling with a host of challenges that require urgent attention. Economic and financial struggles, social unrest, and political changes are transforming the geopolitical landscape of the region. Issues including unemployment, poverty, violence, extremism, climate change, and migration are becoming more pressing, making it essential to find lasting solutions. In this context, it is crucial to create inclusive discussions between different generations and regions to tackle these challenges effectively.

To address these concerns, the 2022 edition of the Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders (ADEL) program brought together a group of dynamic young leaders from diverse backgrounds to identify the major issues confronting the Atlantic region and to collectively identify solutions. This report presents the findings of one of the workshops of the program, called 'Build, Connect, Anticipate', during which the ADEL participants engaged in fruitful discussions about the pressing issues and ways to address them.

The Emerging Leaders focused their discussions on an inclusive Atlantic community that includes countries from the Global South. Divided into three working groups, they explored the economic, political, and social aspects of the challenges facing the Atlantic region.

Through this exercise, the participants assessed the future of the region and reflected on solutions that could ensure a better tomorrow for the Atlantic community.

The discussions led the Emerging Leaders to explore two key questions:

- 1) What are the main challenges facing the Atlantic Basin?
- 2) What solutions can the Atlantic community come up with to address these challenges?

This report summarizes their findings, providing valuable insights into the challenges facing the region and the potential solutions to overcome them.





# Economic Challenges in the Atlantic Space

Ten ADELs were selected to represent the economic group and to tackle the most critical economic challenges in the region, as well as to identify possible ways to tackle these challenges and bring together the Atlantic community.

During the session, the ADELs discussed a wide range of economic challenges facing the region, including income inequality, unemployment, education, and the impact of climate change. They also highlighted the need for greater regional cooperation and integration to address these challenges and promote sustainable economic growth.

The ADELs highlighted several economic challenges that need to be addressed urgently. One of the most significant challenges discussed was the need to redefine education to meet the changing demands of the job market. The traditional education system must be restructured to incorporate the skills and competencies required in the digital age. Another challenge is the need for continuous training and development to keep workers abreast of new technologies and industry trends. For the group, the mental health of workers is also a pressing issue that needs to be addressed. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of mental health, and employers need to prioritize the well-being of their employees. Finally, the ADELs focused on the formalization of the informal sector, which requires collective effort on the part of government and other stakeholders. Informal businesses contribute significantly to the economy, and formalizing them can increase tax revenues and create more employment opportunities. For the economic group, addressing these challenges will require innovative and collaborative efforts from all stakeholders to ensure sustainable economic growth in the Atlantic Space.

Overall, the session provided an opportunity for young leaders from across the Atlantic space to collaborate and share ideas on how to address the economic challenges facing the region. By working together and implementing innovative solutions, the ADELs hope to promote greater economic prosperity and well-being for all members of, and stakeholders in, the Atlantic community.









	Challenge 1	Challenge 2	Challenge 3	Challenge 4
What?	Redefine education	Continuous training & development	Workforce mental health/wellness	Formalize the informal sectors (SMEs, artisanship)
For Whom?	Basic & higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teaching professionals</li> <li>Workforce</li> <li>Informal sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sidelined minorities (mental health challenges)</li> <li>Workforce</li> </ul>	Labor in the informal sector
Who?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government</li> <li>Industries</li> <li>Global Universities</li> <li>Tech startups/IT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government</li> <li>Private sector</li> <li>International development organizations</li> </ul>	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government</li> <li>IDO's</li> <li>NGOs</li> <li>Labor associations</li> </ul>
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage partnerships</li> <li>Access the Atlantic s... without encouraging migration</li> <li>Upgrading curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tax incentives for players</li> <li>Encourage exchange programs/scholarships/fellowships</li> <li>Mandatory training</li> </ul>	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage formation of associations</li> <li>Involve them in policymaking (community engagement)</li> </ul>

Economic Reforms	1	2	3
<b>What?</b>	Conflict resolution	Infrastructure & logistics	Trade & investment
<b>For Whom?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every citizen</li> <li>• Conflict zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Households</li> <li>• Corporations</li> <li>• City planners/ real estate/ urban development</li> <li>• Local/regional/national level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic centers for EACH economy (services/ manufacturing/commerce/ tech firms)</li> </ul>
<b>Who?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government</li> <li>• NGOs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• Financial institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government agencies: ministries of trade/finance/ foreign affairs</li> <li>• Investors/multinationals</li> <li>• Regulations (tax, FDI)</li> <li>• Free trade agreement</li> <li>• WTO/AfCTA</li> </ul>
<b>How?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good institutions</li> <li>• Address political issues/ terrorism</li> <li>• Fair distribution of resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PPP</li> <li>• Local financing</li> <li>• De-risking investments</li> <li>• Upgrading infrastructure to be sustainable</li> <li>• Leapfrogging</li> <li>• Tech development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies</li> <li>• Review current FTA</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Investment road chains</li> </ul>

Milestones	Expectations/Outcomes
<b>Long-term</b> (8 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More applicable skillsets that are tech-enabled</li> <li>• Tertiary education (advancement programs with partnerships with the private sector)</li> <li>• Stable employment growth (active labor policy)</li> <li>• Sustainable regionally integrated infrastructure</li> <li>• Trade integrations &amp; regional prosperity</li> </ul>
<b>Medium-term</b> (3-5 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships are built to establish the above</li> <li>• Formalization of the labor market and trade &amp; investment agreement</li> <li>• Institutional reform implementation</li> </ul>
<b>Short-term</b> (1-3 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping opportunities in supply chains</li> <li>• Redesigning curriculum and training systems</li> <li>• Initiate local/national dialogue to end conflict</li> <li>• Improved stakeholder engagements</li> </ul>

# Political Challenges in the Atlantic Space

The Atlantic space is an expansive region that encompasses the Americas, Europe, and Africa. It is home to a diverse array of cultures and political systems. However, despite its rich diversity, the region faces several political challenges that require urgent attention. The challenges outlined below, namely the lack of regional coordination, the need to elevate local voices, and finding common values in the Atlantic space, were identified by the ADELS in the Political Group.

One of the most significant challenges in the Atlantic space for this group is the lack of regional coordination. The absence of a coordinated approach to regional issues has led to a fragmented political landscape, making it difficult to tackle common challenges effectively. This lack of coordination is most apparent in the context of environmental issues, such as climate change and ocean conservation, where a collective effort is needed to mitigate negative impacts.

Another pressing challenge is the need to elevate the voices of local communities at the international level. Often, the voices of marginalized and underrepresented communities are lost in the political discourse of larger nations and multinational organizations. It is crucial to ensure that these voices are heard and taken into account in policymaking to address the unique challenges faced by these communities.

Finally, finding common values is a critical challenge that needs to be addressed in the Atlantic space. While the region is home to diverse cultures and political systems, finding shared values is essential in order to foster unity and cooperation. However, finding common ground on contemporary issues, such as human rights, economic inequality, and social justice, remains a challenge.

The Atlantic space faces several political challenges that require coordinated efforts to address them. Addressing the lack of regional coordination, elevating the voices of local communities, and finding common values are crucial steps towards building a more cohesive and sustainable future for the region.



	Challenge 1	Challenge 2	Challenge 3
What?	Lack of regional coordination	Elevating local voices at the international level	Finding common values/ground, NOT universalizing values, YES embracing diversity
Why?	Regions (states) are fragmented + underrepresented in some conversations	There is a disconnect, local levels have some best practices, but the international system relies on the national level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverse values</li> <li>• Lack of trust in global (western) institutions</li> </ul>
Who?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State level</li> <li>• Strong leader (Brazil, Argentina, Morocco, Rwanda)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private firms</li> <li>• Individual cities and networks</li> <li>• Sub-national governments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil society</li> <li>• Private firms</li> <li>• The institutions themselves + New institutions</li> </ul>
How?	<p>Investing in infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic integration will help facilitate political integration + creation of multigovernance systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forums: Networks between cities</li> <li>• Mayors</li> <li>• Horizontal partnerships</li> <li>• Sharing best practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transparency</li> <li>• Accountability</li> <li>• Consistency</li> <li>• Inclusiveness</li> <li>• Consultation</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Niya</li> <li>• Governance principles</li> <li>• University exchanges</li> <li>• Multicultural</li> <li>• People-to-people</li> </ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater dialogue</li> <li>• Create a Latin American - African dialogue/ organization</li> <li>• (South-South institutions + cooperation), a new corridor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A broader understanding of best practices</li> <li>• Bringing local + regional nuances to the international conversation</li> <li>• More autonomy + capacity to collectively lobby national governments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multicultural acceptance</li> <li>• Increased civic trust</li> <li>• Broader feelings of power</li> </ul>
When?	<b>25 years</b>	12-15 years for impact, or five for a seat at the table <b>20 years-results</b>	<b>50 years</b> (Casual connection between Challenges 1 & 3)

# Social Challenges in the Atlantic Space

## Designing Collective Solutions for Social Problems Within the Atlantic basin

During the 'Build, Connect, Anticipate' workshop, the Social Group identified four main challenges facing the Atlantic space: inequality, oppression, accessibility, and environmental degradation.

The first challenge identified was **inequality**, which is manifested in various forms, including gender, race, and sex. Inequality is a systemic issue that affects various aspects of society, including access to education, employment, and healthcare. Addressing these disparities is crucial to building a more equitable and just society.

The second challenge is **oppression**, which encompasses the areas of food, digital, health, employment, education, and gender. Oppression refers to the systemic and institutionalized forms of discrimination that limit opportunities and access to resources for marginalized communities. It is critical to dismantle these systems of oppression to ensure equal access and opportunities for all.

The third challenge is lack of **accessibility**, which relates to areas including racial discrimination, food, gender discrimination, and lack of inclusivity. Lack of accessibility refers to the barriers that prevent marginalized communities from accessing essential resources, services, and opportunities. Addressing these barriers is necessary to build a more inclusive and accessible society.

Finally, the fourth challenge identified is **environmental degradation**, which includes the issues of immigration, water, power, food, displacement, and housing. Environmental degradation refers to the impact of human activity on the natural environment, which leads to climate change and the depletion of natural resources. Addressing environmental degradation is essential to build a more sustainable future in the Atlantic space.

The Social Group identified these as the main challenges that need to be addressed to build a more equitable, just, and sustainable future for the Atlantic space. Addressing these intersectional challenges requires collective efforts and a commitment to promoting social justice and inclusivity.

Challenges	
<b>What?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inequality</li> <li>• Oppression</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Environment degradation</li> </ul>
<b>Why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender, race, sex, religion, disabilities vs economic</li> <li>• Digital, health, employment, education</li> <li>• Race, food, gender, extremism, inclusivity</li> </ul>
<b>Who?</b>	<p><b>Multilateralism:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil society</li> <li>• Academics</li> <li>• Local communities</li> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• Activists</li> </ul>
<b>How?</b>	<p><b>Development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political participation or decision-making at the local level</li> <li>• Transparency &amp; accountability</li> <li>• Repurpose resources</li> <li>• Critical thinking &amp; education tools</li> <li>• Strengthening health systems</li> <li>• Sustainability</li> </ul>



# Conclusion

The Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders 2022 cohort's efforts to address the economic, political, and social challenges within the Atlantic Basin represented a significant step forward in envisaging a better future for the region. Divided into three groups, the cohort identified critical challenges and recommended solutions that focused on the roles of various stakeholders, including governments, the private sector, international development organizations, and young people.

The first group focused on economic challenges, given the region's visible economic and political divergences. They identified the lack of homogeneity and the perceived widening inequalities within the Atlantic community as obstacles, and recommended actions that could bring the community together while addressing economic challenges. The group's recommendations centered on encouraging fellowships, forming associations, involving young people in policymaking, and creating a conducive environment for private-sector growth.

The second group focused on improving the political sphere, given the region's political complexities. They identified three dominant political challenges: the lack of regional coordination, difficulties in elevating local voices to the international level, and finding common values while embracing diversity. The group's recommendations focused on building regional coordination mechanisms, creating channels for local voices to be heard internationally, and finding ways to respect and celebrate diversity while finding common ground.

Finally, the third group's focus on social challenges highlighted the importance of social justice and inclusivity in the region's growth potential. They identified four main challenges: social inequality, oppression, lack of accessibility, and environmental degradation. The group's recommendations focused on creating policies and programs that address these challenges, such as providing access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities, protecting human rights, and promoting environmental sustainability.

Through these discussions, the Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders 2022 cohort attempted to identify the barriers to the region's growth and find tangible solutions to its problems.



## **About Policy Center for the New South**

The Policy Center for the New South (PCNS) is a Moroccan think tank aiming to contribute to the improvement of economic and social public policies that challenge Morocco and the rest of Africa as integral parts of the global South.

The PCNS pleads for an open, accountable, and enterprising "new South" that defines its own narratives and mental maps around the Mediterranean and South Atlantic basins, as part of a forward-looking relationship with the rest of the world. Through its analytical endeavours, the think tank aims to support the development of public policies in Africa and to give the floor to experts from the South. This stance is focused on dialogue and partnership and aims to cultivate African expertise and excellence needed for the accurate analysis of African and global challenges and the suggestion of appropriate solutions.

As such, the PCNS brings together researchers, publishes their work and capitalizes on a network of renowned partners, representative of different regions of the world. The PCNS hosts a series of gatherings of different formats and scales throughout the year, the most important being the annual international conferences the "Atlantic Dialogues", the "African Peace and Security Annual Conference" (APSACO), and the "Africa Economic Symposium" (AES).

Finally, the think tank is developing a community of young leaders through the Atlantic Dialogues Emerging Leaders program (ADEL) a space for cooperation and networking between a new generation of decision-makers from the government, business, and civil society sectors. Through this initiative, which already counts more than 420 members, the Policy Center for the New South contributes to intergenerational dialogue and the emergence of tomorrow's leaders.

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