

# THIERRY DE MONTBRIAL

## Founder and Chairman of Ifri and the WPC

Ladies and Gentlemen, dear friends, I would like to thank President Kagame very much, who is coming for the second time to the World Policy Conference. The first time was two years ago, and the world has changed dramatically in some ways in the last two years – through the pandemic, of course, and, as we have analyzed, through the change with dramatization of the US-China rivalry, the new American President, Afghanistan, and so on.

Of course, all this has affected Africa a lot. Africa was very much affected by the pandemic, especially during the first year. We have also seen the development of new security threats – the Sahel, of course, is not a new security threat – in Eastern Africa, from Ethiopia in the north to Mozambique in the south, where Rwanda is very much involved, as well as many other problems on the continent with the possible interference of outside powers in the medium- to long-term.

These are the sorts of problems I have asked President Kagame to discuss with us tonight and I am very honored and happy to give him the floor for his presentation. After that, we will have a short discussion.

Mr. President, you have the floor.