Africa
Abstract: Before the emergence of the United Nations at the end of the Second World War, human rights were generally scantily recognised in international law and, even under the UN Charter of 1945, indigenous peoples received merely tacit reference. Since the 1970s, however, several normative instruments have been adopted to give recognition to the rights of indigenous peoples as a distinct component of international human rights law. With the further adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by the UN General Assembly in 2007, the subject has assumed new dimensions with the possibilities of new vistas. What, for instance, is the role of African universities in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples as critical agents in the global human rights and development agenda? The purpose of this article, among others, is to synthesise the strategic approaches to the rights of indigenous peoples and to accentuate a more informed conceptualisation of what the role of African universities on this subject ought to be, and must be, in the light of the dynamic opportunities of the post-2007 era. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212470 (Restricted access)

Africa
Abstract: With various attempts being made to address religious, ethnic and political conflicts in Africa, one question which continues to feature in public discourses concerns the contributions which the African academic community could make towards the understanding and resolution of conflict. This article demonstrates that ontological issues need to be critical in any attempts at effectively analysing conflicts. The merit of the critical realist philosophy of Roy Bhaskar, with its ontological concerns, is presented as an important analytical and resolution model which the African academic community can fall back on, to look for effective solutions to conflict on the continent. The thrust in this article is that the properties of the critical realist approach to social research make it practically adequate for analysing conflicts. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212476 (Restricted access)

Africa
Abstract: This collective volume, presented by the Department of Sociology of the Landmark University in Nigeria, contains eighteen chapters covering central topics in the area of sociology, with a focus on the Nigerian context. Contents: Introduction to sociology (Oye Olubukoye Opeyemi); Theoretical approaches in sociology (Asamu Festus Femi); Sociology of science and technology (Falare Omiyinka Olutola & Oyeleke Ajiboye); Qualitative research methods in social sciences (Babatunde Bamidele Ekundayo & Durowaiye, E. Babatunde); The Nigerian social structure: an overview (Issah Moshood, Mohammed Abubakar Yinusa, Raji Abdullahi, Abdulbaki Zakarriyya & Oluymemi Joseph); Medical sociology (Metiboba Steve (Rev)); Globalization and the global economic crisis (Durowaiye, E. Babatunde & Babatunde Bamidele Ekundayo); Industrial sociology (Asamu Festus Femi); Socio-cultural factors influencing entrepreneurial behaviour: a general overview (Olatunji Abdulgany); Family institution (Babalola Lanre Folake Olubunmi & Iwelumor Oluwakemi Shade); Crime and delinquency (Ogadinma Chukwueze Arisukwu); Sociology of religion (Ogadinma Chukwueze Arisukwu); Child kidnapping: a discussion of social problem in Nigeria (Issah, Moshood; Mohammed, Abubakar Yinusa; Raji, Abdullahi; and Abdulbaki, Zakarriyyah); Challenges and prospects of rural development in Nigeria (Oye, Adeniyi
Burundi
Abstract: Through an analysis of the relations between the state and the media in Burundi, this article aims to problematise these actors' interactions within a context characterised by an asymmetry of power in favour of political authorities and some leeway enjoyed by the media. Through a review of a corpus constituted of scientific literature, reports documenting the situation of press freedom in the country, and newspaper articles, the present article shows that the legal framework governing media activity is rather protective of press freedom, despite some recent setbacks. Under this protective media context, the state uses a variety of devious means to strengthen its grip on the media sector and on journalists. The media, for their part, are obliged to manoeuvre in a post-traumatic context where issues of security have a strong public legitimacy. The article shows that in order to understand relations between the Burundian state and the media, it is necessary to place them in an asymmetrical power context where both face constraints and enjoy spaces of tactical intervention. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02500167.2016.1167753 (Restricted access)

Cameroon
Abstract: This article presents the findings from a survey conducted in two museums in the western Grassfields of Cameroon. The purpose of the study was to identify how people feel about the newly constructed museums. Between 2005 and 2006, and also during intermittent visits in 2009, 2010 and 2012, a total of 20 interviews were conducted with museum officials, relevant government departments, as well as local and foreign visitors to the museums. The findings reveal that the population of the region is happy with the museums, regardless of the fact that they are worried about the impact these might have on the royal treasury or traditional palace museum, where the objects were previously stored. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212471 (Restricted access)

Ethiopia
Abstract: The classical utopian novels of early-modern Europe, such as 'Utopia', 'Christianopolis' and 'City of the sun', are widely understood in mainstream academics as products of the writers' inventive imaginations of better social organisations. Suggestions regarding the possibility that places with the social and administrative features depicted in the novels might actually have existed in medieval times, are often dismissed by Western scholars who argue that the role of non-European civilisations in the early-modern proliferation of utopian novels did not go beyond helping to inspire the writers' creative mix of narrations. A disregard for the fact that medieval utopian novels could be modified and/or de-identified versions of earlier reports about 12th- and 13th-century Ethiopians ('the Land of Prester John') has severely distorted the mainstream understanding of utopianism and renaissance by African scholars. This article specifically focuses on More's 'Utopia', to assert its Ethiopian root using historical and religious evidence. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212461 (Restricted access)

Rwanda
'Imihigo': a hybrid model associating traditional and modern logics in public policy implementation in Rwanda / Masengesho Kamuzinzzi. - In: International Journal of African Renaissance Studies -
Multi-, Inter- and Transdisciplinarity: (2016), vol. 11, no. 1, p. 123-141

Abstract: The adoption of ‘Imihigo’ as a new tool for public policy implementation emerged from the persistent observation that the existing bureaucratic system continued to react - in slow motion - while the improvements promised by the government required more responsiveness. Although originally, its initiators conceived this new system as a home-grown solution, based on empirical findings, this article shows that it evolved in the form of a hybrid model relying on two opposite mechanisms to increase public service delivery: the spirit of emulation of local leaders rooted in tradition and the external control of performance rooted in the new public management philosophy. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212477 (Restricted access)

South Africa

Abstract: The article documents the findings of a qualitative study that assessed the sustainability of providing resources for poverty alleviation. It argues that access to resources does not assure livelihood security. The study also argues that the ability to sustain resources, rather than merely facilitating access, assures poverty alleviation and livelihood security. Using a qualitative research method and the sustainable livelihoods approach, the article assesses the activities and performance of a small group of women in a government-sponsored agricultural project in South Africa. The findings reveal that exited projects struggle to sustain themselves and that assetting alone - without skills, capacity, sense of ownership and a clear focus - does not yield the sustainability necessary for poverty alleviation. The conclusion is made that although resources are a necessary first step towards poverty alleviation, sustainable resource management should be highly valued in the process. The article recommends that agriculture-based development projects not be seen as the only option for the rural poor, as knowledge of farming is indeed crucial. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212463 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Deaf to women : Rhodes's refusal to hear women or his own feminine voice within - a reading of Schreiner's 'Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland' / Rajendra Chetty and Matthew Curr. - In: International Journal of African Renaissance Studies - Multi-, Inter- and Transdisciplinarity: (2016), vol. 11, no. 1, p. 5-21

Abstract: E.D. Morel's chapter, 'The story of Southern Rhodesia', in his signal text 'The black man's burden' (1920), provides intertextual reference to Olive Schreiner's work 'Trooper Peter Halket of Mashonaland' (1897) in discussing libertarian thought and distinguishing aspects of male/female authorship. Schreiner's feminist perspective affords her a wider purview of colonialist prerogatives than those exhibited by several contemporary male observers or commentators. The figure of Jesus, as pictured in her neglected political/moral parable, far from being ironic, sentimental or evangelical in purpose, embodies her ideal balance of female and male qualities. Schreiner relies on this redemptive icon both in an ethical and gendered sense to project new understanding and enlightenment onto the strife of the day, which allows her, in turn, to expose and critique Rhodes's male deafness both to women and his own feminine nature. By contrast, Halket's conversion, his feminisation, holds up the alternative of hope versus Rhodes's predatory male soul and final moral damnation. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18186874.2016.1212460 (Restricted access)

South Africa

Abstract: By world standards, South Africa's experience with insurance of politically motivated risks, including terrorism, qualifies it as a leader in the area. In the late 1970s, the volatile political climate of the apartheid era forced the private insurance market to establish the South African
Special Risks Insurance Association (Sasria), backed by the government, to insure damage caused by politically motivated acts, including terrorism. Since then, Sasria has developed into a key strategic institution. Yet academic literature on insurance of politically-motivated risks, riot, strike and terrorism in South Africa is sparse, despite its increasing significance in a world where terrorism is on the increase. This article attempts to fill this literature gap by firstly tracing the developments leading to the formation of Sasria, then examining the evolution of Sasria to where it is today. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: Since the end of Apartheid in 1994 South Africa has used some innovative approaches to build more inclusive public institutions. Although much is known about the motivation and nature of these policies and institutional changes, very little is known of the manner in which they were executed. This book offers a selection of twelve case studies to illustrate how policies and institutions were developed and implemented to improve specific public services. Contributions: Developing an intergovernmental fiscal framework (Catriona Purfield); Increasing budget transparency (Neil Cole, Aarti Shah and Gert van der Linde); Raising tax revenue (David Hausman and Precious Zikhali); Strengthening performance monitoring and evaluation (Kathrin A. Plangemann); Creating an inclusive and credible statistical system (Misha V. Belkindas and Phindile Ngwenya); Expanding HIV/AIDS treatment (Patrick Lumumba Osewe and Yogan Pillay); Reforming the social assistance system (Lucilla Maria Bruni); Improving the delivery of identification documents to facilitate access to services (John Carneson and Zandile Ratshitanga); Protecting biodiversity, rehabilitating ecosystems, and promoting conservation for development (Christopher J. Warner, Claudia Sobrevila and George C. Ledec); Improving the management of the national road network (Ben Gericke); Developing renewable energy through an independent power producer procurement program (Joel Kolker); The making of the 1996 constitution (Ivan Velev and Nonhlahla Zindela). [ASC Leiden abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: The film "Gangster's paradise: Jerusalema", released on August 29, 2008, decries the proliferation of crime, violence and social decay in the South African post-colony. The aim of this article is to interrogate the banality in the use of violence and power in the South African post-colony. The filmic narratives of "Gangster's paradise: Jerusalema" reveal that behind the "rainbow" facade presented by South Africa, one encounters festering poverty in "non-white" communities, racial acrimony, broken promises, social and class struggles, and tales of betrayal of the majority of black people by the elite black leadership which now sit comfortably in the seats vacated by their former colonisers. An analysis of the narratives of the film "Gangster's paradise: Jerusalema" permits one to locate apartheid-based economic disparities as still haunting mainly "non-white" local communities, although some whites have not been spared by the vicious new normal of poverty and the effects of corruption. This interpretation is further questioned in the film which shows that, after apartheid, the nationalist leadership encouraged a negative culture of entitlement. The irony in the film is that the masses are also tainted in so far as they commit crimes against other ordinary people and refuse to take responsibility or, rather in an escapist way, blame all the woes of the post-colony on apartheid. Thus, the narratives of "Gangster's paradise: Jerusalema" beg the question: What is going wrong with the dream of democracy for all, irrespective of race, that was the founding principle of the new nation?. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Voting void? : young South Africans, elections and the media / Vanessa Malila. - In:
Communicatio: (2016), vol. 42, no. 2, p. 170-190
Abstract: In May 2014, many of South Africa's young citizens had the opportunity to vote in national elections for the first time. Youths who were born post-1994 (often referred to as the "Born Frees") are the first generation of South Africans who live in a democratic country and hold no individual memory of life under apartheid. These young South Africans were born during a period of democracy, a time of transition and of great hope for the future. As a result of having been born outside the confines of apartheid racial segregation, they are expected to be racially integrated with their peers. The expectation which comes with the freedoms fought for by previous generations is that the youth will take up formal democratic practices, such as voting and engaging with parliament. However, during the recent national elections, the youth turnout revealed surprising differences amongst the 18-29-year age group. Young people aged 18-19 opted not to take up the right to vote, in fact, only 31 per cent of them had registered. This article interrogates the attitudes and actions of young South Africans within the political sphere, specifically by examining a group of young South Africans who are eligible to vote, as well as the role of the media in aiding or deterring voting engagement and perceptions. The central argument is that the local media fail to engage young people with content which advances their political identities. Despite high levels of media consumption, youths are engaging with formal politics as a result of pressure from family or due to socio-economic limitations, rather than a desire to add value to their citizenship. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02500167.2016.1167750 (Restricted access)

Togo
Abstract: The paper traces the evolution of The Microfinance Sector of Togo over the half century from its independence in 1960 to 2010. The methodology uses oral histories, consisting of a round table discussion with heads of Microfinance Institutions as well as regulatory, supervisory and financing institutions and academics, followed by semi-structured individual interviews. The authors compare their diverse perspectives with the few archives and data that exist. They find seven stages in the development of microfinance from an unorganized sector consisting of tontines and usurious money-lenders in the 1960s to a considerably organized sector dominated by credit unions (COOPECS) and NGOs. The unorganized sector continues to play a role and the regulatory authority intervenes to protect the masses from unscrupulous and inefficient operators. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/20780389.2015.1114413 (Restricted access)

Uganda
The association between Ugandan adolescents' viewing of specific television genres and sex-related normative beliefs and behaviours / Ann Neville Miller ... [et al.]. - In: Communicatio: (2016), vol. 42, no. 2, p. 221-237 : tab
Abstract: Growing evidence in Western nations indicates that exposure to high levels of sexual media content influences adolescents' sexual attitudes and behaviours in those countries. Although media in many sub-Saharan markets contain increasingly higher levels of sexual content, little research has investigated the effects of that content on adolescents' HIV-related risk and protective behaviours. This project used cultivation theory to examine Ugandan adolescents' media use, and to test the relationship between their exposure to specific television genres and their sex-related normative beliefs and behaviours. Three hundred and sixty secondary school students from four purposively sampled schools filled out a questionnaire about their television viewing, their beliefs about the prevalence of sexual intercourse among their peers, and their own sexual behaviours. Preliminary evidence of relationships between watching comedy and cartoon programming, and high estimates of the proportion of adolescents who engage in sexual intercourse, were observed. Watching comedy programming and non-African programming was associated with the higher likelihood to have ever had sexual intercourse. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02500167.2016.1187187 (Restricted access)