Abstracts, week 30

Africa
Abstract: This article critically reviews the recent debate on social movements and protests in African Studies. It problematises prevailing conceptualisations, addresses the methodological difficulties of data gathering and scrutinises theoretical references in contemporary scholarship. As an alternative to established approaches and based on fieldwork in Conakry (Guinea) and Kampala (Uganda), the author suggests capturing the dynamic nature of protest movements through the concept of crystallisation. Inspired by philosopher Gilbert Simondon, the crystallisation concept grasps protests as processes emerging from everyday urban politics and reflexively considers the researcher as part of the phenomena he or she describes. Bibliogr., notes., ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2016.1171206 (Restricted access)

Africa
Abstract: This collective volume aims to offer a critical reflection on Africa's development condition in a nuanced and systematic fashion. It attempts to open up a constructive dialogue between the Global North and the Global South on the African under-development conundrum. Titles: Beyond Africa's underdevelopment jam: in search of a productive future; Troubling the myth of Africa's underdevelopment; Pillage, plunder and migration in Africa: on the expatriation of riches and remittances; (Post-)development and the social production of ignorance: farming ignorance in 21st century Africa; Problematising the developmental potential of community share ownership trusts (CSOTS) in Zimbabwe: the case of the Tongogara CSOT, 2011-2014; Economic dependency and Third World underdevelopment: a case of Nigeria; "Messianic resuscitation of foreign implantation of the seed of underdevelopment?": interrogating the role of foreign aid in Africa's development agenda; Unveiling orientalism in foreign narratives for engineering for development that targets Africa; Decolonising Africa's development: alternative paths; Education policy, exclusion and development: filling the gaps in Zimbabwe's public education for socio-economic development; Globalisation and land-grabbing in Africa: the implication of large-scale agricultural investments for rural populations in Cameroon, Nigeria, and Tanzania; Troubling the triadic relationship of gender, development and underdevelopment in Africa; Human development-based hotel managers' perceptions on incentive travel in Zimbabwe: insights from Masvingo Province; "A new form of imperialism?:" interrogating China-Africa relations and development prospects in Africa; Environmental activism from below: the case of the subaltern against commercial diamond-mining companies in the Chiadzwa area of Zimbabwe, 2009-2013. Contributors: Munyaradzi Mawere, Artwell Nhemachena, Gerfjan van Stam, Ngonidzashe Marongwe, Afolabi Opeyemi Glory, Costain Tandi, Fidelis Peter Thomas Duri, Nkwazi Mhango, Mescort Nenduva, Semie Memuna Sama, Tasara Muguti, Tendai Chibaya, Marshal Madambura. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa
Abstract: Alors quelle est restée longtemps en marge des politiques nationales en Afrique, l'éducation arabo-islamique constitue une offre éducative de plus en plus essentielle. Elle est en effet un cadre majeur de socialisation des enfants et des jeunes. À travers une multiplicité d'institutions, ce type d'éducation bénéficie actuellement d'un regain d'intérêt de la part d'une pluralité d'acteurs aux profils, motivations, modes opératoires et orientations parfois concurrents, voire antagoniques. Ce dossier interroge cet objet peu traité dans le contexte africain et ouvre de nouvelles pistes de recherches pluridisciplinaires. Les analyses se concentrent sur les relations entre États et éducation arabo-islamique, la quantification et la qualification de ce choix éducatif,

Africa

Abstract: This book explores some of the key challenges of governance of African cities and addresses reforms and innovative approaches in critical areas of local governance, such as decentralization and citizen participation. The contributions also investigate the constraints that hamper urban governments. Decentralization based on the principle of subsidiarity emerges as a crucial reform for African cities to be able to face the challenges of their unprecedented growth rate. This requires, among other initiatives, the implementation of an effective local self-government system, the reform of planning laws, including the adoption of new planning models, the development of citizen participation in local affairs, and new approaches to urban informality. The book contains case studies on Algeria, Angola, Cape Verde, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Africa

Abstract: This article presents critical discourse analysis of state and civil society organisations efforts to implement the gender mainstreaming goals set out in the United Nations Beijing Declaration. It is argued that the latter represents a generational opportunity to apply a Feminist Political Economic Framework to development in Africa. However, the research findings show how current practice falls short of the sought-after participative democratic model of mainstreaming. Instead, analysis reveals significant differences in state and civil society organisations policy framing, issues over conceptual clarity and a disjuncture in state and civil society prioritisation of key gendered issues such as poverty, economic inequality and conflict resolution. This matters because it indicates that the capacity of the civil sphere to act as a political arena from which NGOs may challenge the traditionally male-dominated power structures is being undermined by a disconnect between state and civil society as they pursue contrasting agendas. Bibliogr., notes., ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2016.1170675 (Restricted access)

Algeria

Abstract: This briefing analyses the ways in which the Algerian regime has navigated the multi-dimensional crisis it has been faced with over the last two decades, and the political economy of its survival in a turbulent regional and international geopolitical context characterised by the African and Arab uprisings and the reaction of status quo forces to this phenomenon. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum in English and French [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2016.1213714 (Restricted access)

Burundi

Abstract: This report sketches the recent political crisis that has engulfed Burundi since the
announcement on 25 April 2015 by Burundi's ruling party 'Conseil National pour la Défense de la Démocratie - Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie' (CNDD/FDD) that its leader and president, Pierre Nkurunziza, was endorsed as its candidate for the planned June 2015 presidential elections for an unconstitutional third term. Nkurunziza's ability to enforce his third-term bid, despite widespread opposition within and outside his party, was dependent on several factors, both internal and external: from the complexity of the political forces within Burundi, to the role of the EAC and the strength of the military - a development attributable to the presence of Burundian peace-keepers in United Nations and regional peace-keeping missions, notably the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Bibliogr., notes. ref. [ASC Leiden abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2015.1111202 (Restricted access)

Eritrea
Abstract: This briefing discusses the link between the UN Human Rights Council report on Eritrea and Eritrea's wider geopolitical position in the Horn, which is tied in multiple ways to its relationship with Ethiopia. It interrogates the narratives of oppression in relation to Eritrea and how those feed into a wider conceptualisation that regards Eritrea as the main source of instability in the Horn. Bibliogr., notes, ref. [ASC Leiden abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2015.1111201 (Restricted access)

Morocco
Abstract: Le vendredi 24 avril 2015, le souverain du Maroc inaugurait l'Institut Mohammed-VI pour la formation des imams, morchidines et morchidates. Ce complexe est destiné à former non seulement les imams du royaume chérifien, mais aussi ceux de nombreux pays d'Afrique subsaharienne et sahélienne, à la recherche d'un encadrement religieux pondéré ; celui d'un islam du 'juste milieu' (al wasatiyya) dont le Maroc a voulu faire sa ligne directrice. Cet article se propose d'étudier les (re)prventions officielles de cet 'islam du juste milieu' et les objectifs auxquels il répond dans le contexte politique et religieux africain actuel, avant de donner la parole à des personnes qui gravitent autour ou à l'intérieur de cet institut. Bibliogr., notes, rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]http://www.cairn.info/revue-africa-contemporaine-2016-1-page-113.htm (Restricted access)

Namibia
Abstract: Why has Namibia, with a dependency on alluvial diamond wealth and location in sub-Saharan Africa, been able to comply with the Kimberley Process while other states in the region have not? The author's objective is to account for how domestic political economy can influence international agreements. He argues that diamond dependency in Namibia has facilitated compliance with the Kimberley Process. The case of how Namibia has responded to the Kimberley Process illustrates how De Beers has been able to constrain domestic policy and use the Kimberley Process as a way to maintain a virtual monopoly in domestic diamond production. Bibliogr., notes, ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2015.1085380 (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Abstract: This collective volume investigates the phenomenon of Boko Haram from various perspectives. Some chapters examine the aims of the movement and its glorification of past
episodes, others seek to understand the rise of Boko Haram in terms of failure of the Nigerian state, yet others look at regional aspects of the movement or the way it interacts with ethnic, cultural or religious divides. The last part of the book focuses on what strategy should be adopted to end the carnage perpetrated by the militants and also considers international responses, amongst others on the part of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU). Contents: Introduction: theorizing Boko Haram: understanding the terrorist threat (Hussein Solomon). Part I: The long durée. Boko Haram: a jihadist enigma in Nigeria (Marc-Antoine Pérouse de Montclos); The Boko Haram paradox: ethnicity, religion, and historical memory in pursuit of a caliphate (Zacharias P. Pieri and Jacob Zenn); Old wine in a new bottle: ideological and operational linkages between maitatsine and Boko Haram revolts in Nigeria (Iro Aghedo). Part II: The Nigerian state and Boko Haram. Boko Haram and the widening of cleavages in Nigeria (Azeez Olaniyin and Lucky Asuelime); Identity, deprivation, terror: why Boko Haram rebels (Daniel Agbiboa); The elusive quest for peace: Boko Haram and the hollowness of Nigeria’s counterinsurgency strategy and weak security architecture (Olabanji Akinola); Mopping the wet floor of a leaking roof: fighting terror while overlooking radicalization (Ibaba Samuel Ibabu and Anthony Okoye). Part III: Responses. Portents of a fractured Boko Haram for Nigeria’s counter-terrorism strategy and tactics (Gbemisola Abdul-Jelil Animasawun); Effective counter-terrorism against Boko Haram: empirical assessments of coercion, delegitimization, incentivization and denial strategies in Nigeria (2009-2014) (John A. Stevenson, Amy Pate, Elvis Asiama); The Western response (Virginia Comolli); Responding to Boko Haram: interrogating the effectiveness of state and regional intervention approaches (Kwesi Aning, Mustapha Abdallah and Festus Aubyn). Conclusion: Nigeria and a war across states in Northwest Africa (James J. Hentz). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Nigeria


Abstract: The chapters of this collective volume are based on papers presented at a conference on the problems and challenges facing the people of Kogi Central Senatorial District of Kogi State, organized in Nigeria in 2007. The focus of the book is on issues of leadership and succession. The chapters address topics such as: peace and stability, remedies for civil disturbances, reconciliation (Habibu Angulu Sani); crisis in Ebiraland (Ibrahim Abdulzalim); violence and vandalism (Alhadji Bello Adoke); socio-economic development (Emmanuel Itopa Makoyo III); vocational training (Lawal J. Ozovehe); culture and tourism (Momo Odei Jatto; Yusuf S. Ogido); youth empowerment using compressed earth bricks technology (Adoke I. Ibrahim and A.D. Abdullahi); Ebira leadership (Aliyu Abdullahi); Infrastructural development (O.E. Abdullahi); poverty and youth (Yusuf Sezuo Mamman); linking past and present (Abdulwahab Ihiovi Shaib); Electricity (Okatahi Hamza Jatto; Stephen Raji); small enterprises (Aisha Lamie Balogun); Ebira dignity (M. Enero Umar); leadership grooming and succession (C.O. Maliki; Habibu Angulu Sani); social decadence (Joseph A. Anikoh); egoism and morality (G.S. Itoma); unity and peace (Rasheed H. Bello); personal skill development (Salau Itop Bello). [ASC Leiden abstract]

Rwanda

Centralising rents and dispersing power while pursuing development?: exploring the strategic uses of military firms in Rwanda? Pritish Behuria. - In: Review of African Political Economy: (2016), vol. 43, no. 150, p. 630-647 : graf

Abstract: The Rwandan Patriotic Front has achieved significant economic progress while also maintaining political stability. However, frictions among ruling elites have threatened progress. This paper explores the use of military firms in Rwanda. Such firms are used to invest in strategic industries, but the use of such firms reflects the vulnerability faced by ruling elites. Military firms serve two related purposes. First, ruling elites use such firms to centralise rents and invest in strategic sectors. Second, the proliferation of such enterprises and the separation of party- and military-owned firms contribute to dispersing power within a centralised hierarchy. Bibliogr., notes., ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]

http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2015.1128407 (Restricted access)
Sierra Leone
Abstract: Experts have come to dominate global economic policies under certain institutional ideological discourse. But what happens when most of the policy players in developing countries do not belong to globalised institutions? This article interrogates the role of national officials in reinforcing Western institutional hegemony. A review of housing policies in Sierra Leone since independence, and interviews with housing sector officials, show that the current manifestation of such superstructure and its reinforcing nature also mask new economic interests. The review shows that local national officials, who are often presented as passive objects of power, actually have enormous interpretive agency, and the aggressive articulation of their exclusionary approach demonstrates specific actionable interventions which enable them to create space and advantage for themselves. The lack of a new articulative strategy means that commitment to local content remains only as paper plans and symbolic gestures. Bibliogr., notes., ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2016.1169163 (Restricted access)

South Africa
Abstract: This article explores the valuation and marketisation of diamonds in South Africa from 2004 to 2012. It argues that there is no positivist foundation for a real or fair price from which derogations can be measured, which constitutes a challenge for establishing transfer pricing in the context of tax justice. Instead, there is a performative valuation process wherein artificial underlying values are assigned which then condition prices and tax liabilities. Thus it is not the essential nature of diamonds per se that conditions a resource curse, but corporate control over the marketisation process in the context of enclavity and oligopoly. Bibliogr., notes., ref. sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2016.1177504 (Restricted access)

Southern Africa
Abstract: En Afrique australe, de nombreuses aires transfrontalières se développent. Elles ont pour but la paix par la coopération environnementale. Mais, sur les quatre parcs créés, un seul l'a explicitement inscrit dans son traité constitutif, le rapprochant ainsi de la catégorie 'parc pour la paix' créée par l'Union internationale pour la conservation de la nature (UICN). Pour les autres, leurs promoteurs ne font que proclamer cet objectif. En interrogant la notion de 'paix par la coopération environnementale', l'auteur replace dans leurs cadres juridiques et politiques la création de ces aires transfrontalières et tente de cerner la conception de la conservation et du développement poursuivis en Afrique australe. Elle interroge le sens et la portée de la démarche des aires de conservation transfrontalières en Afrique australe en termes de (re)construction des liens écologiques, sociaux et culturels dans le contexte politique de 'réconciliation' de la région. Bibliogr., notes, rés. en français et en anglais. [Résumé extrait de la revue]http://www.cairn.info/revue-afrique-contemporaine-2016-1-page-129.htm (Restricted access)

Subsaharan Africa
Abstract: The poorest people rarely benefit from poverty reduction programmes, and this is especially true in some countries of sub-Saharan Africa. Microfinance programmes, for example, do not generally reach casual labourers in remote rural areas, ethnic and indigenous minorities,
older people, widows and migrants. Therefore, NGOs and donors have started to mount programmes explicitly targeting the extreme poor. This book examines why the poorest often do not benefit from poverty reduction and growth policies, analyses innovative ultra-poor programmes from around the continent, and explores which lessons can be learnt. The book is divided into four parts: A Who are sub-Saharan Africa’s extreme poor and how to target them; B Africa’s children and youth; C Getting Africa to ‘work’; D Poverty reduction for Africa’s poorest implementation and policy thoughts. Titles: 1. What works for Africa’s poorest? (David Hulme and David Lawson); 2. Defining, targeting, and reaching the very poor in Benin (Anika Altaf and Nicky Pouw); 3. Towards inclusive targeting: the Zimbabwe Harmonized Social Cash Transfer (HSCT) programme (Bernd Schubert); 4. Africa’s extreme poor: surviving early childhood (Lawrence Ado-Kofie and David Lawson); 5. Cash for care? Researching the linkages between social protection and children’s care in Rwanda (Keetie Roelen, Helen Karki Chetri and Emily Delap); 6. Promoting employment, protecting youth: BRAC’s Empowerment and Livelihoods for Adolescent Girls Programme in Uganda and Tanzania (Nicola Banks); 7. Female engagement in commercial agriculture, interventions, and welfare in Malawi (Ralitza Dimova and Ira N. Gang); 8. Effects of food assistance: evaluation of a food-for-training project in South Sudan (Munshi Sulaiman); 9. The role of public works in addressing poverty: lessons from recent developments in public works programming (Anna McCord); 10. Exploring potentials and limits of graduation: Tanzania’s Social Action Fund (Usha Mishra and Emmanuel J. Mtambie); 11. Do ‘graduation’ programmes work for Africa’s poorest? (Stephen Devereux); 12. Institutional and policy challenges in the implementation of social protection: the case of Nigeria (Rebecca Holmes); 13. The conditions for conditionality in cash transfers: does one size fit all? (Luca Pellerano and Valentina Barca); 14. Effective cash transfers for the poorest in Africa: a focus on supply capacity (Francisco Ayala); 15. Access to justice for the very poorest and marginalized in Uganda (Adam Dubin and David Lawson); 16. Conclusion (David Hulme, David Lawson and Lawrence Ado-Kofie). [ASC Leiden abstract]