Africa

Abstract: African beer markets are increasingly being commercialized. Select brewers are going to extraordinary lengths to attract new customers on the continent. Economic and business 'life cycle' models usually indicate that this can only go on for a finite period, that industries, companies, and products, just like organisms, must move through stages of emergence and maturity to inevitable decline. Such expectations may be too rigid in the African context. Such are the continent's dynamic economic and social realities that commercial brewers, and especially a handful of multinational corporations, look capable of staving off decline - an intoxicating prospect for them indeed. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.5 (Restricted access)

Africa

Abstract: In Western culture Africa has become synonymous with a potpourri of exotic ingredients and anxieties: sun, rhythm, intuition, bodily liberation, grand landscapes, wild animals - and on the other hand disease, crime, war, failed states, shantytowns, famine, a flood of refugees. This book - published in connection with the Africa exhibition at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art - attempts to challenge the stereotypes. It speaks in both short and extended form of new architecture and urban development projects from various parts of Africa south of the Sahara, and artworks from the same region appear as independent contributions to the overall experience. Generously illustrated, Africa includes essays by among others the curators of the exhibition, Kjeld Kjeldsen and Mathias Ussing Seeberg, expert consultant Morten Nielsen, and Achille Mbembe, Edgar Pieterse, Antoni Scholtens Folkers, Daan Roggeveen, Michiel Hulshof, Filip de Boeck, and Nnamdi Elleh. [Book abstract, edited] http://quickpaper.rosendahls.dk/Louisiana/AfrikaUK/#/1/

Africa

Abstract: Following several decades during which violent civil conflict was common in African countries, the period from 1990 onwards was marked by a spreading and deepening of adherence to democratic principles. Nonetheless, many African countries still experience political instability and civil unrest. This raises the question of why these countries have not succeeded in resolving conflict in a sustainable manner. Drawing on economic ideas about contracts and institutions, this paper outlines a conceptual framework for thinking about the role of constitutional rules in achieving political stability. It also elucidates a critical requirement for sustainable democratic systems, namely that constitutional rules must become self-sustaining to safeguard such systems and to avoid relapses into violent civil conflict. The experiences of selected African countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Central African Republic, Mozambique, Kenya, Botswana) are presented as brief case studies that illustrate the relevance of the conceptual framework and the notion of self-enforcing constitutional rules. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://www.accord.org.za/images/downloads/ajcr/2015-1/AJCR-1-2015-SelfEnforcingRules.pdf

Africa

Abstract: Internationalisation of higher education is a world-wide phenomenon and a contemporary process that aims to contribute to human, social, cultural and economic development of communities and nations. Seen in this light, international education is full of opportunities and potential benefits for individuals, higher education institutions and society at large. The past 25 years have seen the international dimension of higher education becoming more central on the agenda of international organisations and national governments, institutions of higher education, student organisations and accreditation agencies thus internationalisation has moved from being a reactive to a proactive strategic issue. The aim of this paper is to explore the role of international higher education as a vehicle for Africa's current development trajectory. The article analyses the historical development of internationalisation, definitions, rationales and organisational strategies that can be employed by different nations to integrate internationalisation in the higher education systems of the African continent. The paper also examines benefits, challenges and risks of internationalisation to higher education in Africa. In conclusion, the author asserts that countries in Africa and the rest of the world should approach internationalisation in ways that are consistent with their current needs, priorities and circumstances. [Journal abstract]

Africa
Abstract: This article interrogates the practicability and efficacy of arts-based methods for peacebuilding as opposed to the formal negotiating table within African grassroots communities. It problematises the application of western liberal peace models at grassroots level. The article reviews and locates itself within the broader discourse of alternative or informal peacebuilding. Using the case study of Rwandan post-genocide dramatic reconstructions, the article illustrates specific participatory theatre techniques extracted from the applied theatre field and how these can be employed for peacebuilding at grassroots level. The article argues for a safe, aesthetic space, created by theatre as critical to peacebuilding activities. To give a rounded overview, the article finally reflects on potential disadvantages and controversies of using participatory theatre for peacebuilding and concludes that creative arts-based methods offer practical, inclusive, inexpensive space conducive for organic peacebuilding at grassroots level. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]


Angola
Oil, power, and poverty in Angola / José León García-Rodríguez ... [et al.]. - In: African Studies Review: (2015), vol. 58, no. 1, p. 159-176 : krt., tab
Abstract: Angola is a large country with a relatively small population and abundant natural resources, including oil reserves. The high price fetched by oil, the mainstay of the Angolan economy, on international markets has helped this leading producer attain growth rates that are among the highest in the world. However, Angola is also noted for its unequal distribution of wealth and notorious political corruption. This article seeks to explore this paradox within the framework of the so-called resource curse theory and analyze the role played by the oil industry in the process. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.8 (Restricted access)
Cameroon
Abstract: This article examines discourses and cinematic representations of modernity in two documentary films by the Cameroonian director Jean-Marie Teno. In the first of these films, 'A Trip to the Country' (2000), Teno investigates how ideals and aspirations of modernity as a state-sponsored project in Cameroon have their roots in the colonial period, and his film is characterized by a strong sense of anxiety linked to the turn of the millennium. In the second, 'Sacred Places' (2009), modernity is given a different affective resonance and is linked to the pleasure of cinematic consumption in Ouagadougou as Teno situates African cinema in relation to its 'brother,' the djembe drum. The author argues here that a shift occurs between these two films and their affective engagements with modernity; this is a transition from a sense of millennial anxiety to a thematics of what he calls 'cinematic kinship'. The author ultimately suggests that this shift allows Teno to outline new social roles for the African filmmaker as well as new relationships between African cinema and local publics. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French.

Democratic Republic of Congo
Abstract: In May 2013 the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) announced that construction of the world's largest hydroelectric project will begin in October 2015. Upon completion, according to the DRC, the project will bring electricity to half the African continent. With funding from South Africa, the World Bank, the African Development Bank, and others, the U.S. $80 billion Grand Inga Hydroelectric project will construct a 44,000 megawatt (MW) dam anchored to a new transmission network able to distribute electricity to all four of sub-Saharan Africa's regional electricity power pools. While the dam promises to bring electricity to many millions of Africans who currently lack access, the project also poses risks to the citizens and environment of the DRC. To assess the complex tradeoffs, this article evaluates four dimensions that are part of an energy security framework: availability, affordability, efficiency, and stewardship. In doing so, it explores some of the governance challenges that arise in managing such a 'mega-project'. The analysis also reveals tensions between national and regional energy security. It presents evidence that, under certain assumptions, the pursuit of enhanced security at the regional level may result in a net security loss for the DRC. Finally, the article provides suggestions for enhancing the decision-making process of those designing related national and regional energy strategies. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French.

Democratic Republic of Congo
Abstract: Almost two decades ago, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was confronted with a vicious cycle of internationalised armed conflicts in which between six and ten million people are estimated to have been killed. Those conflicts were resolved through peace agreements between the leaders of the warring parties, leaving affected populations to their predicaments. From among the mechanisms during peace talks aimed at dealing with the past, the Congolese opted for an international ad hoc tribunal and a truth and reconciliation commission (TRC). Unfortunately, the United Nations was unwilling to establish such a tribunal in the DRC and the TRC put in place did not investigate a single case. Therefore, the DRC lost opportunities to hold accountable alleged perpetrators, establish the truth of the past, promote reconciliation, and prevent further violence. The subsequent resumption of conflict is the result of failing to address the past. After the stabilisation of the country, a combination of judicial and non-judicial mechanisms of transitional justice could respond to past abuses and contribute to the peacebuilding process in the DRC. Hence, this paper endorses as a judicial mechanism, in
addition to the International Criminal Court (ICC), the establishment of a hybrid international tribunal to hold accountable those who bear the greatest responsibility for events since 1996. This paper also endorses the promotion of the non-judicial indigenous mechanism 'Barza intercommunaute' to help resolve low-level disputes and pave the way for a new TRC that could promote reconciliation, formulate recommendations on institutional reform, identify criteria for the lustration and vetting process, identify victims and recommend reparations. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Ethiopia
Abstract: Contemporary policies of land titling and registration are central to the negotiation of the rights of access to resources and constitute a main facet of the territorialisation of the state in the rural milieu. In Ethiopia, the distribution of land use certificates started in the 1990s with the support of international donors. This paper examines land registration in rural Oromiya and discusses how it reconfigures the exercise of political authority and the peasant-state interface. The paper concludes that land registration, being legitimated through a complex discursive repertoire, strengthens the capacity of the local administrative structures to exercise political authority and thereby serves to further extend the power of the state in the rural milieu. While the question of security of tenure is strongly influenced by such hierarchical state-peasant relations, the case analysed shows that the political project behind land registration is also contested and resisted, although not openly, by the farmers. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.928613 (Restricted access)

Ethiopia
Abstract: Land is a contentious resource in the pastoral areas of Ethiopia. Traditional pastoralism, which is both a mode of production and a cultural way of life, dictates communal ownership of grazing land on which individually owned livestock graze. Pastoral land in Afar has traditionally been administered by the local communities themselves. However, with a gradual incorporation of the pastoralists into the Ethiopian modern polity, there have been competitive interests over issues of land administration between local communities and the state which often led to conflict and instability. Government land administration policies often contravene the age-old pastoral customary institutions; and stakeholder relations have taken a bitter course following the expansion of commercial agriculture, land investments and development projects. Using data obtained through Qualitative Interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) this paper analyses land administration trajectories and dynamics in Afar region. It assesses how contradictions between statutory and customary tenure systems shape relations between multiple resource users including the state, investors, local communities, and neighbouring cultural groups. It also examines the impact of multi-stakeholder land disputes on land resource management, thereby identifying appropriate policy options for effective land administration practices in the pastoral areas. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Ghana
Abstract: Many scholars have concluded, perhaps prematurely, that information and communication technologies (ICTs) are inherently empowering for Africans. In order to look more
closely at the impact of ICTs on relationships and society, this article focuses on everyday life. Specifically, it uses ethnographic methods and the theory of 'affordances' to illuminate the use of cell phones among Bulsa of Ghana's Upper East Region. While cell phones help users connect with distant loved ones, they also plant seeds of alienation between users and those who remain physically present. These changes are evident in new body habits and in social behaviors that would be culturally unacceptable in face-to-face interactions but are largely excused in the interventions of the virtual world. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.6 (Restricted access)

Kenya
Abstract: In Kenya road building, widely viewed as an 'unqualified human good', is closely linked to an 'Africa Rising' narrative. In this paper the author argues that road building is an attempt to assert political authority derived from a longstanding developmentalist impulse, one in which private accumulation and spectacular public works go hand in hand. In light of massive infrastructural transformations, the author develops a conceptualisation of the right to the city: what is needed is a radical understanding of the city and its potentialities that wrests control of the idea away from a bureaucratic vision, and imbues it instead with collective meaning. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.988698 (Restricted access)

Kenya
Abstract: In rural Kenya, the main visible security force is the Kenya Police Reserve, an unpaid force guarding localities and armed by the state. Turkana County faces challenges of low state penetration, small arms flows, and armed intercommunal conflict. The state has a weak hold on Kenya Police Reservists (KPRs) and their arms, and this situation is weakening further as many move into paid private security roles, including guarding oil exploration and drilling sites. Security is critical in view of the recent oil discovery and ensuing land disputes which could trigger widespread conflict, and the recent devolution of development and administrative functions to counties in Kenya. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.10 (Restricted access)

Kenya
Abstract: This article examines debates about how to manage elephants in Kenya's Tsavo National Park as a jumping off point for exploring the relationships among the local, national, and global constituencies that converged in the formulation of wildlife policy in Kenya during the 1950s and 1960s. Bridging the colonial and postcolonial years, the so-called elephant problem in Tsavo, while leveraging different international constituencies, pitted different administrative philosophies against one another and drew out different understandings of the application of ecological sciences in national parks. The result was a paralysis of policymaking which sparked an overhaul of the wildlife departments in the 1970s. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.9 (Restricted access)

Kenya
Abstract: Livestock raiding has been a source of conflict amongst and between pastoral societies in Africa for hundreds of years. However, more recently, these raids have become more violent
and have triggered much more organised retaliations. Many times raids themselves are perceived as motivated by ethnic dimensions. The following paper looks at tensions and conflict between Turkana and Pokot communities in rural Kenya. The paper first traces the historical context of cattle rustling and livestock raiding between pastoral communities within Kenya. It then identifies contemporary factors driving exacerbated tensions: access to resources, profiteering, and weapons proliferation. The paper further explores the systemic nature of the conflict through analysing livestock raiding as a conflict spiral dictated by negative reciprocal actions. The spiral is ultimately maintained due to mimetic violence structures that are in place. It then offers prescriptions and potential solutions to the conflict, which are centred on transcending the relationship from mimetic violence to mimetic peace and reconciliation. Ultimately, by empowering local pastoral communities in the form of multi-ethnic coalitions, and promoting broad-based interest groups, cultural transcendence can reverse the conflict spiral into a relationship of mutual reciprocity and mimetic peace. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://www.accord.org.za/images/downloads/ajcr/2014-2/AJCR_14_22014_Article%20204_Pastoral-conflict-Kenya.pdf

Maghreb
Abstract: L'ouvrage, qui est divisé en deux parties ("Les économies maghrébines en quête d'un modèle de développement", et "L'intégration économique maghrébine: voies et défis"), aborde différents aspects qui entourent la construction maghrébine : l'histoire, la sociologie, le droit, les institutions, les problèmes sociétaux, l'immigration, les aspirations de la jeunesse, la relation avec l'Union européenne, les réglementations commerciales et douanières, l'économie, la monnaie. L'archaïsme, la défense des privilèges et les lobbys anti-union sont autant d'obstacles à la création d'une Communauté économique maghrébine. Contributions de: Boualem Aliouat, Achraf Ayadi, Chafik Bakour, Mohamed Bentahar, Inès Bonafi, Gilles Bonafi, Chérif Bouabdesselam, Bouchama Chouam, Abdelkader Djeflat, Abdelatif Fekkak, Mourad Goumiri, Youra Ould Haye, Abderrahmane Mebtoul, Loick Menvielle, Camille Sari, Nadine Tournois, Farid Yaici, Houria Zaam, Nacer Ben Zina. [Résumé ASC Leiden]

Malawi
Abstract: The human rights approach to witchcraft accusations denies their validity and forecloses the possibility of a trial, fair or otherwise. While there is much to be said for a bracing rationalism in all aspects of life, evidence from Africa over the past couple of centuries shows no sign that witchcraft narratives lose their plausibility as a result of people being told that witches do not exist. The article focuses on two contemporary witchcraft trials from Malawis courts. The cases are drawn from the records of proceedings in the Balaka Magistrates Court. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.2 (Restricted access)

Mozambique
Abstract: The Mozambican civil war, 1977-1992, left an ambiguous legacy for women. Whilst women were among the most vulnerable victims of the war, in some ways they were also its unintended beneficiaries. The civil war, by weakening both the state and the traditional family, offered unprecedented opportunities for women to break free from patriarchal control. Especially decisive were women's own responses to the war, which in turn were a function of their pre-war situation, class, and personal history. Some women managed to see and seize opportunities in their predicament and prospered, especially as informal entrepreneurs, while many others succumbed to their fate. A few even engaged in civil society activism, for instance, setting up victim support networks and participating in peacebuilding. This paper shows that, while destroying society the war also catalysed the process of gender transformation, social
fragmentation and civil society activism. It concludes that violent conflict is a moment of choice, in which individual and collective responses create opportunities and/or constraints. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Niger
Abstract: In his November 2011 solo art exhibition, 'Fashion Victims', held in Niamey, Niger, the Cameroonian artist Alioum Moussa launched a critique of global participation in the industrial fashion system by employing secondhand garments as his primary medium. The show had special resonance in a city attempting to cultivate both industrial and artisanal production of dress and fashion for global markets. Moussa demanded that viewers reckon with their own consumerist dress practices and potential fashion victimization in what he described as 'global games of seduction,' and he offered tributes to the different 'fashion victims' by inviting others to play in shared games of history. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.4 (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Abstract: This paper attempts a typology of the models of managing local language press in sub-Saharan Africa. Two models are identified: the ‘mainstream’ and the ‘subsidiary’. In the mainstream model are local language newspapers that exist as sole or main products of a media organisation. The subsidiary model consists of local language newspapers that exist as subsidiary products of a foreign (but dominant) language media organisation. The two models are essentially differentiated based on two major factors: ‘Focus/Attention/Priority and Resources (Sharing) - Men, Materials, Machine and Marketing’. Using critical political economy as a theoretical framework, the paper draws examples from local language press establishments in Africa to discuss this model. Irrespective of the model of management adopted, the survival of local language newspapers in sub-Saharan Africa remains precarious. Even though the general situation with local language press in sub-Saharan Africa is not exciting, there are however some success stories that can be situated within either of the two management models. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.988695 (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Abstract: Aba is a politically volatile, economically vibrant but environmentally poor city that is a microcosm of social conditions in the Nigerian urban informal economy. Hence, this study interrogates the social sustainability of waste picking in the city, using a hybrid of political economy and sustainable livelihoods frameworks to explicate social conditions of labour in the waste economy in relation to state/institutional policies. A mixed-methods approach was utilised, and findings indicate that a cocktail of conditions affect waste picking. A rise in waste picking was noted to be in response to neoliberal economic policies which removed social safety nets. Juxtaposing green neoliberal political economy with waste picking in Nigeria, the paper queries the continued neglect of the social dimension of the sustainability debate in informal waste management (IWM), arguing that social sustainability can be compatible with IWM, a neglected component of the 'new green economy' of Nigerian cities. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.997692 (Restricted access)
Nigeria
Abstract: This paper attempts to capture the link between reform and development of the Nigerian banking sector. As a single-resource economy, Nigeria's development is embedded in a dependence framework in which commission forms the basis of primitive accumulation. The analysis, which is based on empirical evidence from primary and secondary sources, shows capital flight, toxic assets, abnormal profitability and margin banking in the Nigerian reform. It argues that within the framework of dependence reformism tied to metropolitan technology, reforms cannot produce mega banks. Backward integration offers Nigeria the hope for transiting from economically underdeveloped south to economically developed north. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2015.1020940 (Restricted access)

Nigeria
Abstract: Terrorist acts by Boko Haram have attracted enormous scholarly attention in recent years. A majority of the studies have implicated Islam in the emergence and dynamics of the uprising. In contrast to this popular view, this article argues that, despite the strategic role played by Islamic religion in the uprising, terrorism and its security threats in northern Nigeria are more a product of a governance crisis including pervasive corruption, growing youth unemployment and poverty. It further argues that if good governance concurrently with development is not employed as a remedial strategy, the Nigerian State will further create a much more enabling environment for the growth of resistance from below. Thus, it concludes that good governance and credible leadership practices are antidotes to terrorism in Nigeria. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Nigeria
Abstract: This paper argues that the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria is a religious crisis that is flowing directly from the country's political system. It is the political system in Nigeria that has brought about the present realities of corruption, poverty, and underdevelopment throughout the country. Religion has only served, especially in northern Nigeria, to ignite these realities into a violent flame. Boko Haram is the latest in the long list of religiously inspired violence that has flared up in Nigeria on account of deficiencies in the political system. For as long as these systemic deficiencies exist, religious disturbances such as the Boko Haram violence will continue to be there. Such violence has served fundamentalist entrepreneurs or groups and other such champions to call attention to the plight of their people. However, such violence most often only provokes the government into counter-violence. The cycle of violence and counter-violence then enables the government to keep the people in check, even without addressing their demands, and, to dominate and exploit society without hindrance. What the state must do to sustainably tackle this systemic violence is to use a combination of poverty reduction strategies, anti-corruption drives, development efforts, law enforcement and military engagement (where necessary), and dialogue to try and bring about lasting peace, particularly in northern Nigeria, but also throughout the whole country. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

Southern Africa
Abstract: When Essemba Tourneur, an accursed moviemaker driven out of Europe, goes back home, everything seems to have changed drastically. He discovers in amazement that the old movie theater is now occupied by a gang of thugs led by an African nicknamed 'cinema', who ingests American movies all day long. Essemba decides to recover the premises in order to project African movies and renames the movie theater 'Heritage Cinema'. For their part, the hoodlums who have been expelled from town and deprived of movies, are getting bored. They thus decide to strip Essemba's theater and to open a makeshift cinema in the village where they took refuge. Unfortunately, their loot is only made of African movies. With an aching heart, they project them to the villagers who love them. Essemba decides to get his movies back and to settle Cinema and his gang, thus slipping in spite of himself into a real fiction in American style. With bonus: 'La grammaire de grand-mère'. Short interview with Senegalese filmmaker Djibril Diop Mambéty, who evokes his first experiences in cinema. [Abstract reproduced from dvd-video]

Sudan

Abstract: Urbanisation and long-lasting civil wars and conflict mean that the demographic pattern in Sudan is changing drastically. Nevertheless, 60%-80 % of Sudanese engage in subsistence agriculture. Agriculture remains a crucial sector in the economy as a major source of raw materials, food and foreign exchange. It employs the majority of the labour force, and serves as a potential vehicle for diversifying the economy. However, no rigorous studies have explained productivity in this sector in relation to food security. The situation has worsened because agriculture in particular has been neglected since the advent of oil production in the early 2000s. Moreover, Sudan's agricultural growth has been unbalanced, with the majority of irrigated agriculture concentrated in the Centre and a huge disparity in development indicators between the best- and worst-performing regions. Thus, studies show that the vast majority of Sudanese are reported to be food insecure, especially internally displaced persons and in conflict regions such as Darfur, Kordofan and other regions. [Book abstract, edited]

Sudan

Abstract: This Current African Issues discusses the displacement and resettlement of the Sudanese Nubians into the New Halfa agricultural scheme in Eastern Sudan, the current state of this multi-ethnic community and the challenges the farmers are facing. The Nubians of Wadi Halfa in Northern Sudan (also called the Halfawi Nubians) had to be relocated to New Halfa due to the construction of the Aswan High Dam in the early 1960s. In addition to the loss of ancestral land and the alienation they experienced, the Halfawi Nubians struggled to secure a sufficient livelihood in New Halfa and found their lives irreversibly altered. Although the resettlement of the Nubians did not succeed in rooting them in their new territory and a lot of the Halfawi Nubians have since abandoned the scheme, New Halfa has also created unforeseen opportunities for internally displaced people and migrant workers and become a growing regional centre for business and commerce. Despite the fact that New Halfa failed to meet its original targets, it is an example of a resettlement scheme that, in 50 years, developed and adjusted according to the needs of its current inhabitants. [Book abstract, edited]

Sudan

Abstract: During 1983-2005 Sudan hosted one of Africa's longest insurgencies. Throughout the
conflict a number of competing peace initiatives coincided, but a process under the mediation authority of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) prevailed. However, although initiated in 1993, the IGAD process only accelerated after the September 2001 attacks on the United States (US) and was consequently finalised through the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in less than four years' time. Although it was presented as IGAD's success as a conflict resolution body, in reality the organisation's role in the making of peace in Sudan was to a large extent conditioned by the involvement of a narrow selection of Western stakeholders. This article examines the IGAD peace process in Sudan, highlighting the dynamics and relative roles of the principal actors involved. It argues that although the negotiations were portrayed as inherently sub-regional, and adhering to the idea of 'African solutions for African problems', a closer analysis reveals that the peace process was dominated by external protagonists. This resulted in the interests of Western actors, particularly the US, playing a prominent role in the negotiated agreement, consequences of which are currently experienced both in Sudan and South Sudan. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://www.accord.org.za/images/downloads/ajcr/2014-2/AJCR_14_22014_Article%20201_IIGAD-peace-process-aftermath.pdf

Tanzania
Abstract: This paper reorients the analysis of land grabs in Tanzania towards the role of class dynamics. It draws on primary research on resistance against the privatisation of a state rice farm in Mbeya Region. This is a land grab ahead of its time, as it occurred before the wave of global land enclosures spurred by the 2007/8 crisis. The paper argues that the recent wave of dispossession builds on pre-existing processes of rural social differentiation and class formation, which are played out through the politics of land and its class dynamics. It claims that if engaged scholarship is to support the progressive potential of resistance against land grabs in Africa, the class dynamics of land grabs must be acknowledged. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.992403 (Restricted access)

West Africa
Abstract: Analysts attribute the Ebola outbreak's severity to slow response by domestic and international decision makers and to the persistent poor health care conditions in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. In this commentary, the authors demonstrate how these conditions are shaped by historical and contemporary contexts of international political economy. After providing a brief background on the epidemic and then setting the scene that led to the emergence of Ebola in West Africa in 2014, the authors document the response by domestic and international decision makers to the outbreak, identifying critical junctures in which domestic and international responses - in the forms of action and inaction - produced the current and rapidly evolving situation. They conclude by discussing policy implications of this response and potential directions for future research. Bibliogr., notes, ref. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/asr.2015.11 (Restricted access)

world
Abstract: The paper is a review of literature on impediments to women’s representation and participation in university leadership after the introduction of a number of gender sensitive policies. A number of measures have been put in place to address gender inequalities in leadership (The Sixth African Development Forum report 2008). The measures include, making use of equal opportunity legislation (EO), affirmative action and gender mainstreaming among others. This is a desk review of some measures put in place to address women leadership,
womens representation and participation in leadership in universities, barriers to women leadership and ends with some recommendations. Literature reviewed has been drawn from developed and developing countries. The main barriers to women leadership that emerged from literature review include gender cultural beliefs and stereotypes; intrinsic, internal, and personal qualities, family responsibility, organizational or institutional culture. The paper recommends that women themselves should take an active role in changing their disadvantaged position by improving themselves academically and transforming their situation; there is need to monitor the implementation of gender policies in place to ensure that they address gender inequalities in leadership; women need more training and empowerment programmes in leadership for them to be confident in leadership; there is need to introduce quota systems to ensure that a certain percentage of women participates in leadership. [Journal abstract]

Zimbabwe
'We cannot reconcile until the past has been acknowledged' : perspectives on ‘Gukurahundi’ from Matabeleland, Zimbabwe / Ruth Murambadoro. - In: African Journal on Conflict Resolution: (2015), vol. 15, no. 1, p. 33-57 : krt
Abstract: Since the Matabeleland massacres in the early 1980s, reconciliation remains unattainable in this region of Zimbabwe. Reasons for this include the fact that survivors of these atrocities have not received the acknowledgement they require from the government. As a result, their perception is that the government has continued to repress them by failing to provide for their needs. More so, the preceding episodes of violence in the region have engendered fear, anxiety and distress among a population that is battling to deal with its past. This article explores the attempts by the government and civil society representatives in the region to facilitate reconciliation and seeks to determine their ability to establish durable peace at the community level. Drawing from fieldwork undertaken in Matabeleland in April 2014, this article describes what the community identifies as central requirements for reconciliation to occur, as against what is provided by the national framework for reconciliation implemented by the government. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]


Zimbabwe
Abstract: Every day, everywhere in the world, the right of learners and teachers to quality public education is violated (Dorsi, 2014). The quality of education is undermined by a deficit of appropriately qualified teachers more particularly in the rural areas. It has been observed that there has been moral decadence in contemporary society, and a marked decline in the character, moral values and general behaviour of students coming out of our school system. According to Mangena (2006), modern society has become increasingly more corrupt, lawless, violent, undisciplined and permissive, and that the trend is more apparent among the younger generation. There is, thus, an urgent need for the country to strive to provide quality public education and to ensure that the products coming out of schools have moral values and good ethical behaviour. Research studies by Sergiovanni and Starratt (2007) suggest that, among the major school-related factors that influence learner achievement, teachers matter most. Accordingly, the study sought to investigate issues of the right of learners and teachers to quality public education in Zimbabwe. The investigation employed the documentary research method, and used the secondary documentary sources to gather data. The findings revealed that every learner has a right to quality public education provided by quality teachers. The learners right to quality public education demands that teachers have a right to quality pre-service teacher education, moral education and in-service teacher education, and continuing professional education, financed by government. Quality education requires quality teachers who also have moral values and good ethical behaviour. The study recommended that government take practical measures to ensure that learners have access to quality education, quality schools staffed by appropriately-qualified school heads and teachers. Finally, a call was made to teacher unions to form a professional teachers council and establish a code of professional ethics. [Journal abstract]
Zimbabwe
Abstract: In the spirit of celebrating Zimbabwe's higher education and the inspiration coming from the University of Zimbabwe, the country's first university, which is currently enjoying 60 years of existence since its inception, this article focuses on the history of university expansion throughout Zimbabwe. In recent years, expansion of university education has been widespread throughout Africa despite the significant economic demands and constraints such expansion places upon government budgets. Both cases for and against university expansion are compelling. This paper examines the rising tide of university expansion, giving the argument supporting and opposing such a move from economic, social, and political points of view. The need for a national dialogue on the future of tertiary education is suggested in the conclusion. [Journal abstract]

Zimbabwe
Abstract: In 1992, Africa University had the unique experience of being the first institution to be granted a charter by the government of Zimbabwe to operate as a private university. The university operates as a church-related private and Pan-African institution. Over the years, the nature of the university has brought with it many challenges. Whilst many of these challenges are shared with other private universities in Zimbabwe, a few are peculiar to Africa University. This paper discusses Africa University's experience with regard to establishment, nature, institutional marketing and student recruitment, programmes, governance, finding and other external factors with the view of identifying some of the challenges for private universities in Zimbabwe. [Journal abstract]

Zimbabwe
Abstract: This paper argues that the higher education sector in Zimbabwe has changed significantly from what it was in 1957 when the University of Zimbabwe was established. Due to excessive demand for higher education, and the unavailability of adequate funding, universities need to borrow concepts from the world of business to survive in a volatile market. Institutions such as the Zimbabwe Open University have developed a strategic plan and a balance scorecard that is intended to assist the institution in responding to competitive forces within the higher education sector. Funding remains one of the main challenges for universities. Therefore, we have to develop structures, processes, cultures and products that will enable us to move away from viewing universities as cost centres to profit centres that generate income and in the process improve our products and processes. [Journal abstract]

Zimbabwe
Abstract: Higher education in Zimbabwe began in the 1950s with the establishment of the University of Zimbabwe (then known as the University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland) being the first institution to offer university education. Since then there has been a rapid growth of universities, particularly after in 1990. What can be discerned from this growth of tertiary education is that the practice of imparting education to students is a consistently changing process in every society. What used to be traditional methods of imparting knowledge and skills to students are evolving, and Zimbabwe is not an exception to this change. The common brick and mortar institutions associated with modern education are now disrupted and at the same time complemented by new technologies. This disruption began with open distance learning. This article proffers insights into how the higher education (HE) system in Zimbabwe should continuously tap into this disruptive innovation initiated by new technologies. By constantly
integrating new technologies in HE, Zimbabwe can maintain high standards associated with her globally renowned education system. [Journal abstract]

**Zimbabwe**
Abstract: The reconfiguration of land and economic opportunity following Zimbabwe's land reform from 2000 has resulted in a new politics of the countryside. This emerges from the processes of accumulation and differentiation set in train by the land reform. Yet these politics are contested: between the interests of new 'middle farmers' who are 'accumulating from below' and politically connected elites and large-scale capital who see different opportunities for land-based accumulation. These dynamics are being played out in different ways in different parts of the country, depending on the agroecological potential of the area, the way the land reform unfolded and local political actors and processes. Based on research over the past 14 years, this paper examines two areas in Masvingo province and develops a contrasting analysis of emerging political dynamics. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications for the longer-term politics of agrarian change in Zimbabwe. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. in English and French.
[Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03056244.2014.968118 (Restricted access)