

**Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law and
China – Africa Legal Cooperation in the New Era**

Zhang Xiaohu

Abstract: Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law provides a fundamental principle and guidance of action for comprehensively promoting law – based governance, and is also an important basis and guiding principle for China – Africa legal cooperation. Continuing to take the path of law – based governance under Chinese socialism and adopt the socialist concept of law – based governance is the prerequisite for China – Africa legislative, judicial and law enforcement cooperation. Under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law, China – Africa legal cooperation in the new era has become increasingly frequent, and has been expanding in scope and diversified in forms. In the course of cooperation, China has always taken a coordinated approach to the rule of law at home and in matters involving foreign parties, and has taken the maintenance of a stable international order an important concern for China – Africa cooperation. China also pays attention to properly handle the relationship between development and security, continuously improves the legal mechanism for safeguarding national economic security, resolves international economic disputes by means of international law, implements a holistic approach to national security, and properly resolves economic and trade disputes between China and Africa through non – litigation mechanisms such as international arbitration and mediation. China will continue to cultivate high – quality legal teams and law – enforcement talents with both moral quality and legal literacy, and will devote major efforts to training talents familiar with African law in both theoretical and practical aspects to provide intellectual support for the development of China – Africa relations. China will also accelerate the improvement of the legal services systems related to Africa, and provide a strong legal guarantee for deepening China – Africa exchanges so as to guide China – Africa cooperation to steady and sustained prosperity.

Keywords: Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law, the New Era, China – Africa legal cooperation, China – Africa community with a shared future

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**China – Africa Economic and Trade Cooperation in the New Era:
Upgrading Development, Risks and Challenges**

Yao Guimei

Abstract: Guided by Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

for a New Era, China – Africa economic and trade cooperation has achieved mutually beneficial outcomes since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, relying on the platform mechanism of the Forum on China – Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and the implementation of the practical measures of the previous three forums. The bilateral cooperation has not only provided a reliable supply chain of energy and mineral resources and a destination to undertake industrial transfer for China’s domestic economic development, but also exported strong construction capacity to Africa, which has promoted the industrialization, urbanization, integration and informationization in Africa and has enhanced the well – being of the African people. However, the past decade has witnessed a complex environment in which the transformation and upgrading of China – Africa cooperation has been compounded by the exploration of Africa’s development path and the adjustment of the international community’s cooperation with Africa. China – Africa economic and trade cooperation also faces such problems as political instability and policy volatility in Africa, rising competition among major countries and the structural challenges in China – Africa cooperation. Looking into the future, China – Africa economic and trade cooperation still holds great promise. The huge potential of the African market, the strong demand of African countries for economic and social transformation, and the strong complementarity and high compatibility of China – Africa economic and trade cooperation, together with the directional pilot of the FOCAC, will inject lasting impetus into the building of a China – Africa community with a shared future. As China and Africa enter a new stage of socio – economic development, new development concepts such as people first, green development and inclusive development call for China – Africa economic and trade cooperation to innovate and keep pace with the times. China – Africa economic and trade cooperation needs to be strengthened in priority areas such as people’s livelihood projects, mining development, climate change and free trade zones. To avoid various cooperation risks, China should not only pool its efforts to enhance its anti – risk capacity, but should also explore China – Africa plus third party cooperation to promote the healthy development of international cooperation.

Keywords: The New Era, China – Africa economic and trade cooperation, upgrading development, China – Africa community with a shared future

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Africa’s View of the International System and Its Policy towards UN Security Council Reform

Mao Ruipeng

Abstract: Africa is undergoing a transformation from a neglected party at the end of

World War II to an agent of change in the international system. Regarding its fundamental aspirations for international equality and democracy, Africa advocates for the redress of historical injustices and the full representation of Africa in various United Nations (UN) bodies, especially the UN Security Council (UNSC). Promoting changes in the international system and preserving the continent's unity are the twin goals that dominate Africa's policy on UNSC reform, both of which draw on each other and are inherently conflicting when driven by competing national interests. Despite the multiple internal and external pressures on the Common African Position, the African Union (AU) has insisted on participating in the Security Council reform process with a unified voice through an internal balance of power and a strengthened sense of solidarity. Facing fierce internal competition with negotiations in stalemate, the AU tends to maintain the stability of its policy. China and Africa share a common commitment to promote the democratization of international relations in order to enhance the institutional voice of developing countries, and have broad space for cooperation in the process of international system reform.

Keywords: Africa's view of the international system, UN Security Council reform, Common African Position, Ezulwini Consensus, Africa's policy choice

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Fifty Years of Cooperation between China and Africa on UN Affairs

Wei Baige

Abstract: China – Africa relations are an important part of China's foreign relations, and the cooperation between China and Africa on the United Nations (UN) platform and on UN affairs is one of the important contents of China – Africa cooperation. By 2021, China – Africa cooperation on UN affairs has gone through 50 years' of development. As the continent with the largest number of developing countries, Africa has played an important role in "carrying China into the UN". Since China restored its lawful seat in the UN, its cooperation with Africa on UN affairs has been expanding and strengthened, and has been promoting new progress of South – South Cooperation, which has had a profound impact on the development of China and Africa and on the international landscape. In the meantime, with the profound and complex changes in the international relations, great changes have taken place in the status and role of China and Africa in the UN. In the new era, China – Africa cooperation on UN affairs needs to be further strengthened. It is of great theoretical and practical significance to comprehensively review the history of China – Africa cooperation on UN affairs, summarize the achievements

and experience of cooperation, analyze the problems and challenges faced by China and Africa, and explore paths for the two sides to continue their effective cooperation on UN affairs.

Keywords: China – Africa relations, UN affairs, UN reform, global governance, multilateralism

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The Women, Peace and Security Agenda: The Africa Union's Implementation and Exploration

Gu Yaping and Wang Jiangbo

Abstract: Women's peace and security in Africa has long faced severe challenges. As the only regional organization representing the African continent, the African Union (AU) takes ensuring African women's peace and security as an important objective and regards the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda as an important way to achieve this objective. This article explores how the AU has implemented the Women, Peace and Security Agenda from the perspectives of law, policies, institutions and mechanisms. The AU has not only enacted relevant laws, established policy frameworks, set up and reformed corresponding agencies to implement the agenda, but also supervised and evaluated the implementation effects. However, the results show that there is a significant gap between policy design and implementation. Meanwhile, the patriarchy and the African security environment have negative impacts on the AU's implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Africa still has a long way to go to ensure women's peace and security.

Keywords: The African Union, the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, gender equality, women empowerment

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Political Development Characteristics of DR Congo since Its Independence

Sun Hong

Abstract: Since its independence from Belgium, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo) has witnessed a turbulent political development path; The Congo Crisis in the 1960s, Mobutu's dictatorial rule for more than 30 years, the two Congo wars at the

crossroad of the 20th and 21st centuries and the “Third – Term Crisis” under the administration of Josef Kabila. Due to DR Congo’s geostrategic position and rich resources of rare minerals, western and regional powers interfered in DR Congo’s political development by supporting selected agents or invading the country. After the establishment of a multi – party democracy, the party politics prospered but resulted in a highly fragmented political landscape, impeding the president from exercising his power. The Catholic Church enjoys high popularity among the public and wielded considerable political influence in DR Congo. Since taking office, President Tshisekedi has successfully established the Sacred Union, holding the majority in the National Assembly and ended his reluctant share of power with the former president Joseph Kabila. Nonetheless, the President still faces various challenges. With the upcoming presidential election in 2023, the political temperature will soar again, which will be a huge test for DR Congo’s hard – won stability.

Keywords: DR Congo, party politics, Catholic Church, Tshisekedi

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Sudan’s Military Coups: Historical Evolution and Internal Mechanism

Liu Hui

Abstract: Since its independence in 1956, Sudan has witnessed plenty military coups. Frequent military coups are the result of the combination of history and reality, religious and secular factors. The British colonial rule which lasted more than half a century laid the foundation for the development of Sudan. Economically, the plantation of the monoculture crop cotton results in the confrontation between the central and peripheral areas and between the South and the North. Politically, the introduction of parliamentary democracy was not in line with the realities of Sudan, which has neither solved the problem of economic development nor the problem of the North – South confrontation. Deteriorating social conditions have often led to military coups, and the junta has to some extent eased social tensions, especially the one under al – Bashir, when Sudan experienced a second oil – centred industrialization. However, with the bankruptcy of political Islam, the deterioration of the economic situation, the increase of popular strength and the transformation of the military’s stance, president Bashir was eventually ousted by a military coup. The internal mechanism of the military coups in Sudan stems from the dual problems of development and unity, the lack of national capacity, the politicization of social forces and the strong political participation of Islam. To this day, Sudan is still exploring a political model and development path

suitable for the country.

Keywords: Sudan, military coups, religious parties, political islam

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An Exploration of the Tunisian Ennahda Movement and Its Impact on Nation – State Building

Li Jingqiang

Abstract: Tunisian Ennahda Movement is unique in that it has a profound effect on the building of Tunisian nation – state. In the late 1960s, there was a crisis of national identity and legitimacy in the country, and the Islamic movement seized the opportunity to emerge. Islamists, mainly composed of intellectuals, criticized the government's internal and external policies with a focus on its serious deviations in national identity. Meanwhile, Islamists gradually accepted the concept of democracy, posing a major challenge to the Tunisian government from the perspective of democratization. When the Ennahda Movement came to power after the upheaval in the Middle East, it engaged in realpolitik from the perspective of pragmatism, and the characteristics of “post – Islamism” became more apparent. The several strategic adjustments of the Ennahda Movement are not only related to its own development, but also have a deciding effect on the direction of Tunisian nation – state building. The compromise between Islamic and secular forces pushes Tunisia to continue to explore the path of building a nation – state with its own characteristics.

Keywords: Tunisia, the Ennahda Movement, nation – state building, political Islamism, post – Islamism

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