

## **An Exploration of the Expansion of the BRICS and Africa's Institutionalized Participation in Global Governance**

*Zhao Chenguang*

**Abstract:** The institutionalization of Africa's participation in global governance mainly refers to the standardization, regularization, and institutionalization of the identity, role, and status of the African continent and major African countries in the global governance system. Since the beginning of the 21st century, significant progress has been made in the institutionalization of Africa's participation in global governance. In this context, the BRICS has initiated a process of expanding towards Africa. It has continuously expanded the scope of African issues, achieved "Africanization" of topic setting, and "issued" its relationship with Africa. The expansion of the BRICS to Africa can be seen as an important milestone and microcosm of Africa's institutionalized participation in global governance, which has profound significance. China–Africa cooperation has played a positive role in Africa's substantial participation in the global governance. In future cooperation with Africa, China should further pay attention to and respond to Africa's strategic demands in enhancing global governance representativeness and discourse power. By strengthening the exchange of experience in governance, building cooperation mechanisms in Africa, and exploring institutional tripartite cooperation in Africa, new growth points in China–Africa cooperation can be discovered, helping Africa enhance its experience and ability to participate in global governance.

**Keywords:** BRICS cooperation mechanism, the expansion of the BRICS to Africa, global governance, China – Africa cooperation

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## **Egypt's Accession to the BRICS: Position of Strength, Practical Needs and Role**

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**Abstract:** In August 2023, Egypt announced its accession to the BRICS, benefiting from Egypt's special status in the Middle East and Africa region as well as the historic need for the expansion of the BRICS countries. The formation of this status is closely related to Egypt's unique geography, history and regional policies, which makes Egypt have outstanding influence in economic development and regional security, and now it has become the backbone of regional governance. In the long run, China has become Egypt's most important trading partner, and the development plans of BRICS members are highly aligned with the needs of Egypt's development vision, which will provide a great boost to Egypt's rejuvenation. At the same time, the Middle East and Africa are an indispensable part of the expansion of the BRICS countries, which is of great global

strategic significance to China and Russia. Egypt's special position in this region makes it play an important role in global southern cooperation. Its accession to the BRICS countries meets the needs of multiple parties and benefits many. It will also play a driving and radiating role in the revitalization of the Middle East and Africa regions, provide valuable experience for South South cooperation, and play a more powerful mediating role in alleviating regional conflicts. From a global perspective, Egypt's accession will enhance the overall strength and global influence of the BRICS countries, promote the BRICS cooperation mechanism, and ultimately accelerate the revival of the global South and enhance its international discourse power, promoting the transformation of the new international political and economic order.

**Keywords:** Egypt, BRICS, the Global South, the Middle East and Africa

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### **The Roots of Political Disorder in Sudan: A Structural Crisis of State Governance**

*Zhang Jin*

**Abstract:** Since independence Sudan has seen multiple political turmoil and conflicts, whose roots lie in the structural failures of state governance that have never been solved. The institution building dominated by the military failed to lay a solid foundation for the institutionalized operation of politics. The weakening of the political system makes it difficult to play the institutional role of interest representation, interest expression and political integration. The ruling elites also failed to balance between ethnic groups and regions in the country. Ethnic and cultural identities are politicized because of unbalanced distribution of power and resources, thus intensifying socio-political rivalries and conflicts. Some political elites politicized religious beliefs, which resulted in a serious misalignment of the objectives of national governance, and Sudan has repeatedly missed opportunities to achieve domestic peace and unity. The structural unbalance of economy has made the basic level of living almost unachievable for common people, whose protests threatened political stability. The political disorder in Sudan intensified after the collapse of the military strongman. The restoration of a stable political order cannot be accomplished by military means alone, and only a consensus reached through the dialogue can build the basis of a long-term political order.

**Keywords:** Sudan, political disorder, national governance, Islamism

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## **The Land Issue of Tribal Conflict in Sudan's Nuba Mountains**

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**Abstract:** The land issue was one of the important root which resulting in the repeated outbreak of conflict among the Nuba mountain tribes in Sudan. Nuba tribe and Baqqara tribe have formed a kind of complementary and symbiotic autonomy system in the history of more than 200 years. The conquest and rule of the Turkish – Egyptian regime, the Mahdi regime and the British colonial regime was the historical cause of land disputes and tribal conflicts in this area. After Sudan's independence, the changes of land legislation implemented by the government impacted the traditional Dar rights of the Nuba tribes, further aggravated ethnic differences and political – economic inequalities in the Nuba Mountains. With the outbreak of the Second Civil War in Sudan, the political balance between the Nuba people and the Baqqara people was broke and evolved into a highly politicized inter – ethnic conflict. In the process of Sudan's national governance, the improper policies of economic integration and social integration have intensified the fierce competition for land resources in the Nuba Mountains, which has become an important structural factor leading to conflicts between the farming and pastoral tribes. As an important political institutional arrangement, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement has not succeeded in resolving the land issue in the Nuba Mountains or in reaching a consensus among the tribes to maintain peace. The political rivalries left by the Sudan's civil war and border demarcation problem have revived fighting in the Nuba Mountains, while land rights disputes remain the focus of the conflict.

**Keywords:** Sudan, Nuba mountains, land issue, tribal conflict

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## **European Union's Africa Policy in the 21st Century: From the Perspective of Neo – Colonialism**

*Jian Junbo and Yang Zhao*

**Abstract:** Since the beginning of the 21st century, the EU's Africa policy has undergone profound adjustments. Strategically, it tries to establish an equal “partnership” with Africa in lieu of the past “donor – recipient” relationship; Economically, to push forward the negotiation of “Economic Partnership Agreements” (EPAs), so as to abandon unilateral preferential policy to Africa and build mutually beneficial trade relations, and at the same time, to focus on promoting cooperation in infrastructure and energy fields through its “global gateway” initiative; and in the field of security and defense, mainly to promote peacekeeping operations in Africa, combat piracy and implement multiple anti – terrorism operations in the Horn of Africa, the Gulf of Guinea and the Sahel. Although the EU's multi – field cooperation with Africa has been deepened and innovated, the degree of institutionalization of EU – Africa relations has been improved,

and the “equal” relationship in form has been highlighted, however, the EU’s policy toward Africa still contains a profound essence of neo – colonialism, which is mainly reflected in the following aspects: the EU consolidates and utilizes its power advantages in its cooperation and negotiation with Africa to maintain unequal relations between the two sides, carry on political and military intervention in Africa and seek controlling power in the continent, take exploitative economic policy to Africa and promote Africa’s high dependence on the EU market, shape African identity by Europeanization, and destroy African society and ecological environment. In the future, for Africa, only by strengthening its internal unity and deepening cooperation with other southern countries, it can become independent from the shackles of EU’s neo – colonialism and realize a truly equal relationship with Europe.

**Keywords:** EU’s Africa policy, neo – colonialism, partnership of equals, independence and self – reliance

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### **Morocco’s Concept and Practice of Cooperation with Africa since Mohammed VI**

*He Zerui*

**Abstract:** Since ascendance of Mohammed VI, Morocco has attached increasing importance to cooperation with Africa, which is not only out of geopolitical and geo – economic considerations, but also an important manifestation of the deepening process of South – South cooperation and Africa’s increasingly strong capacity for independent development. In terms of ideology, Morocco emphasizes that as an emerging country in Africa, it has the responsibility to share its development experience and technological achievements with African countries, so as to enhance Africa’s ability to set its own agenda and develop with its own resources. In practice, Morocco has carried out fruitful cooperation with many African countries in areas such as investment, energy transformation, electricity popularization, food security, and human resource training. However, Morocco’s cooperation with Africa also faces a series of practical difficulties, including geopolitical issues, the tension between economic integration and economic nationalism, and the gap between foreign policy and social cognition. Therefore, it is necessary for all parties to jointly explore effective ways to promote South – South cooperation in Africa.

**Keywords:** Mohammed VI, Morocco, cooperation with Africa, South – South cooperation, Africa’s independent development

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## **Development of Africa's Marine Energy and China – Africa Cooperation from the Perspective of the Global Development Initiative**

*Wang Tao and Wang Zeyu*

**Abstract:** Africa has considerable reserves of marine hydrocarbons and renewable energy. The oil and gas resources in the Gulf of Guinea, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Mozambique Sea are gradually being explored. In addition to the Gulf of Guinea and the Red Sea, other African seas are rich in wind energy. North Africa and East Africa are high potential areas for floating solar energy. South Africa's wave energy potential is huge. The potential of tidal energy at the mouth of African rivers is considerable. The Somali Current, the Canary Current and the Ecclesiastical Current are rich in ocean current energy. The Gulf of Guinea and the Indian Ocean coast have great potential for thermal energy conversion. International cooperation is the most important form of the marine energy development, which realises the complementarity between African energy and the outside's capital, technology and management experience. In order to explore marine energy, African countries and international organisations have formulated a series of strategies and policies. However, shortcomings in technology, human resource, capital and infrastructure have constrained the development of marine energy in Africa. How to balance the autonomy and the cooperation determines levels of the marine energy development. China – Africa marine energy cooperation has made a series of progress in marine oil and gas, renewable energy, marine energy corridor security. Africa has rich energy potential, and China has technology, experience and capital, both sharing complementary interests. In the future, China and Africa have broad prospects for cooperation in marine energy investment and infrastructure, marine energy technology transfer and personnel training, and the expansion of the marine energy value chain.

**Keywords:** Global Development Initiative, African marine energy, China – Africa marine energy cooperation, maritime community with a shared future

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