

**Development Finance and Great Power Competition:
A Perspective on China – US Rivalry in Africa**

Wang Miao

Abstract: Taking the official development financing (ODA) of China and the United States in Africa as an example, this paper analyzes the dynamics of economic competition between great powers. By reviewing the China and US ODF policies and practices in Africa, a theoretical framework based on the dimensions of donor interests and recipient needs is constructed, generating four hypotheses which are then tested by econometric analysis. The study finds that there are significant differences between China and the US in their financing strategies to Africa; the US focuses more on political ideology, while China emphasizes economic cooperation and common development, and the two are complementary to a certain extent. However, as the two countries increase their investment in Africa, the competition is gradually intensifying, making Africa an important arena for China – US strategic gaming. This indicates that economic strength serves as a key factor influencing great power competition, and development finance has emerged as an important tool for great powers to advance global economic governance and reshape international rules. In addition, African countries, as independent actors, use major power competition to strike a balance between gaining development funds and maintaining autonomy, demonstrating their initiative in the international game. In this context, it is suggested that China, the US and Africa should strengthen dialogue and cooperation to promote sustainable development, regional stability and common prosperity in Africa, and contribute to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

Keywords: China – US competition, official development finance, African development, global governance

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**Seventy Years of US Development Assistance to Africa:
Evolution and Policy Adjustment**

Huang Meibo and Wu Xinyue

Abstract: In the global political and economic map of the 21st century, Africa has become the focus of the great powers' game owing to its rich natural resources, growing market potential and its strategic position on the world stage. The United States, as one of the major powers in the world, has been providing assistance to Africa for more than 70 years, and its assistance strategies and policies have been continuously adjusted. However, there are some problems and controversies in US assistance to Africa. On the one hand, its effectiveness and sustainability have been questioned, and the role of assistance in promoting local economies is considered to be limited. On the other hand, policies of US assistance have been criticized for imposing political conditions and interfering in the internal affairs of African countries. Through in-depth analysis of the historical evolution of US assistance to Africa, as well as focusing on the relevant strategies and measures of the Obama, Trump, and Biden administrations in recent years, this paper comprehensively studies the policies and characteristics of US assistance to Africa, and analyzes the development trends in the light of the existing problems and controversies.

Keywords: The United States, Africa, development assistance, African Growth and Opportunity Act

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**An Analysis on China – Europe Cooperation in Africa's Third – Party
Markets under the BRI**

You Nan and Feng Lida

Abstract: The complementary advantages of Chinese and European enterprises, the enormous potential of the African market, the compatibility of development strategies,

and innovative cooperation models have jointly formed the important foundation for China – Europe cooperation in third – party markets in Africa. Through exploration and development, the market cooperation between China, Europe and Africa has formed a multi – level and multi – dimensional cooperation framework, involving multiple fields such as trade, investment, and infrastructure construction. At present, there are four types of cooperation: product service, engineering cooperation, investment cooperation and strategic cooperation. There are also problems and challenges such as insufficient cooperation entities, imbalanced cooperation field, and fixed cooperation models. The main factors affecting the market cooperation between China, Europe and Africa include changes in the external international environment, factors related to Africa, factors related to China and Europe, and a lack of binding cooperation mechanisms. In the future, the market cooperation between China, Europe, and Africa can be promoted through dialogue on policy, construction of cooperation mechanism, selecting direction of strategic docking, emphasis on project development, and the establishment of demonstration projects, so as to create a win – win situation for all parties.

Keywords: China – Europe – Africa relations, third party market cooperation, the Belt and Road Initiative, the Agenda 2063 of the African Union

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A Study on the Compound Transmission Mechanism from Climate Change to Violent Conflicts in the G5 Sahel Countries

Zhao Qichen and Liu Jingwen

Abstract: The Sahel region is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to the impact of climate change, facing long – term challenges such as drought and frequent extreme weather events, which exacerbate violent conflicts in the region. This paper

explores the compound transmission mechanism from climate change to violent conflicts in the G5 Sahel countries (Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Chad) from the perspective of vulnerability. The study indicates that climate change not only directly affects local agricultural production and water access through rising temperatures and reduced precipitation, but also indirectly triggers resource competition and social instability by exacerbating economic, social, and political vulnerabilities, especially in regions with highly fragile ecosystems, where this transmission mechanism is more evident. By analyzing the multidimensional vulnerability of violent conflict in the Sahel region, this paper reveals the role of climate change as a “threat multiplier” in the region, and further discusses how to reduce the risk of violent conflict by strengthening regional ecological, social, economic, and political governance. This study provides a new perspective on the complex interaction between climate change and violent conflict, and offers policy recommendations for conflict prevention and governance in vulnerable regions.

Keywords: Climate change, violent conflict, regional governance, climate security, the G5 Sahel

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The Peace Process in South Sudan: An Analysis from Historical and Realistic Perspectives

Hu Erjie

Abstract: Since the independence of South Sudan in 2011, its peace process has been actively promoted and strongly supported by the international community, while making progress in stages despite severe difficulties. However, the peace process in South Sudan still faces multiple complex challenges, such as the serious insufficiency of

election conditions, the slow progress of the unifying forces, the constantly delayed implementation of the safety plan, the worrying situation of ethnic conflicts and civilian protection humanitarian issues, the increasing number of refugees, the dire living conditions of the masses and the limited access to international assistance. These challenges are rooted not only in the internal ethnic and political contradictions of South Sudan, but also in its complex historical legacy, its fragile state governance structure, and the deep involvement of external powers. Through a systematic analysis of the causes of these challenges, this paper discusses how the international community and the parties in South Sudan can deal with them, so as to provide useful thoughts for promoting the sustainable development of the peace process in South Sudan and its future peace building.

Keywords: South Sudan, the peace process, the Revitalized – Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R – ARCSS), tribal conflict, humanitarian crisis

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Shaping of China’s Image in Africa: An Analysis

Based on the China – Related Reports in Mainstream Tanzanian Newspapers

Wang Qiang

Abstract: National image is a comprehensive reflection of a country’s cultural soft power, social values, historic heritage and ideology. Mass media plays an important role in shaping a country’s image. Taking four mainstream newspapers in Tanzania as examples, this article analyzes China’s national image portrayed by African newspapers through the China – related news reports, explores the causes, and discusses the improvement of China’s image in African media. The African newspapers not only pay great attention to China – Africa political and economic relations which have direct bearing on African interests, but also set store by China’s relations with the United

States and other Western powers. With the guidance of important cooperation mechanisms such as the Forum on China – Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the friendly cooperation between China and Africa has grown closer, which lays a solid foundation for generally positive news reporting on China by African media. However, Western countries' traditional influence in Africa and Western media's dominant position in global media landscape have created many obstacles for building a credible, friendly and respectable image of China. In the future, China need to classify African media according to their attitudes and editorial policies, and cast influence in differentiated ways, including capacity building, strengthening communication on sensitive issues, promoting cooperation with Chinese media, and providing guidance on topics, so as to continuously improve the China – related public opinions in Africa and contribute to the building of an All – Weather China – Africa Community with a Shared Future for the New Era.

Keywords: China's national image, Tanzania, mainstream newspapers, international communication

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**An Analysis of the Egoistic Policy of the Thatcher Government towards the
South African Racist Regime: A Historical Investigation of the
Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group**

Liu Rui

Abstract: This paper discusses the background and motives of the Thatcher government's acceptance of the establishment of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group (EPG) at the 1985 Nassau Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOFGM), with the aim of facilitating dialogue between the Botha authorities and representatives of black South Africans, in order to avoid and delay the imposition of

“damaging economic sanctions” against South Africa, and thereby alleviating Britain’s international isolation. Although the EPG failed to push for substantive reforms in the South African government, this brief historical process had an important impact on the adjustment of British policy toward South Africa and the end of apartheid in South Africa. This study discusses the strategies adopted by the Thatcher government in response to the pressure of international sanctions, and explores its impact on the end of apartheid in South Africa. It is argued that the Thatcher government’s compromise and strategic adjustments on the EPG policy reflect its pragmatic stance of seeking the greatest common divisors among multiple objectives of the British policy towards South Africa.

Keywords: The Thatcher government, Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, South African Racist Regime, apartheid

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