

# Africa and the Changing World Order

Editors:

István Tarrósy (University of Pécs)

Jan Záhorský (University of West Bohemia)

Series of coups in West African Sahel, Egypt and Ethiopia joining BRICS as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024, China's and Russia's growing presence in Africa – these are just a few examples of changing Africa's position in the global arena. The long-standing dominance of the EU and the USA in Africa seems to come to its end and is being constantly challenged by both big/regional powers, like China, Russia and India, as well as such “newcomers” as Turkey, Indonesia, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, etc. Since the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, there has been a growing literature on the changing world order (e.g. Slaughter, 2004; Smith, 2012; Zakaria, 2012; Acharya, 2018; Economy, 2023), as well as the transformation of Africa within global politics. For instance, Brosig (2021) analyses Africa's position in the changing world order from the perspective of periphery from which (while still being on the margins of global politics) Africa is making a difference in global affairs.

Various African countries have become prospective actors in global politics performing significant economic and demographic growth (Nigeria, Ethiopia, Egypt, DR Congo, Tanzania, among others) or making progress with innovations and digitalization (e.g. Rwanda, Kenya). The transforming world order towards multipolarity has also brought challenges to African regional organizations, primarily (but not only) to ECOWAS which has had to deal with multiple coups in Francophone countries (Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Guinea).

The war in Ukraine has also shown visible trends of a changing world order as the majority of African countries refused to vote in line with the West for sanctions against Russia. The renewal of Russia's Africa policy has become a widely discussed phenomenon both among scholars and journalists. Newly emerging powers such as Turkey, the UAE, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia and their multi-layered activities particularly in the Horn of Africa have also gained attention of the scholarly community (Tepeciklioğlu – Tepeciklioğlu, 2021; Donelli – Cannon, 2023; Donelli – Gonzales – Levaggi, 2021, etc.).

Another vast segment of literature deals with the emergence of violent extremist organizations (VEOs) and other insurgent non-state actors across the African continent, in particular in the theoretical context of state fragility and ungoverned spaces (Rotberg, 2004; Clunan – Trinkunas, 2010; Varin – Abubakar, 2017; Bøås – Dunn, 2017; Marsai – Tarrósy, 2022), and their influence on African foreign policy (Schraeder, 2020). In an age of uncertainties and unpredictability, statecraft and pragmatism are again high on national and multilateral agendas.

The aim of this volume is to bring together scholars who would take a deeper look into various aspects of the changing world order with regard to Africa's position in the international arena. These may include security concerns and arrangements, economic cooperation, military

involvement, diplomatic relations, regional integration, as well as environmental and health challenges, democratization, civil society and development. Chapters should be Africa-centred, so it is not the aim of the volume to analyse in detail, for instance, Chinese, American, or Russian internal political affairs but rather to focus on how Africa's position is changing in the global arena.

The editors welcome abstracts which deal with the following topics:

- 1) Africa and BRICS
- 2) The changing context of EU–Africa relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 3) Gulf States and Africa
- 4) Russia's growing influence in Africa
- 5) Africa and China
- 6) Afro-Asian relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- 7) Africa's regional organizations in a changing world order
- 8) The USA and its Africa Policy in a multipolar world

The editors invite scholars of international relations, political science, geography, sociology, history, and from other disciplines to send abstracts of max. 500 words until 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to the following addresses:

[jzahorik@ff.zcu.cz](mailto:jzahorik@ff.zcu.cz)

[tarrosy.istvan@pte.hu](mailto:tarrosy.istvan@pte.hu)

Selected authors will be informed until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and the final chapters (max. 6,500 words) are expected to be delivered on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.