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AFRICA CHEETAH RUN

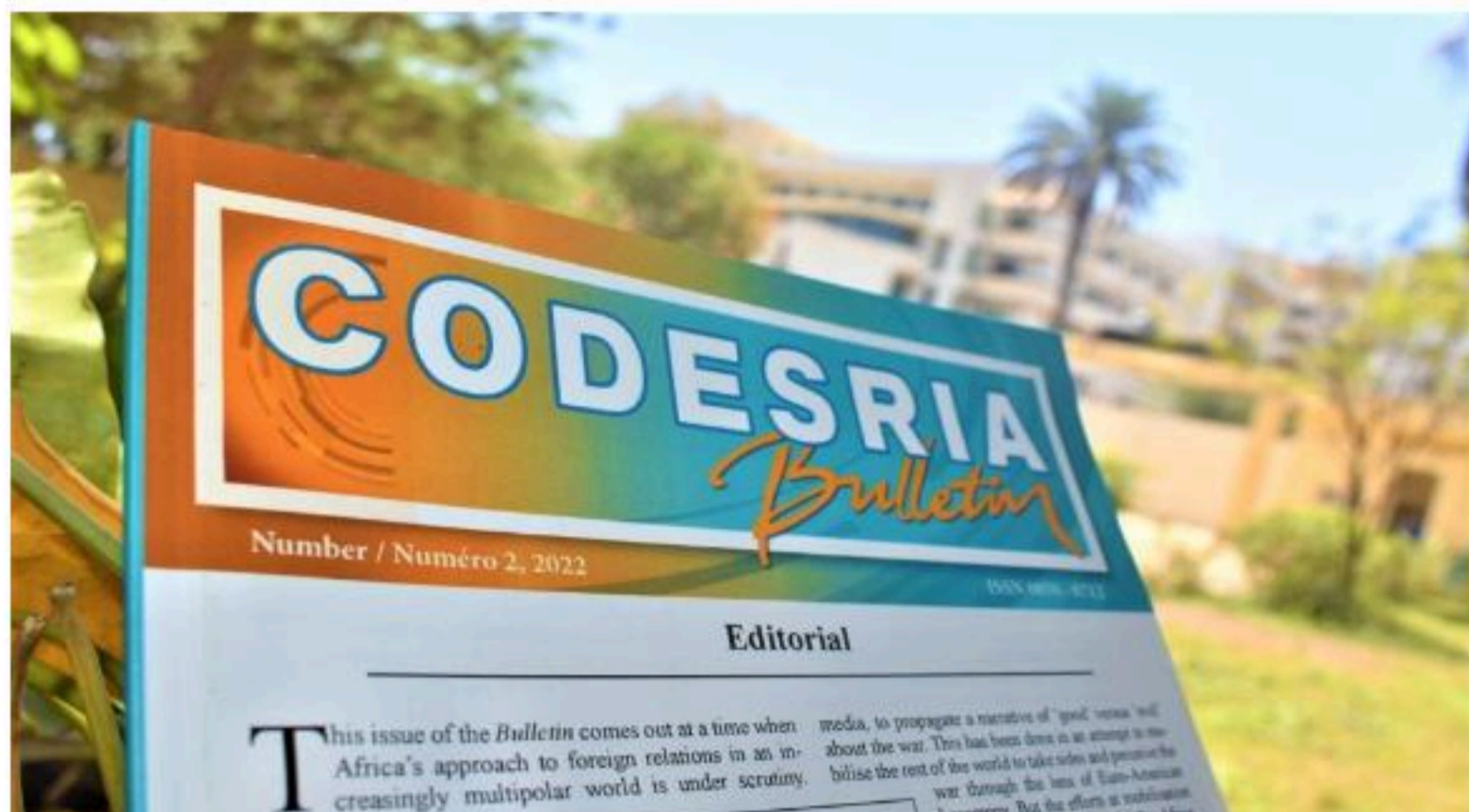
CARLOS LOPES' BLOG



Running Like a Cheetah

As the countdown to the new year begins, Africa stands at a crossroads, with a mixture of hopes and fears shaping the collective consciousness. The coming year will undoubtedly be a pivotal one, and the resolve of the African people, coupled with global cooperation, will play a crucial role in determining the trajectory of the continent in the face of the complex geopolitical landscape. As we step into the new year, I am excited to announce the relaunch of my newsletter, bringing you fresh insights, engaging content, and a renewed commitment to meaningful dialogue.

My Latest Publications



Codesria Bulletin

I have been responsive to the call to contribute to the 50th anniversary of the most important social sciences organization established in the continent. In my note to the special volume of the CODESRIA Bulletin I wrote about ["Empowering African Voices: CODESRIA's Role in Shaping an African Agenda for Knowledge Production"](#).



L'Espill

Africa, with its rich tapestry of cultures and landscapes, navigates the intricate dance of diversity, confronts pressing dilemmas, and stands poised on the cusp of a dynamic future filled with untold possibilities. This was the challenge I had delivering a conference in Barcelona, now published in Catalan by Universitat de Valencia's Espill journal, under the title [Àfrica en trànsit: diversitat, dilemes i futurs »](#).



Jeune Afrique

As the new year unfolds, the customary exercise of making predictions takes centre stage, offering glimpses into the potential paths and unforeseen twists that may shape the months ahead. Jeune Afrique asked me what was in my mind as a priority for Africa. I did not hesitate and explained the continental free-trade integration project should be the focus. The interview [« Il faut passer à l'acte sur la Zlecaf »](#) has been quoted extensively.



El País

I was graced by two mentions by El País in December. One relating to recommendations for [books that could be given as Christmas presents](#). The second as part of an article about geopolitical interest in the continent: ["Occidente pierde el pulso en África"](#). The gradual erosion of Western influence in Africa signals a shifting geopolitical landscape, as the continent increasingly asserts its autonomy and seeks diverse partnerships on the global stage.



Le Monde

Still on geopolitical changes it is interesting to read the thorough research done by Le Monde on ["The new face of Chinafrica, marked by a dramatic drop in lending to the continent"](#), published both in English and French. The noticeable decline in Chinese lending to Africa signals a shifting economic dynamic, prompting nations on the continent to reassess financial strategies and explore new ways of engaging China to continue to benefit from its more generous terms. I was happy to contribute.



RFI

The 54th Davos Forum was a clear demonstration that the times have changed. In ["Forum Económico Mundial"](#) protagonista da própria agenda mundial" I did an assessment for RFI of the real reasons behind such an underwhelming gathering this year. The World Economic Forum began to want to be a protagonist of its own global agenda. It had some success for a while, attracting big figures and leaders to that kind of engagement. However, in recent years this has not happened because there is a great discredit of such organizations.

My Videos and Podcasts



How the EU's Double Standards are Impacting its Credibility in Africa, MENA Talks, 8 December 2023.



Africa Now with Martine Dennis, Episode 3, 29 November 2023.



Green Banking and Renewed Climate Finance, Atlantic Council, 14 December 2023.



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