

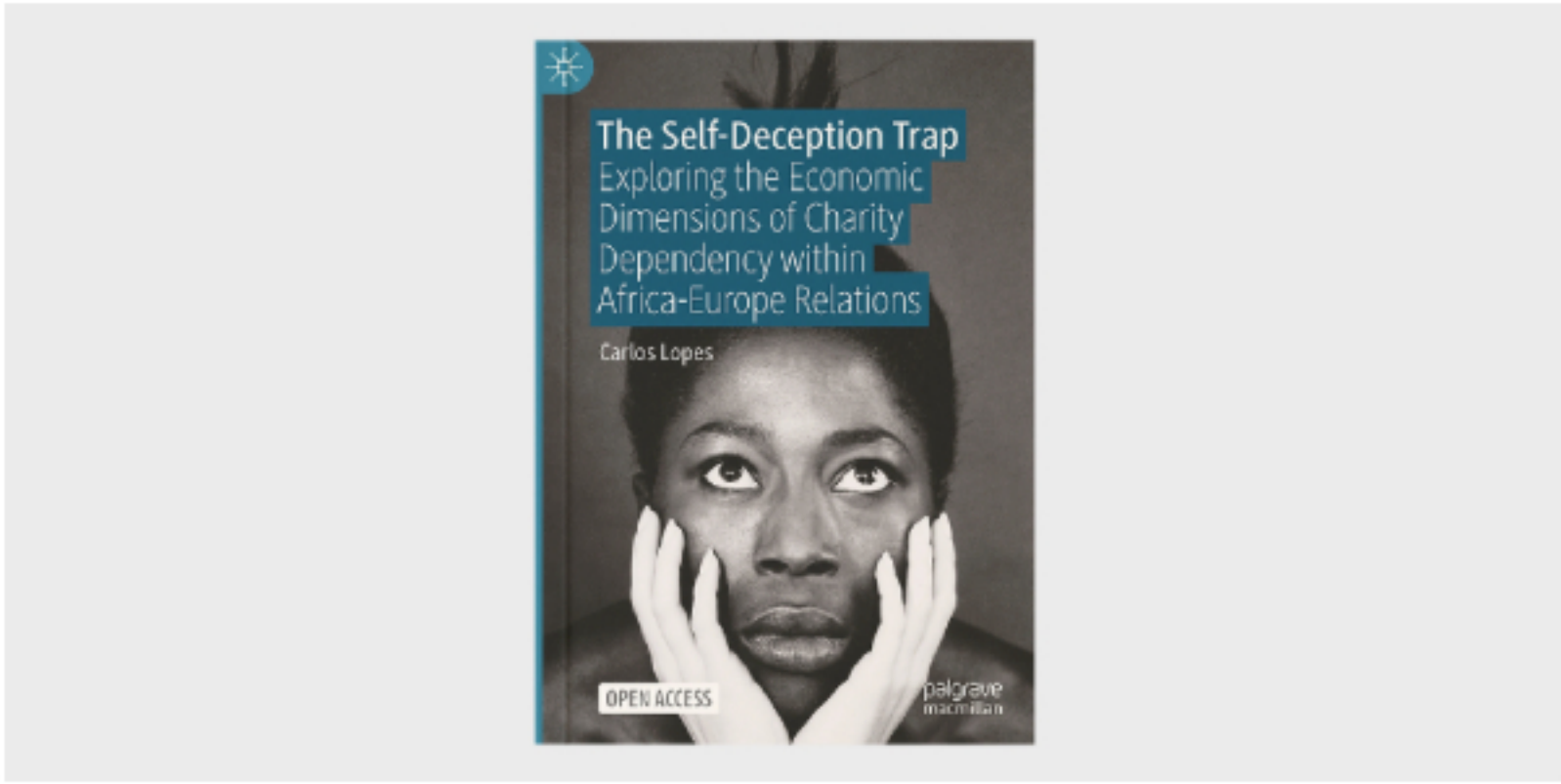


Running Like a Cheetah



Islamic Development Bank

In an exciting new development, I have joined the [Advisory Council of the President of the Islamic Development Bank \(IsDB\)](#) at a pivotal moment. The Bank is preparing its next strategic vision, and this comes at a time of immense global upheaval and transformation within multilateral development banks. The challenges and opportunities facing the global development landscape are vast, and I look forward to contributing my insights and experience to support IsDB's mission of fostering inclusive growth, innovation, and sustainable development across its member countries. As we navigate this turbulent period, the IsDB's role in addressing these challenges has never been more critical.



I am thrilled to share that my book, **The Self Deception Trap**, has surpassed 30,000 downloads across various platforms, a milestone that underscores the resonance of its message. The book's exploration of the deep-rooted challenges in Africa-Europe relations has sparked important conversations and reflections. Additionally, I am excited to announce that two new versions are on the way—one in Portuguese and another in French—making the work accessible to even more readers and extending its reach to diverse audiences. My colleague Saliem Fakir wrote a review of the book for [Polity](#) and [Engineering News](#).

My Latest Contributions



The Continent

In my recent article, [The African Union Can Thrive in the New World Order. But First, Three Things Need to Change](#), published by **The Continent**, I outline crucial reforms that could empower the African Union (AU) to navigate and succeed in a rapidly changing global landscape. I highlight three key areas of transformation: enhancing the AU's decision-making processes, fostering greater unity and political will among member states, and positioning the Union as a proactive player in global governance. These changes are essential for the AU to not only address Africa's challenges but also to influence the future of the continent's role in the international arena.



International Commission of Experts on Financing for Development

I am proud to have contributed as a co-author to the landmark report [Financing a Sustainable Future: Proposals for a Renewed Global Development Finance Agenda](#), published in February 2025 by the **International Commission of Experts on Financing for Development**, UN-DESA. This report brings together the collective expertise of many esteemed colleagues, including Nobel Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz, José Antonio Ocampo, Stephany Griffith-Jones, and Jayati Ghosh, among others. Our recommendations for the **4th Financing for Development Conference** (schedule for July 2025 in Seville) focus on reshaping the global development finance system to address the challenges of sustainable development in an increasingly complex and interconnected world. This comprehensive report calls for bold action to rethink how financing can be mobilized and distributed, offering new pathways to support global development goals in the face of mounting global challenges.



RFI - G20 Summit in South Africa

Over the course of one month, I had the privilege of participating in three interviews with **RFI**, a feat that must surely be a record for me. These interviews allowed me to discuss important global developments, starting with the **G20 Summit in South Africa**, which was notably overshadowed by the absence of US envoy Marco Rubio. In a different interview, I reflected on the shifting dynamics within the G20 and the broader international landscape. I also discussed the dismantling of the liberal order in a Portuguese-language broadcast, stressing the implications for global governance. Finally, I was invited to speak about the G20's decline in influence, sharing my views on its diminishing relevance and the challenges ahead. You can listen to these interviews via the following links: [English interview on the G20](#), [Portuguese interview on the dismantling of the liberal order](#), and [French interview on the G20's loss of influence](#).



Invest Africa's Mining Indaba

I played a key role in the Invest **Africa's Mining Indaba** series of events, the largest mining gathering in Africa, held annually in Cape Town every February. During this year's event, I shared insights on the resilience of Africans and the transformative potential of the mining sector for sustainable growth across the continent. The **University of Cape Town** (UCT) published an article covering my remarks, emphasizing how resilience can drive positive changes in Africa's mining and broader economic landscape. You can read the full coverage of my speech on UCT's website [here](#).

My Videos and Podcasts



Cimeira do G20: "Estamos a caminhar para um desmantelamento da ordem liberal",
21 February

Watch Now



Le G20 est en perte de vitesse,
20 February

Watch Now



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