



Running Like a Cheetah



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The International lectures of my latest book, "The Self Deception Trap", took place over the past weeks at Humboldt University in Berlin, the Autonomous University of Barcelona, the University of Helsinki, and [Umeå University](#). These events provided a platform to engage with academic communities on the book's central argument about the enduring asymmetries in Africa-Europe relations. At the Autonomous University of Barcelona, the discussion drew media attention under the headline "[Carlos I goes to Barcelona: the shared self-deception regarding relations between Africa and Europe](#)", also published in [Catalan](#) and [Spanish](#). By the university's press office.



The Portuguese edition of *The Self Deception Trap*, published as *A Armadilha do Auto Engano* was launched at the [Lisbon Book Fair](#), an event that drew a remarkable audience and wide media attention. The book's core argument on the mutual illusions shaping Africa-Europe relations resonated strongly across Portuguese speaking audiences. The article titled 'África e Europa vivem numa ilusão sobre os seus relacionamentos' received extensive coverage, appearing in [EPJ](#), [Lusa](#), [SAPo](#), [In-press](#). [Comêdo da Manhã](#), [Câmaria de Notícias](#), [Bêta](#), and [O Quêdimo](#). Further in-depth interviews included [A Armadilha do Auto Engano](#), [Carlos Lopes](#), [Quem são os mitos sobre as relações entre África e Europa?](#) (Forbes Africa Lusitânia) and [Porquê a Europa vê a África através dos seus próprios olhos?](#) (Notícias da Minuto), reaffirming the book's impact across the Lusophone media landscape.

My latest contributions



T20 South Africa

My latest essay, 'The Quiet Disruption: Trade, Multilateralism, and the Reconfiguration of Global Cooperation', published in June by **T25 South Africa**, explores how global trade is undergoing a silent transformation, driven less by formal negotiations and more by shifting power balances, regionalism, and the erosion of multilateral norms. It argues that this quiet realignment – shaped by geopolitics, technology, and climate imperatives – is redefining the very architecture of international cooperation, often leaving *Africa on the margins* unless it asserts a proactive stance.

Project Syndicate

Project Syndicate

In my article "[Africa Needs Its Own Finance System](#)", published by Project Syndicate, I argue that only financial sovereignty can close the continent's chronic development financing gap. The piece critiques Africa's dependence on external frameworks and calls for a bold shift toward building its own financial instruments and institutions. It was also published in [French](#) and [Portuguese](#). It was republished, in times, including by the *Kuwait Times*, *Jordan Times*, *SeoulPost*, *Sunday Times*, *Arab News*, and *Business & Finance*.

Le Monde

Le Monde

I gave a major interview to *Le Monde* at the opening of the Financing for Development Conference in Sevilla, where I served as a member of the *International Commission of Experts* convened for the occasion under the leadership of José Antonio Ocampo and including Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz. The interview, titled *«L'afrique ne doit plus attendre le miracle venant d'en haut»*, set the tone for a frank discussion on Africa's financial sovereignty and the urgent need to reshape global development frameworks. It was subsequently republished in several outlets.

EL PAÍS

El País

It was also significant that El País, the main daily of the Conference's host country, featured my views prominently at the opening of the Financing for Development gathering. Two articles, titled "La tormenta perfecta de deuda: se acerca de avada a convertirse en ciclónica por un asunto al Sur Global" and "La cumbre de la ONU en Sevilla impulsa el multilateralismo con un tenor de consenso a pesar de la reticencia de EEUU", underscored the convergence of debt distress, declining aid, and climate emergencies that are suffocating the Global South—as I argue in *I have consistently advanced in my recent writings and interventions.*

The Economist

The Economist

I was quoted in The Economist article "[China is poised to win over Africa in the global trade war](#)", which examined Beijing's evolving commercial and strategic positioning on the continent. My remarks contributed to the broader analysis of how Africa is navigating shifting alliances in a fragmented global trade landscape.



El País

Based on assessments from several analysts, including mine, the South China Morning Post published a major piece titled ["US steps up contest with China in Africa by bolstering anti-corruption business deals"](#). The article examines how Washington is intensifying its commercial diplomacy on the continent, using anti-corruption engagement as a counterweight to China's longstanding economic presence, and reflects on the geopolitical implications of this evolving competition.



Eu Observer

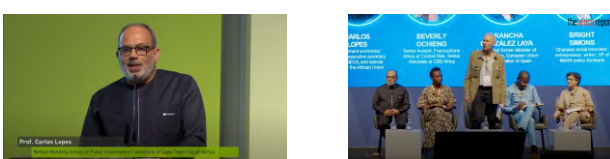
EU Observer published a detailed feature titled “[left behind – why the EU is not pursuing any trade deals with Africa](#)”, which interrogates why my longstanding calls for a reset in Africa-Europe trade relations have not gained traction. The article lays out my viewpoints extensively, highlighting the structural inertia within EU policymaking and the missed opportunities for building a more equitable partnership with the continent.



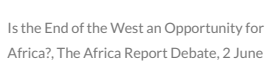
Cadernos de Estudos Africanos

On a more academic note, and in commemoration of Amílcar Cabral's centenary, I co-authored the journal article ["Enriquecendo as narrativas africanas: um contributo às produções literárias de Amílcar Cabral"](#) with my compatriot and one of Cabral's biographers, Peter Mendy. Published in issue 48 of *Cadernos de Estudos Africanos* (ISCCT), the piece reflects on Cabral's enduring intellectual and political legacy and his relevance for rethinking African agency in contemporary global debates.

My Videos and Podcasts



Berlin Forum on Global Cooperation
Friedrich Ebert Foundation, 5 June



Time to reset: Ending the self-deception in Africa-Europe relations, Oxford Martin School

