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Newsletter 40 | March 2026



Running Like a Cheetah



This past month I devoted a significant portion of my time to advising the President of the **African Development Bank** on the design of a [New African Financial Architecture](#). The initiative seeks to rethink how the continent mobilizes, governs, and deploys financial resources in a rapidly changing global economic environment. Our exchanges have focused on the structural reforms needed to strengthen Africa's financial sovereignty, expand access to long-term development financing, and better align continental financial institutions with Africa's strategic priorities. At a time when the rules and institutions of global finance are increasingly contested, advancing a coherent African perspective on financial architecture is essential if the continent is to secure the tools and policy space required to finance its own transformation.

My latest contributions



Mundo Negro

I gave an interview to **Mundo Negro** following the Madrid presentation of my latest book, [La trampa del autoengaño](#). In the interview, titled ["No pensemos en cómo democratizar África: sino en cómo africanizar la democracia"](#), I reflect on the persistent stereotypes that continue to shape global perceptions of Africa and the ways in which these narratives distort debates about governance and development on the continent. I argue that the key challenge is not to "democratize Africa" but rather to "Africanize democracy". Democratic principles are universal, but their institutional expression must reflect Africa's historical experiences, social realities, and political traditions. Too often, external actors approach African governance through paternalistic frameworks that assume imported institutional models are inherently superior. A more productive approach is to recognize that sustainable democratic systems must evolve organically from within African societies rather than being imposed from outside.



China Daily

China Daily published the article ["US exit risks Africa's health cooperation"](#), to which I contributed analysis on the implications of the United States' withdrawal from the World Health Organization and the potential consequences for global health governance and Africa's health systems. The article highlights how reduced US engagement in multilateral health cooperation could weaken key mechanisms for disease surveillance, emergency response, and access to essential medicines, while reinforcing the need to strengthen Africa's own regional health coordination.



Jeune Afrique

Jeune Afrique recently published the article ["Accords de libre-échange Europe-Afrique : dix ans après, un constat d'échec?"](#) to which I contributed analysis on the mixed record of the Economic Partnership Agreements between the European Union and several African regional blocs.



Jeune Afrique

Jeune Afrique also published the article ["Afrique - États-Unis : ce que va changer la nouvelle surtaxe mondiale de Donald Trump"](#), to which I contributed analysis on the implications of the proposed global tariff policy announced by Donald Trump for Africa-US economic relations. It explores how a generalized increase in US tariffs could reshape global trade dynamics and indirectly affect African economies, particularly those integrated into global supply chains or dependent on preferential access to the American market.

My Videos and Podcasts



Cerimónia do Prémio Amílcar Cabral, Uni-CV, 26 January

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Africa can contribute to a different kind of multilateralism in the current rift, Lusa, 31 January

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Europe-Africa relations in 2026, ECFR, 30 January

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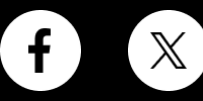
Correct The Map: resetting global view of Africa, CNBC Africa, 2 February

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Letras Africanas: presentación de "La trampa del autoengaño", 25 January

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