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Newsletter 44 | July 2026



Running Like a Cheetah



A particularly rewarding part of the month was the intensive teaching block of my [Master's course](#) at the [Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, University of Cape Town](#). Working with a cohort of 29 highly motivated students reinforced my conviction that investing in the next generation of African leaders remains one of the most meaningful contributions we can make. Their curiosity, engagement and willingness to challenge conventional thinking made for an inspiring learning experience.



One of the greatest honours of the month was witnessing the first PhD dedicated to my intellectual contribution be successfully defended at the [Universidade Federal do ABC](#), in São Paulo, Brazil. In "[Desafios africanos econômicos: uma análise das contribuições de Carlos Lopes para o desenvolvimento africano](#)", Miguellson do Costa examined my work through the lens of economic Pan-Africanism, tracing its intellectual roots and critically assessing its contributions to debates on structural transformation, productive sovereignty, and Africa's place in the global economy. Having one's ideas become the subject of scholarly inquiry is a humbling reminder that knowledge advances through debate, critique and the willingness of new generations to build upon existing thinking.

My latest contributions



United Nations
My latest reflection on tech impacts on development, "[Algorithms and Access: Rethinking IP to Serve Global Public Goods in the AI Era](#)", was published as a [United Nations](#) CDP Background Paper. In it I argue that the rise of artificial intelligence requires a fundamental rethink of intellectual property regimes to ensure that innovation serves global public goods, while enabling developing countries to participate more equitably in the emerging AI economy.



Diplomatist
[Africa's Development](#) v. [Rethinking Global Power: Amid Shifts in International Order](#), republished in [Diplomatist](#), argues that the erosion of the post-war international order creates a rare strategic opening for Africa to exercise greater agency rather than merely adapt to external power shifts. It contends that the continent's relative lack of attachment to legacy institutions can become an advantage, allowing it to shape new approaches to technology governance, finance, industrial policy and international cooperation.



Pensar Global
The Luanda "[Pensar Global](#)" debates, that I inaugurated in June, generated extensive media coverage before, during and after the event across [Economia & Mercado](#), [Le Monde](#), [Revista Outside](#), [Angop](#), [Radio Maia](#), [O País](#), [Mercado & Finance](#), [Angop](#), [Ver Angola](#), [Jornal de Angola](#), [U Ngoma](#) and [U Ngoma](#). The coverage reflected the main themes of the debates, including Africa's structural transformation, economic sovereignty, industrial policy, development finance, demographic change, regional integration, the informal economy, agricultural modernization, statistical capacity, remittances and Angola's economic prospects.



Novo Jornal Angola. Kesongo
My work was the subject of the essay "[África entre o grammatismo e a utopia: a lucidez de um pensador estratégico](#)" by the renowned Angolan public policy contributor Fernando Pacheco, published by [Novo Jornal Angola](#). [Kesongo](#) made an English version, "[Africa between Grammatism and Utopia: The Lucidity of a Strategic Thinker](#)". The article reflected on my contribution to contemporary debates on Africa's development, emphasizing the need to combine strategic realism with long-term transformative ambition.



Jeune Afrique
I was interviewed in "[Si Dié Ouédraogo parvient à réorienter la finance africaine?](#)" published by [Jeune Afrique](#), and its English counterpart, "[Sié Ouédraogo's Quiet Revolution at the African Development Bank](#)", published by [The Africa Report](#). The articles examined the vision of the new President of the African Development Bank and the reforms required to position the institution at the center of Africa's evolving financial architecture.



China Daily
I was quoted in "[African Nations Lower Travel Barriers](#)", published by [China Daily](#), on the growing momentum behind visa liberalization across the continent. The article highlighted how easier mobility is becoming an essential ingredient for the success of the African Continental Free Trade Area, fostering regional integration, investment and the movement of skills across borders.



BankAssur
In "[BIB africain: Ces quelques chiffres ne disent pas tout](#)", published by [BankAssur](#), I argued that GDP figures alone provide only a partial picture of Africa's economic reality. Beyond the rankings lie the continent's productive capabilities, demographic dynamism, structural transformation and growing role in the global economy—factors that matter far more than headline numbers in assessing Africa's long-term prospects.

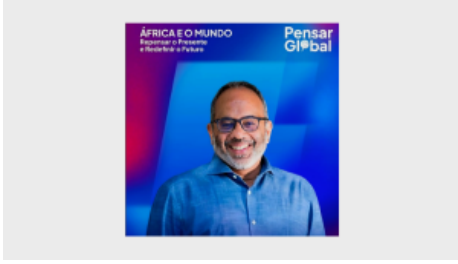


South China Morning Post
I was quoted in "[Coffee, Chillies and Cashews: A New Recipe to Spice Up China-Africa Trade Relations](#)", featured at the [South China Morning Post](#), on the opportunities and limitations of expanding Africa's agricultural exports to China. The article explored how improved market access can support diversification, while underscoring that lasting gains will depend on greater value addition and industrialization across the continent.

My Videos and Podcasts



As Another Economic Crisis Looms, How Should the UN Respond?, [Foreign Policy](#), 10 June



Pensar Global: [Angola E&M](#), 15 June



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