

Article Alerts
31st January 2009

Journal of African Economies
Volume 17, Supplement 2, 2008

Title: Human Security and Development in Africa

Author: Olu Ajakaiye

Abstract: This volume revisits the risks posed to sustainable development in Africa by natural disasters, climate change and political violence, contributing to the evidence base and identifying key issues that would warrant further research. It offers a modest contribution to discussions on human security-development nexus drawing on evidence from macro- and micro-economic analysis. A key message is that in order to do a more rigorous analysis of the risks posed by key elements of human security to development in Africa, considerable effort should be devoted to data collection. Meanwhile, the evidence available suggest that the effects of these risks on development can be large and long lasting. In terms of policy responses, the insight is that the impact of some of these risks on human development can be mitigated through innovative insurance and financial mechanisms.

Title: Political Violence and Underdevelopment

Author: Cristina Bodea

Abstract: This paper analyses the economic growth impact of organised political violence. First, we identify the various manifestations of political violence (riots, coups and civil war) and their risk of occurrence by using a multinomial model. Second, we use predicted probabilities of aggregate violence and its three manifestations to identify their growth effects in an encompassing growth model. The results of Generalised Method of Moments dynamic panel regressions suggest that organised political violence, especially civil war, significantly lowers long-term economic growth. Moreover, unlike most previous studies, we also find ethnic fractionalisation to have a negative and direct effect on growth, though its effect is substantially ameliorated by the institutions specific to a non-factional democratic society. Third, we find that Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has been disproportionately impacted by civil war, which explains a substantial share of its economic decline, including the widening income gap relative to East Asia.

The Political Quarterly

Volume 79 Issue 2

April–June 2008

Title: Combating Climate Change in the UK

Author: Neil Carter

Abstract: There is a curious disjunction between the Labour Government's international actions and its domestic policy. Although Tony Blair did much to promote the climate change agenda on the international stage, domestically, with carbon emissions rising again, the Government will fail to meet its target of reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010. This article examines the weaknesses in the Labour Government's domestic record and assesses the significance of the recent transformation of climate change politics. Several obstacles to the design and delivery of more effective policies are identified, which can be categorised as either problems of 'environmental politics' or 'environmental governance'. It is argued that the recent politicisation of climate change has overcome some of these obstacles - albeit temporarily - but whether the pressure for further policy measures can be sustained, with a long-term impact on environmental governance, remains uncertain.

Title: Immigrants into Citizens

Author: Patricia White

Abstract: This paper examines the citizenship test which is part of the UK naturalisation process. The test is based on the government publication *Life in the United Kingdom: A Journey to Citizenship*. A detailed analysis of its two editions (2004 and 2007) reveals that the conception of the citizen, and the picture of British government and society underlying each are very different. There is, additionally, a mismatch between the rationale offered for the *Life in the United Kingdom* test and what the latter can in fact test: the attitudes and civic virtues mentioned in the rationale are untestable on-line. A society which aspires to be a democracy, it is argued, needs to scrutinise carefully the fairness and democratic appropriateness of its procedures for admitting new citizens.

Journal of International Development

Volume 20 Issue 8
November 2008

Title: Historical roots of poverty: a symposium

Author: Sue Bowden, Paul Mosley

Abstract: The current anti-poverty wave, beginning in the 1990s, has not been deeply influenced by the processes which caused underdevelopment in the past. This is a pity, because historical awareness can help define the processes and institutions which have caused poverty in the past, and provide ideas from the past which can inspire present-day policy. The essays in this volume all use primary source materials to open up pathways towards the better understanding of present-day poverty dynamics in the developing world.

Title: Mineral resource abundance and regional growth in Spain, 1860-2000

Author: Jordi Domenech

Abstract: The natural resource curse hypothesis predicts that natural resource windfalls can reduce the long run level of income *per capita* by crowding out manufacturing, slowing down the accumulation of human capital, damaging institutions and increasing inequality. This paper explores some of the central tenets of the natural resource curse literature by exploiting variation in mineral resources in Spain from 1860 to 1936. The conclusions of the paper are that, contrary to the natural resource curse hypothesis, natural resources had a positive, sizeable effect on industrialisation by 1920 and that they did not reduce real wage growth in the period 1860-1920. Moreover, extractive industries did not slow down the accumulation of human capital. When I look at the very long run by analysing real income *per capita* convergence from 1930 to 2000, there are no significant costs of early specialisation in extractive industries.

Millennium: Journal of International Studies
Vol.36, No.2, 2008

Title: A 'Shallow Piece of Naughtiness': George Orwell on Political Realism

Author: Ian Hall

Abstract: George Orwell's concern for political language and political morality has long been recognised, but his thought on 'political realism' has not received the attention that it deserves, especially from scholars of International Relations. This article examines his treatment of realism in his journalism of the 1940s and in his last novel, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*. It argues that although Orwell's account, assembled from his study of the political discourse of his day and the work of contemporary intellectuals, was deeply flawed, it asked important questions about the account of political motivation underpinning realism. It suggests that Orwell intended *Nineteen Eighty-Four* to satirise or parody the idea of 'power-hunger' he thought realists depended upon and to demonstrate how realism might generate its own form of totalitarianism.

Title: The Trouble with 'Never Again!': Rereading Levinas for Genocide Prevention and Critical International Theory

Author: Jacob Schiff

Abstract: After the Holocaust, the world said 'Never again!' That declaration has since been repeated often, to no avail. The insufficiency of this declaration is symptomatic of a problem with redemptive politics: They might spur us into action to deliver the world from violence, cruelty and injustice, but they might also overwhelm us with paralysing responsibility and provoke a retreat into bad faith. Emmanuel Levinas offers a more sober, but also more promising, view of politics that resists redemptive aspirations. Critical international theorists have explored the resources that Levinas offers for thinking about world politics, but they have underestimated those resources because they have attributed to him a redemptive account of politics. From this perspective, they have criticised his infamous response to the massacres at Sabra and Chatila during Israel's war with Lebanon. Reconsidering his comments about that event, I defend Levinas and suggest that the charges against him stem from that misunderstanding of his view of politics. Once reconstructed, these comments point towards a challenging — but more productive — politics of disquietude that might inform a more constructive approach to the prevention of genocide.

Title: Welcome to the 'All-American' Fun House: Hailing the Disciplinary Neo-liberal Non-subject

Author: Hasmet M. Uluorta

Abstract: How is it possible that neo-liberalism can maintain its supremacy within the United States given present contradictions? In this article, I argue that the basis for this supremacy is consent. Making use of both neo-Gramscian and Lacanian theories, I focus on the potential consenting subject of neo-liberalism, what I refer to as the 'All American'. However, this potential consenting subject is not truly a subject *per se* but an identification that constantly forms and re-forms in the reflective gaze of three signifying mirrors that constitute neoliberalism within the contemporary United States. These mirrors are capitalist-market, religious-moral and nationalist-patriotic. Together, they create the 'All-American Funhouse', a site in which identity and desire are dialectically engaged toward the perpetuation of neo-liberal supremacy.

Title: Out of Place: Re-thinking Diaspora and Empire

Author: Latha Varadarajan

Abstract: Much of the recent scholarly work analyzing the changes in the contemporary international system celebrates diasporas as embodying not just a break from the past, but the emergence of a new world order. This article presents a critical engagement with these claims — in particular, as they appear in two influential texts, Arjun Appadurai's *Modernity at Large*, and Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri's *Empire* — to argue that the existence of diasporas should not be automatically understood as a challenge to structures of dominance at the international level. I make this argument by analyzing the constitutive relationship between imperialism and diasporas. Through an examination of the colonial diasporas created by the British Empire in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, I contend that significant continuities exist between past and present, and that they should caution us against an uncritical celebration of the role played by diasporas in the contemporary international system.

Title: Cosmopolitanism vs. Terrorism? Discourses of Ethical Possibility Before and After 7/7

Author: James Brassett

Abstract: The article provides a critical analysis of the relationship between cosmopolitanism and terrorism, via the question of response. Using 9/11 and 7/7 as key moments in the evolution of this relationship, the article asks: how does cosmopolitanism respond to terrorism? What limits does this response contain? How might we go beyond such limits? It is argued that cosmopolitan responses to terrorism provide an important, but limited (and sometimes *limiting*), alternative to mainstream discourses on terror. After 9/11 the possibility for cosmopolitan thinking 'beyond' the mainstream view was articulated by a range of authors, including Archibugi, Habermas, Held and Linklater. A brief survey suggests that defending international law, constructing international institutions and alleviating global poverty were seen as good responses, in the context of divisive mainstream politics. However, by engaging a case study of the Make Poverty History campaign, the article argues that when cosmopolitan ideas were cemented in practice, the distinctiveness of a cosmopolitan response faded. This point was brought

into sharp relief by a number of moralising responses to 7/7. Straightforward dichotomies between 'barbaric terrorists' and 'civilised cosmopolitans' served to construct cosmopolitanism as a coherent, and united, global community. Available tactics, for this 'community', were reduced to more-of-the-same — more aid, more global democracy — and assertions of a moral equivalence between Bush and 'Terror', such that 'you are either with cosmopolitans, or, you are with the War on Terror'. In light of these ethical closures, and drawing from the arguments of Jacques Derrida and Judith Butler, the article identifies some cursory ways in which cosmopolitans might think beyond such limits, to articulate an imaginative and engaged approach to global ethics.

Title: Fear and Trust: The Shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes and the War on Terror

Author: Cian O'Driscoll

Abstract: This paper examines the July 2005 shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes at Stockwell Tube Station. It argues that the action of the police officers who shot and killed Menezes was conditioned by same logic that informs the prosecution of the war on terror. This logic bares comparison to the humanist conviction that states possess a right of response where they perceive themselves to have a 'fear' of impending injury or assault. This paper explores the historical lineage of this trope in the writings of Alberico Gentili, Francis Bacon, Thomas Hobbes, and, humanist thought more generally. The aim is to explore the politics of fear at work in Britain in the political climate defined by the war on terror, with a view to ascertaining how deep it runs and whether a politics of trust might offer a possible remedy to it.

Foreign Affairs
Vol. 88, No.1
January-February 2009

Title: The Great Crash, 2008: A Geopolitical Setback for the West

Author: Roger C. Altman

Summary: The financial crisis has called into serious question the credibility of western governments and may precipitate an eastward shift of power.

Title: From Doha to the Next Bretton Woods: A New Multilateral Trade Agenda

Author: Aaditya Mattoo and Arvind Subramanian

Summary: Trade problems are an underlying cause of the financial crisis. To truly revive the world economy, a new trade consensus is necessary.

Title: A Balanced Strategy: Reprogramming the Pentagon for a New Age

Author: Robert M. Gates

Summary: The Pentagon has to do more than modernize its conventional forces; it must also focus on today's unconventional conflicts -- and tomorrow's.

Title: Beyond Iraq: A New U.S. Strategy for the Middle East

Author: Richard N. Haass and Martin Indyk

Summary: To be successful in the Middle East, the Obama administration will need to move beyond Iraq, find ways to deal constructively with Iran, and forge a final-status Israeli-Palestinian agreement.

Title: Change They Can Believe In To Make Israel Safe, Give Palestinians Their Due

Author: Walter Russell Mead

Summary: If it hopes to bring peace to the Middle East, the Obama administration must put Palestinian politics and goals first.

Title: The Myth of the Autocratic Revival: Why Liberal Democracy Will Prevail

Author: Daniel Deudney and G. John Ikenberry

Summary: Autocracies such as China and Russia do not represent a sustainable alternative to liberal democracy. In fact, the pull of liberal democracy is stronger than ever.

Title: America's Edge: Power in the Networked Century

Author: Anne-Marie Slaughter

Summary: The United States' unique ability to capitalize on connectivity will make the twenty-first century an American century.

Title: In the Shadow of the Oval Office: The Next National Security Adviser

Author: Ivo H. Daalder and I. M. Destler

Summary: One of the most important figures in Obama's administration will be his national security adviser. An examination of past advisers shows how to get the job right -- or wrong.

Title: The Responsibility to Contain: Protecting Sovereignty Under International Law

Author: Michael Chertoff

Summary: International law must find a way to combat modern threats, but it cannot diminish U.S. sovereignty in doing so.

Title: Where Are the Civilians?: How to Rebuild the U.S. Foreign Service

Author: J. Anthony Holmes

Summary: If it hopes to achieve its foreign policy agenda, the Obama administration will need to undo the damage to the Foreign Service wrought by the Bush administration.