



INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES
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Newsletter

March 14, 2017. Round Table Meeting dedicated to 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between South Africa and Russia

On March 14, 2017, Round Table dedicated to 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between South Africa and Russia took place in the Institute for African Studies. It was organised by the Institute for African Studies of the RAS, South African Embassy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Moderator – Dr. Andrei Tokarev, Head of the [Centre for Southern Africa Studies](#).



Opening remarks were made by Director of the Institute for African Studies, Prof. Irina Abramova. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was represented by Deputy Director of the Department of Africa Mr Nikolay Krasilnikov. Those gathered were welcomed by Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Republic of South Africa to the Russian Federation, H.E. Ms. Nomasonto Sibanda-Thusi. The keynote speech was made by Dr. Andrey Urnov on the topic of “25th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between South Africa and Russian Federation”. Speakers stressed the importance of establishing diplomatic relations between our countries and expressed hope for their further development.



March 15, 2017. Solemn meeting of the Academic Council "Ghana: towards the 60th anniversary of the liberation from colonialism"

On March 15, 2017, the Inaugural Meeting of the Academic Council was held, dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the liberation from the colonialism of the Republic of Ghana.

The welcoming speech was delivered by the Director of the Institute Prof. Abramova, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ghana - Kodzo Kpoku Alabo, Deputy Director of the Department of Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Mr Surikov.

The scientific report on the topic "Kwame Nkrumah - the first president of the Republic of Ghana" was presented by the Head of the [Centre for Tropical African Studies](#), Dr Denisova. At the end of the meeting, a film about Ghana was shown.

Agreement on cooperation

January 10, 2017, the [Agreement on Cooperation](#) between the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the [University of Namibia](#) (UNAM) is established.

February 10-11, 2017 – the 8th International Forum on security "Marrakech Security Forum"

On 10-11 February 2017, Dr. Sergey Kostelyanets, Senior Researcher at the Centre for North African and African Horn Studies, participated in the 8th International Forum on security "[Marrakech Security Forum](#)" (Marrakech, Morocco),

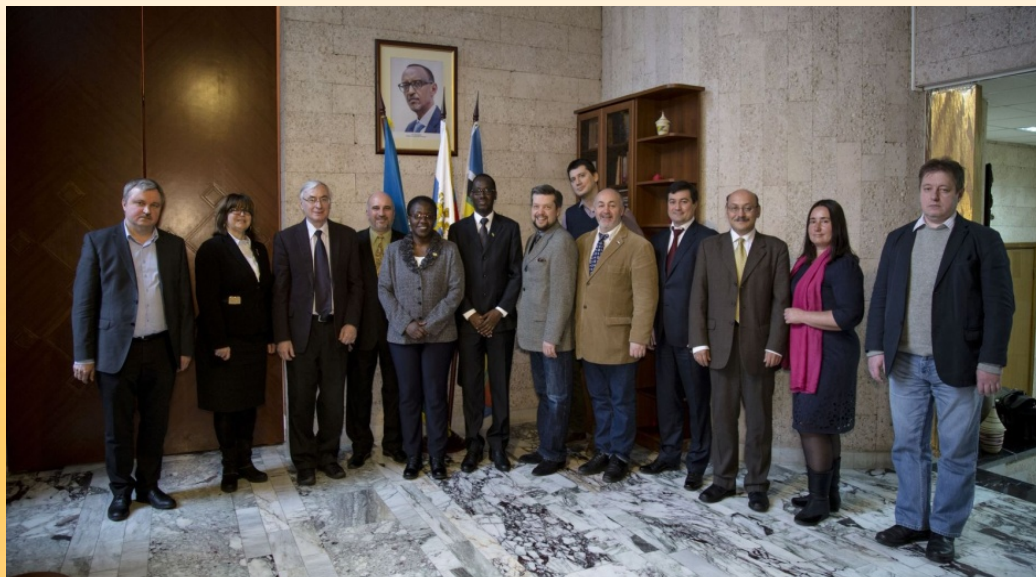
where he made a presentation on "Foreign military presence in the Sahara/Sahel region in the context of the war on terror". This year the title of the forum, organized by the Moroccan Center for Strategic Research in partnership with the African Federation for Strategic Studies, was

"Strategy Issues and New Terrorist Asylums". Nearly 200 delegates included high-ranking officials and military officers from African, European and Arab countries, representatives of the UN, the European Union, the Council of Europe, Interpol, Africom, experts from the world's leading scientific and analytical centers dealing with security and counter-terrorism. Although the main focus of the forum was on countering the spread of the terrorist threat and discussing new terrorist tactics, several plenary sessions were devoted to conflict-generating climate change in Africa and excessive transparency of African borders.



Meeting of the club "Friends of Rwanda"

February 20, 2017, Prof. Bondarenko, Mrs Bondar, Head of the [Center for Scientific Information and International Relations](#) of the Institute and Mr Panov, M.Sc. Center for [History and Cultural Anthropology](#) took part in the organizational meeting of the club "Friends of Rwanda", held at the Embassy.



Visiting the Institute for African Studies

On 28 February 2017, the Deputy Director of the Institute for African Studies, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences RAS Dmitri M. Bondarenko met Bambi Ceuppens, the anthropologist, fellow of the Royal Museum of Central Africa in Brussels, and Christine Bluard, a museologist and the coordinator of the exhibition "Khudprom Congo".

Here is a [catalog](#) providing information about the exhibition of the folk painting of the Democratic Republic of Congo

"Khudprom Congo" (May 20 - August 13, 2017), which will feature more than 100 paintings by over than 20 authors from the Royal Museum of Central Africa in Brussels and from private collections. The exhibition will take place in the Museum of Contemporary Art "Garage".



The "ALMA MATER" project: Participation of the famous Africanist Dmitri M. Bondarenko

On March 13, 2017, in the framework of the new [project "ALMA MATER"](#) at the Historical Faculty of Moscow State University there was organised a meeting with the graduate of the Department of Ethnography of the year



1990, now Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Dr.Sc. (Hist.), Deputy Director of the Institute for African Studies RAS, Professor [Dmitri M. Bondarenko](#) - famous specialist in African Studies. He presented his recently published book "The Shades of Black: Cultural-Anthropological Aspects of Mutual Perceptions and Relations between African Americans and African Migrants in the U.S.A." (Moscow, Foundation for the Development of Fundamental Linguistic Research, 2016).

The monograph is based on field materials collected in 2013-2015. The author focuses on the mutual perception and relationship of the representatives of the two groups of the US population of African descent: the African-American community that has existed for several centuries already, and the African diasporas consisting of migrants from various states of sub-Saharan Africa, that have developed in our time. The author analyzes such cultural and anthropological aspects of mutual perception of African Americans and Africans, as historical memory and mutual images of cultures, in the historical and sociological context.

New rubric: Actual commentary

The Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences in collaboration with the [Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations](#) (IMEMO RAS) has created the new rubric "[Actual Commentary](#)", which will contain materials on vital topics of the African political, economic, and social life.

New library acquisitions of the Institute in 2016

The Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences has the richest collection of scientific literature on African Studies in Russia. You can find the list of new acquisitions in the library of the Institute in 2016 [here](#).



Collective monograph "Africa: Modern Strategies of Economic Development" was published

[Africa: modern strategies of economic development](#). Moscow: Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 2016. - 432 pp.

Editors-in-chief: Corresponding Member of RAS, Professor, Dr.Sc. (Econ.), Irina O. Abramova, Ph.D. (Econ.) Evgeniya Morozenskaya

The monograph examines in detail the changes in the concepts and strategies of the socio-economic development of African countries in the postcolonial period. Particular attention is paid to the modern features of national strategies, firstly, to the shifts in the sectoral structure of the economy and in foreign trade, as well as to their social consequences. Both objective and politically determined reasons for changing the priorities of African states and their foreign economic partners, including changes in the mechanisms of investment expansion into Africa, are analyzed.

The book is addressed to scientists, specialists in the world economy and politics, entrepreneurs in the field of foreign economic activity and all interested in the problems of economy of modern Africa. Африки.

"Civilizational alternatives for Africa" Volume I. Parts 1 and 2

Civilizational alternatives for Africa. [Volume I. Part 1](#) [Part 2](#).

What are the main directions of the modern civilization development of Africa to the south of the Sahara? What role does the cultural self-determination of the peoples of Africa in the conditions of the crisis of the postcolonial model of dependent development and the growth of destructive processes in the region since the end of the 20th century play in the choice of the basic guidelines for such development - ideals, values, and principles of social organization? The initiators and authors of this collective monograph pose such questions. The monograph was conceived as part of the multivolume publishing project "Civilizational Alternatives for Africa" of the Centre for Civilizational and Regional Studies of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The first volume of the publication is devoted to the civilizational potentialities and civilizational vectors of modern African development. The fundamental problem of civilizational vectors of global development, world politics and international relations in the conditions of globalization is selected as a starting point to analyse the problems of the volume. [More](#)



ЦИВИЛИЗАЦИОННЫЕ
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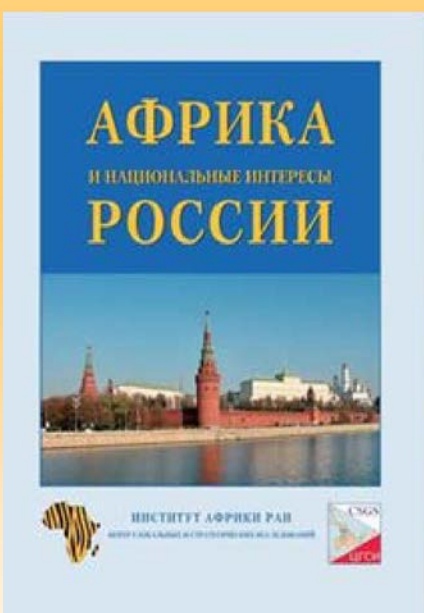
Том I
Часть 1



The collective monograph "Africa and Russia's National Interests" was published

The [book](#) provides a comprehensive analysis of Russia's national interests in the African direction in the context of fundamental trends and emerging threats in the world economy and politics, for the first time in the post-Soviet research literature. The book shows the increase in the geo-economic importance of Africa in the 21st century and the revived military-strategic interest of the world's leading powers towards the continent. The prospects of economic expansion in sub-Saharan Africa and the investment potential of the region from the point of view of Russia's strategic interests in regional and sectoral aspects are assessed. The recommendations on practical steps to ensure Russia's national economic interests in Africa are formulated.

Editors-in-chief: Corresponding Member of RAS, Dr.Sc. (Econ.), Irina O. Abramova; Corresponding Member of RAS, Dr.Sc. (Econ.), Leonid L. Fituni.



Obituary

ROSHCHIN Georgiy Evgenyevich
(09.01.1938-20.01.2017)

One of the oldest employees of the Institute, Leading Researcher, Dr.Sc. (Econ.), fellow of the Centre for the Study of Problems in Transition Economics, ROSHCHIN Georgiy Evgenievich, died suddenly.

On behalf of all colleagues, we sincerely convey our condolences to all his relatives and friends!

