



INSTITUTE FOR AFRICAN STUDIES
RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES



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Newsletter

14th International African Studies Conference “Africa and Africans in National, Regional and Global Dimensions”

October 17-20, 2017 the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences and Scientific Council for the problems of Africa held 14th International African Studies Conference on the theme “Africa and Africans in National, Regional and Global Dimensions”. The Conference appeared to be one of the most representative. The Organizing Committee received more than 400 applications for participation in the Conference, of which more than 150 participants from foreign countries. The forum of Africanists gathered participants from 23 countries. Foreign participants arrived from 8 countries of Asia and Africa, 10 countries of Europe, and also from America, both North and South. Russian participants came from the following cities: Moscow, St. Petersburg, Yaroslavl, Kazan, Orel, Voronezh, Nizhny Novgorod and Yekaterinburg.

During the Conference, more than 240 reports were made in 44 panels of eight thematic sections: “International Relations”, “Global Problems”, “Politics”, “Economics”, “Social Problems”, “Migration and Diasporas”, “Cultures and Languages”, “History”.

Why Africa is becoming a strategic partner today for the world's leading powers?



[Video report from the Conference by TV BRICS](#)

[Photo Gallery from the Conference](#)



"African migration to Austria - past and present"

August 30, 2017, a lecture of the Master of Philology Anissa Strommer (University of Vienna) on the subject: "African migration to Austria - past and present" was held in the reception of the Director of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences. [See the presentation "African migration to Austria - past and present"](#)



Director of the Institute for African Studies Prof. Abramova was elected to the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences

September 28, 2017 the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), within the framework of the general meeting, elected a new staff of the Presidium - a collegial executive body, headed by the new president Alexander Sergeyev, who will lead the RAS the next five years. Irina Abramova, Director of the Institute for African Studies, Doctor of Economics, Professor, and Corresponding Member of the RAS was elected to the Presidium.

On behalf of all colleagues, our sincere congratulations and wishes of success to Prof. Abramova!

Round Table "Intervention of the Great Powers in the internal Affairs of the Sovereign States of Africa, Middle East and Asia"

September 23, 2017 the Institute for African Studies of the RAS held a round table organized by the joint efforts of the Institute, the People's Friendship University and the Faculty of Political Science of the Lomonosov Moscow State University. Dr. Filippov V. R., Prof. Nigusiye Kassay V. Mikaelyu and Prof. Manoilo A. V. initiated and conducted this event. To sum up, on the round table were 33 participants and 11 made speeches. All the speeches led to an interesting discussion, in which MGIMO students also took an active part. [Read more](#)



Participation of the Institute's research fellow in the scientific symposium of Leipzig University

On October 26-27, 2017 in Leipzig (Germany) the scientific conference (seminar) "Spaces of interaction between the Socialist camp and the global South in the areas of knowledge production, trade and scientific and technical cooperation in the era of the Cold War" took place. This symposium was organized by the Center for International Cooperation (SFB1199) of the University of Leipzig. It was attended by dozens of research workers and university teachers from Germany and the former Socialist countries of Europe, as well as scientists from Asia, Africa and the United States. The senior researcher of the Center for Southern African Studies of our Institute Yury S. Skubko presented his report "National interests are above ideology: the Soviet diamond deals with the South African cartel "De Beers" during the Cold War". In most of the reports, there was mentioned a gradual departure from ideological attitudes towards greater pragmatism in the foreign economic policies of the socialist countries. [Read more](#)



Publications of the Institute

1. . A collective monograph entitled "Resolution of military-political conflicts in Africa: the role of regional organizations" was published"

Imprint of the book: "[Resolution of military-political conflicts in Africa: the role of regional organizations](#)". Ed. by Ph.D. (Politics) Sergey V. Kostelyanets, Ph.D. (Econ.) Alexander A. Tkachenko. Moscow: Institute for African Studies., Russian Academy of Sciences, 2017.

The book addresses a wide range of issues related to the participation of regional organizations in the elimination of armed conflicts in various regions of Africa. The main attention is paid to the role of IGAD, the Intergovernmental Organization for Cooperation of the countries located in the Horn of Africa, in a peaceful political process aimed at overcoming conflicts in this part of the world.

The book is intended for researchers, specialists of institutions and organizations of international profile, including those taking part in peacekeeping operations in various regions of the world, as well as for students and postgraduates studying problems related to conflict situations, prevention of armed conflicts, and rehabilitation of areas affected by military operations.



2. Published a collection of articles "Traditional and modern medicine in Africa"

Imprint of the book: *Collection of articles "[Traditional and modern medicine in Africa](#)". Ed.by Ph.D. (Hist.) Tatyana S. Denisova. Moscow: Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, 2017.*

The collection of articles is devoted to various aspects of the development of national healthcare systems in Africa. The practice of interaction between traditional and non-traditional methods of treatment, the problems of combatting infectious diseases, the social consequences of the epidemic of Ebola fever are considered. Particular attention is paid to the cooperation of African countries with China, India and other states in the healthcare sector.



3. Published the next issue of the journal "[The Proceedings of the Institute for African Studies RAS](#)", No. 2 (39), 2017.



Results of the 2017 presidential election in Rwanda

4 On August 4, 2017, the presidential election was held in Rwanda. The results were not unexpected - President P. Kagame, who ran for a third term, won with 98.79% of the vote. Rwanda is a presidential republic. The head of state and the guarantor of the Constitution is the president. A presidential candidate, no younger than 35, must be Rwandan by origin. According to the Constitution of 2003, the president is elected by universal secret ballot by the simple majority system for 7 years (in previous constitutions - by 5), no more than twice in a row. Until April 2000, there existed an institute of vice-president; it was abolished after the incumbent P. Kagame became president. [Read more](#)



On the results of the general elections in Angola

23 On August 23, 2017 in Angola, presidential and parliamentary elections were held. Six major political parties of the country took part in them: the MPLA (National Movement for the Liberation of Angola), UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola), PRS (Social Renewal Party), APN (National Patriotic Union) and KAZA-CE (Broad convergence for the rescue of Angola - the Electoral Coalition). The elections were quite expected to bring victory to the ruling (since 1975) MPLA party. According to the Constitution adopted in Angola in 2010, the leader of the list of candidates from the party (the coalition of parties), which received the largest number of votes in the parliamentary elections, becomes the head of state. This time the list of candidates from the MPLA was headed not by J.E. dos Santos, who led the country for almost 38 years, but by his political appointee - the Minister of Defense João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço. [Read more](#)



To Dmitry Medvedev's visit to Morocco and Algeria

The authorities of Morocco and Algeria expect in the near future the visit of Russia's Prime-Minister Dmitry A. Medvedev. In particular, it has already been announced that his visit to Morocco is scheduled for 10-11 October. The economic relations of Russia with all countries of North Africa, traditionally of a mutually beneficial friendly nature, have in recent years been noticeably developed. The Maghreb countries, such as Morocco and Algeria, are no exception. The successful development of trade and economic relations between Russia and these two countries is explained both by the solid contractual and legal basis of cooperation and by its structured institutional arrangement. [Read more](#)



Kenyan dilemma: who will be the next president of the country?

The presidential and parliamentary elections held in Kenya every five years are regularly accompanied by violations of public stability in the country from the very beginning of the period of political pluralism. The constitutional amendment adopted in 1991 enabled the various ethnic-based parties to enter the political arena in order to compete with the National Union of Africans of Kenya (KANU), previously the only party in the country, in the struggle for power. However, attempts to act alone, based on their own people, invariably were doomed to failure. In fact even the most numerous ethnic groups of Kenya (Kikuyu, Luya, Kalengin, Luo, Kamba) individually do not have quantitative superiority, and the emerging interethnic party alliances were short-lived and on the eve of the next presidential elections invariably disintegrated, since each of the party leaders insisted on nominating their own candidature. [Read more](#)

OBITUARY

Anatoly A. GROMYKO

(15.04.1932 – 25.09.2017)

We regret to inform that Anatoly Andreyevich Gromyko, a Soviet and Russian diplomat and scientist, specialist in the field of African studies, American studies, International relations died after a serious illness. Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor. Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Anatoly Gromyko for many years served as a director of the Institute for African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (from 1976 to 1992) and made a significant contribution to the development of the Institute.

We will all remember him as a bright, intelligent, sympathetic person, a skillful diplomat, a true scientist, a talented artist and friend of many and many. He will remain in our hearts forever. Scientific work of Anatoly Gromyko by right has earned him wide fame and has been included in the gold fund of national science.

