

EDITOR'S NOTE

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The BJAS, in its third year, has consolidated as a meeting place for africanists of various continents, who contributed a great volume of analyses and informations. Without doubt, the Journal has been building a research and reflexion agenda around new themes, approaches and comprehensions on Africa. The contribution of African academics/researchers reveals, also, an open space to discuss the “African perspective” not only about Africa, but also about global issues.

In this number, new important themes are approached. First, an original African analysis of the historiography of International Relations offers a perspective from the continent about the theme. In the same innovative path, the polemic issue of the Lusotropicalism in the days of Brazil's foreign policy overture towards Africa is explored, promoting a critical reevaluation. This is followed by two papers from African academics about security issues, one of continental reach (evaluating the APSA), and the other regarding the border contest between Nigeria and Cameroon, with both discussing Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding.

Regarding the Nigerian politics, the formation of political parties and their difficulties to promote national integration because of the ethnic-religious cleavages, and the role of religious groups in the country are discussed. They instigate social fragmentation and criticism towards the Federal Government on its ability to assist the citizens. These undoubtedly represent relevant contributions to the comprehension of Nigeria's contemporaneous impasses.

On the matter of the recent political crises in Southern Africa, in Zimbabwe and South Africa, two papers are presented approaching the issue from an original point of view. Despite many mainstream specialists insisting on the extreme fragility of both political systems, it is observed that

the forced resignation of both presidents did not implicate a regime break, nor alterations of its political and socio-economic structures. In Zimbabwe, Mugabe's exit was carried out in a negotiated fashion, as well as Zuma's in South Africa. Evidently, the problems that fomented the crises have not yet been overcome.

Another innovative issue on this BJAS' number is the subject of education, namely in Cameroon and Mozambique. The first one discusses the clash in the state's superior education system about the bilingual system and its practical impacts. On Mozambique's case, on the other hand, the focus is the relation between education and socioeconomic development, a matter relevant not only to the African continent, but to the entire developing world. Thus, the elements the Journal explores to comprehend the African reality are expanded.

Finally, three book reviews are presented about books on historical and contemporaneous themes of Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Southern Africa. These are works that allow us to deepen our analysis and empirical knowledge on the continent.

The BJAS publishes bilingual (Portuguese and English) electronic and printed versions. We thus, invite the contribution of colleagues from Brazil and abroad, with whom we intend to establish bonds to the deepening of the knowledge and the building of a vision from the South about the African continent and the relations with it.

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