**Africa Command Course**

**January 10-14, 2022**

**Monday 8.15-12.15, thereafter 8.45-12.15 daily EST**

**Logistics:**

In addition to completing the required readings, prior to the course participants are required to watch the ten 20-minute speaker presentations that were uploaded to GW Box. Building on these presentations, the online classroom sessions will consist of question and answer discussions with our speakers. This approach will hopefully counteract “Zoom fatigue” from being live online for many consecutive hours a day. We welcome your feedback on this format.

**Learning Outcomes:**

* To gain knowledge and deepen your understanding of contemporary security issues in the Africa Command area of responsibility
* To consider the impact of recent developments in the region for U.S. security policies and developments in Washington for policies towards the region
* To hear local voices – either in person or through written materials
* In line with the 2017 National Security Strategy, the 2018 National Defense Strategy and President Biden’s Interim National Security Strategic Guidance, to assess the global activities of China and Russia in the Africa Command AOR
* To consider the impact of recent developments for states, and for third party actors such as businesses, NGOs, religious groups, etc.
* To enhance your understanding of the strategic context for meeting the security challenges posed by these developments

*This course is designed to bring you many different perspectives and local “voices” on issues in the region. Consequently, the readings may disagree with each other and some of them you may find provocative. We do not endorse any one approach, but hope you will read widely and reach your own considered conclusions.*

**Day One: Monday January 10, 2022**

**8.15:** Participants Join the Conference

**8.30-9.00: Welcome, Introduction and Expectations**

Speaker: Dr. Joanna Spear, Director of the FAO Regional Skills Sustainment Initiative

**9.00-10.00: Session One: U.S. Policies Towards the Africa Command AOR**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What is Africa’s role in U.S. strategic thinking?
* What does the U.S. want from its relationships with African countries?
* What do African countries want from their relationships with the U.S.?
* How has China’s involvement in the region changed these calculations?
* Can the U.S. effectively instrumentalize its relationships with African countries?
* Should it?
* Does the U.S. risk being penalized in the future for underestimating the importance of Africa?

Required Readings:

Michelle D. Gavin, “Major Power Rivalry in Africa,” Discussion Paper No. 5 on Managing Global Disorder, *Council on Foreign Relations*, May 2021. At: <https://cdn.cfr.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/dpgavinmay21.pdf> Read pp. 1-10, but all is relevant for the course.

Jevans Nyabiage, “Is The US Offering A Quality Alternative to China’s Belt and Road?” *South China Morning Post*, October 9, 2021. At: <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3151766/us-offering-quality-alternative-chinas-belt-and-road>

Watch: *The Other View: What Africa Wants* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Afrobarometer, “Responding to African Priorities in U.S.-Africa Relations: Insights from Afrobarometer,” October 28, 2021. At: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-Ued-PnW6U> (Start at about 18 minutes to avoid intros.) Covers views from 39 countries on democracy, China, Covid-19, and climate change. This is in addition to watching the speaker’s video.

Recommended Readings:

George Ward, Eric Kiss and Pat Savage, “The Eagle and the Dragon in Africa: Comparing Data on Chinese and American Influence,” War on the Rocks blog, May 6, 2021. At: <https://warontherocks.com/2021/05/the-eagle-and-the-dragon-in-africa-comparing-data-on-chinese-and-american-influence/> Also relevant for session 2.

Afolake Oyinloje, “Floyd Verdict Sparks Hope for Activists in South Africa,” *AfricaNews.Com*, April 22, 2021. At: <https://www.africanews.com/2021/04/22/floyd-verdict-sparks-hope-for-activists-in-south-africa//>

Marcus Hicks, Kyle Atwell, and Dan Collini, “Great Power Competition is Coming to Africa,” *Foreign Affairs*, March 4, 2021. At: <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/africa/2021-03-04/great-power-competition-coming-africa>

Robert A. Blair, Robert Marty, and Philip Roessler, “Foreign Aid and Soft Power: Great Power Competition in Africa in the Early Twenty First Century,” *British Journal of Political Science*, July 5, 2021. At: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007123421000193>

Naunihal Singh, “Stagnation in U.S.-Africa Military Policy After U.S. Servicemembers’ Deaths in Niger,” *Orbis*, Vol. 65, Issue 3 (2021), pp. 448-466. At: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.orbis.2021.06.008>

**10.00-10.15: Break**

**10.15-11.15: Session Two: China in Africa**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What is Africa’s role in Chinese strategic thinking?
* In what ways can Africa become a “protection platform” for the Chinese Military?
* How has China been developing the Doraleh Base in Djibouti?
* Has China rebalanced trade with Africa as Xi promised?
* Have Chinese development loans to Africa been rescheduled as Xi promised?
* How do China’s activities in Africa disrupt U.S. interests in maintaining access and strategic influence?

Required Readings:

Nadege Roland, “A New Great Game? Situating Africa in China’s Strategic Thinking,” Special Report No. 91, *National Bureau of Asian Research*, June 2021. pp. 8-44. At: <https://www.nbr.org/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/publications/sr91_rolland_june2021.pdf>

Jevans Nyabiage, “China, Africa and the Three Years Since Xi Jinping Promised to Rebalance Trade,” *South China Morning Post*, October 18, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2582645318/EA83A006E15340C5PQ/1?accountid=11243>

Jevans Nyabiage, “China Merchants Sign $350m Deal for Shekou-Style Revamp of Djibouti Port,” *South China Morning Post*, January 6, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2475128568/52891F3B598F4F72PQ/7?accountid=11243>

Jevans Nyabiage, “Chinese Lenders ' Reluctant’ to Offer African Countries Further Debt Relief,” *South China Morning Post*, September 20, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2574085723/B5548D8332004B33PQ/13?accountid=11243>

Recommended Readings:

George Ward, Eric Kiss and Pat Savage, “The Eagle and the Dragon in Africa: Comparing Data on Chinese and American Influence,” War on the Rocks blog, May 6, 2021. At: <https://warontherocks.com/2021/05/the-eagle-and-the-dragon-in-africa-comparing-data-on-chinese-and-american-influence/> Also relevant for session 1.

Jevans Nyabiage, “Africa-China Trade Slowed by Container Shortage as Covid-19 Hits Shipping,” *South China Morning Post*, August 15, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2561207238/B5548D8332004B33PQ/3?accountid=11243> Also relevant for session 4.

Abdul-Gafar Tobi Oshodi and James Barnett, “Confucius Institutes in West Africa: Extending China’s Influence?” *Insight West Africa* Special Issue: Increasing Influence: China in West Africa, Vol. 6 No. 1 (May 2021), pp. 5-9. At: <https://www.cddwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/INSIGHT-MAY-CHINA-AFRICA-FINAL.pdf>

Emeka Umejei, “Influence Industry: China’s Media Engagement in West Africa,” *Insight West Africa* Special Issue: Increasing Influence: China in West Africa, Vol. 6 No. 1 (May 2021), pp. 10-13. At: <https://www.cddwestafrica.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/INSIGHT-MAY-CHINA-AFRICA-FINAL.pdf>

**11.15-11.30: Break**

**11.30-12.15: Reflection Session**

**Facilitator: Dr. Joanna Spear**

This is an opportunity for FAOs to consider the issues and perspectives brought up in the previous sessions and relate that to their work as FAOs.

Participants will be asked to immediately fill in a short participant evaluation form.

**Day 2: Tuesday January 11, 2022**

**8.45:** Participants Join the Conference

**9.00-10.00: Session Three: Russia in Africa: Less than meets the eye?**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* Which African countries are most important to Russia? Why?
* What is Russia’s strategy in Africa?
* In what ways is Russia acting as a “service provider” to illiberal African Governments?
* Why is the Wagner Group in Africa?
* What is the track record of the Wagner Group in Africa?

Required Readings:

John Lechner, “To Counter Russia in Africa, America Should Rethink its own Role,” War on the Rocks blog, May 20, 2021. At: <https://warontherocks.com/2021/05/to-counter-russia-in-africa-america-should-rethink-its-own-role/>

Henry Foy and Andres Schipani, “Russia to Build Naval Base in Sudan,” *Financial Times*,

November 16, 2020. At: <http://ft.com/content/6c3ccb03-8e4a-4c1a-8240-d7493f70ef59>

Samuel Ramani, “Russia Takes its Syria Model of Counterinsurgency to Africa,” RUSI Commentary, *Royal United Services Institute*, September 9, 2020. At: <https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/russia-takes-its-syrian-model-counterinsurgency-africa> Also relevant for session 10.

Recommended Readings:

Mohammed Alamin, “Sudan’s Civilians Sidelined in Army Overtures to Russia, Israel,” *Bloomberg*, December 11, 2020. At: <http://bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-12-11/sudan-s-civilians-sidelined-in-army-overtures-to-russia-israel> Also relevant for session 7.

Amy Mackinnon, “Who Blessed the Vlads Down in Africa?: Russia’s Wagner Group Has Its Eyes on Mali,” *Foreign Policy*, September 24, 2021. At: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/09/24/russia-wagner-group-mali-africa-putin-libya/> Also relevant for session 8.

Nathalia Durkhan, “Central African Republic: Ground Zero for Russian Influence in Central Africa,” Issue Brief, *Atlantic Council*, October 2020. 14pp. At: <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/CAR-Russian-Influence-Final.pdf>

Zarco Perovic, “What Laws Constrain This Russian Private Military Company?” Lawfare blog, March 23, 2021. At: <https://www.lawfareblog.com/what-laws-constrain-russian-private-military-company>

**10.00-10.15: Break**

**10.15-11.15: Session Four: Covid-19 in Africa: Vaccine Delivery and Infections**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What is the latest data on Covid-19 cases in Africa?
* What progress has been made in delivering vaccines to African countries?
* What accounts for the hold ups?
* What have been the impacts of the pandemic on Africans
* What have been the impacts of the pandemic on African politics and economies?

Required Readings:

World Health Organization, *WHO Coronavirus (Covid-19) Dashboard*, At: <https://covid19.who.int/> scroll through to see data by region, for selective countries and over time.

Stellah Kwasi, “Covid-19 Vaccine Supply: Africa’s Proactive Stance Needs Global Backing,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), September 22, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/covid-19-vaccine-supply-africas-proactive-stance-needs-global-backing>

Peter Fabricus, “Prodding the Rich World to Jab the Rest,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), October 1, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/prodding-the-rich-world-to-jab-the-rest>

Jevans Nyabiage, “Grim Outlook as Covid-19 Continues Death March,” *South China Morning Post*, July 9, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2549298173/52891F3B598F4F72PQ/5?accountid=11243>

Recommended Readings:

Ronek Gopaladas and Menzi Ndhlovu, “Rising Food Prices Could Ignite Unrest and Instability in Africa,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), September 28, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/rising-food-prices-could-ignite-unrest-and-instability-in-africa>

Isabel Bosman, “How COVID-19 Undermines Democracy in Africa,” *South African Institute of International Affairs*, July 19, 2021.

Josephine Ma, Cissy Zhou and Jevans Nyabiage, “Coronavirus: How China’s Closed Borders Have Hit Trade and Diplomacy,” *South China Morning Post*, June 23, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2544032791/B5548D8332004B33PQ/1?accountid=11243>

Wandile Sihlobo, “Sub-Saharan Africa’s Agriculture and COVID-19: How the Pandemic Will (re)Shape Food Markets,” *South African Institute of International Affairs*, June 4, 2021.

Jevans Nyabiage, “Africa-China Trade Slowed by Container Shortage as Covid-19 Hits Shipping,” *South China Morning Post*, August 15, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2561207238/B5548D8332004B33PQ/3?accountid=11243> Also relevant for session 2.

Tarek Ghani, “The Sting in Covid-19’s Tail: For Poor Countries, What Comes Next Could Be Worse,” *Foreign Affairs*, January 26, 2021.

Lauren Paremore (Cape Town), “A Pandemic of Vaccine and Technology Hoarding: Unmasking Global Inequality and Hypocrisy,” *The Cairo Review of Global Affairs*, July 21, 2021.

Malik Samuel, “Boko Haram and Covid-19: Lake Chad Basin’s War on Two Fronts,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), June 29, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/boko-haram-and-covid-19-lake-chad-basins-war-on-two-fronts>

**11.15- 11.30: Break**

**11.30-12.15: Reflection Session**

**Facilitator: Dr. Joanna Spear**

This is an opportunity for FAOs to consider the issues and perspectives brought up in the previous session and relate that to their work as FAOs.

Participants will be asked to immediately fill in a short participant evaluation form.

**Day Three: Wednesday January 12, 2022**

**8.45:** Participants Join the Conference

**9.00-10.00: Session Five: Conflict in Libya**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* In what ways has the war in Libya become a proxy conflict between regional and global actors?
* What hopes are there for political stability in Libya?
* To what extent has the conflict spread instability within and beyond the Africa Command AOR?
* What is the legacy of the Gadhafi regime and its demise?
* What are the prospects for a transition to a stable and / or democratic Libya?

Required Readings:

Jamey Keaten and Samy Magdy, “UN Experts Decry Possible Crimes against Humanity in Libya,” *Associated Press*, October 4, 2021. At: <https://apnews.com/article/middle-east-africa-libya-united-nations-war-crimes-989c1cf6697fcd984bb8133b4a6c24e4>

“More Mercenaries Left Libya, FM Mangoush Says,” *Daily Sabah* (Istanbul), October 3, 2021. At: <https://www.dailysabah.com/world/africa/more-mercenaries-left-libya-fm-mangoush-says>

Tim Eaton, “The Libyan Arab Armed Forces; A Hybrid Armed Actor,” War on the Rocks blog, January 27, 2021. At: <https://warontherocks.com/2021/01/the-libyan-arab-armed-forces-a-hybrid-armed-actor/>

Peter Fabricus, “Libya’s Promising Transition Stalls,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), August 13, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/libyas-promising-transition-stalls>

Recommended Readings:

“Libya's Decade of Instability after Moammar Gadhafi's Death,” *Deutsche Welle*, October 20, 2021. At: <https://www.dw.com/en/libyas-decade-of-instability-after-moammar-gadhafis-death/a-59551635>

Riccardo Fabiani, “In Transition: North Africa’s Long Decoupling from Europe and the US,” *Jadaliyya*, February 8, 2021. At: <https://www.jadaliyya.com/Details/42336/In-Transition-North-Africa%E2%80%99s-Long-Decoupling-from-Europe-and-the-US>

Sally Hayden, “Thousands of Refugees and Migrants Plead for Libya Evacuation,” *Al-Jazeera*, October 22, 2021. At: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/10/22/thousands-migrants-and-refugees-plead-to-be-evacuated-from-libya>

Daniel Siryoti, “Israeli Firm Hired by Both Presidential Hopefuls in Libya,” *Israel Hayom* (Tel Aviv), October 25, 2021. <https://www.israelhayom.com/2021/10/25/israeli-pr-firm-hired-by-both-presidential-hopefuls-in-libya/>

**10.00-10.15: Break**

**10.15-11.15: Session Six: Conflict in Ethiopia**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What is the current state of conflict in Ethiopia? Is it a civil war?
* What are the causes of the conflict?
* Which other countries are involved?
* How is the conflict affecting Sudan?
* What does Eritrea hope to gain from the conflict?
* What dilemmas does the conflict pose for U.S. relationships in the region?

Required Readings:

Simon Rynn and Ahmed Hassan, “Ethiopia: What Next?” Commentary, *Royal United Services Institute*, October 22, 2021. At: <https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/ethiopia-what-next>

Aly Verjee, “Ethiopia’s Crisis on the Blue Nile,” *The Interpreter* (Australia), October 14, 2021. At: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/ethiopia-crisis-on-blue-nile>

Watch: “Taking Stock: U.S. Policy on Ethiopia,” Ambassador Jeffrey Feltman, U.S. Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, at the United States Institute of Peace, November 2, 2021. At: <https://www.usip.org/events/taking-stock-us-policy-ethiopia-conversation-ambassador-jeffrey-feltman>

Recommended Readings:

International Crisis Group, “Ethiopia’s Civil War: Cutting a Deal to Stop the Bloodshed,” Briefing No. 175 Africa, October 26, 2021. At: <https://d2071andvip0wj.cloudfront.net/b175-ethiopias-civil-war.pdf>

Peter Fabricus, “Tensions Rise With the GERD Water,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), April 30, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/tensions-rise-with-the-gerd-water>

Aly Verjee, “Political Transitions in Sudan and Ethiopia: An Early Comparative Analysis,” *Global Change, Peace and Security*, Vol. 33, Issue 3 (2021), pp. 279-296. At: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14781158.2021.1961703> Also relevant for session 7.

**11.15- 11.30: Break**

**11.30-12.15: Reflection Session**

**Facilitator: Dr. Joanna Spear**

This is an opportunity for FAOs to consider the issues and perspectives brought up in the previous session and relate that to their work as FAOs.

Participants will be asked to immediately fill in a short participant evaluation form.

**Day Four: Thursday January 13, 2022**

**8.45:** Participants Join the Conference

**9.00-10.00: Session Seven: Instability in Sudan**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What is the legacy of the Arab Spring in Sudan?
* What consequences will the government of General Burhan likely face?
* What allies does his government have in and beyond the Africa Command AOR?
* To what extent does the military enjoy the support of the Sudanese populace?

Required Readings:

ACLED, “Appetite for Destruction: The Military Counter-Revolution in Sudan,” *Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project*, October 29, 2021. At: <https://acleddata.com/2021/10/29/appetite-for-destruction-the-military-counter-revolution-in-sudan/>

​Peter Beaumont, “​Seeds of Sudan Coup Sown after Fall of Omar Al-Bashir​,” *The Guardian*, October 25, 2021. At: [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/25/seeds-of-sudan-coup-attempt-sown-after-fall-of-omar-al-bashir​](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/25/seeds-of-sudan-coup-attempt-sown-after-fall-of-omar-al-bashir%E2%80%8B) ​

Rebecca Hamilton, “Sudan’s Coup Is a Gamble That Nobody Will Care,” *Foreign Policy*, October 29, 2021. At: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/10/29/sudans-coup-is-a-gamble-that-nobody-will-care/>

Frank Andrews​, “Sudan Coup 2021: What’s at Stake for Neighbouring Powers,” *Middle East Eye*, October 28, 2021. At: ​<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/sudan-coup-neighbouring-powers-have-stake>

Andrew Atta-Asamoah, “Sudan’s Coup Plotters Have Miscalculated Their Options,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), October 29, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/sudans-coup-plotters-have-miscalculated-their-options>

Recommended Readings:

Yossi Melman, “Israel Thinks Burhan’s Coup Is a Chance for Closer Sudan Ties - But It Will Have to Wait​,” *Middle East Eye*, October 28, 2021. At: [https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/sudan-coup-israel-burhan-closer-ties-wait​](https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/sudan-coup-israel-burhan-closer-ties-wait%E2%80%8B) ​

​“Ge​​n​eral​ El Burhan Meets U​NITAM​s Head to Discuss Crisis in Sudan​,”​ *Dabanga* (Khartoum), October 28, 2021. At: <https://www.dabangasudan.org/en/all-news/article/gen-el-burhan-meets-unitams-head-to-discuss-crisis-in-sudan>

Mohammed Alamin, “Sudan’s Civilians Sidelined in Army Overtures to Russia, Israel,” Bloomberg, December 11, 2020. At: <http://bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-12-11/sudan-s-civilians-sidelined-in-army-overtures-to-russia-israel> Also relevant for session 3.

Aly Verjee, “Political Transitions in Sudan and Ethiopia: An Early Comparative Analysis,” *Global Change, Peace and Security*, Vol. 33, Issue 3 (2021), pp. 279-296. At: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14781158.2021.1961703> Also relevant for session 6.

**10.00-10.15: Break**

**10.15-11.15: Session Eight: The French Drawdown in Africa and Instability in the Sahel**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What factors led to the French drawdown?
* What have been the security consequences of the partial French withdrawal?
* How has Russia tried to insert its influence into the vacuum?
* Why has Chad reduced the number of forces they have fighting in the Sahel?
* How do the governments and populations of Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mali perceive their security predicament in light of the French withdrawal?

Required Readings:

Michele Barbero, “France Bids Adieu to Its Military Mission in West Africa,” *Foreign Policy*, July 7, 2021. At: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/07/07/france-military-leaving-west-africa-colonialism-macron/>

Andrew Lebovich, “After Barkhane: What France’s Military Drawdown Means for the Sahel,” *European Council on Foreign Relations*, Commentary blog, July 2, 2021. At: <https://ecfr.eu/article/after-barkhane-what-frances-military-drawdown-means-for-the-sahel/>

Manon Laplace, “Barkhane, Wagner… Tensions Rise between France and Mali,” *The Africa Report*, October 1, 2021. At: <https://www.theafricareport.com/131849/barkhane-wagner-tensions-rise-between-france-and-mali/>

Mady Ibrahim Kanté (Bamako), “France Has Started Withdrawing Its Troops from Mali: What Is It Leaving Behind?” *The Conversation*, October 25, 2021. At: <https://theconversation.com/france-has-started-withdrawing-its-troops-from-mali-what-is-it-leaving-behind-170375>

Moses Rono, “Mali’s Plan for Russia Mercenaries to Replace French Troops Unsettles Sahel,” *BBC Monitoring Service*, October 2, 2021. At: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-58751423>

Recommended Readings:

Yvan Guichaoua, “The Bitter Harvest of French Interventionism in the Sahel,” *International Affairs* 96, no. 4 (2020): 895–911,<https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiaa094>

Paul Melly, “Sahel Jihadists: West Africa Faces Up to Policing its Terror Triangle,” *BBC World News*, September 4, 2021. At: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-58438905>

“Mali Violence Threatens Country’s Survival, Warns UN Human Rights Expert,” *UN News*, August 6, 2021. At: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/08/1097272>

Michael Shurkin, “France’s War in the Sahel and the Evolution of Counter-Insurgency Doctrine,” *Texas National Security Review*, Vol. 4, Issue 1 (Winter 2020/2021). 26pp. At: <http://dx.doi.org/10.26153/tsw/11707> Especially sections on Current French COIN doctrine and on Operation Barkhane. Also relevant for session 10.

Bola A. Akinterinwa, “AFRICOM, French Operation Barkhane and Africa’s Recidivist Insecurity: What Future?” *This Day* (Lagos), October 21, 2021. At: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2021/10/10/africom-french-operation-barkhane-and-africas-recidivist-insecurity-what-future/>

Amy Mackinnon, “Who Blessed the Vlads Down in Africa?: Russia’s Wagner Group Has Its Eyes on Mali,” *Foreign Policy*, September 24, 2021. At: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/09/24/russia-wagner-group-mali-africa-putin-libya/> Also relevant for session 3.

Daniel Eizenga and Wendy Williams, “The Puzzle of JNIM and Militant Islamic Groups in the Sahel,” December 2020. Africa Security Brief No. 38 *Africa Center for Strategic Studies*.At: <https://africacenter.org/publication/puzzle-jnim-militant-islamist-groups-sahel/>

**11.15- 11.30: Break**

**11.30-12.15: Reflection Session**

**Facilitator: Dr. Graham**

This is an opportunity for FAOs to consider the issues and perspectives brought up in the previous session and relate that to their work as FAOs.

Participants will be asked to immediately fill in a short participant evaluation form.

**Day Five: Friday January 14, 2022**

**8.45:** Participants Join the Conference

**9.00-10.00: Session Nine: Rare Earth Minerals in Africa**

**Speaker:**

**Key Questions:**

* What high-technology products are rare earth minerals used in?
* What rare earth minerals are found in Africa?
* Will Africa benefit as the U.S. shifts rare earth mineral supply chains away from China?
* How is interest in decarbonization affecting rare earth mineral supply and pricing?
* Can Africa make money from e-waste recycling?
* Can African countries avoid the “resource curse” and develop their economies by mining rare earth minerals?

Required Readings:

J. Peter Pham, “Africa’s Real Strategic Import for the Green Economy,” AfricaSource, *The Atlantic Council*, March 29, 2021. At: <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/africasource/africas-real-strategic-import-for-the-green-economy/>

Daisy Mukarakate, “The Role of Extractives in Africa’s Inclusive Green and Resilient Recovery,” *Africa Renewal Magazine*, October 12, 2021. At: <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/october-2021/role-extractives-africas-inclusive-green-and-resilient-recovery>

Samantha Subin, “The New U.S. Plan to Rival China and End Cornering of Market in Rare Earth Metals,” *CNBC*, April 17, 2021. At: <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/17/the-new-us-plan-to-rival-chinas-dominance-in-rare-earth-metals.html>

Recommended Readings:

Lex, “Aluminium/Guinea Coup: Political Instability Portends Problems for Some Producers,” *Financial Times*, September 6, 2021. At: <https://www.ft.com/content/19acaa3b-3704-4d47-acd2-69348c7b1d9a?segmentId=3f81fe28-ba5d-8a93-616e-4859191fabd8>

Jevans Nyabiage, “China’s demand for Electric Cars Drives Cobalt Prices to Highest Levels in Two Years,” *South China Morning Post*, January 28, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2481346195/B5548D8332004B33PQ/12?accountid=11243>

Jevans Nyabiage, “Congo Reviews Mine Contracts After President Felix Tshisekedi Pushes Back Against Deals Favouring Foreign Firms,” *South China Morning Post*, August 29, 2021. At: <https://www.proquest.com/docview/2565791823/B5548D8332004B33PQ/8?accountid=11243>

Oluwole Ojewale, “Child Miners: The Dark Side of the DRC’s Coltan Wealth,” ISS Today, *Institute of Security Studies* (South Africa), October 18, 2021. At: <https://issafrica.org/iss-today/child-miners-the-dark-side-of-the-drcs-coltan-wealth>

International Energy Agency, *The Role of Critical Minerals in Clean Energy Transitions*, IEA, Paris, 2021. At: <https://www.iea.org/reports/the-role-of-critical-minerals-in-clean-energy-transitions>

**10.00-10.15: Break**

**10.15-11.15: Session Ten: Counterinsurgency in Africa**

**Speaker:** Dr. Paul Williams, George Washington University

**Key Questions:**

* What motivates African insurgencies?
* What active counterinsurgencies are being waged in Africa?
* Who is involved?
* How are African insurgencies and counterinsurgencies being influenced by events elsewhere?

Required Readings:

Anouar Boukhars, “The Logic of Violence in Africa’s Extremist Insurgencies,” *Perspectives on Terrorism*, Vol. 14, Issue 5 (October 2020). 13pp. At: <https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/10/30/logic-of-violence-in-africa-s-extremist-insurgencies-pub-83089>

Sirwan Kajjo and Amancio Vilanculos, “Displaced Mozambicans Optimistic about U.S. Support for Counterinsurgency Operations,” Extremism Watch, *Voice of America*, March 23, 2021. At: <https://www.voanews.com/a/extremism-watch_displaced-mozambicans-optimistic-about-us-support-counterinsurgency-efforts/6203674.html>

Commentary, “How Islamist Militants Elsewhere View the Taliban’s Victory in Afghanistan,” *International Crisis Group*, October 27, 2021. <https://www.crisisgroup.org/global/how-islamist-militants-elsewhere-view-talibans-victory-afghanistan> Read sections on Somalia, the Sahel and Lake Chad.

Recommended Readings:

Michael Shurkin, “France’s War in the Sahel and the Evolution of Counter-Insurgency Doctrine,” *Texas National Security Review*, Vol. 4, Issue 1 (Winter 2020/2021). 26pp. At: <http://dx.doi.org/10.26153/tsw/11707> Also relevant for session 8.

Anouar Boukhars, “Tunisia’s Evolving Counterterrorism Strategy,” Spotlight July 16, 2021. *Africa Center for Strategic Studies*. At: <https://africacenter.org/spotlight/tunisias-evolving-counterterrorism-strategy/>

International Crisis Group, “Stemming the Insurrection in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado,” Africa Report No. 303, June 11, 2021. At: <https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/southern-africa/mozambique/303-stemming-insurrection-mozambiques-cabo-delgado>

Stig Jarle Hansen, “The Fractious Future of the Islamic State in West Africa,” War on the Rocks blog, November 3, 2021. At: <https://warontherocks.com/2021/11/the-fractious-future-of-the-islamic-state-in-west-africa/>

Emilia Columbo, “Trajectory of Violence in Northern Mozambique Points to Long-Term Security Challenge,” Commentary, *Center for Strategic and International Studies*, November 16, 2020. At: <https://www.csis.org/analysis/trajectory-violence-northern-mozambique-points-long-term-security-challenge>

Samuel Ramani, “Russia Takes its Syria Model of Counterinsurgency to Africa,” RUSI Commentary, *Royal United Services Institute*, September 9, 2020. At: <https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/russia-takes-its-syrian-model-counterinsurgency-africa> Also relevant for session 3.

**11.15- 11.30: Break**

**11.30-12.15: Reflection Session**

**Facilitator: Dr. Graham Pitts**

This is an opportunity for FAOs to consider the issues and perspectives brought up in the previous session and relate that to their work as FAOs.

Participants will be asked to immediately fill in a short participant evaluation form.