

US-China Rivalry in Asia and Africa: Lessons from the Cold War

One of the hallmarks of the Cold War era was a competition between the United States and its democratic allies, on the one hand, and Communist powers, on the other, for the allegiance of countries in Africa and Asia. In an echo of the Cold War, a similar competition between the United States and China is playing out today. This report examines the US-China rivalry then and now and offers insights and lessons that can guide US policymakers as they navigate the contemporary competition. During the Cold War, the United States vied for global influence not only against the Soviet Union but also against China—a rivalry that has reignited in recent years.

The main theaters for Sino-American competition during the Cold War were Asia and Africa—two regions that are at the center of the contemporary rivalry. Although today's rivalry is not an exact replay of the Cold War, lessons from the earlier competition offer critical insights into how the new contest between China and the United States may evolve. United States Institute of Peace.

Africa urged to partner with China for renewable energy boost

African countries have been challenged to leverage China's technological expertise and investment capacity to fully explore their immense renewable energy potential. African Development Bank (ADB) Group Vice-President for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth Mr. Kevin Kariuki says collaboration between Africa and China can drive sustainable development, alleviate energy poverty and stimulate economic activities across the continent. According to China Daily, Kariuki, who spoke at the bank's annual meeting in Nairobi, emphasised the need for Africa to tap into renewable energy for industrial growth. "Investing in Africa's renewable energy infrastructure can enable China to help build large-scale solar farms, wind farms and hydroelectric plants. These investments can provide reliable and affordable energy, crucial for economic growth," said Kariuki. He noted that the continent has not fully exploited its renewable energy sector, according to the State of Africa's Infrastructure Report 2024 by the Africa Finance Corporation. This underutilisation has hindered economic growth, particularly in the manufacturing sector. The Standard.

African media workers impressed by TV show

African media professionals visiting China have been impressed by the country's advanced television production techniques, highlighting areas where their own industries can learn and grow. Following a visit to a rehearsal for the Chinese music competition show Singer 2024 in Changsha, Hunan province, on Thursday, the 18 media workers were particularly impressed by the show's production values. They compared it favorably to established programs from the United States such as The Voice, American Idol and America's Got Talent. Singer 2024, which features both international and local singers, airs live every Friday on Hunan Satellite TV and Mango TV online. The visiting professionals, hailing from seven African countries, including Eritrea, Lesotho and Nigeria, are participating in a 14-day tour organized by the Ministry of Commerce. Their itinerary includes visiting TV stations

and media enterprises in Changsha, followed by visits to similar entities in Shanghai and Hangzhou, Zhejiang province. China Daily.

Nigeria, China bolster bilateral cooperation

Nigeria and China have signed a joint agreement towards strengthening exchanges and bilateral cooperation between the two countries. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yusuf Tuggar, and his counterpart, Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of China, disclosed this in their joint statement in China. Yi is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC). The two ministers, who co-chaired the first Plenary Session of the China-Nigeria Intergovernmental Committee, signed the statement centered on joint efforts by both countries to promote regional and world peace. According to both ministers, their agreement will advance their respective departments of security operations, trade, police enforcement, enhance their capacity, safeguard national sovereignty and security interests. "The two countries restated commitment to enhancing the mutual bond and friendship between their two peoples mutual-trust, interest-sharing and common progress through mutual exchanges, mutual leaning and mutual understanding. Vanguard News.

Treaty violation: Court gives Chinese firm go-ahead to seize Nigeria's properties in UK

A commercial court in London, United Kingdom (UK), has granted Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investment Co. Ltd final charging orders over two residential properties owned by Nigeria in the UK. Lisa Sullivan, a master at the court, granted the final charging orders to the Chinese firm following Nigeria's prior opposition to the orders' jurisdiction. The Chinese firm seeks to enforce a \$70 million investment treaty award against Nigeria. In 2010, Zhongshan, through Zhuhai Zhongfu Industrial Group Co. Ltd (Zhuhai), its Chinese parent company, acquired rights to develop a free trade zone in Ogun state. A year later, Zhongshan set up Zhongfu International Investment (NIG) FZE (Zhongfu), a Nigerian entity, to manage the project under the permission of the Ogun state government. Things took a different turn in July 2016 when the company accused the state government of abruptly moving to terminate its appointment while attempting to install a new manager for the free trade zone. The Cable.

China to increase agricultural imports from Nigeria

The Chinese government has promised to increase agricultural product imports from Nigeria going forward. China's foreign affairs Minister, Wang Yi, and Nigeria's minister of foreign affairs, Yusuf Tuggar, made this known in a joint statement at the first plenary meeting of the China-Nigeria Intergovernmental Committee held in Beijing. According to the statement, both countries used the opportunity of the meeting to review the positive achievements in the development of China-Nigeria relations over the past 50 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations. The statement which was published on China's foreign affairs website, indicated that the two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in infrastructure, electricity, telecommunications, finance, agriculture, industry, mining, free trade zones and other fields. "China is willing to further increase imports of high-quality agricultural products from Nigeria. Nigeria is willing to strengthen its partnership with China in mining and solid mineral development and is willing to cooperate with Chinese companies to build factories locally to meet local consumption and export needs. 21st Century Chronicles

China's Rise in the Global South.

The Diplomat author Mercy Kuo regularly engages subject-matter experts, policy practitioners, and strategic thinkers across the globe for their diverse insights into U.S. Asia policy. This conversation with Dr. Dawn Murphy – associate professor of National Security Strategy at the U.S. National War College and author of "China's Rise in the Global South: The Middle East, Africa, and Beijing's Alternative World Order" (Stanford 2022) – is the 420th in "The Trans-Pacific View Insight Series." The views expressed in this interview are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the National Defense University, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. government. China's primary strategic interest in these regions is acquiring resources (e.g., oil, gas, minerals, agriculture) and markets for Chinese goods and services across a wide range of sectors. Almost 70 percent of China's oil imports originate in the Middle East and Africa, and China views countries in these regions as critical economic partners and substantial future consumer bases. The Diplomat.

Mozambique: Defence Minister visits China

Defence Minister Cristóvão Chume will visit China from Monday to Saturday, at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, to strengthen friendship and cooperation ties in the area of defence. "It is also expected that important cooperation agreements will be signed between the two countries in the field of defence during the visit," says the Ministry of Defence of Mozambique on its Facebook page. During the working visit, Cristóvão Chume will hold talks with Dong Jun, Minister of Defence and member of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. Minister Cristóvão Chume will also visit military units, higher military education institutions and defence industry companies in China. The Mozambican Defence Minister will be accompanied by the Commander of the army branch of the Armed Defence Forces of Mozambique (FADM) and by national directors of the Ministry. Club of Mozambique.

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