



[US-China rivalry for military influence in Africa ramps up](#)

While the U.S. was forced to downsize and pull its troops out of Niger this year, China is increasing its military cooperation on the continent, recently announcing a plan to spend \$140 million to train 6,000 military personnel — a move, a U.S. defense official said Friday, was for China's "own economic growth and benefit." Among the many ways that the U.S. and China are competing for influence in Africa, analysts say military cooperation on the continent is one that is seeing rising rivalry between the two superpowers. At a summit that focused on China-Africa cooperation last week, Chinese President Xi Jinping made the pledge to train the 6,000 military personnel. He also invited 500 African officers to visit China. China has been cooperating with Africa in several areas of security for years, including participating in U.N. peacekeeping missions, holding joint military drills, and providing training and education for officers. However, analysts said the latest announcement was particularly noteworthy. Voice of America.

[Africa a big stage for international cooperation, not an arena for major-power rivalry: Chinese FM](#)

Africa is a big stage for international cooperation, not an arena for major-power rivalry, and China hopes that other economies can work together with China to benefit Africa, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Thursday. "We believe that the better the China-Africa cooperation develops, the more investment other countries will make in Africa. China will uphold its longstanding tradition of cooperation with Africa, does not interfere in Africa's internal affairs, and will closely align with Africa's development needs," Du Xiaohui, director-general of the Department of African Affairs of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, told a media briefing in Beijing on Thursday. China will avoid geopolitical games, oppose provoking camp confrontation in Africa, and reject the exploitation of Africa for personal gains, Du said. Du's remarks followed the conclusion of the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing on September 6 with significant achievements. Global Times.

[China-Africa Ties: China's development experience training boosts international cooperation](#)

The recently concluded Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit raised China-Africa friendship to a new level, with Chinese and African leaders agreeing to a new blueprint for high-level cooperation in the new era. Many government officials from China and Africa shared their prospects for future cooperation between the two sides. HUBERT SHIJA MASSANJA, Director, Office of the Vice President of Tanzania "Changes are occurring because they create employment opportunities, particularly for the youth. The youth population is significant, making up about one-third of the total population. For example, in Tanzania, we have seen many young people employed by Chinese companies, which highlights the positive impact of Chinese investment in creating jobs." YUN ZONGGUO, General Manager of International Business Department, China International Economic Consultants "We are making every effort to participate in and contribute to the Belt and Road Initiative. CGTN.

[Africa at a Crossroads: China's Growing Influence and Its Impact on Global Relations](#)

China has promised more than 50 billion dollars in financial aid to Africa over the next three years and has assured deeper cooperation in infrastructure, trade, agriculture and investment. The conference on the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation was held from September 4 to 6, 2024, in Beijing. The summit has been held every three years since 2000. China has become a significant player in the African continent, heavily investing in mining and industrial needs, and its development banks are providing loans to construct railways, roads, and other important infrastructure under the Belt and Road initiative. More than 50 African leaders attended the summit held in China, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres showed their presence during the summit. China has promised more than 50 billion dollars in financial aid to Africa over the next three years and has assured deeper cooperation in infrastructure, trade, agriculture and investment. Modern Diplomacy.

Chinese Financing for African Renewables Rebounds After Two-Year Lull

New data reveals a rebound in Chinese financing of renewable energy projects in Africa in 2023, following a lull over the past few years. Climate cooperation between China and Africa was a key focus of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), which concluded on 6 September, when dozens of leaders gathered in Beijing for the three-yearly meeting. A landmark declaration was issued at the previous FOCAC, held in 2021, that “positioned climate cooperation as an important pillar” of future cooperation. The same year, the Chinese government declared that it would stop funding coal power. A pause in policy bank loans for energy projects had raised concerns around the future of Chinese energy lending in Africa. However, the new data indicates that the pause signified a reset, as banks adjusted to requirements to fund low-carbon energy and “small and beautiful” projects, according to the Boston University Global Development Policy Center. -In Depth News.

World Powers Largely Seen Positively Among Africa’s Youth

As the fastest-growing demographic globally, African youth are expected to account for over a third of the world’s youth by 2050, shaping not only the future of the continent but also that of the global stage. With this in mind, the African Youth Survey 2024 by the Ichikowitz Family Foundation asked more than 5,000 18 to 24 year olds across Botswana, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia, about their opinions on topics from future ambitions to the environment and technology. Respondents were also asked about their thoughts on international influence on Africa. According to the report, nearly seven in ten (72 percent) said they are either ‘very concerned’ or ‘somewhat concerned’ about the impact foreign countries and organizations have on the continent and their country. Statista.

China Raises Retirement Age For First Time Since 1950s

China will “gradually raise” its retirement age for the first time since the 1950s, as the country confronts an ageing population and a dwindling pension budget. The top legislative body on Friday approved proposals to raise the statutory retirement age from 50 to 55 for women in blue-collar jobs, and from 55 to 58 for females in white-collar jobs. Men will see an increase from 60 to 63. China’s current retirement ages are among the lowest in the world. According to the plan passed on Friday, the change will set in from 1 January 2025, with the respective retirement ages raised every few months over the next 15 years, said Chinese state media. Retiring before the statutory age will not be allowed, state news agency Xinhua reported, although people can delay their retirement by no more than three years. Starting 2030, employees will also have to make more contributions to the social

security system in order to receive pensions. By 2039, they would have to clock 20 years of contributions to access their pensions. Capital Digital Media.

[SFC Markets and Finance | Gert Grobler: China-Africa Relationship Will Continue to Flourish and Grow](#)

Former South African senior diplomat Gert Grobler received a special gift from China. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, President Xi recently replied to a letter written by scholars from 50 African countries, encouraging them to continue to provide intellectual support for building a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future and safeguarding the common interests of the Global South. As one of the scholars writing the letter, Grobler expressed great joy and encouragement upon receiving the reply during an exclusive interview with SFC. He noted that African scholars are well aware of the importance of the China-Africa community and hope to contribute more wisdom to its development through research and discussion. Grobler pointed out, "We always had a long-standing friendship, but through the FOCAC, it was changed into a multi-sectorial, concrete, measurable and mutually beneficial relationship." Wap Stockstar.

[China-Africa cooperation embarks on a new journey at CIFTIS](#)

The 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) has just concluded, and now, in September as autumn begins, Beijing is welcoming another grand event—the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS). China has remained Africa's largest trading partner for 15 consecutive years, and at CIFTIS, we can also take a glimpse of the future landscape of China-Africa services trade cooperation. People's Daily Online.

Please note: The news items presented here are for informational purposes. The views expressed within them are those of the authors and/or individuals quoted, not those of the Africa Policy Institute.
