

**The Magnificence & Importance of the United States of America,  
United Kingdom, Germany, France, Australia, Belgium, Canada,  
Switzerland, Italy, South Africa, Norway, Denmark & Spain  
International Relations with the Continent of Africa 1<sup>st</sup> Edition**



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**BBA, BCom Honors & MCom (UKZN South Africa)**

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# **The Magnificence & Importance of the United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Switzerland, Italy, South Africa, Norway, Denmark & Spain International Relations with the Continent of Africa 1<sup>st</sup> Edition**

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spoken by someone, the author would like to kindly inform you that the verbatim or direct word-for-word quote will only end after proper referencing of open and closed brackets has been done at the end of the verbatim sentence clearly acknowledging the name and year of the source document that has been used by the author as shown (Rudolph, 2019, [www.rptmuteswa.ca.us](http://www.rptmuteswa.ca.us)). Furthermore, as the author of this textbook the strategy I am using to write my book is the ‘Gathered Articles’ writing strategy since I am using direct quotes I have gathered from various publications written by various authors and I later on present them in a logical manner that creates a Book Chapter despite the fact that I will often at times present my own interpreted words in certain parts of the book. I was granted permission by the publishers of the information sources I obtained the information to use during my book writing process. In addition in certain instances there can be a full website link where the article or publication used in writing this textbook can be directly downloaded or viewed by the readers of this textbook for instance: during in-text referencing, the footnotes and or the bibliography section of the chapter as this enables the author of this textbook to clearly show the readers who the original owners of the published work are and also to fully acknowledge them. In addition readers please note that all the information sources used in this book are owned by the publishers/owners of the various websites, books, newspapers, magazines and journals used by the book author. Therefore readers of this textbook if you want to use any of the information from any of these referenced sources please may you directly contact the original owner(s)/publisher(s) of the information source for permission to use their information for whatever purpose you want to use it for.

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## **PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION**

This educational textbook is inspired by an already published 2022 book titled: *Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2022) 28 Amazingly Beautiful Countries in the World & Our World Heroes Towards Humanity (Gathered Articles): A Training Guide for Business Executives, Foreign Diplomats, International Students & Travelers 1st Edition, Educational Ebook, p1- 146, ISBN: 978-1-77924-684-4 EAN: 9781779246844*. The continent of Africa is vast, rich with natural resources, diverse cultures, hot climate conditions and it is also full of thriving: small-medium enterprises, traditional architecture, agricultural activities, tourist attraction destinations, peacebuilding initiatives, newly democratically elected governments, foreign direct investments and so on. In general developing nations aim to be economically and politically categorized as developed nations or First World nations' and one of the most guaranteed way of achieving this goal of progressing from a developing nation to a first world nation is through creating/enhancing international relations with various countries in the world. This textbook aims to educate readers that each and every country in the world can only become very prosperous only if it harmoniously works together with other countries without comprising its constitutional democratic values, human rights protection principles, peacebuilding policies, sovereignty, cultures, protection of property rights, foreign investor confidence protection laws, education and health promotion laws. The other aim of this textbook was to educate readers about the character and competency requirements of the modern day 'suitable diplomat' and their various roles they play in creating or maintaining diplomatic relations with foreign governments. This textbook aims to educate readers about the high value a department or ministry of foreign affairs or international relations holds in any country and how these departments have successfully managed to form viable/strong diplomatic relations with other countries. Furthermore, this textbook helps to clearly highlight the good international relations that exist between the Continent of Africa and various North America, Western-Northern Europe and Oceania nations and it also further identifies the key contributions achieved by the Continent of Africa towards the growth/development of the global economy. The importance of foreign trade in a country and how it is increased by free trade agreements was also clearly highlighted by this educational textbook. Another aim of this textbook was to educate readers about the importance of each and every country's government foreign affairs or international relations department towards nation branding, boosting foreign export markets and tourist arrivals in a country. Readers of this

*textbook please note that the several Departments/Ministries of Foreign Affairs or International Relations used as examples in this book do not endorse the views expressed in this book.*

**Acknowledgement:**

I dedicate this book to my future wife and children. I also would like to thank my 6 (*four brothers & two sisters*) siblings for tirelessly supporting me towards my education and personal life goals. I would also like to take this opportunity to greatly thank my late parents, aunties and uncles for the great role they played in my childhood. Furthermore, I shall forever be grateful to the great men and women on the continent of Africa, North America, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, Oceania and Asia who contributed towards the writing of this book in particular all the named governments, leaders, organizations & the various information sources cited in this book.



# Chapter 1: What is international relations

After reading this chapter you should be able to:

- Define the following terms ‘leadership’ and ‘ethics’. What is international relations. Who are the people behind diplomatic relations of different countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, North America, South America and Oceania.
- Characteristics of a suitable diplomat. What is a bilateral agreement.
- Importance of bilateral agreements. What is a ‘Free Trade Agreement (FTA)’. Common benefits of free trade agreements in a country for example Australia.

## 1.1 Introduction

<sup>1</sup>“Africa is a continent on the rise. Political successes and the progress made in economic development demonstrate the impact of increasing African ownership and Africans’ own efforts. Acute crises and conflicts do not predominate in many regions in Africa and African organisations and states have shown themselves willing to engage in their own crisis management. Due to insufficient African resources, however, the support of the international community is still required to help reduce poverty and fragility, combat risks and overcome crises. A realistic analysis shows that Africa is a continent of the future and of opportunities but that challenges and risks for further development remain. At the same time, Africa’s relevance and its ties with the international community are increasing” (Federal Republic of Germany Federal Foreign Office, 2022:1, <https://monrovia.diplo.de/>). <sup>2</sup>“**foreign policy**, general objectives that guide the activities and relationships of one state in its interactions with other states. The development of foreign policy is influenced by domestic considerations, the policies or behaviour of other states, or plans to advance specific geopolitical designs. **Diplomacy** is the tool of foreign policy, and war, alliances, and **international trade**...” (Britannica, The Editors of

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Republic of Germany Federal Foreign Office (2022) *Policy Guidelines for Africa of the German Federal Government*. Available from: <https://monrovia.diplo.de/blob/1714816/c4d775a5ed891e91265a01ac5c087fc3/afrika-leitlinien-download-data.pdf> [Accessed May 31, 2022]

<sup>2</sup> Britannica, The Editors of Encyclopaedia. "foreign policy". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 6 Dec. 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/foreign-policy>. Accessed 30 May 2022.

Encyclopaedia. "foreign policy". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 6 Dec. 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/foreign-policy>. Accessed 30 May 2022).<sup>3</sup>“**diplomacy**, the established method of influencing the decisions and behaviour of foreign governments and peoples through negotiation, and other measures short of war or violence” (Marks, Sally and Freeman, Chas. W.. "diplomacy". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14 Dec. 2020, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/diplomacy>. Accessed 30 May 2022). The following section will cover the meaning of terms in-depth.

## **1.2 Define the following terms ‘leadership’ and ‘ethics’**

In general the field of foreign affairs and or international relations is broad therefore numerous definitions have been developed by academics, experts and authors in the field over the past number of years.<sup>4</sup>“The term ‘*leadership*’ refers to the inner power that enables an individual to successfully motivate others in a convincing, thrilling and inspiring manner to accomplish a desired vision, set goal or objective with a victorious mindset” (Rudolph. Patrick. T. Muteswa, 2020:12).<sup>5</sup>“The term ‘*ethics*’ refers to a set of principles that help to shape an individual’s or an organization’s culture, thinking or mindset towards their behavior, morality, conscience and ethos on what they believe is right or wrong in general” (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2019:13). The following section will cover information about international relations in-depth.

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<sup>3</sup> Marks, Sally and Freeman, Chas. W.. "diplomacy". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14 Dec. 2020, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/diplomacy>. Accessed 30 May 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2020) *Leadership (Gathered Articles)*: A North America, Europe, Africa, Oceania & Asia 21st Century Perspective 1st Edition, Self published Education EBook, p1-112 **ISBN 978-1-77921-414-0 EAN 9781779214140**

<sup>5</sup> Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2019) *Ethics & Compliance by Board of Directors (Gathered Articles)*: A North America, Europe, Africa, Oceania & Asia Perspective 1st Edition, Self published Education EBook, p1-112, **ISBN 978-1-77920-216-1 EAN 9781779202161**

### 1.3 What is international relations

<sup>6</sup>“**international relations**, the study of the relations of states with each other and with [international organizations](#) and certain subnational entities” (McClelland, Charles A. and Pfaltzgraff, Robert. "international relations". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 15 Oct. 2019, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/international-relations>. Accessed 30 May 2022). The following section will cover information about diplomats in-depth.

### 1.4 Who are the people behind diplomatic relations of different countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, South America and Oceania?

The pillar behind any good relationship of different countries are ‘diplomats’ who represent their countries interests or government tirelessly in both domestic or foreign soil. A good example of a country that has a credible history of appointing diplomats with exceptional qualities that naturally cement the bond between nations is the world’s largest economy the United States of America. The United States of America unquestionably creates deep harmonious multicultural relationship ties with the communities of each and every country it opens up its diplomatic missions in order to: (1) develop the livelihoods of the local people, (2) provide humanitarian aid, (3) partner with local entities towards economic development, (4) offer educational cooperation or programs, (5) initiate foreign direct investments, (6) initiate peacebuilding and security cooperation programs, (7) promote the local country as a safe tourist destination, (8) promote democracy & human rights awareness programs, (9) promote young people and women empowerment & leadership programs, (10) partner with local health professional authorities to share medical science technology & knowledge, (11) successfully invest in the local nation’s food security and so on. <sup>7</sup>According to the leading United States of America renowned Baltic Atlantic University (2020) **What Do Diplomats Do?** First, off, let’s clear the air with the answer to what diplomats really do. Do they just sit around in their pretty suits, talk to world leaders, and

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<sup>6</sup> McClelland, Charles A. and Pfaltzgraff, Robert. "international relations". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 15 Oct. 2019, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/international-relations>. Accessed 30 May 2022.

<sup>7</sup> Bay Atlantic University (2020) *What is a Diplomat and What Do They Really Do?* Available from: <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

make decisions about our countries' futures? Well, it's not that simple. A diplomatic services officer specializes in the practical side of diplomatic work and deals with foreign policy and service delivery overseas. A diplomat has the opportunity to influence international and diplomatic development. Most countries' diplomatic responsibilities are divided into three main categories: political, trade, and consular services.

- A political officer usually reports on local developments and advocates for support for the country's interests.
- In contrast, a consular officer deals with day-to-day travel problems like lost passports and provides essential services to citizens in need.
- A trade officer promotes the interests of the country's companies by introducing them to helpful connections, informing them of business opportunities, providing guidance for visits, and necessary information they can use<sup>8</sup>.

**13 Essential Skills of a Diplomat.** Diplomats must handle stressful and difficult situations calmly and adapt quickly to changing situations. They work with people from other cultures with different values, political beliefs, and religions. So, diplomats must have good judgment and high integrity, and they need strong analytical skills. There are a number of essential skills that a diplomat must possess in order to be able to handle and perform their responsibilities. Some of them are:

1. an interest in foreign affairs, other countries, and cultures
2. communication skills
3. constructive and innovative thinking
4. a proactive approach to work
5. resourceful
6. the ability to build relationships
7. decision-making skills
8. attention to detail

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<sup>8</sup> Bay Atlantic University (2020) *What is a Diplomat and What Do They Really Do?* Available from: <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

9. commercial and financial awareness
10. the ability to work under pressure
11. taking on the responsibility
12. flexibility
13. Desire to learn and improve (Bay Atlantic University, 2020, <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/>).

“**Job Description of a Diplomat.** Tasks vary depending on where you’re working. For example, you could be based in a small or remote embassy, in a large embassy in Paris or Washington, some of the daily duties include:

- draft and proofread written reports
- liaise with high commissions and embassies
- organize and ensure the smooth running of ministerial and diplomatic visits, from transport arrangements to entertainment
- answer general written correspondence by letter or email
- handle queries by telephone from other departments, members of the public and overseas contacts
- deal face-to-face with queries from the public
- update travel advice and information
- handle departmental or project budgets
- update and complete personnel details, accounts, and other admin tasks
- support and assist colleagues with their policy work
- undertake other specific activities related to your particular department.

**Functions of a Diplomat.** The main functions of diplomats are:

- representation and protection of the interests and nationals of the sending State
- initiation and facilitation of strategic agreements

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<sup>9</sup> Bay Atlantic University (2020) *What is a Diplomat and What Do They Really Do?* Available from: <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

- treaties and conventions
- promotion of information
- trade and commerce
- technology
- and friendly relations.

**What Are The Benefits Of Being A Diplomat?** Being a diplomat comes with a few perks. Some of them are: **Free housing.** It depends on where in the world they live in. However, in major cities, diplomats usually live in the most upscale neighborhoods in beautiful apartments. If they live in a house, they are big, often with big yards, great views, and occasionally, pools. **Free travel.** It is part of any diplomat's job to visit foreign countries and explore the culture. To work in a foreign country, a diplomat has to know the local language, culture, and customs, which makes it an ideal profession for those interested in exploring the world. Diplomats can travel all over without a visa requirement. **Networking.** Diplomats have to know the community, and since they are always moving, they have to re-learn the community in which they get stationed. Diplomats meet new people and keep the connections they make. The diplomatic corps is mobile, and the built relationships will carry around the world as the career keeps growing. **Representing your country.** It is a privilege to be at the epicenter of building a relationship with another nation and representing the institution's values for which they work. It has much value, and it is important to many citizens, too. This responsibility requires skills such as restraint, integrity, dignity, professionalism. **Diplomatic immunity.** A country's diplomats enjoy a protected status when they serve in countries abroad. Because diplomats are representatives of their home country, and since there are other diplomats back home in their own country, it is agreed that a diplomat should not be subject to local laws. Therefore diplomatic immunity gives them protection to carry out their mission without worrying about being arrested by police or local authorities. <sup>10</sup>**Diplomat Qualifications: How To Become A Diplomat?** Baseline requirements generally include a bachelor's degree and characteristics like judgment and intelligence. Language skills are appreciated and personal flexibility, a sincere interest in others, including the ability to communicate well and listen, are all significant starting assets for this

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<sup>10</sup> Bay Atlantic University (2020) *What is a Diplomat and What Do They Really Do?* Available from: <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

career. Rather than a straightforward resume-and-cover-letter and interview, there is an extensive testing process. Candidates get tested on their writing skills, knowledge of world events, logic, or aptitude for languages. In later stages, you have to pass a serious security screening, including exams relating to your physical and mental health, extensive police background checks, and a fair bit of your personal information in a file folder somewhere in your government's intelligence branch. You can get prepared for all of these and more if you decide to start your journey to become a diplomat by getting a [degree in Political Science and International Relations](#) at BAU"<sup>11</sup> (Bay Atlantic University, 2020, <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/>). The following section will cover the characteristics of a suitable diplomat.

## **1.5 Characteristics of a suitable diplomat**

A human being in any society is generally judged by his/her mannerisms, behavior, thinking, attitude, humor, charisma, sensitivity to emotions, actions, plans or vision, opinions, values, culture, appearance and so on as all these qualities make each and every human being unique from others. A diplomat is someone who must have certain preferable characteristics in order for him/her to be viewed as a suitable person to hold that job title. Some of the qualities that diplomats must possess in order to be classified as competent and high performers were highlighted in an article by Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill (Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy) prepared for the Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013:1) titled: '*Qualities of a Successful Diplomat*' published via <https://www.belfercenter.org>.<sup>12</sup> According to Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill (Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy) prepared for the Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013) My meetings over four decades in the Oval

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<sup>11</sup> Bay Atlantic University (2020) *What is a Diplomat and What Do They Really Do?* Available from: <https://bau.edu/blog/what-do-diplomats-do/> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

<sup>12</sup> Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy, prepared for the Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013) *Ideal Qualities of a Successful Diplomat*. Available from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/ideal-qualities-successful-diplomat> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

Office, the White House Situation Room, the State and Defense Departments and in foreign capitals have been an invitation to reflect upon the core characteristics of outstanding practitioners of diplomacy. I have had the opportunity to learn from extraordinary mentors in each of these settings. From these experiences, here are fifteen characteristics that I believe are fundamental for successful diplomats.

**Possess an abiding interest in and passion for the art and craft of diplomacy and international relations.** If this subject matter does not feed you, if you do not have a compelling instinct to learn about the world, pursue a different profession.

**Demonstrate an analytical temperament.** Our current culture encourages ideological predisposition and rigidity. We are invited to have an opinion without first having a full command of the facts. Resist the temptation to prescribe before you analyse.

**Write well and quickly.** Nurture your ability to rapidly produce quality prose. Read and learn from great writers.

**Be verbally fluent and concise.** Pay attention, speak only when necessary and keep your comments brief. These are not qualities highly prized in academia.

<sup>13</sup>**Ensure meticulous attention to detail.** Whether your work is going to the President or Prime Minister, to your immediate superiors or to your peers, each deserves a flawless product. Don't accept less of yourself.

**Be a tough and effective negotiator.** Getting to yes is not the objective of a diplomat. Begin instead with what best serves your country's national interests and then seek to achieve a negotiating outcome as close to those requirements as possible.

**Build long-term physical and mental stamina.** With the exercise of power and responsibility comes continuous 12-16 hour days, filled with pressure and stress. Be fit.

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<sup>13</sup> Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy, prepared for the Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013) *Ideal Qualities of a Successful Diplomat*. Available from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/ideal-qualities-successful-diplomat> [Accessed May 29, 2022]



**Accept dangerous assignments.** Diplomats frequently serve in menacing locales, sometimes die in the line of duty. Reflect on your degree of anticipated personal courage before entering this profession.

**Study history.** Former Harvard faculty giants Ernest May and Richard Neustadt eloquently counsel thinking in the context of time. They insist that knowledge of history does not provide exact policy prescriptions in present circumstances, but it does illuminate choices and raise central questions of policy formulation and implementation.

<sup>14</sup>**Prudently speak your opinion to power.** Be ready to disagree with evolving policy when it really matters. But choose your dissenting moments wisely. Don't badger your principal. And if such policy differences become paramount, don't whine. Resign. Be loyal and truthful to your boss. Never question outside of government a decision made further up your bureaucratic chain of command, no matter how much you disagree with it. Once such a decision is made, your professional duty is to try your best to implement it. There is nothing courageous in disavowing your Administration's decision in whispered tones in social settings. And never misrepresent or lie to your official superiors, no matter how expedient it might appear at the moment. If you do so, you should be fired.

**Cultivate policy resilience.** Expect periodic policy defeats and energetically move on to the next challenge.

**Acquire relevant work experience.** Invest time, energy and effort in your own professional development. Don't thirst for too much power and responsibility too soon. In diplomacy – as in most endeavours – experience is a crucial component of success.

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<sup>14</sup> Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy, prepared for the Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013) *Ideal Qualities of a Successful Diplomat*. Available from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/ideal-qualities-successful-diplomat> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

**Know your political ideology.** No matter how flattering a foreign policy job proposal may be, ask yourself whether your ideology is compatible with that of the offering institution. Not to do so is to invite endless professional pain and torment.

**Take advantage of luck when you encounter it.** Be ready when events in the world provide policy opportunities you can exploit. Getting on a personal professional wave you can ride – and that you want to ride – is also importantly a matter of good fortune. Relentless attention to the other fourteen characteristics enumerated here will put you in the best position to partially make your own luck in your career<sup>15</sup> (Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy, prepared for the Harvard University’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, 2013, <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/ideal-qualities-successful-diplomat>). The following section will cover information about the meaning of a bilateral agreement in-depth.

## **1.6 What is a bilateral agreement**

<sup>16</sup>**Bilateral Agreement.** An agreement between parties or states that aims to keep trade deficits to a minimum. **What is a Bilateral Agreement?** A bilateral agreement, also called a clearing trade or side deal, refers to an agreement between parties or states that aims to keep [trade deficits](#) to a minimum. It varies depending on the type of agreement, scope, and the countries that are involved in the agreement. Bilateral agreements can take some time to finalize. With several factors that can affect a bilateral agreement, there’s no standard time as to how long before an agreement will be put in place. **Bilateral Agreements vs. Trade Deals.** Bilateral agreements are not the same as trade deals. The latter involves decreasing or eliminating import quotas, export

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<sup>15</sup> Ambassador Robert D. Blackwill, a Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow U.S. Foreign Policy, prepared for the Harvard University’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (2013) *Ideal Qualities of a Successful Diplomat*. Available from: <https://www.belfercenter.org/publication/ideal-qualities-successful-diplomat> [Accessed May 29, 2022]

<sup>16</sup> “Corporate Finance Institute. *Bilateral Agreement*”.

restrictions, tariffs, and other trade-related barriers among states (Corporate Finance Institute, *Bilateral Agreement*, <https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/>). The next section will discuss the importance of bilateral agreements.

## 1.7 Importance of bilateral agreements

There are many reasons why bilateral agreements are important for countries or economic regions. “**Advantages of Bilateral Agreements**

1. Since it involves only two countries, entering into a bilateral agreement is much easier as compared to multilateral trade agreements.
2. It gives companies access to new markets.
3. When the parties involved see demand, they will open more job opportunities.
4. Bilateral agreements also enable consumers to buy goods at lower prices. For instance, some types of products may be more expensive without an agreement” (Corporate Finance Institute, *Bilateral Agreement*, <https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com/>). The following section will cover aspects about free trade agreements in-depth.

## 1.8 What is a ‘Free Trade Agreement (FTA)’

<sup>17</sup>According to the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) **FTAs** are treaties between two or more countries designed to reduce or eliminate certain barriers to trade and investment, and to facilitate stronger trade and commercial ties between participating countries (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/about-ftas/about-free-trade-agreements>). The following section will cover aspects about the common benefits of free trade agreements in a country.

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<sup>17</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *About Free Trade Agreements*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/about-ftas/about-free-trade-agreements> [Accessed May 30, 2022]

## 1.9 Common benefits of free trade agreements in a country for example Australia

<sup>18</sup>“**The benefits of free trade agreements.** Free trade agreements contribute to greater economic activity and job creation in Australia, and deliver opportunities for big and small Australian businesses to benefit from greater trade and investment. Free trade agreements don't just reduce and eliminate tariffs, they also help address behind-the-border barriers that would otherwise impede the flow of goods and services; encourage investment; and improve the rules affecting such issues as intellectual property, e-commerce and government procurement. Free trade agreements give Australian businesses and consumers improved access to a wider range of competitively priced goods and services, new technologies, and innovative practices. Free trade agreements help Australia obtain more benefits from foreign investment. Free trade agreements promote regional economic integration and build shared approaches to trade and investment between Australia and our trading partners. Free trade agreements can deliver enhanced trade and investment opportunities that contribute to the economic growth of less-developed economies. Free trade agreements support stronger people-to-people and business-to-business links that enhance Australia's overall bilateral relationships with FTA partners. Free trade agreements can continue to provide additional benefits to Australia and trading partners over time, including via in-built agendas that encourage ongoing domestic reform and trade liberalization” (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/about-ftas/Pages/the-benefits-of-free-trade-agreements>). The following section will cover the conclusion of this Chapter.

### 1.10 Conclusion

It can be concluded that mutual relationships of people, society and foreign governments are based on the following critical ingredients namely: time, trust, good faith, respect, consensus, a

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<sup>18</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *The benefits of free trade agreements*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/about-ftas/Pages/the-benefits-of-free-trade-agreements> [Accessed May 30, 2022]

shared vision, equality and results. World order is partly determined by the role played by diplomats when implementing their foreign policies, agenda and political ideology. World peace is cemented by the work activities of diplomats and how they positively impact international relations. Africa is one of the continents on planet earth that is growing economically and politically as a result of good international relations with several nations from North America, Europe, Asia and South America.

### **1.11 Discussion questions**

- 1) Define the following terms ‘leadership’ and ‘ethics’? What is international relations?
- 2) Who are the people behind diplomatic relations of different countries in Africa, Europe, Asia, South America and Oceania? Characteristics of a suitable diplomat?
- 3) What is a bilateral agreement? Describe the importance of bilateral agreements? What is a ‘Free Trade Agreement (FTA)’? Discuss the common benefits of free trade agreements in a country for example Australia?

# Chapter 2: United States of America, Kingdom of Belgium & the Federal Republic of Germany

After reading this chapter you should be able to:

- Define the following terms ‘world’ & ‘national reconciliation’. Describe the United States of America international relations with the Continent of Africa.
- Describe the Kingdom of Belgium international relations with the Continent of Africa.
- Describe the Federal Republic of Germany international relations with the Continent of Africa.

## 2.1 Introduction

“**Africa’s potential** stems from its demographic development and the fact that it is a huge market of the future with strong economic growth, rich natural resources, a great potential for increasing agricultural production and food security by its own efforts, a growing middle class and a young and creative population which is making innovative use of, inter alia, information technology and mobile telecommunications. The growth rates of the last few years were above the global average and the prospects for the future are generally favourable”<sup>19</sup> (Federal Republic of Germany Federal Foreign Office, 2022:2, <https://monrovia.diplo.de/>). <sup>20</sup>“**Peace and security.** Peace and security are prerequisites for development, and African countries themselves are responsible for resolving and preventing conflicts. In recent years, there have been more successful peace processes in Africa than ever before. Many of these processes are initiated by African countries, and the AU has been an important driving force behind the progress that has been made” (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:12, <https://www.regjeringen.no/>). The following section will cover the meaning of terms in-depth.

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<sup>19</sup> Federal Republic of Germany Federal Foreign Office (2022) *Policy Guidelines for Africa of the German Federal Government*. Available from: <https://monrovia.diplo.de/blob/1714816/c4d775a5ed891e91265a01ac5c087fc3/afrika-leitlinien-download-data.pdf> [Accessed May 31, 2022]

<sup>20</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/afrika\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/afrika_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

## 2.2 Define the following terms ‘world’ & ‘national reconciliation’

<sup>21</sup><sup>22</sup>According to Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2021:13) today they are various definitions of the terms ‘world’ and ‘national reconciliation’ that were authored by various academics and business gurus. The term ‘*national reconciliation*’ is when a country and its people from all walks of life (*in terms of different age groups, gender, religion, political opinion, marital status, race and so on*) decide to reach-out to each other in solidarity of achieving mutual relations, cooperation, peace, the rule of law, promotion & protection of freedoms/human rights with the main aim of developing their country’s sovereign wealth, legacy and unity. In addition the definition of the term ‘*world*’ refers to everything that we see and touch from the North, South East or West in all the countries (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:13). The following section will cover aspects about the United States of America international relations.

## 2.3 United States of America international relations with the Continent of Africa

The United States of America is one of the many countries that has gone the ‘extra mile’ to highly distinguish itself and show its full dedication and or commitment towards the upliftment of the lives of the people of Africa. Globally the United States of America is celebrated for its democracy, freedom and human rights principles which have become part of its legacy and remarkably this great nation has also managed to successfully share these principles or values to various parts of the world. <sup>23</sup>“**Bureau of African Affairs. Our Mission.** The Department of State’s Bureau of African Affairs is focused on the development and management of U.S. policy

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<sup>21</sup> Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2022) *28 Amazingly Beautiful Countries in the World & Our World Heroes Towards Humanity (Gathered Articles): A Training Guide for Business Executives, Foreign Diplomats, International Students & Travelers* 1st Edition, Educational Ebook, p1- 146, ISBN: 978-1-77924-684-4

<sup>22</sup> Muteswa, R.P.T. (2021) *The Magnificence of Respecting Human Rights, Democracy & Freedoms in a Country & Organizations: (Gathered Articles): A North America, Asia, Africa, Oceania & Europe a 21st Century Perspective.* 1st Edition, ISBN 978-1-77921-415-7, Self Published Book, p1-139.

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Department of State Bureau of African Affairs (2022) *Bureau of African Affairs.* Available from: <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-political-affairs/bureau-of-african-affairs/> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

concerning the African continent. The Department’s Africa Strategy focuses on three core objectives: 1) Advancing trade and commercial ties with key African states to increase U.S. and African prosperity; 2) Protecting the United States from cross-border health and security threats; and 3) Supporting key African states’ progress toward stability, citizen-responsive governance, and self-reliance” (U.S. Department of State Bureau of African Affairs, 2022, <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-political-affairs/bureau-of-african-affairs/>). <sup>24</sup><sup>25</sup>“**U.S.-Africa Partnership.** *The United States knows that, on most of the urgent challenges and opportunities we face, Africa will make the difference. We can’t achieve our goals around the world – whether that’s ending the COVID-19 pandemic, building a strong and inclusive global economy, combating the climate crisis, or revitalizing democracy and defending human rights – without the leadership of African governments, institutions, and citizens . . . The United States firmly believes that it’s time to stop treating Africa as a subject of geopolitics – and start treating it as the major geopolitical player it has become*” (Excerpt of Words from Speech Communicated by the Current U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, 2022 cited in U.S. Department of State, 2022, <https://www.state.gov/u-s-africa-enduring-partnership/>). **During the year 2020.** <sup>26</sup>“**U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo’s remarks at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. SECRETARY POMPEO:** Good morning everyone. Vera, thank you. Thank you for the kind introduction. Thank you all very much for welcoming me. Let’s see, there we go. Vera, I think we got the lapel mike. Here we go. Good morning. Really, good morning again. It’s great fun to be here with you all. This is very special. I’m in a very special place. I’m happy to be here with my wife Susan and the team that’s come

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<sup>24</sup> U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken cited in the U.S. Department of State (2022) *U.S. Africa Partnership Enduring Partnership*. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/u-s-africa-enduring-partnership/> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Department of State (2022) *U.S. Africa Partnership Enduring Partnership*. Available from: <https://www.state.gov/u-s-africa-enduring-partnership/> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

<sup>26</sup> Former U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo cited in the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia of the U.S. Department of State (2020) *U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo’s remarks at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa*. Available from: <https://et.usembassy.gov/u-s-secretary-of-state-michael-r-pompeos-remarks-at-the-united-nations-economic-commission-for-africa/> [Accessed June 28, 2022]



along with me. <sup>27</sup>I have been humbled on my entire trip by the astounding warmth and the generosity of all the people of Africa and especially here in Ethiopia. It's great to be here. I just left a amazing discussion with some really awesome entrepreneurs and business leaders, and I hear we've got a few more of you in the audience today. I'm a former entrepreneur. I love what you do. I love risk takers. I love those people who are willing to go out and just crush it every day. We at the State Department are proud that Ethiopian chapter president of the Africa Women's Entrepreneurship Program is here. We believe that in the United States. I believe that. I believe, as I know most of you do, too, that every human being – African, European, American, you name it – wants similar things. We want basic security for our families. We want opportunity and reward for the hard work that we invest in. And we want the freedom to do whatever we want to do with our own. It's how we get there that matters an awful lot. I'm here today about – to talk to you about a couple of things. *Most importantly, I want to talk about the next liberation, economic liberation, a true liberation for Africa's entrepreneurs. I'll talk about this briefly, then I'm going to take questions from Vera. Look, for starters, I think we can all agree that the poverty rate in many African countries remains way too high. And while effective foreign aid can help to alleviate the problem, it's very unlikely that it will solve it. We see this in places all across the world, even in America. Government spending often can't attack the very basis of the problem. Socialist schemes haven't economically liberated this continent's poorest people. But we all – everyone in this room – everyone in this room know the right way forward. Basic strong rule of law, respect for property rights, regulation that encourages investment – we talked about that with these entrepreneurs this morning. You need to get the basic laws right so that investors can come and invest their capital. We also need women's full participation in this economic liberation. And we need governments that respect their own people.* These are the fundamental ingredients for true and inclusive, sustainable economic liberation. More than 60 percent of the population in Africa is under the age of 25. Only nations hospitable to the private sector will stimulate enough growth, enough opportunity, enough resources, enough capital that will deliver jobs and prosperity on the scale that this continent needs and over the timeframe that

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<sup>27</sup> Former U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo cited in the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia of the U.S. Department of State (2020) *U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo's remarks at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa*. Available from: <https://et.usembassy.gov/u-s-secretary-of-state-michael-r-pompeos-remarks-at-the-united-nations-economic-commission-for-africa/> [Accessed June 28, 2022]

it requires. And to African leaders today – future generations are depending on stable, corruption-free environments that attract foreign investment.<sup>28</sup> There is nothing more noble than allowing our people to have the dignity of work. *And the United States, you should know, everyone – we believe in you, and we’ll be with you every step of the way. With the right policies and leadership, we believe that true economic liberation will happen here in Africa. If you will all focus on the basics – if you’ll get it right, if you’ll get transparency right, good governance right – American businesses will come. We’ve been in Africa for an awfully long time. More capital will flow. Real simple. The United States stands for local jobs, environmental responsibility, honest business practices, high-quality work, and mutual prosperity. True economic liberation delivered the greatest economic growth in human history in the United States of America. It can do the same for you. My country will proudly walk that path in partnership with you. And God bless all of the people of Africa. Thank you. (Applause.)*” (Excerpt of Words of the Speech Communicated in Ethiopia by the Former U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo cited in the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia of the U.S. Department of State, 2020, <https://et.usembassy.gov/u-s-secretary-of-state-michael-r-pompeos-remarks-at-the-united-nations-economic-commission-for-africa/>).

Historically the beautiful great nation of the United States of America has successfully elected many outstanding Presidents’/Commander-in-Chiefs’ for many years and most of them have contributed towards peacebuilding, economic development, education, climate change, human rights promotion, democracy and technology transfer initiatives on the continent of Africa. Notably, the leadership of the United States of America has unquestionably recognized the enormous contribution of Africa in the global market. **U.S. White House Press Briefing in 2003.**<sup>29</sup>“**Dr. Condoleezza Rice Discusses the President’s Trip to Africa. Press Briefing by**

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<sup>28</sup> Former U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo cited in the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia of the U.S. Department of State (2020) *U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo’s remarks at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa*. Available from: <https://et.usembassy.gov/u-s-secretary-of-state-michael-r-pompeos-remarks-at-the-united-nations-economic-commission-for-africa/> [Accessed June 28, 2022]

<sup>29</sup> Dr. Condoleezza Rice cited in U.S. White House (2003) *Dr. Condoleezza Rice Discusses the President’s Trip to Africa*. Available from: <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2003/07/text/20030703-14.html> [Accessed may 27, 2022]

**Condoleezza Rice, National Security Advisor, On the President’s Trip to Africa The James S. Brady Briefing Room. DR. RICE:** Good afternoon. First, I’d like to provide a brief overview of the President’s upcoming trip to Africa. And then I’ll be happy to take your questions, as usual. Africa is a continent of challenge and promise. The President is committed to helping African nations meet these challenges and fulfill that promise with policies and initiatives designed to extend liberty, prosperity and peace on the continent. As one of only two U.S. Presidents to visit Africa in his first term, President Bush’s trip next week to Senegal, South Africa, Botswana, Uganda, and Nigeria is emblematic of this commitment. **DR. RICE:** The President is -- as President, understands that America is a country that really does have to be committed to values and to making life better for people around the world. But that’s what the world looks to America to do. It’s not just the sword. It’s also the olive branch that speaks to those intentions. And the President, from the day he was elected, has had a real interest in people and leaders and countries that have a struggle, that have difficulties in front of them, but are willing to take those struggles and those difficulties on in an aggressive way. Many of the African leaders that he met -- and he’s met 22 of them -- but many of the African leaders that he’s met have impressed him as people who, under very difficult circumstances, are trying, finally on this continent, to make steps toward making life better for their people -- .....” (Excerpts of Words of a Press Briefing Communicated by the Former U.S. National Security Advisor Dr. Condoleezza Rice, 2003, <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2003/07/text/20030703-14.html>). <sup>31</sup>“**AFRICA. Our Partnership.** The United States has an unwavering and longstanding commitment to Africa. We engage African countries early and often as partners in pursuing our shared interests and values – from security, global health, climate change, freedom and democracy, and shared prosperity. Our priorities:

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<sup>30</sup> U.S. White House (2003) *Dr. Condoleezza Rice Discusses the President’s Trip to Africa*. Available from: <https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/news/releases/2003/07/text/20030703-14.html> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) (2022) *AFRICA*. Available from: <https://www.usaid.gov/where-we-work/africa#:~:text=Our%20Partnership,and%20democracy%2C%20and%20shared%20prosperity> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

- **Boost agricultural productivity through the [Feed the Future Initiative](#)** to address the root causes of chronic hunger and poverty and spur economic growth in a region with incredible resources and arable land.
- **Strengthen health systems** to support countries to help their children survive, overcome the threat of malaria, give mothers support to give birth safely, and turn the tide against the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the continent.
- **Support [democracy, human rights, and good governance](#)** to assist governments to fight corruption, expand space for civil society, help citizens choose their leadership, and strengthen the trend toward democratization.
- **Increase resilience to climate change** to help communities adapt to erratic rainfall and longer, harsher droughts—weather effects we know will hit Africa hardest.
- **Lead quick responses to [humanitarian crises](#)** to save lives and help prevent instability and loss, critical in a region prone to destabilizing droughts and food emergencies” (USAID, 2022, <https://www.usaid.gov/where-we-work/africa#:~:text=Our%20Partnership,and%20democracy%2C%20and%20shared%20prosperity>).<sup>32</sup>“**WHAT IS YALI?** The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is the U.S. government’s signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders. Nearly 1 in 3 Africans are between the ages of 10 and 24, and approximately 60 percent of Africa’s total population is below the age of 35. YALI was launched in 2010 to support young African leaders as they spur growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across sub-Saharan Africa” (Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), 2022, <https://yali.state.gov/about/>).<sup>33</sup>“**REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CENTERS.** YALI Regional Leadership Centers (RLCs) are located at higher education institutions in sub-Saharan Africa and offer leadership training programs to young leaders between the ages of 18 and 35. By providing in-person and online training, networking, and professional development opportunities, the RLCs serve as a place for young African leaders to collaborate on continent. The RLCs are funded and managed by the United

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<sup>32</sup> Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) (2022) *About*. Available from: <https://yali.state.gov/about/> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

<sup>33</sup> Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) (2022) *Regional Leadership Centers*. Available from: <https://yali.state.gov/rlc/> [Accessed May 27, 2022]

States Agency for International Development (USAID) in close partnership with The MasterCard Foundation and other private sector partners. Each center is managed as a public-private partnership” (Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), 2022, <https://yali.state.gov/rlc/>). The following section will cover aspects about the Kingdom of Belgium international relations.

## **2.4 Kingdom of Belgium international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>34</sup>“**Sub-Saharan Africa.** Belgium is committed to peace and stability, respect for democracy and human rights, good governance, development cooperation and economic reconstruction in Africa. Belgium boosts regional cooperation through the African Union and other regional organisations and advocates international forums in the interest of African countries. Our country pays special attention and gives strong support to civil society and NGOs. The encouraging signs of economic progress in Africa in recent years have not gone unnoticed. Belgium is paying increasing attention to the various aspects of economic diplomacy. The granting of State-to-State Loans to a number of African countries is one example of this. **Central Africa. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).** Belgium and the DRC maintain a privileged historical link due to their shared common history. Indeed, it was in June 2020, so 60 years ago, that the independence of the DRC put an end to the Belgian colonial administration. Today, a rich and multifaceted relationship remains, both between official Belgian and Congolese institutions and between the citizens of the two countries. This cooperation takes place in the economic, political, cultural and military fields among others. DRC is also the main partner country of [Belgian development cooperation](#), and Belgium is the third largest bilateral donor in the country. Belgian policy towards the DRC has long been characterised by the promotion and support of initiatives aimed at improving the socio-economic situation of the population, promoting peace, stability, good governance and transparency, working to improve the business climate, consolidating the rule of law, respecting human rights and combating impunity. Belgium pursues these objectives through a partnership of equals with the DRC, based on mutual respect and within the framework of fair

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<sup>34</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world-regions/sub-saharan-africa> © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

and open dialogue. At the same time, Belgium spares no effort in raising awareness among its international partners in the EU and the United Nations, with a view to helping the country meet its challenges. Belgium also endeavours to systematically put the fate of the Congolese population back on the national and international agenda”” (Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, 2022, <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world-regions/sub-saharan-africa>). ““**Rwanda.**

Considerable progress has been made in Rwanda since 1994, despite the scars of genocide that continue to be a burden on society. The country shows a determination to look to the future and is pursuing a proactive policy of socio-economic development. <sup>35</sup>To cope with its high population density, Rwanda is aiming to diversify its economy, which is currently heavily dependent on agriculture, by moving it towards services. Aware of the close link between peace and democratic stability, on the one hand, and socio-economic development, on the other, Belgium intends to maintain its development cooperation programmes with Rwanda, which is the second largest recipient of our bilateral aid. This aid will continue to go hand-in-hand with major dialogue, particularly to better guarantee political freedoms, press freedom and the situation of NGOs. The new bilateral cooperation programme started on 1 July 2019 and was concluded for the period 2019-2024. This programme will focus on three sectors: health, agriculture and urbanisation. Belgium has also made the return of peace and stability in the Great Lakes region a priority. In that regard, we welcome the rapprochement between Kigali and Kinshasa, as well as regional initiatives. Lastly, Belgium is attentive to justice and reconciliation in Rwanda. Our country supported the establishment of the Gacaca courts. On its territory, Belgium was the first foreign country to prosecute and convict persons involved in the 1994 genocide and it continues to pursue this approach today. There is intense judicial cooperation between Belgium and Rwanda. **Nigeria** is the most important player in the region, as it is the continent's largest economy and will be the third most populous country in the world by 2050. The Lagos State economy alone is the third largest on the African continent. All these reasons

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<sup>35</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/africa](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/africa) © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

justify Belgium's presence in this federal "superstate". <sup>36</sup>**East Africa.** Belgium is also focusing its attention on East Africa, one of the most disadvantaged and conflict-ridden regions in the world. The EU has been very active on the **Somalia** dossier in recent years. Lastly, our country has been providing financial assistance for food and emergency aid to Somalia and its neighbouring regions for many years now, in particular through the FAO, UNDP, ICRC, WFP and UNHCR." **Kenya's** position as a hub for Central Africa and a United Nations centre on the African continent corresponds to the role Belgium wants to play within Europe. Kenya is Finexpo's first country of action. Through this mechanism, Belgium is financing a portfolio of some fifteen projects for a total of more than €200 million (water collection stations, fire engines, hospital waste processing machines, etc.). Belgium is also present in Kenya through its indirect (vocational training, Africalia, etc.) and university (VLIR-UOS.) cooperation channels. The *VLIZ/Vlaams Instituut voor de zee* is also active in the country. Her Majesty Queen Mathilde visited Kenya in 2018 as Honorary President of UNICEF Belgium, in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals. <sup>37</sup>**Southern Africa.** South Africa is both an important trading partner and a key interlocutor for the Great Lakes region; it also sat with Belgium as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2019-2020. In addition to daily contacts, a Belgian *indaba* (conference) is held once a year to bring together all the Belgian partners in South Africa for strategic consultations. Belgium contributes to South African development through Belgian NGOs, such as the Flemish Red Cross and VVOB, and through its contributions to multilateral organisations. The Belgian community in South Africa numbers around 10,000 people, with a considerable number of Belgian companies investing in the country: Belgium is also active in several other countries in southern Africa, including **Mozambique**, where, in addition to its bilateral development cooperation, it also supports four NGOs. Her Majesty Queen Mathilde visited Mozambique in 2019 in her capacity as Ambassador for the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"" (Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs,

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<sup>36</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/africa](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/africa) © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

<sup>37</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/africa](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/africa) © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, 2022, [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/africa](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/africa)).<sup>38</sup>“**Middle East and North Africa. Relations between Belgium and the Maghreb.** Belgium enjoys a good reputation in the countries of North Africa, mainly because of the size of the North African community in Belgium and the dynamic nature of Belgian trade. Belgium has a Moroccan community of almost half a million, leading to strong ties with **Morocco** at all levels. Belgium has a very good reputation in **Algeria**, thanks largely to the Belgian embassy being one of the few that did not close down during the bloody decade of the Algerian civil war. Our countries maintain strong bilateral ties and a regular political dialogue, which was strengthened in January 2018 by signing a Memorandum of Understanding to hold yearly bilateral political consultations. 40 years of continuous intergovernmental cooperation has also created strong and deep ties between our countries. In 2019, we celebrate the 180th anniversary of the basic text of our bilateral relations with **Tunisia**, the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation concluded in 1839 between Leopold I, King of the Belgians, and Ahmed Pacha Bey, sovereign of the Kingdom of Tunis. At the beginning of the sixties both countries signed several direct bilateral cooperation agreements, which have created close ties between Belgium and Tunisia. Even though Tunisia has not been a partner country of the Belgian Development Cooperation since May 2000, there is still an intensive and harmonious cooperation between both countries, even at the level of the Regions and the Communities which are also represented in Tunisia. After having supported Tunisia during the democratic transition period i.a. by financially supporting UNDP's projects in the context of the Arab Spring (assistance with the constitutional process and national dialogue, support of security sector and transitional justice ...), Belgium actively keeps supporting reform projects, in particular in the security sector where our country provides its expertise in police reform and defense. The many Belgian investments and regular bilateral visits testify to the sound bilateral relations between Belgium and Tunisia. In **Libya**, like the international community Belgium recognizes the Government of National Accord (GNA) based in Tripoli, and supports the efforts of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General towards a sustainable and peaceful solution for the benefit of the Libyan people. **Bilateral relations with**

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<sup>38</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Middle East*.

Available from: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/middle\\_east](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/middle_east) © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation



**the Near East.** Following overview highlights various aspects of Belgium's bilateral relations with the countries of the Near East: Belgium has good bilateral ties with **Egypt**. Belgium tries to contribute to the country's economic recovery but there is clearly room for further deepening of our economic cooperation. Furthermore, Belgium acknowledges the important role played by Egypt as mediator in the Israeli-Arab conflict and as major player in the region<sup>39</sup> (Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, 2022, [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/middle\\_east](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/middle_east)). The following section will cover aspects about the Federal Republic of Germany international relations.

## **2.5 Federal Republic of Germany international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>40</sup>“According to these criteria, Germany is the world's strongest nation brand with a brand strength score of 84.9 out of 100 and a corresponding AAA rating. Long renowned for its strong and stable economy and for being particularly well governed, Germany scores well across the majority of our data points” (Brand Finance, 2020, <https://brandfinance.com/press-releases/germany-is-worlds-strongest-nation>). **Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany.** <sup>41</sup>According to the Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany (2022) Africa is bursting with potential. Germany is working to use the opportunities for the German and African economies fairly and sustainably. No continent is growing as quickly as Africa both in economic and demographic terms. In the last ten years, investment by German businesses has doubled. GDP in Africa has increased by 30% in the same period. The continent's ongoing poor image as far as the economy is concerned has for a long time now been at odds

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<sup>39</sup> Kingdom of Belgium Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (2022) *Middle East*. Available from: [https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world\\_regions/middle\\_east](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/policy/world_regions/middle_east) © 2016 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

<sup>40</sup> Brand Finance (2020) *Germany is World's Strongest Nation*. Available from: <https://brandfinance.com/pressreleases/germany-is-worlds-strongest-nation> © 2021 Brand Finance

<sup>41</sup> Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany (2022) *Economy, development, research: using opportunities, removing obstacles*. Available from: <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/wirtschaft> © 1995 – 2022 Federal Foreign Office

with the dynamic development figures. However, there are stark differences between the 54 countries. Political instability, corruption and poor infrastructure are a major obstacle to investment in many countries, thus also hampering development and prosperity. Furthermore, many African economies are heavily dependent on the export of raw materials which entails high risks given the price fluctuations on the global market. **A continent on the rise.** Shared markets, customs and monetary unions make the regions more attractive to foreign investors and for cooperation. With instruments such as investment and export guarantees, Germany is working to promote a positive economic climate in Africa and is supporting particularly German SME's wanting to engage in Africa. **Strategy for fair growth.** Sustainable growth needs innovation. This is why Germany is working comprehensively in the sphere of education and research in Africa. German scientists are today cooperating with partners from more than 39 African countries in more than 500 research and education establishments. There are also over 550 university cooperation projects. The Federal Foreign Office is supporting the Africa initiatives of the [Federal Ministry of Education and Research](#) here (Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany, 2022, <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/regionaleschwerpunkte/afrika/wirtschaft>).<sup>42</sup> According to the Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (2018) **German Government's Africa Policy. How Germany and Africa work together.** The German government is engaged in many different ways in Africa, where it enjoys close cooperation with equal partners in the interests of sound political and economic development. Many of the worldwide challenges Europe faces can only be resolved by working with its neighbouring continent. Africa's potential is enormous. About half of the world's 20 fastest growing economies are in Africa. By 2035 Africa will have the largest potential workforce in the world. **What is the Compact with Africa?** Last year, the Compact with Africa was launched – under Germany's G20 Presidency. The initiative is designed to improve the conditions for private investment so as to get infrastructure projects off the ground and create jobs. Eleven countries have so far signed up for individual compacts, including Senegal and Ghana,. They will negotiate individual reform programmes along with

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<sup>42</sup> Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (2018) *How Germany and Africa Work Together*.

Available from: <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/how-germany-and-africa-work-together-1527530> © 2022 Press and Information Office of the Federal Government

possible additional inputs to be provided by G20 partners, and implement these programmes.

**What will the partnerships for reform do?** The individual compacts with Africa represent a voluntary political commitment. They do not involve any financial support. That is why the German government has come to agreements on what it terms "partnerships for reform" in addition. These partnerships are already in place with Tunisia, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. Last year a total of 300 million euros were invested. The three partnerships for reform aim to expand the use of renewable energy, improve energy efficiency and develop the financial and banking sectors. This is designed to improve conditions for national and international investors and make it easier for small and medium businesses to access loans. At the same time, more jobs and trainee places will be created for young people in forward-looking technologies.

**How are conditions for investment being improved?** Another part of the German government's Africa strategy is to improve conditions for investment by extending Hermes export credit guarantees. Since June 2018, the level of risk not covered by Hermes guarantees, i.e. borne by the investor, for investments in the public sector has been reduced from 10% to 5% in Ghana. This will open up new sales and investment opportunities for German industry.

**How does Germany work with Nigeria?** German development cooperation with Nigeria focuses on sustainable economic development. Germany is, for instance, supporting the reform of Nigeria's financial sector and fostering the development of financial services for small and medium enterprises (SME). Germany is also active in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector and in the health sector, where it is tackling polio.

**What is "Successful in Senegal"?** Numerous African states receive support from Germany, for instance in the fields of good governance, agriculture and health, as well as in the education and training sector. The project "Successful in Senegal" is developing genuine prospects of a better future in Senegal for youth, young adults aged between 15 and 35, and returning migrants.

**How does Germany promote peace, stability and security?** In view of worsening conflicts and the spread of terrorist networks, conflict early warning systems, mediation, peacekeeping and measures to support the fight against terrorism are to enhance security and stability on the African continent. In this context, the German government also supports the Sahel G5 states in the field of infrastructure measures. <sup>43</sup>**What do migration**

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<sup>43</sup> Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (2018) *How Germany and Africa Work Together*.

Available from: <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/how-germany-and-africa-work-together-1527530> ©

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**partnerships do?** Within the framework of the European Union, Germany has entered into migration partnerships with individual African states with a view to promoting training, employment and economic development, specifically for young people, thus addressing the root causes of migration. Germany's Africa policy aims to foster economic growth in Africa through a wide spectrum of development- and security-policy measures, as well as enhancing security on the ground and stepping up cooperation. This is intended to give the people of Africa long-term prospects<sup>44</sup> (Press and Information Office of the Federal Government, 2018, <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/how-germany-and-africa-work-together-1527530>). The following section will cover the conclusion of this chapter.

## 2.6 Conclusion

It can be concluded that the Continent of Africa has now successfully established a lifetime friendship with economically advanced economies such as the United States of America, Germany, Belgium and Germany. Many countries in Africa are now being exposed to various good governance, democracy and human rights educational programs and policy development training initiatives from countries with historic traditional democracies from the First World. Youth empowerment has become one of the most critical aspect for nations in Africa that are rapidly progressing via mutual partnerships with various developed nations' through initiatives such as leadership training, women empowerment schemes and small business financing programs.

## 2.7 Discussion questions

- 1) Define the following terms 'world' & 'national reconciliation'? Describe the United States of America international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 2) Describe the Kingdom of Belgium international relations with the Continent of Africa?

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<sup>44</sup> Press and Information Office of the Federal Government (2018) *How Germany and Africa Work Together*.

Available from: <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/how-germany-and-africa-work-together-1527530> ©

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3) Describe the Federal Republic of Germany international relations with the Continent of Africa?

# Chapter 3: United Kingdom, Repubblica Italiana/Italy & France/French Republic

After reading this chapter you should be able to:

- Define the following terms ‘benefit’ & ‘branding’.
- Describe the United Kingdom international relations with the Continent of Africa.
- Explain the Repubblica Italiana/Italy international relations with the Continent of Africa.  
Discuss the France/French Republic international relations with the Continent of Africa.

## 3.1 Introduction

Nowadays the Continent of Africa is now placing more emphasis on the adoption and implementation of climate change friendly policies in order to help contribute towards conserving the environment. Some of the many developed nations that have played a critical role towards promoting climate change literacy across the Continent of Africa include the United Kingdom, Italy and France. Many foreign direct investment (*FDI*) deals/agreements currently being signed on the Continent of Africa now include pledges or commitment guarantees from investors about their ‘action and investment plans’ towards conserving the environment.

<sup>45</sup>“**Climate change, energy and the environment.** Africa is the continent that has least responsibility for anthropogenic climate change, but that is most vulnerable to its impacts. Western countries, which are responsible for the largest emissions of greenhouse gases, have a moral responsibility to provide funding to help Africa deal with the impacts of climate change. At the same time, Africa has a huge need for energy, which can partly be met by using fossil fuels. A good environmental policy must therefore be designed not only to deal with the impacts of urbanisation, expansion of agricultural areas and over-exploitation of fish stocks and forest resources, but also to ensure that development of the energy sector in Africa is as environmentally sound as possible.” (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:9, <https://www.regjeringen.no/>). International trade is critical to many nations in Africa as it is a

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<sup>45</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

key driver of economic development, job creation, peace, source of foreign currency revenue, boosts industry innovation rates and so on. It has become inevitable for African nations to devise lucrative institutional and physical infrastructure in order to consistently attract more foreign direct investments (FDI) from various parts of the world such as Italy, France and the United Kingdom. Poverty has been one of the many challenges various countries on the Continent of Africa have been facing for many centuries and one of the most viable solution that helps to tackle this ‘key challenge’ of poverty is the creation of equal economic-peacebuilding cooperation/partnerships between African nations and other foreign countries (*such as Italy, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France*) via mutual agreements. In general conflict (*in particular civil war*) has been one of the many reasons why some of the African nations are currently experiencing political instability, hunger, outbreaks of diseases, limited economic opportunities, infrastructure destruction and so on. The next section will cover the definition of terms.

### **3.2 Define the following terms ‘benefit’ & ‘branding’**

<sup>4647</sup>According to Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2021:28) most of the words that are used in the academic field nowadays have numerous definitions that have been developed by industry experts and academics. The term ‘*benefit*’ refers to something an individual, group, entity or organization will gain after consuming, doing, giving, receiving, thinking and or assuming another thing with the expectation to enjoy some form of gain in one way or another. For purposes of this textbook ‘*branding*’ refers to how a country, organization, group or individuals want to: (1) appeal, (2) be viewed, (3) be differentiated, (4) be identified, (5) benchmarked and so on by both its internal stakeholders (*such as citizens, people, community, domestic market and so on*) and external stakeholders (*such as the international community, international bodies,*

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<sup>46</sup> Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2022) *28 Amazingly Beautiful Countries in the World & Our World Heroes Towards Humanity (Gathered Articles): A Training Guide for Business Executives, Foreign Diplomats, International Students & Travelers* 1st Edition, Educational Ebook, p1- 146, ISBN: 978-1-77924-684-4

<sup>47</sup> Muteswa, R.P.T. (2021) *The Magnificence of Respecting Human Rights, Democracy & Freedoms in a Country & Organizations: (Gathered Articles): A North America, Asia, Africa, Oceania & Europe a 21st Century Perspective.* 1st Edition, ISBN 978-1-77921-415-7, Self Published Book, p1-139.

*foreign market and so on*) (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:28). The following section will cover aspects about the United Kingdom international relations.

### **3.3 United Kingdom international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>48</sup>“The United Kingdom is a Western Europe-based nation that is globally recognized as having beautiful nature reserves, art museums, historical architecture, world’s largest library archives, military prowess, a globally celebrated & popular Monarch & Royal Family, hosting major global events (*for example, sports, music, the G-7 summits, climate change & so on*), culinary exploration, multicultural diverse population, tourist attraction destinations, modern infrastructure accompanied by a highly functional education system, democratic institutions and rule of law” (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2022:21). <sup>49</sup><sup>50</sup><sup>51</sup><sup>52</sup>“**UK’s partnerships with Africa.** With the world’s youngest and fastest growing populations, African countries are

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<sup>48</sup> Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2022) *28 Amazingly Beautiful Countries in the World & Our World Heroes Towards Humanity (Gathered Articles): A Training Guide for Business Executives, Foreign Diplomats, International Students & Travelers* 1st Edition, Educational Ebook, p1- 146, ISBN: 978-1-77924-684-4

<sup>49</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development (2022) *Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/uks-partnerships-with-africa> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2022. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>50</sup> United Kingdom Government United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (2022) *Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/foreign-commonwealth-development-office> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2022. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>51</sup> United Kingdom Government Department for International Development (2022) *Department for International Development*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-of-international-development> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Department for International Development.gov.uk, 2022. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>52</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign & Commonwealth Office (2022) *Foreign & Commonwealth Office*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/foreign-commonwealth-office> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign & Commonwealth Office.gov.uk, 2022. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0



changing rapidly. The UK government strategy is to establish long-term and mutually beneficial partnerships with African nations. These will build on our shared interests for a safer, healthier and more prosperous future for us all. **Organisations:**

**[Department for International Development, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, Department for International Trade, and Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office](#)**

This approach will support these partnerships, with an increased focus on 5 areas:

- unlocking inclusive economic growth in Africa
- security and stability as the essential foundations for people and prosperity
- climate change and sustainable natural resource management
- investing in people: education, health and jobs
- greater UK engagement and presence in the Sahel.

By supporting African-led priorities with British expertise, we can provide more opportunities. These include more jobs and greater stability, including for women and girls, in the UK and across Africa” (United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development, 2022, <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/uks-partnerships-with-africa>).<sup>5354</sup> According to the Press Release by The United Kingdom Government Department for International Development and The United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade

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<sup>53</sup> Sharma, A. and Truss, E. cited in United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade (2020) *International Trade*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/departments-for-international-trade> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Trade.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>54</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development (2020) *UK aims to be Africa’s partner of choice for trade and investment*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

(2020) **UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment.** UK Government supports huge boost to UK investment in Africa, as UK-Africa Investment Summit is held in London. The UK is strengthening its economic partnerships with African nations, as part of a Government drive to ensure the continent's growing demand for investment is met by the UK's expertise and innovation. Programmes from the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Department for International Trade (DIT) will boost clean energy supplies, digital networks, and jobs and business opportunities for women, as well as improving trade infrastructure. In the lead up to the [UK-Africa Investment Summit](#), which is being held in London today (20 January 2020), £6.5 billion of commercial deals have already been signed by British companies to deliver jobs, growth and investment across the UK and Africa, with deals worth billions more expected to be made during the course of the day. They are expected to mobilise billions of pounds in private sector investment for Africa, marking a new era of trade between the UK and Africa. Africa has 8 of the world's 15 fastest growing economies and there is huge demand on the continent for clean, sustainable and innovative investment. As home to some of the world's most enterprising technologies and the financial centre of the world in the City of London, the UK is perfectly placed to meet that demand and be the continent's investment partner of choice. DFID's programmes, totalling £370 million, include:

- Supporting African countries to meet their rapidly growing energy demands through green energy, including better access to solar energy and electricity.
- Helping Africa thrive digitally through a £45 million programme helping young Africans, especially women, access the internet, develop digital skills and find jobs.
- Enabling at least 100,000 more women in Africa to secure high-quality jobs by funding their education and training.
- <sup>555657</sup>A £200 million programme to help build basic trade infrastructure in southern Africa. The new programme will support upgrades to border posts, ports and roads. It will also work with governments and businesses to improve trade policies and cut red tape.

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<sup>55</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development (2020) *UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

- Boosting the flow of private financing into African projects supporting girls' education, healthcare and climate resilience.

<sup>58</sup>Two joint DFID-DIT programmes, totalling £57 million, include:

- A £37 million programme to help businesses, trade with and invest across Africa.
- A £20 million programme that will support businesses in developing countries to increase trade with international markets.
- A separate Climate Finance Accelerator programme, worth £10 million from the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), will help developing countries reduce emissions by attracting more foreign investment and helping to build renewable energy sources, like wind farms.

<sup>59</sup>To date, the UK has signed trade agreements with 11 African countries, covering 43% of the UK's total trade with Africa and legislated for a trade preferences scheme with a further 35 African countries, with the ambition to build and deepen existing agreements in the

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<sup>56</sup> United Kingdom Government Department for International Development (2020) *International Development*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-development> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Development.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>57</sup> United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade (2020) *International Trade*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-trade> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Trade.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>58</sup> Sharma, A. and Truss, E. cited in United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade (2020) *International Trade*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-trade> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Trade.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>59</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development (2020) *UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

future<sup>60616263</sup>(United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development, 2020, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment>). The following section will cover aspects about the Repubblica Italiana international relations.

### **3.4 Repubblica Italiana/Italian Republic international relations with the Continent of Africa**

Today the Continent of Africa's economic and political stability is strengthening on a yearly basis due to enormous integrated efforts of many First World nations around the world such as the Repubblica Italiana/Italy and this was clearly highlighted in a commentary by Italy's most experienced & renowned career diplomat of direct service in Africa (*nearly 20years*) Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

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<sup>60</sup> United Kingdom Government Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Department for International Development (2020) *UK aims to be Africa's partner of choice for trade and investment*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aims-to-be-africas-partner-of-choice-for-trade-and-investment> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>61</sup> United Kingdom Government Department for International Development (2020) *International Development*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-development> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Development.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>62</sup> United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade (2020) *International Trade*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-trade> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Trade.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

<sup>63</sup> Sharma, A. and Truss, E. cited in United Kingdom Government Department for International Trade (2020) *International Trade*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisation/department-for-international-trade> [Accessed May 28, 2022] © International Trade.gov.uk, 2020. This information is licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> OGL v3.0

(2020) titled: *Italy's Priorities in Africa* published by ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies/Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) published via [www.ispionline.it/](http://www.ispionline.it/).<sup>64</sup>“**Italy's Priorities in Africa. What role can Italy play in today's Africa? And what are our priorities?** Of course, our country cannot compete alone with the global giants either in size of funding or in impact on the continent. Yet, as a founding member of the European Union, it can certainly contribute significantly to **forging EU policy and strategies beyond the Mediterranean**, and indeed it is fulfilling this role quite effectively. The adoption of the European *External Investment Plan*, the “La Valletta” Trust Fund for migration, and the more general partnerships between the EU and the African states on the continent came about with Italy as one of the leading advocates. It would be true to say that Italy often gives voice to African needs within the group of the 27 member states, thanks to its position in the Mediterranean, its intense and long-standing relations with Africa and its **capacity for dialogue with leaders on the continent**. This is particularly true for Europe's recent political line towards Somalia, and more generally, towards the Horn of Africa, adopted with Italy as one of the main proponents. Italy is a reassuring advocate for African governments; it is a credible partner, without the hidden agendas characterising some of the new actors. This lack of “vested interests” is often a strength our politicians refer to with confidence in dialogue with African leaders; who in turn easily recognise this quality in our cooperation. Morally speaking, the lack of a hidden agenda is an advantage especially in the debates held within multilateral forums, where this aspect is **a strong lead for our action in Africa**. Whatever its impact on the continent may be, Italy's role in Africa is important and very distinctive, characterised by a skilful use of *soft power*, an ability to dialogue and co-opt and a refusal to take excessively rigid positions towards African governments. Furthermore, there are few countries that can boast such a rooted tradition in cooperation with the continent, and such a widespread presence of NGOs and associations in the region, as Italy can; this makes our contribution to Africa's growth and socio-economic progress almost unique, even if the resources we are able to allocate are certainly not comparable to those of the other new actors operating on the continent. Having said that, our main sphere of

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<sup>64</sup> Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published in ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies/Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) (2020) *Italy's Priorities in Africa*. Available from: <https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/italys-priorities-africa-28658> [Accessed June 11, 2022]

interest is the expanded Mediterranean, which would take in the northern part of Africa, the Arab peninsula and the Gulf of Aden. All these regions are now closely linked and interconnected and have points of intersection with the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and the Gulf of Aden; our country can rightly aspire to be involved in this area, and not just because of the obvious migratory issues that come to mind. <sup>65</sup>A model of successful synergy between the various components of the “Italian Approach” can be seen for example in the case of the Sahel region, with which Italy has developed a **strategic alliance** in the last three-year period. This has included: the opening of new embassies in Niamey (Niger), Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), and soon also in Bamako (Mali); the launch of an important military training initiative by the Ministry of Defence (MISIN project) in Niger for improved anti-terrorism control of the territory; the inclusion of Italy in the so-called *Coalition pour le Sahel*, on an international level, which coordinates the capacity building and development aid of various Sahel partners; the continuation and strengthening of bilateral cooperation interventions, worth about €150 million in the whole area; support for state budgets (valued at a total of €60 million in 2018 in Niger and Chad); a series of political visits, including that of the Prime Minister in March 2019; economic support and non-lethal materials for the Joint Force G5 Sahel, and more generally for the group of five Sahelian states; finally, our recently announced engagement in the so-called Takuba Task Force, for **tackling terrorism more effectively**. Our action is defined by focusing on interventions in peacekeeping and security; on good governance and respect for human rights; on migration and mobility; on aid and investment; on sustainable development; on the fight against climate change; and on cultural and scientific collaboration. Of course, beyond the Sahel, the Horn of Africa is the region of sub-Saharan Africa where Italian influence is greatest, both because of historical relations, and because of our steady commitment in terms of **aid and political dialogue**. Indeed, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia traditionally look to Italy as one of their preferred partners. A further Italian priority in the Greater Horn of Africa is Sudan, emerging from a deep internal political crisis, where, thanks to the formation of a transitional government, peace and development seem now

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<sup>65</sup> Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published in ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies/Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) (2020) *Italy's Priorities in Africa*. Available from: <https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/italys-priorities-africa-28658> [Accessed June 11, 2022]

achievable. Italy will maintain and strengthen its historical ties with this region, both bilaterally with new political, economic, social, and cultural initiatives, and within the EU context, where we are called upon to encourage the other members to **support the easing of tensions**, and possibly to foster new investments and projects financed by Brussels (if the political situation allows). <sup>66</sup>After Brexit, Italy has become the main EU point of reference for the Horn of Africa, and it will be called upon even more to continue this role of **“facilitator” of peace and stability in the area**, and promoter of cooperation and economic growth. In order to fulfil its task as honest and reliable broker in the region, Italy should consider in future greater and broader financial commitments. This is feasible with a combination of public initiatives (Italian aid) and private ones (by our largest companies, but also by small and medium-sized enterprises, and with the use of innovative financial initiatives), capable of accompanying the countries in question towards growth and steady sustainable progress, especially in the agro-industry, renewable green energy, protection of the environment, and infrastructures.....”<sup>67</sup>(Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published in ISPI - Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale, 2020, <https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/italys-priorities-africa-28658>). <sup>68</sup>**“The Partnership with Africa.** Africa has long been a top priority of Italy’s foreign policy. The relations with African countries and organisations is today based on an equal partnership, targeted to achieve shared development and face the many global challenges together, thus overcoming the traditional donor/beneficiary approach. Italy’s attention

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<sup>66</sup> Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published in ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies/Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) (2020) *Italy’s Priorities in Africa*. Available from: <https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/italys-priorities-africa-28658> [Accessed June 11, 2022]

<sup>67</sup> Italian Ambassador Giuseppe Mistretta of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation published in ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies/Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale) (2020) *Italy’s Priorities in Africa*. Available from: <https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/italys-priorities-africa-28658> [Accessed June 11, 2022]

<sup>68</sup> Government of the Repubblica Italiana Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (2022) *The Partnership with Africa*. Available from: [https://www.esteri.it/en/politica-estera-e-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo/aree\\_geografiche/africa/il-partenariato-con-l-africa/](https://www.esteri.it/en/politica-estera-e-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo/aree_geografiche/africa/il-partenariato-con-l-africa/) 2022 Copyright Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

to Africa is designed to ensure both Africa's balanced growth and Italy's national interest, also within a European and international framework" (Government of the Repubblica Italiana Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, 2022, [https://www.esteri.it/en/politica-estera-e-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo/aree\\_geografiche/africa/il-partenariato-con-l-africa/](https://www.esteri.it/en/politica-estera-e-cooperazione-allo-sviluppo/aree_geografiche/africa/il-partenariato-con-l-africa/)). The following section will cover aspects about the French Republic international relations.

### **3.5 French Republic/France international relations with the Continent of Africa**

France is globally recognized as one of the happiest, technologically advanced, democratic, economically stable and friendly nation in the world. <sup>69</sup>“**French diplomacy in Africa: Global issues. The challenges for French diplomacy in Africa.** France and Africa's ties are close and multidimensional. They are rooted in our geographical proximity, long history and intense human interactions and exchanges. Our relationship reflects the strength of human connections. As our nearest neighbour, Africa has become part of our identity through a common history and African diasporas in France. While many of our citizens' roots are in Africa, more than 150,000 French people are living in sub-Saharan Africa (and nearly 500,000 on the continent overall). France is also part of the African region with its two departments in the Indian Ocean, Réunion and Mayotte, where over one million French people live. **A present and future that are closely linked.** In many respects, France's present and future are closely linked to those of Africa. To a great extent, African countries' prosperity and security determine our own for many reasons:

- France and Africa share **security and counter-terrorism challenges**; it stands to reason that we would extend our efforts and vigilance to African countries. **Peace and security in Africa also determine our stability.** That is why France is active in the Sahel;
- **Africa continues to experience very strong economic growth**, which is expected to continue into the decades ahead, despite being truly heterogeneous and the impact of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Its growing prosperity and vitality generate new

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<sup>69</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2021) *French diplomacy in Africa: Global issues.*

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/french-diplomacy-in-africa-global-issues/> [Accessed May 28, 2022] All rights reserved - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – 2022



opportunities for our companies. France is one of the continent's main economic partners and its number-two trading partner in Europe. In addition to trade, French companies contribute to this growth through their investments and the creation of added value in Africa. Based on these strong synergies, our mutually productive economic relations with African countries are expected to grow stronger;

- **Major global issues**, from climate change to migration management, can only be solved with strong African engagement. They will also be impacted by the exceptional demographic growth expected in Africa in the 21st century. Its population is expected to increase from 1.2 billion today to 2.5 billion in 2050 amid intense urbanization;
- **The future of the French language and Francophonie** principally lies in Africans' hands and the rapid spread of our language will be a challenge and asset to be addressed with them;
- Like us, African countries are committed to defending **multilateralism** and their interests are aligned with ours when it comes to promoting better global governance<sup>70</sup>.

Ever since African countries declared their independence, France made the choice to develop strong relations with sub-Saharan African States. We are represented by 42 embassies (for 49 sub-Saharan African States), which are at the helm of a dense and diversified public network in the areas of education, culture, science and the economy (cultural institutes and Alliance Française branches, French lycées, Agence Française de Développement, research institutes, etc.)” (Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 2021). <sup>71</sup>“**Academic and scientific cooperation. Across Africa, France supports new academic, scientific and research cooperation.** The French government is supporting, for example, the **emergence of satellite campuses** by offering programmes organized jointly by French and African universities. It

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<sup>70</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2021) *French diplomacy in Africa: Global issues*.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/french-diplomacy-in-africa-global-issues/> [Accessed May 28, 2022] All rights reserved - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – 2022

<sup>71</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2019) *Academic and scientific cooperation*. Available from:

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/academic-and-scientific-cooperation/> [Accessed May 28, 2022] All rights reserved - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – 2022

supports the development of **high-quality education courses** driven by economic demand, encourages **scientific cooperation programmes** and contributes to **teacher training** as well as the **integration of digital technology in pedagogical practices**. The African continent is currently seeing unprecedented population growth (current population of 970 million and forecast population of 2.2 billion by 2050) and key societal changes. The growth of the big African economies has led to **growing demand for human resources with appropriate training**, in new economic sectors and at various qualification levels. At the same time, **Africa's role in the global university landscape and the mobility of international students is increasing rapidly**. The number of African students is soaring: 5 million in 2014, nearly 10 million expected by 2020. One student studying abroad in every 10 now comes from Africa, twice the global average. **Diversified regional and bilateral cooperation instruments**. The development of inter-university partnerships helps to bolster international competitiveness and mutually enhance French and African higher education institutions. The goal set by the French President is to **double the number of partnerships** between French and African institutions by 2022” (Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 2019). ““To achieve this, France has a variety of tools and cooperation procedures with partner countries:

- **Support in 2019 for nearly 25 higher education and research projects** through the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs' financing tool: the Solidarity Fund for Innovative Projects, Civil Societies, Francophonie and Human Development or FSPI. These projects help provide **high-quality training courses** which meet the needs of the local labour market, but they also help to **build the capacities of institutions** and the staff of higher education establishments in partner countries. The French Prime Minister's aim to provide €5 million in seed funding will be met. The [Agence Française de Développement](#) will then take over with a fund of €20 million.
- <sup>72</sup>The **provision of university academics, international technical experts** deployed within France's embassies, as well as in African ministries and universities upon request.

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<sup>72</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2019) *Academic and scientific cooperation*. Available from: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/academic-and-scientific-cooperation/> [Accessed May 28, 2022] All rights reserved - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs – 2022

These resources help to **bolster the national higher education systems in Africa**, and they are deployed together with all partners concerned including French government agencies (Agence Française de Développement, [Expertise France](#), [International Centre for Educational Studies](#), etc.).

- 32 [Campus France](#) offices across the continent for the promotion of student mobility. France hosted some 325,000 foreign students in 2016 of which 44% were from the African continent and is **the fourth most attractive country for students studying abroad and the leading non-English-speaking host country**.
- **French government grants**, allocated based on the geographical and strategic priorities of our outreach and fields of training that are of interest for recipient countries. Around a quarter of scholarship holders come from sub-Saharan Africa and a further quarter from the North Africa - Middle East region.

**Zoom on: mobility of African students in France and French programmes in Africa.** Several flagship projects are being developed across the continent including the **France-Cote d'Ivoire hub** launched on 18 October 2018 which groups together **56 courses for African students**, and the **France-Senegal campus** which, from autumn 2019, will offer **17 programmes in partnership** with France's top graduate schools. These university hubs enable African students to obtain dual diplomas given jointly by French and African institutions, while continuing to study in Africa. <sup>73</sup>**Vibrant scientific cooperation, centred on development research.** France, together with three partner countries, is financing seed programmes for **scientific exchanges**. These three Hubert Curien Programmes in sub-Saharan Africa (Kenya, Sudan and South Africa) are supported by the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation and their counterparts in partner countries. Every year, these programmes select the best joint research projects by mutual agreement. **Numerous recognized French scientific organizations have satellites in Africa:** The French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development, French Agricultural

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<sup>73</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2019) *Academic and scientific cooperation*. Available from: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/academic-and-scientific-cooperation/> [Accessed May 28,

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Research Centre for International Development, French National Centre for Scientific Research, French Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis and Institut Pasteur have a significant network of long-standing partnerships with African research institutes. These bodies help to:

- Promote **training and mobility for young researchers** and their inclusion in international teams;
- Foster South/South and North/South **team networking** to build our partners' capacities particularly as regards innovation;
- <sup>74</sup>Enhance the **international expertise of partner countries** to provide responses to the expectations of political decision-makers;
- Contribute to the **search for scientific excellence** through concrete initiatives on the ground, to ensure the development of research institutes;
- Bolster our commitment to respond to **global challenges relating to global public goods**.

This scientific cooperation provides an essential fulcrum for the creation of the African Research Council (ARC). Based on the European Research Council model, the objective of the ARC is to support the human and technical capabilities for research on the continent. France has [six French Research Institutes](#) in sub-Saharan Africa, in Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Nigeria and two in Sudan. These institutes act as platforms for discussions and networking between researchers in archaeology and human and social sciences. Many scientific cooperation projects currently exist and they help to build capacities for research and create regional skill hubs”” (Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, 2019). The following section will cover information about the conclusion of this Chapter.

### **3.6 Conclusion**

Today the Continent of Africa is now making progress towards promoting climate change literacy to reduce global warming, emission of greenhouse gases, pollution and land degradation through forming partnerships with environment-conservation nations from North America,

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<sup>74</sup> Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (2019) *Academic and scientific cooperation*. Available from: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/africa/academic-and-scientific-cooperation/> [Accessed May 28,

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Europe, Asia and South America. The United Kingdom is one of the key trading partners of the Continent of Africa and it has enormously invested its resources to achieve the inclusive growth of different nations on the continent whilst on the other promoting manageable natural resource management initiatives. Nations such as Italy, France and the United Kingdom have consistently managed to provide Africa with multi-billion dollars/pounds/Euros worth of private sector foreign direct investments to create job opportunities for the people of Africa.

### **3.7 Discussion questions**

- 1) Define the following terms 'benefit' & 'branding'? Describe the United Kingdom international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 2) Explain the Repubblica Italiana/Italy international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 3) Explain the France/French Republic international relations with the Continent of Africa?

# Chapter 4: Canada, Republic of South Africa & Switzerland/Swiss Confederation

After reading this chapter you should be able to:

- Define the following terms ‘global’ & ‘support’.
- Describe Canada’s international relations with the Continent of Africa. Discuss the Republic of South Africa international relations with the Continent of Africa.
- Explain the Swiss Confederation/Switzerland international relations with the Continent of Africa.

## 4.1 Introduction

Interestingly, nowadays some of the countries on the Continent of Africa (*in particular the Republic of South Africa*) are playing a key role towards the economic development of other African nations through foreign direct investments (*FDI*), the mutual promotion of tourist attraction destinations, knowledge-skills transfer initiatives, technology-innovation partnerships, physical infrastructure development projects and so on. Traditionally South Africa has been a key player towards peacebuilding initiatives and political dialogues on the African continent since its independence during the year of 1994. Canada, Switzerland and the United States of America are some of the many countries that have overtime successfully managed to position their ‘nation brands as loyal committed best friends of the African people’ through the provision of strategic foreign direct investments, physical infrastructure development loans, high tourist arrivals, humanitarian aid, participation in peacekeeping missions, higher learning scholarships, healthcare knowledge transfer initiatives and so on. The following three aspects namely: (1) the upholdment of democratic principles, (2) the protection of human rights and (3) gender equality have been at the forefront of many developed nations’ foreign or domestic policies such as Canada, Norway, United Kingdom, Switzerland, the European Union, Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America. While on the other-hand these three aspects are considered to be part of a ‘win-win solution’ towards solving Africa’s key challenge of ‘eradicating poverty and conflict’ and in general most of the African nations that adopt these three aspects/policies unquestionably become economically stable, peaceful, happy, innovative etc as compared to

their past state of affairs before they adopted these three aspects. The following section will cover the meaning of terms used in this chapter.

## **4.2 Define the following terms ‘global’ & ‘support’**

<sup>75</sup>“A definition is critical in each and every textbook in order to help readers to easily understand the sense of what is being communicated by the author. The term ‘*global*’ refers to instances when something whether a product, internet website, organization or publication becomes available worldwide beyond many international borders or land demarcation boundaries of nations to reach a wider target audience or target market” (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:60). According to Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2021:97) the term ‘*support*’ for the context of this book refers to the assisting, helping, facilitating and working together of an individual or organization to achieve a uniform goal (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:97). The following section will cover aspects about the Canada international relations.

## **4.3 Canada’s international relations with the Continent of Africa**

**Government of Canada Global Affairs Canada (GAC).** <sup>76</sup>According to the Government of Canada Global Affairs Canada (GAC) (2022) **Global Affairs Canada**. We define, shape and advance Canada’s interests and values in a complex global environment. We manage diplomatic relations, promote international trade and provide consular support. We lead international development, humanitarian, and peace and security assistance efforts. We also contribute to national security and the development of international law (Source: Global Affairs Canada, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022). ““**Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa**. Canada has cultivated relationships in Africa for more than five decades through our work with African countries and with regional and international bodies. Canada’s priorities for Sub-Saharan Africa are:

- providing development assistance

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<sup>75</sup> Muteswa, R.P.T. (2021) *The Magnificence of Respecting Human Rights, Democracy & Freedoms in a Country & Organizations: (Gathered Articles): A North America, Asia, Africa, Oceania & Europe a 21st Century Perspective*. 1st Edition, ISBN 978-1-77921-415-7, Self Published Book, p1-p229.

<sup>76</sup> Source: Global Affairs Canada, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022

- promoting democracy
- promoting peace and security
- increasing commercial and economic ties

**Development assistance.** While some African countries have made progress in reducing poverty, Sub-Saharan Africa is still home to some of the poorest people in the world. In 2010, an estimated 414 million people lived on less than \$1.25 per day. Canada focuses its international development efforts in Sub-Saharan Africa in ten countries:

- [Benin](#)
- [Burkina Faso](#)
- [Democratic Republic of Congo](#)
- [Ethiopia](#)
- [Ghana](#)
- [Mali](#)
- [Mozambique](#)
- [Senegal](#)
- [South Sudan](#)
- [Tanzania](#)<sup>77</sup> (Source: Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022).

““In times of disaster, crises or severe conflict, Canada provides humanitarian assistance, as part of a global response. **Promoting democracy.** Canada supports political and economic reforms in Africa that are based on democracy, strong public sector institutions, the rule of law and human rights. We work with African countries and international organizations, such as the African Union, to strengthen democratic institutions, reduce corruption and promote transparency and accountability. Canada helps during elections by providing support to electoral commissions, sending domestic and international election observers and supporting public education about elections. **Building partnerships.** Canada is an active partner in key organizations who share

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<sup>77</sup> Source: Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022



common interests in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. **Peace and security.** Canada promotes an integrated approach to security, development and regional cooperation, and we encourage this approach among the governments and partners we work with. Helping volatile areas achieve greater stability allows important humanitarian work and the delivery of international assistance to take place. Canada helps strengthen the peace and security capacity of African countries. We provide support for training military and police forces in many African countries, both to enhance their skills and to prepare them for participating in international peacekeeping operations. Canada is also committed to helping African countries improve their ability to combat terrorism. Our initiatives include support for training and equipment, as well as technical assistance to strengthen legal instruments, combat the financing of terrorism and increase border and transportation security. **Economic and trade relations.** Africa is one of the fastest-growing economic regions in the world. Canada is expanding its trade and investment in sub-Saharan Africa. To help establish a regulatory framework that encourages trade and investment, Canada negotiates Foreign Investment Protection and Promotion Agreements (FIPAs). We have concluded FIPAs with Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Tanzania, Mali, Madagascar, Senegal and Zambia. Canada's trade and investment goals for Africa include:

- opening new markets to increase opportunities for Canadian exports
- focusing on specific sectors, such as extractives and energy, to highlight Canadian expertise
- enhancing Canada's reputation as a world-class corporate citizen committed to sharing knowledge and expertise<sup>78</sup> (Source: Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022). The following section will cover information about the Republic of South Africa international relations with the continents of Africa.

#### **4.4 Republic of South Africa international relations with the Continent of Africa**

Today the Republic of South Africa is recognized as one of Africa's most successful economy with a highly advanced globally ranked research-innovation oriented higher learning education

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<sup>78</sup> Source: Canada and Sub-Saharan Africa, reproduced with permission of Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2022

system and transport infrastructure network. South Africa is a key player on the continent of Africa in terms of promoting: peace, security, economic development, international trade, foreign direct investments (*FDI*), climate change literacy, infrastructure development initiatives, technology transfer initiatives, energy exports, food security, human rights, democracy and so on. It can be academically argued that the success of South Africa as a country is naturally a ‘key positive contributing factor’ towards the economic-political success of the Southern, Eastern, West and North Africa regions and this is why South Africa is globally known as the unquestionable ‘powerhouse or gateway of Africa’. South Africa is an undisputable global economy with many bilateral relations in almost each and every country on the continent of Africa and this is easily made possible by its foreign policy and constitution.<sup>7980</sup>“According to the [Constitution](#) of the Republic of South Africa of 1996, the President is ultimately responsible for the foreign policy and international relations of South Africa. It is the President’s prerogative to appoint heads of mission, to receive foreign heads of mission, to conduct state-to-state relations, and to negotiate and sign all international agreements. International agreements that are not of a technical, administrative or executive nature bind the country only after being approved by Parliament, which also approves the country’s ratification of or accession to multilateral agreements. All international agreements must be tabled in Parliament for information purposes.

Over the medium term, the [Department of International Relations and Cooperation](#)’s (DIRCO) will focus on: strengthening the African Agenda; active participation in the United Nations (UN); and developing and managing state-owned properties in foreign missions. During the 2021/22 financial year, the DIRCO aimed to focus on the following objectives, in line with the government’s 2019-2024 Medium Term Strategic Framework:

- Increase Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into South Africa and Africa;

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<sup>79</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *International Relations*. Available from: <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/international-relations#:~:text=Africa%20remains%20the%20focal%20point,and%20conflict%20prevention%20in%20Africa> [Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

<sup>80</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *South Africa Yearbook 2020/21*. Available: <https://www.gcis.gov.za/south-africa-yearbook-202021> [Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

- Improve South African access to foreign markets;
- contribute to increased tourism arrivals to South Africa; and
- Improve investor confidence.

The Minister of International Relations and Cooperation is entrusted with the formulation, promotion, execution and daily conduct of South Africa’s foreign policy. The department’s overall mandate is to work for the realisation of South Africa’s foreign policy objectives by:

- coordinating and aligning South Africa’s international relations;
- monitoring developments in the international environment;
- communicating government’s policy positions;
- developing and advising government on policy options, and creating mechanisms and avenues for achieving objectives;
- protecting South Africa’s sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- contributing to the creation of an enabling international environment for South African businesses;
- sourcing developmental assistance; and
- assisting South African citizens abroad<sup>8182</sup>”(Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System, 2020/21, <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/international-relations#:~:text=Africa%20remains%20the%20focal%20point,and%20conflict%20prevention%20in%20Africa>).

<sup>8384</sup>“The DIRCO’s strategic objectives are to:

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<sup>81</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *International Relations*. Available from: <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/international-relations#:~:text=Africa%20remains%20the%20focal%20point,and%20conflict%20prevention%20in%20Africa> [Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

<sup>82</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *South Africa Yearbook 2020/21*. Available: <https://www.gcis.gov.za/south-africa-yearbook-202021> [Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

<sup>83</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *International Relations*. Available from: <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/international->

- protect and promote South African national interests and values through bilateral and multilateral interactions;
- conduct and coordinate South Africa’s international relations and promote its foreign policy objectives;
- monitor international developments and advise government on foreign policy and related domestic matters;
- contribute to the formulation of international law and enhance respect for its provisions;
- promote multilateralism to secure a rules-based international system;
- maintain a modern, effective department driven to pursue excellence; and
- provide a world-class and uniquely South African state protocol service.

The department’s five-year strategic plan strives towards:

- a united and politically cohesive continent that works towards shared prosperity and sustainable development;
- promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent; and
- using South Africa’s membership and engagements in various international forums to advance the African Agenda.

South Africa’s National Interest displays a people-centred, progressive and developmental outlook evidenced in its foreign policy, particularly as this has been expressed in the post-liberation canon of promoting pan-Africanism, South-South solidarity and cooperation, North-South cooperation and multilateral cooperation””(Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System, 2020/21, <https://www.gov.za/about-sa/international-relations#:~:text=Africa%20remains%20the%20focal%20point,and%20conflict%20prevention>

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[Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

<sup>84</sup> Republic of South Africa Government Communication and Information System (2020/21) *South Africa Yearbook 2020/21*. Available: <https://www.gcis.gov.za/south-africa-yearbook-202021> [Accessed May 27, 2022] Copyright ©2022 Government Communication and Information System

[%20in%20Africa](#)). The following section will cover aspects about the Switzerland international relations.

## **4.5 Switzerland/Swiss Confederation international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>85</sup>“**Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential.** As part of its foreign policy strategy (FPS 2020–23), Switzerland has organised an international workshop to develop its first ever strategy for sub-Saharan Africa. Hailing from more than 30 different African countries, the diplomatic representatives taking part in the workshop in Bern are putting the emphasis on long-term cooperation and the vast potential, which lies in the relations with African countries. More than 30 diplomatic representatives of African countries took part in a workshop to develop the first Swiss Sub-Saharan Africa strategy. © FDFA. It looks like a group of friends have gathered together, a meeting among partners. People are smiling, talking, and debating. The participants, all of whom show a great interest in what's going on, talk to each like equals. This is the first time that Switzerland is developing a separate strategy for sub-Saharan Africa in addition to its foreign policy strategy. But the document isn't being drawn up by a tight circle of specialists at the Federal Palace; in fact, the strategy is being developed with the direct contribution of 34 diplomatic representatives from Africa. **Opportunities from the beneficiaries' viewpoint.** The workshop is a striking example of this level of equal partnership. By involving African partner countries in the strategy process, the appreciation during the workshop is palpable. It is a sign of Switzerland's interest in effective cooperation with African countries. The diplomatic representatives are visibly pleased by this approach and take every

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<sup>85</sup> Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

opportunity to get involved. <sup>86</sup>**Perceiving Africa in its diversity**, According to State Secretary Krystyna Marty Lang, Africa has always been central to Switzerland's foreign policy and should remain a priority region in future. *"Our new sub-Saharan Africa strategy isn't just about setting out what Switzerland wants to achieve in Africa over the next few years. What we really want to know is where each country sees Switzerland's value as a partner."* Finally, constructive cooperation depends above all on a fruitful partnership. *Each country faces a different set of challenges and has different needs, as well as different framework conditions when it comes to working with business and political representatives.* <sup>87</sup>Krystyna Marty Lang, State Secretary. And just as there is no homogeneous Africa, there can be no one form of development cooperation. *"Each country faces a different set of challenges and has different needs, as well as different framework conditions when it comes to working with business and political representatives,"* explains Lang. There are also some major differences in the level of interest for Switzerland among a total of 49 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. <sup>88</sup>*"We would therefore do well to take a more differentiated view both of Africa and of the issue of development cooperation,"* adds Patricia Danzi, Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. **Jobs create prospects at home.** Swiss international cooperation relies on close partnerships with a number of countries, and on Switzerland's humanitarian tradition. The country has a good reputation in many parts of the world thanks to its pragmatism, expertise, effectiveness and long-standing

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<sup>86</sup> Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

<sup>87</sup> State Secretary Krystyna Marty Lang cited in Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

<sup>88</sup> Patricia Danzi (Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation) cited in Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

partnerships with local authorities, institutions and companies. In fact, Swiss know-how is highly valued and provides a sound basis for building fruitful economic partnerships”” (State Secretary Krystyna Marty Lang, 2020, Patricia Danzi - Head of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation , 2020 cited in Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2020, <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html>). ““**International stability in Switzerland's interests.** Establishing geographical strategies regions as part of Switzerland's foreign policy strategy underscores how constructive and diversified cooperation nowadays is to be understood as an interaction between fully-fledged partners – not least because Switzerland, a country that has close links all over the world, depends on social, political and economic security and stability abroad. <sup>89</sup>Switzerland shows solidarity in its foreign policy commitment, particularly because a secure global environment and sustainable development in Africa benefit everyone. The increased diversification of relations with African states is an example of how Switzerland and its economy can also benefit in the long term from positive developments in other countries. <sup>90</sup>**Foreign policy strategy geographical priorities.** Switzerland's strategy process for sub-Saharan Africa ties in with its foreign policy vision (AVIS28). The region is one of the Federal Council's foreign policy strategy geographical priorities for the 2020-2023 period. Regional strategies for North Africa and the Near and Middle East (MEAN) and China are also being developed under the other geographical priorities for this period. The strategy process will also focus on improving the coherency of Switzerland's activities so that all actors work towards a common goal and potential conflicts of interests – also between countries – can be identified early on and jointly resolved. Building on a common understanding, Switzerland's priority cooperation areas,

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<sup>89</sup> Walt, S. (2020) cited in Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

<sup>90</sup> Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (2020) *Switzerland and Africa: a long-standing relationship with potential*. Available from: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

objectives and measures will be fleshed out in the final stage. The workshop for the elaboration of the Sub-Saharan Africa strategy is one example among many that shows how Switzerland shapes its strategy process and how many parties are involved. The regional managers of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and numerous Swiss ambassadors are in close contact with representatives of the respective countries as well as Swiss parliamentarians, players in the Swiss private sector, academia and civil society in order to develop the geographical priority strategies. It is always drawn up through national and international exchange, always in accordance with Switzerland's foreign policy strategy”” (Swiss Confederation Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2020, <https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/fdfa/aktuell/newsuebersicht/2020/07/schweiz-afrika.html>). The following section will cover the conclusion of this Chapter in-depth.

## **4.6 Conclusion**

It can be concluded that African nations such as South Africa have created deep rooted diplomatic ties with other African countries in order to achieve common economic development, security cooperation, education, health and foreign policy agendas. Today the Continent of Africa is hosting training workshops with Foreign Affairs ministries or departments of First World nations in order to share knowledge or skills on how to further strengthen mutual economic cooperation partnerships for many more years to come. It can also be concluded that the Continent of Africa is a good source of industrial raw materials in the form of natural resources for many First World nations. Thus this has ultimately made Africa to become a strategic partner of many developed nations' Department of Foreign Affairs or International Relations bilateral and free trade agreements.

## **4.7 Discussion questions**

- 1) Define the following terms 'global' & 'support'? Describe Canada's international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 2) Explain the Republic of South Africa's international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 3) Explain the Swiss Confederation/Switzerland international relations with the Continent of Africa?



# Chapter 5: Australia, the Kingdom of Spain, the Kingdom of Norway & the Kingdom of Denmark

After reading this chapter you should be able to:

- Define the following terms ‘celebrate’ & ‘freedom’.
- Describe Australia’s international relations with the Continent of Africa. Explain the Kingdom of Spain’s international relations with the Continent of Africa.
- Discuss the Kingdom of Norway’s international relations with the Continent of Africa. Discuss the Kingdom of Denmark’s international relations with the Continent of Africa.

## 5.1 Introduction

The natural beauty and national pride of a country is thoroughly marketed by its government department/ministry of foreign affairs/international relations. Modern marketing strategies can now be easily used by government departments/ministries of foreign affairs/international relations to brand and position nations on various global national economic /branding indexes. The Continent of Africa is now a key partner of many foreign nations in the First World in various areas such as peace/security, agriculture, foreign trade, education, health, technology transfer, infrastructure development and so on. Historically the deep rooted multi-integrated ties of the Continent of Africa and many First World nations stem from colonialism, immigration, trade and cultural similarities. Therefore, these deep rooted ties have served as a pillar that has successfully led to prolonged cooperation and result-oriented bilateral agreements in various economic areas. The multi-faceted relationships of the Continent of Africa with globally economically powerful nations keeps evolving towards mutual or equal partnerships and to some extent other countries in Africa have already surpassed this stage to becoming highly strategic equal/mutual partners of globally economically powerful nations.<sup>91</sup>“**Environmental protection and biodiversity**. Africa has abundant natural resources and a highly varied flora and fauna. The

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<sup>91</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

pressure on these resources is increasing as a result of demographic changes and the need for continued economic growth. Sustainable management and sound environmental practices are essential if Africa is to retain its biodiversity and use its natural resources for long-term value creation. However, the conservation of these resources is not only important in terms of protecting the livelihoods of the people and ensuring access to food and medicines. Africa's nature and rich diversity of wildlife are a potentially important source of economic development, for example in the form of tourism. Tourism can both create jobs for the local population and lead to a greater focus on environmental protection" (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:11, <https://www.regjeringen.no/>). The following section will cover aspects about the meaning of terms in-depth.

## **5.2 Define the following terms 'celebrate' & 'freedom'**

<sup>92</sup>According to Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa (2021:138) words become easier to grasp if what they mean is properly defined in a much simpler manner by authors to clearly highlight the logic of whatever they intend to communicate to readers. The term '*celebrate*' refers to the carrying-out of planned and well designed fun activities to commemorate a positive result or a worthy accomplishment in life (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:138). "For the purposes of this textbook the term '*freedom*' means the ability to freely decide and choose your day-to-day passions, ideas, choices and rights without any restrictions" (Rudolph. Patrick. Tawanda. Muteswa, 2021:150). The following section will cover aspects about the Australia international relations.

## **5.3 Australia international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>93</sup>“**Africa region brief.** Africa is a diverse continent of great dynamism and economic potential. African nations are important partners in a rules-based international system that, as emphasised

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<sup>92</sup> Muteswa, R.P.T. (2021) *The Magnificence of Respecting Human Rights, Democracy & Freedoms in a Country & Organizations: (Gathered Articles): A North America, Asia, Africa, Oceania & Europe a 21st Century Perspective*. 1st Edition, ISBN 978-1-77921-415-7, Self Published Book, p1-239.

<sup>93</sup>Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Africa Region Brief*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

in the Foreign Policy White Paper, is critical to global economic growth, security and human development. The Australian Government is committed to long-term ties of friendship and cooperation with the countries of Africa and is acknowledged as a valued partner. **Political and diplomatic ties.** Australia has diplomatic relations with all 54 African UN-member states. Australia has established ties with regional African organisations-accredited to the African Union,. We have memorandums of understanding with the African Union Commission as well as individual African countries covering a range of issues from science and technology to sports cooperation. High-level bilateral meetings between Australian and African leaders, Ministers and officials drive our engagement. <sup>94</sup>**Trade and investment.** Economic diplomacy is at the core of the Foreign Policy White Paper and the Australian Government's approach to international engagement. DFAT is leading the Government's economic diplomacy agenda bringing together Australia's foreign affairs, trade, development and other international economic activities, to deliver greater prosperity for Australia, our region and the world. Australia has a clear national interest in the security, stability and prosperity of Africa. The annual Australia-Africa Week brings together a range of conferences and events focused on promoting and strengthening Australia-Africa relations, including the [Australia-Africa Universities Network forum](#), the [Africa Down Under Mining Conference](#) and the [Africa-Australia Infrastructure + Technology Conference](#). In 2019, Australia Africa Week was held in Perth from 1 to 7 September. In 2020 it will be held in Perth from 30 August to 5 September. Australian investment in Africa is thriving, particularly in the resources sector. There are over 170 ASX-listed companies operating in 35 countries in Africa. Australia's two-way goods and services trade with Africa was valued at \$11.4 billion in 2018”” (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief>). **““Development cooperation.** The Australian Government provided \$110.7 million in total Official Development Assistance to Sub-Saharan Africa in 2020-21. Australia's funding to Africa supports the Foreign Policy White Paper agenda to broaden our international influence in support of stability, prosperity and cooperation to address global challenges. Our program builds people-to-people links, supports

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<sup>94</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Africa Region Brief*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

inclusive economic growth, provides humanitarian assistance to vulnerable groups and promotes gender equality. Australia has a clear national interest in the security, stability and prosperity of Sub-Saharan Africa. African countries are important in global economic and political terms, including in relation to economic growth, trade liberalisation, agricultural productivity and food security and addressing trans-national crime. Many African economies are growing, presenting increasing opportunities for trade and investment-led development gains. Australia is developing strong economic partnerships with African states, including through targeted development assistance. [More information on development assistance to Sub Saharan Africa.](#) <sup>95</sup>**Peace and security.** Australia is the 11th largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping budget. Australian Defence Force personnel are currently serving in the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The Australian Defence Force is also assisting the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai, Egypt. In the past, Australian personnel have served in UN missions in Sudan, Somalia, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Western Sahara and Namibia. Outside of the peacekeeping sphere, Australia and African countries also cooperate on a range of defence and peace and security matters. Australia provides annual training to African Defence personnel with a peacekeeping focus. We also cooperate with countries in the Horn of Africa, and with organisations such as the UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Regional Fusion and Law Enforcement Centre for Safety and Security at Sea (REFLECS-3) on anti-piracy measures. Australia contributes a naval ship to international maritime security operations in the Gulf of Aden. Australia contributes to the UN Peacebuilding Fund. It provides fast, flexible funding to address drivers of conflict and build sustainable peace. Over two-thirds of the funds are provided to Africa. We continue to engage closely on peace and security issues in Africa. **Advisory Group on Australia-Africa Relations.** The Advisory Group on Australia-Africa Relations (AGAAR) was launched by the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Julie Bishop, on 4 September 2015. AGAAR is tasked with informing Australia's engagement and

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<sup>95</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Africa Region Brief*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

policies on Sub-Saharan Africa. AGAAR's membership reflects the broad nature of the contemporary relationship between Australia and the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. Its members are drawn from business, academia, civil society and the public sector.

[Advisory Group on Australia-Africa Relations website](#)

[Members of the Advisory Group on Australia-Africa Relations](#)

**Collaboration opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa.** There are several ways to become involved in Australia's development cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa and with other developing countries. **Direct Aid Program (DAP).** The [Direct Aid Program \(DAP\)](#) [insert hyperlink] is a small grant scheme that partners with various organisations to support projects which directly contribute to the welfare and the income-generating capacity of poor or disadvantaged groups, or enhance the long-term productivity and sustainability of the physical environment. For more detail on DAP in Africa, see the Australian mission's website in the [relevant country](#)”<sup>96</sup> (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief>).<sup>97</sup>”**Humanitarian program in Africa. How we are helping.** Australia's aid program in Africa responds appropriately to humanitarian crises by working with trusted humanitarian partners and supporting advocacy efforts for effective international humanitarian action. **Why we give humanitarian aid.** Natural disasters, conflict, and economic shocks (such as food and fuel price spikes) severely undermine growth, reverse hard-won development gains and increase poverty and insecurity. Women are often also at heightened risk of violence during crises. In reducing risks from, preparing for and

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<sup>96</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Africa Region Brief*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/africa-region-brief> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

<sup>97</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Humanitarian Program in Africa*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/humanitarian> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

responding to crises Australia's humanitarian action saves lives, builds resilience and helps people overcome poverty. Humanitarian needs in Africa are vast. Humanitarian crises generally involve the mass displacement of people and widespread loss of life and livelihoods as a result of conflict and natural disaster, significantly affecting the ability of communities to recover and build resilience to future shocks. **Aim of Australia's humanitarian program in Africa.** The broad goal of Australia's humanitarian assistance is to save lives, alleviate suffering and enhance the dignity of people faced with violent conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian crises in Africa. Australia's humanitarian response will be consistent with the expectations of the Australian public, the scale of humanitarian need and our reputation as an active contributor to the UN and other multilateral institutions. Building on Australia's experience and assistance to date, the humanitarian program in Africa will pay particular attention to the crises in South Sudan and Somalia. These are large-scale, complex, protracted crises that have been priorities for Australian humanitarian assistance over a number of years. **Allocation of our funds.** The Foreign Policy White Paper points to the Australian Government's increased commitment to humanitarian action investing in strategic, multi-year assistance packages for countries experiencing protracted crisis. Australia continues to be responsive to Africa's humanitarian needs. DFAT monitors and responds to humanitarian situations based on the needs of people affected, the situation on the ground and our capacity to respond. In 2018-19, Australia provided \$24 million in humanitarian funding in response to ongoing crises in Somalia and South Sudan and Cyclone Idai in southern Africa. In addition to this, \$21 million of Australia's 2018-19 core funding to the World Food Programme was allocated to 13 African countries. In 2017-18, Australia provided \$36.45 million in humanitarian funding to crises in Somalia and South Sudan. In addition to this, almost \$25 million of Australia's 2017-18 core funding to the World Food Programme was allocated to nine African countries bringing Australia's total humanitarian contribution to Africa to over \$66 million in 2017-18. For details please visit the [Humanitarian support for crises in Africa](#) page<sup>98</sup> (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/humanitarian>)

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<sup>98</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Humanitarian Program in Africa*.

Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/humanitarian> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

[saharan-africa/Pages/humanitarian](#)).<sup>99</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) **Engaging with civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa. Overview**. The Australian aid program values partnerships with civil society organisations including non-government organisations (NGOs). Civil society organisations can be powerful agents for change—as partners in delivering better services for the poorest members of society, and as enablers of social inclusion. They can also advocate for more effective, accountable and transparent governments. Civil society organisations promote community level engagement, build the capacity of civil society more broadly and strengthen people to people links. Australian NGOs have longstanding connections, expertise and experience in Africa. They are working with communities across the African continent. According to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), approximately 30 per cent (\$80,543,664) of all public donations made by Australians in 2017-18 for development projects overseas went to projects in Africa. Australia's development assistance delivers the following programs through civil society partners:

- Australian NGO Cooperation Program
- Direct Aid Program<sup>100</sup> (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 2022, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/engaging-with-civil-society-sub-saharan-africa>). The following section will cover aspects about the Spain international relations.

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<sup>99</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Engaging with civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/engaging-with-civil-society-sub-saharan-africa> [Accessed May 30, 2022] © Commonwealth of Australia

<sup>100</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2022) *Engaging with civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Available from: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/africa-middle-east/development-assistance-in-sub-saharan-africa/Pages/engaging-with-civil-society-sub-saharan-africa> [Accessed May 30, 2022]

## 5.4 Kingdom of Spain international relations with the Continent of Africa

### Kingdom of Spain Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores.

<sup>101</sup>According to the Kingdom of Spain Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores (2022) **Africa**. Africa is a political and strategic priority for Spain, not only because of its geographical proximity but also because of the multidimensional range of opportunities it currently offers. Spain's 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa Plan, approved on 1 March 2019, reflects this priority and focuses on the vision of Africa as an opportunity and not just as a source of threats. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa Plan is a foreign policy strategy based on a current analysis of the region and Spain's presence on the continent. It aims to introduce a broader approach than previous plans, which were highly focused on development cooperation, although it attempts to incorporate and boost the abundant synergies that exist with the 5<sup>th</sup> Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2018-2021, in addition to other sectoral strategies such as the National Security Strategy and the Strategy for the Internationalisation of the Spanish Economy. It also seeks to join forces in line with the new priorities and objectives within the framework of the European Union's relations with Sub-Saharan Africa. At a global level, this strategy also represents an instrument for the political development of Agenda 2030 in the sub-continent. This approach coincides with the objectives of the African countries themselves, expressed in the African Union's Agenda 2063, and with those of the European Union, expressed in EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy (EUGS, 2016), among other reference documents, which is expected to create opportunities for consultation with our African and European partners. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa Plan aims to mobilise all the resources of Spanish society, not only those offered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation and the Spanish Embassies, but also those of other Ministries, the Autonomous Communities, Local Corporations, the private sector, academia, NGOs and civil society as a whole. To this end, it gives priority to five principles on which the Plan is based: partnership, differentiation between the different tools and actions on the basis of each situation and country (distinguishing between anchor countries which, owing to their size and regional prominence, can act as exporters of stability to their neighbours and absorb intra-African

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<sup>101</sup> Kingdom of Spain Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores (2022) *Africa*. Available from: <https://www.exteriores.gob.es/en/PoliticaExterior/Paginas/Africa.aspx> [Accessed May 31, 2022] ©Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Unión Europea y Cooperación



migratory flows in an orderly manner - Nigeria, South Africa and Ethiopia - and countries of association, which are stable and have great growth potential - Senegal, Angola, Mozambique, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and Tanzania), multilateralism, unity of external action and promotion of the Agenda 2030 for the defence of human rights and gender equality. The specific actions are aimed at four strategic objectives: the promotion of peace and security (including diplomacy, the Armed Forces and Spanish Cooperation); the promotion of sustainable development driven by inclusive economic growth that generates employment and opportunities; the strengthening of institutions and support for orderly, regular and safe mobility. In addition, these strategic objectives are specified in other specific objectives and their indicators, which appear in Annex V to the Plan. As a novelty, this new Strategic Plan shall be subject to external evaluation based on the fulfilment of its objectives and indicators through the appropriate means provided by the Institute for the Evaluation of Public Policies of the Ministry of Finance and the Public Function. In short, Spain's new Africa Plan expands Spain's radius of action in Africa both thematically and geographically and gives it a strategic coherence that shall allow it to increase its presence and be a significant player in the changing African scenario of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century<sup>102</sup> (Kingdom of Spain Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, 2022, <https://www.exteriores.gob.es/en/PoliticaExterior/Paginas/Africa.aspx>). The following section will cover aspects about the Kingdom of Norway international relations.

## **5.5 Kingdom of Norway international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>103</sup>According to The International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (2021) Norway is a modern, energy-rich country, and is considered one of the world's wealthiest countries with a GDP per capita based on purchasing power parities (PPP) exceeding USD 63,500. The country is richly endowed with natural resources - petroleum, hydropower, fish, forests, and minerals - and is highly dependent on the petroleum sector. Norway is the world's

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<sup>102</sup> Kingdom of Spain Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores (2022) *Africa*. Available from: <https://www.exteriores.gob.es/en/PoliticaExterior/Paginas/Africa.aspx> [Accessed May 31, 2022] ©Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Unión Europea y Cooperación

<sup>103</sup> The International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (2021) *Norway-Market Overview*. Available from: <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/norway-market-overview> [Accessed November 17, 2021] ©2021 The International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

3rd largest exporter of natural gas and 15th largest exporter of crude oil. Its large merchant shipping fleet is one of the most modern among maritime nations and ranked the 4th largest by value. Other major industries, such as offshore shipping, shipbuilding, fishing and fish farming, information technology, pulp and paper products, and light metals processing have prospered as well (The International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 2021, <https://www.trade.gov/countrycommercial-guides/norway-market-overview>).<sup>104</sup> **Private-sector development in Africa.** Private-sector development and trade are key drivers of economic development and important elements of an integrated Norwegian policy towards Africa. Increased trade and investment between Norway and African countries is in the interests of both and will improve market opportunities for both Norwegian and African products. This means that the Norwegian business sector may become an increasingly important partner in Norwegian development cooperation with African countries. Norwegian assistance for private-sector development in Africa includes support for the development of institutional and physical infrastructure, competence building and measures to stimulate more investment. The Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries (Norfund) was established in 1997. Norfund invests risk capital in profitable private enterprises in developing countries. Norfund shares the risks and rewards involved with its partners, and focuses particularly on small and medium-sized enterprises. Its objective is to facilitate economic growth and poverty reduction by building up income-generating activities. **Peace and security.** Norway is engaged in conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts in Africa by participating in and supporting African peace processes and political dialogue, through development cooperation and by providing support for peacekeeping operations under the auspices of the UN and the AU. Peace and security on the African continent are not just important for promoting development and alleviating want in Africa, but also for preventing incidents that could affect our part of the world. Conflicts can lead to international terrorism, environmental or economic crises and increased migration. Peace and security in Africa therefore also have a bearing on our own security. **Conflict resolution.** Taking part in conflict resolution and reconstruction efforts has become an important part of Norwegian

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<sup>104</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

involvement in Africa. This is based on the view that alleviating want by providing humanitarian aid alone is not sufficient; it is also necessary to use resources to address the underlying causes. Norway is actively engaged in efforts to alleviate all of these crises, and is able to draw on knowledge and experience gained from its long presence in these areas and close cooperation with international partners, civil society and research communities.<sup>105</sup> Norway's involvement in Africa has mainly centred on Sudan and the Horn of Africa, but Norway has also been involved in peace processes in countries such as Mali and Burundi. In Sudan, Norway was one of the most active international supporting partners in the efforts to achieve a negotiated agreement between north and south. Sudan was the largest recipient of Norwegian development assistance in 2007, due to Norway's involvement there. It is important for Norway to build on the experience gained and continue its efforts to find political solutions to conflicts in Africa (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:12, <https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/>). **““Fisheries and coastal zone management.** Africa has some of the world's richest fisheries resources, but many stocks are threatened by overfishing, especially by international actors. Norway and countries in Africa share an interest in halting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. Effective management and monitoring systems and equitable international fishery agreements are needed to ensure sustainable harvesting of Africa's fisheries resources. As a major fishing nation, Norway has comparative advantages in various segments of the fisheries sector. In cooperation with African coastal states, Norway has been involved in the development of systems for surveying and monitoring fish stocks, regional cooperation on resource management, effective fisheries legislation, and university-level courses in the fisheries sector. **Democracy, human rights and gender equality.** Democracy, human rights and gender equality are cross-cutting themes of Norwegian foreign and international development policy. The development of stable democracies with good governance is essential for protecting human rights and ensuring equal rights for women and men. The normative work of the UN and the AU, the establishment of an African human rights court and better governance in most African countries have helped to move these issues higher up the agenda, but great challenges still remain. Through political dialogue and cooperation with its African partners, Norway is seeking to promote the development of

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<sup>105</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

effective democratic institutions, good governance, protection of human rights and empowerment of women in African countries. **The fight against corruption.** Corruption seriously impedes economic and social development in Africa and hits the poor hardest. The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) estimates that corruption drains the continent of USD 148 billion every year. This is money that could have been used for development. African countries have attached increasing importance to active efforts to combat corruption in recent years, and their governments have realised that corruption must be combated if Africa is to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.<sup>106</sup> One of the main focuses of the fight against corruption in African countries is halting illicit financial flows to tax havens, including in rich countries. Norway has zero tolerance for corruption, and the Government is intensifying its anti-corruption efforts in general as well as in its development cooperation. Whenever corruption is brought to light, those responsible are dealt with systematically. Norway is also supporting a number of measures specially designed to fight corruption, such as supporting corruption fighters, capacity-building for the office of the auditor general, and promoting sound management of public resources in various countries”” (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:10-15, <https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/>). ““**Support for human rights defenders in Africa.** Norway has long been engaged in efforts to support and protect human rights defenders in Africa. Norway chaired the working group that drew up the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, which was adopted in 1998. Norway is also the main sponsor of the resolution on human rights defenders adopted annually by the UN Human Rights Council. In 2000, a UN mandate for a special representative for human rights defenders was established, in response to a Norwegian initiative. **Political and economic empowerment of women.** Norway is seeking to increase women’s participation in political life, for example by providing support for elections and other democratic processes, and for voter registration, by providing information on various quota systems, and by providing training and support for networks of women. **Development policy cooperation with Africa.** Norway, as one of the world’s richest countries, has undertaken clear international commitments to contribute to Africa’s development. Poverty reduction is the overriding objective of Norwegian development cooperation, and African

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<sup>106</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

countries still face huge challenges related to poverty. Given the different situation in the various countries, the focus of our development cooperation will vary, but particular emphasis is placed on capacity building and transfer of knowledge in areas where Norway has special expertise. The Government has identified five main priority areas for development cooperation: 1) climate change, environment and sustainable development; 2) peacebuilding, human rights and humanitarian assistance; 3) oil and energy; 4) women and gender equality; and 5) good governance and the fight against corruption. Norway will also continue to promote education, health and agriculture through budget support to individual countries. Norway cooperates with the authorities, NGOs, the private sector and multilateral organisations in these efforts, and attaches great importance to forging partnerships and coordinating and harmonising international development efforts”<sup>107</sup> (Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2006-7:17-23, <https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/>). The following section will cover information about the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark in-depth.

## **5.6 Kingdom of Denmark international relations with the Continent of Africa**

<sup>108</sup>According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (2022) **Africa**. Danish development activities in Africa are aimed at reducing poverty and creating employment for the young generations entering the labour markets. Denmark has been involved in development cooperation with African countries for more than 50 years. Denmark is one of five countries in the world that meets the UN target with the aim of contributing 0.7 percent of GNI to development assistance. Development assistance is channelled through bilateral and multinational institutions, such as EU and UN. Danish development cooperation is governed by an overall strategy for that can be found [here](#). In Africa, Danish development cooperation is centred on 8 priority countries: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda. The cooperation with the African countries is based on country specific strategies that can be found [here](#). The key figures for Denmark’s bilateral assistance in Africa can be found [here](#) and Danida’s annual

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<sup>107</sup> Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2006-7) *Platform for an Integrated Africa Policy*. Available from: [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa\\_platform\\_web\\_optimized.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/africa_platform_web_optimized.pdf) ISBN: 978-82-7177-753-1 [Accessed May 28, 2022] p1-27

<sup>108</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (2022) *Africa*. Available from: <https://um.dk/en/danida/countries-and-regions/countries-regions/africa2> [Accessed May 28, 2022]

reports can be read [here](#) (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, 2022, <https://um.dk/en/danida/countries-and-regions/countries-regions/africa2>).<sup>109</sup> Furthermore, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (2021) For a country with fewer than 6 million citizens, Denmark plays an outsize role on the world stage when it comes to sustainable development and the fight for human rights. Denmark is also part of NATO, and the Danish military joins in international missions. As a founding member of the United Nations, Denmark has committed itself for decades to a substantial role in the global fight for human rights and the eradication of poverty. Denmark is one of only 5 countries in the world that meets the UN goal for rich countries of providing a minimum of 0.7 of gross national income for development assistance. A portion of Danish development aid is channelled through the UN, the European Union, the World Bank and other multinational bodies, while another portion is earmarked for **Danida, the Danish Development Assistance**. Danida fights poverty and helps improve education in several developing countries. **Fighting terrorism, helping countries avoid conflict and collapse**. The Danish armed forces have a long tradition of delivering reliable and effective contributions in peacekeeping and related international missions. Denmark's international engagement is multifaceted and includes the deployment of military personnel, police, and civilian specialists, including humanitarian rescue workers. Denmark also engages actively in fragile states in order to ensure facilitate free and fair elections and encourage good government. **Activism for universal human rights, against torture**. Denmark is at the forefront of the fight for universal human rights and has ratified a wide range of intergovernmental human rights obligations. The Danes are also active players in achieving a world without torture as a leader in the cross-regional Convention Against Torture Initiative together with Chile, Ghana, Indonesia and Morocco. The idea is to help states ratify and implement the UN convention against torture as successfully as they can. In its development efforts Denmark also works to uphold the rule of law and eradicate all types of discrimination - including gender discrimination - and promote respect for minorities and indigenous people (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, 2021, <https://denmark.dk/society-and-business/denmark-in-the-world>). The following section will cover the conclusion of this chapter.

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<sup>109</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Africa (2021) *Denmark and the world*. Available from: <https://denmark.dk/society-andbusiness/denmark-in-the-world> [Accessed November 18, 2021]

## **5.7 Conclusion**

It can be concluded that First World nations such as the Kingdom of Spain, Kingdom of Denmark, Kingdom of Norway and Australia have successfully gone the extra mile in establishing strong international relations with the Continent of Africa. The Kingdom of Spain, Kingdom of Denmark, Kingdom of Norway and Australia have successfully established strong trade and investment ties with various nations in Africa. In addition these nations have also developed a mutual interest with the Continent of Africa in various areas such as food security, humanitarian assistance, military peacebuilding initiatives and healthcare. Gender equality is one of the key assistance initiatives some of the First World nations have strategically managed to promote on the Continent of Africa despite the fact that gender equality is work-in-progress in various countries.

## **5.8 Discussion question**

- 1) Define the following terms ‘celebrate’ & ‘freedom’?
- 2) Describe Australia’s international relations with the Continent of Africa? Explain the Kingdom of Spain’s international relations with the Continent of Africa?
- 3) Discuss the Kingdom of Norway’s international relations with the Continent of Africa? Describe the Kingdom of Denmark’s international relations with the Continent of Africa?

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