

## Abstracts

### **A Glimpse of the Political Development of the Middle East in post – Cold War Era**

*Ma Xiaolin*

**Abstract:** In the post – Cold War era, nationalism, populism, and radical extremism in the Middle Eastern region have taken on new features, continuously reshaping and readjusting the political setup of the countries in the Middle East region. In light of advancing political democratization in the region, the rise of the strongman defines the new mode of political development. The political role of the military remains in place in the region, while the theocratic system and the government itself are developing in parallel. Monarchies have sought reforms to strengthen their positions, and tribal politics have seen a reemergence, demonstrating the inner resilience of the political development in the Middle East. Meanwhile, the security dilemmas facing the region and the improper intervention of major powers outside the region have aggravated the instability and uncertainty of the political development of the Middle Eastern countries, and delayed the process of political transformation.

**Key words:** Post – Cold War Era; Middle East; Political Trends; Political Topography; Political Development Environment

### **Institutionalization of the Summit of the Forum on China – Africa Cooperation: Tendency, Foundation and Policy Suggestions**

*Zhao Chenguang*

**Abstract:** The Forum on China – Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held three summit meetings in 2006, 2015 and 2018 respectively. The holding of the forum summits were influenced by a series of profound internal and external factors. In addition, the evolution trend of multilateral diplomatic summit is applicable to the forum summit in theory, which indicates that the forum summit may develop in the direction of institutionalization. The three existing summit meetings of the forum have formed a

series of conventions and fixed arrangements in practice, which have constructed a certain institutional basis. But at present, there are still obvious shortcomings in the institutionalization of the forum summit. Therefore, the forum should establish the “time rule” of the summit and plan the institutional relationship between the summit and the Ministerial Conference. The institutionalization of the forum summit has important strategic significance and values, which will help to accumulate experience for the deepening development of China’s regional diplomacy as a whole; to broaden channels for Africa to participate in global governance; and to guarantee the high quality development for China and Africa’s joint construction of BRI systematically. Especially under the background of the major change that’s rarely.

**Key words:** China – Africa relations; FOCAC; summit diplomacy; multilateral diplomacy; institutionalization

### **Exploration on the Political Stability in the Process of Democratization in Senegal: Perspectives of State and Society**

*Meng Jin*

**Abstract:** In the context of the implementation of the democratic election based on the multi – party system in Africa, political election is a main cause that affects the political and security situation of African countries. Nevertheless, Senegal is the only West African country that has not had a military coup and is hailed as a “successful model” of democratization in Africa by Western countries. Among several explanations, the relatively benign interaction formed by the State and society in the process of Senegal’s national independence and state building is the fundamental factor for the stability of the Senegalese regime. From a top – down perspective, the Senegalese government actively initiated the reform of the party system, established a strong center of power, and continuously strengthens the ability to integrate different political forces in the course of political development and consolidates the authority of the government, which constitutes a powerful guarantee for the stability of the country’s political order. From a bottom – up perspective, the Islamic structure centered on the Sufi Brotherhood plays the role of “social bond”. Mature and active social organizations promote the democratization of Senegal by expressing

social demands and enhancing social integration. At the same time, the political and social culture embedded in the state and society has created favorable conditions for Senegal's political stability. The thinking and practice of political elites shape a political culture of openness, tolerance, reform and exploration. The relatively homogeneous social structure and the democratic orientation of national policies help to form a social atmosphere of harmonious coexistence. At present, in response to the internal and external pressures caused by the continuous spread of COVID – 19 and the lasting penetration of religious extremism in the Sahel, the Senegalese government needs to take measures to continuously maintain domestic political and social stability.

**Key words:** Senegal; political stability; party system; Sufi Brotherhood; social organization; political culture

### **Tradition and Modernity: An Analysis of Customary Land Regime Reform in Ghana**

*Hu Yang*

**Abstract:** Most African countries implement dual land regimes, and the application scope of customary land regime is significantly wider than the national land regime. Nearly 80% of the land in Ghana belongs to traditional land, so if Ghana wants to improve productivity and achieve social equity, reforming the traditional land management system is the key. In the precolonial period, the customary land regime was a set of traditional rules for social governance, then through the remolding of colonial rule, it evolved into a management system, serving the ruling classes. After independence, Ghana carried out two rounds of land reforms including nationalization and privatization, but both suffered setbacks due to the deficient consideration of the chieftains' interests. In recent years, Ghana has tried to rebuild the customary land regimes by integrating the traditional management experiences with modern management techniques. Special management function and political value have been found out under the chieftain – presiding customary land regimes, which led to its long – term continuation. However, the abnormal development of traditional forces goes against the construction of a stable political, economic and

social order. In the future, how to achieve the modernized transformation of customary land regimes on the basis of tradition reviving will be the core agenda of Ghana's land reform.

**Key words:** Ghana; customary land regime; chieftain; land reform

### **South Africa's Foreign Aid: Identity and Strategic Choice**

*Zhuo Zhenwei & Luo Jianbo*

**Abstract:** South Africa is a regional power in Africa and an important advocate and promoter on the process of contemporary African renaissance and integration. At the same time, South Africa is also a middle power and emerging country, with a certain influence and discourse power in South – South cooperation and North – South dialogue. The triple identity jointly shapes and influences the goals and strategic choices of South Africa's foreign aid, and to a large extent determines the personality and characteristics of its foreign aid. The ANC – led government has established five strategic goals, namely, to lead regional integration, to advance African democracy and good governance, to promote African economic and social development, to shape regional peace and security, and to enhance global South – South cooperation. In its foreign aid practice, South Africa adheres to Afrocentrism, implementing the aid norms with its own characteristics, and at the same time continuously increases international development cooperation with other emerging countries. However, South Africa is also facing challenges, such as weakening of national power, degradation of African identity, and intensified competition for regional leadership. As a result, the capacity and performance of foreign aid are significantly restricted. How to resolve the huge gap between ideals and reality is an important issue that must be resolved in South Africa's foreign aid.

**Key words:** South Africa; foreign aid; South – South co – operation; African renaissance; African integration

### **“Hashemite Identity”: The Content and Evolution of Jordanian Political Culture**

*Yan Wei & Tian Hongtao*

**Abstract:** “Hashemite Identity” is the identification of the family of Muhammad,

the founder of Islam. With the evolution of history, it has gradually had the connotation of religious identity, political identity and even identity of Arab nationalism. After Jordan was founded in 1921, it faced the difficult problem of how to construct nation identity. When King Abdullah focused on the “Hashemite Identity” to promote the Unity of the Arab world, especially the Greater Syria, Jordanian national identity was not the main concern. In the middle and late 20th century, under the rule of King Hussein, Jordan made a new historical narrative of “Hashemite Identity”, that is, under the context of Arabism, it emphasized the role of Banu Hashim to the native nature of Jordan, the identity of Ahl al – Bayt and the custodianship of the holy sites, as well as its significant contribution to modern Jordan. Thus, Jordan’s history has continuity, and the Banu Hashim also has uniqueness and collective identity. The Banu Hashim, in turn, has sought to soften its image as Jordan’s “outsider” and boost its political legitimacy. “Hashemite Identity” and Jordanian national identity are combined into one, reflecting some symbiotic relationship. Jordan has modernized the traditional religious political culture and made it the resource and power of national construction. It has also become a unique nation building path in addition to secular nationalism and Islamism, and in a sense is the key to the stability of modern Jordan. But in the new era, “Hashemite Identity” still faces challenges.

**Key words:** political culture; Jordan; “Hashemite identity”; nation – building; political stability

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