

FURTHER INFORMATION

Information about AEGIS, its member institutions and activities is available on the AEGIS website: <http://www.aegis-eu.org>. This site also provides useful links to African studies issues elsewhere in Europe and Africa. Whenever possible, enquiries should be addressed in the first place to the AEGIS member centre nearest to you – as opposed to the AEGIS secretariat.

The logo for AEGIS, featuring the word "aegis" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "e" is stylized with a blue arc above it. The logo is set against a blue background that curves into a yellow shape on the right side of the page.

AEGIS

Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies

SECRETARIAT

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A NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE IN AFRICAN STUDIES

AEGIS is a research network of European African studies centres, which aims to facilitate dialogue between all those with an interest in Africa. With primary emphasis on Social Sciences and Humanities, AEGIS' main goal is to improve understanding of contemporary African societies.

Barcelona, Basel, Bayreuth, Birmingham, Bologna,

Bordeaux, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Göteborg,

Hamburg, Leiden, Leipzig, Leuven, Lisbon,

London, Madrid, Mainz, Naples, Oxford,

Paris, Porto, Trondheim, Uppsala

WHY AEGIS?

AEGIS was set up in 1991 in order to build upon the resources and the research potential available within European Africanist institutions. As the dynamics of contemporary change in Africa and the continent's response to processes of globalisation are intimately linked, understanding the continent's evolution is the major academic and policy challenge AEGIS seeks to address. AEGIS consequently aims to:

- Share intellectual resources for research, teaching and advisory purposes
- Help conceptualise and debate new research themes
- Improve and disseminate knowledge about Africa
- Provide academic guidance and foster institutional exchanges of students, researchers and academic staff
- Promote interdisciplinary approaches to the study of Africa

THE INSTITUTIONS

Twenty-four centres from twelve European countries constitute the core of the AEGIS network. New centres that share AEGIS' objectives are encouraged to apply for membership of the network. It is hoped that AEGIS will eventually include members from every European country.

Belgium	Instituut voor Antropologie in Afrika, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Denmark	Center for Afrikastudier, Københavns Universitet
France	Centre d'Étude d'Afrique noire, IEP de Bordeaux, Université Montesquieu-Bordeaux IV Centre d'Études Africaines, EHESS, Paris Centre d'Études des mondes africains, Paris
Germany	Institut für Afrika-Studien, Universität Bayreuth Das GIGA Institut für Afrika-studien, Hamburg Institut für Afrikanistik, Universität Leipzig Institut für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien, Universität Mainz
Italy	Centro Dipartimentale di Studi storici e politici su Africa e Medio Oriente, Università di Bologna Dipartimento di studi e ricerche su Africa e paesi arabi, Università degli studi di Napoli L'Orientale
Netherlands	Afrika-Studiecentrum, Leiden
Norway	Afrikastudier, Norges teknisk-naturvitenskapelige universitet, Trondheim
Portugal	Centro de Estudos Africanos, Instituto Superior de Ciências do Trabalho e da Empresa, Lisboa Centro de Estudos Africanos Universidade de Porto
Spain	Centre d'Estudis Africans, Barcelona Grupo de Estudios Africanos, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Sweden	Centrum för Afrikastudier, Göteborgs Universitet Nordiska Afrikainstitutet, Uppsala
Switzerland	Zentrum für Afrikastudien Basel

United Kingdom	Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh Centre of African Studies, University of London African Studies Centre, University of Oxford
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In addition to its full membership, AEGIS has two other forms of membership. Associations of Africanists within Europe that are not constituted as Centres may apply to join as Associated members. Associations or Centres of African Studies located outside Europe may apply for the status of Affiliated members. Where these bodies are based in Africa, they will be designated as African Affiliated members. The Africa Institute of South Africa became member in 2008. Associated and Affiliated members pay a reduced membership fee, and do not have voting rights in AEGIS.

AEGIS is registered as a Foundation in the Netherlands and is governed by a Board. The Board implements the policies of the network as set forth in the AEGIS Annual Plenary Meeting and coordinates AEGIS' activities, which are organised by the various members. AEGIS has an agreement with Brill Publishers to publish and distribute a scholarly Series of monographs or edited volumes on Africa. Editorial decisions for the Series are made by an AEGIS Brill Editorial Board, appointed by the Annual Plenary Meeting. AEGIS also supports the publication of the AFRICA YEARBOOK, whose editors hail from Hamburg, Leiden and Uppsala. The Working Group on New Technologies is responsible for the AEGIS website and the use of electronic media. The AEGIS network receives no external core funding, but seeks to raise money for joint activities. Its modest financial requirements are supported by regular annual contributions from its members and from ad hoc project/conference funding.

ACTIVITIES

The principal AEGIS activities involve the exchange of ideas, people, knowledge and resources on Africa. These include:

- biennial European Conferences on African Studies, to be held in rotation in different member countries: London 2005, Leiden 2007, Leipzig 2009, Uppsala 2011;
- biennial Summer Schools – that is advanced teaching and research meetings for post-graduate students and junior faculty, organised by one of the member centres ideally on a rotation basis: Cortona, Italy, 2004, 2006, 2008;
- guidance and expertise towards the development of joint graduate teaching and research supervision in African Studies – agreements have been signed between some member institutions to enable joint research supervision;
- the organisation of methodological, theoretical or subject-based state-of-the-art workshops/conferences.

AEGIS also has a policy of inviting African scholars to member institutions. Conversely, AEGIS researchers from Europe can benefit from institutional affiliations with African institutions associated with AEGIS.