

Oil-related Foreign Interventions in Africa: US VS China. What Impacts on Africa?

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African oil should generate wealth for Africa. Nonetheless, studies reveal that oil, economic and political instability are interrelated. Why the blessing of Mother Nature does not bring wealth is puzzling. The 'resource curse' concept thus became a topic widely discussed among relevant economics scholars. Apart from existing causes of the resource curse which are discussed to be based primarily on economic and political mismanagement, this paper suggests that foreign involvement is also responsible for the curse. Specifically, it explores the US' and China' economic and political involvements as part of their national energy security in Africa as well as examining the impacts of these involvements in the affected African countries. The paper uses neo-colonialism approach to explain the relation between new foreign actors and African resource curse. It enriches the economics discipline by offering international political explanation and vice versa. This paper hopes that detrimental conditions imposed on by foreign powers are circumvented and resources are maximized for Africa's developmental potentials.