



African Studies Center
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring #17

AFRICA @ MSU THIS WEEK



Information and Analysis Regarding COVID-19 in Africa

Below are links with information that may be helpful for those who would like to learn about COVID-19 and Africa. Please feel free to send us articles and links that we can share.

- Paul T. Zeleza, "[The Coronavirus: The Political Economy of a Pathogen](#)"
- Africa Center for Strategic Studies, "[Mapping Risk Factors for the Spread of COVID-19 in Africa](#)"
- African Arguments, "[Coronavirus in Africa Tracker](#)"
- [ALC COVID-19 Research](#)

COVID-19 Pandemic: Responses and lessons learned from African Universities

African universities.

University leaders from across the continent will be coming together to discuss their institutions' response to the crisis and share best practices on how to move forward. We will be joined by:

- Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor, Makerere University
- Ibrahima Thioub, Rector, Cheik Anta Diop University
- Rose Mwonya, Vice Chancellor, Egerton University
- David Norris, Vice Chancellor, University of Botswana

Moderator: Paul Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, US International University - Africa

If you would like to attend this virtual panel on 29 April at 8am Eastern, please register using the link below. Be sure to include any questions you would like the panelists to discuss. If you have any questions, please contact us at aap@msu.edu.

Register at https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SpTg7WuaQPmXE8CvnGmPcg

Two Africanist Graduate Students Win ISP Awards

The African Studies Center is pleased to announce that two Africanist graduate students, Alaina Bur and Claire Hoffman have received the Claffey Meyer International Travel Grant through MSU's International Studies and Programs to conduct dissertation research in East Africa. This award provides financial assistance to domestic students who intend to travel to developing countries for the purpose of providing technical assistance, participate in research, or engage in service.

[View the full article here \(PDF\).](#)

Children's Africana Books are Perfect Reading for Children and Families who are at Home Together

Africa Access and the Outreach Council of the African Studies Association (ASA) have announced 2020's award winning books by African authors and about Africa that are especially suitable for children and families who are at home together. The Children's Africana Book Awards (CABA) are presented annually to the authors and illustrators of the best children's and young adult books on Africa published or republished in the U.S. The awards were created by Africa Access and the Outreach Council of the ASA to encourage the publication and use of accurate, balanced children's materials about Africa. The awards are presented in three categories: Young Children, Older Readers and New Adult.

[View the full article and award recipients \(PDF\).](#)

Amnesty International USA Teleconference Briefing on the Impact of COVID-19 on

Please join Amnesty International USA for a Teleconference Briefing on the COVID19 Impact on Human Rights Around the World. The briefing is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is required [registration link](#).

WHEN: Wednesday, April 29, 1 p.m. (Eastern time)

While the U.S. has been the most recent epicenter of the raging corona virus, every part of the world has been turned upside down by the pandemic. From nationwide lockdowns lasting over a month, to mandatory temperature checks in order to leave one's home, to facial recognition that can discern people wearing face masks, to excessive use of force by law enforcement and security forces, to the dangerous plight of prisoners and detainees forced to live in overcrowded conditions – these are just some of the human rights challenges in the age of COVID-19 – all of which have serious impacts on human rights.

- What actions are nations taking to prevent the spread of the corona virus?
- How are States of Emergency affecting human rights around the world?
- Are there any nations that are curbing the spread of the corona virus without sacrificing human rights?
- Is it possible to reopen society and the economy without violating the right to privacy and other human rights?
- What actions must the U.S. and international community take to address the human rights impact of the coronavirus pandemic?

[Link to the briefing invite](#) or [View the PDF invite](#)

ASLA Members Attend Model African Union Summit in Washington DC

The African Students Leadership Association (ASLA) at Michigan State University is a student organization that includes both graduate and undergraduate students looking to participate in events that promote pan-Africanism and engage with issues related to Africa's development. According to the organization's president, Luyando Katenda, ASLA was founded by African students in the diaspora with the intent of uniting African students and instilling in them leadership and diplomatic skills. This year, as in previous years, ASLA students participated in The International Model African Union event held at Howard University.



[Read the full article on our site](#)

Call for Abstracts: Virtual African Diaspora Conference

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This conference was initially planned as a physical event at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. This became impossible in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will not be held virtually and further details on the technological modalities will be communicated to those selected.

Because of the pandemic, we have decided to extend the theme to also consider ways in which COVID-19 will potentially impact diaspora studies and engagements. Papers that consider this impact or examine the status of diaspora prior to the rise of the pandemic are welcome.

Abstracts of no more than 300 words covering the sub-themes listed are invited. Given the current circumstances, we shall be happy to entertain initial and prospective thoughts and ideas.

For more information, view the [full event PDF](#)

To RSVP, [visit the application site](#)



MAY 5 - 7: VIRTUAL WOMEN IN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP ON-LINE SERIES

While the date of our in-person annual forum has been pushed out due to the Corona virus, we invite you to mark your calendars with these dates for virtual opportunities to connect, learn and grow. Free sessions are open to anyone to [register](#) at no cost.

Registration closes Sunday, May 3.

Registrants of the 2020 Women in Global Development Forum will automatically receive a link to all sessions.

[Visit the website for more information](#)

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Center at MSU has put together a playlist of songs by African artists recommended by our community through social media. We have compiled this playlist and are so happy with how it has turned out.

To view the playlist, visit: [African Studies Playlist](#)

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