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British Academy Writing Workshop

on International Politics in Africa

British Institute in Eastern Africa (BIEA), Nairobi, Kenya • 7–9 April 2026

The workshop brings together participants, organisers, mentors, and journal editors for three days of intensive manuscript feedback, methodology training, and individual publishing consultations.

5–6 April: Participants arrive in Nairobi.

Conference Hotel: Swiss-Belinn Hotel Nairobi, Kandara Rd

Conference Venue: British Institute in Eastern Africa (BIEA), Laikipia Rd

Day 1 Tuesday, 7 April 2026

8:40 *Meet in Hotel Lobby to walk to workshop venue*

9:00 – 10:00 Session I — Introduction to Workshop Theme

This session will introduce all attendees to the modalities of the workshop and its intended aims. The session will offer an initial opportunity for networking.

10:00 – 10:30 *Coffee break*

10:30 – 13:00 Session II — Manuscript Presentation & Discussion 1 (5 papers)

Each participant is allocated 25 minutes to present their draft paper and receive feedback from the journal editors and the team.

10:30 – 10:55 Muhidin Shangwe (University of Dar es Salaam): South African Response to Wars in Ukraine and Gaza: A Case of African Agency?

11:00 – 11:25 Dikeledi Mokoena (University of Johannesburg): Economic Statecraft and the Coloniality of Power: A Decolonial Analysis of U.S. Influence Attempts toward South Africa

11:30 – 11:55 Caroline Shisubili Maingi (Strathmore University / USIU–Africa): National Interest to Regional Consciousness: Eastafricanization and the Transformation of Kenya’s Foreign Policy Behaviour

11:55 – 12:05 *Small coffee break*

12:05 – 12:30 Alfred Makotsi (Kenya Methodist University): The Politics and Diplomacy of International Election Observation in Africa: Democratic Consolidation in Kenya through the Lens of IEOMs (1992–2022)

12:35 – 13:00 Kingsley Ogunne (Obafemi Awolowo University): Balancing Burden and Agency: African States’ Diplomatic Strategies in Global Health Governance

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00 – 15:00 Keynote — Gilbert Khadiagala

15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 – 17:00 Session III — Methodology Training 1

This session will focus on key themes in research design, informed by the team’s initial reading of the participants’ draft papers.

Day 2 Wednesday, 8 April 2026

8:40 *Meet in Hotel Lobby to walk to workshop venue*

9:00 – 11:55 Session I — Manuscript Presentation & Discussion 2

Each participant is allocated 25 minutes to present their draft paper and receive feedback from the journal editors and the team.

9:00 – 9:25 Mary Baremirwe Bekoreire (Kabale University): Impact of Sino-Western Geopolitical Influence on Conflict Dynamics and Resolution in East African Community Member Countries

9:30 – 9:55 Fatou Bintou Niang (Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis): Policy and Peace: How ECOWAS Shapes Regional Diplomacy through Multilateral Action

10:00 – 10:30 *Small coffee break*

10:30 – 10:55 Chikodiri Nwangwu (University of Johannesburg / University of Nigeria, Nsukka): Democratic Recession and ECOWAS Coercive Responses to Unconstitutional Changes of Government in West Africa

11:00 – 11:30 Andre Ben-Moses Akuche (Obafemi Awolowo University): The Global Energy Transition and Nigeria's Natural Gas Diplomacy

11:30 – 12:00 **Overflow.**

12:00 – 13:00 *Lunch break*

13:00 – 13:25 Caroline Kathure Gatobu (National Defence University–Kenya): Kenya's Role in Regional Stability and Development in the Horn of Africa: Navigating Security and Sovereignty

13:30 – 13:55 Tendai Ganduri (University of the Witwatersrand): The Zimbabwean and South African Twitterspheres and Agonistics of Climate Diplomacy at COP26

14:00 – 14:25 Evans Getembe (Maseno University): Kenya's Blue Economy and Maritime Diplomacy: Repositioning National Interests in a Globalized Order

14:00 – 14:30 *Coffee break*

14:30 – 16:00 Session III — Methodology Training 2 / Overflow

This will be a Q&A session where participants can ask questions about their methodological approaches. The session will be run by the team and will also include the invited journal editors.

Day 3 Thursday, 9 April 2026

8:40 *Meet in Hotel Lobby to walk to workshop venue*

9:00 – 10:30 Session I — Meet the Editors

Editors of *African Affairs*, *African Review*, and *South African Journal of International Affairs* will lead this session on the peer review and publishing process.

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30 Session II — Meet the Editors 2

Participants will be divided into three groups, with each group meeting a given editor to ask specific questions about publishing in their journal.

12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch break*

13:30 – 15:00 Session III — Special Issue Discussion and Way Forward (ASAUK)

This session will review the special issue submission process and set a deadline for participants to complete corrections and address comments raised in the paper presentations.

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