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Partnering with African universities – mutually meaningful exchanges, projects and prospects

Prof. Dr. István TARRÓSY
International Centre, University of Pécs

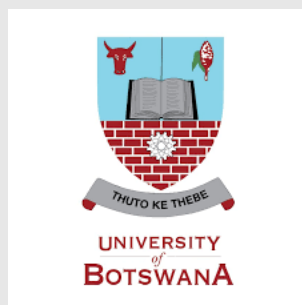
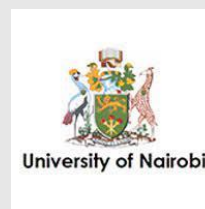
November 15, 2022



Partnerships, activities

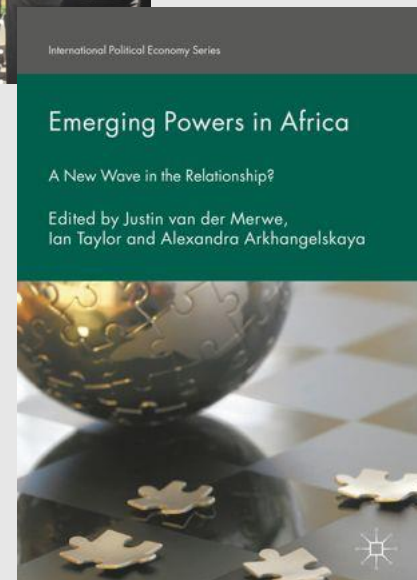
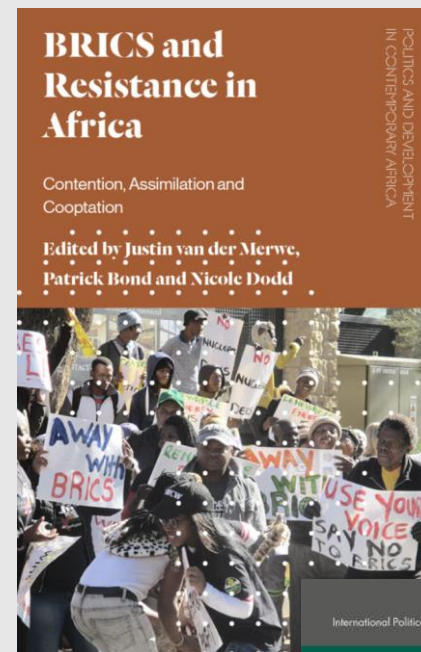
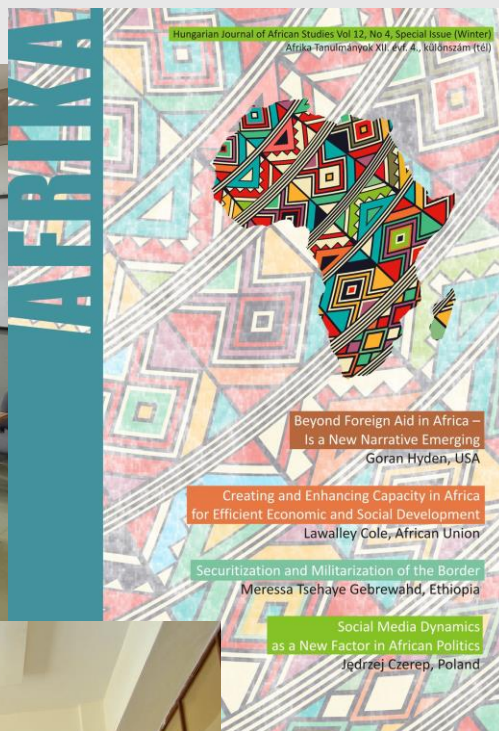


- *International Credit Mobility: teaching/admin staff exchange, student exchange*
- *Joint conferences, publications, field research*
- *Research affiliation for PhD students*
- *External review for PhD dissertations*
- *Visiting professorship opportunities*
- *PhD student grants*



African agreements so far

<i>Country</i>	<i>University</i>	<i>Agreement type</i>	<i>Exchange type</i>
Botswana	University of Botswana	Framework, ICM	Staff exchange
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa University	ICM	Staff exchange
Ethiopia	Mekelle University	ICM	Student/Staff exchange
Kenya	Kenyatta University	Exchange, ICM	Student/Staff exchange
Morocco	Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique, EGE Rabat	Exchange	Student/Staff exchange
Nigeria	Lagos State University	ICM	Student/Staff exchange
South-Africa	Stellenbosch University	ICM	Student/Staff exchange
Tanzania	Kampala International University in Tanzania	Framework	Staff exchange



Focus on mutually meaningful collaboration

- ***Who has what kind of need/expectation? Who wants what kind of output from the cooperation?***

- *To diversify the network of connections, partners*
- *To recruit students (scholarship and fee-paying)*
- *Scientific activities: fieldwork, publications*
- *To develop, launch new programmes*
- *Prestige*
- *To have EU grants, to build upon experience with EU grant schemes*



- ***What to care for?***

- *The principle of equal partners (no hierarchy anymore)*
- *There is now cash cow, but EU grants are important and all other additional opportunities (e.g. cheaper on-campus accommodation (ETH), airport shuttles, to combine teaching obligations with conference talks)*
- *Different admin cultures, practices, African Time – European Time (when preparing/signing an agreement, organizing an event etc.)*
- *When dealing with visa issues, contacting the embassies/consulates and the immigration offices*

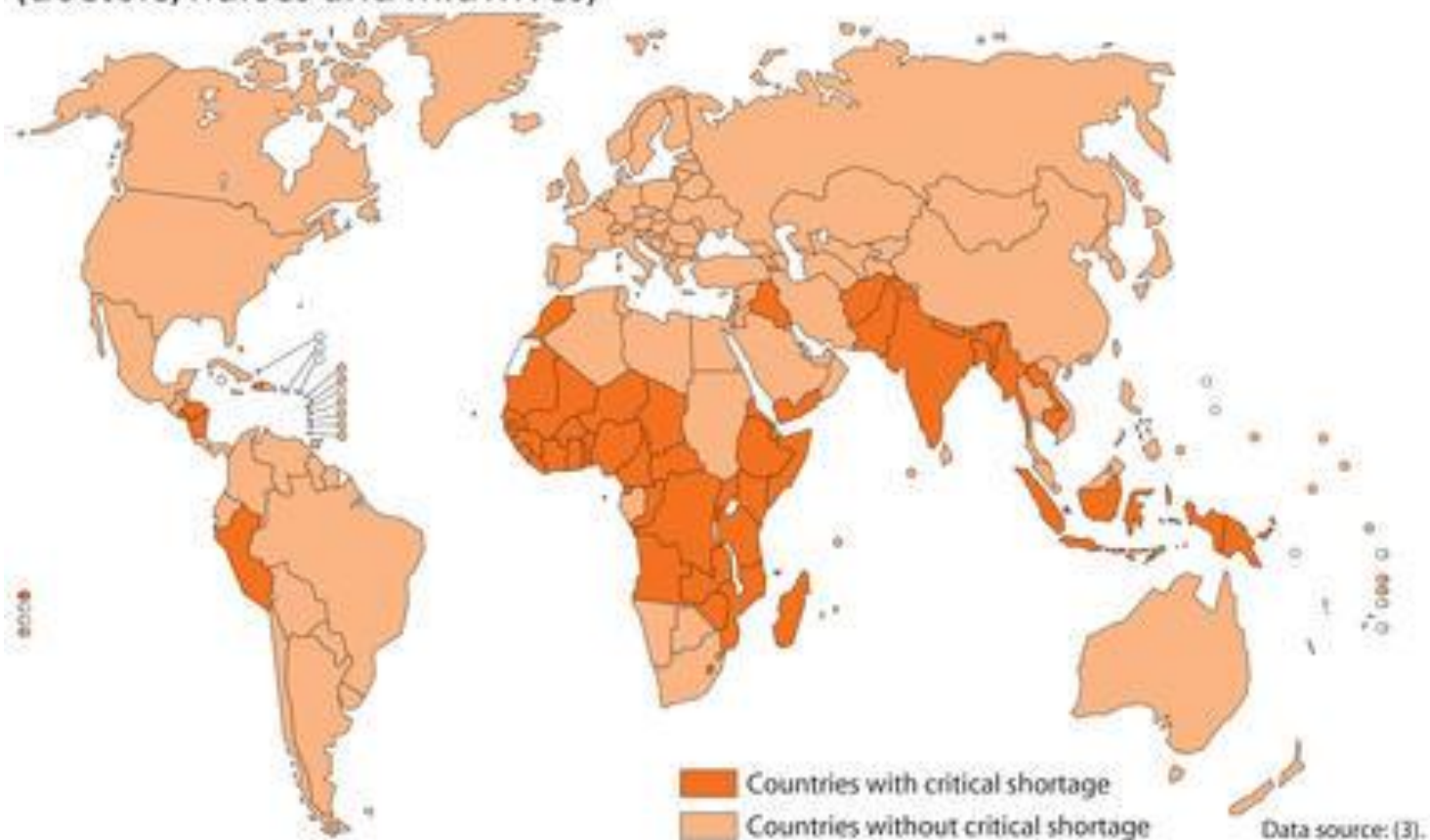


Focus on mutually meaningful collaboration 2

- *Avoiding brain drain*
- *Rather emphasis on training opportunities (both EU- and HU-funded)*
- *Understanding better the training needs of the African side, .e.g vocational trainings*
- *Also acknowledging the importance of regional cooperation from the African perspective (i.e. RECs)*
- *Enhancing global knowledge production in the form of joint efforts with African scholars*



Countries with a critical shortage of health service providers (doctors, nurses and midwives)



Regional Economic Communities (RECs)

Africa is moving toward regional integration. There are eight Regional Economic Communities approved by the African Union (AU)

CEN-SAD

(Community of Sahel Saharan States)
28 member countries



COMESA

(Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa)
19 member countries



EAC

(East African Community)
5 member countries



ECCAS

(Economic Community of
Central African States)
11 member countries



ECOWAS

(Economic Community of West African States)
15 member countries



IGAD

(Inter-governmental Authority on Development)
8 member countries



UMA

(Arab Maghreb Union)
5 member countries



SADC

(Southern African Development
Community)
15 member countries



Some ongoing research projects

- **The context of Afro-Asian linkages; China in Africa with two major angles that carry/may carry novum:**
 - (1) Infrastructure investments and the issue of debt, the case of ETH
 - (2) The direct consequences of FOCAC and the BRI on the level of individuals: inbound and outbound migration
- **Other Asian actors' engagements across Africa**
 - (1) With a focus on Indonesia, Thailand and others such as Pakistan, Bangladesh
 - (2) Afro-Asian linkages in the context of the Global South; other views and perception in a historical overview (e.g. from Hungary)



China's Belt and Road Initiative in Africa, Debt Risk and New Dependency: The Case of Ethiopia

by István Tarrósy

ABSTRACT

Acknowledging a growing new concern about China across the Global North in general, and in the U.S. in particular, in the context of China–Africa relations, the article examines Ethiopia as a case study to understand the multi-faceted relationship. Based on field research in 2018–20, together with local media reports, it looks at some of the recent large-scale infrastructure projects in Ethiopia built by Chinese companies, in particular the Light Railway in Addis Ababa and the Ethiopia–Djibouti Railway. These will be analyzed in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of China. Although the expansion of badly needed modern infrastructure, and thus enhanced connectivity, is welcomed by society at large, the following research questions are raised: (1) How difficult will the repayment of loans be for Ethiopia? (2) Is China offering a worse scenario than the Western practice? At the same time, what is the alternative to these Chinese loans for African governments at present? (3) What are the costs and benefits for both sides? In the process of measurable growing indebtedness—this time to China—the article will shed light on some new dependencies in the making.

China and Ethiopia, Part 1: The Light Railway System

Time is ticking to repay Ethiopia's light rail debt, which is not going to be easy without making sufficient profit.

By **Istvan Tarrosy** and **Zoltán Vörös**

February 13, 2018



There are numerous examples of the successful and tangible manifestations of China's Africa policy all across the continent. Two recent projects have placed a spotlight on Ethiopia, where the Chinese presence is overwhelming: the first modern light railway (tram) system of sub-Saharan Africa in the capital, Addis Ababa, and the Addis-Djibouti railway, connecting the landlocked country to the maritime trade routes of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. In this two-part analysis, we evaluate these Chinese investments after visiting these projects in January 2018. Below, we examine the light railway in Addis Ababa; in [Part 2](#) we look at the Ethiopia-Djibouti rail connection.



The light rail in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Credit: Istvan Tarrosy

China and Ethiopia, Part 2: The Addis Ababa–Djibouti Railway

As with the light railway, the reality of the Ethiopia-Djibouti link is dashing high hopes.

By **Istvan Tarrosy** and **Zoltán Vörös**

February 22, 2018



There are numerous examples of the successful and tangible manifestations of China's Africa policy all across the continent. Two recent projects have placed a spotlight on Ethiopia, where the Chinese presence is overwhelming: the first modern light railway (tram) system of sub-Saharan Africa in the capital, Addis Ababa, and the Addis-Djibouti railway, connecting the landlocked country to the maritime trade routes of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. In this two-part analysis, we evaluate these Chinese investments after visiting these projects in January 2018. [Part 1](#) looked at the light railway; below, we explain our findings on the Addis-Djibouti railway.



Furi-Lebu Station, outside of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Credit: Istvan Tarrosy

Revisiting Chinese Transportation Projects in Ethiopia

A year later, the authors revisit two major projects in Addis Ababa to see what has changed – and what hasn't.

By Istvan Tarrosy and Zoltán Vörös

January 26, 2019



In January 2018 we published two articles about transportation projects in Ethiopia, a key manifestation of China's Africa policy in the country: [the first modern light railway \(tram\) system](#) of sub-Saharan Africa in the capital, Addis Ababa, and the [Addis-Djibouti railway](#) connecting the landlocked country to the maritime trade routes of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. Exactly a year later we have visited these sites and projects again, to be able to come to some concluding considerations.

Our opening lines [last year about the Light Railway system](#) in Addis were about the uniqueness of the project in sub-Saharan Africa – probably the reason why Addis officials decided to implement the project from Chinese money with Chinese companies. On the surface nothing has changed with the two



The central building of the Furi Lebu railway station outside Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Credit: Istvan Tarrosy

China and Ethiopia, Part 4: Mekelle Industrial Park

Ethiopia, with dreams of being a textile and apparel manufacturing hub, is following China's blueprint for industrial parks.

By Istvan Tarrosy, Zoltán Vörös, and Seife Hailu Gebreslassie

April 16, 2020



In 2018 and 2019 we published three articles about [transportation projects in Ethiopia](#), a key manifestation of China's Africa policy in the country: the first [modern light railway](#) (tram) system of sub-Saharan Africa in the capital, Addis Ababa, and [the Addis-Djibouti railway](#) connecting the landlocked country to the maritime trade routes of the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. In January 2020, we followed this up by investigating another possible catalyst of economic growth: Mekelle Industrial Park in Ethiopia's Tigray National Regional State.

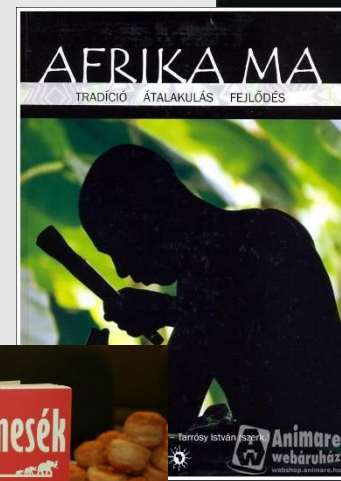
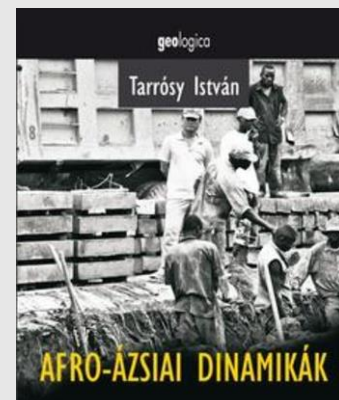
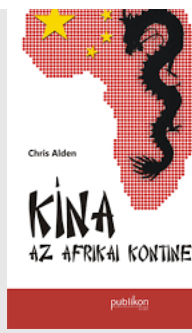
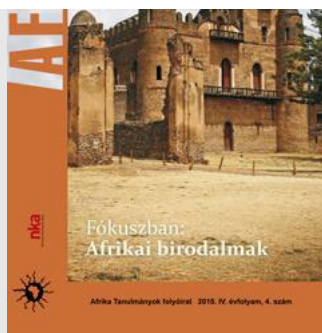
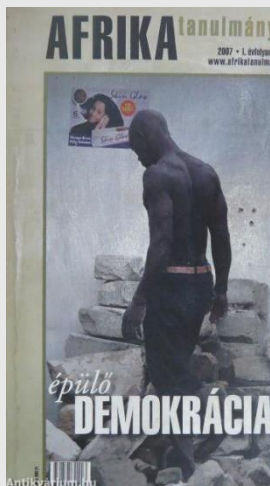
As numerous scholars and experts have pointed out, industrial parks can act as catalysts of economic growth. In a [2019 paper](#), Ermias Wedajo Azmach underlines that most of the industrial



The inside of an empty shed in Mekelle IP.

Credit: Istvan Tarrosy

In the background: Africa Research Centre since 2009



Securitization and Militarization of The Border: Security Dilemma in Post-1998 Ethiopia and Eritrea

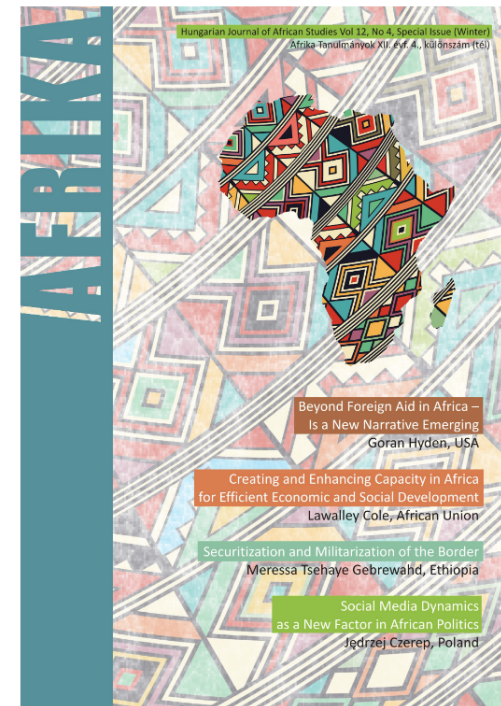
Meressa Tsehay Gebrewahd

Mekelle University

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15170/AT.2018.12.4.6>

Absztrakt

The post-1991 Ethiopia and Eritrea were hoped to become promising and exemplary states in Africa. But, after seven years of euphoria, national stability and security trapped both countries into a bloody conflict, and their relation is now in structural crisis: the ‘no war, no peace’ dilemma. Their security dilemmas are basically centered on the antagonistic foreign and national security as well as nation-building policies. The post-independence nation-building attempt to forge a militarized single national identity in Eritrea, under the motto of “one people, one heart” and the remaking of the age-old Ethiopian state based on ethnic federalism further deepen the nation-building dilemma. The post-1998 security dilemma between the two states is, therefore, the result of securing Eritrea’s nation-building policies and the militarization of the Yika’alo-Warsay generation where Ethiopia has been made to be “a relevant enemy to its Singaporization vision” and Eritrea is subsequently viewed as a “relevant enemy to Ethiopia’s



 PDF (English)

Megjelent
2019-05-22

Nation-Building Predicament, Transition Fatigue, and Fear of State Collapse

An Emerging Phenomenon in Post-2015 Ethiopia

Meressa Tsehaye Gebrewahd

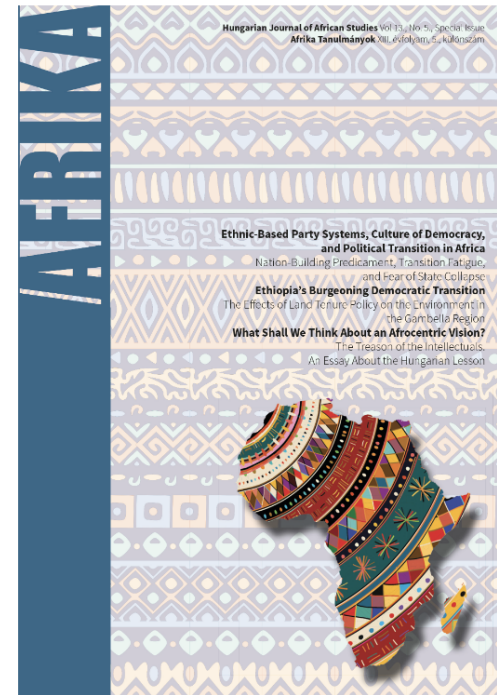
Political Science and Strategic Studies, Mekelle University, Ethiopia

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.15170/AT.2019.13.5.3>

Kulcsszavak: Ethiopia, assimilationist, secessionist, and federalist narratives, transition fatigue, fear of state collapse

Absztrakt

Ethiopia, evolved from Tigray, is known by its history of having been an empire (e.g., the Axumite kingdom) and having been independent. The fundamental weakness of the Ethiopian state has been the lack of inclusive national consensus, hampered by national oppression and the dilemma of democratizing a feudal state. The post-1991 TPLF-EPRDF-led Ethiopia has been experimenting with federalist nation-building to address Ethiopia's historical contradictions: national and class oppression. The 1995 FDRE Constitution established a federal system and subsequently recognized the right of nations to self-determination including secession, self-administration, and local development. The constitution also declared that



 PDF (English)

Megjelent

2021-01-20

2019

International Evening
március 9.
9 March

Ázsia Napok
március 11-14.
Asia Days
11-14 March

Európa Napok
március 18-22.
Europe Days
18-22 March

Észak-Amerika Napok
április 1-5.
North America Days
1-5 April

Ibero-Amerika Napok
május 6-10.
Ibero American Days

AFRICA DAYS
16 April

Előadások Afrikáról
Presentations about Africa

MAY 16-20, 2022

AFRICA DAYS

LECTURES BIKE ADVENTURES IN AFRICA

7TH PÉCS AFRICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

BOOK LAUNCH CONCERTS EXHIBITIONS

<http://AFRICA.PTE.HU>

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AFRIKA KÖZELRŐL

Az Afrika Kutatóközpont őszi rendezvénysorozata

Előadássorozat Afrikáról, a sokszínű kontinensről

Helyszín: PTE BTK Politikai Tanulmányok Tanszék, "B" épület, Ifjúság útja 6.

2010. október 25-én 14:00-kor

„Toposztatalszere, avagy Afrika magyar szemmel – „Afrikában így csinálják”

Afrika és a globalizáció,

Nigéria szemüvegén keresztül

Meghívott előadó:

Ócsc. A. A. Adepoju,

Övetségi Köztársaság magyarországi ügyvivője

október 25-én 16:00-kor

„avagy Afrika turistaszemmel” című előadássorozat.
átlagember megmásmni a Kilimandzsárót?

Meghívott előadó:

Bánkúti István

Az előadás nyitott és ingyenes!
Mindenkit szeretettel várunk!



Événssorozat az Oktatásért Közalapítvány
gatott tehetségműhely programja.

osolygó halak, jókedvű emberek

Gambiai életképek

Kalmár Lajos és Tarrósy István fotókiállítás



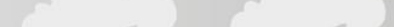
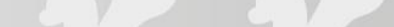
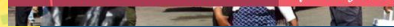
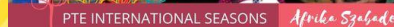
Megnyitő:
2010. augusztus 15. 11:00

Beszédet tart:

Dr. Suha György
A Gambiai Köztársaság főkönszula,
Képviselőhivatala, Budapest,
A Gambiai Köztársaság Állandó
Képviselője az ENSZ és a Nemzetközi
Szervezetek mellett, Bécs

Dr. Tarrósy István,
egyetemi adjunktus, Afrika-kutató

Kalmár Lajos,
fotóművész



Művészetek és Irodalom Háza 10/20 18:00 Facebook Live

AFRIKAI MIGRÁCIÓS FOLYAMATOK, AFRIKAI DIASZPÓRA

Az előadást tartja:
Prof. Dr. Tarrósy István
egyetemi tanár (PTE BTK)

PTE INTERNATIONAL SEASONS Afrika Szabadegyetem.

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The newest dimension: European University Alliances

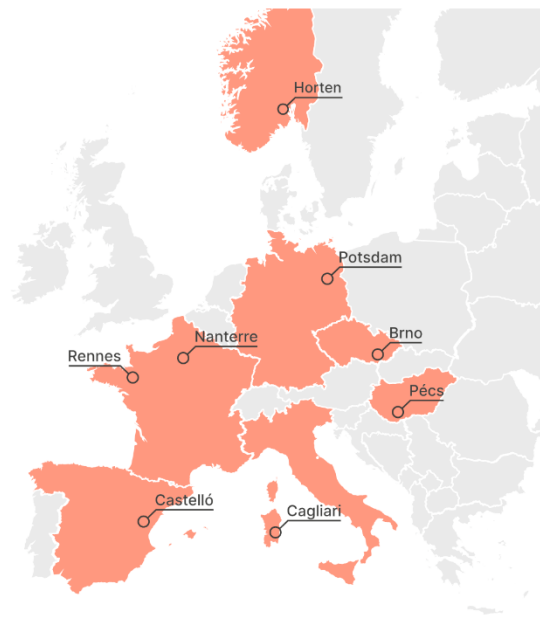
- *The potentials the European Digital UniverCity (EDUC) alliance can offer*
- *Mapping African partnerships*
- *Working on a new joint MA in African Studies, submitting it to the EU*

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- *The potentials this bilateral agreement can offer*
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Thank you for your attention!

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