

## US-CHINA COMPETITION FOR AFRICAN RESOURCES: LOOMING PROXY WARS AMID POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES

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Indeed, a depiction of angst is not only inutile indulgence, but ignores the historical role of the populace. Here, once again, we reiterate our sincere belief in the strength of an amalgamation of popular and intellectual forces in the [continent], as unity of action and purpose is sorely needed at this juncture of [African] history. – Ali Jimale Ahmed (1989)

### ABSTRACT

Although the US and its Western allies had long relationship with Africa in various categories of aid and development, China's recent entry into the *Dark Continent* caused huge displeasure to the traditional donors. The Asian giant's economic investment in Africa was so huge that it engaged scholars to analyze the trend from various perspectives including politics, economics, commerce, governance, human rights as well as security. The move also became an awakening or a reawakening for the US and its think tank in that, with the magnitude of rich resources under its soil, Africa is to be redefined in a more appealing fashion very unlike the *Dark Continent* the West had misinterpreted it for calculated hidden interests. It is based on this background that this study problematises the nature of the competition between the two giants and the implications it may hold for Africa.

**Keywords:** African resources, aid, development, FDI, security, US-China competition.