

## Section II

# Envisioning African Recovery

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The articles in this section of the inaugural edition of JJIA deal with Africa and reflect two basic themes. The first concerns the West's influence in, and reaction to, socio-economic trends in Africa. The second theme concerns African state crisis, or failure, and imperative to establish rule of law. Horace Campbell issues a call to scholar-activists to reconsider the development project in Africa. In this regard, Campbell lends his stature to a growing number who assert, where the World Bank development policies are concerned, 'Fifty Years is Enough!' Like the two hundred plus grassroots organisations that comprise the 'Enough' coalition, Professor Campbell takes issue with the paradox of Western powers which support 'development' policies that have not helped Africa 'prosper.' This includes policies which seem ambivalent to predatory lending practices, sustain resources wars, while failing to promote the kind of indigenous leadership which can address famine and internecine strife.

Another article, co-authored by Timo Behr and Saskia van Genugten, considers the political repercussions grassroots activism can have beyond its borders by analysing the 'Arab Spring.' Behr and van Genugten suggest that Europe, distracted by recession and domestic politics, can only act symbolically as the US, through NATO, intervenes to protect civilians where necessary. Finally, the authors wonder how Europe will adapt to their diminished role in a new North Africa. Clearly, the authors assert, the long shadow of European empire is fading as bright new stars ascend. This is especially true where global powers including the BRIC nations,

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and regional influences such as Turkey, and the Gulf Arab states, shift from their old role as disinterested benefactors, and take on a new role as political patron.

The second group of articles by R.S. Vasan, Charles Sampford, and Vesselin Popovski address rule of law as it relates to state crisis, failure, and rehabilitation. In each of these articles, the authors make the argument that whether high seas piracy, *coup d'etat*, or civilian protection, international law, no matter how well drafted or intentioned, cannot succeed in a vacuum. Absent the support of multilateral organisations willing to pursue and prosecute pirates, or highly-trained Special Forces, willing to reconstitute domestic law in conflict zones, international law will only remain a remote ideal. Vesselin Popovski and Charles Sampford both examine the reach of Right to Protect (R2P) and its boundaries or limits. Vesselin Popovski asserts that ensuring civilian protection includes using military force to deter leaders from harming their people, but argues that R2P does not condone nor support regime change. Charles Sampford suggests the concept extends further, making the case that civilian protection and restoring domestic rule of law may compel the establishment of democratic institutions that promote new, democratically-elected leaders, as well as 'free and fair' elections. All three authors recommend that where international law is used to restore order, on the high seas, in no-flight zones, or on contested land, R2P legislation, as drafted by the General Assembly, can only be realised through dedicated multilateral cooperation. The arc of these five articles thus covers a continuum of political debates, from how to reform development practice to how to recover from civil war.