

Africa at LSE blogging guidelines

Thank you for your interest in submitting to the Africa at LSE blog. Please see the guidelines below for your post submission. If your question is not answered below, please feel free to get in touch: africa@lse.ac.uk

Style

Blogs are written in a more conversational style than traditional academic papers. Please avoid using academic terms, jargon or acronyms as the blog aims to reach non-academic readers as well as those in higher education.

Format

Length: Blogs should be about 700–1000 words in length. Paragraphs should ideally be made up of four or five sentences. The shorter the sentences and paragraphs, the better.

Summary: Please include with your submission a short two to three line summary of your post to introduce the topic's main point to the reader.

Avoid: Please avoid introductory phrases like 'In this paper I will...', or 'This paper aims to...', and go straight into your discussion of the topic.

Title: Please include a suggested title for your post. Narrative headlines (a single sentence that sums up the main argument of the article) tend to work better than newspaper-type headline for blogs. The more descriptive and catchy the title, the more likely the article will be read. Try to avoid questions or general topics and include key terms for SEO.

References: Please use hyperlinks rather than footnotes for references. Links should direct readers to more detailed reports or other pieces of research, news items or other blog posts.

Time: Please make your articles as timeless as possible. Please remove all mentions of today, tomorrow, next week, last month or this year and replace them with dates.

Subject

You can write about your current research, or an issue in the news, or a little-known issue. Issues can be local, regional or global, as long as it is connected to the social sciences and/or the African continent.

Many people find it helpful to look at an example before they write their own blog. Here are links to successful posts on the *Africa at LSE* blog:

An Africanist approach to ending gender-based violence

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2019/10/07/africanist-ending-gender-based-violence-masculinity/>

Are global youth protests learning from the Arab Spring?

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2019/11/25/global-youth-protests-lessons-arab-spring/>

In Africa the Beijing Consensus is pushing Confucius over Plato

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2019/09/18/africa-beijing-consensus-confucius-plato-education/>

The importance of Atlantic slavery for the 18th century Dutch economy

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2019/08/20/atlantic-slavery-history-dutch-economy/>

Please note that the blog operates under a Creative Commons license and your post could be republished on other print and online platforms without our/your permission being requested.

We also deposit our articles to Google Scholar.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the Editor, Laurence Radford: africa@lse.ac.uk.