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## Globalization and the Paradox of African Weak States' Capacity in the Twenty-First Century

**Summary:** Africa's post-colonial states have continued to witness many challenges in the contemporary era of globalization. These challenges tend to weaken the states' capacities in Africa. In the present era of globalization, which offers numerous advantages (including integrated global economic relations, trade liberalization, and the cross-border movement of goods and services), African states have yet to fully exploit these benefits of globalization. The paper focuses on assessing factors that tend to weaken the capacity of states in Africa in today's era of globalization and offers suggestions for improving the situation. The researchers chose a secondary research method, and conclusions were drawn deductively to complete the research work. Institutional and structural functionalism were used as theories to put the study in the right context. The results of the study showed that despite the opportunities and advances offered by the global diffusion of ideas, innovations, technological know-how, and connections in the current 21st-century international system, the capacities of African states are still weak. The study concluded that there is a need for African states to key into the good governance agenda, ensure a consistent approach toward actualizing global best practices, as well as develop and implement concrete and effective industrialization policies to strengthen the capacity of states in Africa in today's era of globalization.

**Key words:** Globalization, Weak state, State capacity, African states, Twenty-first century

### 1. Introduction

Africa's post-colonial states have continued to witness weak state capacity in the contemporary era of globalization. This challenge has been attributed to some endogenous and exogenous factors. The endog-

enous factors include corruption, geographical location, malaria and other related health challenges, low technological innovation, low investment and political exclusion, and lack of frequency. On the other hand, the exogenous factors include the effects of colonial rule, externally instigated reforms such as privatization, reduction of public expenditure, relaxation of foreign exchange control, and withdrawal of protectionist measures (Kutor, 2014).

Postcolonial African states are equally characterized by patrimonial rule and patronage, which have deleterious consequences on the independence of institutions such as the courts, bureaucracies, armies, and other state-oriented agencies (Fadakinte, 2015). In the present era of globalization and the advantages it offers (integrated global economic relations, trade liberalization, and cross-border movement of goods and services), African states have yet to exploit these benefits of globalization (Ajide, Dada, 2023). These challenges tend to weaken the states' capacities in Africa in the 21st-century globalized world. Hence, the paper focuses on assessing factors that weaken states' capacity in Africa in the contemporary era of globalization and offers suggestions on how to ameliorate the situation.

This study comprises six sections. The first section is the introduction, which presents the study's research statement. The second section is the literature review, where conceptual and thematic issues related to the study were discussed. The theory used to situate the study is the focus of the third section. The study's methodology is covered in the fourth section. Before the study's final and sixth sections, the fifth section discusses the findings of the study.

## **2. Literature Review**

### **2.1. Globalization**

Mclean and Macmillan (2009) posit that globalization is the universal process or set of processes that generate a multiplicity of linkages and interconnections that transcend the states and societies that make up the modern world system. To them, it involves a dramatic increase in the density and depth of economic, ecological, and societal interdependence, with density referring to the increased number, range, and scope of cross-

border transactions and depth of the degree to which interdependence affects and is affected by how societies are organized. Global relations, linked with the institutionalization of the modern state system by the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, became well pronounced by the end of the Cold War and the rise of unipolar global capitalism. Robins (2007) held that globalization is about growing mobility across frontiers-mobility of goods and commodities, mobility of information and communication, products and services, and mobility of people. To him, with mobility comes encounters, and in many respects, this may be stimulating and productive. Global encounters and institutions are producing inventive new cultural forces and repertoires as globalization, from this perspective, is conceived in terms of the process of creative and conjoining hybridization.

Held and McGrew (2007) argue that globalization has been understood in various ways, such as action at a distance, where social agents' actions in one place significantly affect others far away; time-space compression, where electronic communication reduces the barriers of distance and time on social organization and interaction; accelerating interdependence, involving the interconnectedness of national economies and societies; and a shrinking world, among others. Therefore, globalization is the process of creating an integrated world economy that fosters the internationalization of trade and investment, leading to improved quality of life and the increasing vulnerability of states worldwide. African countries have yet to benefit significantly from the global flow of ideas, innovation, and technological progress due to their structural weaknesses, including fragile economic systems, technological underdevelopment, and poor governance.

## ***2.2. State Capacities***

According to Rourke (2005), national capabilities concern a state's ability to achieve its goals and are based on a range of capabilities. This is especially important when the goals of two or more states conflict, requiring the ability to effectively articulate goals and persuade others that the benefits are mutual. Meanwhile, Oche (2011) argues that elements of a state's power include those goals and objectives defined by national interests, as well as the protection and promotion of values. These elements encompass factors such as geography, economic strength, military

power, and leadership, among others. They are also known as tangible and intangible elements of a state's power or capabilities. He also notes that these elements of state power are dynamic and never static, as they change over time.

The assessment of states' capacities has been used to classify states across human history. Palmer and Perkins (2001) submitted that the most conventional class of states, speaking in power-political terms, is that of great powers or major powers and small powers or lesser powers. This explains the categorization of the capabilities of states in the international political system. Instructively, Grindle (1996) identified four dimensions of state capacity. These range from political capacity, institutional capacity, and administrative capacity to technical capacity. According to him, political capacity deals with the ability of the states to respond to people's demands, provide adequate representation, and be involved in decision-making in the state. Institutional capacity explains the ability of the state to enforce rules that guide the economic and political interactions of the society. While administrative capacity focuses on the ability of the state to provide goods and services, public education and health services are compiled with the effective administration of the state institution. Finally, technical capacity deals with the ability to manage macroeconomic policies and development.

Indeed, state capacity is usually employed to explain the outcome and output of government policies, and it is equally deployed as a determinant of the effectiveness of governance. Prominent dimensions of state capacity are (i) the coercive capacity or a state's ability to exercise control over its territory and the use of force that is authorized by law. (ii) the capacity of the state in service delivery through bureaucratic professionalism, competencies, and effectiveness in handling policy processes. (iii) the state extractive capacity, which is concerned with the ability to generate taxation to render public service to the people (Tobi, 2017).

A critical look at these prescriptions shows that African states are weak in rendering those services outlined above. This is the case as the political mechanisms of African states are constantly accused of corruptive practices, institutions are weak in rule enforcement but strong in circumventing the laws, just as administrative capability suffers from ineffective service provision and shortages or lack of essential services to the people.

### **2.3. Globalization and Development in South America: Brazil in Focus**

The last two decades have witnessed the rise of globalization as a key concept in the global economy, which has improved the growth and income levels of many nations (Bresser-Pereira, 2010). Globalization proponents argue that, if managed effectively, everyone will benefit from it (Acemoglu, Yared, 2010). Some who oppose globalization contend that it is a drawback of capitalism and that wealthy nations take advantage of less developed nations for their gain (Baer, 2014; Jenkins, 2012). Brazil has evolved from a developing nation to a middle-income one that is becoming more and more important to the world economy (Bresser-Pereira, 2010). For many years, the nation has also suffered from macroeconomic instability, which includes high inflation and a volatile currency (Baer, 2014).

With the biggest economy in South America, Brazil presents one of the world's most promising markets (Baer, 2014). Brazil is listed as one of the nations with the greatest potential for growth over the next 25 years, along with China and India (Baer, 2014; World Bank, 2020). Over the past fifty years, the Brazilian economy has experienced several notable transformations, including a transition from a robust state-led economy to one that is more focused on the market (Bresser-Pereira, 2010; Hauge, Magnusson, 2011). The 1994 Real Plan was adopted as a result of the nation's economic problems in the early 1990s, which were brought on by high inflation and an unstable economy (World Bank, 2020). The plan, which was founded on fiscal retrenchment, sought to avoid many inflationary issues and the ensuing economic instability (World Bank, 2020).

Since the mid-1990s, when the opening of domestic markets resulted in a significant increase in FDI inflows and investors started to find Brazil to be an attractive market, the economic dimension of globalization, as measured by FDI inflows and external trade, has undoubtedly increased (World Bank, 2020). The government was able to regulate the currency exchange rate and inflation (World Bank, 2020). Therefore, the process of globalization has been crucial in keeping Brazil's macroeconomic conditions stable. Brazil's economy has been expanding so quickly that it has joined China, India, and Russia as the world's top three growth economies. In order to secure their future growth and prosperity, these nations are attempting to coordinate their policies (World Bank, 2020).

As previously stated, globalization has boosted the economy by increasing international trade and foreign direct investment, but not without causing inequality and unequal income distribution (Castelfranco, 2011). Given the unequal income distribution in the nation, it was obvious that action was required to allow more people to benefit from wealth accumulation. Bolsa Familia was founded to reduce poverty (Gondim, 2010). The program encourages children to stay in school because it emphasizes education, which is crucial for Brazil's future (Gondim, 2010). Despite being commended for helping many people escape poverty, the program was criticized for its flaws. One complaint is that the Bolsa Familia makes its recipients dependent on one another, which makes them feel powerless (Hall, 2008).

Due to its well-functioning political system, Brazil has demonstrated that it can profit greatly from globalization. Although there is still a lot of inequality, globalization has helped to reduce poverty in Brazil (Baer, 2014; World Bank, 2020).

### **3. Theoretical Framework: Institutional and Structural-Functionalism Theory**

The theory was popularized by Almond and Powell in their book "Comparative Politics: A Developmental Approach," published in 1966. In their analysis, they argued that all political systems perform a specific task if they are to remain in existence as systems in working order or equilibrium (Gauga, 2007). The political system or the state has institutions and organs of government like legislative, executive and judiciary as formal structures of government while political parties, pressure groups, leadership, elites, factions have been categorized as the informal or infrastructure of a political existence (Johari 2007).

Hence, structural functionalism seeks out the structural aspects of the social system and then studies the process as (functions) they perform to maintain social structures, and structure primarily refers to normative patterns of behavior, while functions explain how much patterns operate as system (Maclean, Macmillan, 2009). In essence, input functions include political socialization, interest articulation, interest aggregation, and political communication. While output functions performed by the formal and informal structures are rulemaking, rule application, and rule adjudication, and the aforementioned rules of political socialization, political recruitment, among others (Gauga, 2007).

The malfunctioning or maladministration noticeable in the social structures and processes of the African States tended to make their institutional capacities weak. Both formal and informal institutions in African states are weak, and the absence of a sense of responsibility and the failure of public office holders to take responsibility for their actions are limitations to the building of institutions in Africa. (Ayede, 2021). Both the internal and external environment of the African States' structure have been affected by negative ecological factors such as unethical behaviors of corruptive practices, rampant violation of law, misinterpretation of constitutional provisions, and, in some cases, speedy review of law to suit the leaders in power.

#### **4. Methodology**

This study adopts a qualitative method of research. Qualitative research is a method of inquiry that focuses on understanding the “why” and “how” of phenomena, rather than just quantifying them (Shields, Rangarajan, 2013). It is a study through non-quantitative means, without involving numbers. Secondary data was used to gather data for the qualitative research. Secondary data affords the researchers to make use of already exists and is readily available, unlike primary data, which is collected first-hand by the researcher (Saunders, Lewis, Thornhill, 2019). Secondary data include various forms of publications like government publications, previous research reports, journal articles, newspapers, statistical databases, the Internet, and internal company records. The method of analyzing the secondary data is thematic analysis. Thematic analysis is a method of analysis used in qualitative research to identify, analyze, and interpret patterns (themes) within data (Braun, Clarke, 2006). It is especially useful for examining the perspectives of different research participants, highlighting similarities and differences, and generating insights from large amounts of qualitative information.

#### **5. Findings and Discussion**

Arising out of the review of relevant literature and theoretical explorations, certain deductions were made, and this forms the pathway for further discussions in the research work.

### ***5.1. Factors Limiting African States' Capacity in the Contemporary Global System***

Arising out of the globalization process in the twenty-first century are increased benefits from the inflow of foreign trade and international investment, as well as the transcontinental movement of skilled and highly trained experts within the global system. Despite these benefits, African states' capacity is still weak due to external challenges and self-induced contradictions bedeviling the continent to date.

(a) First are the challenges of poor governance, unstable political succession, and policy reversals, among others: According to Saliu (2011), as well as Folorunsho and Samuel. (2025), all contemporary African processes are centered on the issue of mis-governance. They argue that post-election disputes stem from the weak enforcement of electoral laws and the lack of independence of electoral institutions, coupled with unfair treatment by state actors, which characterize many African states. This situation is worsened by corruption, where resources are diverted from productive efforts for personal gain. The widespread corruption in Africa further depresses economies, as increasing amounts of resources are siphoned out of the continent at a rate that leaves little for development efforts (Mamokhere, Lavhelani Kgobe, 2023; Folorunsho, Samuel, 2025). Internally, funds are annually allocated for infrastructure, but these monies often end up in private accounts of those elected to provide the related services (World Bank, 2025).

Igbokwe-Ibeto and Osakede (2022) note that leadership failure has persisted in Africa to this day, leading to ongoing welfare crises across the continent. They argue that politics in Africa has become a driver of under-development, as funds allocated for improving people's lives often end up in the pockets of corrupt leaders. Those involved in politics in many African states tend to become wealthy quickly. In this situation, there is unchecked diversion of state revenue into the personal accounts of leaders, which has contributed to low infrastructure development and limited financial investment in the continent (OUwa, Adetul, Ojeme, 2014; Folorunsho, Samuel, 2025).

On their part, Alence and Ndlovu (2025) note that most African countries have leaders who rule arbitrarily and are far less accountable and accessible to the people who elected them into power. These African leaders squander opportunities as most of them hold on to power even

after their tenure despite challenges or opposition, and use it to enrich themselves and their supporters (Mamokhere, Lavhelani Kgobe, 2023; Reuters, 2025). As such, the majority of African leaders are disconnected from the citizens and only prioritize their selfish interests, thereby resulting in cases of ethnic rivalries, religious bigotry, favoritism, nepotism, corruption, embezzlement, and the plunder of public property and general plunder of resources (OUwa et al, 2014; Folorunsho, Samuel, 2025).

(b) Institutional fragility: Neupert-Wentz and Müller-Crepon (2024) explicates that at independence, the colonial masters handed over the instruments of power to Africans, but the extractive institutions that had persisted for several centuries from slavery to colonization did not change as African officials inherited the structures set up by former European powers. These institutions established did not instigate development, as national leaders articulated efforts toward national development in their favour (Bernards, 2023; Neupert-Wentz, Müller-Crepon, 2024).

Osaghae (2010) contends that there are two discernible periods or movements in the engagement with state fragility in Africa. According to him, the first began with the attainment of independence from years of colonial rule and extends till the period of the Cold War and structural disabilities of African states manifested in the form of authoritative tendencies, weak economies, contested nationhood, armed conflicts, separated agitations, and over-dependence on foreign aid, among others. This was the period of ideological cleavages and proxy wars with attendant slow-down of concrete infrastructural development in African states. The second engagement covers from the end of the Cold War to the present date. This has been characterized by deterioration of the national conditions of African states and the manifest incapacity to promote and consolidate development, as they are vulnerable to external shores and intervention. This is equally not helped by trade liberalism and the emergence of a global order to favour free and competitive markets and the hegemonic influence of the developed West.

Osaghae (2010) adds that the hegemonic character of global politics of this period has further elicited counter-revolutionary mobilization on a global scale, including religious fundamentalism and terrorism, which has become a great threat to global peace and order. This is seen in the African states where some are facing terrorists' wars waged by Boko Haram, ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq and Syria), and ISWAP (Islamic State's West Africa Province), among others. For instance, Nigerian states have been

battling the challenges of Boko Haram, kidnapping, armed banditry, ethnic militia, and separation agitations, among others, that have held sway in the contemporary period.

(c) Ethnic related crisis: According to Jinadu (2005) the asymmetrical stratification system fractured in differentiated citizenship in such a way that it facilitated (for privileged ethnic groups) or constricted (for under-privileged ethnic groups) access to the state and its resources, in the public services, in commerce, trade and industry, in the judicial system as in the administration of justice, has been the same of the African societies. He explains that the departure of the colonial powers was, consequently, in several African countries, accompanied by armed ethno-political conflicts between majority or “favoured ethnic groups” which wanted to maintain control of the inherited state, and the disadvantaged usually wanted to reconstruct the inherited state on more favourable terms. This has been the situation in Angola, Burundi, Chad, Congo, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda (OUwa, Adetula, Ojeme, 2014). The inherited psychology of the mutual fear of ethnic domination, mutual alienation, which asymmetrical ethno-racial stratified citizenship gave rise to under colonial rule, remains a central aspect of ethno-political conflict in the post-colonial African States to date OUwa, Adetula, and Ojeme, 2014).

Hence, the impasse in the development process evident in Africa can be seen in ethno nationalist forces as a critical factor in shaping the course of development in African societies. This has been seen as fundamental to other factors such as colonial and neo-colonial experience, inefficient bureaucracies, corruption, unequal exchange, among others (Ignoavodia, 2002). Ethnicity problems have been a drawback to the development of state capacity in African states. It has resulted in conflicts and wars in many countries of Africa (OUwa et al., 2014). Examples include the Liberian War, the Sierra Leone war, the Sudan crises, and their consequent splitting into two separate nations, and the present-day tensions in the Nigerian states (Kolawole, 2024; Tchie, Llorens Zabala, 2024).

(d) Poor Economies: Poor economy is another great factor making African states have weak state capacity in this era of globalization. The inability of African states to transform their economies has made them perpetually dependent on external aid and development assistance from the Bretton Woods Institutions of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, as the integration of the continent into the world economy

remains highly lopsided in the global economy, leading to a debt burden (Babalola, Shittu, 2020; Isaksson, Durevall, 2023). Due to debt burden in African countries, debt entrapment remains the mechanism by which the Bretton Woods Institutions and donor agencies exercise influence over the economies and policies of the African countries (Babalola, Shittu, 2020; Isaksson, Durevall, 2023).

Due to sustained increases in commodity prices, which serve as Africa's main source of revenue, Iheonu and Oladipupo (2023), as well as Sen, Akpolat, and Balkan (2024), note that the continent remains the face of poverty and despair, despite unprecedented progress in other regions of the world. The Asian Tigers (Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea) and Brazil have experienced significant economic transformation, with Brazil becoming the leading economy in South America by applying technologies in agriculture, oil exploitation, and extensive manufacturing of vehicles and aircraft (Baer, 2014; World Bank, 2020; East Asia Forum, 2025; International Monetary Fund, 2025). African countries with large iron and steel deposits, such as Ajaokuta in Nigeria, and aluminum plants in Tema, Ghana, among others, are still struggling to establish themselves within the modern global economy (Babalola, Shittu, 2020; Isaksson, Durevall, 2023). This has resulted in increasing poverty across the continent.

Iheonu and Oladipupo (2023) note that the characteristic nature of the states in Africa is their pervasive poverty. To them, Africa is rich in both human and natural resources; the pervasive instability and the mismanagement of its resources have made it one of the poorest continents in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They explain that the indubitable fact that deepening poverty necessitates powerlessness, voicelessness, and further limits the space of negotiation, as poor people only come to the roundtable of policy debate cowed and weak, and the high expectations of the people have resulted in pipe dreams and deepened income inequalities on the continent. On his part, Akinboye (2018) explicates that the challenges confronting the continent in the contemporary era consist of debts, famine, poverty, wars, refugees, terrorism, and many more. He maintains that there are increasing changes in the condition of African states as foreign aid has been helpful in some cases in alleviating difficult challenges, such as eradicating preventable diseases and enhancing primary school enrolment. In the post-Cold War era, there has been a reduction of foreign aid to Africa from the developed West (Cheeseman, Swedlund, O'Brien-Udry, 2024). This situation is born out of ideological confrontations between the great powers fighting for relevance, while attention has shifted to Asia coun-

tries as the new trade partners and producers of needed goods, and manufacturing outposts for the West (Hameiri, Jones, 2025).

(e) The challenges of overpopulation, food shortages, and infrastructural deficits: The benefits of globalization are supposed to include rapid growth in exports, incomes, employment, technological capacities, knowledge, and infrastructural development. However, the opposite is the case, as there is an acute infrastructural deficit in African states (Nguepi, Meytang, Tchoffo, Nkemgha, 2025). Resources allocated to infrastructure vary greatly among African countries. For instance, Lesotho, Cape Verde, and Angola invest about 8 percent of their costs in infrastructure, while Nigeria and South Sudan spend less than 1 percent on infrastructural development. Unsurprisingly, infrastructure deficits continue to hinder Africa's efforts toward poverty reduction and sustainable development in the 21st century (Kodongo, Mukoki, Ojah, 2023; Nguepi et al., 2025).

In regard to the challenge of food and overpopulation, Africa is faced with these prime challenges, and they tend to weaken state capacity in Africa. Several factors have been identified as the causes of food crises in Africa, including low agricultural production due to changes in weather and low application of technology in agricultural practices in Africa, the effect of structural poverty that is indirectly promoting hunger and frustration, political conflicts and instability, and economic crises (Yussuf, Saka, 2009). This situation is worsened by COVID-19 pandemic, a global health challenge that spread across the world, leading to the enforcement of lockdown policies in many countries of the world. This has instigated global misfortune, financial downturn, and re-challenges of public funds into medical provisions and bail-out policies by various governments in Africa and elsewhere (Awofeso, Irabor, 2020).

### ***5.2. Suggestions for Improving African States' Capacity in the Contemporary Global System***

We advanced the following recommendations to ameliorate the situation of African weak states' capacity in the twenty-first century.

On the one hand, there is a need for African states to key into a good governance agenda. A good governance system will give room for inclusive public policy-making and implementation, and reflect the plural and diverse needs of African society. In this regard, an attempt must be

made to practically promote the social and welfare needs of people on the continent by their various governments. This can be done through social protection systems such as cash transfers, food subsidies, and targeted assistance for the most vulnerable (elderly, disabled, and unemployed). Again, health insurance schemes should be made more affordable or even free, with a special focus on rural and low-income groups. This is necessary to uplift the social condition of humanity on the continent.

On the other hand, there is a need for an ethical and sound administrative philosophy on the continent. In this sense, we suggested that the civil service should be professionalized such that hiring and promotion of staff can be based on merit and not patronage, thereby solving the problem of putting “a square peg in a round hole,” which is typical of public institutions in Africa. More so, elections should also be transparent to prevent vote-buying and manipulation, thereby ensuring leaders are truly accountable to citizens. Practical implementation against the problem of greed and fund diversion by public officials can be asset declarations. i.e, public officials should be made to declare their wealth before, during, and after office with verifiable audits. The courts should be free from political influence such that corruption cases can be prosecuted without fear or favor. In the same vein, all government contracts and procurement processes should be publicly accessible. In this way, unethical practices such as corruption, greed, fund diversion, and non-remittance of needed funds for effective administration will be discouraged, while the state's capacity will be strengthened and emboldened for good governance.

In the same vein, there is a need for a concrete and effective industrialization policy to be designed and implemented. The global environment of the present twenty-first century demands effective industrialization, as electronic administration requires a small number of workers. Industrialization cannot happen without stable electricity, as most African countries lack stable electricity. Thus, governments must invest in grid expansion, renewable energy, and industrial “power compacts” (dedicated supply to parks/zones). More so, modernized ports, rail, and roads to reduce the cost of moving goods should be invested in. This will enable regional corridors to link landlocked states and seaports. African governments should also initiate supportive policies for local industries to protect infant industries through tax reduction while avoiding blanket protectionism that breeds inefficiency. This will encourage domestic sourcing, which has seen success in some countries, such as Nigeria's cement, Ethiopia's textiles, and Rwanda's pharma industries. The governments should also

invest in digital infrastructure to expand broadband and enable digital manufacturing and logistics tracking. This will generate income, meet local needs, and provide opportunities for goods to be exported to other countries of the world to generate the much-desired foreign exchange for the African states.

Furthermore, there is a need for concrete technological development through adaptation, replication, and joint ventures with foreign technical partners. This is the period of intensive use of technology to advance the social conditions of citizens and the massive production of goods and services for the people at affordable costs. Therefore, E-governance systems should be encouraged to reduce face-to-face corruption opportunities, such that unnecessary bureaucracy that creates opportunities for bribes will be cut off. This will empower African people and consequently impact the governments.

Lastly, there is a need for a consistent approach toward actualizing global best practices in African states. This will help to improve performance and measure productivity. This will afford opportunities for effective training and collaborations with advanced countries and corporations that operate across different continents of the world.

## 6. Conclusion

From the foregoing, it is clear that the African states' capacities in this era of globalization are weak. The opportunities and advances offered by the global diffusion of ideas, innovations, technological know-how, and connections in the current 21st-century international system can help to ameliorate the situation of African weak states' capacity in the twenty-first century. Therefore, the continent requires a sound and moral administrative philosophy. This will strengthen and embolden states' capacity by addressing unethical practices like corruption, weak public institutions, greed, fund diversion, and non-remittance of necessary funds for effective administration.

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## Globalizacja i paradoks zdolności słabych państw afrykańskich w XXI wieku

### Streszczenie

Współczesna era globalizacji nadal stawia przed postkolonialnymi państwami Afryki wiele wyzwań. Wyzwania te osłabiają potencjał państw afrykańskich. W obecnej erze globalizacji, która oferuje liczne korzyści (w tym zintegrowane globalne relacje gospodarcze, liberalizację handlu oraz transgraniczny przepływ towarów i usług), państwa afrykańskie nie wykorzystują jeszcze w pełni tych korzyści. Artykuł koncentruje się na ocenie czynników, które osłabiają potencjał państw afrykańskich

w dzisiejszej erze globalizacji, i zawiera sugestie dotyczące poprawy tej sytuacji. Badacze wybrali metodę badań wtórnych, a wnioski zostały wyciągnięte dedukcyjnie w celu ukończenia prac badawczych. Jako teorie służące umieszczeniu badania we właściwym kontekście wykorzystano funkcjonalizm instytucjonalny i strukturalny. Wyniki badania wykazały, że pomimo możliwości i postępów wynikających z globalnego rozpowszechniania idei, innowacji, know-how technologicznego i powiązań w obecnym systemie międzynarodowym XXI wieku, zdolności państw afrykańskich są nadal słabe. W badaniu stwierdzono, że państwa afrykańskie powinny włączyć się w program dobrego zarządzania, zapewnić spójne podejście do wdrażania najlepszych światowych praktyk, a także opracować i wdrożyć konkretne i skuteczne polityki industrializacji w celu wzmocnienia potencjału państw afrykańskich w dzisiejszej erze globalizacji.

**Słowa kluczowe:** globalizacja, słabe państwo, zdolności państwa, państwa afrykańskie, XXI wiek

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