

CALL FOR PAPERS

GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies
Institute of African Affairs



Workshop

Bringing History Back in: Institutional Legacies, Critical Junctures and Political Regime Development in Africa

Bamako, Mali, 24-27 February 2011
at the Centre Point Sud

CONTACT

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IN COOPERATION WITH



Roughly twenty years after the democratization wave of the early 1990s political scientists note significant differences in political regimes (democratic/ hybrid/ authoritarian) across the African continent. So far research on the causes of regime development has neglected the historical impact of institutions. The above workshop aims to provide a contribution in eradicating this shortcoming.

The GIGA *German Institute for Global and Area Studies* invites scholars to send abstracts (one page/about 500 words) in order to participate in the workshop. Our principal goal is to bring together scholars from African academic institutions. However, proposals from outside Africa can also be considered.

Potential paper givers should focus on the role of institutions in one of the following fields of research:

- (a) the history of electoral systems and electoral management,
- (b) the struggle for political participation rights and the scrutiny of government by political parties, civil society or the media,
- (c) the history of checks and balances in the political system (the relationship between parliament and government or between judiciary and government),
- (d) the development of political civil-military relations.

Contributions should have a theory-driven empirical approach. Ideally all participants should adopt a historical perspective towards their topic. Comparative views are welcome. For systematic reasons single case studies should cover one of the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo-Brazzaville, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Tanzania, Togo, or Zambia. The workshop aims to include historians, political scientists, jurists and other social scientists working in this area of interest as well as an equal amount of Franco- and Anglophone scholars. Therefore papers in both French and English are acceptable. The workshop organisers will provide for basic translation assistance if necessary.

Invited scholars will provide a written paper in anticipation of the conference, give an oral presentation of their paper during the workshop and attend all conference sessions. Point Sud will cover the travel costs to Bamako of all invited participants (economy class flight). It will also provide free accommodation and meals.

Please send your abstracts including your full contact details, institutional affiliation and language skills to both elischer@giga-hamburg.de and stroh@giga-hamburg.de by **September 15, 2010**. Successful participants will be informed by **September 30, 2010**. Paper givers are required to hand in their final paper by **February 1, 2011**.

The organising committee

Dr. Gero Erdmann

Sebastian Elischer

Alexander Stroh