Africa as a Battleground for the USA, China, and Russia, 
Tripartite Rivalries
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Abstract: Africa is a battleground wherein international rivalries happening. Americans, for their economic and military ties, are the long-established foreign power in Africa. Russians followed since the cold war period. The outpouring presence of 10,000 Chinese business with over one million Chinese makes China the new influential foreign power in Africa. China’s long-term infrastructure projects of Africans make the presence of China inevitably long-lasting. In counterbalance to China in Africa, The Trump administration introduced a new foreign policy strategy called ‘prosper Africa.’ The recent Moscow’s Russia Africa summit, coupled with its role as arms seller to many African states, embarks the revival of Russian interest towards Africa. Thus we analyze how this tripartite rivalry is unfolding in Africa. We will suggest three recommendations. The content analysis on secondary data will be utilized.

Key Words: Africa, China, USA, Russia. Non-partisan Cooperation

삼각 경쟁국 미국, 중국, 러시아의 전쟁터로서의 아프리카
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요약: 아프리카는 강대국들의 전쟁터이다. 아프리카와 경제 및 군사적인 관계를 갖은 미국은 오랫동안 구축된 외세이며 러시아는 냉전시기부터 미국의 라이벌로 부상하였다. 근래 백만 명이 넘는 중국인과 1만개 이상의 중국기업의 활동은 중국을 최대 영향력을 지닌 외세로 만들었다. 장기원조로 구축된 인프라 프로젝트는 중국의 영향력이 오래 지속되도록 추동하고 있다. 중국의 부상을 막기 위해 트럼프정부는 ‘번영 아프리카’라는 새로운 외교 정책을 실시하고 있다. 근래 모스크바의 러시아-아프리카 정상회의의 개최는 기존의 무기수출국 및 여타 역할과 함께 아프리카를 향한 러시아의 새로운 이해가 드러나고 있다. 본 논문은 아프리카에서 강대국의 삼각 라이벌 체제가 어떻게 전개되고 있는지 살펴보고 3개의 대응 방안을 제안한다. 연구방법은 제2차 자료에 대한 내용분석을 따른다.

핵심어: 아프리카, 중국, 미국, 러시아, 비당락적 협조

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I. Introduction

Africa, home to more than 1.2 billion population has long been a victim of its natural resources. Foreign powers seeking for its untapped natural resources and young population, marched towards Africa. The early noticeable joint foreign powers aggression of Africa was the 19th-century European colonial powers’ agreement of “scramble for Africa.” Being pronounced in Berlin in 1883, it was the blueprint that the European powers used to divide and seize the continent’s resources.\(^1\) The struggle for independence was successful; however, the effects of colonization in Africa are still a living reality.

The other major foreign power involvement in Africa was during the cold war when East and West competed for the allegiance of newly independent African states. The cold war resulted in a prolonged civil war and destruction of infant African economies fighting the causes of others, US and USSR (Jackson, 2010: 229–239). Thirdly, the current awakening of the Russian and the joining of Chinese into the race to dominate Africa is challenging the old hegemon, US influence on the continent. The Chinese joining as a new bidder adds fuel into an existing competition and makes Africa a strategic battle for power rivalries among the USA, China, and Russia. Even though the European powers are the pioneer foreign powers in the cause, this paper mainly tries to examine how the three states are engaging in Africa as part of their international rivalries.

The rise of China has come to the international arena challenging the existing American shaped world order. In the same fashion, Washington felt threatened to lose its influence in Africa as Russia continues to be a major arms supplier to many African states. Even though American companies are the major source of foreign currencies to many African countries, it has lost its position as a primary trading partner of Africa to China. Feeling the pressure, On December 13, 2018, the US accused both nations, China and Russia, of “deliberately and aggressively” attempting