

Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale 2025

Call for Contributions

The *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* is an annual publication initiated by the Institute of Development Policy (IOB), through its Great Lakes of Africa Center (GLAC) at the University of Antwerp ; the Catholic University of Louvain (UCLouvain), the Belgian Reference Center for Expertise on Central Africa (CRE-AC asbl), and the Royal Museum for Central Africa (MRAC). In a context where English has become the primary language for disseminating scientific knowledge – thus placing Francophone African researchers in a secondary position – *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* offers a platform for publishing research conducted in French and in English, particularly in Central Africa and mainly by African researchers or in collaboration with them. Through this initiative, *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* contributes to a global effort to decolonize the production of knowledge about Africa.

Published in the *Cahiers Africains* collection of the MRAC by L'Harmattan (Paris), the management of each edition is ensured by an editorial team, respectively from the IOB and UCLouvain. This year, the editorial team consists of Vedaste Cituli (UCLouvain), Elie Lunanga (IOB), and Anuarite Bashizi (UCLouvain & IOB). The publication offers a series of high-quality scientific texts – written in French or in English – related to **political, economic, and social developments in Central Africa**. Four countries will be particularly addressed in this publication: the **DRC, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda**. *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* thus provides an in-depth analysis of current trends in political, economic, and social life, linking these to past as well as future pathways, and striving to contribute to improved wellbeing for the citizens of these countries. The articles should contextualize contemporary events and developments within their historical context and link them to the international academic literature.

The call for contributions for *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* 2025 is now open. Abstracts of up to 400 words (in French and/or in English) must be submitted via the following link <https://www.uantwerpen.be/conjonctures> **before May 5, 2024**. These abstracts should briefly outline the key points of the article and its relevance to contemporary developments in Central Africa (clearly presenting what the article seeks to demonstrate and what it contributes as new knowledge). In cases where the contribution is based on original empirical research, the abstract should briefly specify the methodological approach. The editorial committee will communicate about the selected abstracts during the last week of May 2024. Authors of selected abstracts must submit their full articles by September 1, 2024. Each article will be evaluated by the editors as well as by two anonymous external reviewers. The final version of the article must be ready and comply with the writing instructions by December 20, 2024. The final article can be written in French or English, with an abstract in both languages. *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* 2025 will be published in June 2025.

Additional information for African researchers based in Central Africa: *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale* has a research support grant system – with individual grants ranging from 500 to 1000 euros – aimed at researchers of Congolese, Burundian, Rwandan, or Ugandan nationality residing in Africa. These grants, although modest, aim to assist the researcher in furthering their field research for the purpose of writing an article for *Conjonctures de l'Afrique centrale*. To apply, candidates must fill in additional information in the online abstract submission form **before May 5, 2024**. In addition to the abstract of their contribution, candidates must describe in a maximum of **1000 words** the methodological and theoretical approach of their research. This information is crucial in the selection process for grant recipients. Candidates must also submit their CV detailing their academic background, relevant professional experiences, and any publications (maximum 2 pages).