
THE OVERALL THEME OF ECAS 4 IS “AFRICAN ENGAGEMENTS: ON WHOSE TERMS?”.

THE ECAS 4 ORGANISING COMMITTEE WARMLY INVITES SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS IN THE FIELD OF AFRICAN STUDIES TO UPPSALA TO MAKE ECAS 4 A SIGNIFICANT AND MEMORABLE EVENT.

The Nordic Africa Institute (Nordiska Afrikainstitutet) is a center for research, documentation and information on modern Africa in the Nordic region. Based in Uppsala, Sweden, the Institute is dedicated to providing timely, critical and alternative research and analysis of Africa in the Nordic countries and to cooperation between African and Nordic researchers. As a hub and a meeting place in the Nordic region for a growing field of research and analysis the Institute strives to put knowledge of African issues within reach for scholars, policy makers, politicians, media, students and the general public. The Institute is financed jointly by the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden).


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The ECAS 4 conference is open to all disciplines and methodological approaches in the Social Sciences and Humanities.

We strongly encourage panel proposals that look into how the world can study and engage with a resurgent Africa on the basis of mutual respect.

Critical questions are how Africans can define their own priorities and partnerships, and with which voice(s). Who are, and can be Africa’s real partners in the quest for mutually beneficial engagements and on whose terms?

This perspective highlights topics such as the cultural representation and misrepresentation of Africa; media, information and communication in Africa in the age of globalization; visual arts: recreating Africa in the image(s) of the times; Africa in global sports; trade and regional integration; the changing nature of Africa’s international relations; Euro-African relations; Africa and the emerging powers; Africa in the global financial crisis; the agrarian question; social policy and development in Africa; globalization and manufacturing; managing fast growing African cities; human rights and human security; democracy, peace and conflict resolution; economic growth and poverty reduction; gender relations in Africa; migration, diaspora and development, to name a few.

Presentations should explore the means of expanding opportunities and spaces which can allow for multi-disciplinary knowledge production.

ECAS 4 thus seeks to promote a dynamic and more diverse understanding of contemporary Africa which does not necessarily entail talking with one voice.

ECAS 4 will take place in the historic city of Uppsala in Sweden. Uppsala is an academic focal point in the Nordic region with two universities, a number of important libraries and several independent research institutes.

For more information on ECAS 4, calls for panels and papers, practical information and registration, please refer to the web site www.nai.uu.se/ecas-4/.