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The Experiment
Georgia’s Forgotten Revolution 1918 - 1921
Eric Lee
‘A sympathetic, lucidly written and politically literate account of the first Georgian republic.’
Donald Rayfield, author of Stalin and His Hangmen

1997
The Future That Never Happened
Richard Power Sayeed
‘A dazzling, funny, and impressively detailed analysis of one of the most important years in modern British history.’
Ellie Mae O’Hagan

Pocket Piketty
Jesper Roine
‘Compresses Piketty’s magnum opus down to 160 digestible pages.’
Steve Keen
‘It is a much needed critical guide to Picketty’s work.’
Ioana Negru, SOAS

Recent Highlights

Aftershock
A Journey into Europe’s Broken Dreams
John Feffer
‘John Feffer brings to this story a traveller’s eye, a rich store of experiences, and a wise perspective. His thoughtful book is a reminder that few nations, anywhere, easily throw off the heritage of tyranny.’
Adam Hochschild, author of Spain in our Hearts

Afghanistan’s Enemy Within
Buddhist Violence and the Making of a Muslim ‘Other’
Francis Wade
‘There is no other writer on this topic with the same moral courage and intellectual insight. His work demands serious attention.’
Fergal Keane, author of Road of Bones: The Epic Siege of Kohima

Barometer of Fear
An Insider’s Account of Rogue Trading and the Greatest Banking Scandal in History
Alexis Stenfors
‘A beautifully literate, Jonathan Swift-referencing book about the dark side of the City and in particular Libor.’
The Times

Happy Abortions
Our Bodies in the Era of Choice
Erica Miller
‘A sophisticated and timely work that should be essential reading for all those interested or working in the area of abortion.’
Pam Lowe, Aston University

Myanmar’s Enemy Within
Buddhist Violence and the Making of a Muslim ‘Other’
Francis Wade
‘There is no other writer on this topic with the same moral courage and intellectual insight. His work demands serious attention.’
Fergal Keane, author of Road of Bones: The Epic Siege of Kohima

Omnia Sunt Communia
On the Commons and the Transformation to Postcapitalism
Massimo De Angelis
‘An extraordinary book.’
CounterPunch
‘Does for the commons what Marx did for capitalism.’
George Caffentzis

Rock in a Hard Place
Music and Mayhem in the Middle East
Orlando Crowcroft
‘This book is a revelation into the torture, oppression and imprisonment metalheads stand up to just so they can be metal in the Middle East.’
Max Cavalera

Haiti Will Not Perish
A Recent History
Michael Deibert
‘Deibert brings his journalistic eye and deep affection for Haiti to an unflinching and urgently needed work.’
Carrie Gibson, author of Empire’s Crossroads: A History of the Caribbean

Assata
An Autobiography
Assata Shakur
‘Her writing in consistently defiant and witty ... essential reading for every political thinker concerned with race.’
René Eddo-Lodge, author of Why I’m No Longer Talking to White People About Race

Usurping Suicide
The Political Resonances of Individual Deaths
Suman Gupta
‘The authors bring committed insight to political suicides in our time, from Tunisia to Syntagma Square.’
Terrence McDonough, author of Contemporary Capitalism and its Crises
‘Reminiscent of The Wire. Blood Barrios shows how cocaine trafficking, and the war on the traffickers, have sent the country spiralling into the abyss.’

Tom Feiling, author of Short Walks from Bogotá

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Blood Barrios
Dispatches from the World’s Deadliest Streets
Alberto Arce
Translated by John Washington and Daniela Ugaz Maria

Winner of the PEN Translates Award.

Welcome to a country that has a higher casualty rate than Iraq. Wander streets considered the deadliest in the world. Wake up each morning to another batch of corpses lining the roads; to the screeching blue light of police sirens and the huddles of ‘red journalists’ who make a living chasing after the bloodshed. But Honduras is no warzone. Not officially, anyway.

Ignored by the outside world, this Central American country is ravaged by ultra-violent drug cartels and an equally ruthless, militarised law force. Corruption is rife and the justice system is woefully ineffective. Prisons are full to bursting and barrios are flooded with drugs from South America en route to the US. Cursed by geography, the people are trapped here, caught in a system of poverty and cruelty with no means of escape.

Provocative, revelatory, and at times heart-rending, Blood Barrios shines a light on the suffering and stoicism of the Honduran people, and asks the international community if there is more that they can do.

Alberto Arce joined the Associated Press (AP) in February 2012 as a correspondent in Honduras, where for several years he was the only foreign correspondent to report from Tegucigalpa. He later joined AP’s Mexico City Bureau, where he continues to cover Central America. He won the 2012 Rory Peck award for his coverage of the battle for Misrata during the Libyan Civil War, and has also reported from Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, and Syria. This is his first book.
Poachers, kingpins and the longest chase in maritime history: a desperate race to save our planet’s oceans.

December, 2014: In the forbidding waters off Antarctica, Captain Hammarstedt of the Bob Barker embarks on a voyage unlike any seen before. Across ten thousand miles of hazardous seas, Hammerstedt’s crew will relentlessly pursue the Thunder – an infamous illegal fishing ship – for what will become the longest chase in maritime history. Wanted by Interpol, the Thunder has for years evaded justice: accumulating millions in profits, hunting endangered species and ruthlessly destroying ocean habitats.

The authors follow this incredible expedition from the beginning. But even as seasoned journalists, they cannot anticipate what the chase will uncover, as the wake of the Thunder leads them to the trial of criminal kingpins, rampant corruption, modern slavery and an international community content to turn a blind eye. Very soon, catching Thunder becomes more than a chase but a pursuit of the truth itself and a symbolic race to preserve the well-being of our planet.

A Scandinavian bestseller, Catching Thunder is a remarkable true story of courage and perseverance, and a wake-up call to act against the destruction of our environment.

Eskil Engdal and Kjetil Sæter are journalists for the Norwegian broadsheet Dagens Næringsliv. They have both been recipients of the prestigious SKUP award for investigative journalism, in addition to numerous other awards and distinctions. This is their first book to be translated into English.
The first anthology of Russian contemporary art writing to be published outside Russia, painting a vivid portrait of the country's cultural and political makeup.

In this, the first anthology of Russian contemporary art writing to be published outside Russia, many of the country's most prominent contemporary artists, writers, philosophers, curators and historians come together to examine the region's various movements of contemporary art, culture and theory, from communism, cosmism and conceptualism to past and future futures.

With contributions from an array of international names, this definitive collection reveals a compelling portrait of a vast and complex nation built on a contradicting dialectic between the material and the ideal, and a culture battling its own histories and ideologies.

Select Author Biography:

Ilya and Emilia Kabakov are Russian-born, US-based conceptual artists known for their pioneering large-scale environments and installations. Andrey Monastyrsky, along with Ilya Kabakov, pioneered the Moscow Conceptualism movement. Boris Groys is an art critic, media theorist, and philosopher. Bart De Baere is Director of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Antwerp. Pavel Pepperstein is a prominent author, painter and film maker. Dmitri Prigov was a famous dissident writer and artist who died in 2007. Anton Vidokle is the founder of e-flux. Arseny Zhilyaev is an artist and author of Avant-Garde Museology.

Adrian George, author of The Curator’s Handbook
A Daughter of Isis
The Early Life of Nawal El Saadawi
Nawal El Saadawi
Translated by Sherif Hetata

Beautifully repackaged, volume one of the autobiography of Nawal El Saadawi, the Arab world’s leading feminist.

Nawal El Saadawi is one of the greatest writers to come out of the Arab world. Born into a small Egyptian village in 1931, her life and writings have shown an extraordinary strength of character and a unique ability to create new worlds in the fight against oppression. Saadawi has been pilloried, censored, imprisoned and exiled for her refusal to accept the oppressions imposed on women by gender and class. Still, she continues to write. A Daughter of Isis is the first part of this extraordinary woman’s autobiography. In it she paints a sensuously textured portrait of the childhood that produced the freedom fighter: from the trauma of female genital mutilation at seven years old to eluding the grasp of suitors at the age of ten. We see how, as a young adult qualifying against the odds as a doctor, she moulded her own creative power into a weapon – and how her use of words became an act of rebellion against injustice.

Walking through Fire
The Later Years of Nawal El Saadawi
Nawal El Saadawi
Translated by Sherif Hetata

Beautifully repackaged, volume two of the autobiography of Nawal El Saadawi, the Arab world’s leading feminist.

Nawal El Saadawi is one of the greatest writers to come out of the Arab world. Born into a small Egyptian village in 1931, her life and writings have shown an extraordinary strength of character and a unique ability to create new worlds in the fight against oppression. Saadawi has been pilloried, censored, imprisoned and exiled for her refusal to accept the oppression imposed on women by gender and class. Still, she continues to write.

In A Daughter of Isis, Nawal El Saadawi recounts a childhood that moulded her into a novelist and a fearless campaigner for freedom. Walking Through Fire takes up the story of her extraordinary life. We read about her as a rural doctor, trying to help a young girl escape from a terrible fate imposed by a brutal male tyranny. We learn about her activism for female empowerment and the authorities that try to obstruct her. We travel with her into exile after her name is put on a fundamentalist death list. We witness her three marriages, each offering in their way love, companionship and shared struggle. And we gain an unprecedented insight into this most wonderful of creative minds.

Nawal El Saadawi is an internationally renowned writer, novelist and fighter for women’s rights both within Egypt and abroad. She holds honorary doctorates from, among others, the universities of York, Illinois at Chicago, St Andrews and Tromso as well as Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico. Her many prizes and awards include the Premi Internacional Catalunya in 2003, the Council of Europe North–South Prize in 2004, the Women of the Year Award (UK) in 2011, the Swan MacBride Peace Prize (Ireland) in 2012, and the French National Order of Merit in 2015. Her books have been translated into over forty languages worldwide. They are taught in universities across the world.

‘This is a book we should all be reading.’
Doris Lessing

‘El Saadawi’s poetic prose and searing details keep the pages alive with stories of triumph, dissent, death and disappointment’
San Francisco Chronicle
It’s Only Blood
A Global Story of Menstruation and Power
Anna Dahlqvist

A shocking, illuminating and moving account of how women around the world are shattering the taboos around menstruation.

Every day 800,000,000 people menstruate. Yet menstruation is a mark of shame. We are told not to discuss it in public, that tampons and sanitary pads should be hidden away, the blood rendered invisible. In many parts of the world, poverty, culture and religion collide causing the taboo around menstruation to have grave consequences. Younger people who menstruate are deterred from going to school, adults from work, infections are left untreated. The shame is universal and the silence a global rule.

In It’s Only Blood Anna Dahlqvist tells the shocking but always moving stories of why and how people from Sweden to Bangladesh, from the United States to Uganda, are fighting back against the shame.

Anna Dahlqvist, is a journalist specializing in women’s and girls’ rights. She is editor-in-chief of Ottar, a Swedish magazine focusing on sexuality, culture and sexual politics, and has previous published books on illegal abortion and pro-choice rights in Europe.
Who Really Feeds the World?
Vandana Shiva

A radical and novel vision for global food production, from one of the world’s most iconic environmental thinkers.

‘One of the world’s most prominent radical scientists.’
Guardian

‘A world-leading expert on food sustainability.’
Refriney29

Thank You, Madagascar
The Conservation Diaries of Alison Jolly
Alison Jolly

Exploring and questioning different views of nature, this is a beautifully written diary and a tribute to Madagascar by a world-renowned and dearly missed primatologist.

‘A captivating and absorbing account.’
Sir David Attenborough

‘An enchanting book…poignant and passionate.’
Geographical

Planet Dialectics
Explorations in Environment and Development
Wolfgang Sachs

In this classic text, Wolfgang Sachs, one of the world’s leading post-development thinkers, shows how the notion of ‘sustainable development’ is fundamentally flawed.

‘Remains an essential read for anyone involved in the field of development. This book has never been more vital than today.’
Jonathan Ensor, Stockholm Environment Institute

‘This book is a wake-up call for the environmental movement. It shows conclusively that women’s empowerment is essential to achieving environmental sustainability.’
Craig Bennet, CEO Friends of the Earth

Why Women Will Save the Planet
Friends of the Earth and C40 Cities Network

The book for International Women’s Day states there is no solution to climate change without women’s empowerment.

Big cities don’t have to mean a dystopian future. They can be turned around to be powerhouses of well-being and environmental sustainability – if we empower women.

This book is a unique collaboration between C40 and Friends of the Earth showcasing pioneering city mayors, key voices in the environmental and feminist movements, and academics. The essays collectively demonstrate both the need for women’s empowerment for climate action and the powerful change it can bring. A rallying call – for the planet, for women, for everyone.

For more than forty years, Friends of the Earth has seen that the well-being of people and planet go hand in hand. Together with thousands of people they have secured safer food and water, defended wildlife and natural habitats, championed the move to clean energy and acted to keep our climate stable.

The C40 Cities Network connects more than eighty of the world’s greatest cities, representing over 600 million people. C40 is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks, while increasing the health, well-being and economic opportunities of urban citizens.
Why have CEOs become the cultural icons of the 21st century?

Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) have become the cultural icons of the 21st century. Figures like Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg are held up as role models who epitomise the modern pursuit of innovation, wealth and success. We now live in a ‘CEO society’ – a society where corporate leadership has become the model for transforming not just business, but all spheres of life, where everyone from politicians to job-seekers to even those seeking love are expected to imitate the qualities of the lionized corporate executive.

But why, in the wake of the failings exposed by the 2008 financial crisis, does the corporate ideal continue to exert such a grip on popular attitudes? In this insightful new book, Rhodes and Bloom examine the rise of the CEO society, and how it has started to transform governments, culture and the economy. This influence, they argue, holds troubling implications for the future of democracy – as evidenced by the disturbing political rise of Donald Trump in the US – and for our society as a whole.

The Unknowers
How Elite Ignorance Rules the World
Linsey McGoey

A counter-intuitive investigation of how strategic ignorance is harnessed by the rich and powerful.

Why have so few companies or people been held responsible for the catastrophic effects of the global financial crisis? Why are there repeated controversies over the safety of some of the world’s bestselling pharmaceuticals?

Unpicking a range of high profile examples – from the scandals surrounding News International to the 2016 US presidential elections – Linsey McGoey reveals how ignorance is more than just an absence of knowledge, but a powerful tool in political and economic life. She explores how financial and political elites have become highly adept at harnessing ignorance for their own ends: strategically minimizing their responsibility and passing blame onto others. And how, in a ‘post-truth’ era in which the average citizen is derided for knowing too little, it is the rich and powerful who benefit from ignorance most.

Exploring the influence of the ‘known unknowns’, The Unknowers shines a light on how elite ignorance is transforming all of our daily lives.

Linsey McGoey is a writer and sociologist based in the United Kingdom. She has written for the Guardian, The Times, Spectator, Jacobin and Fortune, is author of No Such Thing as a Free Gift (2015) and co-editor of the Routledge Handbook of Ignorance Studies (2015). She is currently a faculty member at the University of Essex.
A radical blueprint for change that transcends borders.

From austerity to climate change, the slogan ‘not in our name’ has become a rallying cry for protest movements around the world. But in what name are we willing to act, if such movements are ever to move beyond indignation to effecting meaningful change?

In a text that is both manifesto and blueprint for change, activists Marsili and Milanese – co-founders of European Alternatives and key participants in DiEM25 – argue that we are in the middle of a great transformation, one which is fundamentally redefining the nature of both the economy and political participation.

Drawing on the experiences of activists and movements across Europe, and offering practical lessons on how change might be effected, Marsili and Milanese show that it is possible to conquer widespread disillusionment and energize a new generation of activists. In the process, they outline a new and rejuvenated vision of democracy, one which transcends national borders, and in which the citizens of nowhere are transformed into citizens of the world.

Lorenzo Marsili is the co-founder of the transnational NGO European Alternatives and, with Yanis Varoufakis, was one of the initiators of the pan-European movement DiEM25. He has written for publications including El Diario and Il Fatto Quotidiano, and has appeared as a commentator on the BBC and Al Jazeera. He is also a founding editor of the independent quarterly journal Naked Punch Review.

Niccolo Milanese is a poet and a philosopher. He has been involved in the founding of numerous political and cultural organisations, magazines and initiatives on several sides of the Mediterranean, and in campaigning for a more influential and radical civil society voice within EU institutions.
Why We Lie About Aid
Development and the Messy Politics of Change
Pablo Yanguas

A provocative look at the truth behind aid and its real meaning of political influence and struggle.

Foreign aid is about charity. International development is about technical fixes. At least that is what we, as donor publics, are constantly told. The result is a highly dysfunctional aid system that mistakes short-term results for long-term transformation and gets attacked across the political spectrum – those on the right claiming we spend too much, those on the left that we don’t spend enough.

The reality, as Yanguas argues in this highly provocative book, is that aid isn’t – or at least shouldn’t be – about levels of spending, nor interventions shackled to vague notions of ‘accountability’, ‘ownership’ and ‘harmonisation’. Instead, a different approach is possible, one that acknowledges aid as being about struggle, about taking sides, about politics. It is an approach that has been quietly applied by innovative development practitioners around the world, providing political coverage for local reformers to open up spaces for change.

Drawing on a variety of convention-defying stories from aid practitioners across the world – from Britain to the US; Sierra Leone to Honduras – Yanguas provides an eye-opening account of what we really mean when we talk about aid.

Pablo Yanguas is a research associate with the Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre (ESID) at the University of Manchester.

Humanitarian Ethics and Action
Edited by Ayesha Ahmad and James Smith
Foreword by Hugo Slim

Explores the ethical dilemmas at the heart of humanitarian action in the 21st century.

From natural disaster areas to conflict zones, humanitarian workers today find themselves operating in diverse and difficult environments. While humanitarian work has always presented unique ethical challenges, such efforts are now further complicated by the impact of globalization, the escalating refugee crisis, and mounting criticisms of established humanitarian practice.

Featuring contributions from humanitarian practitioners, health professionals, and social and political scientists, this book explores the question of ethics in modern humanitarian work, drawing on the lived experience of humanitarian workers themselves. Its essential case studies cover humanitarian work in countries ranging from Haiti and South Sudan to Syria and Iraq, and address issues such as gender based violence, migration, and the growing phenomenon of ‘volunteer tourism’.

These contributions offer new perspectives on humanitarian ethics, as well as an insight into how to inform more effective approaches to humanitarian work.

Dr Ayesha Ahmad is a lecturer in Medical Ethics and Law at St George’s University of London, and Honorary Lecturer at the Institute for Global Health, University College London. She specializes in gender-based violence and mental health in conflict and humanitarian crises.

James Smith is a Research Fellow with the Public Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). He has worked as a researcher with Médecins Sans Frontières’s Research Unit on Humanitarian Stakes and Practices (UREPH), and as a clinician with the U.K. National Health Service.
Understanding Global Development
A Guide to Success and Failure
Meera Tiwari

A unique framework for assessing success in international development.

Why do some development projects succeed where others fail? This book looks at the success stories and considers what enabled them to alleviate poverty in some of the world’s most deprived communities. Using case studies from ten countries across Latin America, Africa and Asia, Tiwari’s innovative approach offers a multi-layered understanding of poverty which provides insights into causal, enabling and impeding factors.

While a macro level analysis of development is a common feature of much of the current literature, there has been little attempt to develop a micro level understanding at the grassroots. Tiwari’s work fills this important gap while drawing attention to the importance of engaging local actors at an individual, collective and state level, demonstrating how achieving a ‘convergence’ of goals among all actors is a crucial and overlooked component to a development project’s success. Looking beyond the case studies to consider how this unique ‘convergence framework’ might be usefully applied to other contexts, the book has profound implications for how we view fragile states and conflict zones, and the ability of international agencies to take effective action.

Meera Tiwari is an associate professor of international development studies at the University of East London, where she leads the Msc in NGO and Development Management. She has also played an active role in a number of development projects around the world, including work with the NGO Children International in India.
Researching Sex & Sexualities
Edited by Charlotte Morris, Paul Boyce and Andrea Cornwall
Foreword by Meg-John Barker

This rich collection of essays breaks down disciplinary boundaries and offers innovative new approaches to researching sexualities.

Sexuality is a complex and multifaceted domain – encompassing bodily, contextual and subjective experiences that resist ready categorisation. To claim the sexual as a viable research object therefore raises a number of important methodological questions: what is it possible to know about experiences, practices and perceptions of sex and sexualities? What approaches might help or hinder our efforts to probe such experiences?

This collection explores the creative, personal and contextual parameters involved in researching sexuality, cutting across disciplinary boundaries and drawing on case studies from a variety of countries and contexts. Combining a wide range of expertise, its contributors address such key areas as pornography, sex work, intersectionality and LGBT perspectives. The contributors also share their own experiences of researching sexuality within contrasting disciplines, as well as interrogating how the sexual identities of researchers themselves can relate to, and inform, their work. The result is a unique and diverse collection that combines practical insights on field work with novel theoretical reflections.

Charlotte Morris lectures in sociology and gender at the University of Sussex.
Andrea Cornwall is professor in anthropology and development at the University of Sussex.
Paul Boyce is a senior lecturer in anthropology and international development at the University of Sussex.
Goma
Stories of Strength and Sorrow from Eastern Congo
Theodore Trefon and Noël Kabuyaya

A vivid and inspiring account of a Congolese city at the centre of international aid efforts, as told through the everyday struggles of its people.

A city of over one million people caught between volcanic eruptions and armed conflict, Goma has come to embody the ‘tragedy’ that is the Democratic Republic of Congo. Often portrayed by outsiders as a living hell, Goma is nevertheless a city of promise for others. Drawing on a rich tapestry of personal narratives, from taxi driver to market trader, doctor to local humanitarian worker, Goma: Stories of Strength and Sorrow from Eastern Congo provides an engaging and unconventional portrait of an African city.

In contrast to the bleak pessimism that dominates much of the writing on Congo, Trefon and Kabuyaya instead emphasise the resilience, pragmatism and ingenuity that characterises so much of daily life in Goma. Resigned and hardened by struggle, the protagonists of the book give the impression that life is neither beautiful nor ugly, but an unending skirmish with destiny. In doing so, they offer startling insights into the social, cultural and political landscape of this unique African city.

Theodore Trefon is a senior researcher at the Belgian Royal Museum for Central Africa, and a lecturer in environmental governance at ERAIFT/University of Kinshasa. His previous books include Congo’s Environmental Paradox (Zed 2016), Congo Masquerade (Zed 2011) and Reinventing Order in the Congo (Zed 2004).

Noël Kabuyaya is an assistant professor of human geography at the University of Kinshasa. This is his first book.

An Oral History of the Palestinian Nakba
Edited by Nahla Abdo and Nur Masalha

This definitive study interweaves memories of the Nakba, seventy years on.

In 2018, Palestinians mark the 70th anniversary of the Nakba, when over 750,000 people were uprooted and forced to flee their homes in the early days of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Even today, the bitterness and trauma of the Nakba remains raw, and it has become the pivotal event both in the shaping of Palestinian identity and in galvanising their resistance to occupation.

Efforts at preserving the memory of the Nakba have resulted in an unparalleled body of rich oral testimony, through which historians and other scholars have been able to tell the story of this epochal event through the voices of the Palestinians who lived it. This multidisciplinary collection uses oral history as a means of uncovering new insights both into Palestinian experiences of the Nakba and into the wider dynamics of the ongoing conflict. The book also confronts the idea of the Nakba as an event consigned to the past, instead revealing it to be an ongoing process aimed at the erasure of Palestinian history and memory.

Nahla Abdo is professor of sociology at Carleton University, Canada. She has previously worked as a consultant on gender and women’s rights for the United Nations, the European Union, and the Palestinian Ministry for Women’s Affairs. Her previous books include Captive Revolution (2014) and Women in Israel: Gender, Race and Citizenship (Zed 2011).

Nur-eldeen (Nur) Masalha is a Palestinian historian and a member of the Centre for Palestine Studies at SOAS, University of London. He was previously a professor of religion and politics at St Mary’s University, and a research fellow at the Institute for Palestine Studies in Washington D.C. His previous books include The Palestine Nakba (Zed 2012) and The Bible and Zionism (Zed 2007).
State of Rebellion
Violence and Intervention in the Central African Republic
Kris Berwouts

An in-depth and revealing account of the violence that has swept the Central African Republic.

‘A magisterial reading of the role of violence in the making of the CAR. Authoritative, nuanced, and empirically rich.’

Michael Watts, University of California, Berkeley

Congo’s Violent Peace
Conflict and Struggle since the Great African War
Kris Berwouts

The first comprehensive account of the DRC’s turbulent post-Congo Wars history and its contemporary political situation.

‘Essential reading for all those who want to understand the current situation. Congo’s Violent Peace has all the makings of a classic.’

Séverine Autesserre, author of The Trouble with the Congo

Women and the War on Boko Haram
Wives, Weapons, Witnesses
Hilary Matfess

A powerful and revealing account of one of the most notorious rebel groups in the world and the impact it has had on the women of Nigeria.

‘This is a masterpiece which stands to become a classic in the study of militant radicalism.’

Amidu Olalekan Sanni, Lagos State University

The Trial of Hissène Habré
How the People of Chad Brought a Tyrant to Justice
Celeste Hicks

How one of Africa’s most notorious tyrants was finally brought to justice.

When Hissène Habré, the deposed dictator of Chad, was found guilty of crimes against humanity in 2016, it was described as ‘a watershed for human rights justice in Africa and beyond’. For the first time, an African war criminal had been convicted on African soil.

Having followed the trial from the very beginning and interviewed many of those involved, journalist Celeste Hicks tells the remarkable story of how Habré was brought to justice. His conviction followed a heroic 25 year campaign by activists and survivors of Habré’s atrocities, which succeeded despite international indifference, opposition from Habré’s allies, and international attempts to bring him to trial. In the face of such odds, the conviction of a once untouchable tyrant represents a major turning point, with profound implications for African justice and the future of human rights activism globally.

Taxing Africa
Coercion, Reform and Development

An introduction to the debates around taxation and development in Africa.

Tax is seen as the domain of charisma-free accountants, lawyers and number crunchers – an unlikely place to encounter big societal questions about democracy, development, equity or good governance. Yet it is exactly these issues that pervade conversations about taxation being had by policymakers, business people, tax collectors, civil society activists, journalists and aid donors in Africa today. For many of them, tax is central to African development.

Written by leading international experts, Taxing Africa offers cutting-edge analysis on all aspects of the continent’s tax regime – from tax evasion by multinational corporations and African elites to how ordinary people navigate complex webs of ‘informal’ local taxation. Beyond this, the book examines the potential for reform, and how space might be created for locally led strategies to take root.

A former BBC correspondent, Celeste Hicks is now an independent journalist specialising in the Sahel and North Africa. She has reported extensively from across the region, and her work has featured in the Guardian, Think Africa Press, Foreign Policy and elsewhere.

Mick Moore is a Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies; and CEO of the International Centre for Tax and Development.

Wilson Prichard is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Political Science and School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto.
Kakuma Refugee Camp
Humanitarian Urbanism in Kenya’s Accidental City
Bram J. Jansen

A revealing analysis of one of the world’s largest refugee camps.

Kenya’s Kakuma refugee camp is one of the world’s largest and home to over 100,000 people, drawn from across east and central Africa. Though nominally still a ‘temporary’ camp, it has become a permanent urban space in all but name with businesses, schools, a hospital and its own court system.

Such places, Bram Jansen argues, should be recognised as ‘accidental cities’, a unique form of urbanization that has so far been overlooked by scholars. Based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork, Jansen’s book explores the dynamics of everyday life in such accidental cities. The result is a holistic socio-economic picture, moving beyond the conventional view of such spaces as transitory and desolate to demonstrate how their inhabitants can develop a permanent society and a distinctive identity.

An original take on African urbanism, Kakuma Refugee Camp will appeal to practitioners and academics across the social sciences interested in social and economic issues increasingly at the heart of contemporary development.

Food Aid in Sudan
A History of Power, Politics and Profit
Susanne Jaspars

A unique history of the food aid programme in Sudan.

In 2004, the UN’s Humanitarian Coordinator for Sudan called Darfur the world’s worst humanitarian crisis. This was soon followed by a comprehensive food aid programme, at the time the largest globally of its kind. Yet by 2014, international agencies found they still had limited access to much of the population, with the Sudanese regime effectively controlling who received aid. As a result, chronic malnutrition endured.

Food Aid in Sudan argues that the situation in Sudan is emblematic of a far wider problem. Analysing the history of food aid in the country over fifty years, Jaspars shows that such aid often serves to enrich local regimes and the private sector while leaving war-torn populations in a state of permanent emergency. Drawing on her decades of experience as an aid worker and researcher in the region, and extensive interviews with workers in the food aid process, Jaspars brings together two of the key topics of our time: the failure of the humanitarian system to respond to today’s crises, and the crisis in the global food system.

Liberia’s Female Veterans
War, Roles and Reintegration
Leena Vastapuu

An original work that overturns gendered perceptions of warfare and provides a unique take on post-conflict societies.

The Liberian civil wars of the 1990s and 2000s became notorious for their atrocities, and for the widespread use of child soldiers by both sides. Young girls accounted for up to 40% of these combatants, but their unique perspective and experiences have largely been excluded from accounts of the conflict.

Leena Vastapuu uses an innovative auto-photographic methodology to tell the story of two of Africa’s most brutal civil wars through the eyes of 133 former female child soldiers. Incorporating their testimonies alongside a series of vivid illustrations, the book provides an in-depth account of these women’s experiences of trauma, stigma, and the challenges of reintegration into post-war society, as well as their hopes and aspirations for the future.

Development Planning in South Africa
Provincial Policy and State Power in the Eastern Cape
John Reynolds

The first empirical study, by a policy insider, of the inner workings of South Africa’s dysfunctional policy development process.

Despite being celebrated as a beacon of democracy and reconciliation, why do so many people in South Africa continue to live in such severe poverty? John Reynolds draws on his first-hand engagement of working on the Eastern Cape Provincial Growth and Development Plan (PGDP), a ground-breaking project that – with the backing of the United Nations Development Programme – attempted to forge a ten-year plan to eliminate poverty, unemployment and inequality in the province. Reynold’s empirically rich study explores the ways in which this challenge was negotiated.

The first of its kind, Development Planning in South Africa provides an essential micro-level study with profound implications for how we understand state power is organised and expressed in state policy, both in South Africa and beyond.

Leena Vastapuu earned her doctoral degree from the University of Turku in 2017. She has written and researched widely on warfare and humanitarian issues, with a particular interest in the impact of conflict on women and gender roles. This is her first book.
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