

**AFRICAN FUTURES PAPER NO 19**

ISS INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES AT THE RAND CENTER

The Future of Democracy in Africa



Jakkie Cilliers  
Institute for Security Studies  
jcilliers@issafrika.org  
@jakkiecilliers  
@ISSAfrica

**SCOPE**

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INTERNATIONAL FUTURES AT THE RAND CENTER

1. The International Futures forecasting system (IFs)
2. Four datasets on democracy
3. The history of democracy and current status in Africa
4. What does democracy contribute?
5. Scenarios for the future: Africa and Ethiopia
6. Video
7. Conclusion

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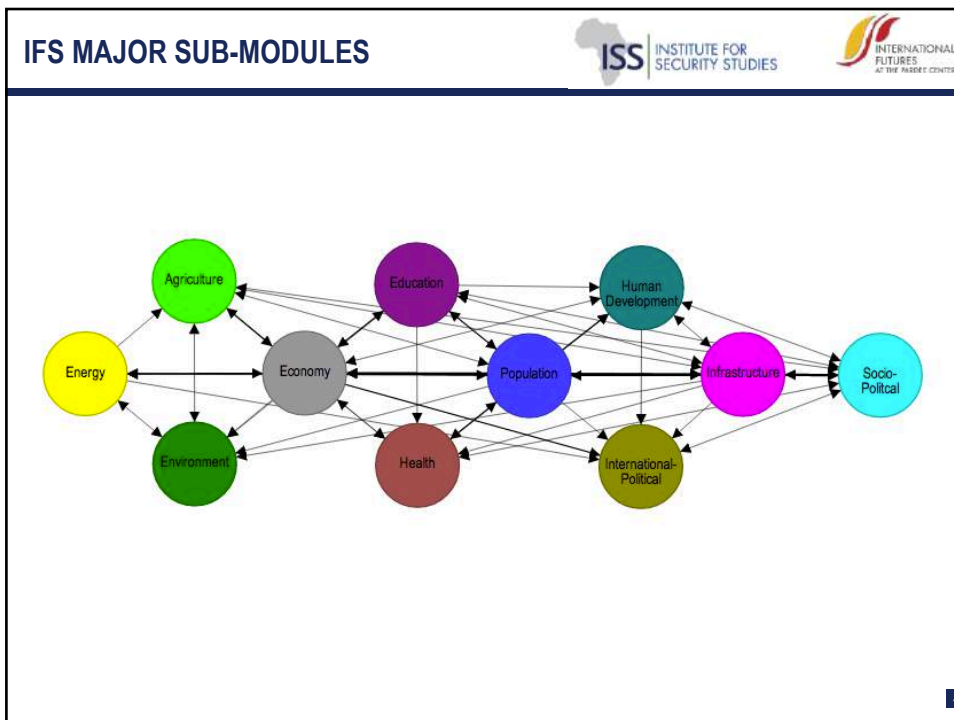
**THE INTERNATIONAL FUTURES FORECASTING SYSTEM (IFS) IS ...**

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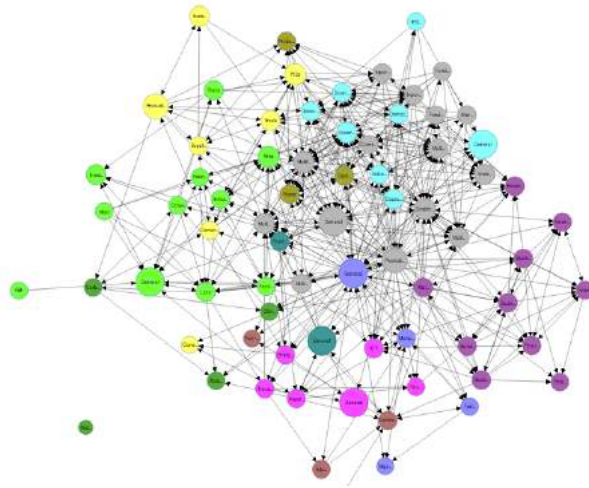
INTERNATIONAL FUTURES AT THE RAND CENTER

- A dynamic, global model that integrates data and outcomes across development systems.
- Historical data for over 3 500 data series for 186 countries
- Allows:
  1. Historical trends
  2. Current path/base case forecasts
  3. Alternative future scenarios

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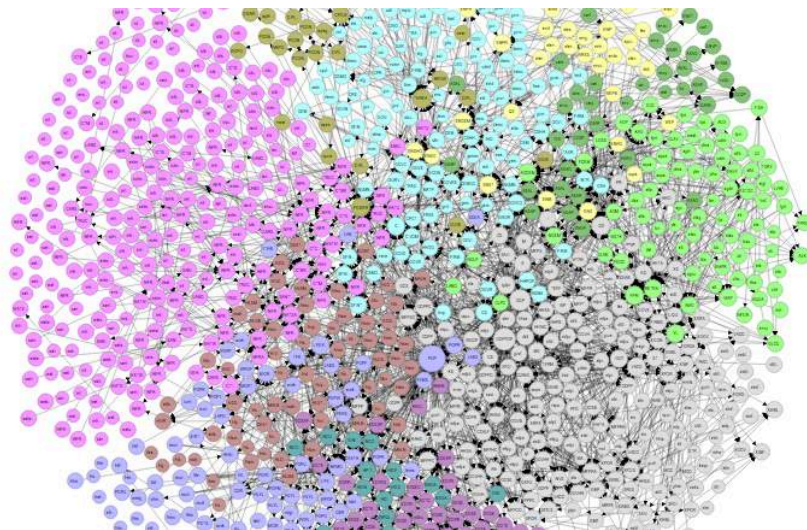


### EXPANDING RELATIONSHIPS





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### CONNECTIONS FOR ONE COUNTRY



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**USED FOUR DATASETS**












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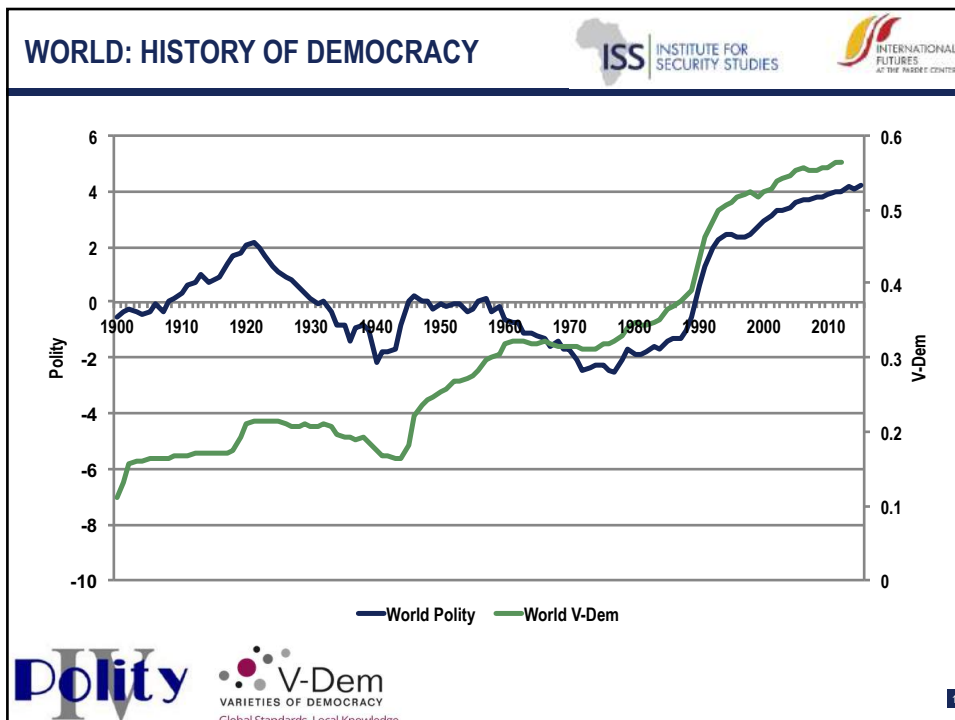
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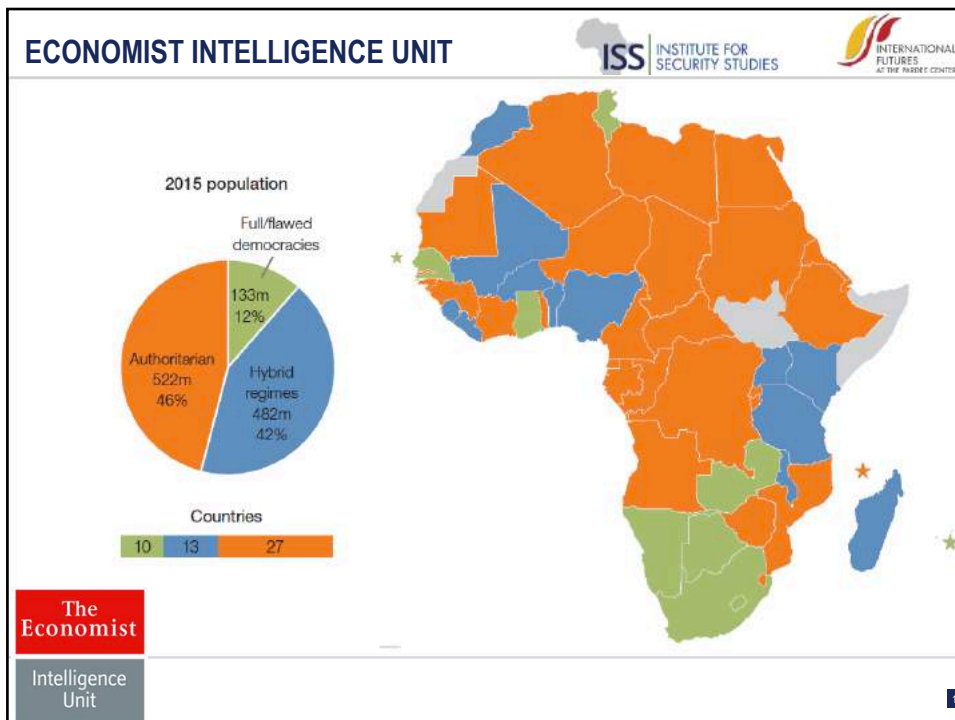
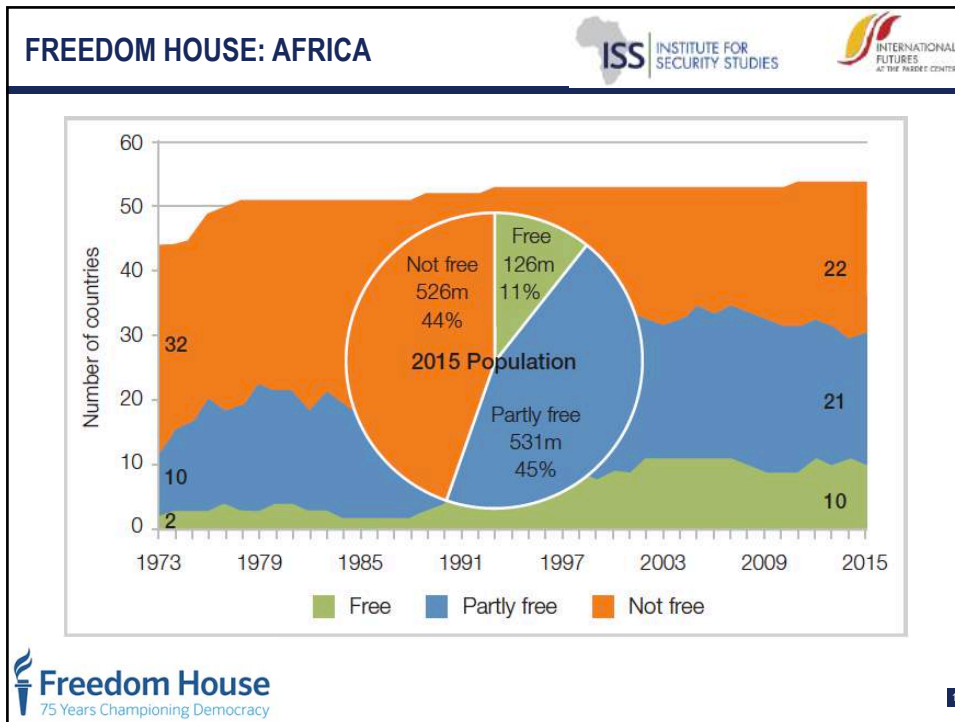
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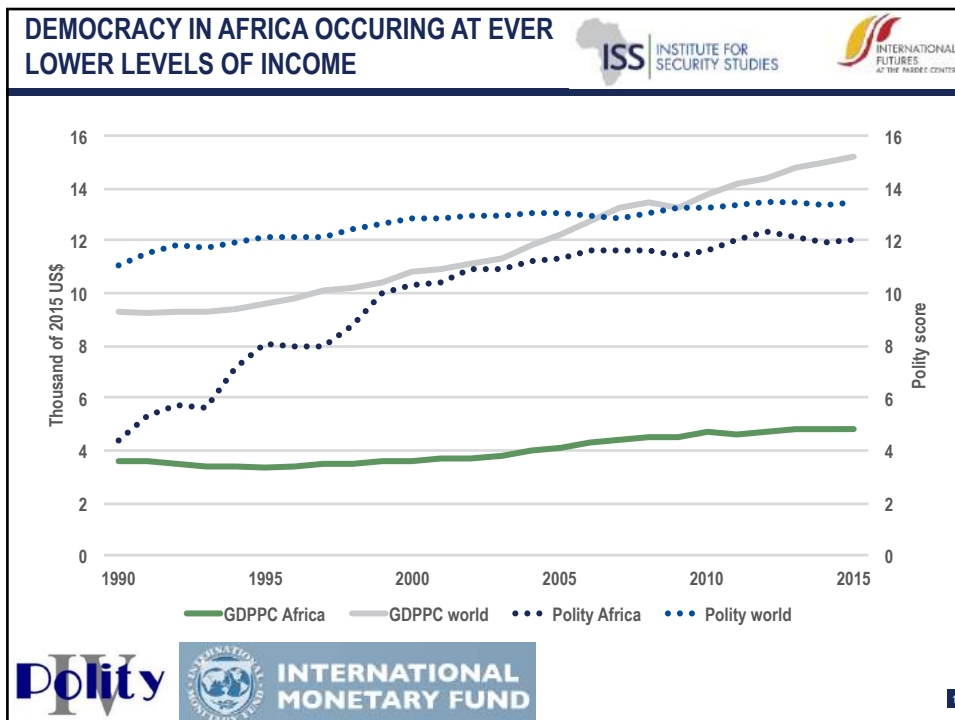
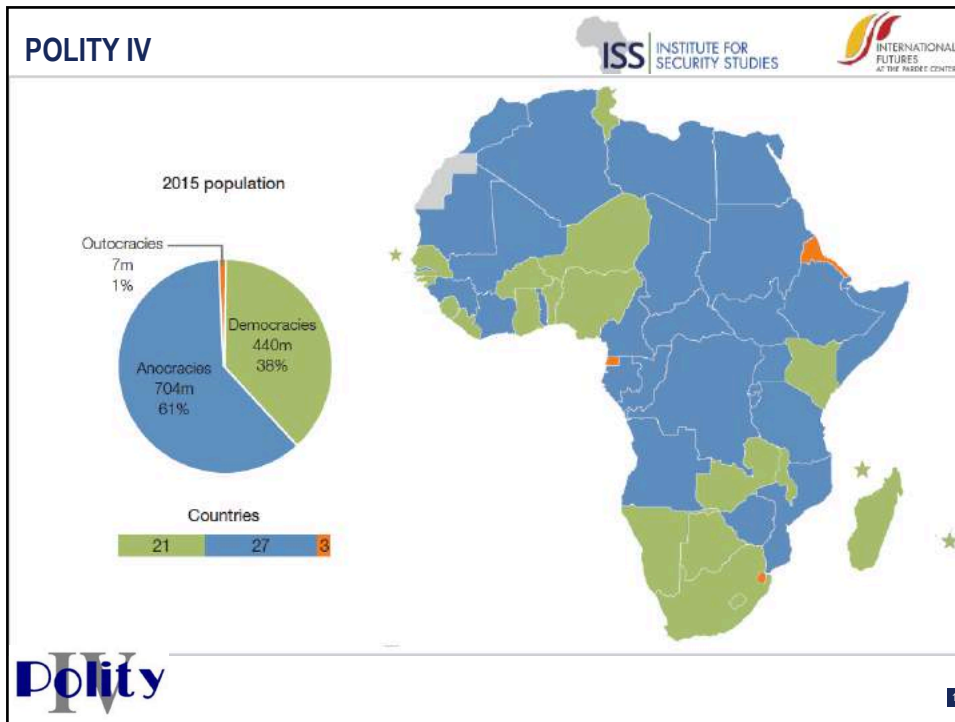
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## THE AFRICAN EXPERIENCE WITH DEMOCRACY



An intrinsic 'good' but democracy has been undermined by:

- Association with neo-liberal economic policies
- Western support to dictators and authoritarian states
- Weakness of the African state - process of delayed state formation - African states simultaneously have to provide security, develop capacity and become more inclusive

Neopatrimonialism has adapted to democracy – African elites go through motions of elections but frustrate the essence

Rise of China vs relative decline in influence of Africa's traditional development partners – African elites (again) have alternatives

But hugely popular (Afrobarometer)

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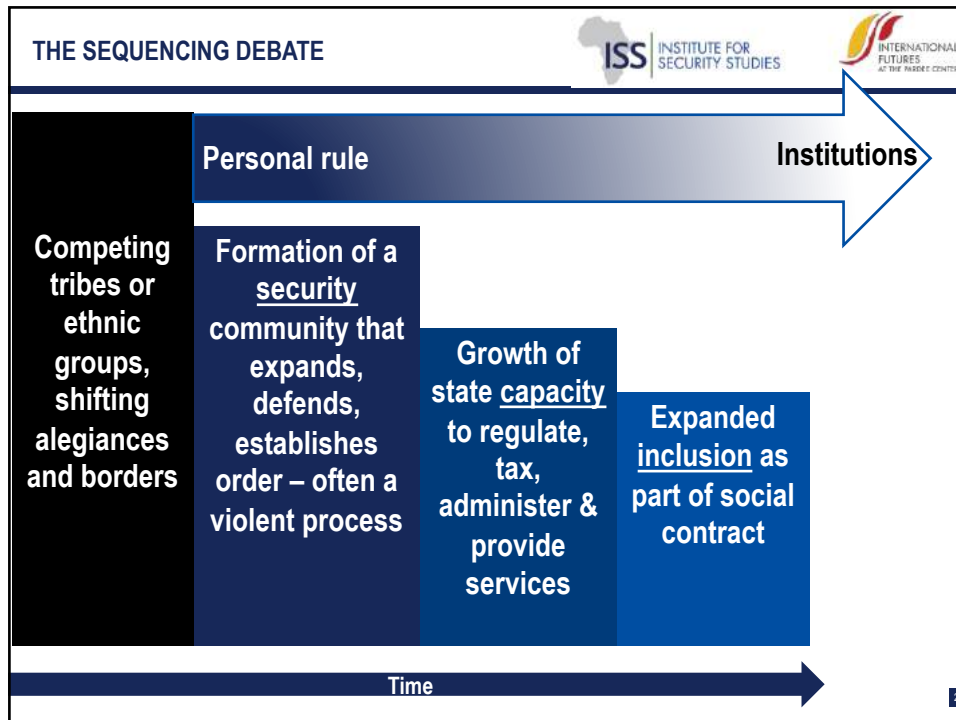
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<b>TWO KEY QUESTIONS</b>	 <b>ISS</b> INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES	 <b>INTERNATIONAL FUTURES</b> AT THE PARDEE CENTER
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The sequencing debate: what comes first, democracy or development?</li>   <li>2. What elements of democracy matter for human and economic development?</li> </ol>		
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<b>THE SEQUENCING DEBATE</b>	 <b>ISS</b> INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES	 <b>INTERNATIONAL FUTURES</b> AT THE PARDEE CENTER
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The sequencing debate: what comes first, democracy or development?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Democracy and good governance accompany development, not prerequisites.</li> <li>- Democracy is not a necessary byproduct of growth, but higher GDP per capita prevents democratic backsliding</li> <li>- Nature of governing elites important – need for a developmental state at low levels of development</li> <li>- Development often chaotic, corrupt and violent – easier to manage without democracy</li> <li>- As countries develop, democracy becomes more important to sustain productivity improvements and hence growth</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		
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**TWO KEY QUESTIONS**

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**WHAT ELEMENTS OF DEMOCRACY ARE IMPORTANT FOR DEVELOPMENT?**

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## 2. What elements of democracy matter for human and economic development?

Electoral aspects of democracy	Citizen empowerment aspects of democracy
Clean, competitive elections	Participation, deliberation and egalitarianism
Chief executive that is selected through elections	Female empowerment
Suffrage that is extensive	Strong and diversified civil society
Political and civil society organizations able to operate freely	Equality before the law and individual liberty
Freedom of expression including access to alternative information	

**Thus a state-centred vs a society-centred view of development**

V-Dem VARIETIES OF DEMOCRACY Global Standards. Local Knowledge

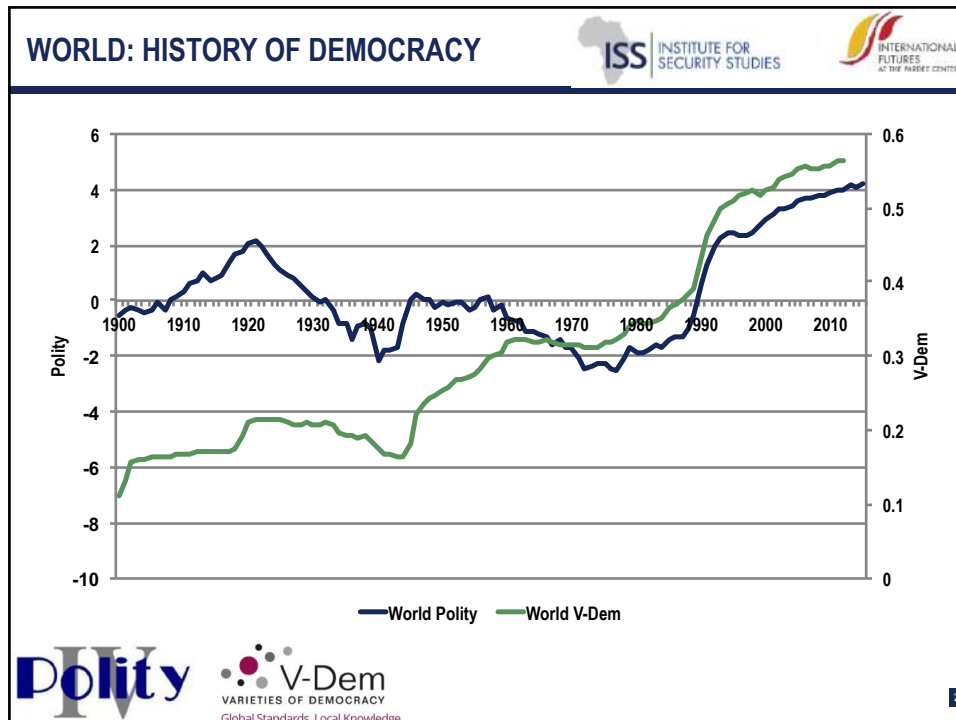
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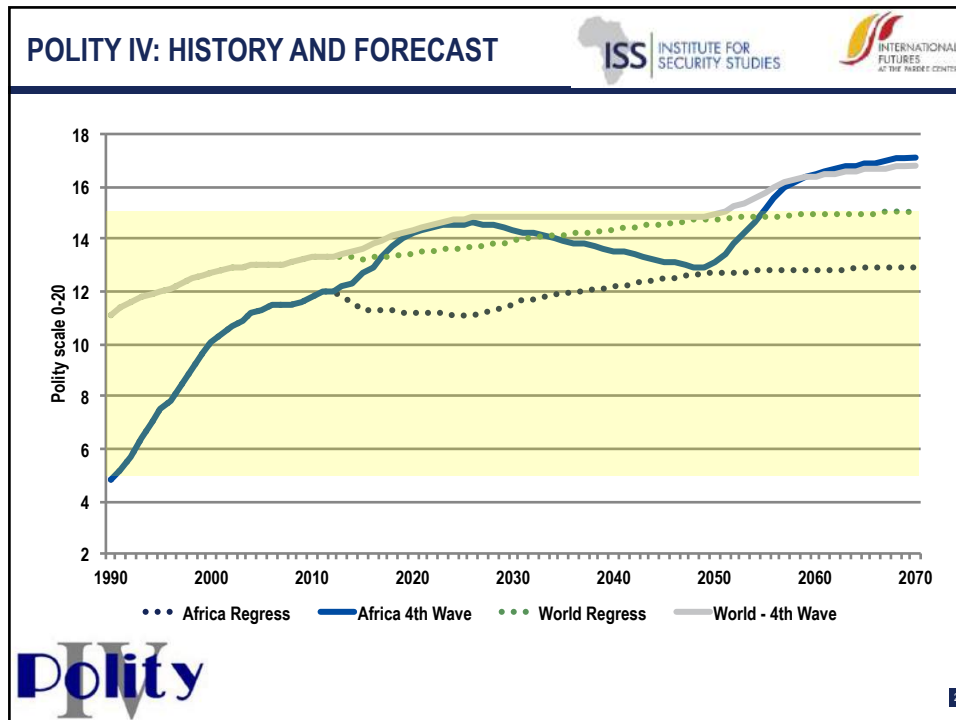


### THE FUTURE


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- Two scenarios:
  - Fourth Wave
  - Authoritarian Regression
- Short/medium-term democratic regression likely due to: failure of Arab Spring; impact of US invasion of Iraq; continued impact of 2008 global recession; rise of populism; and global rebalancing
- But waves have crests and troughs - long-term global trend is towards more democracy
- Africa?
  - Huge popular demand, but traditional development partners have lost leverage while authoritarian development model popular amongst leaders

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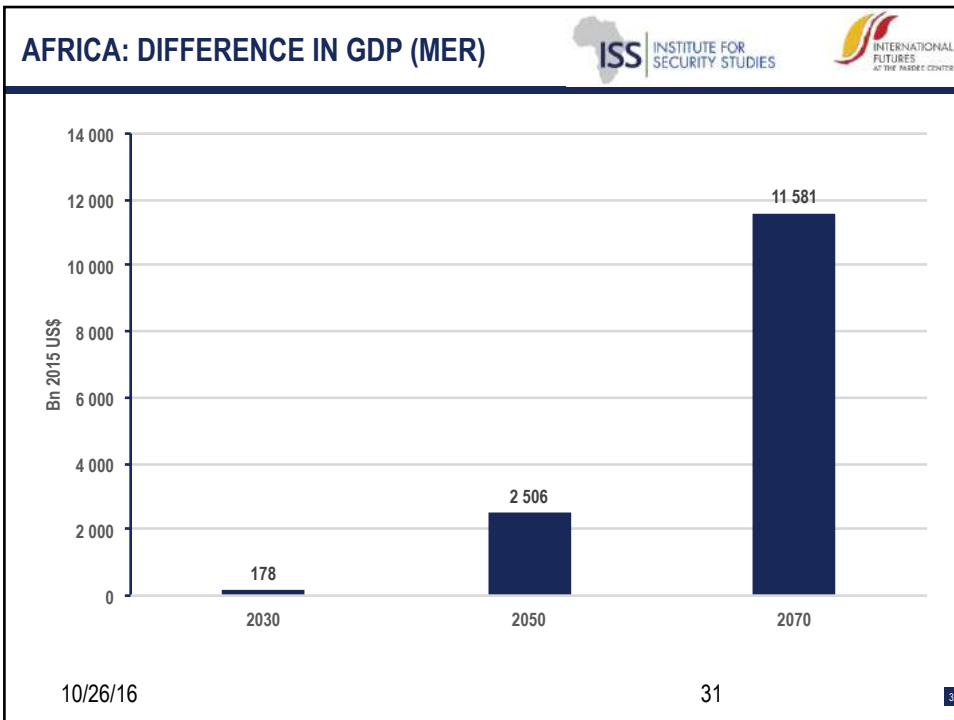
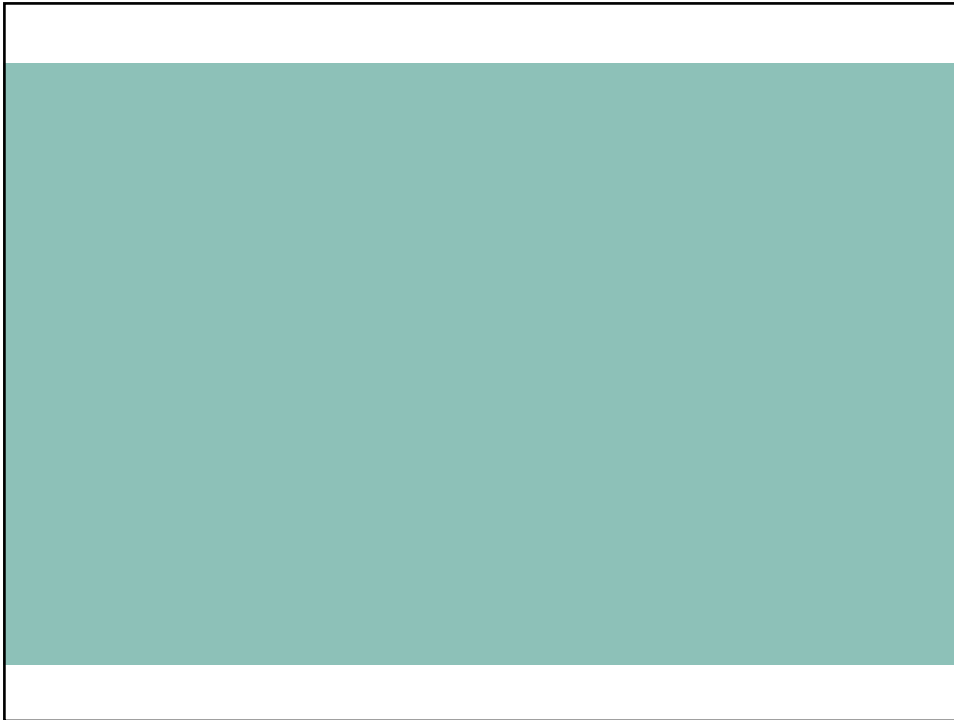
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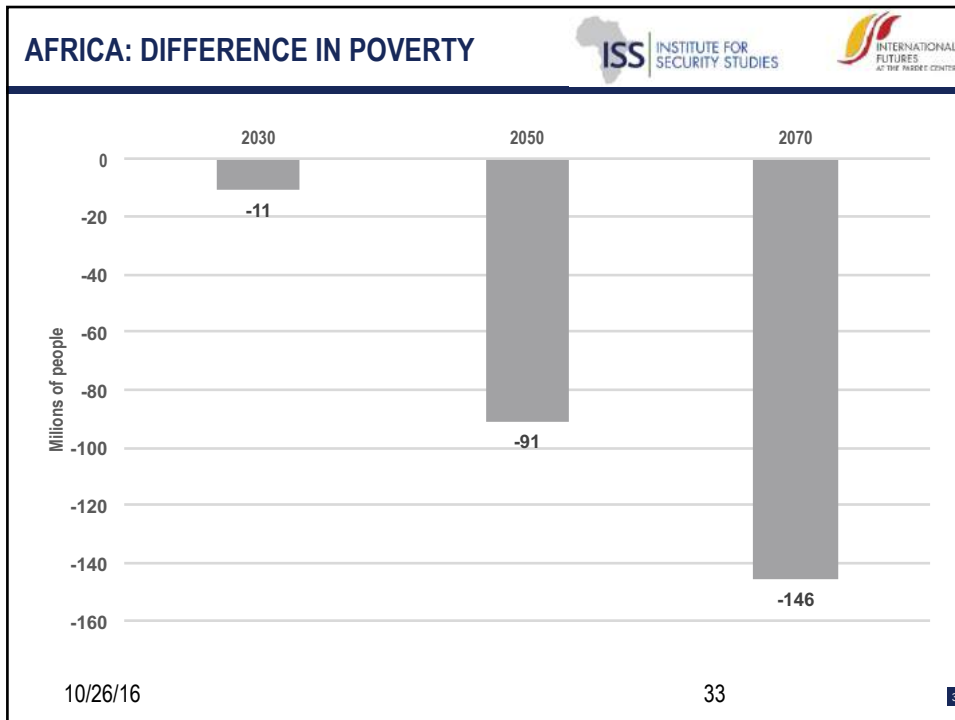
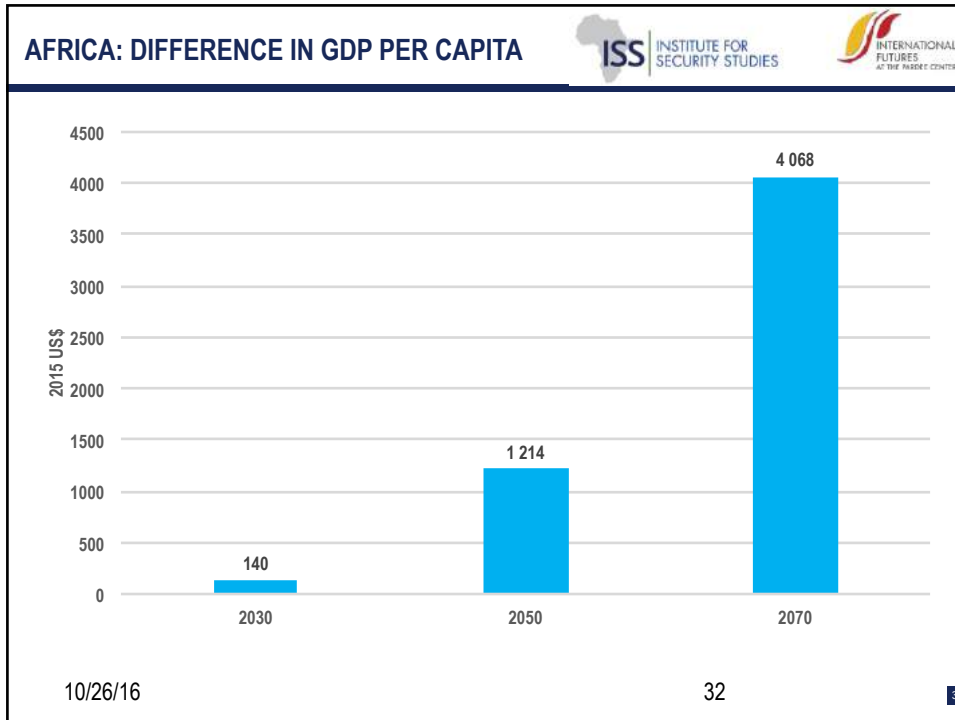
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### ETHIOPIA AND THE POTENTIAL GAINS FROM DEMOCRACY

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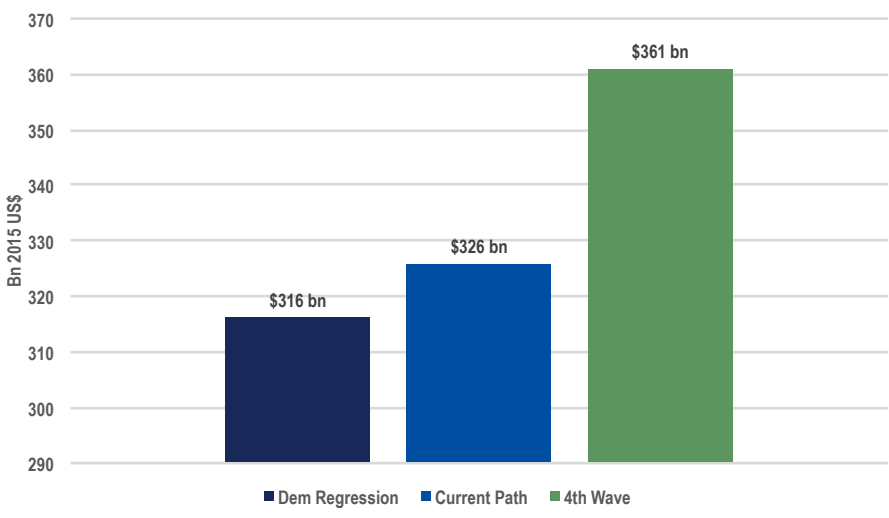


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### SIZE OF ETHIOPIA'S ECONOMY (MER) BY 2043

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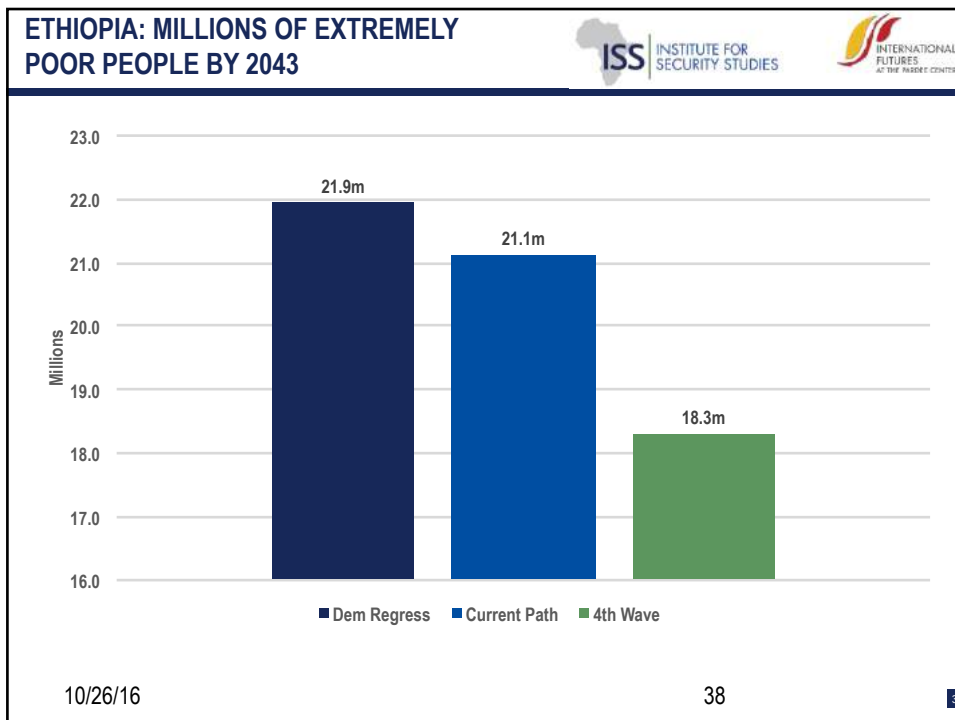
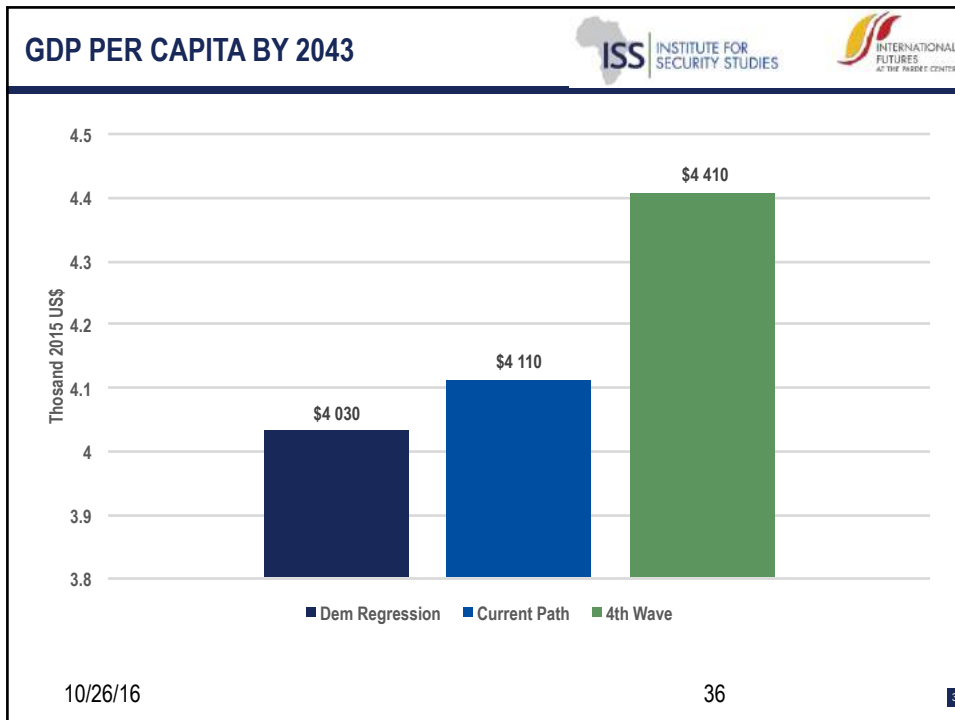
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Scenario	Size of Economy (MER) by 2043 (Bn 2015 US\$)
Dem Regression	\$316 bn
Current Path	\$326 bn
4th Wave	\$361 bn

10/26/16

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<b>CONCLUSION 1</b>	 <b>ISS</b> INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES	 INTERNATIONAL FUTURES AT THE PARDEE CENTER
<p>Over the long term democracy provides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A mechanism to check power of elite</li> <li>• A separation of powers</li> <li>• Protection of human rights and the rule of law</li> </ul> <p>Sustained growth at higher levels of income likely require democracy to continue to grow. But</p> <p><b>Substantive democracies emerge over time and require significant resources (and growth) to mature</b></p>		
		<span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">40</span>

**CONCLUSION 2**

- Democracy is not the dominant form of governance in Africa but positive trend - demand is high
- Likely a global democratic regression – what will happen in Africa?
- The “electoral” aspect of democracy improves human development and growth
- Aspects related to citizen empowerment do not
- It is possible to quantify the impact of democracy on growth and human development

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