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STATEMENT

My scholarly research in the broad area of international economic law focuses on the governance regimes in international investment law as they relate to Africa. The African continent has been at the forefront of rulemaking and development of new norms in international investment law. My research that focuses on international investment law has and continues to center these developments. Most recently, I have focused on the reform of the international investment law regime and the notion of Africanization has been at the centre of my analysis. In the said paper, I critically analyze the extant conceptualization of Africanization and its association with international investment law; probed the conceptualization of “Africanization” of IIL by situating it in the broader critiques and analysis of international investment law regime in the Global South and immersed the Africanization thesis in the critique, reform, and remaking agenda of third world scholarship on investment law. My forthcoming research focuses on the question of how, if at all, IIL can enhance friendly climate investment in the Global South.

Conceptually, a cardinal objective that drives all my research activities is centering Global South voices in the mainstream analyses on international investment law. I draw on various critical traditions like Postcolonialism, Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAAIL); Socio-legal Approaches to Law in my research and teaching to understand the how post-colonial continuities are reproduced today. My research acknowledges that the vestiges of colonialism are reproduced in different spaces, and by different actors today. As such, under the broad rubric of critical development inquiries, my research probes these issues.

Beyond my personal scholarship, I have seeded a thriving academic community. I am a Founding Editor of [Afronomicslaw.org](http://Afronomicslaw.org). *Afronomicslaw* focuses on the international economic law landscape as it relates to the Africa. *Afronomicslaw* currently consists of a *Blog*, an open access *African Journal of International Economic Law*, and an *African Sovereign Debt Justice Network* among others. *Afronomicslaw*'s offers scholars, policy makers and others interested in these issues a forum to insightfully reflect on these developments more contemporaneously with than the scholarship that is being produced. The blog also offers the growing and important voice of scholars and practitioners of African international economic law, a forum to share their views. The blog is cited in international journals and the open-access materials on the website are being used to teach in different classes around the world. The blog has come, rather quickly, to be filling an important gap.

Indeed, the need to center Global South voices and research consigned to the periphery of mainstream research was the motivation for the founding of [Afronomicslaw.org](http://Afronomicslaw.org) blog I am pleased to report how the platform has become a critical point that hosts research from African, Latin American, Asian, and Caribbean scholars and scholarship.

If elected as a Member of ISDS Academic Forum Steering Committee, I hope to contribute my part in advocating for the reform of ISDS in ways that center interests of the Global South.