

Africa, Global South, International Order

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Emerging countries in the “Global South” and the reorganization of the world order

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Question

- **What benefits do African countries see in the Global South framework?**

What is the “Global South”?

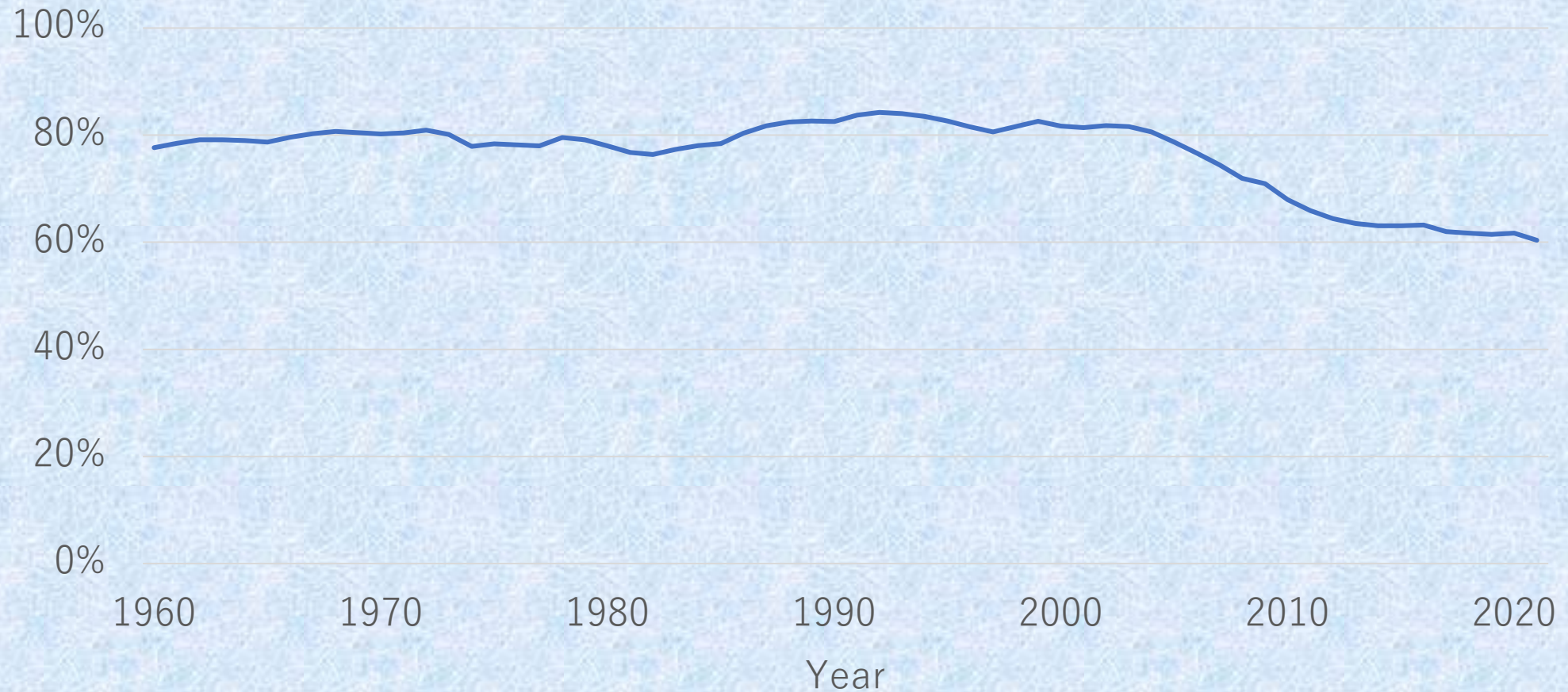
- **Change in semantic content**
 - From sociological to geographical terms
 - From implications for world capitalism to implications for international politics
- Focusing on the perspective of **“What role do they play in today’s international order?”**
 - Multipolarization of the international order

Differences with the “South” of the 1950s-70s

- The “South” in the 1950s-70s
 - Bandung Conference
 - Non-Aligned Movement
 - New International Economic Order (NIEO)
- Today’s “Global South”
 - BRICS
 - G20
 - Stance on Russian invasion of Ukraine
 - Distance to the Western-led international order

**Political diversity and
economic importance**

OECD countries' GDP vs Global GDP (1960-2021)



Source: Prepared by the presenter based on World Development Indicators.

Africa in the Global South

- Africa is **undoubtedly part of the Global South**
- **Diversity** within Africa
- Overall, the economic scale is small
- Many countries as a bloc
 - Presence at the United Nations

Diversity of political systems (democracy/authoritarianism)

Assessment of political rights by Freedom House (2023)

Free	Botswana, Ghana, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, etc. (9 countries)
Partially Free	Benin, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia, etc. (20 countries)
Not Free	Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, etc. (25 countries)

Source: Prepared by presenter based on data from Freedom House.

Diversity in income levels

Classification by GNI per capita

Classification	GNI per capita	Country name
Upper middle income countries	USD 4,466-13,845	Gabon, South Africa, Botswana, Mauritius, Seychelles (5 countries)
Lower middle income countries	USD 1,136-4,465	Zimbabwe, Senegal, Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Angola, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, Namibia, etc. (17 countries)
Low income countries	Less than USD 1,135	Madagascar, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad, Mali, Ethiopia, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, etc. (12 countries)

Source: Prepared by the presenter based on World Development Indicators.

Note: Only for 34 countries with accessible data.

Voting diversity at the UN

Response to three UN General Assembly resolutions after Russian invasion of Ukraine

Voted for all	Chad, Comoros, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, Sierra Leone (10 countries)
Voted 1-2 times	Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, Tunisia, Zambia, Gabon, Madagascar, Morocco, South Sudan, etc. (21 countries)
Voted against all	Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa, Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, etc. (23 countries)

Source: Prepared by the reporter based on the minutes of the UN General Assembly

Note: ① Resolution of March 2, 2022: Immediately after the invasion. Condemnation of Russia

② Resolution of April 7, 2022: Suspension of Russia's status from the Human Rights Council

③ Resolution of February 23, 2023: One year since the invasion. Confirmation of the principles of the UN Charter.

Global South and African Leadership

- Like the Global South, Africa is diverse.
- There are many issues they cannot solve as a cohesive group.
- Exceptions
 - Anti-colonialism
 - Pan-Africanism
- **A potentially critical position toward the Western-led international order (memories of the anti-colonial movement)**
- South Africa
 - Relatively high incomes and strong democracy
 - Abstained from voting on the resolution condemning Russia at the UN after its invasion of Ukraine
 - Took Israel to the International Court of Justice

Global South for Africa

- “Megaphone” to make its own point.
 - Claims that are easy for these countries to unite / Claims that are difficult to unite
 - Anti-colonialism/LGBTQ
 - Use it when there is a possible benefit
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- **Open question: What international order should we aim for?**