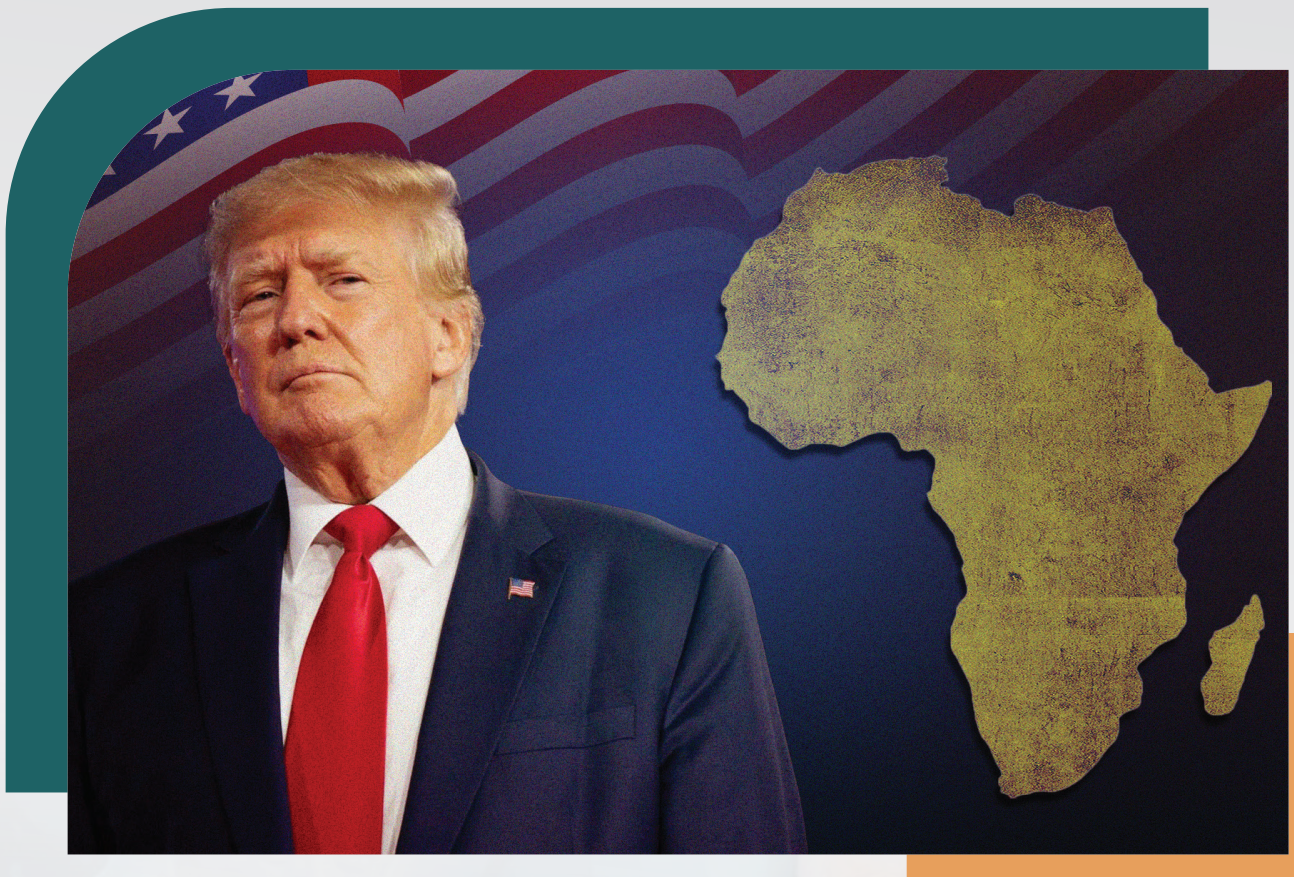




AFRICAN NARRATIVES

# US-African relations: transformations from the era of Biden to Trump

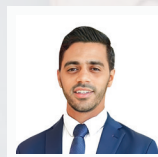


Author:



**Ahmed Gamal El Sayad**  
Researcher in political science

Author:



**Farouk Hussein Abu Daif**  
Political researcher specializing  
in African affairs

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## Summary

This research paper explores U.S.-Africa relations under the administrations of Biden and Trump. Examining U.S. foreign policy towards Africa during Biden's tenure reveals that his administration sought to strengthen American influence on the continent through various issues, such as security and development. However, tensions arose between Washington and certain African countries, particularly in the Sahel region, towards the end of Biden's term. In contrast, U.S. foreign policy under

Trump's second administration in 2025 is expected to witness a cooling of relations with Africa due to Trump's "America First" policies. If Trump continues with the same approach from his first term—such as repealing the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, and increasing reliance on fossil fuels—the African continent is likely to suffer significant negative consequences. This could further strain and weaken U.S.-Africa relations.

## Key Points

### 1. Differences in U.S. Strategy Towards Africa:

Biden's administration adopted a different approach compared to Trump's, focusing on strengthening partnerships with Africa. For instance, Biden emphasized climate and environmental issues that are crucial to the continent, which suffers greatly from climate change. In contrast, Trump's administration prioritized economic gains at the expense of environmental concerns.

### 2. Challenges Faced by the Biden Administration in Africa:

Biden's administration experienced a decline in influence in several parts of the continent, particularly in the Sahel region, where a series of coups weakened Western influence, including that

of the United States. This created an opportunity for major powers, such as Russia, to expand their presence and influence.

### 3. Concerns Raised by Trump's Election Victory in Africa:

Trump's anticipated policies raise several concerns for African countries regarding their relations with Washington. African nations are likely to face negative impacts from Trump's strict policies, particularly in immigration, climate change, and economic relations. The potential repeal of AGOA, driven by Trump's protectionist economic stance, as well as reductions in U.S. development and military aid, are likely to further strain relations under Trump's "America First" approach.





## Introduction

The African continent is still of great importance on the global and international stage, it is one of the most important areas of influence for the Western and regional countries; where it was and still is a point of influence struggle for the major countries in order to impose their dominance and control in it, in order to achieve their interests and benefit from the natural and human resources within the countries of this continent, and the United States of America is one of the largest countries in the world that is linked by strong interests within the continent, which seeks to strengthen its greater influence and presence within the continent; As the American administration worked to restore its relations with the African continent, after that the continent witnessed a significant decline in its priorities during the reign of the former American president “Donald Trump”, which affected the relationship of African countries with Washington, and was exploited by some other countries, which greatly strengthened their relations and presence with The countries of the African continent, especially China and Russia. Where American President “Joe Biden” laid out the American strategy towards sub-Saharan Africa in August 2022 in order to strengthen American influence and confront African challenges, especially the issues of democratic transition and the widespread spread of military coups, with the escalation of terrorist operations and the spread of armed movements, which also affected The navigation movement, and with the escalation of international competition within the African continent, and with Washington’s efforts to strengthen its influence and presence within Africa, in an attempt to benefit from the African aversion to France and

its withdrawal from its military bases in the African coast, except for me, Washington has also become “undesirable” within many countries of the continent; where the calls of many countries of the African continent to withdraw the American forces from their country have recently escalated, which is similar to the attitude of the Sahel countries towards France, especially after these African countries witnessed a change in the ruling regimes loyal to the Western countries.

And with the victory of Republican candidate Donald Trump in the 2025 American elections for a second term, it is clear that American-African relations will take a different turn to the Joe Biden administration, as Africa will occupy a late position in American foreign policy under the Trump administration, and of course relations between Washington and Africa will be affected by Trump’s victory in the American presidential elections, to form Thus, one of the most important determinants of the relationship between the United States and the countries of the African continent, and it is worth noting that Trump follows an approach based on the slogan America First, which will affect many files that It involves Washington’s relationship with Africa, such as the climate change file, the anti-terrorism file, immigration, and American aid to Africa.

**In this context**, this paper seeks, by presenting a study of American-African relations between the Joe Biden administration, and the second Donald Trump administration, to present a prospective vision of the path of relations between Washington and Africa through a number of interlocutors, as follows:

## The first axis: The motivations for the American presence inside the African continent amid the intensification of the competition between the countries

After the “Donald Trump” period, the United States sought to strengthen its relations with the African continent, and to return to the scene again, especially after its role in the continent diminished; Where Washington realized the importance of modifying its strategy in dealing with the African continent, which would make its continued presence in light of the international competition to extend international influence in Africa, and “Joe Biden” reaffirmed Washington’s continued American-African partnership, especially with regard to a set of common visions and goals. The most prominent American motivations for strengthening its presence in Africa can be discussed below:

### Strengthening American military and security dominance

Washington sought to strengthen its presence within the African continent in order to strengthen its military and security dominance in light of the challenges facing the African continent recently, especially with the efforts of international and regional forces to work to strengthen its military presence, by adopting a strategy of building military bases in the continent; where the number of foreign military bases inside the continent in the south of the Sahara reached about 45 military bases, as well as the signing of a number of major countries several military cooperation agreements with African countries, while some other countries sought to benefit from the sale of weapons in order to strengthen rapprochement and

cooperation with the countries of the continent; Where Russia succeeded in surpassing Washington to become the largest arms exporter in the continent with about 49% of total African exports, and Washington reached about 37%<sup>(1)</sup> Therefore, the United States of America seeks to restore its military status, which has declined in the recent period, as a result of the United States’ direction towards areas other than the African continent.

### Work to strengthen economic relations and achieve sustainable development

The American administration sought to emphasize the importance of achieving economic development for the African continent; Where the American President emphasized during the second American-African Summit hosted by Washington in December 2022, the need to provide all the tools and mechanisms that would help move forward to achieve an economic boom for African countries, whether through the American administration granting economic facilities to the countries or loans and grants, as She focused on the importance of achieving a breakthrough in deepening commercial relations with the continent, in order to achieve Washington’s goals and confront Chinese encroachment on the continent; Where the US Department of State clarified that more than 800 bilateral trade and investment deals between Washington and the countries of the African continent since 2021, with a value of more than 18 billion dollars,

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1 d. Najala Marai, American military influence in Africa in the light of international conflict, Abada for strategic studies, April 2024. <https://dimensionscenter.net/ar/7602d0ef4c63>



also explained that American goods and services within Africa amounted to more than 83.6 billion dollars, which achieves A big economic boom<sup>(2)</sup>.

### Securing the sea lanes

There is a main motivation for the development of the American strategy towards the African continent, is the securing of the sea lanes within the African continent, considering the strategic importance of the African continent, the continent has many important sea lanes in the movement of world trade, as the Horn of Africa region contains about 8 important sea ports ;Where the United States found the protection of these corridors a strong motivation to be within the region, in order to contribute to the protection of the corridors, and to ensure the freedom of maritime navigation, to work to secure the movement of world trade, and to combat the widespread piracy movements within some of the sea lanes located within Africa, especially near the Gulf of Guinea and the Strait of Bab al-Mandab and the Gulf of Aden, as Washington recently launched a new alliance to protect maritime trade on the Red Sea, in order to counter the Houthi threats to target Israeli commercial ships, with the escalation of hostilities Israel in Gaza<sup>(3)</sup>.

### Supporting democracy and strengthening the principles of good governance

Washington sought to strengthen its presence within the continent to support democracy and work to consolidate the principles of good governance in the continent; Where the American vision towards the military coups in the continent was not on the same level; Since the American administration during the second



American-African summit rejected the invitation of a number of African countries under the pretext of military coups and the lack of constitutional legitimacy of these countries' systems, such as Ghana, Burkina Faso, Mali and Sudan, it invited the President of Uganda "Yuri Museveni", despite his human rights record in the country<sup>(4)</sup>, as well as not showing a clear position during the military coup in Gabon and Niger.

### Washington sought the return of spirit to relations with the continent.

The administration of President "Biden" worked to show its eagerness for America's commitment to the countries of the African continent, and to move forward towards achieving convergence and cooperation in many global files and issues of common interest, especially in relation to files and climate change, food security, terrorism, peace, security and health, and working to strengthen Cooperation in the field of digital communication, and strengthening the investment environment to ensure the free flow of data, while achieving protection for individuals, as well as strengthening the principles of self-sufficiency and moving towards achieving the manufacturing process in Africa.<sup>(5)</sup>

2 Fact Sheet: The United States-Africa Partnership to Promote Two-Way Trade and Investment in Africa, US Department of State, 14 December 2022. <https://shorturl.at/V1DHC>

3 The American military influence in Africa in the light of the international defense, previous reference.

4 Noura Al-Habsi, Khalid Ahmed Muhammad Fayyad, The American-African Summit in the Light of the New American Strategy, Trends Research Center, <https://trendsresearch.org/ar/insight/african-american-summit/>

5 Dr. Hamdi Abdel Rahman, Catching Up: The Second American-African Summit, Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies. <https://acpss.ahram.org.eg/News/17707.aspx>

## The second axis: the most prominent obstacles faced by the Joe Biden administration in the course of the relationship between Washington and Africa

At a time when the United States is happy to expand its presence within the African continent, this American presence is subject to decline in the African Sahel region, especially after the military council in Niger announced on March 16, 2024 the cancellation of the military agreement signed between the two countries in 2012, while the council announced the military in Chad on April 19, 2024 regarding the suspension of American military activities at the “Adji Kosi” air base, which led to the confusion of the American position on the continent, In light of the escalation of threats to the American presence in the African Sahel region.

### First, the reasons for Niger’s escalation against Washington.

The spokesman for the military council in Niger, “Amadou Abdel Rahman”, announced on March 16, 2024, Niger’s withdrawal from the military co-operation agreement that was signed with Washington in 2012, under which the government of Niger allowed the American military presence and some civilians in the Pentagon to work inside Niger; The decision of the military council came after the visit of a high-level American delegation to Niger, especially in light of the escalation of tensions between the two countries, after the American escalation towards the military coup in Niger against the former President “Mohammed Bazoum” in July 2023<sup>(6)</sup>; where the country has seen fundamental changes in its relations with Western countries, especially with France and the United States, and hence it is seen as a strong ally of Russia in the African coast, similar to the changes witnessed in Mali, and this has had a negative impact on the future of the American presence in Niamey and the African coast, Perhaps the most prominent of these reasons are the following:

### • American arrogance towards Niger:

The military council in Niger adopted a hostile attitude towards the American administration following the military coup and the overthrow of the former president “Bazoum”; Where the country witnessed a state of popular and official rejection towards the Western presence in the country, especially France and the United States, this comes with the continuation of the “arrogance and arrogance” with which Washington deals with the countries of the African Sahel, as the military council in Niger explained the opposition of the American delegation to the rules of diplomatic engagement, In particular, the threat of “Molly Vee”, the assistant to the US Secretary of State for African Affairs, the head of the US delegation to the visit, and her stipulation of the return of US military relations and aid to Niamey in exchange for the necessity of setting a timetable for the democratic transition and the conduct of the elections, with Washington’s warning of growing relations with Moscow, as well as Washington’s interference in the nature of the new companies with which Niamey signed new contracts, including the fight against terrorism<sup>(7)</sup>.

### • The rapprochement of relations between the governing council in Niger and Russia:

Niger took a position similar to the position of the African Sahel countries Burkina Faso and Mali, especially after the military council in Niger expelled the French forces in its country, and after the French left Niger, the military council received the Russian Deputy Minister of Defense. This visit is the first by an official a high-level Russian to Niamey,

6 Mitchell McCluskey and Heather Chen, Niger ends military agreement with US, calls it ‘profoundly unfair’, CNN, 16 March 2024. <https://edition.cnn.com/2024/03/16/africa/niger-ends-us-military-agreement-intl-hnk/index.html>

7 Niger ends military agreement with US, calls it ‘profoundly unfair’, ibid.



and then the two countries announcing the signing of a protocol to strengthen military cooperation between them; Especially with Moscow's eagerness to exploit the vacuum of Western countries and to replace them, while Russian President "Vladimir Putin" discussed with the head of the military council "Abdul Rahman Tiani" during a telephone call to deepen security and defense cooperation to face armed threats to the region(8).

### • The military council's quest for revenge against Washington:

With the escalation of tensions between Washington and Niamey as a result of Washington's stance on the military coup, the government of Niger sought to move forward with action against Washington as a result of its opposing stance towards the military coup, after the American administration announced a reduction in the amount of American aid that Washington gives to the country, along with an end to military cooperation between the two countries, which What can be considered revenge for the American position on the transformation of the country, where Niger considered that Washington was working to deprive the people of Niger of their right to sovereignty(9).

### • The military council's involvement in relations with Iran for the export of uranium:

The French newspaper "Le Monde" revealed that the military council in Niger has been involved for some time with bilateral discussions with Iran in order to export uranium to Tehran; where she revealed that Niamey entered into strong negotiations with the Iranian side since the military coup in the country to deliver approximately 300 tons of uranium ore, which angered the American administration and the

French government(10) ; Especially after the meeting that brought together the Iranian President "Ebrahim Raisi" with the Prime Minister of Niger Ali Muhammad Al-Amin last January in Tehran, it should be noted that Niger ranks seventh in the world in uranium production during 2022, and this agreement may increase the American sanctions on Niger and increases the pressure on the military council in the country(11).

### • Suspension of American military aid:

And the escalation on the part of Niger comes after the American State Department announced the suspension of American aid to the government of Niger in October 2023, where Washington suspended the aid after describing what the country is witnessing as a military coup after the overthrow of the ruling president, with the end of foreign aid programs amounting to about 200 million dollars, as well as Suspension of aid granted by an institution (The Millennium Corporation Challenge) which is known as an American agency under the US Congress(12).

### Washington withdraws the last of its forces from Niger in West Africa

The US Department of Defense and Niger's Ministry of National Defense announced in a joint statement yesterday, Monday, August 5, that their country has completed the withdrawal of its military forces and assets from the last of its military bases in Niger; As this step marks the end of the US counter-terrorism mission in the country, at a time when violent extremism continues to increase throughout the Sahel region; where the "Voice of America" website reported (VOA) that there is only a small number of American military personnel in Niger,

8 The head of the military regime in Niger discusses with Putin "strengthening" security cooperation, March 26, 2024, Middle East <https://shorturl.at/bfjEI>

9 Niger Revokes Military Accord With US, Junta Spokesperson Says, 16 March 2024, voice of America. <https://www.voanews.com/a/niger-says-announces-end-to-military-cooperation-with-us/7530719.html>

10 Iran and Niger.. Secret negotiations for the "yellow cake", Sky News Arab, May 13, 2024. <https://shorturl.at/TNVmH>

11 The Iranian President meets with the Prime Minister of Niger and confirms: a bright future awaits the Nigerian Muslim people, January 25, 2024. <https://shorturl.at/hAO4g>

12 The military coup in Niger, US Department of State, October 10, 2023. <https://shorturl.at/TDV7q>

and that the reason why the American military mission in Niger has not been completed is the existence of some disagreements between the two countries, and therefore the two bases are now in the hands of the Niger government<sup>(13)</sup>.

It is mentioned that the United States has used the two military bases to monitor the activities of terrorist groups including the Islamic State and Al Qaeda, and people smugglers in Libya and the Sahel region in West Africa using drones; Where about a thousand American soldiers have been stationed in Niger since 2019, and the cost of building Air Base 201 amounted to approximately 110 million dollars, and Niger is the last partner of the West in the fight against the extremist Islamic groups in the Sahel region, while some American officials confirmed that the loss of the two bases in Niger constitutes a blow to its efforts in the fight against terrorism and the broader security situation in the Sahel region, as well as Washington's loss of many of the natural resources it enjoys Niger.

## **Second, the reasons for Chad's escalation against Washington.**

On April 19, 2024, the Chadian military council announced the immediate suspension of the military activities of the United States of America at the air base inside the capital city of N'Djamena, especially since this decision came shortly after Niger's military cooperation with Washington was suspended, where the Chadian decision came as a surprise, perhaps The most prominent reasons for the escalation of the Chadian military council are the following:

- **The rise of Russian influence in Chad:**

In this regard, some reports indicated that the escalation of the Chadian military council against Washington came as a result of Moscow's growing influence within Chad, especially in the light of Moscow's keenness to strengthen its relations with the countries of the Sahel and Central Africa, which was pointed out by the commander of the American command in

Africa "Michael Langley", at a hearing in the US Senate in March 2024, and earlier, the "Institute for War Studies (Institute for the Study of War) explained in its report issued in April 2024 that Chad is a new target for Russia within the African Sahel region, especially with the military council entering into alliances with the ruling regimes within the Sahel countries, which is supported by the Russian side, considering The visit made by the head of the Chadian military council at the time "Mohamed Dibi" to Russia as Chadian efforts to strengthen its rapprochement with the Russian side<sup>(14)</sup>.

- **lack of trust in western systems:**

where the new changes that have occurred in some of the regimes of the Sahel countries, especially after the series of military coups witnessed in the region, have led to these countries' lack of trust in the Western regimes, which has led to the shaking of the state of certainty in the Chadian military council towards the United States of America and France in particular, and the Western countries in general, especially after these governments lost the ability to protect the ruling African regimes allied with them<sup>(15)</sup>.

- **The growing internal pressures in Chad:**

where the Chadian military council was under increasing pressure for the necessity of disconnecting Anjamina from the Western countries, especially the United States and France; Where the Chadian authorities have sought to loosen their relationship with Washington in order to alleviate the internal pressures they are exposed to, while there is a great welcome to the strengthening of relations with Russia, especially with the shadow of the military council to the existence of strong alternatives to Western military partnerships, by achieving

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<sup>13</sup> Carla Babb, US completes withdrawal from last base in Niger, VOA August 5, 2024. <https://www.voanews.com/a/us-completes-withdrawal-from-last-base-in-niger/7730618.html>

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<sup>14</sup> Will Chad become a link in the chain of declining American influence on the African coast?, The Future Center for Research and Studies, May 3, 2024. <https://shorturl.at/IBMkO>

<sup>15</sup> Will Chad become a link in the chain of declining American influence on the African coast?, the previous reference.





rapprochement with Moscow; where the latter seeks to strengthen its influence in the countries of the region; As the Russian-Ukrainian crisis highlighted the importance of the African continent<sup>(16)</sup>.

- The efforts of the Chadian authorities to obtain new gains; As it is expected that this sudden move on the part of N'Djamena will be a tool to put pressure on the American administration to reach new understandings in order to obtain some economic and political gains, especially since this decision coincided with the Chadian presidential elections, which are being contested by the head of the Transitional Council "Mohammed Idriss Dibi". Especially in the light of his exposure to a series of internal and external criticisms, and he seeks to gain the support of international powers to increase his legitimacy as the ruler of the country.<sup>(17)</sup>

### Thirdly: The consequences of canceling the military agreement with Washington

These African invitations to the United States of America represent a new phase of relations between the continent and Washington, similar to what France recently experienced inside the African coast, which may foreshadow the complexity of the form of regional and international interactions within many areas of the African continent, and then the occurrence of several transformations in forms These interactions, with the existence of several ramifications due to the attitudes of some African countries and their change of attitude towards Washington, and perhaps the most prominent of these ramifications, are the following:

16 Farouq Hossein Abu Daif, The Role of the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis in Strengthening the Importance of the African Continent One Year After the Crisis, Afaq Magazine issued by the Center for Information and Decision Support number 7, 9 <https://www.idsc.gov.eg/Article/details/8624>

17 Will Chad become a link in the chain of declining American influence on the African coast?, the previous reference.

- **Escalation of tensions between Washington and the African Sahel countries:**

It is expected that the change in the attitude of the Sahel countries towards the United States will lead to an escalation of the intensity of the differences, especially after the relationship between Niger and America has witnessed new escalation steps, and this may lead to the continuation of the imposition of American sanctions on Niger, and the sanctions may also be imposed on Chad, which recently witnessed Presidential elections, and the victory of the President of the Transitional Council “Mohammed Idris Debi” was announced in these elections<sup>(18)</sup>.

- **The Sahel countries sought to tarnish Washington’s image in Africa:**

The ruling regimes in the Sahel countries may tend to distort the image of the United States within the African public opinion, in order to increase feelings of popular resentment and create a negative image of Washington, as happened with France and led to its exit from the Sahel in a way that is detrimental to its long history in the region; And perhaps the African regimes will take advantage of the American absence during the recent period, with the existence of several contradictions to the American foreign policy towards a number of countries and issues related to the continent, with the existence of changes within the ruling African regimes recently, especially regarding the form of relations with foreign powers.

- **The growing influence of terrorist groups in the African Sahel region:**

Perhaps the American military withdrawal from the African coast will lead to an increase in the number of armed and terrorist groups that are active within the African coast region, especially in Niger; The American forces have played a major role in combating terrorism and armed organizations within Niger and some areas of the Sahel through their security and military presence, and it is possible that the organizations affiliated with Al-Qaeda and ISIS will take advantage of the Amer-



ican withdrawal to expand their terrorist activities, and expand their areas of influence, which may threaten the state of stability and regional security in the region<sup>(19)</sup>.

- **Spread phenomenon “the domino” in the form of American-African relations:**

This transformation is expected to be the beginning of the state of African rejection of Western countries, which many recent conflicts revealed the intentions of Western countries towards the African continent, especially the Russian-Ukrainian war and the Israeli war on Gaza; where many African countries that are associated with military and security cooperation relations with the United States may tend to follow in the footsteps of Niger and Chad, and move forward towards the cessation of military cooperation, which may lead to the decline and decline of Western influence on the African continent, in contrast to the growth of some other powers, such as China and Russia, especially Iran, which has begun to redraw a new strategy towards the African continent through the Niger Gate<sup>(20)</sup>.

19 Asma Adel, Is American influence in West Africa declining after Niger’s decision to cancel the military agreement?, March 27, 2024, African Readings <https://shorturl.at/jQrrH>

20 Farouk Hussain Abu Deif, The Russian-African Summit.. Races of Consolidation and Common Gains, International Politics Magazine, Issue 234 October 2023.

18 Niger Revokes Military Accord With US, Junta Spokesperson Says, IBID



## The third axis: the horizons of American-African relations under the second Trump administration in 2025

The American presidential election was one of the most important events of the year 2024, which ended with the victory of the Republican candidate Donald Trump in a second term, this event which will have a great impact on American foreign policy regarding many files, and one of the most important files at issue is the form of the relationship that will be between Washington and the African continent, especially that Trump in his first term did not pay much attention to Africa, which made it occupy a late position in Washington's foreign policy, and one of the most prominent evidences is that American President Trump never visited Africa during the entire period His first term, in addition to some of the racist statements made by Trump in his first term against some African countries, which led to the lukewarm state in American-African relations, which was exploited by other countries to expand their influence in the continent such as Russia and China.

It is worth noting that Trump's victory raised a state of anxiety within the African continent, regarding the future of American-African relations during Trump's term, and that anxiety is due to Trump's policies that believe in a kind of isolationism, in addition to Trump's approach in his first term, and his policies with Africa, so Trump tends to measures The protection that will make it difficult for African countries to access American markets through the African Growth Opportunities Act program, in addition to Trump's approach based on the slogan America First, which is the slogan that will have an impact on economic relations and the development between the United States and the African countries, in addition to the fact that the presidential campaign of the Republican candidate was embracing many racists, which will make the new American administration's view negative towards the African continent, which negatively affects the relations between Washington and Africa<sup>(21)</sup>

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21 Jehan Abdulsalam Abbas, what does Trump's victory mean for Africa? African readings, publication date 7/11/2024, access date 20/1/2025. <https://shorturl.at/UYSa5>

and from the above it is clear that Trump's return to the presidency will have a negative effect on American-African relations, which will in turn affect the African continent in multiple files such as:

### **First: the fear of repealing the African Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA).**

It is the law that was approved in 2000 during the era of American President Bill Clinton, which aims to develop economic and commercial relations between the United States and the countries of sub-Saharan Africa, and which is considered a trade agreement between Washington and Africa, which coincides with the date of its renewal in 2025 with Trump taking office The presidency for a second term<sup>(22)</sup>, this agreement is threatened with cancellation and according to Trump's policies that tend towards protectionist measures, this will constitute a major dilemma for African trade, because this law provides many countries on the continent with access to the American markets with the equivalent of 1800 products without customs duties, and the dilemma is that by canceling the Awa law, they will lose More than 30 African countries have access to the US markets for import and export, which is granted to them by the AWA law, according to a database trade, that the two most important destinations for the export of goods from South Africa are China followed by the United States, therefore the cancellation of this law will have a significant negative impact on African trade, which is the negative scenario towards this law<sup>(23)</sup>

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22 Rabia Nouraldin Wazir, The Future of the Law of Growth and Opportunities in Africa, Afaq Magazine, Decision Support and Information Center, Issue 9, July 2024, p. 19.

23 Jehan Abdulsalam Abbas, what does Trump's victory mean for Africa? previous reference

As for the positive scenario, it is likely that Trump will continue to support this law, because it provides many strategic advantages to Washington, such as that Washington can use it to impose its influence within the continent, as it can represent a punitive policy from the United States towards any African country whose policy conflicts with American policies. Also, this law makes it easier for the United States to access the raw materials it imports from the countries of the African continent. In 2021, Washington relied heavily on the countries in its exports of minerals Africa, and in the event of an escalation of the trade war between Washington and Beijing, it is likely that Trump will continue to support this law, achieving many gains for both the African countries, and the United States<sup>(24)</sup>.

## **Second: Trump's position on climate issues and its negative impact on the African continent.**

Trump follows an approach that makes the United States abandon its responsibilities in the face of climate and environmental issues, despite the fact that the United States is one of the largest emitters of greenhouse gases, which negatively affects the climate and the environment in the entire world, Trump believes that the issue of climate change is nothing more than a hoax, and that the fears about the climate change crisis are exaggerated, and as a result Donald Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement in 2017 is following an approach that seeks to enhance the near-term economic gains instead of following sustainable policies aimed at protecting the environment and limiting climate change, and as a result, the expectations indicate that the Trump administration will work to rely on fossil fuels, which is evident in the 2025 project, which is the project that aims to increase American energy production. In an effort to lower their prices, the project includes more than a plan to dismantle several US federal agencies that play a vital role in the field of confronting climate change, such as the National Administration for the Ocean and

Atmospheric Administration, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This approach is expected to also involve the withdrawal of the United States from international obligations aimed at limiting the negative effects of climate change, which will have a significant negative impact on several regions of the world, primarily the African continent, which is suffering a significant negative impact due to climate change. Africa is facing a significant rise in temperatures, in addition to food insecurity for several reasons, the most important of which is climate change, and in this regard the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has issued warnings that if it is not The cooperation between the countries of the world to reduce the emissions that cause global warming, the continent of Africa will witness various climate changes throughout the continent such as droughts, rising temperatures, and waves of floods, will have a negative effect on the countries of the continent, and since the continent of Africa depends on the agricultural sector, They are susceptible to being greatly affected by climate changes, as more than one African country depends on rain-fed agriculture, which will be affected by climate changes such as The droughts that will destroy the agricultural sector, and increase From the problem of food insecurity, which is what Sudan and Ethiopia witnessed when they were exposed to droughts that destroyed agricultural crops and led to a problem of food shortages, in addition to the fact that Trump's approach makes it likely that American support directed at African countries will decrease in the field of climate initiatives aimed at helping the countries of the continent to adapt to climate changes, which means that the African countries in this case will reduce their resources necessary to implement these initiatives, which will of course have negative effects involving More suffering for African countries in the face of climate change, and its devastating effects<sup>(25)</sup>.

24 Rahma Hussien, Africa in the second term of American President Trump, Al-Masry Observatory, publication date 9/11/2024, access date 20/1/2025. <https://shorturl.at/P3azg>

25 Hamdi Abd al-Rahman, The Second Exodus: Consequences of Trump's Anti-Climate Agenda on Africa, Future Center for Advanced Studies and Research, publication date 12/31/2024, access date 1/21/2025. <https://shorturl.at/O53ky>





### **Thirdly: establishing strict policies towards the issue of immigration.**

It is estimated that the number of immigrants from sub-Saharan Africa to the United States has increased approximately 16 times since 1980, which shows that the United States is one of the most important destinations for immigrants from the countries of the African continent.<sup>(26)</sup>, and it is worth noting that Trump follows strict and strict policies towards the file of immigrants to the United States, which is the approach he adopted in his first term, which he is expected to adopt again, which will lead to preventing the flow of immigrants from African countries to the United States.

### **Fourth: The humanitarian and development aid provided by the United States to Africa.**

Trump believes that American aid provided to African countries should be invested within the United States, which means that the Trump administration in 2025 may impose restrictions on this aid, and it is worth noting that this aid is directed in the

fields of humanitarian relief, health, and education, and if restrictions are imposed by The Trump administration on this aid will suffer many African countries that depend on American aid, and they will also face setbacks in the fields of health and education, and Trump's approach, which raises the slogan of America first, may lead to negative effects in sectors Health and education, for example with the decrease in American aid, the modest progress made by some African countries in the face of deadly viruses and diseases such as the AIDS virus and malaria will be jeopardized, and these diseases may spread more, due to the weak infrastructure and the fragility of the health sector in some African countries, which Depends on American aid as one of the components of this sector, especially in the face of deadly diseases<sup>(27)</sup> .

### **Fifth, American support in the field of counter-terrorism in Africa.**

It is estimated that the United States will reduce its activity towards some of the pivotal conflicts

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26 Jane Lorenzi and Jeanne Batalova, Sub-Saharan African Immigrants in the United States, migration policy institute, May 2022. <https://shorturl.at/HFke8>

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27 Hamdi Abd al-Rahman Hassan, Cautious Optimism: What Donald Trump's Victory Means for Africa, Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, publication date 11/12/2024, access date 1/21/2025. <https://shorturl.at/gOphw>





on the African continent, and according to Donald Trump's statement in this regard "that American aid should go to friends and allies" as he stated that "American taxpayers' money is not intended for countries like those in Africa that Do not adopt American values" and it is from these statements that Trump is likely to withdraw more American military support<sup>(28)</sup>, and this approach is in line with Trump's policy during his first term, which made Washington participate to a limited extent in the existing conflicts in Africa, and according to Trump's national agenda, which aims to reduce American military intervention abroad, it may lead to a reduction of American military influence in Africa, which will increase With the influence of other global powers such as the increasing Russian influence in the African Sahel region, we coincided with the shrinking of Western influence, especially the American and French influence in

this region of the continent, as Trump's policy will also demonstrate in its implementation has weakened the support provided to African countries in the field of counter-terrorism, which leads to the rise of terrorist groups in these countries, which increases the complications of the political and security scene in Africa<sup>(29)</sup>.

And from the above it is clear that Trump in his second term may take an approach that involves many policies that will affect American-African relations, which are basically suffering from weakness in the recent period, for some areas in Africa such as the African Sahel region, have seen a divergence between them and the Western countries and at the top The United States, and Trump's policies in the fields of climate, immigration and the fight against terrorism will lead to many negative effects on some African countries, which will lead to further loosening of relations between Washington and the countries of the African continent.

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28 Nasreen Al-Sabahy, Africa's Margin of Priorities in the Light of the American Elections, Egyptian Center for Thought and Strategic Studies, publication date 11/2/2024, access date 1/23/2025. <https://ecss.com.eg/49022/>

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29 Hamdy Abdelrahman, Cautioned Optimism: What Donald Trump's Victory Means for Africa, ref.





## Conclusion

**T**he comparison between the Biden administration in 2021, and the expectations for the policies of the second Trump administration, shows that the Trump administration will be more strict in some files that govern the course of American-African relations, which will have a negative effect on these relations, as the Trump administration will tend to follow policies that will have negative effects on African countries, and such as its policy towards the issue of climate change, as well as the reconsideration of the development aid provided to African countries, as well as the expectation of working to reduce the American military presence in Africa in the field of counter-terrorism, which will have a negative effect on these countries, and on the course of relations between Washington and Africa, in contrast to the Biden administration which was working for the continuation of the American-African partnership, this partnership is driven by a number of determinants due to which the Biden administration sought to increase American influence on the continent, which confirms that the administration Trump will be completely different from the Biden administration.