

# Patricia Agupusi

**School of International Studies (SIS) American University**  
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW. DC.  
**Telephone + 1(401) 241-7538, Email: Agupusi@american.edu**  
**Webpage: <http://www.patriciaagupusi.com/>**

---

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Field: Political economy.

Area of interest: Comparative political economy, Politics of development, state capacity, international security and post conflict, democracy and theories of power.

Primary regional interest: Africa (Nigeria, South Africa, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Zimbabwe).

---

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### School of International Studies (SIS) American University, USA

August 2019 – present      Term Assistant Professor (Professorial Lecturer)

### Watson Institute for International Studies/Africana Studies, Brown University, USA

July 2016 – present      Visiting Scholar, Africana Studies

July 2014 – June 2016      Postdoctoral Fellow in International and Public Affairs, Watson Institute

July 2013 – June 2016      Co-chair, Africa Initiative, Watson Institute

June 2014 – June 2017      Deputy Convener, Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI)  
Institute on Ethnicity, Conflict and Inequality in Global Perspective

October 2011 – June 2014      Research and Teaching Fellow

### School of International Development, University of East Anglia, UK

July 2008 - Aug. 2011      Research Fellow and Instructor

### University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

Feb. 2007 – Aug. 2007      Visiting Fellow

---

## EDUCATION

### PhD, International Development (with distinction)

University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK.

### MA, International Economics and Trade

London Metropolitan University, London, UK.

### MA, International Law and Diplomacy

Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria.

## **BA, (Hons) Philosophy**

Ondo State University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria

---

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **American University Washington DC.**

2019 – present

- International Development
- The Micro-politics of Development
- Global Inequality and Development

#### **Providence College**

2019

- Introduction to International Relation
- African Politics

#### **Brown University, Providence, RI, USA**

2013 – present (**undergraduates/graduates**)

- Comparative Identity Politics in Africa
- Globalization, Media and Culture
- Political Economy of Development in Africa
- Society and Culture in the Age of Globalization
- Ethnicity and Inequality in Global Perspectives
- Participatory Development
- Development Skills (workshop)

#### **University of East Anglia, Norwich UK**

August 2010 – September 2011

#### **International Development Studies (graduate workshops)**

- Research Methods
  - Introduction to Development Perspectives
- 

### **SELECTED ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Book**

*Homegrown Development in Africa: Illusion or Reality.* (Principal author) with Okereke, C. (2015). Abingdon: Routledge.

#### **Peer Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters**

"The effect of parents' education appreciation on intergenerational inequality." *International Journal of Educational Development* (2018).

"Equipping the Poor: The Role of Small Business in Alexandra, South Africa" in *Managing Development in Developing and Transitional Countries: Theory and Practice*, Justice Nyigmah Bawole, J. N.; Hossain, F.; Ghalib, A.K.; Rees, C. J.; Mamman, A. (Eds). (2016). Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.

"Ultimate Poverty" in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of World Poverty*, Odekon, M. (Ed.) (2015). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

"Ghana" in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of World Poverty*, Odekon, M. (Ed.) (2015). Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications.

“Business Strategy and Corporate Responsibility: Perception and Practice in the Oil Industry and the Role of Non-governmental Organizations.” (with Ghalib Asad) *Journal of Business Economics and Management*, 2014, 15(5), 951-963.

“Caliban Reason and African Traditional Reasoning” (book review). *The Antigua and Barbuda Review of Books*, 2013, 6(1), 193-201.

“Trajectories of Power Relations in Post-Apartheid South Africa.” *Open Area Studies Journal*, 2011, 4, 32-40.

### **Selected working papers and other publications**

“The African Union and Development in Africa” *Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs Research Paper No. 2016-30*

“Homegrown Development Initiatives in Africa: Illusion or Reality?” *Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs Research Paper No. 2016-29*

“How Socially Responsible are Multinational Corporations? Perspectives from the Developing World.” With Ghalib, A. *UEA DEV Working Paper 32*.

### **Media articles**

“Postponing Nigeria's Elections May Help the Cause of Democracy.” *Global Post*, February 19, 2015.

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatches/globalpost-blogs/commentary/postponing-nigerias-elections-may-help-the-cause-democracy>

“No Simple Choices as Nigeria Votes.” *Global Observatory*, March 23, 2015.

<http://theglobalobservatory.org/2015/03/nigeria-goodluck-jonathan-election-boko-haram/>

---

### **WORK UNDER REVIEW**

The Rise of Insurgency: State Capacity and Boko Haram in Nigeria (resubmitted to the *International Security*)

The African Union and the Path to African Renaissance (Revised and resubmitted to *the Journal of Contemporary African Studies*)

*Development, Democracy and Conflicts (book chapter) Title of Book* (Under review with Routledge Publishing)

Negotiation Strategies and Power dynamics in Africa/China Economic Relations (under review with the *International Affairs Journal*)

---

### **ONGOING RESEARCH**

*Female Suicide Bombers- Victim of Perpetuators?*

*State Capture and the Politics of the “Two Economies” in South Africa* (Book manuscript in progress)

*The Boko Haram Insurgency and the Rise of Domestic Terrorism*

Currently conducting field research in Nigeria on the rise of Boko Haram. The fieldwork includes key informant interviews, archival and media catalogues, GIS, and experimental approaches.

*Natural Resource Policy and the Performance of Natural Resources Fund (NRF)* with Glenn Loury and Eytan Sheshinsk and supported by Watson Collaboration Grant

---

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2014- 2016 Brown University Watson Collaboration grants (For Africa Initiative and Boko Haram field research)
- June 2009 Brown International Advanced Research Institute (BIARI), Brown University, USA
- Feb. 2007 University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa – Visiting Researcher
- 

## INVITED TALKS

- May 2019 **Are Africa/China Private partnerships Mutually Beneficial?**  
Deconstructing inequality and wellbeing between China and Africa Lingnan University.
- Feb. 2019 **Pan-African Rising**  
First African Day University of Massachusetts Boston
- Sept. 2017 **The Transition Problem: Rethinking Racial Inequality in South Africa and the USA**  
BARI-Global Network at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia.
- June 2013 **A "Great Decisions" Seminar— China in Africa: Savior or Self-interest?**  
Newport Council for International Visitors
- March 2013 **Democracy, Development and Institution in Post-conflict States in Africa**  
Guest Speaker at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, USA
- Nov. 2012 **The Effect of Conflicts on Population and Development: Why is Democracy Not Working?**  
International Methodological Seminar on Demography, Development and Democracy in Africa; University of Wits, South Africa
- Nov. 2011 **The Superficial Morality of Color-blindness: A Comparison of the USA and South Africa**  
The Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI. (With Glenn Loury).
- 

## SELECTED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- April 2018 **Negotiation Strategies and Power dynamics in Africa/China Economic Relations**  
2018 International Studies Association Annual Convention San Francisco CA
- Sept. 2016 **The Implication of Civil/Military Relation in Understanding Terrorism**  
2016 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- March 2016 **State Institutional Failure Dynamics and the Escalation of Boko Haram Insurgency**  
57<sup>th</sup> International Studies Association, Atlanta, GA
- Oct. 2015 **Democracy in Africa** (Organizer)  
Watson Institute for International Studies and Public Affairs, Brown University, Providence, RI
- Oct. 2015 **State Institutional Failure Dynamics and the Escalation of Boko Haram Insurgency**

ISSS-ISAC, Springfield, MA

- July 2015 **The Transition Problem:  
Comparative Analysis of Racial Inequality in South Africa and the US**  
The Society for the Advancement of Socio Economics (SASE), London School of Economics,  
London, UK
- March 2015 **Rethinking Foreign Aid and Development**  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Sociology of Development Section, Watson Institute,  
Brown University, Providence, RI.
- May 2014 **The New African Renaissance and African Union**  
4<sup>th</sup> African Unity for Renaissance Conference, Pretoria, South Africa
- April 2013 **Homegrown Solution to African Presidential Monarchism**  
African Studies Colloquium, Brown University, Providence, RI.
- Nov. 2012 **Homegrown Development Initiatives in Africa: A Critical View (panelist)  
China in Africa (Discussant)**  
  
55<sup>th</sup> African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- June 2012 **New African Renaissance; Illusion or Realities**  
Society for the Advancement of Social Economics Conference, Massachusetts Institute of  
Technology, Cambridge, MA.
- March 2012 **Homegrown Development Initiatives: Reality or Illusion?**  
The Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI.
- June 2011 **The Plight of African Migrants in South Africa: A Critical View**  
Society for Advancement of Socio-Economics SASE Conference, Madrid, Spain.
- Feb. 2011 **Religious Crisis in Nigeria: What is Sustaining It?**  
International Conference on Making Development Inclusive: MDGs and Beyond,  
University of Bradford, City, UK.
- Feb. 2010 **An Inter-generational Study on the Impact of Educational Inequality in Human  
Development**  
EPFL/UNESCO Chair International Scientific Conference on Technology for Development,  
Lausanne, Switzerland.
- June 2008 **Trajectories of Power Relations in Post-Apartheid South Africa**  
Development Dialogue, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands.
- July 2007 **Small Business Development as a Strategy for Poverty Reduction in Alexandra, South Africa**  
The Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Berlin, Germany.

---

## OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

**2012 Politics of Identity and Ethnic/Religious Conflicts**

Carried out field research on ethno-religious conflict in Northern Nigeria

**2010 Political economy of Transformation in South Africa**

PhD thesis examines the political economy of Black Economic Empowerment, one of the key transformation programs in post-apartheid South Africa. This involved three years of rolling-on fieldwork in the provinces of Cape Town, Gauteng and Limpopo in South Africa.

**2006 Inequality**

Carried out an extensive literature review about politics of inequality with special focus on its implication in post-apartheid South Africa. The study examines the link between inequalities and social maladies.

**2004 Foreign Direct Investment**

Conducted research analyzing the impact of joint-ventures in the Nigeria oil and gas industry on downstream firms, using questionnaires, semi-structured interviews, and SPSS

**2002 Colonialism and African Development**

Undertook study based on research about the under-development of the agricultural sector in Africa using two case studies: Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

**2003 Social Exclusion and Protection**

Examined the provision of support through a development project in Nigeria by mapping and evaluating socially excluded individuals and communities.

---

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2008

**University of East Anglia, UK**

- Consultant on food politics in Zimbabwe

2001 – 2003

**Freedom Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria**

- Researcher and Newsletter editor

---

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

African Studies Association (ASA)

American Political Science Association (APSA)

International Studies Association (ISA)

Human Development & Capability Association (HDCA)

Development Studies Association (DSA)

Studies of Advancement of Social Economics (SASE)

ENMISA Distinguished Book Award committee

**Referee**

*African Studies Review, Development Policy Review, Journal of Legislative Studies, International Security, Journal of International Development, Routledge Publishing*



---

## REFERENCES

Glenn Loury  
Merton P. Stoltz Professor of the Social Sciences  
Brown University  
[Glenn\\_Loury@brown.edu](mailto:Glenn_Loury@brown.edu)

Arjan Verschoor  
Professor of Development Economics  
School of Internal Development  
University of East Anglia, UK  
[a.verschoor@uea.ac.uk](mailto:a.verschoor@uea.ac.uk)

Ashutosh Varshney  
Sol Goldman Professor of International Studies and the Social Sciences  
Director of the Brown-India Initiative  
Brown University  
[ashutosh\\_varshney@brown.edu](mailto:ashutosh_varshney@brown.edu)

Paget Henry  
Professor of Africana Studies and Sociology  
Brown University  
[paget\\_henry@brown.edu](mailto:paget_henry@brown.edu)

Richard Locke  
Provost and Professor of Political and International and Public Affairs  
Brown University  
[Richard\\_Locke@brown.edu](mailto:Richard_Locke@brown.edu)

Brian Meek  
Professor and Chair of Department of Africana Studies  
Brown University  
[brian\\_meeks@brown.edu](mailto:brian_meeks@brown.edu)