





A general view of a plenary session at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on November 17, 2018. As African leaders' troop into Addis for the 35th ordinary session of the African Union, the pan African organisation, faces a critical test that will make or break it.  
 PHOTO | MICHAEL TEWELDE | AFP

## Summary

- East Africa (7/tea/news/east-africa) Preceded by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the African Union (AU) was established in May 1963 when 32 independent African states signed up to the OAU Charter of Principles and Objectives. The AU replaced the OAU in February 2002. The AU's main objectives are to promote the economic development and social progress of Africa, to promote unity and cohesion among African states, and to promote the continent's peaceful settlement of disputes. Despite initiatives such as the 0.2 percent import levy that was meant to deliver financial independence, the organisation still depends on external funding for up to three quarters of its budget.

## Latest News

- Kenya's Jumba Ruins in Kenya face risk of collapse** (7/tea/news/kenya) - The Jumba Ruins, a pre-colonial site in Kenya, are at risk of collapse due to structural damage. The ruins are a significant archaeological site and are being protected by the Kenyan government.
- Kenya's Jumba Ruins in Kenya face risk of collapse** (7/tea/news/kenya) - The Jumba Ruins, a pre-colonial site in Kenya, are at risk of collapse due to structural damage. The ruins are a significant archaeological site and are being protected by the Kenyan government.
- Kenya's Jumba Ruins in Kenya face risk of collapse** (7/tea/news/kenya) - The Jumba Ruins, a pre-colonial site in Kenya, are at risk of collapse due to structural damage. The ruins are a significant archaeological site and are being protected by the Kenyan government.

Depending on how one might want to look at it, the African Union is either

Ok

(/tea)

NEWS (/TEA/NEWS)

BUSINESS (/TEA/BUSINESS)

OPINION (/TEA/OPINION)

SCIENCE & HEALTH (/TEA/SCIENCE-HEALTH)

MAGAZINE (/TEA/MAGAZINE)

SPORTS (/TEA/SPORTS)

REST OF AFRICA (/TEA/REST-OF-AFRICA)

KUSI IDEAS (/TEA/KUSI-IDEAS)

its 60th

anniversary in

fifteen months'

time, or

celebrating 20


years of

existence this

coming week.

Preceded by the

Organisation of

Search 

African Unity in May 1963 when 32 independent African states signed up to the OAU Charter; the Organisation of African Unity metamorphosed into the African Union in February 2002.

Among others, the main objectives of the AU and its predecessor the OAU, was to free Africa of the remaining manifestations of colonialism, and to promote unity and cohesion among African states.

Yet as African leaders' troop into the final session of the African Union, the continent faces a critical test that will make or break it. From political instability to financial uncertainty, the AU is still in the trenches. In west Africa, the AU is juggling a crisis that has seen six military takeovers of government in the past two years alone.

Despite initiatives such as the 0.2 percent import levy that was meant to deliver financial independence, the organisation

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site and to show you relevant advertising. To find out more, read our updated Privacy Policy

Ok

(https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/meta/2562-2548-36ij5f/index.html)

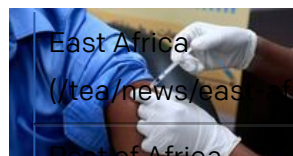
bet. That automatically negates the aspiration for independence that is often expressed in popular slogans at annual gatherings.

The present crisis is poignant because to the average African, it has more to do with the choices of the present than the legacy of a century of colonialism. In Burkina Faso and Mali, the putschists were welcomed by citizens because they presented themselves as being opposed to the lingering threads of colonialism that still make supposedly independent states hostage to colonial master France.

Coupled with the Covid-19 pandemic and economies that were already on their knees, African leaders are under pressure to rethink and renegotiate or dismantle a status quo that is becoming increasingly unacceptable to their subjects.

Search 

## Related



East Africa (/tea/news/east-africa)  
Rest of Africa (/tea/news/rest-of-africa)

NININAHAF  
What Africa



West Africa  
Kenya  
Jumba Ruins in Kenya face risk of  
Balgaha Jimi joint target in Nigeria

What Africa  
West Africa  
Kenya  
Jumba Ruins in Kenya face risk of  
Balgaha Jimi joint target in Nigeria

World (/tea/news/world)

ADVERT

World (/tea/news/world)  
ADVERT

World (/tea/news/world)  
ADVERT

If there are any lessons to learn from recent events, one is that African citizens are becoming more assertive and expect better

than empty promises from their leaders. For instance, since it

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site and to show you relevant advertising.

was adopted more than two years ago, only 32 states have signed up to the African Free Continental area AfCTA. The

(<https://www.thepastafican.co.ke/meta/2562-2548-36ij5f/index.html>)

Ok







(/tea)

Terms of use (<https://nation.africa/kenya/terms-of-use-303726>)

NEWS (/TEA/NEWS)

BUSINESS (/TEA/BUSINESS)

OPINION (/TEA/OPED)

Terms and Conditions of Use

SCIENCE & HEALTH (/TEA/SCIENCE-HEALTH)

(<https://nation.africa/kenya/terms-and-conditions>)

MAGAZINE (/TEA/MAGAZINE)

SPORTS (/TEA/SPORTS)

Our Blog Rules (<https://nation.africa/kenya/our-blog-rules-549010>)

REST OF AFRICA (/TEA/REST-OF-AFRICA)

KUSI IDEAS (/TEA/KUSI-IDEAS)

Search



## NMG Sites

E-Papers (<https://newsstand.nationmedia.com>)

Business Daily (<http://www.businessdailyafrica.com/>)

NTV (<https://ntv.nation.co.ke/>)

NTV Uganda (<http://www.ntv.co.ug/>)

Daily Monitor (<http://www.monitor.co.ug/>)

The Citizen (<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/>)

The Eastafrican (<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/>)

Nation Media Group (<http://www.nationmedia.com/>)

## Follow us



(<https://www.facebook.com/DailyNation>)



(<https://www.instagram.com/dailynation>)



(<https://twitter.com/dailynation>)



(<https://www.youtube.com/user/DNKenya>)



(<https://t.me/DailyNation>)



(</service/rss/tea/1289196/feed.rss>)

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site and to show you relevant advertising.

To find out more, read our updated Privacy Policy

(<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/meta/2562-2548-36ij5f/index.html>)

Ok