

2025 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

AMANI AFRICA

Media and Research Services

14 COUNTRY/REGION SPECIFIC SITUATIONS COVERED

OVER 5.3K SOCIAL MEDIA
NEW FOLLOWERS
AND SUBSCRIBERS

OVER 130 PUBLICATIONS

OVER 50 TECHNICAL SUPPORT OUTPUTS DELIVERED

OVER 1300 CITATIONS AND
MEDIA MENTIONS

11M WEBSITE VIEW, GOOGLE AND
SOCIAL MEDIA IMPRESSIONS

OVER 115 BRIEFINGS, CONSULTATION MEETING, ENGAGEMENT
WITH INTERNATIONAL AND CONTINENTAL POLICY ACTORS

OVER 60 POLICY FORUMS, TRAININGS AND
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
ORGANISED AND PARTICIPATED IN

29 THEMATIC ISSUES AND
PSC CONSULTATIONS
COVERED

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MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDING DIRECTOR



Dr. Solomon A. Dersso,
Founding Director

Dear friends of Amani Africa,

It is certain that the 2020s would be registered in history as the most defining decade in the unravelling of the post-1945 world order. Events in 2025 both here in Africa and the world over from the emergence of a new era of insecurity and instability and African Union's eroding influence in advancing peace and security to the collapse of development aid, the proliferation of internationalised wars fought without limits and with impunity and the replacement of principled peace-making with transactional ceasefire deals are reflections of the shifts constituting this unravelling.

While these disruptive developments are making the pursuit of multilateral diplomacy more daunting, they make it more urgent and necessary to, at least, mitigate suffering, if not to resolve the

sources of such suffering. In this context, the work of institutions like Amani Africa contributing to the pursuit of multilateral diplomacy in this age of disorder is more, not less, necessary than ever before. As we also face growing constraints amidst pressing needs, we persisted in sustaining our work, through both optimising the limited, and even shrinking, resources we have and leveraging existing and new partnerships.

In this context of disorder and constraints, we focused our efforts on making our work count through catalysing sustained multilateral engagement in the most pressing conflict situations and issues through the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) in particular but not exclusively. Even when such engagement fell short of changing the fundamentals of those situations, our work contributed to its sustenance in order to keep the plight of affected populations caught in the crossfire of conflicts on the spotlight and to push against the normalisation of violent conflicts. As the outputs and results produced during 2025 attest, the work of Amani Africa also continues to serve as repository of knowledge and institutional memory and to advance transparency and enhanced understanding of AU's policy making and Africa's role in a changing global dynamic. At the same time, it also sought to push against and chart out ways of arresting the further erosion and risk of loss of established norms and institutional legitimacy.

The increasing attention we continued to dedicate in our work to global governance is not just as response to and about addressing the challenges posed by the unravelling world order with a particular focus on Africa. It is also in pursuit of

identifying and supporting how Africa can expand the projection of its voice, including through the AU, in the thinking and working towards the transformation of the world order.

Clearly, the nature of the challenges of this era has intensified the force of the temptation to give in not just to despair but even to cynicism. Yet, these are also times for more responsibility and doubling down on the search for peace and for ending the human suffering that the unravelling occasions and contributes to. It is in this spirit that Amani Africa undertook its activities during 2025 and presents highlights of these activities in the pages that follow.

I wish to thank all of you who accompanied and supported us during 2025. May all our collective efforts open the avenues for a peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa that is a force for good in the world!

INTRODUCTION

Amani Africa is an independent Pan-African policy research, training, consulting think-do-tank dedicated to analyzing and reporting on the work, products and working dynamics of multilateral processes of concern and interest for Africa, anchored on the African Union (AU), with a particular focus on the AU's Peace and Security Council (PSC).

Amani Africa is committed to producing evidence-based policy research and analysis, developing strategic communications and media products, providing technical support to policymakers, and convening training workshops and policy dialogue forums. **Amani Africa undertakes these activities in support of the**

pan-African vision of a peaceful, prosperous, and integrated Africa by advancing evidence-based analysis and policy options directed towards the implementation of AU policies and norms, including the PSC Protocol and other relevant AU instruments, pursuant to Article 20 of the PSC Protocol and the Sirte Declaration.

How Amani Africa works

How Amani Africa's work contributes towards informed pursuit of multilateral diplomacy and policy processes is a function of both how its various work streams are organised and the method of work it had adopted.

Policy-Relevant Knowledge Production

Amani Africa conducts policy research to produce and disseminate regular, evidence-based, high-quality, and policy-relevant knowledge products. These outputs are grounded in accurate information, data, and impartial analysis of developments in peace and security, democratic governance, and regional integration, as well as the tracking of African Union (AU) policy processes, including the PSC and Africa's engagement in multilateral affairs.

Cognizant of the necessity for leveraging diverse sources of expertise and contributions in advancing the cause of multilateralism through the AU, Amani Africa deliberately expanded its knowledge production by featuring contributions from a wide range of actors. This approach has enriched our analysis and strengthened the relevance and resonance of our outputs across different stakeholders.

The production of knowledge outputs and policy analysis takes various forms, including our flagship publication, *Insights on the PSC*, which provides timely analysis on issues on the PSC agenda before the sessions took place; the *Monthly Digest on the PSC*, which analyses the PSC agenda items discussed throughout the month, *Special Research Reports* and *Policy Briefs*, these products provide a depth analysis on topics that are policy relevant and provide policy recommendations; and *Ideas Indaba*, serves as a platform for diverse voices and innovative policy thinking.

Technical support and advice

Amani Africa provides tailored technical support and advice to AU policymakers and stakeholders to strengthen their participation in decision-making processes on peace and security, democratic governance, and Africa's multilateral engagements. This includes:

- Preparing specialized technical documents and briefing materials.
- Providing analysis, background information, and data-driven insights.
- Facilitating the uptake of research findings to enhance policy implementation through direct and strategic exchanges with key policy actors.
- Provision of policy development support.
- Providing technical support and collaboration with relevant AU bodies in carrying out policy implementation activities.
- Delivering tailored briefings and

analysis

- Advise policy actors on policy options on how to advance policy action.

Convening and outreach activities

Organizing expert consultations and policy dialogue forums, usually collaboratively with our state, intergovernmental and non-state partners, on current continental affairs and global issues of concern for Africa as well as issues on the agenda of the PSC, its working methods and implementation of its mandate. This also involves the convening and provision of high-level and interactive training workshops including our signature Amani Africa Training Institute on the AU.

As part of our outreach activities, we conduct regular meetings, exchange of information and targeted engagement with policy actors, including the Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) Department and members of the PSC and a broad range of stakeholders such as international organizations, AU partners, and civil society actors to ensure that our analysis, technical support and convening respond to both pressing and strategic policy issues facing the continent.

Media and communication

Amani Africa employs diverse media and communication strategies to widely disseminate its research and analysis, contributing to informed public discourse on key African policy issues. Building on the media platforms established in previous years, Amani Africa continued to advance its podcast and video-

cast, *Amani Africa Dispatch*, which is communicated to the public through the Amani Africa YouTube channel. It also sustained *The Pan-Africanist* as a platform for in-depth discussions on policy matters, further enriching engagement with diverse policy perspectives.

Through its continued media engagements, including interviews and the publication of opinion editorials, Amani Africa seeks to shape and inform public discourse and narratives on issues within its areas of work, particularly major policy and political developments of concern for the continent.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

During the year, we deepened collaboration and engagements across all areas of our work, consistently working closely with state, intergovernmental, and non-state actors. Further solidifying our role as the leading source of policy research and analysis on matters African Union, our engagement flourished both within and beyond the continent.

As the only standing source of information and analysis on matters on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC, the regular production of our analysis directly feeds into policy thinking, deliberations and outcome of the PSC sessions, by informing both the preparation of member states of the PSC for the sessions and their engagement in negotiating policy outcomes of the sessions, thereby contributing to a more informed policy-making process.

In 2025, some of the peace and security files that Amani Africa worked on extensively in this context include the DRC, Sudan, Somalia (AUSSOM), South

Sudan, the Sahel and the countries that experienced coups during the year. Supplemented by our technical support and direct engagement with policy makers, the policy options outlined in our analyses on these situations found their way into policy decision outcomes, among others, of the PSC and contributed to shaping public discourse and sustained policy attention on many of these files.

Beyond our publications, we had an extensive engagement with different actors on specific conflict situations. On Sudan, we received H.E. Ambassador Elzein Ibrahim Hussein, Permanent Representative of Sudan to the AU and UNECA, for a discussion on Amani Africa's work, the situation in Sudan, and the AU's role. We also held exchanges with Daniel Gerard O'Malley, Head of Delegation of the ICRC in Sudan, focusing on the humanitarian situation and the importance of safeguarding humanitarian space.

On South Sudan, in addition to providing analysis in our briefing to specific PSC members and delegations as well as in our insights on the PSC and Amani Africa Dispatch, our Director briefed the United Nations Security Council on 10 November 2025. In his briefing, he told the UNSC 'South Sudan is at a very dangerous crossroad. The country shows all the signs of a clear and present danger of relapsing back to full-scale violent conflict.' The briefing stressed the imperative, urgency, and feasibility of preventive action by the Council.



Our Founding Director during the UNSC briefing and consultation on South Sudan, on 11 November 2025

Amani Africa's engagement in other policy processes, such as the Berlin Peacekeeping Ministerial, the Africa Climate Summit and the negotiation on the AU-EU summit outcome document, expanded the reach of its contributions beyond the AU's peace and security policy-making frame. It also enabled its analyses to inform policy thinking, discourse and action in these various policy processes.

Apart from attracting increasing engagement from policy makers, practitioners and researchers, our publications and expert opinions were cited in more than 500 different news articles and analyses, including *The Economist*, *Nation*, *Al Jazeera* and *The Continent* and in various research reports.

In 2025, Amani Africa significantly strengthened its lead role as convener of high-level policy dialogue, organizing eighteen (18) policy forums in partnership with a wide range of actors, including AU and UN organs, member states, and non-state stakeholders. These forums served as critical platforms for advancing informed, inclusive, and policy-relevant discussions on peace and security, multilateral cooperation, and global governance.

A defining feature of these engagements was Amani Africa's ability to bridge continental and global policy spaces,

fostering dialogue between African actors and international policy actors. This was particularly evident in the *Geneva Peace Week Meets Addis Ababa* forum, convened in partnership with the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The forum brought together over 800 participants from across Africa and global peacebuilding communities, facilitating exchange on pressing peace and security challenges while strengthening linkages between Addis Ababa and Geneva as key multilateral hubs.

Another major highlight was the high-level conference on '*Africa's rising influence: Advancing agency in foreign policy and global governance*,' co-hosted with Chatham House and UNDP in Addis Ababa. The event convened over 700 participants from diplomatic, multilateral, research, civil society, and media communities, and explored Africa's evolving role in a changing global order, including its engagement with multilateral institutions, peacebuilding, and global economic governance.

Across these and other convenings throughout the year, Amani Africa not only facilitated dialogue but also contributed to shaping policy conversations by bringing together diverse stakeholders, promoting African agency in global governance, and strengthening collaboration across institutional and geographic boundaries.

Another element of our work worthy of highlighting is the further consolidation of Amani Africa's expanding profile as a platform for profiling and workshopping expert policy debate and analysis by intentionally opening its publication space to voices beyond its in-house

analysts. Its *Ideas Indaba* has in particular become a major platform attracting contributions from a wide range of external experts, practitioners, and policymakers on current policy issues, thereby enabling diversity of perspectives, enriching policy debates, and fostering a more inclusive ecosystem of knowledge production on multilateral policy issues of concern and interest for Africa.

Beyond conflict-focused analysis, *Ideas Indaba* featured forward-looking debates on continental governance and institutional reform. Contributions explored the review and future of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the implications of and the broader question of Africa's agency in a shifting global order. In this regard, several pieces critically assessed Africa's positioning within an increasingly multipolar international system. Authors also examined issues of democratic governance, citizen engagement, and the role of youth in shaping progressive politics, while also reflecting on transitional justice experiences and lessons for strengthening partnerships between continental and global peacebuilding architectures, as well as health governance in Africa, financing of the African Union, and debates on development financing and economic sovereignty.

Amani Africa's work in 2025 on **wider AU institutional developments** also featured strong and sustained engagement on the election processes for the AUC leadership and membership of the PSC, positioning the organization as a key source of timely, accessible, and policy-relevant analysis during these critical institutional moments. Through a combination of *Policy Briefs*, *Ideas Indaba* feature

articles, *Amani Africa Dispatch* video explainers, *Fact Sheets*, *Podcasts*, and active social media engagement, Amani Africa provided comprehensive coverage of the electoral processes, ranging from procedural guidance and institutional rules to political dynamics and possible scenarios. Its outputs unpack the sequence, conduct, and evolving dynamics of the elections, providing policy makers with relevant data and analysis for making informed decisions during the elections.

By leveraging multiple platforms, including highly accessible multimedia content and real-time updates via social media, Amani Africa ensured that a wide audience of policymakers, practitioners, and the public could engage with and better understand these complex processes through formats that allow ease of access to the tests of different individuals.

Further solidifying its international profile in policy research and thinking, Amani Africa as a co-founder, alongside the Global Governance Institute (GGI) and the Berlin Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), of the Global Alliance for Peace Operations (GAPO), contributed to building a global platform that brings together over 60 institutions and more than 100 experts to advance innovative thinking on adapting peace operations to evolving global realities.



Through this platform, Amani Africa co-coordinated the development of a substantial body of policy outputs, including a compendium of policy papers and issue briefs that informed deliberations at the 2025 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial held in Berlin in May. Its role additionally involved co-convening the GAPO Symposium in Berlin, co-hosting the only exhibition stand, and delivering a presentation at the high-level panel convened as part of the ministerial.

On thematic issues, 2025 was significant in Amani Africa's work on climate change, which was critical to advancing a coherent African voice across different policy processes. Informed by its recognition of the strategic significance of the global climate change policy-making for Africa, as a part of the world that least contributed to climate change but is most affected by the impacts of climate change, Amani Africa's work focused both on overcoming fragmentation in the African Union's engagement across different areas and charting a coherent African voice on climate change policy-making.



Our Founding Director during the 1301st PSC session on Climate, Peace and Security, held on 17 September 2025

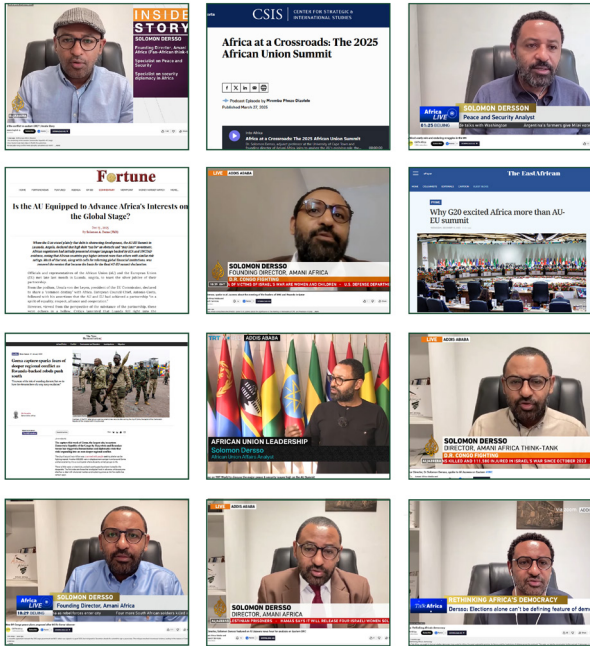
It is based on a thesis that the climate, peace and security agenda needs to be anchored in and is addressed as part of the broader climate change policy process, with its emphasis on

justice and development, rather than in isolation from and outside of it. Its work anchored on this thesis featured in and informed key policy spaces, including regional and continental convenings, such as the Africa Climate Summit, and informed the position of AU member states in the negotiation on the AU-EU summit outcome document, for example, as it relates to Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), and in the briefing we delivered to the PSC's session on climate, peace and security nexus, held on 17 September 2025.

Affirming the increasing significance of our work, the 2025 edition of Amani Africa Training Institute on the African Union, **which attracted over seven hundred (700) applicants**, was convened with the participation of heads and deputy heads of diplomatic missions.

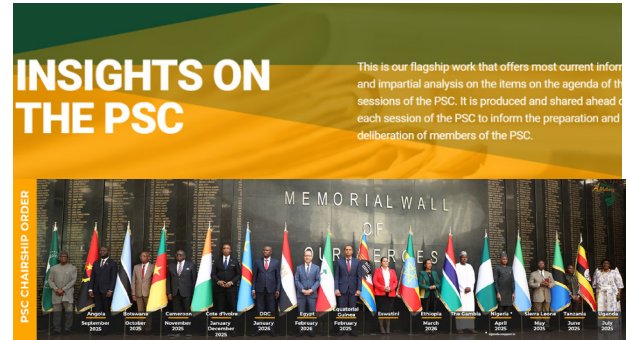
In 2025, Amani Africa's presence in the media was prominently marked by engagements of our Director, who mainly provided expert analysis on the conflict situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Across multiple televised interviews, he unpacked the drivers of instability, the humanitarian toll, and the implications for regional peace and security. These interventions underscored Amani Africa's role as a trusted voice in shaping public understanding of the DRC crisis and advancing informed policy dialogue on Africa's peace and security landscape.

AMANI AFRICA IN THE NEWS



mainly through direct engagement with key policy actors has further strengthened the impact of our work.

Insights on the Peace and Security Council

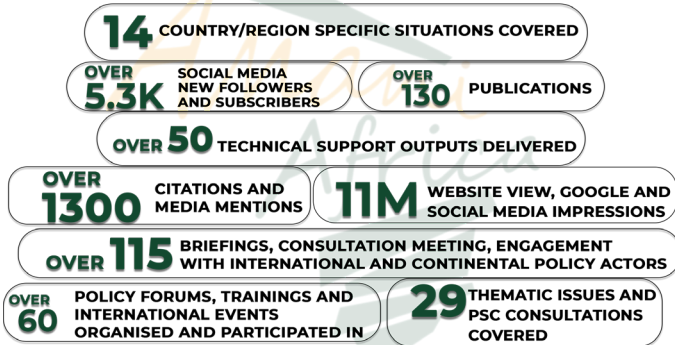


Drawn on the basis of the tracking of peace and security and governance developments on the continent, the publication of our flagship project 'Insights on the Peace and Security Council' continues to provide much-needed and widely read analysis on the various thematic and country/region-specific issues on the agenda of the PSC.

During the year, we produced eighty-four (84) editions of 'Insights on the PSC' on all issues featured on the agenda of the PSC, including its monthly provisional program of work. As illustrated by the increase in number of clicks and readership and by how our analyses inform policy thinking and how policy propositions found their way into policy decisions, the contribution and impact of 'Insights on the PSC' has grown substantially during the year.

Published a day ahead of the PSC sessions, our *Insights on the PSC* continue to serve the purpose of informing the PSC members' preparations and enhancing deliberations on the agenda items. In 2025, these analyses proved particularly valuable to Council members and the broader policy community, providing up-to-date information and relevant insights

AMANI AFRICA IN 2025



I. IMPACTFUL AND HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH WORKS

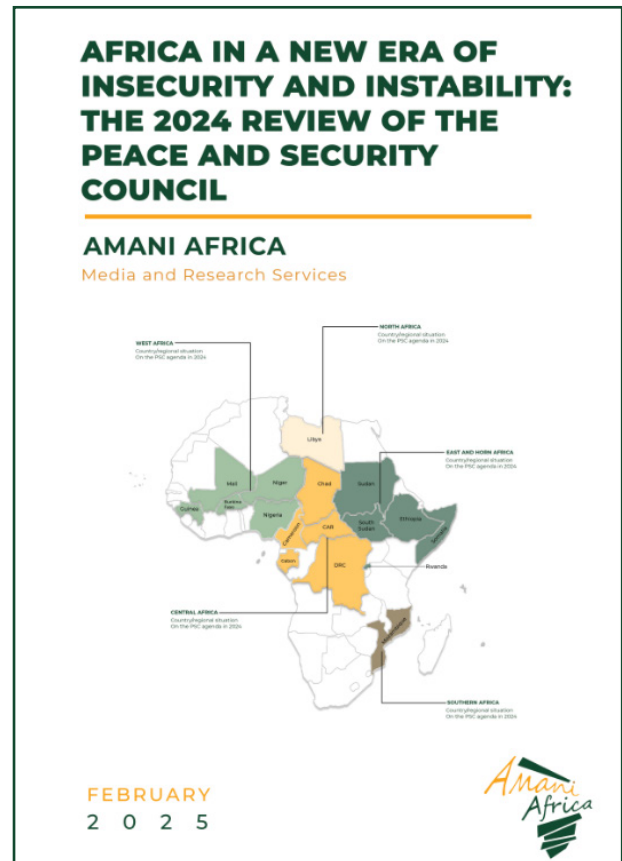
Building on the momentum of previous years, our team successfully expanded Amani Africa's research output and publications. In addition to increasing the frequency and volume of the production of our research, in 2025, we continued to broaden the thematic scope covered. The strategic dissemination of our research,

into key issues on the agenda of the PSC for policy action. Beyond enriching policy discourse within the PSC, the analysis presented in *Insights on the PSC* frequently found their way into the outcomes of AU policy decisions.

Special Research Reports and Policy Briefs

In 2025, we produced five (5) Special Research Reports and eight (8) Policy Briefs. In aiming to grow the readership of Amani Africa products, we have enhanced the use of our social media platforms by visualizing the most important findings of our publications and by also using the findings in our research in the development of Amani Africa Dispatch.

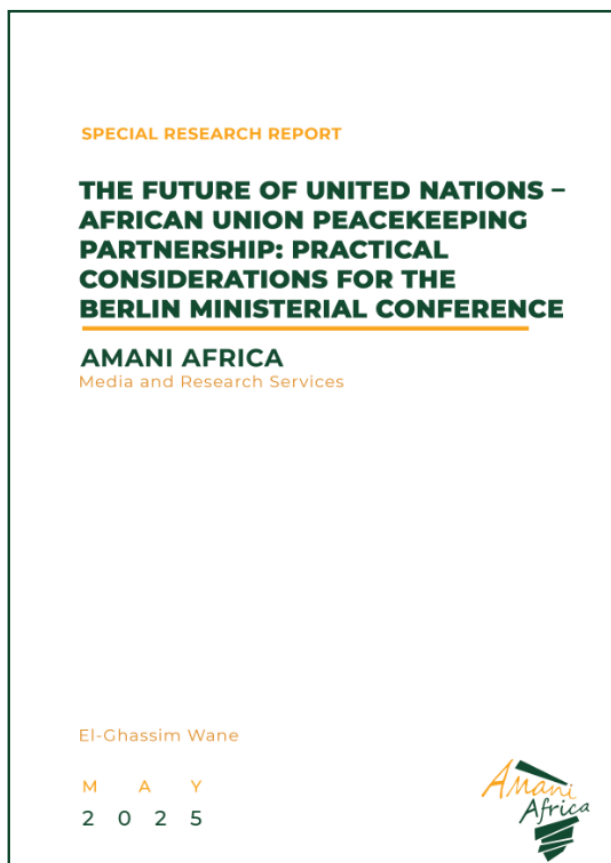
Our first Special Research Report publication, titled [‘Africa in a New Era of Insecurity and Instability: The 2024 Review of the Peace and Security Council,’](#) provides a comprehensive assessment of the AU Peace and Security Council’s performance against the backdrop of an increasingly complex and deteriorating security environment. The report highlights the growing scale and interconnected nature of conflicts across the continent, including the expansion of terrorism, resurgence of political instability, deepening humanitarian crises, and the growing influence of global geopolitical competition on Africa’s peace and security dynamics. It situates these trends within a broader shift toward a more volatile and fragmented continental and global order.



The analysis and recommendations presented in this Special Research Report garnered significant interest, and the publication was visited by more than a thousand readers. While acknowledging the PSC’s sustained engagement and active convening throughout the year, the report identifies key challenges, including its continued reactive posture, limited effectiveness in conflict prevention, and persistent gaps between its decisions and tangible outcomes on the ground. It further underscores issues related to the balance of its agenda and the need for greater strategic coherence in its interventions. The report ultimately calls for a reorientation of the PSC towards more proactive, preventive, and context-driven approaches to better respond to the evolving and increasingly complex peace and security landscape in Africa.

The second Special Research Report, published in May titled [‘The Future of United Nations–African Union](#)

[Peacekeeping Partnership: Practical Considerations for the Berlin Ministerial Conference](#) was framed around the 8th UN Peacekeeping Ministerial Conference, held in Berlin in May 2025 under the theme ‘*The Future of Peacekeeping.*’ As part of a broader process initiated in 2015 to strengthen support for UN peacekeeping, the Ministerial brings together high-level representatives from UN member states and international organizations to reflect on the evolving role of peace operations. Building on a recent independent study on the future of peacekeeping, the Berlin discussions were particularly significant for Africa, which remains at the center of both the challenges and innovations of peace operations, hosting the majority of UN missions.

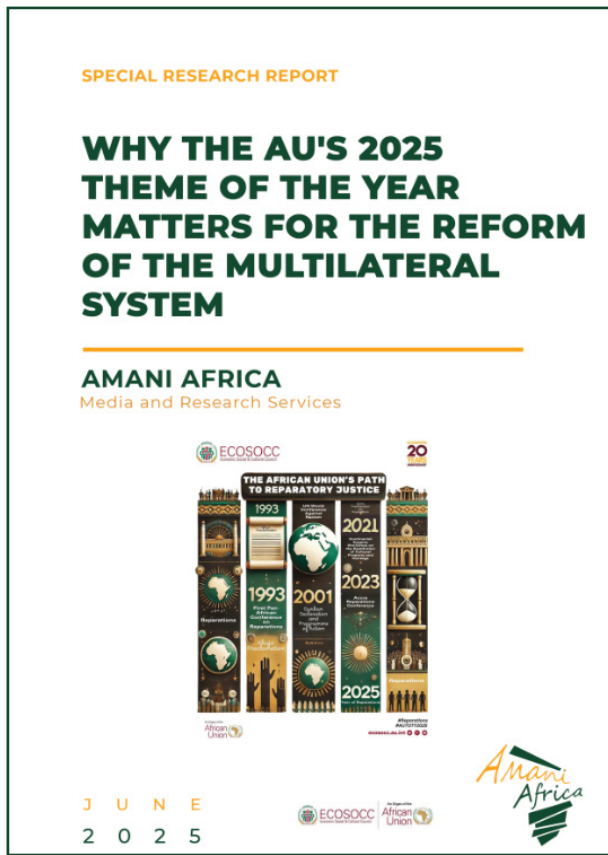


Against this backdrop, the report outlines Africa’s key messages to the Ministerial, drawing on the continent’s extensive experience and emphasizing the importance of strengthening

complementarity between the United Nations and the African Union. It situates the future of peacekeeping within the wider context of a changing multilateral system and highlights practical steps for enhancing the UN–AU partnership. The report ultimately underscores the continued relevance of peacekeeping in addressing contemporary security challenges, while stressing the need for adaptation to ensure effectiveness, and reaffirming its importance as a critical multilateral platform through which Africa can advance its priorities and interests on the global stage.

In June, we published the Special Research Report, titled ‘[Why the AU’s 2025 Theme of the Year Matters for the Reform of the Multilateral System.](#)’ in partnership with the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the AU. The report examines the significance of the African Union’s 2025 theme, focused on justice and reparations for Africans and people of African descent, as a strategic entry point for advancing reform of the global multilateral system. It situates the theme within the historical legacy of slavery, colonialism, and systemic racial injustice, arguing that these forces have fundamentally shaped current global inequalities and Africa’s marginal position in international economic and political structures. The report underscores that addressing these historical injustices is not only a moral imperative but also essential for bridging the gap between global commitments on human rights and development and the realities of international financial, trade, and governance systems. Building on this foundation, the report highlights how the AU theme provides a timely framework for articulating Africa’s demands for structural transformation of the multilateral system, including more

equitable representation, fairer economic arrangements, and reform of global decision-making institutions.



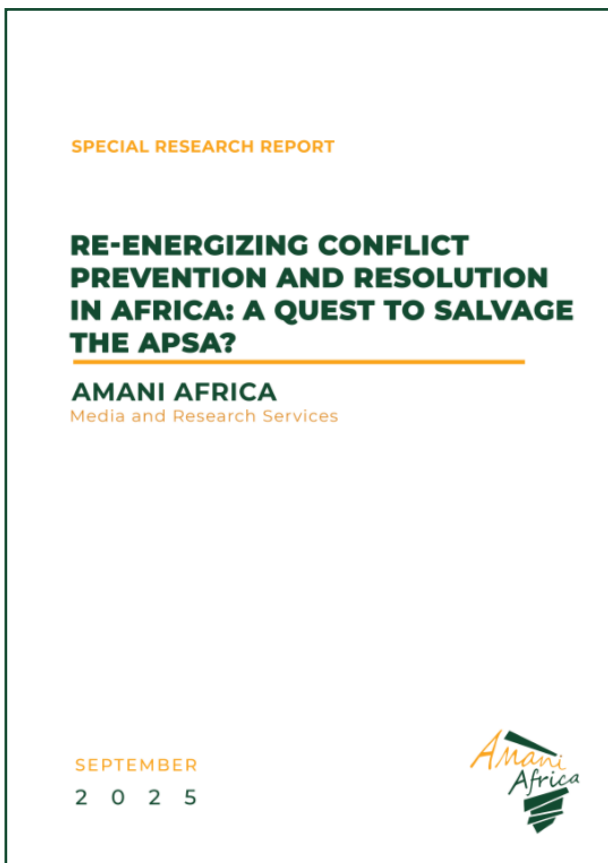
In 2025, Amani Africa also contributed to advancing the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda through its partnership with the African Union Commission and the Embassy of Switzerland in facilitating structured dialogues with African youth on the implementation of the New Agenda for Peace. Building on continental and global frameworks, including the AU's Youth for Peace (Y4P) initiative and relevant UN Security Council resolutions recognizing the role of youth in peacebuilding, the initiative sought to strengthen the meaningful participation of young people in peace and security processes. As part of this initiative, in 2024, a series of regional consultations was convened across Central, East, North, South, and West Africa, followed by a continental dialogue that brought together diverse youth perspectives.



These engagements provided a platform for young peacebuilders to share insights on emerging peace and security challenges and to articulate practical, youth-informed recommendations. The [outcomes](#) of the consultations, which were published in July 2025 were consolidated to inform policy discussions at both continental and global levels, including contributions to deliberations of the PSC and the United Nations Security Council. Through this process, Amani Africa played a key role in amplifying youth voices and ensuring their perspectives are integrated into ongoing efforts to shape a more inclusive and effective global peace and security agenda.

The last Special Research Report for the year, titled [‘Re-energising Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa: a Quest to Salvage the APSA?’](#) examines the urgent need to revitalize the African Union’s role in conflict prevention and resolution against the backdrop of a

worsening peace and security landscape across the continent. It highlights the increasing number, spread, and complexity of conflicts, alongside the limited effectiveness of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) in responding to these challenges, as evidenced by the growing reliance on external actors in key crises. Situating the discussion within ongoing AU reform efforts and the APSA review process, the report identifies structural and strategic factors undermining the AU’s agency and effectiveness. It ultimately aims to inform the AU Peace and Security Council’s summit-level deliberations by offering recommendations to reposition the AU as a more proactive, credible, and influential actor in conflict prevention and resolution.



In relation to Policy Briefs, in 2025, half of our Policy briefs were dedicated to the analysis of the Elections of the AU Commission Leadership and members of the PSC. The series of Amani Africa policy briefs on the 2025 elections of the AUC

leadership and PSC members provides a comprehensive and layered analysis of both the procedural and political dimensions of these critical institutional processes.



Our publications on the AU Commission elections unpack the sequence, rules, and evolving dynamics shaping the leadership contest, highlighting how geopolitical considerations, regional alignments, and strategic bargaining among member states influence outcomes. They emphasize the significance of these elections in shaping the AU’s policy direction, institutional effectiveness, and credibility, particularly within a shifting global context where leadership choices carry implications for Africa’s agency in multilateral affairs.

Similarly, the briefs on the PSC elections offer detailed configurations and voting dynamics across regions, illustrating both predictable patterns, such as clean slate candidacies, and highly competitive races, particularly in regions with multiple

contenders. They further assess the conduct and outcomes of the elections, pointing to how voting results reflect broader political trends, including shifts in influence among member states and the impact of ongoing conflicts on diplomatic standing. Taken together, these publications not only clarify the technical aspects of AU elections but also provide critical analysis of their broader implications for the functioning, legitimacy, and strategic direction of the AU's peace and security and governance institutions.

Besides the policy briefs on elections of the AUC Leadership and PSC members, in April 2025 we released a policy brief, titled [‘75th Anniversary of the Geneva Conventions: Preserving Our Common Humanity in a Time of Major Crises of Compliance’](#).

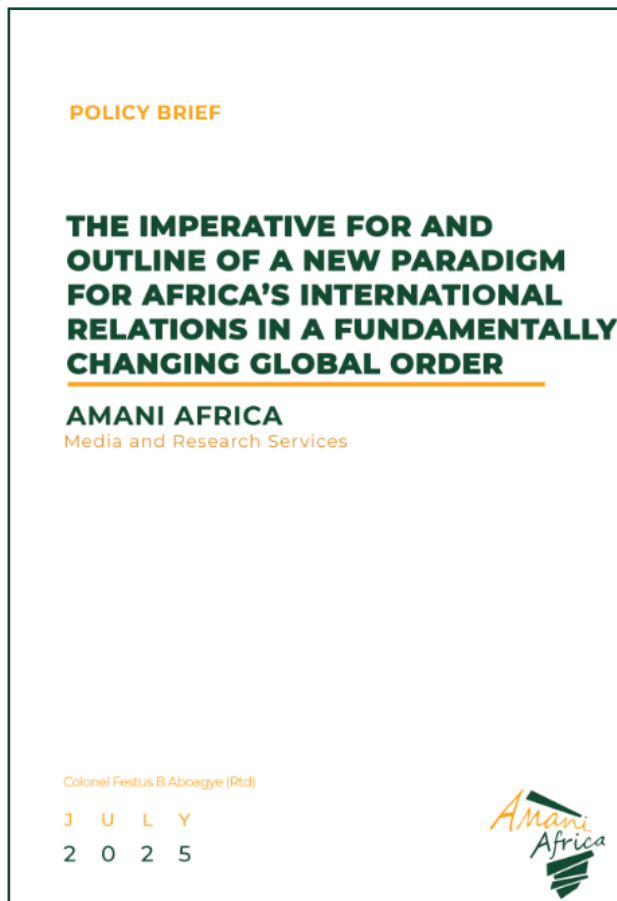


This policy brief reflects on the 75th anniversary of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, situating the milestone within a context of growing challenges to international humanitarian law (IHL) and weakening adherence to global norms. Drawing on insights from a high-level commemorative event convened by the ICRC Delegation to the African Union and the Swiss Mission in Addis Ababa, the publication underscores the continued relevance of the Geneva Conventions in safeguarding humanity amid evolving conflict dynamics. It examines both the enduring contributions of IHL to legal and policy frameworks and the emerging challenges undermining its effectiveness, while highlighting lessons from practice and the critical role of states and other stakeholders in reinforcing compliance.



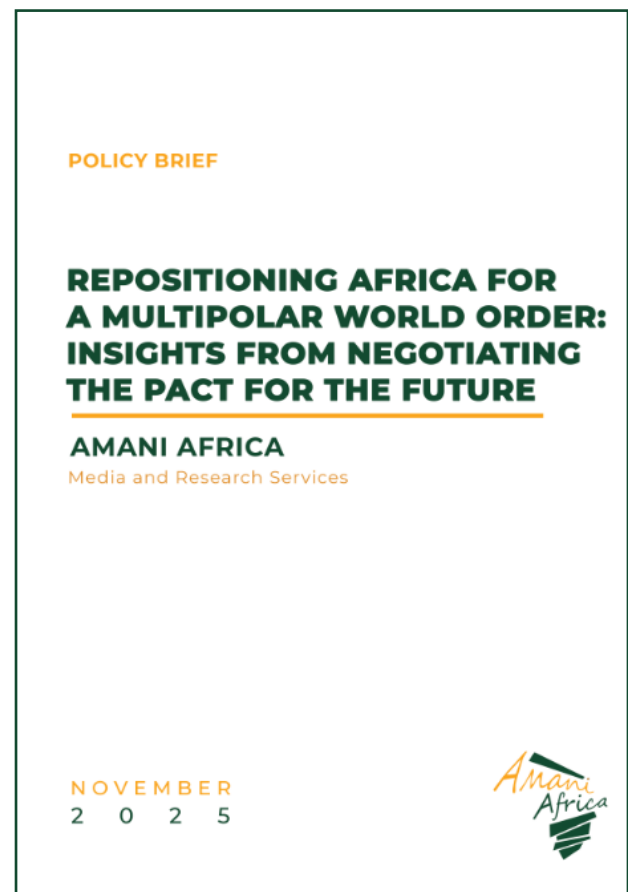
Our policy brief titled [‘Africa and the African Union in Shaping the Future of Peacekeeping and the Berlin Ministerial’](#) examines the evolving challenges confronting peacekeeping in a context

marked by shifting geopolitical dynamics, complex security threats, and declining global consensus around peace operations. Drawing on insights from a policy dialogue convened by Amani Africa to inform African engagement in the 2025 UN Peacekeeping Ministerial in Berlin, the publication highlights Africa's dual role as both a primary host of peacekeeping missions and an increasingly influential actor in shaping their future. It analyzes the limitations of current peacekeeping models, assesses emerging proposals for reform, and outlines the requirements for a new generation of peace operations that are more adaptive, context-driven, and politically grounded.



Our policy brief published in July 2025 titled [*'The Imperative for and Outline of a New Paradigm for Africa's International Relations in a Fundamentally Changing Global Order'*](#) examines the urgent need for Africa to reposition itself within a rapidly shifting global landscape marked

by multipolarity, intensifying major power rivalries, and the weakening of multilateral institutions. It highlights the risks of Africa once again becoming a passive arena of external competition, as illustrated by developments in the Sahel and Horn of Africa, and underscores the importance of collective continental agency. The publication outlines the requirements for a new paradigm that leverages Africa's growing global significance, including the AU's membership in the G20, to safeguard its interests, assert its sovereignty, and ensure that Africa plays a proactive role in shaping a fairer and more balanced international order.



The last Policy brief we published in 2025 was titled [*'Repositioning Africa for a Multipolar Global Order: Insights from Negotiating the Pact for the Future'*](#) examines Africa's growing role in shaping global governance during a historic transition toward multipolarity. It highlights Africa's leadership in the

UN negotiations on the Pact for the Future, including its influence through Namibia, Zambia, and Uganda's chairship of the G77, and underscores both the opportunities and shortcomings of the Pact in addressing Africa's developmental and governance priorities. The publication ultimately calls for a deliberate and systematic repositioning of Africa to ensure its agency, protect its interests, and advance reforms in the multilateral system.

Monthly Digest



Whereas our *Insights on the PSC* provide anticipatory analysis ahead of the convening of PSC sessions, the Monthly Digest on the PSC is produced following the finalisation of the PSC's monthly programme, both to document the activities of the PSC that took place during that month and discuss the policy relevance and implications of the PSC's activities. In addition to strengthening the PSC's institutional memory, the monthly digests provide updates and critical reflections on session outcomes, their backgrounds, and the Council's broader monthly engagements. They also serve as a key tool for following-up implementation of previous PSC decisions as well as identifying key actionable decisions that warrant close follow-up for upcoming months.

II. TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND ACCOMPANIMENT, AS WELL AS STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENTS

As per its established practice and in implementation of one of the core areas of its work, Amani Africa continued to accompany PSC member states and other key stakeholders through the provision of technical support, delivering briefings and providing analytical inputs through concept notes, background documents, speaking notes and advice. During the year, we provided over 50 background documents, briefings, inputs for speaking notes and concept notes.

Monthly consultations with and briefings to PSC Chairs

The monthly meetings that Amani Africa holds with the rotating chairpersons of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) remain one of the principal channels through which it delivers tailored technical and policy support to the work of the Council. In 2025, as in previous years, Amani Africa sustained this practice through regular engagements with PSC Chairpersons. These consultations went beyond routine exchanges on the programme of work to include in-depth discussions on emerging crises, thematic priorities, and areas requiring follow-up action. They also served as an avenue for advancing policy-relevant analysis, supporting agenda-setting, and accompanying Chairpersons in navigating complex and time-sensitive peace and security dynamics across the continent.

Ahead of the start of the year, on 19 December 2024, Amani Africa welcomed Ambassador Ennio Maes, Permanent

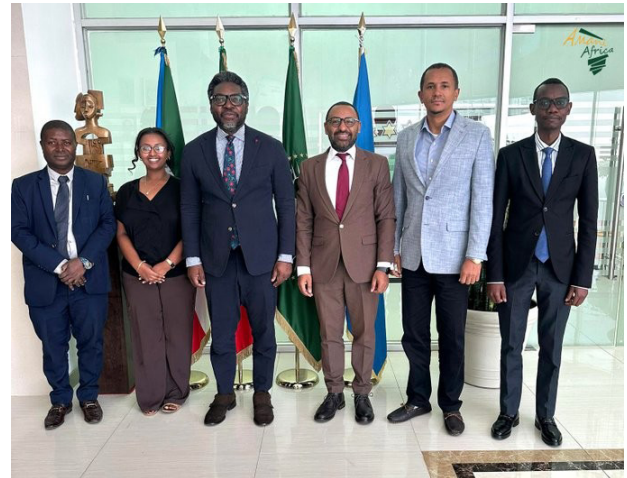
Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the AU and PSC Chairperson for January 2025. This early engagement provided an opportunity to take stock of the priorities likely to shape the Council's work at the outset of the month. Discussions focused on the provisional programme of work, with particular attention to sequencing of agenda items and opportunities for ensuring timely consideration of pressing peace and security situations. The meeting also explored practical avenues for collaboration, including the preparation of background notes and targeted briefings to support the Chairperson in steering the Council's deliberations effectively.



Meeting with Ambassador Ennio Maes, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the AU, PSC Chair for January 2025

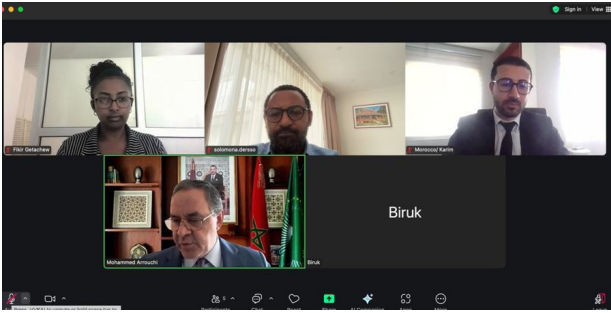
On 24 January 2025, a team from Amani Africa was received by Ambassador Ntutum Evuna, Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea to the AU and PSC Chairperson for February 2025. The exchanges were both forward-looking, focusing on how best to align the month's programme of work with evolving developments on the ground. Particular attention was given to identifying priority files and ensuring coherence between thematic discussions and country-specific situations. The meeting also established a shared understanding on areas where Amani Africa's analytical support could add value, setting the tone for close coordination throughout

the month. In line with this agreement, our team provided technical support in developing background documents.



Meeting with the team of the Equatorial Guinea mission to the AU, PSC Chair for February 2025

On 11 March 2025, our team held rich and wide-ranging consultations with Ambassador Mohammed Arrouchi, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the AU and PSC Chairperson for March. Discussions extended beyond a review of the programme of work to include substantive exchanges on developments in South Sudan and Sudan, including the Council's response and the adoption of relevant outcomes. The engagement also offered space to reflect on activities already undertaken during the month and to identify areas where further analytical input could support ongoing deliberations. Building on the engagement established during the meeting, in support of Morocco's Chairship, Amani Africa provided technical assistance by developing a background document and delivering communications support for the induction and orientation of Peace and Security Council members held from 24 to 28 March in Arusha, Tanzania.



Meeting with Ambassador Mohammed Arrouchi, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the AU, PSC Chair for March 2025

On 6 May 2025, we met with Ambassador Harold Bundu Saffa, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the AU and PSC Chairperson for May 2025. The meeting combined a review of the provisional programme of work with a broader exchange on expectations for the month. Discussions explored how the Chairperson could leverage the Council's agenda to address both immediate conflict situations and longer-term policy questions. The engagement also focused on identifying specific agenda items for which Amani Africa could prepare analytical materials and briefing notes, ensuring that deliberations are supported by timely and evidence-based inputs.



Meeting with Ambassador Harold Bundu Saffa, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the AU, PSC Chair for May 2025

On 3 June 2025, we held a meeting with Ambassador Innocent Shiyo, Permanent Representative of Tanzania to the AU and PSC Chairperson for June 2025. The exchanges were marked by substantive discussions on a range of conflict situations and the African Union's responses to them. Beyond reviewing the programme of work, the meeting provided an opportunity to reflect on the effectiveness of ongoing interventions and the role of the PSC in shaping strategic responses.



Meeting with Ambassador Innocent Shiyo, Permanent Representative of Tanzania to the AU, PSC Chair for June 2025

On 25 June 2025, our tea met with Ambassador Rebecca Amuge Otengo, Permanent Representative of Uganda to the AU and PSC Chairperson for July 2025. The discussions were particularly rich in thematic scope, reflecting Uganda's strong interest in advancing specific policy priorities. In addition to reviewing the programme of work, the meeting delved into key issues such as the humanitarian situation across Africa, developments in Somalia/AUSSOM, and the plight of children affected by armed conflict. The latter aligned closely with Uganda's co-chairship of the African Platform on Children Affected by Armed Conflict, and the exchanges explored how the PSC could further elevate this agenda

within its deliberations.



Meeting the team of Uganda Mission to the AU, PSC Chair for July 2025

We hosted a delegation led by Ambassador Mohammed Khalid, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the AU, on 23 June 2025. This engagement took a broader perspective, reflecting on Algeria's role within the PSC and opportunities for deepening collaboration. Discussions explored ways of building on existing cooperation, including through sustained analytical engagement and knowledge-sharing. The meeting contributed to strengthening the institutional relationship and ensuring readiness in supporting Algeria's Chairship. Later, in August 2025, during Algeria's Chairship of the PSC, our team provided technical support.



Meeting with the team of Algeria Mission to the AU, PSC Chair for August 2025

On 2 September 2025, Amani Africa met with Ambassador Miguel Bembe, Permanent Representative of Angola to the AU and PSC Chairperson for September 2025. The discussions were both wide-ranging, reflecting Angola's concurrent leadership role within the African Union. The meeting addressed several key issues on the Council's agenda, including Africa Amnesty Month 2025, the climate change–peace and security nexus, developments in the Central African Republic and the Sahel, and preparations for engagements during the UN General Assembly. The exchanges highlighted the interconnected nature of these issues and the importance of coherent policy responses. During the month, upon the invitation of Angola and in line with Amani's commitment to provide technical support, our Director briefed the Council during a session held on 17 September 2025 on 'Climate, Peace and Security in Africa'.



Meeting with the team of Angola Mission to the AU, PSC Chair for September 2025

On 25 September 2025, Amani Africa held consultations with Ambassador Tebelelo Boang, Permanent Representative of Botswana to the AU and PSC Chairperson for October 2025. The meeting reviewed the programme of work for the month and explored avenues for close collaboration in supporting the implementation of the Council's agenda.



Meeting with Ambassador Tebelelo Boang, Permanent Representative of Botswana to the AU, PSC Chair for October 2025

On 10 October 2025, Amani Africa received a delegation led by Ambassador Churchill Ewumbue-Monono, Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the AU and PSC Chairperson for November 2025. The discussions were notably action-oriented, focusing not only on the programme of work but also on concrete initiatives for collaboration. This engagement culminated in the co-organization of a policy forum titled *'Dialogue on the State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Opportunities for a Closer Relationship between the African Union and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture,'* convened in partnership with Cameroon and the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU). The forum brought together a diverse group of policymakers, practitioners, and experts to reflect on evolving peacebuilding priorities and to generate actionable recommendations for strengthening AU–UN cooperation.



Meeting with the team of Cameroon Mission to the AU, PSC Chair for November 2025

On 30 November 2025, Amani Africa met once again with Ambassador Ennio Maes, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the AU and PSC Chairperson for December 2025. Building on earlier engagements, this meeting focused on the provisional programme of work for the final month of the year. Discussions covered a range of pressing issues, including AUSSOM, developments in Sudan, and the situation in countries undergoing political transitions. The exchanges also revisited modalities for collaboration, ensuring that the Chairperson is supported through timely analytical inputs and briefings as the PSC concludes its annual cycle of work.



Meeting with Ambassador Ennio Maes, Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the AU, PSC Chair for December 2025

Besides our engagement with the PSC Chairperson, following Ethiopia's election to be a member of the PSC, we had the pleasure of holding a productive exchange with the team of the Ethiopian Mission to the AU, headed by Ambassador Hirut Zemene, during a working session we organised on how the [PSC](#) works and the major files on its agenda. Looking forward to greater collaborations.



Following the working session with the team of Ethiopian mission to the AU

Collaborations with the AU PAPS and PSC Secretariat

During the year, Amani Africa further deepened its collaboration with the African Union Commission's Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (AUC PAPS) through high-level policy engagement, knowledge production, and strategic communication initiatives. These efforts reinforced Amani Africa's role as a trusted partner in advancing the AU's peace and security agenda.

As part of its contribution to continental policy dialogue, Amani Africa actively participated in key AU-led platforms. Notably, our Executive Director, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso, contributed to the 2nd Dialogue-Seminar on Elections and Democracy in Africa, jointly organised

by AUC PAPS and the Policy Center for the New South on 22 April 2025 in Rabat, Morocco. The seminar, held under the theme '*Inclusive Governance: Amplifying Women's Leadership in African Electoral and Democratic Processes*,' provided an important forum for advancing discussions on democratic governance and women's political participation across the continent.

In addition to policy engagement, Amani Africa leveraged its communication platforms to amplify critical perspectives on Africa's peace and security landscape. Through the first 2025 edition of its podcast, *The Pan-Africanist*, Amani Africa hosted H.E. Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for AUC PAPS. The discussion offered in-depth insights into the state of peace and security in Africa, the African Union's evolving role in addressing challenges such as violent extremism and democratic backsliding, and the broader geopolitical dynamics shaping the continent. The episode also provided a platform for reflecting on the Commissioner's vision and priorities in the context of AU leadership processes, thereby contributing to informed public discourse on continental governance and security.

Amani Africa's collaboration with AUC PAPS was further strengthened through joint knowledge production initiatives that started in August 2024. In partnership with AUC PAPS and the Swiss Embassy in Addis Ababa, Amani Africa served as a technical partner in the development of the landmark publication, '*African Youth Perspectives on the New Agenda for Peace (NA4P)*.' This report represents the most comprehensive regional articulation of African youth perspectives on the New Agenda for Peace, drawing on extensive consultations led by the AU Youth

Ambassadors for Peace (AU AYAPs). These consultations, conducted across the five regions of Africa and culminating in a three-day continental dialogue in Lusaka, Zambia, provided a platform for young people to shape the discourse on peace and security.

Through its analytical, facilitation, and convening support, Amani Africa played a key role in ensuring that the voices and priorities of African youth were effectively captured and reflected in the report. The publication that was published in July 2025 now serves as a reference on youth perspectives, contributing to both continental and global discussions on advancing peace and security and positioning African youth as central actors in shaping the New Agenda for Peace

Briefing to the PSC

During the year, Amani Africa continued to provide strategic policy input to the PSC through evidence-based briefings on emerging and cross-cutting issues. On 17 September, Amani Africa briefed the PSC at its 1301st session on the climate, peace and security nexus, contributing to ongoing continental efforts to better integrate climate considerations into peace and security frameworks.

The briefing underscored the urgency of adopting a comprehensive and justice-centered approach to climate security. It emphasized the need to embed climate-related risks within broader development and justice agendas, highlighting that effective responses must address structural vulnerabilities and inequalities. Amani Africa also called for a reframing of human mobility, often treated solely as a crisis, as a critical tool for resilience and adaptation in the face of climate impacts.

Furthermore, the briefing stressed the importance of integrating climate considerations into early warning systems, data frameworks, and the African Union's preventive diplomacy efforts, in order to enable more anticipatory and coordinated responses.

In his presentation to the PSC, Amani Africa's Director, Dr. Solomon A. Dersso, urged stronger and more coherent action on the climate–peace–security nexus. He highlighted that *'climate change is the most pressing existential threat facing humanity, demanding justice-centered and integrated policy action across Africa.'* He further emphasized the centrality of climate justice and sustainable development, the role of mobility as a resilience and adaptation strategy, and the need for predictive early warning systems that incorporate climate–conflict data.

The briefing also outlined key strategic messages to inform and shape Africa's common position in major upcoming global policy processes, including COP30, the AU–EU Summit, and the G20 Summit, thereby reinforcing the linkage between continental priorities and global climate governance discussions.

III. AMANI AFRICA SHAPING CONTINENTAL AND GLOBAL POLICY THINKING AND DISCOURSE THROUGH BRIEFINGS, TECHNICAL COLLABORATION & EXCHANGES

In 2025, Amani Africa featured in **key policy discussions and high-level**

engagements on peace and security across Africa and beyond. Through active participation in **regional, continental, and international meetings**, Amani Africa has contributed to shaping critical policy dialogues, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and advancing informed solutions to pressing peace and security challenges. From **AU platforms and regional consultations to UN forums and global policy discussions**, Amani Africa successfully utilized its research works for advancing informed perspectives on various policy issues of continental and global concern.

On 19 February 2025, our Executive Director, held a meeting with EU delegations to the AU. The discussion focused on the outcomes and assessment of the 38th AU Summit, the priorities and agenda under the new AUC leadership, and key challenges affecting Africa's peace and security. Insights were shared on the AU's institutional framework, regional integration efforts, and the prospects for strengthening the AU-EU partnership, providing a platform for constructive dialogue on the continent's governance and security trajectory.



During the meeting between the EU delegations to the AU and Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso, held on 19 February 2025

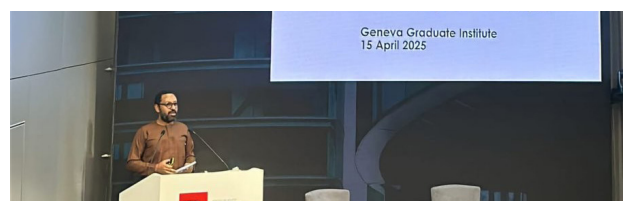
On 24–25 March 2025, Amani Africa participated in the Induction Programme for newly elected members of the PSC. The programme served as a critical platform for ensuring the continuity and effectiveness of the Council's work as incoming members prepared to

assume their responsibilities on 1 April. It facilitated in-depth discussions on the role of the PSC and key aspects of its mandate, supporting new members in navigating the Council's functions and strengthening their readiness to address evolving peace and security challenges on the continent.



During the Induction Programme for newly elected members of the PSC, held on 24 -25 March 2025

On 15 April, as part of a mission aimed at exploring how to operationalize networked multilateralism through the Geneva–Addis Ababa nexus, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso, Executive Director, undertook a series of engagements in Geneva and Bern, Switzerland. Among these, he delivered a lecture at the Geneva Graduate Institute on *'Africa and the Reform of the Multilateral System'*, drawing key insights from the report of the Joint Namibia–Amani Africa High-Level Panel of Experts. His presentation provided an analytical perspective on Africa's role and priorities in ongoing global governance reform processes, highlighting the importance of more inclusive and networked approaches to multilateralism that better reflect the continent's interests and evolving geopolitical realities.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso lecturing at the Geneva Graduate Institute on 15 April 2025

On 15 April, our Executive Director held a meeting with the African Union Permanent Representative Mission to the United Nations in Geneva as part of ongoing engagements in Geneva. The discussions focused on the role of the African Union's Permanent Representative Missions within an evolving multilateral landscape, examining both the opportunities and challenges for advancing a common African voice in efforts to champion the reform of the multilateral system.



During the meeting with the African Union Permanent Representative Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, with Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso and Prof. Achim Wennmann

On 22 April 2025, Dr. Solomon A. Dersso moderated the session titled *'Inclusive Governance: Women and Young Women Shaping Democratic Frameworks'* during the 2nd Dialogue-Seminar on Elections and Democracy in Africa held in Rabat, Morocco. Jointly organised by the African Union Commission's Peace and Security Department and the Policy Center for the New South, the seminar focused on *'Inclusive Governance: Amplifying Women's Leadership in African Electoral and Democratic Processes.'* The engagement highlighted the critical role of women, particularly young women, in strengthening democratic governance and electoral processes across the continent, while acknowledging the persistent barriers to their meaningful

participation. Convened on the margins of the 4th Training of AU Election Observers, the Dialogue-Seminar brought together African Union officials, civil society representatives, media professionals, and experts to exchange experiences and explore innovative approaches for advancing inclusive governance.



Dr. Solomon Dersso moderating a session during the 2nd Dialogue-Seminar on Elections and Democracy in Africa, held on 22 April 2025

At the 2025 United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial held in Berlin, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso, contributed to high-level deliberations on the future of peace operations, including through his participation in the panel that discussed 'The Power of Partnership: Enhancing the cooperation between the UN and regional organizations.' In this role, he joined senior representatives from the United Nations and regional bodies to examine how partnerships between the UN and organizations such as the African Union can be strengthened and adapted to evolving peace and security challenges. This engagement formed part of Amani Africa's broader contribution to the ministerial, which brought together over 130 delegations and served as a key platform for shaping forward-looking, cooperative approaches to international peacekeeping.



The Panel that discussed the Power of Partnership: Enhancing the cooperation between the UN and regional organizations, during the Berlin Conference

On 23 June, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso contributed to a panel of the Climate Security Mechanisms Partnership Dialogue 2025, which focused on regional perspectives on Climate, Peace, and Security. Drawing on Amani Africa's extensive analytical work for the PSC, his intervention highlighted the evolving nature of climate-related security risks across the continent and underscored the importance of integrating climate considerations into peace and security frameworks. The panel brought together experts and practitioners to examine diverse regional approaches to addressing climate-induced challenges and emphasized the need for strengthened cross-regional collaboration to advance sustainable peace in Africa.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso presenting at the Climate Security Mechanisms Partnership Dialogue, held on 23 June

On 8–10 September, our Executive Director delivered remarks during a high-level event at the Africa Climate Summit 2, organised by the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development. In his intervention, he underscored the urgency of treating the climate–conflict nexus in Africa as an existential emergency, warning that its escalating impacts threaten the survival of affected communities. Drawing attention to Amani Africa's work on climate, peace, and security, he emphasized that the intersecting crises of climate change and conflict disproportionately burden women and girls, calling for collective outrage and decisive action from actors such as the African Union. He cautioned that a continuation of business-as-usual approaches would amount to an abdication of responsibility, risking the lives and futures of millions across the continent.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso speaking as part of a panel at an event held at the Africa Climate Summit organized by African First Ladies for Development

On the margins of the second Africa Climate Summit, our Executive Director also contributed to a high-level policy engagement convened by Afrobarometer. The event brought together policymakers, researchers, and practitioners to reflect on public attitudes and evidence-based insights on governance, climate, and peace and

security across Africa. The discussions underscored the importance of grounding policy responses in citizens' lived experiences and perceptions. A key emphasis of the engagement was the role of data and public opinion in shaping more responsive, inclusive, and context-sensitive approaches to addressing the interconnected challenges of climate change, insecurity, and governance on the continent.



During the 2nd African Climate Summit, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso speaking at an event organized by Afro barometer on public attitudes and evidence-based insights on governance, climate, and peace and security across Africa

Another engagement that we had at the Second African Climate Summit was Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso's moderation of a high-level event hosted by the International Organization for Migration on 10 September. The event convened senior policymakers and practitioners working at the intersection of climate, mobility, peace, and security across national, regional, continental, and global levels. In his role as moderator, Dr. Dersso guided two sessions featuring high-level representatives, including the African Union Commission, the United Nations Office to the African Union, the International Organization for Migration, and regional and national stakeholders. The discussions highlighted the growing importance of addressing climate-

induced mobility within peace and security frameworks, with a key takeaway underscoring that mobility should not be viewed solely as a challenge but as an opportunity, one that, if effectively managed, can serve as a tool for mitigating climate-related risks and preventing conflict while enhancing resilience.



During the 2nd African Climate Summit, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso moderating a session organized by IOM on climate, mobility, peace, and security

On 31 October, Amani Africa was given a briefing to the monthly meeting of African Defence Attaches Forum (ADAF) on its work on peace and security on the continent, and its strategic importance to the work of ADAF. This was significant as it built on the commitment made earlier to enhance collaboration between the two organisations, which was agreed during an earlier visit of the ADAF team to the Amani Africa office on 7 October 2025.



During the meeting of the African Defence Attaches Forum (ADAF), Previne Habu receiving a recognition award on behalf of Amani Africa

On 11 and 12 November, Amani Africa participated in the Strategic meeting of the African Union Network of Think Tanks for Peace (NeTT4Peace). The event provided a critical platform for strengthening the interface between knowledge communities and the AU, supporting evidence-based policymaking on governance, peace, and security. It facilitated in-depth discussions on priority thematic areas, including climate security, the future of peace operations, silencing the guns, constitutionalism, terrorism, and the peace-development nexus. Our Senior Researcher, Zekarias Beshaha contributed to these discussions, offering insights on research prioritization and the development of actionable, policy-oriented knowledge products to enhance the AU's capacity to address Africa's pressing governance and security challenges.



Zekarias Beshaha participating at the Strategic meeting of the African Union Network of Think Tanks for Peace (NeTT4Peace).

IV. BRIEFINGS, TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

In 2025, Amani Africa continued to expand its engagement with a wide range of partners across multilateral institutions, diplomatic missions, and policy networks. These interactions served not only as platforms for exchange on evolving peace

and security dynamics but also as entry points for shaping collaboration and strengthening strategic partnerships.

On 27 January, discussions with Dr. John Kotsopoulos and Mr. Helay Mohadidi from of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the African Union. took on a forward-looking character. Rather than a general exchange, the meeting concentrated on reactivating an existing partnership, with both sides identifying concrete areas to deepen cooperation and sustain a more regular working relationship.



During the meeting with the Mission of Canada to the AU (Dr. John Kotsopoulos and Mr. Helay Mohadidi)

On 29 January, Mr. Peter Ekayu, Head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Liaison Office to the AU and his team from OCHA joined us for a focused discussion on recent humanitarian developments. The meeting created space for a practical

exchange on how humanitarian actors and policy institutions like Amani Africa can better align their efforts, particularly in contexts where humanitarian and peace and security agendas intersect.



During the meeting with the team of UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Liaison Office to the AU

On 30 January, we welcomed to Amani Africa Ms. Regina Fitzpatrick, Team Leader on Protection of Civilians (POC) at the UN Department of Peace Operations, together with Mr. Yishak Kassa Tefferi. The conversation delved into the evolving contours of peacekeeping, with particular attention to the operationalization of POC mandates and the implications of UN Security Council Resolution 2719. The exchange was notably analytical, unpacking both policy and implementation dimensions.



During the meeting with Team Leader on Protection of Civilians (POC) at the UN Department of Peace Operations, Ms. Regina Fitzpatrick

On 17 February, Amani Africa convened a discussion with Ms. Valérie Heymen and deputy Director for political affairs, and Ariane Moayed, charge d'affaires of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Permanent Representative to the AU Luxembourg Embassy in Addis Ababa. The exchange took a more reflective tone, examining the state of multilateralism through the lens of recent AU Summit outcomes, while also interrogating broader global shifts affecting regional and international cooperation.

On 18 February, we engaged with the Afrobarometer team in a discussion that emphasized complementarity. The conversation focused on how empirical data and public opinion research can more effectively inform policy analysis and advocacy, opening pathways for a

more integrated approach to knowledge production.



Following the meeting with a team of Afrobarometer

On the same day, we held a meeting with Ms. Synne Emilie Bjørnrå and Mr. Tor Haug, Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Norway to the AU. The discussion focused on operational matters. The focus was on finalizing preparations for the Dialogue on building partnerships for inclusive and sustainable peace that was held with Norway's Foreign Minister on 19 February 2025.



On 21 February, Amani Africa held a constructive meeting with Ms. Birgit Weyss Coordinator of the Africa Programme, and Ms. Isheba Tafari, Programme Manager for Gender and Governance at Austrian Development Agency. The exchange was anchored in identifying practical entry points for collaboration, particularly in linking governance and gender priorities with

broader peace and security efforts.



During a meeting with a team of Australian development Agency

Also on 21 February, Amani Africa held consultations with a delegation from CISSA led by Mr. Jackson Hamata. The tone of the discussion reflected the urgency of the current global moment, highlighting the importance of closer coordination, information-sharing, and sustained engagement among institutions contributing to peace and diplomacy on the continent.



During a meeting with a delegation of the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA)

On 4 March, we welcomed Mr. Peter Alexander Albrecht and Ms. Corine Van Emmerik from the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS). The exchange focused on Amani Africa's work, with particular attention to developments relating to the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM), providing space for a substantive discussion on stabilization efforts and AU-led operations.



During a meeting with a team of the Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS)

On 6 March, we had the pleasure of hosting Ambassador Birgitte Nygaard Markussen, Danish Special Representative for the Great Lakes and the Sahel, alongside Ms. Sara Svalgaard, Special Adviser at the Department for Africa, Development Policy and Financing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. The meeting centered on regional dynamics, particularly developments in the Lake Chad Basin and the Sahel.

Again, on 26 September, Amani Africa welcomed H.E. Ambassador Birgitte Markussen, Denmark's Special Envoy to the Sahel and the Great Lakes. The discussion revisited key regional developments, including the situations in the Sahel and Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and reflected on the role of the African Union and regional

actors in responding to these challenges.



During meetings with Ambassador Birgitte Nygaard Markussen, Danish Special Representative for the Great Lakes and the Sahel, held on 6 March and 26 September 2025

On 12 March, we welcomed to our office Ms. Lisa Lim Ah Ken, Senior Climate Action Specialist at IOM Ethiopia, and Ms. Rona Ahmed Ali, Policy Liaison Officer. The exchange explored the climate security–mobility nexus, identifying concrete areas of collaboration. This engagement

culminated in a joint initiative to produce a policy brief on *Leveraging Human Mobility for Climate, Peace and Security in Africa*, scheduled for launch in May 2026.



During a meeting with a team, the IOM Special Liaison Office (SLO) in Addis Ababa serves as the primary liaison to the African Union (AU) and UNECA

On 20 March, we welcomed Ms. Holy Ranaivozanany and Deputy Executive Director and Ms. Manal Benani, Youth Strategy Advisor of Africa-Europe Foundation, for a strategic conversation on Africa's evolving development and multilateral priorities. The discussion was both forward-looking and exploratory, identifying shared interests and laying the groundwork for future collaboration.



During a meeting with a team of Africa-Europe Foundation

On 25 March, Amani Africa held an in-depth discussion with Mr. Daniel Gerard O'Malley, Head of Delegation of ICRC Sudan. The conversation provided a timely reflection on the humanitarian situation in Sudan, emphasizing the urgency of safeguarding humanitarian space and addressing the growing needs on the ground.



During a meeting with a team of ICRC, which included Mr. Daniel Gerard O'Malley, Head of Delegation of ICRC Sudan

On 24 March, our Director, Dr. Solomon A. Dersso, held a meeting with H.E. Ambassador Amma Adomaa Twum-Amoah of the African Union Commission. The discussion addressed the AU's responsiveness to humanitarian crises across the continent and highlighted the importance of the African Union Member States endorsing and advancing the policy on humanitarian diplomacy, which Amani Africa served as drafter in its

capacity as technical partner.

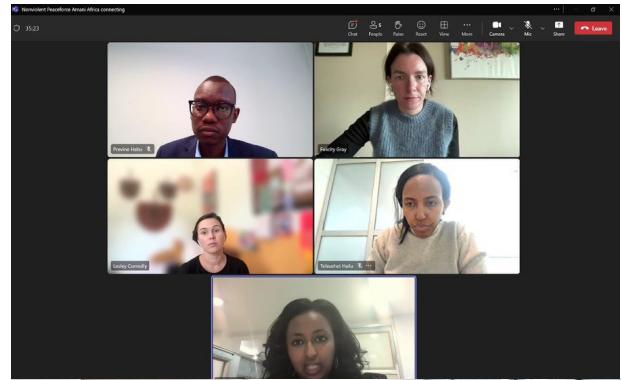


Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with H.E. Ambassador Amma Adomaa Twum-Amoah, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development

On 27 March, Amani Africa met with Ms. Lesley Connolly, Regional Policy and Advocacy Manager for the African Union, and Ms. Felicity Gray, Global Head of Policy at Nonviolent Peaceforce. The discussion introduced areas of potential collaboration, with a particular focus on advancing the protection of civilians' agenda.

Building on earlier engagement in March, Amani Africa deepened its collaboration with Nonviolent Peaceforce. Following the virtual exchange we had in March, we welcomed Ms. Lesley Connolly and Ms. Imane Karimou from Nonviolent Peaceforce International to our office on 21 November. The discussions focused on exploring concrete partnership opportunities in advancing unarmed civilian protection in Africa, reflecting a

progression from initial dialogue to more structured collaboration.



A team of Amani Africa on meetings with a team of Nonviolent Peaceforce

On 9 April, a team from Amani Africa participated in a consultative meeting convened by UNOAU, led by Mr. Baptiste Martin, expert in peace operations and crisis management, and Ms. Maria Trovalto, Political Affairs Officer at the UN Department of Peace Operations. The meeting focused on identifying actionable steps for strengthening collaboration with the AU on child protection within peace operations, including through training, guidance, and capacity-building initiatives.



During the consultative meeting on strengthening collaboration with the AU on child protection within peace operations

During an engagement with the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) On 10 April, Amani Africa held discussions with a delegation from the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF), led by Ambassador Nathalie Chuard. The exchange explored institutional areas of convergence, with particular emphasis on advancing the Addis Ababa–Geneva nexus in multilateral policy engagement.



A team of Amani Africa with a team from the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF)

On 13 May, we welcomed Ms. Maryline Njoroge, Global Policy and Advocacy Manager at Women for Women International. The discussion focused on identifying opportunities for collaboration in advancing the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, with a shared commitment to driving meaningful and impactful initiatives.



A team of Amani Africa with Ms. Maryline Njoroge, Global Policy and Advocacy Manager at Women for Women International

Amani Africa, as a key partner in fostering African-global policy dialogue, worked with the Swiss Embassy in Addis Ababa to coordinate the visit of Professor Achim Wennmann of the Geneva Graduate Institute, Co-founder of the Geneva Peace Week, and Editor of the Geneva Policy Outlook. Professor Wennmann visited to engage various stakeholders on the role of Addis Ababa as a global diplomatic hub and how this role could align with

Geneva’s position as a global multilateral hub for revitalizing and strengthening multilateralism. In this regard, Amani Africa facilitated a bilateral meeting aimed at advancing practical steps toward operationalizing the Addis Ababa–Geneva nexus between the UNOAU team and Professor Wennmann, Ms. Faten Aggad, Chief of Staff of the Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), and Institute of Foreign Affairs (IFA). The exchanges deepened discussions on operationalizing networked multilateralism, particularly through strengthening the Addis Ababa–Geneva connection.



Professor Professor Achim Wennmann’s visit to different institutions

On 29 August, Amani Africa hosted Mr. Yang Yonghon, Counsellor, and Mr. Ang Zhengtao, Third Secretary from the China Mission to the AU. The exchange focused on Africa’s priorities within a shifting global order, particularly in light of evolving peace and security challenges. Discussions also explored pathways for strengthening cooperation to better respond to Africa’s development and security needs.



A team of Amani Africa during a meeting with a team from China mission to the AU

On 12 September, we received H.E. Ambassador Michael Upton of New Zealand for a forward-looking discussion centered on an upcoming collaboration and diplomatic efforts addressing the conflict in Sudan. This engagement laid the foundation for a partnership between Amani Africa and the New Zealand Embassy, with implementation planned for 2026.



On 17 September, we welcomed Mr. Mamadou Dian Balde, UNHCR Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, alongside Mr. Hervé Kuate, UNHCR Representative to the AU. The meeting provided an opportunity to reflect on the role of multilateral actors and to identify practical areas for collaboration across shared priorities.



During a meeting with H.E. Ambassador Michael Upton, Ambassador of New Zealand to the AU



A team of Amani Africa in a meeting with Mr. Mamadou Dian Balde, UNHCR Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, alongside Mr. Hervé Kuate, UNHCR Representative to the AU

On 14 September, Amani Africa's Executive Director was received by H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Eybe, Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the AU. Their exchange covered key regional dynamics and ongoing AU institutional reforms, reaffirming the value of continued collaboration.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso and H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud

On 20 September, the Executive Director paid a courtesy call on H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Edrees, engaging in a focused discussion on Amani Africa's work related to PSC-A3 and PSC-UNSC relations, and broader AU-UN dynamics.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Edrees

On 26 September, we welcomed to our office Ms. Pirjo-Liisa Heikkilä, Deputy Head of Mission of Finland to Ethiopia, for an introductory exchange. The discussion explored Amani Africa's work, the role of the AU, and opportunities for collaboration, setting the stage for deeper engagement.



A team of Amani Africa during a meeting with Ms. Pirjo-Liisa Heikkilä, Deputy Head of Mission of Finland to Ethiopia

On 3 November, Amani Africa welcomed colleagues from Chatham House's African Programme to finalize preparations for a joint high-level conference held on 5–6 November. The discussions also explored how to leverage this collaboration to build

a more sustained partnership.



During a meeting with a team of Chatham House, African Programme

On 12 November, our researchers held a discussion with representatives from the Embassy of Indonesia, Ms. Theresa Septiani and Mr. Tri Kencana Daniswara Darmaputra. The exchange created space for sharing perspectives and identifying entry points for collaboration on peace, security, and multilateral engagement.



Following a meeting with a team of Indonesia Mission to the AU at Amani Africa Office

On 14 November, we had the pleasure of once again welcoming Mr. Toru Sugio, Chargé d’Affaires of the Mission of Japan in Ethiopia. The discussion reflected on two years of joint collaboration, particularly on multilateral system reform, and assessed avenues for sustaining and deepening this partnership.



Following a meeting with the Japan Mission to the AU at Amani Africa Office

On 21 November, we held discussions with Prof. Hideaki Shinoda and Ms. Mika Inoue-Hanzawa, focusing on research collaboration aimed at strengthening cooperation between Japan and the African Union.



A team of Amani Africa during a meeting with Prof. Hideaki Shinoda and Ms. Mika Inoue-Hanzawa

On 24 November, we hosted H.E. Ambassador Elzein Ibrahim Hussein, Permanent Representative of Sudan to the AU and UNECA. The discussion centered on the situation in Sudan,

the AU’s role, and opportunities for collaborative policy engagement to support informed action.



During a meeting with H.E. Ambassador Elzein Ibrahim Hussein, Permanent Representative of Sudan to the AU and UNECA

On 25 November, our Senior Researcher, Zekarias Beshasha held a discussion with Dr. Dongsuk Kim from the Korea National Diplomatic Academy for an exchange on conflict dynamics in Africa and the AU’s response mechanisms.



Zekarias Beshasha and with Dr. Dongsuk Kim

Following the discussion that was held between Amani Africa and officials from

the Indonesian Embassy in Ethiopia in November 2025, our researchers engaged with a delegation from Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ASEAN Cooperation Directorate on 2 December. The discussion focused on the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and opportunities for AU-ASEAN collaboration, particularly in preventive diplomacy and crisis response.



A team of Amani Africa, during a meeting with a team of Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ASEAN cooperation

On 10 December, we hosted a high-level Finnish delegation, including Mr. Jukka Pajarinen, Director of Unit for Eastern and Southern Africa, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and Ms. Pirjo-Liisa Heikkilä, Deputy Head of Mission and Deputy Permanent Representative to the AU, Embassy of Finland, Addis Ababa. The discussions were on AU dynamics, including institutional reform, financing, and perspectives on AU-EU relations. The exchange underscored the depth of engagement and mutual interest in strengthening multilateral policy processes.



A team of Amani Africa, during a meeting a team of with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and Ms. Pirjo-Liisa Heikkilä Deputy Head of Mission and Deputy Permanent Representative to the AU, Embassy of Finland

On 18 December, Amani Africa was received by H.E. Ambassador Sinikka Antila, Ambassador of Finland to the AU. This occasion marked the signing of a support agreement for a project aimed at advancing AU peace and security policymaking, reflecting a significant milestone in the growing partnership between Amani Africa and Finland.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso and Ambassador Sinikka Antila, Ambassador of Finland to the AU, during the signing of an agreement between Finland and the AU

V. CONVENING OF POLICY FORUMS AND AMANI AFRICA TRAINING INSTITUTE

The other area of Amani Africa's engagement during the year was the convening of policy forums and training sessions. We organized 17 policy forums, either independently or in collaboration with partners, covering a wide range of topics within our areas of engagement. This was in addition to our signature Amani Africa Training Institute on the African Union.

Amani Policy Forums

The first policy forum of the year, titled 'From the Pact for the Future to the 80th UN Anniversary: Sustaining the Momentum towards Security Council' Reform, was held in partnership with the Mission of Japan to the AU for the third time. The discussion examined the historic opportunity presented by the Summit of the Future and the adoption of the Pact for the Future to advance long-stalled UN Security Council reform. It highlighted Africa's leadership through the Common African Position and the AU's Committee of Ten (C10), including Sierra Leone's landmark debate in the UNSC and growing global support for Africa's permanent representation. The dialogue further explored how the Pact's guiding principles, particularly prioritizing redress of Africa's historical exclusion, can be leveraged to sustain momentum, consolidate reform models, and seize the symbolic moment of the UN's 80th anniversary in 2025 to achieve breakthrough progress. More details on the event can be found [here](#).



High Level Seminar 'From the Pact for the Future to the 80th UN Anniversary: Sustaining the Momentum towards Security Council', 28 January 2025, Hyatt Regency, Addis Ababa

Another policy dialogue we convened was on 'Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations,' held on 10 February 2025 in Addis Ababa in partnership with ECOSOCC, Trust Africa, the Ethiopian CSOs Council, and other Pan-African organizations. The symposium examined the AU's 2025 Theme of the Year, highlighting reparatory justice as a cornerstone for addressing historical injustices such as slavery, colonialism, and systemic racial discrimination, while also tackling contemporary challenges like climate change and economic exploitation. Discussions emphasized the restitution of Africa's cultural heritage, the need for climate financing and technology transfer, and strategies for mobilizing civil society, AU organs, member states, and the African diaspora to ensure effective implementation of the reparations agenda. The dialogue further sought to strengthen coordination, clarify objectives, and establish mechanisms for collaboration, positioning reparations as



Diplomatic briefing on ‘The African Union Common Position on Reparations: Strategies for Policy Implementation’, 13 February 2025 Addis Ababa University, Ras Mekonnen Hall, Addis Ababa

On 19 February, we partnered with the Norwegian Mission to the AU and the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) to convene a high-level panel at Addis Ababa University on ‘*Building Partnerships for Inclusive and Sustainable Peace and Development*.’ The discussion, which featured a keynote by the Norwegian Foreign Minister, examined opportunities for strengthening Africa–Norway collaboration in peace, security, and sustainable development, situating Norway’s Africa Strategy within the AU’s Agenda 2063 and the UN’s 2030 Agenda. It also highlighted Africa’s leadership in peace and security, economic integration, and global policymaking, while exploring inclusive approaches to peacebuilding and reinforcing the principle of ‘African solutions to African problems.’



High-Level Dialogue on ‘Building Partnerships for Inclusive and Sustainable Peace and Development’, 19 February 2025, Ras Mekonnen Hall, Addis Ababa

On 27 February, we convened a policy dialogue in partnership with ECOSOCC on ‘*The Outcomes of the 38th AU Summit: Turning Point for Repositioning the AU for a New Era?*’ The discussion assessed the implications of the AU’s leadership transition, institutional reforms, and peace and security decisions, including the Union’s new role in the G20 under South Africa’s presidency. It explored how the AU can leverage its leadership change to address pressing challenges such as debt burdens, democratic governance strains, and rising conflicts, while accelerating Agenda 2063 and resetting the African Peace and Security Architecture. The dialogue also reflected on Africa’s evolving role in global governance and the need for imaginative diplomacy, technical competence, and strategic clarity to navigate multipolar shifts and socio-economic pressures. More details on the event can be found [here](#).



Post-Summit Policy Dialogue on “The Outcomes of the 38th AU Summit: Turning Point for Repositioning the AU for a New Era?”, 27 February 2025, Sheraton Addis Hotel, Addis Ababa

On 3 March, Amani Africa partnered with the African Leadership Centre (ALC) at King’s College London, that hosted the Africa Public Square (APS) global event. As part of Amani Africa’s role as a partner organisation for the 2025 Africa Week hosted by the African Leadership Centre (ALC) at King’s College London, our Director, Dr. Solomon Ayele Derso, gave a remark responding to two critical questions: whether the UN Pact for the Future offers opportunities for repositioning Africa’s place in the world, and how Africa should negotiate permanency on the UN Security Council. This engagement underscored Amani Africa’s continued contribution to shaping global policy conversations and advancing Africa’s agency in international governance.

AFRICAN PUBLIC SQUARE

Topic: **Positioning Africa in Global Power Hierarchies: What does the UN Pact for the Future offer Africa?**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Naledi Pandor
Former Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa

OPENING & CLOSING REMARKS

H.E. Amb. Mbelwa Kaluki Tanzania's High Commissioner to the UK	Prof. Funmi Olofinakin Vice President (International Engagement & Service), King's College London	Amb Manoah Esipisu Visiting Professor at ALC, King's College London	Dr Solomon. A. Derso Founding Director, Amani Africa
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PANELISTS

H.E. Linda Scott Member of High Commissioner to the UK	H.E. Mr. Hakim Hajoui Ambassador of Morocco to the UK (TBC)	Dr. Comfort Ero President and CEO, International Crisis Group	Dr. Alex Vines Director of Africa Programme, Chatham House
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Bush House, Central Block, 8th Floor
Monday, 3rd of March, 2025
18:00 – 21:00 (GMT)
Hybrid Event

Partners: African Leadership Centre, King's College London, Amani Africa

Facebook: African Public Square (APS) | Twitter: @APS_ALC | Instagram: African Public Square (APS)

Africa Public Square (APS) global event, 3 March 2025, London

On 19 March, we convened a symposium on ‘Africa and the AU in Shaping the Future of Peacekeeping and the Peacebuilding Architecture’ in Addis Ababa. The dialogue examined Africa’s evolving role in global peace operations and the peacebuilding agenda, highlighting the AU’s comparative advantages and the need to recalibrate the African Peace and Security Architecture in light of shifting global dynamics. Participants reflected on the implications of UNSC Resolution 2719 on financing AU-led peace support operations, as well as Africa’s growing voice in multilateral forums such as the G20. The discussions emphasized strengthening Africa’s leadership in shaping the future of peacekeeping and peacebuilding through innovative approaches, strategic partnerships, and enhanced institutional capacity. A [policy brief](#) capturing the key insights and

recommendations from the dialogue was published following the event.



Workshop on ‘Africa and the AU in Shaping the Future of Peacekeeping and the Peacebuilding Architecture’, 19 March 2025 Hilton, Addis Ababa

On 7–8 April, we co-organized *Geneva Peace Week Meets Addis Ababa* with the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The event brought together over 800 participants in-person and online to strengthen collaboration between Geneva and Addis Ababa as global hubs for peacebuilding and multilateral diplomacy. Discussions focused on deepening cooperation, enhancing coordination, and building lasting partnerships on pressing peace and security challenges, with insights feeding into Geneva Peace Week 2025. More details on the event can be found [here](#).



Geneva Peace Week Meets Addis Ababa, 7-8 April 2025, Hyatt Regency, Addis Ababa

One of the most significant works we did was the Global Alliance for Peace Operations. On 12 May, we co-hosted the *Global Alliance for Peace Operations Symposium* in Berlin, immediately ahead of the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025. Coordinated by the Global Governance Institute (GGI), the Berlin Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), and Amani Africa, the Alliance brings together over 50 leading think tanks, research institutes, and civil society organizations, with close to 100 experts contributing to the initiative. The Symposium, complemented by seven side events, provided a platform to present eight collaborative policy papers and nearly 20 issue briefs offering concrete recommendations for strengthening UN peace operations. Created in liaison with the German Federal Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence, the Alliance aims to deliver comprehensive civil society input into intergovernmental deliberations at a critical juncture for the future of peace operations and multilateral crisis management. More details on the Alliance and its activities can be found [here](#).



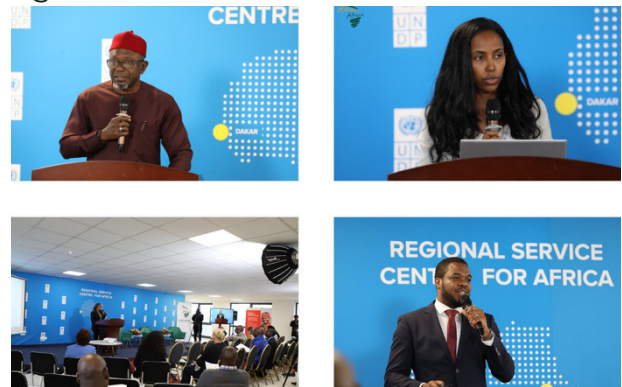
Global Alliance for Peace Operations Symposium, 12 May, Berlin

We also held another policy forum on peace support operations in partnership with Amani Africa, the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), and the Norwegian Institute for International Affairs (NUPI) on 24 June. The Policy forum titled *'The Review on the Future of UN Peace Operations'* assessed the evolving landscape of international peace operations and the wider multilateral crisis management system. The discussion examined the findings of the ongoing UN review process, highlighting key challenges such as financing, political legitimacy, and adapting to complex conflict dynamics. It also explored Africa's growing role in shaping global peace operations, particularly in light of UNSC Resolution 2719 and the AU's expanding influence in multilateral forums. The dialogue underscored the need for innovative approaches, stronger partnerships, and strategic clarity to ensure peace operations remain fit for purpose in the years ahead. A policy brief capturing the main insights and recommendations from the discussion was published following the event. More details on the dialogue can be found [here](#).



Policy forum titled *'The Review on the Future of UN Peace Operations'*, 24 June 2025, Institute of Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa

On 19 March, we convened a policy dialogue in partnership with UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa on *'From FfD4 to the G20: Financing for Development Summit Outcomes'* to reflect on the implications of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) and Africa's priorities in the lead-up to the G20 Summit under South Africa's presidency. The discussion examined the commitments made at FfD4, including debt sustainability, climate finance, and reform of the international financial architecture, while highlighting Africa's collective agenda for equitable and inclusive development financing. Participants emphasized the importance of leveraging Africa's G20 membership to advance reforms that address structural inequalities and mobilize resources for Agenda 2063.



Policy dialogue, *'From FfD4 to the G20: Financing for Development Summit Outcomes'* 19 March 2025, at UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa, Addis Ababa

As part of our policy forums, on 4 September, we partnered with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) AU Cooperation Office to convene a high-level dialogue on *'Shifts in Global Dynamics and their Impact on the AU-UN Partnership: The Case of AUSSOM.'* The discussion examined how intensifying geopolitical polarization and shifting donor dynamics are affecting consensus on UN peace operations and the sustainability of AU-led missions. Particular

focus was placed on the challenges surrounding the implementation of UNSC Resolution 2719 for financing the AU Support Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM), including U.S. opposition and the resulting funding crisis. Participants reflected on the broader implications for AU–UN partnerships, explored alternative financing models such as trust funds and hybrid mechanisms, and considered lessons from AUSSOM for future collaborative frameworks.



High-level dialogue on ‘Shifts in Global Dynamics and their Impact on the AU–UN Partnership: The Case of AUSSOM, 4 September, Haile Grand Hotel, Addis Ababa

As part of our policy forums, on 21 September, we also co-hosted a UNGA 80 side event titled ‘From Ezulwini to an Equitable World Order: Power, Peace, Prosperity and Reparations’ at the AU Permanent Observer Mission in New York. The discussion marked the 20th anniversary of the Ezulwini Consensus and the UN’s 80th anniversary, situating Africa’s demand for permanent representation on the UN Security Council within broader calls for reparative justice and systemic reform. Particular focus was placed on Africa’s exclusion from permanent membership as a structural injustice, the need to embed reparations within global governance reforms, and the importance of leveraging Africa’s G20 membership and partnerships with CARICOM and the diaspora to advance equity in international systems.

Participants reflected on how the Ezulwini Consensus can serve as a political manifesto for Africa’s sovereignty and co-architectural role in shaping a fairer multilateral order.



Policy Dialogue, ‘From Ezulwini to an Equitable World Order: Power, Peace, Prosperity and Reparations’, 21 September 2025, New York

On 3 November, we partnered with Afrobarometer to convene a policy dialogue on ‘Leveraging Citizen Engagement for Democratic Governance and Conflict Prevention.’ Drawing on Afrobarometer’s 2025 flagship report, *The Promise of Democracy*, which surveyed over 53,000 citizens across 39 African countries, the discussion highlighted that while more than 80% of Africans engage in civic or political activity, most commonly voting, youth participation remains significantly lower than that of older generations. Confidence in institutions was noted to be undermined by corruption, weak leadership, and unmet socioeconomic needs. Particular

focus was placed on how citizen engagement can serve as an early warning indicator for the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and African Governance Architecture (AGA), the risks posed by external influence and disinformation, and the importance of strengthening AU frameworks for accountability and inclusivity.



Policy dialogue on 'Leveraging Citizen Engagement for Democratic Governance and Conflict Prevention', 3 November 2025, Ramada Hotel, Addis Ababa

On 5 and 6 November, we co-organized the international conference 'Africa's Rising Influence: Advancing Agency in Foreign Policy and Global Governance' in Addis Ababa together with Chatham House Africa Programme and UNDP's Regional Service Centre for Africa. The discussions explored Africa's growing role in shaping global governance and international relations, with particular focus on how the continent can leverage its position in a multipolar world. Key themes included Africa's strategic agency in foreign policy, coordination between regional organizations and the AU, priorities in climate diplomacy and sustainable development, and approaches to strengthening peace and security initiatives. Particular attention was given to advancing financial resilience, harnessing Africa's soft power, and ensuring that Africa's rising influence translates into tangible impact in global governance. Participants reflected on how Africa can consolidate its voice and

leadership to shape a fairer and more inclusive multilateral order.



International conference 'Africa's Rising Influence: Advancing Agency in Foreign Policy and Global Governance', 5 and 6 November 2025, Sheraton Addis Hotel, Addis Ababa

Another policy forum was organized and hosted by Amani Africa together with Cameroon and UNOAU on 27 November on 'The State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Opportunities for a Closer Relationship between the African Union and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture.' The discussion examined persistent challenges such as protracted conflicts, fragility, and governance gaps, while highlighting the importance of tailoring peacebuilding approaches to African contexts. Particular focus was placed on strengthening collaboration between the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) and the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), drawing lessons from the AU's Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy review. Participants reflected on gaps and synergies across regional and international frameworks, the integration of peacebuilding into peace processes, and the need for inclusive, locally grounded approaches to sustain peace across the continent.



Policy Forum on ‘The State of Peacebuilding in Africa: Opportunities for a Closer Relationship between the African Union and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture’, 29 November 2025, Sheraton Addis Hotel, Addis Ababa

As the last policy forum of the year, on 15 December, we convened a dialogue in Addis Ababa under the theme ‘From the PSC Summit on Re-energising Conflict Prevention and Resolution to the Review of the APSA.’ The discussion was built on the AU Assembly’s decision earlier in 2025 to initiate a comprehensive review of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), following calls from the PSC and the AU Champion for Institutional Reform. Particular focus was placed on the work of the High-Level Panel of Eminent African Experts tasked with leading the review, the need for evidence-based analysis of APSA’s shortcomings, and the importance of galvanizing wider support from AU member states and stakeholders. Participants reflected on lessons from current conflicts, the role of the PSC summit outcomes in shaping reform priorities, and how the review can strengthen conflict prevention, management, and resolution initiatives. The dialogue underscored the urgency of aligning APSA reforms with Africa’s evolving security landscape and institutional reform agenda.



Policy Forum, ‘From the PSC Summit on Re-energising Conflict Prevention and Resolution to the Review of the APSA’, 15 December 2025, Hyatt Regency, Addis Ababa

Amani Africa Training Institute on the AU

The 2025 edition of the Amani Africa Training Institute on the African Union was held from 16 to 18 October at Haile Grand Hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with the generous support of the Irish Embassy in Addis Ababa. This fifth iteration of the Training Institute brought together a diverse cohort of 26 participants drawn from seventeen countries, including diplomats, AU and UN officials, members of civil society, representatives of FEMWISE Africa, and researchers from both African and European institutions.

Building on the established foundation of previous editions, the 2025 Training Institute continued to provide a comprehensive and practice-oriented understanding of the African Union’s structures, decision-making processes, and institutional dynamics. At the same time, this edition placed particular emphasis on recent policy developments and evolving priorities within the AU, including developments within the African Union Commission for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, as well as broader issues relating to regional integration, democratic governance, and

Africa's role in global affairs.



2025 Edition of the Amani Africa Training Institute on the AU, 16 – 18 October 2025, Haile Grand Hotel, Addis Ababa

The training featured a distinguished group of facilitators and speakers, including senior AU officials, diplomats, and policy experts with extensive first-hand experience in AU processes. Through interactive sessions, case-based discussions, and participant reflections, the programme created a dynamic platform for candid engagement on the key factors shaping AU policy processes and institutional reform trajectories. It also offered practical insights on how stakeholders can effectively engage with the AU system to maximize policy impact.

A key highlight of the training was the in-depth exploration of thematic issues at the intersection of peace, security, and development. Discussions on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus underscored the increasingly complex humanitarian landscape on the continent and the need for integrated, politically informed responses that address the structural drivers of crises. Participants engaged with evolving AU policy frameworks and institutional responses, including efforts to strengthen Africa's humanitarian architecture and enhance coordination across regional and continental levels.

Overall, the 2025 Training Institute further consolidated its role as a unique platform for capacity-building and knowledge exchange, equipping participants with both the analytical and practical tools necessary for informed and effective engagement with the African Union.

VI. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

As part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen strategic communications and expand the reach of its policy influence, Amani Africa continued to consolidate its multimedia engagement in 2025, building on the momentum of initiatives such as The Pan-Africanist. Throughout the year, the organization's media work amplified African policy perspectives on peace and security, featuring a wide range of high-level conversations, expert analyses, and event-based outputs. These included interviews and panel discussions with senior diplomats, policymakers, and thought leaders, as well as curated content linked to major policy processes and global debates on peace operations and multilateral reform. The platform also increasingly functioned as a repository for Amani Africa's convenings and knowledge products, enhancing accessibility and engagement with diverse audiences across the continent and beyond. This growing emphasis on digital media and audiovisual storytelling reflects Amani Africa's strategic commitment to making its analysis more accessible, timely, and impactful, while fostering informed public discourse on Africa's evolving peace and security landscape.

Expanding media footprint

As part of our continued efforts to expand and deepen Amani Africa's media and research outputs, in 2025 we sustained and further strengthened The Pan-Africanist Podcast alongside our media products, including Amani Africa Dispatch and 'In the Words of the PSC'.



Building on the strong foundation established in 2024, The Pan-Africanist continued to serve as a key platform for engaging high-level policymakers, diplomats, and thought leaders in critical conversations on Africa's peace, security, and governance landscape. Through these engagements, the podcast has increasingly positioned itself as a space for nuanced reflection on continental priorities amid evolving regional and global dynamics.



At the beginning of the year, as part of our coverage of the AU Commission elections, we engaged H.E. Ambassador Selma Hadadi, who was the then candidate for the position of Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission and now, the Deputy Chairperson of the Commission, for an in-depth discussion on the significance of the AU Commission leadership elections. The conversation explored why this electoral moment is critical for the future direction of the AU, the type of leadership required to respond to the continent's evolving peace, security, and governance challenges, and the strategic role of the Deputy Chairperson in advancing institutional effectiveness.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with Ambassador Selma Hadadi during the recording of the Pan-Africanist Podcast

We have also featured Mr. Brian Kagoro, a Pan-Africanist and Managing Director of Programs at the Open Society Foundations, in an unfiltered and thought-provoking discussion on the AU Theme of the Year for 2025 on reparations. The conversation critically examined the historical and structural injustices underpinning the reparations agenda, emphasizing that it goes beyond financial compensation to addressing systemic inequalities, intergenerational poverty, and Africa's position within the global order. The episode offers rich and candid insights into one of the AU's most significant thematic priorities for 2025,

contributing to deeper policy and public engagement on the question of justice for Africa and people of African descent.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with Mr. Brian Kgoro during the recording of the Pan-Africanist Podcast

We also featured a timely conversation between Our Executive Director, Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso and Professor Achim Wennmann, Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute, examining the state of multilateralism. The discussion offered a candid and critical reflection on the growing crises facing multilateral systems, unpacking their underlying causes and implications for global governance and Africa's engagement in international affairs.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with Achim Wennmann during the recording of the Pan-Africanist Podcast

In 2025, we also hosted H.E. El Hadji Ibrahima Diene, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to Somalia and Head of the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia, for his very first media interview since assuming office. The conversation offered an in-depth

examination of the state of AUSSOM, including its deployment, financing challenges, and evolving transition and exit strategies in supporting Somalia's stabilization efforts. Drawing on Ambassador Diene's leadership and frontline experience, the episode provided timely and policy-relevant insights into one of the African Union's most critical peace operations and the broader challenges shaping peace and security efforts in the Horn of Africa.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with H.E. El Hadji Ibrahima Diene during the recording of the Pan-Africanist Podcast

Another episode of the Pan Africanist, we featured Ambassador Pietro Mona, former Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the African Union, IGAD, and UNECA, and Ambassador to Djibouti, in a reflective conversation marking the end of his tenure in Addis Ababa. The discussion, led by Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso, offered a unique perspective on the relevance of the African Union and Africa's evolving international relations through the lens of a representative of a non-African state with a long-standing tradition of neutrality. Drawing on his diplomatic experience, Ambassador Mona reflected on why and how the AU matters in global affairs, highlighting both the opportunities and challenges shaping Africa's engagement within the multilateral system.



Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso with Ambassador Pietro Mona during the recording of the Pan-Africanist Podcast

The full list of podcast episodes can be found [here](#).



Amani Africa Partners

We extend our special thanks to our partners who accompanied us during 2025 generously in our pursuit for shaping policy action for addressing challenges to peace and security, democratic governance and constitutional rule and Africa's engagement in the global multilateral system.

 <p>Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft Confédération suisse Confederazione Svizzera Confederaziun svizra</p>	 <p>Ambasáid na hÉireann Embassy of Ireland</p>
 <p>Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>	 <p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland</p>
 <p>Government of Canada</p>	

<https://amani africa-et.org>
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MEDIA AND RESEARCH SERVICES

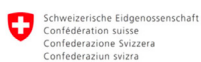
ABOUT AMANI AFRICA

Amani Africa is an independent African based policy research, training and consulting think tank with a specialization and primary focus on African multilateral policy processes, particularly those relating to the African union.

We support the pan-African dream of peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa through research, training, strategic communications, technical advisory services, and convening and facilitation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Amani Africa wishes to express its gratitude to its partners - Switzerland, Ireland, Finland, Norway, and Canada for the support they provided to its work in 2025.



Ambasáid na hÉireann
Embassy of Ireland



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland



Government
of Canada

ADDRESS

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