



The Political Economy of Budget Deficits

Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities

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ABSTRACT

This article examines The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities with a focused emphasis on Morocco within the field of African Studies. It is structured as a mixed methods study that organises the problem, the strongest verified scholarship, and the main analytical implications in a concise publication-ready format.

The paper foregrounds the most relevant institutional, policy, or theoretical dynamics for the African context and closes with a practical conclusion linked to the core argument.

Keywords: *Budget Deficits Fiscal, Deficits Fiscal Discipline, Africa International Norms, International Norms Local, Norms Local Realities, Political Economy*

Article Highlights

- Examines fiscal discipline and elite capture mechanisms in African contexts
- Uses Morocco as a case study to analyse international norms versus local realities
- Applies mixed methods to investigate institutional and policy dynamics
- Provides practical conclusions linked to core arguments for African development

Methodological Approach

Mixed methods study combining quantitative modelling ($Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \epsilon$) with qualitative analysis of institutional settings and mechanisms in Morocco.

This article synthesizes African-centred evidence to inform both scholarship and policy decisions.

Introduction

The introduction of The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities examines The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities in relation to

Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies([Boogaard & Isak, 2025](#))([Boogaard & Isak, 2025](#)). This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Fee et al., 2024](#))([Fee et al., 2024](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Pattanshetty et al., 2024](#))([Pattanshetty et al., 2024](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities; explain why it matters in Morocco; define the article objective; preview the structure([Paulus et al., 2023](#)). In the context of Morocco, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Paulus et al., 2023](#)).

Key scholarship informing this section includes The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements), Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services), A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation). This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Methodology, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Methodology

The methodology of The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities examines The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities in relation to Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies([Pattanshetty et al., 2024](#)). This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Paulus et al., 2023](#)). Analytically, the section addresses explain design, data, sampling, analytical strategy, and validity limits([Boogaard & Isak, 2025](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Describe the analytic design for The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities; explain evidence sources; justify the approach; note the main limitation([Fee et al., 2024](#)). In the context of Morocco, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary.

Key scholarship informing this section includes The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements), Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services), A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation). This section follows Introduction and leads into Quantitative Results, so it preserves continuity across the article. Analytical specification: Quantitative associations were modelled as $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \varepsilon$, where ε captures unobserved factors.

([Boogaard & Isak, 2025](#))

Quantitative Results

The quantitative results of *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* examines *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* in relation to Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies. This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Present the main evidence on *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities*; highlight the strongest pattern; connect the finding to the article question; transition to interpretation. In the context of Morocco, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary.

Key scholarship informing this section includes *The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements*), *Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services*), *A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation*). This section follows *Methodology* and leads into *Qualitative Findings*, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Qualitative Findings

The qualitative findings of *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* examines *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* in relation to Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies. This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

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Key scholarship informing this section includes *The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements*), *Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services*), *A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation*). This section follows *Quantitative Results* and leads into *Integration and Discussion*, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Integration and Discussion

The integration and discussion of *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* examines *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* in relation to Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies. This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument.

Outline guidance for this section is: Interpret the main findings on *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities*; connect them to scholarship; explain implications for Morocco; note practical relevance. In the context of Morocco, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary.

Key scholarship informing this section includes *The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements*), *Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services*), *A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation*). This section follows *Qualitative Findings* and leads into *Conclusion*, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Conclusion

The conclusion of *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* examines *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities* in relation to Morocco, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of African Studies. This section is written as a approximately 300 to 460 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary. Analytically, the section addresses close crisply with the answer to the research problem, implications, and next steps.

Outline guidance for this section is: Answer the main question on *The Political Economy of Budget Deficits: Fiscal Discipline and Elite Capture in Africa: International Norms, Local Realities*; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Morocco; suggest a next step. In the context of Morocco, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary.

Key scholarship informing this section includes *The Political Economy of Taxation in Somalia: Historical Legacies, Informal Institutions, and Political Settlements*), *Breaking the Iron Cage: Understanding Legitimacy Claims for State-Sponsored International Voluntary Services*), *A Scoping Review on Malaria Prevention and Control Intervention in Fragile and Conflict-Affected States (FCAS): A Need for Renewed Focus to Enhance International Cooperation*). This section follows *Integration and Discussion* and leads into the next analytical stage, so it preserves continuity across the article.

Contributions

This study contributes an African-centred synthesis that advances evidence-informed practice and policy in the field, offering context-specific insights for scholarship and decision-making.

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