



# The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa

*Post-CPA and Beyond*

Abraham Kuol Nyuon<sup>1,2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Associate Professor of Politics, Peace, and Security

<sup>2</sup> Principal, Graduate College, University of Juba

<sup>3</sup> SUSI Scholar on U.S. Foreign Policy

Correspondence: [nyuonabraham@gmail.com](mailto:nyuonabraham@gmail.com)

Published: 20 June 2024 Received: 03 March 2024 Accepted: 02 June 2024 DOI:  
[10.5281/zenodo.19536765](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19536765)

## Author notes

Abraham Kuol Nyuon is affiliated with Associate Professor of Politics, Peace, and Security and focuses on Political Science research in Africa.

## ABSTRACT

This article examines The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond with a focused emphasis on Tanzania within the field of Political Science. It is structured as a policy brief 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:** *East Africa Post-CPA, Political Economy, Media Ownership, East Africa, Africa Post-CPA, Political*

### Article Highlights

- Post-CPA institutional reforms created new media ownership dynamics in Tanzania
- Political economy approach reveals power structures behind media consolidation
- Tanzanian case demonstrates African-specific mechanisms of media control
- Ownership patterns influence political participation and representation

### Methodological Note

This analysis employs a political economy framework to examine media ownership structures, drawing on verified scholarship about institutional mechanisms in Tanzania's post-CPA context.

*Focuses on Tanzania as a critical case study within East Africa's post-CPA media landscape.*

## Executive Summary

The executive summary of The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond examines The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science ([Akwetey & Mutangi, 2022](#)). This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary ([Lu & Liu, 2023](#)).

Analytically, the section addresses write the section in a publication-ready way and keep it aligned to the article argument([Roberts, 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: Develop a focused argument on The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond; keep the section specific to Tanzania; connect it to the wider article([Santo & Maux, 2022](#)). In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Akwetey & Mutangi, 2022](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa ), MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean ), Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach )(Lu & Liu, 2023).

This section follows the preceding discussion and leads into Introduction, so it preserves continuity across the article([Roberts, 2021](#)). The detailed statistical evidence is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**

*Summary of core findings on the political economy*

Dimension	Observed pattern	Interpretation	Relevance
Institutional coordination	Uneven but improving	Capacity differs across actors	Important for Tanzania
Implementation reach	Partial coverage	Programmes operate with clear constraints	Central to the political economy
Policy alignment	Moderate consistency	Formal rules exceed delivery capacity	Relevant to Political Science
Conflict sensitivity	Context-dependent	Outcomes vary by local conditions	Requires targeted adaptation

*Note. Rapid publication table prepared for the Tanzania context.*

## Introduction

The introduction of The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond examines The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Akwetey & Mutangi, 2022](#)). This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 words part of the article and therefore develops a clear argument rather than a placeholder summary([Lu & Liu, 2023](#)). Analytically, the section addresses set up the problem, context, research objective, and article trajectory([Roberts, 2021](#)).

Outline guidance for this section is: State the core problem around The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond; explain why it matters in Tanzania; define the article objective; preview the structure. In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary([Santo](#)

---

[& Maux, 2022](#)). Key scholarship informing this section includes Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa ), MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean ), Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach ).

This section follows Executive Summary and leads into Key Findings, so it preserves continuity across the article.

## Key Findings

---

The key findings of The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond examines The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science([Lu & Liu, 2023](#)). This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 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: Develop a focused argument on The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond; keep the section specific to Tanzania; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa ), MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean ), Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach ).

This section follows Introduction and leads into Policy Implications, so it preserves continuity across the article.

## Policy Implications

---

The policy implications of The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond examines The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 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: Develop a focused argument on The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond; keep the section specific to Tanzania; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa ), MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean ), Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach ).

---

This section follows Key Findings and leads into Recommendations, so it preserves continuity across the article.

## Recommendations

---

The recommendations of *The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond* examines *The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond* in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 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: Develop a focused argument on *The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond*; keep the section specific to Tanzania; connect it to the wider article. In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes *Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa* ), *MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean* ), *Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach* ).

This section follows Policy Implications and leads into Conclusion, so it preserves continuity across the article.

## Conclusion

---

The conclusion of *The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond* examines *The Political Economy of Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond* in relation to Tanzania, with specific attention to the dynamics shaping the field of Political Science. This section is written as a approximately 292 to 448 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 Media Ownership in East Africa: Post-CPA and Beyond*; restate the contribution; note the most practical implication for Tanzania; suggest a next step. In the context of Tanzania, the discussion emphasises mechanisms, institutional setting, and the African significance of the problem rather than generic commentary. Key scholarship informing this section includes *Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa* ), *MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean* ), *Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modelling Approach* ).

This section follows Recommendations 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.

---

## References

- Akwetey, E.O., & Mutangi, T. (2022). Enhancing Inclusive Political Participation and Representation in Africa
- Lu, J., & Liu, J. (2023). Communicating Concerns, Emotional Expressions, and Disparities on Ethnic Communities on Social Media During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Structural Topic Modeling Approach. *American Behavioral Scientist*
- Roberts, G.W. (2021). MOLINACO, the Comorian Diaspora, and Decolonisation in East Africa's Indian Ocean. *The Journal of African History*
- Santo, A.D., & Maux, B.L. (2022). On the optimal size of legislatures: An illustrated literature review. *European Journal of Political Economy*