



Comparative Economic Blocs in African Regional Governance: A Madagascar Perspective

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Abstract

Madagascar is a small island nation in the Indian Ocean that has historically been influenced by various regional economic blocs due to its strategic location and geographical proximity. The analysis is based on secondary data from official reports, academic literature, and policy documents. The findings suggest that while regional blocs provide opportunities for increased trade and cooperation, their impact on Madagascar's economy is not uniform and depends largely on the specific structure involved. Madagascar should strategically choose regional bloc memberships based on mutual economic interests rather than solely focusing on geographical proximity to potential partners.

Keywords: *Island Geography, Regional Integration, Economic Diplomacy, Mercosur Analogy, African Economic Community, Geopolitical Influences, Sub-Saharan Dynamics*

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