AB update

November 2018 highlights

In the field

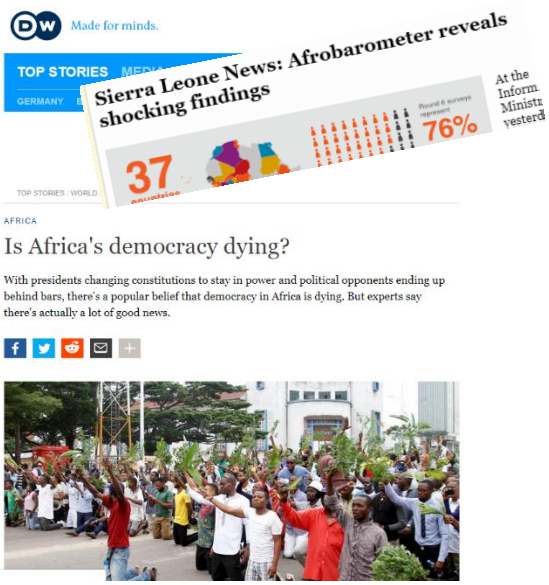
✓ Our **Pan-Africa Profiles** series kicked off with a policy paper on **Africans' priorities, the SDGs, and government performance** and a roundtable in Accra. Releases on democracy and migration are next. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook using the hashtag #VoicesAfrica.

✓ Country-level releases of Round 7 findings continued in South Africa, Liberia, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Cameroon. …

✓ **AB Summer School** continues at the University of Cape Town's Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa. The intensive four-week program builds skills in research design, statistics, and analysis of African socio-politics.

In the news

- ✓ AB was in the spotlight at the African Studies Association annual meeting in Atlanta:
  - Co-founder and Executive Director **E. Gyimah-Boadi** received the **Distinguished Africanist Award** (photo on left) honoring his scholarship and service to the Africanist community.
  - Co-founder and senior adviser **Mike Bratton** received the **John Harbeson Distinguished Africanist Award** from the African Politics Conference Group recognizing his scholarship, teaching, and leadership.
- ✓ **AB in the media:** 173 media hits were recorded in November across various local and international outlets, including the Washington Post, Financial Times, Ghana Web, Deutsche Welle, Daily Maverick, Ghanamma.com, Business Ghana, MSN South Africa, AllAfrica.com, News Gambia, Malawi Nyasa Times, News 24, Peace FM, Xinhua News, RFI English, Brookings, Agenzia Nova, Agence Ecofin, Carnegie Endowment. …



On digital/social media

Website	14,841 users; 6,825 downloads
Twitter	289 new followers
Facebook	11,215 total followers
Online data analysis	3,878 distinct users

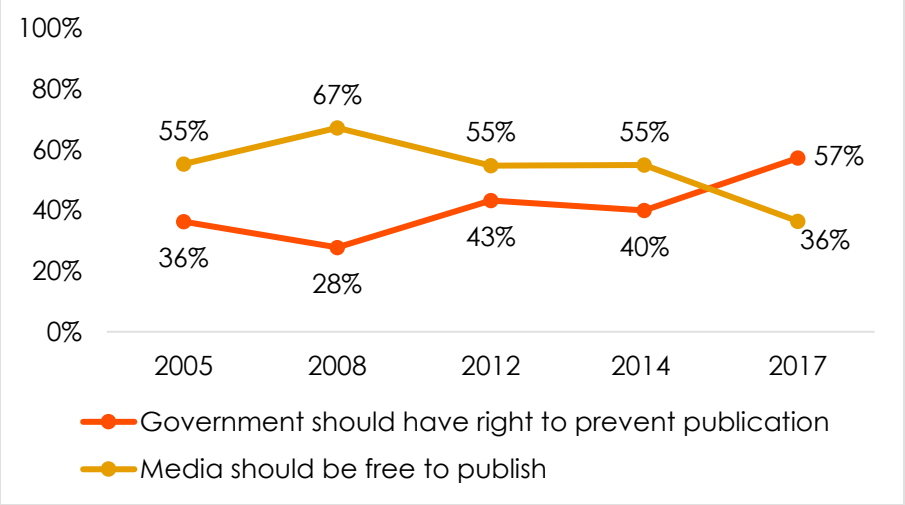
Publications

- ✓ Policy Paper 51 (Pan-Africa Profile): Taking stock: Citizen priorities and assessments three years into the SDGs
- ✓ Dispatch 258: La recherche du mieux-être pousse certains Camerounais – mais pas la majorité – vers l'émigration
- ✓ Dispatch 257: Liberians endorse democracy but are dissatisfied with the way it's working in their country

- ✓ Dispatch 256: La majorité des Gabonais estiment que leur sécurité personnelle s'est dégradée
- ✓ Dispatch 255: Note to Madagascar's election winner: Crime, infrastructure, and food insecurity most important issues for government to fix
- ✓ Dispatch 254: Land redistribution: South Africans prioritize land taken in forced removals, support 'willing seller' approach
- ✓ Dispatch 253: Ugandans endorse rule of law, but distrust and perceived corruption mar views on courts
- ✓ Dispatch 252: Difficultés économiques et chômage incitent les jeunes et les éduqués à quitter le Togo
- ✓ Dispatch 251: Les Burkinabè assez réticents sur l'abolition de la peine de mort
- ✓ Dispatch 250: Ghanaians rely on radio and TV, but support for media freedom drops sharply

Chart of the month

Popular support for freedom vs. control of the media | Ghana | 2005-2017



Respondents were asked: *Which of the following statements is closest to your view? (% who "agree" or "agree very strongly" with each statement)*
Statement 1: The media should have the right to publish any views and ideas without government control.
Statement 2: The government should have the right to prevent the media from publishing things that it considers harmful to society.

Visibility

- ✓ Sierra Leone's Minister for Information said AB data will serve as "precision guided missiles" in policy making.
- ✓ Ghanaian President Akufo-Addo cited AB data in urging a Ghana Police Service graduating class to erase the image of the police as the most corrupt public institution.
- ✓ AB data has been incorporated in Code4Africa's HuruMap portal, available soon.
- ✓ Presentations:
  - On democracy and global trends, to the **German Institute for Global and Area Studies** in Berlin, the **King Baudouin Foundation** in Brussels, and the **European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS)** Annual Conference in Brussels
  - On corruption, to the **African Union Commission's meeting of directors general of statistics** in Khartoum and the **Network for African National Human Rights Institutions' policy forum** in Addis Ababa
  - On Ghanaians' perceptions of MPs, at the **Stakeholders' Consultative Meeting on the Workings and Conduct of Parliament and MPs** in Accra
  - On South Africa's land debate, at **Media Indaba** in Cape Town
  - On elections and party preferences in South Africa, at the **Democracy Development Programme** in Durban
  - On citizen priorities, the SDGs, and government performance, during AB's **Pan-Africa Profile** release in Accra

Support for Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer completed Round 7 and is planning for Round 8 surveys thanks to support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) via the U.S. Institute of Peace, the National Endowment for Democracy, and Transparency International. Voices of support will continue to be essential to ensure Afrobarometer's long-term survival.

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