

Canada in Africa - 300 Years of Aid and Exploitation: A Conversation with Yves Engler

Global Research News Hour Episode 131

By [Michael Welch](#) and [Yves Engler](#)
Global Research, February 20, 2016

Region: [Canada](#), [sub-Saharan Africa](#)
Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#), [Global Economy](#), [GLOBAL RESEARCH NEWS HOUR](#)

"Canada in Africa is a haunting chronicle of the bloodletting, destabilization and pillaging of Africa by agents and governments of Canada.

This should be required reading for every human with a conscience." -Nnimmo Bassey, winner of the Right Livelihood Award and author of *To Cook a Continent: Destructive Extraction and the Climate Crisis in Africa*. As quoted in Yves Engler's book [Canada in Africa](#)

LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (59:09)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

Canada is typically portrayed, domestically and abroad, as a force for good in Africa and the rest of the world.

On its [website](#), the government of Canada boasts of promoting "democracy, governance, human rights and the rule of law," enhancing "African peace and security," and "supporting international development initiatives."

Do these sentiments reflect reality?

[Yves Engler](#) would seem to disagree. He is a Montreal based political analyst and the author of several books on Canadian foreign policy, including [The Black Book of Canadian Foreign Policy \(2009\)](#), [The Ugly Canadian — Stephen Harper's Foreign Policy \(2012\)](#), and his latest, [Canada In Africa — 300 Years of Aid and Exploitation \(2015\)](#).

In this last volume, Engler details how successive Canadian companies and governments have been implicated in undermining the sovereignty, welfare and rights of the African people to the benefit of wealthy Canadian interests. Canadian involvement in Africa has included:

- Profiting from the Trans-Atlantic slave trade

- Assisting in the European colonization of Africa
- Supporting and promoting neoliberal “structural adjustment” program schemes which encourage privatization and benefit Canadian companies
- Brokering Foreign Investment Protection Agreements (FIPAs) with Burkino Faso and other countries which undermine popular control of domestic economic development to the benefit of Canadian mining companies
- Tax evasion by companies operating in African countries
- Supporting the overthrow of Congolese independence leader Patrice Lumumba
- Canadian Mining companies carrying out hazardous activities in Tanzania and elsewhere while intimidating and abusing the local population through the security personnel they employ.
- Support for the 2006 US-Ethiopian invasion of Somalia

Yves Engler went on a book tour in September of 2015. The following video captures his September 29 talk at the University of Winnipeg. (Footage courtesy of Video-grapher [Paul Graham](#))

During this week’s Global Research News Hour, Yves Engler expands on these critiques of Canadian foreign policy in Africa. As well, he comments on the recent political turmoil brewing in Haiti, and provides his perspective on what changes, if any, have resulted from the replacement of the reviled Harper government with the much more popular Trudeau government.

LISTEN TO THE SHOW



Length (59:09)

[Click to download the audio \(MP3 format\)](#)

The [Global Research News Hour](#) airs every Friday at 1pm CT on [CKUW 95.9FM](#) in Winnipeg. The programme is also podcast at [globalresearch.ca](#) .

The show can be heard on the Progressive Radio Network at [prn.fm](#). Listen in every Monday at 3pm ET.

Community Radio Stations carrying the Global Research News Hour:

CHLY 101.7fm in Nanaimo, B.C – Thursdays at 1pm PT

Boston College Radio [WZBC 90.3FM NEWTONS](#) during the Truth and Justice Radio Programming slot -Sundays at 7am ET.

[Port Perry Radio](#) in Port Perry, Ontario –1 Thursdays at 1pm ET

[Burnaby Radio Station CJSF out of Simon Fraser University](#). 90.1FM to most of Greater Vancouver,

from Langley to Point Grey and from the North Shore to the US Border.

It is also available on 93.9 FM cable in the communities of SFU, Burnaby, New Westminister, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, Surrey and Delta, in British Columbia Canada. – Tune in every Saturday at 6am.

The original source of this article is Global Research

Copyright © [Michael Welch](#) and [Yves Engler](#), Global Research, 2016

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Michael Welch](#)
and [Yves Engler](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca