

Chris Alden – Director, LSE IDEAS

Professor Chris Alden is Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics (LSE), Director of LSE IDEAS, and Deputy Head of Department (PhD and Research). He also serves as Senior Advisor to the Digital IR Project and is a Research Associate at the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA).

A leading expert on China–Africa relations, his research spans foreign policy analysis, international development, development finance, post-conflict reconstruction, and the role of international and regional organisations, with a particular focus on emerging powers and the Global South.

He has held affiliations with a number of leading international institutions, including fellowships at the University of Cambridge, the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo, Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, the École Normale Supérieure (Cachan), CERI in Paris, and the University of Pretoria.

Professor Alden continues to play an active role in teaching at LSE, including convening courses such as *China and the Global South*, while also contributing to global policy debates and research initiatives, including involvement in platforms such as the G20 Think20 process.

He is the author and co-author of numerous influential works, including *Apartheid's Last Stand – the Rise and Fall of the South African Security State* (1996), *Mozambique and the Construction of the New African State* (2003), *South Africa's Post-Apartheid Foreign Policy* (2003), *China in Africa* (2007), *Land, Liberation and Compromise in Southern Africa* (2009), *The South and World Politics* (2010), and *Foreign Policy Analysis: New Approaches* (2nd ed., 2017). He has also co-edited several volumes on China–Africa relations, such as *China Returns to Africa* (2008), *China and Mozambique: From Comrades to Capitalists* (2014), *China and Africa – Building Peace and Security Cooperation on the Continent* (2017), and *New Directions in Africa–China Studies* (2019).

His more recent work extends to other regions of the Global South, including *China and Latin America: Development, Agency and Geopolitics* (2023), alongside numerous articles published in internationally recognised academic journals.