

Cameroon and its former tutelary powers
Yaounde, 20 December 2017

Concept

Since the 15th century, the people on the territory called Cameroon today, have been in contact with Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch and English traders, sailors, explorers and missionaries. This external relationship took on an eminently political form on the basis of the German-Douala Treaty signed on July 12th 1884, inaugurating the sequence of tutelary powers respectively carried out by Germany, France and Great Britain.

From protectorate domination to colonial administration, the exercise of sovereignty by these European countries during a period of more than half a century has profoundly impacted the Cameroonians' way of life. Despite Cameroon's independence, the implications and consequences of these powers persist and still seem to have repercussions today. This situation raises questions about its true autonomy, precisely at a time when the country strives to become an emerging economy by 2035. How can one explain the paradox between the independence of Cameroon from its international partners and the economic and socio-cultural attachment to these countries?

Studies carried out in international relations show various results on the domineering nature of relations between the tutelary power of a country and its socio-economic fate. Under the prism of these dominant-dominated relations, it seemed judicious to analyze the nature of the multiform relationships between Cameroon and its former tutelary powers, as well as the apparent dynamics in bilateral relations in a context of globalization. The purpose of these analyzes is to understand the processes that underpin these captive relationships and to explore the patterns of deconstruction of dependence. The research is based on the premise of the contribution of this reflection towards the establishment of a national take-off platform. Beyond political sovereignty, a better understanding of the forms of latent or patent dependencies, old or new, known or unrecognized by Cameroon and by Cameroonians is crucial. The relationship with foreigners, including religious people, all religions and generations taken into account, will not be neglected in the search for the root causes of Cameroonian dependency markers.

On the basis of two main points, this study aims at questioning issues around the close knit to former administrators of Cameroon. On one hand, the legal, historical, economic and political aspects will be highlighted; and, on the other hand, reflections will focus on cultural, anthropological, psychological and sociological aspects. In addition, diversiform issues related to the mentality of the needy and the mentality of under-development will be taken into consideration.

Authors of pertinent abstracts or summaries will be selected for participation in a discursive construction on the future of Cameroon.

Proposals

Individual contributions of a maximum of 250 words are expected in either French or English, the two languages of the activity. The title, comprising of up to 8 words should be followed by the name of the author of the abstract as well as about 5 keywords. Other editorial guidelines include: Times New Roman font, size 12, single spacing. The document is to be submitted in a Word file. All pertinent papers will be compiled at the end of the activity in view of a publication of a collective book.

Timeline

Opening of the call for papers:	15 July 2017
Submission of proposals:	15 August 2017
Return of proposals:	30 August 2017
Submission of communications:	15 October 2017
Holding of the study day:	20 December 2017

NB: Consideration will be given to summaries received in English beyond the indicated date.

Scientific Committee

Pr Jacques Chatué (Philosophy)
Pr Antoine Socpa (Sociology)
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