



## Family photos of stone

“Monuments are like family photos. Perhaps your mother doesn’t smile in the picture or the children are dressed in dirty clothes. They are still your family. The same is true of our monuments – they show the Kenya we have.” NAI guest researcher Lydia Muthuma studies monuments and statues in Nairobi.

[Read interview.](#)

## New network for Africanists



A new network for Nordic Africanists is now launched. However, much more needs to be done before everything will work according to plans. The first challenge is to recruit members and secure

funding. The Nordic Africa Research Network, NARN, is an independent and member based association.

[Read article.](#)



## Path to inclusive democracy

Slavery is still a reality in Mauritania. However, a new order might be imminent. Political representatives of the vulnerable Haratin ethnic group have become important actors and President Abdel Aziz has opened the way for a more inclusive democracy, says Rachid Benlabbah, guest researcher at NAI.

[Read interview.](#)

### NAI WANTS YOU

Are you a researcher based in Finland and work on something related to the institute’s research? Then apply for our vacant position. Be quick, deadline is Monday 1 June!

[Read full job description.](#)

### SOUTH SUDAN WAR AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Stakeholders will meet in Khartoum, Sudan 2-3 June 2015, to discuss issues relevant to the current civil unrest in South Sudan and its impact on the Horn of Africa region (HOA). Security concerns are high as intra-state and inter-state conflicts increase in the HOA, involving neighbouring countries and allies. Participants represent an array of civil society organisations and groups as well as policy makers and scholars. NAI will be represented by Director Ina Soiri and [researcher Redie Bereketeab](#).

### POLITICS IN FLUX

[Read report](#) from a workshop that grew out of concerns about recent political events in North Africa. NAI researcher Maria Malmström is one of its editors. Also available in Arabic.

### TAX EVASION AND ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS

How to fight tax evasion and illicit financial flows? And how to create a fairer and more sustainable international tax system? That is the focus on a panel debate 4 June in Brussels during the “[European Development Days](#)”. NAI director Ina Soiri is part of this panel that will discuss how EU and the member states can address this issue.

### STUDENT-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Research scholarship holders Edwin Warden and Louise Corrigan are two of several post graduates that conducted their research thesis at the Nordic African Institute. The duo’s month-long activity at NAI exposed them to an environment that is both academically-friendly and homely.

[Read interview.](#)

## Burundi after the coup attempt



”Few people thought the protests would last this long, be this organised, and this determined”, writes former NAI researcher Gudrun Sif Fridriksdottir. Read her blog post that deals with the question of

staying in Burundi or leaving, and what is happening outside of Bujumbura.

[Read article by Fridriksdottir.](#)

## NAI AT THE ALMEDALEN WEEK

What role can and should Sweden, the European Union, the African Union, and the United Nations have in armed conflicts in Africa? [NAI researcher Linnéa Gelot](#) will discuss this 29 June at a seminar during Almedalen, the annual event that attracts the top of Swedish policy makers, business and organisations, attended by thousands of people [Mats Utas](#) will be part of a panel 1 July discussing the situation in Mali, and [Atakilte Beyene](#) participates in a panel 3 July on women’s rights in Ethiopia.

## COCOA FARMERS BETTER OFF

Increased competition among buyers and farmers organising themselves in cooperatives have led to better business opportunities for smallholder cocoa farmers in Liberia, NAI researcher Gun Eriksson Skoog concludes in a fresh study.

[Download Policy Note.](#)

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