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Conflicts, mobility and pan-Africanism in African journalism

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This paper unpacks and reflects upon general but specific ways African journalists depict conflicts, ideas and representations of mobility, besides the concept of pan-Africanism in nowadays journalistic products, no matter the editorial rules of the journals they work for, or countries of the African continent they are in. The objective of this analysis that uses the method of critical rhetoric, comparative and critical content analysis methodologies, is to assess what possible images arrive into the media, that may influence the public perceptions, on conflicts, shaping definitions to the concept of mobility as representation of a movement ontology and the narratives of pan-Africanism that support the views on the development of African communities and states by their own means, getting the backing of gradual construction of collective views transferred from journalism and public discourse to authorities.

The analysis includes journalistic images and representations of conflict and mobility from Eastern and Western African media institutions for the purpose to wrap up a holistic but also specialized on polarities journalistic outlook. As a consequence, a definition on intersections between the framing of conflict and the framing of mobility as a representation of a trend and perception on the conceptual movement in the aforementioned African regions, is expected. Together with such a definition, the results of a qualitative exploration are perceived to support the recreation of a journalistic pan-Africanism.