

CORSO DI LAUREA IN STORIA

*Storia
dell'Africa*

AA 2022-2023



PRESENTAZIONE

Trasformazioni coloniali
Dall'anticolonialismo ai nazionalismi
Verso le indipendenze

Independence in Africa

Phases of decolonisation in the second half of the 20th century

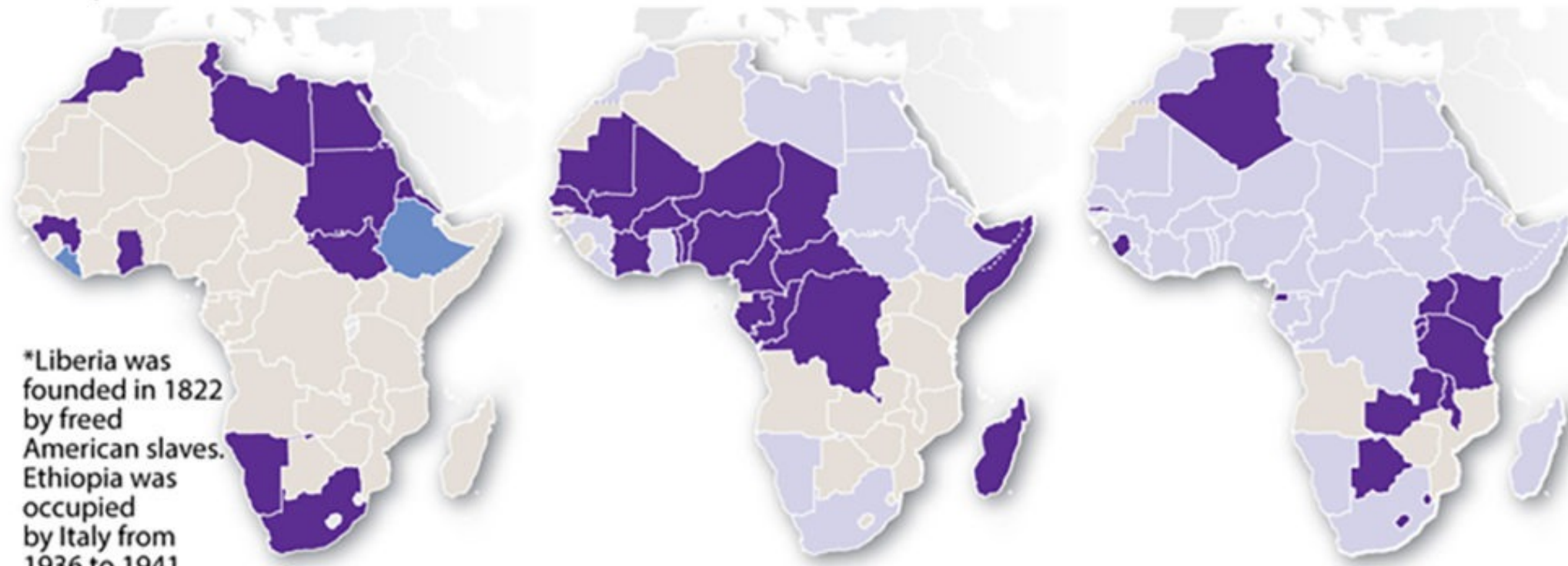
Present-day borders used to aid comparisons

■ Decolonised ■ Never colonised* ■ New countries created by secession from other African states

Independent before 1960

1960

1960s



*Liberia was founded in 1822 by freed American slaves. Ethiopia was occupied by Italy from 1936 to 1941

1970s

1980s

Since 1990



W. Sahara was formerly colonised by Spain. Current control by Morocco is disputed by the pro-independence movement

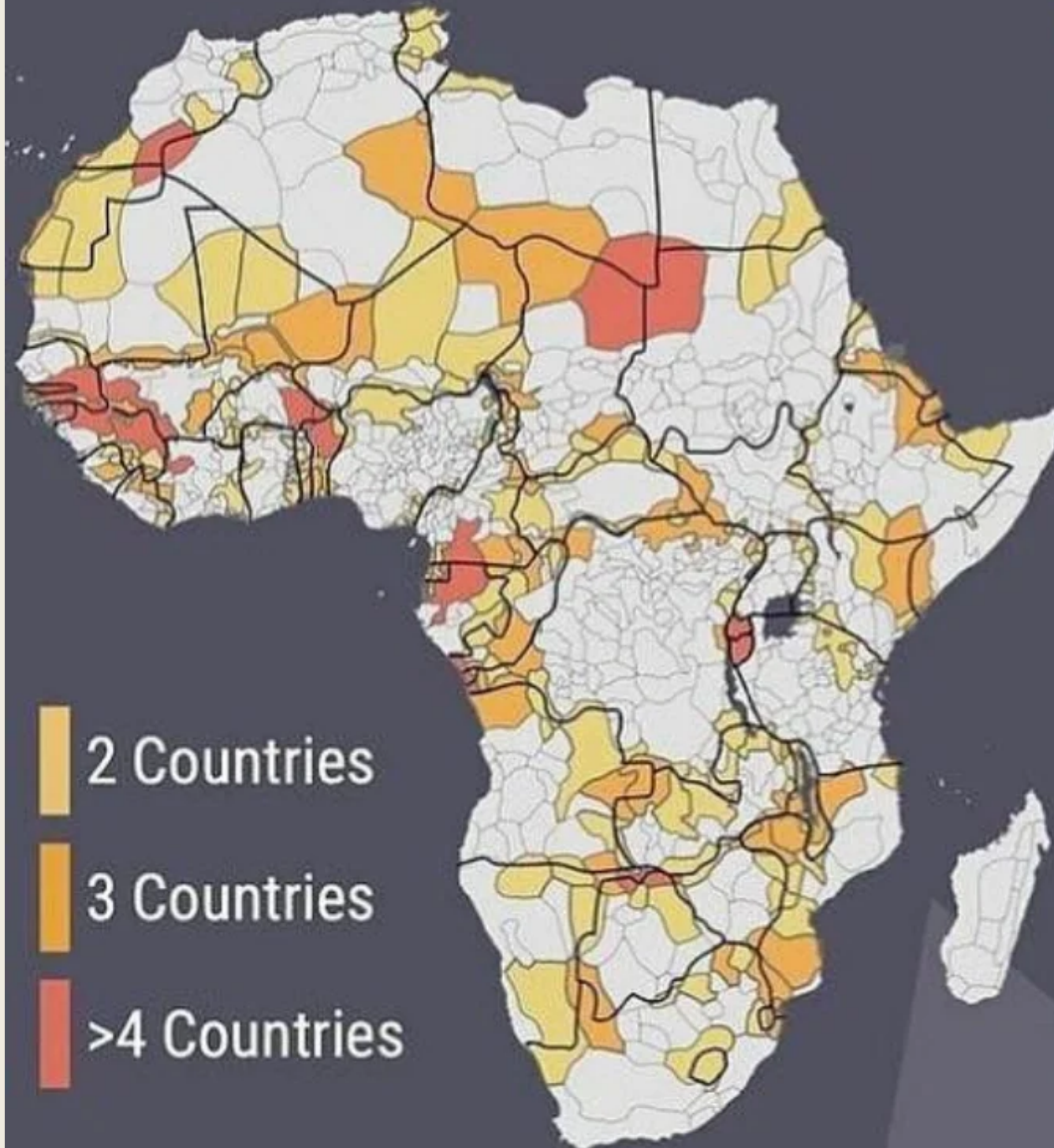
Sources: Encyclopedia Universalis, Atlas de l'Afrique (ed. Jaguar), AFP bureaux





FAKE BORDERS

Number of countries that divide
an ethnic group:



Of the **857**
different ethnic
groups in Africa,

28%


are divided by two
or more countries.

This colonial
heritage has lead
to **increase in
violence and
instability.**




FORMER AND CURRENT UNRECOGNISED STATES IN AFRICA

DECLARATIONS OF INDEPENDENCE SINCE 1920 THAT HAVE RECEIVED LIMITED OR NO INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION. NOT INCLUDING STATES THAT HAVE SINCE GAINED RECOGNITION.




RIF REPUBLIC
1921—1926

Rebelling against Spanish colonial rule as well as the Moroccan sultan, the Rifians established a modern republic and sought international recognition. They were finally defeated by the Spanish Army's tanks, aircraft and chemical weapons. Calls for Rifan independence have resurged in 2013.




SAHRAWI ARAB DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
1976—

De facto controlling the easternmost slice of the country, the Polisario guerillas have laid claim to all of Western Sahara and fought the Moroccan Army since 1976.




AZAWAD
2012

Founded by an alliance of islamists and rebelling Touaregs, the sharia-run country fell to internal conflicts and disintegrated after three months of independence.




REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
1967—1970

Attempting to secede from Nigeria in 1967, the fledgling state was besieged for two and a half years. Upon surrendering, nearly two million people had starved to death. This was Africa's first televised famine and cemented the image of "starving African children" to many Westerners.




REPUBLIC OF BENIN
19 SEPTEMBER 1967

Conquered by Biafran forces in the early stages of the Biafran war, this puppet state - not to be confused with the other Republic of Benin, founded in 1960 and still existing - was hurriedly declared while already on the retreat and overrun by Nigerian forces later the same day, arguably making it the world's shortest-lived state.




FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF AMBAZONIA
1984—

Through decades of tension between French- and English-speaking regions of Cameroon, the Republic of Ambazonia was formally declared in 1984, 2006 and 2017. It has remained mainly a legal battle. English-speaking lawyers and judges challenging the constitution, although unrest and deaths have occurred.




REPUBLIC OF CABINDA
1975—1976

At Angola's independence in 1975, the three major liberation movements were invited to talks but not the fourth operating in the enclave of Cabinda. Subsequently Cabindan independence was declared. Suppressed by the Angolan Army in 1976, the movement fought a guerilla war until 2006 and still operates a government in exile.




RHODESIA
1965—1979

In 1965 the colonial administration of British Southern Rhodesia, fearing a Black majority rule, preemptively declared independence from the UK and in 1970 declared itself a republic. After a 15-year war, the country was internationally recognised as Zimbabwe, led by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.




REPUBLIC OF TRANSKEI
1976—1994

As early as 1913, the British colonial administration in South Africa had established "reserves" for its Native inhabitants. During the Apartheid regime, ten such Bantustans were established as segregated Black "homelands" with varying degrees of autonomy. Four of them, the so-called TBVC-states, were granted full independence. This stripped its inhabitants - often relocated from or working and living in other parts of South Africa - of their South African citizenship and justified the regime's negligence of utilities and health care in the regions. Unlike in South Africa, gambling and striptease was legalised in the Bantustans, bringing some revenue.




REPUBLIC OF BOPHUTHATSWANA
1977—1994

None of the nominally independent Bantustans were internationally recognised by any other country than South Africa. They were all dissolved when Apartheid ended in 1994.

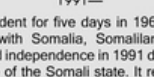


REPUBLIC OF VENDA
1979—1994




EMIRATE OF CYRENAICA
1949—1951

Recognised by the UK only, Emir Sayyid Idris proclaimed his emirate a sovereign state in 1949. The UN, however, would only support an independent Libya incorporating all regions of the former colony, and in 1951 the Kingdom of Libya was formed.




REPUBLIC OF SOMALILAND
1991—

Independent for five days in 1960 before joining with Somalia, Somaliland again declared independence in 1991 during the collapse of the Somali state. It remains a stable democracy with diplomatic missions in several Western nations, lobbying for international recognition.




REPUBLIC OF JUBALAND
1998—1999

During the Somali Civil War, warlord Mohammed Said Hersi Morgan declared Jubaland independent with himself as president. It was overrun 9 months later.




REPUBLIC OF MARTYAZO
1972

Proclaimed by Hutu secessionists in May 1972, the state was overrun by Tutsi forces a week later. This led to the First Burundian Genocide, leaving 80,000-210,000 Hutus brutally killed.




STATE OF KATANGA
1960—1963

Supported by Belgian troops, the copper, gold and uranium rich province seceded from Congo upon independence in 1960. It surrendered after UN troops intervened on the Congolese side. Among the casualties were UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, killed in a suspicious plane crash on his way to negotiate a cease-fire.




SOUTH KASAI
1960—1962

South Kasai seceded from Congo during its collapse into civil war immediately after independence in 1960. It rejoined after a coup d'état two years later.



REPUBLIC OF ANJOUAN
1997—2002, 2007—2008

Dissatisfied with the Comorian government, the island of Anjouan seceded in 1997. It rejoined in 2002 after being granted autonomy, only to secede again right before the elected president's five-year term ended. He was ousted by the Comorian Army. The neighbouring island of Mohéli also seceded in 1997, but undramatically rejoined the Comoros in 1998.



REPUBLIC OF CISKEI
1981—1994