

# RETHINKING AFRICA 2020. 60 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE. A CRITICAL REVIEW



30 NOV 2020 / 06:00-08:00 PM [CET] / SESSION 3 / ONLINE  
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**INDEPENDENCE BEGINS WITH  
SELF-IMAGE AND THE IMAGE  
OF OTHERS: FROM THE  
DECOLONIZATION OF THE  
IMAGINATION TO CREATIVE  
EXISTENCE**

**Speakers:**

**Prof. Dr. Nzongola-Ntalaja,**  
University of North Carolina,  
African American and Diaspora  
Studies

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South Africa, activist,  
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Measured by their potential, many countries on the continent of Africa could have been much further than they are. In addition to economic dependence, the reality in many countries is characterized by poor economic, political and social governance. This leads to many conflicts that exacerbate poverty and hinder the development of these countries. Many voices from the continent are making themselves heard with the view that the solutions to these challenges depend essentially on a spiritual renewal of the people. It is a matter of freeing oneself from foreign constructions and from the devaluation of one's own "cultural and epistemic coordination systems" (Felwine Sarr) through colonialism and its continuation, and based on self-determined perceptions be able to challenge the power relations, the economic and cultural dominance of the present. In this last event in the series "60 Years of Independence", Africa wants to deal with the necessity of decolonizing the imagination in order to develop its potentials.

While the first presentation will focus on the unfinished business of liberation and transformation, the second will centre on decolonizing feminist thinking and the social justice sector.  
You are cordially invited.