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SADC – an Actor in International Relations?

The External Relations of the Southern African Development Community

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In the context of globalisation and New Regionalism, regional organisations no longer confine themselves to intraregional cooperation, but have, to some extent, also become actors in international relations. This book contributes a case study to the young field of interregionalism studies by focusing on the external relations of one of the most successful integration projects on the African continent, the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

The study traces the evolution of SADC and gives a detailed account of SADC's relations with other states and regional organisations. This is followed by a more detailed analysis of SADC as actor in the fields of economy, security and diplomacy. Though still constrained by a certain lack of capacity the organisation has the potential to play a more prominent international role in the future.

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